

**Masses For The Week**

**Monday - October 23**

6:30 Joseph A. Castora  
9:00 Joseph Spoto

**Tuesday - October 24**

6:30 Eddy Belulovich  
9:00 Sarah Zura (celebrated by St. Kilian clergy)

**Wednesday - October 25**

**NO 6:30** Redemptorists at Convocation  
9:00 Louise Smith (celebrated by St. Kilian clergy)

**Thursday - October 26**

**NO 6:30** Redemptorists at Convocation  
9:00 Frank DiCarlo (celebrated by St. Kilian clergy)

**Friday - October 27**

6:30 Nicholas Santalucia  
9:00 Rose Provenzano

**Saturday - October 28 - Saints Simon & Jude, Apostles**

9:00 MULTIPLE INTENTIONS ANNOUNCED AT MASS  
5:00 Lawrence & Elizabeth Kruckel  
7:00 Mary & Walter Maj

**Sunday - October 29**

7:00 The People of the Parish  
8:30 Robert McCarron  
10:00 Emilio & Mike Fornino  
11:30 Keith Meehan  
1:00 James III & Elizabeth Moran  
5:30 Lazzaro Maggi

**Readings For The Week**

Mon. Romans 4:20-25; Luke 12:13-21  
Tues. Romans 5:12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21; Luke 12:35-38  
Wed. Romans 6:12-18; Luke 12:39-48  
Thurs. Romans 6:19-23; Luke 12:49-53  
Fri. Romans 7:18-25a; Luke 12:54-59  
Sat. Ephesians 2:19-22; Luke 6:12-16

**Sun. Exodus 22:20-26** *The faithful and gracious Lord said, "You shall not wrong any widow or orphan...if you take your neighbors cloak...return it before sunset. If he cries out to me, I will hear him, for I am compassionate."*

**1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10** *Paul commended the Christians of Thessalonica: "You became imitators of us and of the Lord, receiving the word in great affliction, with the joy from the Holy Spirit. So that you become a model for all believers...the word of the Lord has sounded forth."*

**Matthew 22:34-40** *In response to a question from some Pharisees who wanted to trip him up, Jesus said, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart...soul...and mind. You shall love your neighbor as yourself." These are the two great commandments.*

**Our Weekly Sacrificial Gift**

**Weekly Budget: \$17,500.00**  
**Weekly for 10/15/17: \$17,051.17**

**Thank you for your generosity!**

**Sharing the Way with our  
Brothers and Sisters to Jesus  
St. Martin of Tours Stewardship Campaign  
September – November, 2017**


For the past several weeks, I have been addressing the issue of parish stewardship in the bulletin. I have been seeking to inform you of how we spend the hard-earned money you donate to the parish. Last week I wrote about the clergy salaries. In addition to those salaries, we of course have a number employees here at St. Martin's. Our staff includes 24 employees, both full and part time. The payroll budget in 2017 was \$607,900.00. This figure includes benefits for our full time employees and all payroll taxes.

Our parish seeks to pay a fair and just salary to those who work at St. Martin's. However, I often say that no one gets rich working in a Catholic parish. We find it hard to even give cost-of-living increases on any kind of regular basis. For a parish our size, with 4,000 families on the books and five buildings, I would say that our staff is rather small. I would love to have another person or two assist us in our mission, but we cannot afford that.

I find the employees here at St. Martin's to be very dedicated and committed to the parishioners and the mission of our parish. They are very generous with their time, and often go above and beyond their job descriptions.

I often think they see their work more as a kind of sharing in a mission rather than just a job. Our staff sets an excellent tone for a Catholic parish, and I am proud to be serving with them.


*Wedding Banns*  
*1st Timothy Cook & Amanda Franchuk*


 **“Whatever you do for one of these, the least of my sisters and brothers, you did it for me.”**

This week the Pantry could use pancake mix, canned chicken, tomato sauce, tomato paste, lentils, ketchup, mayonnaise, brownies, icing, juice, pudding, Jell-O, sugar, pasta, coffee, laundry soap, toilet paper, paper towels & diapers size 6.


**The pantry is in need of a volunteer on Thursdays, 2PM - 7PM with knowledge of Excel and Word from January through April, 2018 to cover vacations.** For more information, please call (516) 931-7332. As always, we thank you so very much for all that you do for those in need.

**Parish Outreach Food Pantry:**  
 208 Broadway, Bethpage  
 Phone: 516-931-7332  
 Monday: 9:30AM - 2:30PM  
 Thursday: 2:00PM – 7:00PM

 *Altar Bread & Wine*  
*Week of October 22 - 28, 2017*  
*In Loving Memory of*  
*Richard Pollock*

 *Sanctuary Candle*  
*Week of October 22 - 28, 2017*  
*In Loving Memory of*  
*Helen M. Draghi*

*Rest in Peace*  
**Acts 7:49:**  
**“Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.”**  
 Thomas Anthony Coughlin  
 Terrence Lynam, Renzo Lambertucci



 **REMINDER: Please call the rectory at 931-0818 to remove a name from the list.**

**Please pray for the sick of our parish:**

Leevalli Annearosa, Leigh Murphy, Richard Piernini, Joseph Simon, Douglas Torres, James Robertson, Amy Hayes Mom & Dad, Bill Kelly, Matthew Messina, Pat Cannata Christopher Gratton, Barbara Thompson, Donald Castor Dorothy Quinn, Zachery Duff, Sam Zubov, Patricia Morrone Mary Henson, Mary Lynn Brassil, Brendan Rodriguez Rebecca Passaro, Dot Widyn, Annette Giuliano Madeline Ciaravino, Nicole Cagna, Gary Vlahov, Tom Schuerlein Katie Walsh, Louise Sandberg, Anthony Luisi Chris & Raymond Mirendia, Florencio Carmenate, Mary McCarthy Karen Kilgard, Ann Marie Frayler, Nicholas Balducci, Robert Kennan Corey Voboril, Baby Scarlett, May Duffey, Tommy Johnson Anna M. Bosco, Janet Medina, Kevin Henson, Marie Newman The Mascia Family, Ceil Hollander, Daniel Costa Hector Valentine, Theresa DuRoss, Bob Baciуска Carol Ann Scudder, John Scudder, Justine & Nicole Scudder Vincent Esposito, Terry Hall, Catherine A. McCarthy, Paul Granberg Charles Boyce, Elsa Ryan, Sarah Messina, William Boyce Jo Ann Anastos, Michael Arato, Chris Mitchell, Elizabeth Ryan Connie Burgess, Dolores Miller, Susan Carroll-Goyan Patty & Tom Turano, Layla Barr, Nicholas Amato, Jesusa Aquin Joseph McCroary, Richard Graziano, Jean Mulligan, Ann Adams Geraldine Zeterberg, Edward Boyce, Fran Gandolfo, Taylor Fr. Edmund Faliskie CSSR, Tom Doty, Terrence Lynam Joseph Kostyak, Johnny D., William Castle, Anthony Krich Aida Gilday, Candy DeVita, Frank Ballatore, Jr. Anthony Della Croce, Nicole Carbone, Little Sonny D'Ambrosio Barbara Rusch, Beverly Viselli, Casey, Betty Mara, Teri Pigott Connie Kane, George Reif, Ed Ingels, Liam Escaniel, Gus Kunze Eddie Morales, Tom Miles, Debra Dowdell, Elizabeth Hill Louie Gandolfo, John Anderson, Daniel McCullough, Mary Lafauci Gerry Russo, Allegra LaFalce, Jessica Czarnecki, Bill Monahan Maureen Roberts, Francis Meehan, Trish Berge, Kathleen Palumbo Brendan Donahoe, Janet Scarpelli, Helen Uhl, Andrew McCarthy Alicia Manetta, Frank LoPinto, Baby Lucia Bianchi Declan McCollough, Pat James Joseph, David Iovieno Robert Daniel, Kurt Hamilton, Dorothy Eisenstadt, David Drohan Martin Lee, Ralph Caputo, Kristen Smith, Michael Vigotty Vinny Vanturini, Tom Mitchell, Pat Murphy Tarabokija Family, Philip Marino, Henry Hamilton, Joann Bruno Libia & Maria Teresa Valdez, Nancy Gerace, Jim Moran Robert Collelouri Arthur Baudo, Kathy Smith, Jenna Black Baby Grayson, Kathryn Basso, Veronica McCarthy-Pigott Unborn Identical Twins, Anthony Hanlon Janine, Mary Jedlicka, Lisa Lazzara, Pete Moran, Bernard Kelly Brian John Roe III, Ann Hughes, The Kloos Family, Patricia Olive Jerry Vega, John Bunker, Jacklyn Baddalucco, Yolanda Zitelli Rose Marie Gaccione, Filomena Rosa, Andrew Bartolozzi Kayden Urbanic, Pat Bergersen, Robert, Amy & Richard Ferranti Joseph V. Pace, Jr., Justin Turner, Christopher Hehn Becca Silver and unborn Baby Dornich, Jimmy Rizzo, Thomas Kelly Linda Reilly, John Murphy, Colette Sin, Al DeBatto, Adeline Norton

## *Pastor's Letter*

I suppose I am despondent because the New York Yankees are contenders for the World Series and the New York Mets are finished for the year. I was thinking about the 1969 Mets. I like that memory since I am nineteen years old in that image. As you might recall, the New York Mets were perhaps the worst baseball team for many years since their beginning in 1962. They set records for losing the most games. Then, in this amazing year of 1969, they went from ninth place to winning the World Series in five games. New York City was so happy and shocked that they reelected John Lindsey even though he had been very unpopular. This Mets team has often been referred to as *The Miracle Mets*. We have an even more shocking sport upset story in 1980, when a bunch of American kids beat the great Russian hockey team in the Olympics at Lake Placid. The Russian team had been almost unbeatable for years and had even beaten the professional National Hockey League all-stars in a series of matches. No one gave the young Americans a chance and they pulled what many consider the greatest sports upset in history, beating the Russians in 4-3. Experts have said that if this game was played a thousand times, the Russians would win nine hundred and ninety-nine times. In the last seconds of the game, Al Michaels, the announcer on the network shouted, *do you believe in miracles?* And as the clock struck zero, he screamed, *Yes!*

Do you believe in miracles? I would describe a miracle as something well beyond the ordinary happening without any logical or scientific explanation. I would also say that such miracles are quite rare, and one must be cautious in describing something as a miracle that can only be explained by the power of God. The Catholic Church has been very slow to declare something as a miraculous happening brought about by the grace of Almighty God. I do not think the church would declare the Mets or the USA hockey team overcoming great odds to win a sporting event a miracle, but the language of the miraculous is often used somewhat casually. When a person who is always late, arrives five minutes early, we joke that it is "a miracle!" When a student struggling in calculus gets an A, he or she might say it was a miracle.

Yet I think there are some, what I might call *ordinary miracles*, that are often overlooked. When I look at a newborn baby, and I see those tiny little fingernails, I see a miracle. I know biology can explain it all, but for me, it is a miracle. How did someone figure out how to make coffee from coffee beans? Can anyone deny that chocolate and pizza are miraculous foods that could only come from the Divine? Young couples often marvel at the seemingly many coincidences that brought them together at just the right times in their lives. A couple married 50 or 60 years will talk about the many little miracles that kept them together and in love for so many years. Occasionally, I have found myself in what I thought was the wrong place at the wrong time, only to find it was the right place at the right time since a person needed a priest at just the moment that I happened to have wandered in. People could argue such moments are coincidences, but I am not too sure of that.

This past Friday, the world marked what has been declared as the anniversary of *The Miracle of the Sun* in a little town in Portugal named Fatima on October 13, 1917. You are probably familiar with the story. Three children - a brother name Francisco and his sister Jacinta and their cousin Lucia - were rather typical children who loved to play, to sing, and to dance. They were in charge of taking care of their sheep. As they are in the fields, they began over the course of many months to have experiences of seeing and hearing the Blessed Mother speak to them. They are resolved to tell no one but one of them finds it impossible not to tell her family.



Lucia's mother is very angry at her daughter and tells her to stop making up stories. Eventually, the parish priest tells the children that this might be the work of the devil. At one point, the local government that is very anti-religious, put the children in jail. But nothing will shake their confidence. Crowds begin to follow the children when they go to the place where they experience the presence of the Blessed Mother on the 13<sup>th</sup> of each month. The little ones asked the Blessed Mother to show the people a sign so that they will believe and stop saying that they are liars. The Blessed Mother promises a sign for October 13, 1917. More than 70,000 people gathered at this very rural place on that day. The newspaper reporters are there as are the government officials ready to mock the people and condemn the children.

The most anti-religious newspaper, *Il Secolo*, wrote this about that day: *People then began to ask each other what they had seen. The great majority admitted to having seen the trembling and the dancing of the sun; others affirmed that they saw the face of the Blessed Virgin; others, again, swore that the sun whirled on itself like a giant wheel and that it lowered itself to the earth as if to burn it in its rays. Some said they saw it change colors successively. You can google Fatima: The Miracle of the Sun for more information.*

The miracle of Fatima happened at a very difficult moment of history. World War I, the truly first modern war where man's ability to kill was becoming more proficient. Atheistic communism was taking over Russia. The message given by our Lady was right from the Gospels and the words of her Son Jesus: *Turn away from sin and evil. People are risking eternal damnation. Give your hearts to God and follow his ways.* There was nothing new in the message of Fatima. We hear it every week at Mass in the Gospels. Yet, like our Gospel today speaks about being invited to a wedding, Mary is giving the world a special invitation to follow her Son Jesus, a message that sometimes the world seems to forget.

I think we would agree that our world today is in as much danger today as in 1917. We live with daily threats of terrorism and fear the nuclear weapons in the hands of North Korea. Thanks be to God, much of communism has fallen, as Mary predicted it would if we prayed for this as we did for so many years after Masses. Jesus is always inviting, as he does today in the Gospel, to turn to him, to follow him, and to give our hearts to him. Mary, his Mother is always blessing us. Today, we are in the presence of another miracle, that of the Holy Eucharist, bread and wine transformed into his Body and Blood. The answer to Al Michael's question is, *I do believe in miracles.*

**Father Patrick Woods CSSR**  
[woodscsr@aol.com](mailto:woodscsr@aol.com)   [www.smtbethpage.org](http://www.smtbethpage.org)

All four of the priests here at St. Martin's will be away from October 23rd to 25th for our annual Redemptorist Convocation. About 100 of us will gather at our retreat house in Long Branch, NJ for prayer, meetings, and enjoying each others company. St. Martin's will not have a 6:30AM Mass on October 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. However, the 9:00AM Mass will be offered by one of the priests from St. Kilian's. We are very thankful for their help. The parish office will be open. If there is an emergency and you need a priest, please call St. Kilian's Rectory, 485 Conklin Street, Farmingdale (516) 249-0127. Tell the visiting priests that their homilies are far more interesting than your pastor. I will be available by email at [woodscsr@aol.com](mailto:woodscsr@aol.com). (If Steve Descovich tells you we are all on a secret vacation, do not believe him!)





# The Golden Harvest Festival & Raffle



Raffle limited to five hundred tickets at \$100 each  
...fifty cash prizes for excellent odds of one in ten!

Let's sell ALL 500 tickets this year!!

WHEN: Drawing will be held at a Festival Party  
Saturday, November 11th at 8PM in the School Cafeteria.

## LIST OF PRIZES

First Prize	\$5,000
2 Prizes	\$2,000
3 Prizes	\$ 500
4 Prizes	\$ 200
20 Prizes	\$ 150
20 Prizes	\$ 125

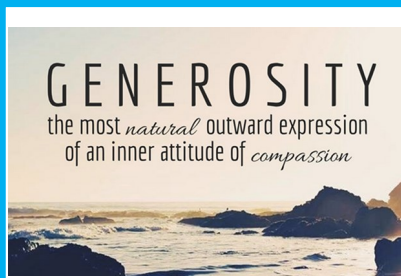
\$100 per chance -  
go it alone or  
share a ticket  
with others!

Tickets are on sale in the Gathering Area  
Every weekend until November 11th

**BEFORE and AFTER ALL MASSES**  
**(including the 5:30PM on Sunday)**

Stop by the Rectory Office during the week to buy your ticket!





earthquake in Mexico.

The hurricane relief collection taken last week was very generous on the part of our parishioners, especially considering your previous generous donations to a hurricane collection that was taken several weeks ago that focused on Houston. This week's second collection was \$8,523.00. So, half of that collection will go the Rockville Centre Diocese to assist the suffering people of Puerto Rico, the US Virgin Islands, and those impacted by the

As I explained in the bulletin, I had received permission from the diocese to give half of this collection to the Redemptorist relief efforts to assist the battered people of the small island of Dominica, which is an independent nation. Thus, it does not have a large nation committed to assisting her. The Redemptorists of our province, the same unit that serves here in St. Martin's, have several men on the island and they are seeking to help the people as much as they can. We also received \$1,775.00 that was given, outside of the collection, for the Redemptorist relief effort.

I thank all of you for all your generosity to so many people who have lost so much in all those lands that have been devastated by the recent natural disasters. On behalf of the Redemptorists, I want to give a very special thanks to all of you for the very generous support of the people we serve and love in Dominica. - Father Pat

**SPIRITUAL BOOK CLUB:** Our Next Spiritual Book Club Book *Why I am Catholic* by Brandon Vogt Wednesday, November 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:30p.m. (we are not reading *Hidden Christmas* as we having been posting in the bulletin. The Pastor forgot we had read it last year! Watching too many Jet games!)

**Reviews:** "In a time of crisis, when so many young people have abandoned the Church, Brandon Vogt stands out among his generation as one who boldly affirms the truth, goodness, and beauty of the Catholic faith. As this book demonstrates, he is bright, articulate, kind, and passionate. He's one of the radiant lights of the New Evangelization." --**Most Rev. Robert Barron**, Auxiliary Bishop of Los Angeles

"For years, I've longed for a book that I could recommend to parents whose children have left the Church or to people who have lost their faith. This is that book; share it with others." --**Brant Pitre**, Catholic theologian, speaker, and author of *The Case for Jesus*

"I wish I'd read this book back when I was an atheist--I would have become Catholic much sooner! Brandon Vogt makes clear, reasonable arguments that will resonate with people from any faith background." --**Jennifer Fulwiler**, Catholic radio host and author of *Something Other Than God*

"Like all of Brandon Vogt's writing, his compelling new book is accessible, inviting, practical, inspirational, and, in the deepest sense, true." --**Rev. James Martin, S.J.**, Author of *The Jesuit Guide to (Almost) Everything*

**REGULAR BOOK CLUB:** *Small Great Things* Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:30PM in St. Alphonsus Hall *Small Great Things* by Jodi Picoult #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • With richly layered characters and a gripping moral dilemma that will lead readers to question everything they know about privilege, power, and race, *Small Great Things* is the stunning new page-turner from Jodi Picoult. It offers a thought-provoking examination of racism in America today, both overt and subtle. Her many readers will find much to discuss in the pages of this topical, moving book.

## RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

### CELEBRATE RESPECT LIFE MONTH BY TAKING ACTION

"We are facing an enormous and dramatic clash between good and evil, death and life. We find ourselves not only faced with but necessarily in the midst of this conflict. We are all involved and we share in it, with the inescapable responsibility of choosing to be unconditionally pro-life." Saint Pope John Paul II.

**TELL CONGRESS ASSISTED SUICIDE IS NOT HEALTHCARE:** Cardinal Dolan, Chairman of the USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities and Bishop DeWane, Chairman of the USCCB Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development, have expressed their strong support for H.Con.Res.80, a Resolution expressing the sense of Congress that ASSISTED SUICIDE is a DEADLY, DISCRIMINATORY and NON-COMPASSIONATE PRACTICE. Please, JOIN YOUR VOICE to theirs and urge your REPRESENTATIVE to the Resolution which call on the FEDERAL GOVERNMENT to REJECT ASSISTED SUICIDE and to insure that Every Person Facing Death has access to the best quality and comprehensive medical and palliative health care.

The Resolution introduced by Representative Brad Wenstrup (R-Ohio) along with a bi-partisan group of members states that the Government Has a Legitimate Interest in prohibiting Assisted Suicide and explains how Assisted Suicide ENDANGERS EVERYONE, especially those least able to defend against coercion. The Resolution warns that Assisted Suicide puts EVERYONE, including the MOST VULNERABLE, at RISK OF DEADLY HARM and undermines the integrity of the Health Care System.

SEND YOUR EMAILS TO YOUR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS:

TAKE ACTION: HUMAN LIFE ACTION CENTER

- . URGE SENATORS TO PROTECT LIFE AND LIBERTY OF CONSCIENCE IN HEALTHCARE REFORM BILL.
- . URGE YOUR SENATORS TO DISAPPROVE PLANNED PARENTHOOD TITLE X FUNDING RULE.
- . CONTACT THE PRESIDENT AND THE VICE PRESIDENT TODAY AND URGE THEM TO SUPPORT RELIGIOUS LIBERTY.
- . FOLLOW-UP FOR VOTE ON THE NO TAXPAYER FUNDING FOR ABORTION ACT (H.R.7).
- . 44TH ANNIVERSARY OF ROE V. WADE.
- . NIH PROPOSES TAXPAYER FUNDED RESEARCH ON ANIMAL-HUMAN CHIMERAS.
- . URGE CONGRESS TO MOVE THE CONSCIENCE PROTECTION ACT FORWARD.

HUMAN LIFE ACTION: A PROJECT OF NCHLA, P.O. BOX 334116, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20043

202 393 0703 [www.info@nchla.org](http://www.info@nchla.org).

RESPECT LIFE PARISH MINISTRY EDUCATIONAL OVERVIEW TRAINING: Now available online for RESPECT LIFE PARISH MINISTRY Educational Overview Training. Please go to our website to start your training and gain insightful knowledge on Respect Life Issues or concerns. DRVC 516 678 5800 [www.respectlife@drvc.org](http://www.respectlife@drvc.org).

### FOR HELP IN A CRISIS PREGNANCY

Call Diana Hart Mirando  
(C) 830-5077 (H) 605-1979

**ROSELINE LIFE CENTER 24 HOURS**  
631-243-2373

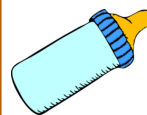
**PROJECT RACHEL [WWW.HOPEAFTERABORTION.COM](http://WWW.HOPEAFTERABORTION.COM)**

Baby Safe Haven, Safe Babies, Safe Place  
at 1 (877) 796-HOPE

Adoption, Foster Care, Maternity Services  
Catholic Home Bureau 1 (800) 592-4357

**NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE HOTLINE**  
1-800-4-Child or 1 800-422-4453

### BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN



The Respect Life Ministry of St. Martin of Tours will be having a Baby Bottle Campaign THIS weekend, **October 21st and 22nd** in the gathering area of the church.

Our parish has always been very generous to help young mothers and their babies through The Life Center of Long Island. *Thank you for your prayers and generosity!*

**Sunday, October 22nd is our next meeting of all high school teens!** We will meet after the 5:30PM Sunday Mass. 8th Graders are welcome to join us!



Sunday, October 29th is our Life Teen Halloween Party! All 8th Graders are welcome!!

**3rd Act of Charity: For Our Veterans**

THURSDAY, November 9th at 7PM-8:30PM Meet in the School Cafeteria. Open to all 6th - 12th graders. If you haven't signed up yet, please email Diana Hughes at SMT\_lifeteen@yahoo.com

**Talent Show: Friday, December 1st at 7PM the school auditorium.** Email Diana Hughes at SMT\_lifeteen@yahoo.com if your child would like to sign up to perform, help backstage or sell tickets. **Also at the Talent Show, we will have an Auction! We are now accepting donations of gift cards/certificates, spirits and new items.** Contact Diana if you need a letter validating donations from your favorite supermarket, restaurant or shop. You can call the rectory at 931-0818 to leave a message. **ALL PROCEEDS FROM THE TALENT SHOW AND THE AUCTION WILL GO TO PURCHASE AN ADAPTIVE TRICYCLE FOR A SPECIAL NEEDS CHILD IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS.** (Supported by The Share the Voice Organization)



**“SOCK”-tober**

*During the whole month of October*, the Life Teen Youth Ministry is collecting new, warm socks for adults which will be given to the homeless. We will have a container in the gathering area where you can drop them off. Any questions, contact Diana Hughes, Youth Minister. **THANK YOU** for helping us reach out to the wider community!



Saint Maria Faustina

**Divine Mercy Novena**

**Every Friday at 2:00 p.m.  
in the Eucharistic Chapel  
ALL ARE WELCOME!**

**The Book of Genesis Workshop**

Father Jim McCabe, CSSR

7:30-8:30PM - large room of St. Alphonsus Hall

All held on Tuesday Evenings

**Father Jim's schedule is:**

**Oct 24 NO MEETING**

Oct 31 Chapters 45-46

Nov 7 Chapters 47-48

Nov 14 Chapters 49-50

**Nov 21 NO MEETING**

Nov 28 Books not included in the Bible

**Reflection & Living Stewardship**

St. Paul thanked the Philippians for being willing to share in his hardships and promises that God, in turn, will fully supply all their needs. Our God truly cannot be outdone in generosity!



We are grateful this week for all stewards in our parish who share their gifts by cooking or providing meals for the homebound or those in need at soup kitchens or community centers.





*Fr. Pat's Homily of October 15, 2017*

Catholics seem to have a saint for every occasion. As a New York Jet fan, I often pray to St. Jude because he is the patron of hopeless causes. Poor St. Anthony spends his eternity running heaven's lost and found department. He is constantly called on to find lost rings, glasses, money, and even cars in mall parking lots. For many years, some women have been saying this prayer: *St. Anne, find me a man as fast as you can!* I am not sure if there is a saint to help you get rid of a boyfriend that you don't like. I think about St. Joseph, the husband of the Blessed Mother and the man who raised Jesus, spending his lifetime on earth being buried upside down so a house can be sold. Although many smile at these traditions, I know I am a big St. Anthony fan since I tend to lose my reading glasses even when I am wearing them.

There are people of other faiths, and even many Catholics who wonder what such practices are about. Might we be using the saints in a rather superstitious way, such as holding a horseshoe or rabbit's foot as a good luck charm? I recall a man I met not too long ago who had a form of brain cancer. When I met him, he told me he had been cured from his cancer and was so very grateful to God. I asked him which saint he prayed to, and I will never forget his response: *I prayed to the Man Himself!* He was, of course, referring to Jesus Christ.

His theology was correct. As much as I love the saints of the Church, they do not heal us of disease, free us of worry, or help us face life difficulties. All grace and power on heaven and earth come from God. God is the source of all healing and grace. I think of the greatest saint of all, Mary the Mother of Jesus, who at the wedding feast of Cana when the wine was running low, went to her Son Jesus and told him about the embarrassment the newly married couple would soon face. She then directed the servants with these words: *Do whatever he says.*

Still I pray to the saints and invite others to do so if they find it comforting. The Catholic Church has certainly encouraged this practice and the names of saints are often included in our official prayers at Mass. I think God gives us the saints because it is all but impossible to grasp an image of God. Even though God took flesh in Jesus and showed us the face of God in his humanity, we as humans naturally struggle with the idea of the Divine, a God who has always been and always will be. A God who created the heavens and earth and all that is, including ourselves, out of nothing, is not easy to grasp. How do you get your hands around the Divine?

So for many of us, we see the love of God and his care and compassion for each one of us reflected in the very human people of flesh and blood - the saints. We know any prayer raised to a saint is also raised to God at the same time. The saints help us to understand and grasp that God cares about all our needs and concerns and He invites us to bring our prayers to Him through the saints. They are our friends and family in heaven, along with our loved ones. Like the crowd that gathers on the streets for the New York City Marathon, they are cheering us on to God.

So with a background of the saints, we go on to St. Gerard Majella. Gerard was born in a little village named Muro Lucano in the Naples area of Italy in 1726. He was a very prayerful young man, and although rather sickly, he managed to enter the Redemptorist Congregation as a Brother. He died in 1755. Although he lived less than thirty years, he was a remarkable man who people saw as very close to God. He often said that his only goal in life was to do the will of God.

He is associated with pregnancy by several stories. Here are two of the stories that occurred during the lifetime of Gerard that have led to his being The Mother's Saint - His miraculous apostolate for mothers began during his lifetime. Once as he was leaving the home of his friends, the Pirofalo family, one of the daughters called after him that he had forgotten his handkerchief. In a moment of prophetic insight, Gerard said, "*Keep it. It will be useful to you some day.*" The handkerchief was treasured as a precious souvenir of Gerard.

Years later, the girl to whom he had given it was in danger of death in childbirth. She remembered the words of Gerard and called for the handkerchief. Almost immediately, the danger passed and she delivered a healthy child. On another occasion, the prayers of Gerard were asked by a mother when both she and her unborn child were in danger. Both she and the child came through the ordeal safely. After his death, the mothers of Italy took Gerard to their hearts and made him their patron. St. Gerard has become popular all over the world as the saint to pray to become pregnant and for a safe delivery as well as to adopt a baby.

St. Gerard has a special role in my family. In 1938, when my mother was pregnant with her first child, she was very nervous about the pregnancy and birth. She asked a priest, who happened to be a Redemptorist, to pray for her. He told her to pray to St. Gerard. The baby was born on October 16, the feast of St. Gerard, and in gratitude to St. Gerard, my Mom and Dad named my sister Geraldine. Years later, when my niece was pregnant with her third child, it was a difficult pregnancy and she almost lost the baby several times. My sister stormed heaven with prayers to St. Gerard. Gratefully, Brendan Gerard was born and is blessed with a wonderful godfather named Father Pat. When my niece was first seeking to become pregnant after five years or so of marriage, her husband told me they wanted to become pregnant. He asked if I could help. I told him I was Irish and knew nothing about these matters. I blessed them with my relic of St. Gerard, and after their third child, they told me to put the medal away.

Those of you who are here today to pray to St. Gerard for pregnancy, adoption, or a safe delivery are wonderful people who want to bring life into our world or to nurture a child. God sees the goodness in your heart. You come in faith. I know for some of you there may be discouragement at the challenge of not becoming pregnant. Those who wish to have children and struggle to do so carry a burden and sorrow. We pray for and with you today. I hope your prayer is heard.

But I pray that whether you become pregnant or adopt that you never doubt the great love that God has for you and know that there are so many ways you can bring the love of God into the world. You are all the beloved children of God. Amen.

**World Apostolate of Fatima USA  
OUR LADY'S BLUE ARMY**

**Announces the arrival in the Diocese of Rockville Centre NY  
The National Pilgrim Virgin Statue  
November 5 - November 20, 2017**

From May to October in 1917, Our Lady of the Rosary appeared to three little children of Fatima, Portugal. People of every medical condition of life went to Fatima to honor Mary, the Mother of God and thank her for the graces received and to beg her for favors received of body and soul. On May 13, 1967, the 50th Anniversary of Our Lady's appearance at Fatima, Pope Paul VI blessed 25 Pilgrim Virgin Statues when he visited Fatima. It was his desire that these statues be taken around the world on pilgrimages of peace. One of these statues was presented to our country and has continued moving in solemn procession through the U.S. **On Sunday, November 12th Our Lady's Statue will be arriving at St. Martin of Tours at 4PM and departing at 9PM. Come, honor Mary and pray for peace in our troubled world.**

**WORLD MISSION SUNDAY  
This weekend October 21 & 22**

Jesus was a missionary. As the Word of God, he is the light of all nations. As the Word made flesh, he brought God's own life into our midst. Before returning to the Father, he sent the Church to continue the mission given him by the Father and empowered her with his Spirit: "As the Father has sent me, so I send you" (John 20:21). Give as much as your means will allow. Thank you!

Charismatic Prayer Group

There are no clocks, watches or calendars in Heaven because time is not measured and so it has no value. We consider time precious because we don't know how much we have. Our lives are so busy; there's always something to do, somewhere to go, or someone to see. We either have time or we don't, depending on what is. We'll make time if it is important to us. We may waste time if it turns out to be not so important. Space is also limited. And I've run out of it! So, you'll have to come to our meeting for the rest of the message!

**Our next meeting is Monday, October 23rd at 7:30PM in the church. Make time for Jesus; He will be looking for you. Call (516) 993-9672 for prayer requests or more information.**

MOMMAS HOUSE

**MOMMAS HOUSE** is a home for young women who are pregnant, homeless and alone. The young women are between 18 and 24 years old. While at MOMMAS, the young women will complete their education or vocational training. The babies are cared for by the staff and volunteers at MOMMAS House.

MOMMAS is dedicated to empowering the young women who come to us under difficult circumstances to become loving mothers and responsible parents. After a year or two, the mothers leave MOMMAS, prepared to support themselves and their babies. For more information, call 516 781-8637 or go to the website: [www.mommashouse.org](http://www.mommashouse.org)



**PLEASE PRAY CONSTANTLY FOR THOSE SERVING IN OUR MILITARY**

Lord of Hosts, we commend to Your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with Your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils that beset them; and grant them Your abiding presence wherever they may be. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



CPT Gregory Holownia, US Army  
 MAJ Erika Holownia, US Army  
 PO2 Matthew Sadecki, USCG  
 SGT Zachary John Sheehy, USMC  
 PVT Travis Ruggiero, US Army  
 SGT Dennis Diesel, USMC  
 L CPL James Kruper, USMC  
 SGT Matthew P. Sirianni, US Army  
 CPT Conor B. Murphy, USMC  
 CPT Victoria Meyer, US Army Nurse Corp  
 PO1 John Paul Pedalino II, US Navy  
 CPT Thomas P. Shea, USAF  
 SGT Michael John Kelly, USMC  
 1LT Brian McGrath, US Army  
 SPC Matthew Castellano, US Army  
 SGT Michael Patrick Murphy, US Army  
 PFC William Corrigan, USMC  
 PFC Salvatore Battiata, USAF  
 LT Daniel Cloonan, USCG  
 PVT Daniel Kuhlmann, US Army  
 LCPL Jonathan M. Gordon, USMC  
 2LT Sean O'Donnell, USAF  
 A1C Jake DeRossi, USAF

SGT Matthew C. Windisch, USMC  
 E3 CORPSMAN Robert Fidnarick, US Navy  
 1LT Brian Thorpe, US Navy  
 PO3 Joshua Zimmerman, US Navy  
 MAJ Brendan McEvoy, US Army  
 SPC Matthew F. Mayerhofer, US Army  
 PO3 James Fischer, US Navy  
 LTC John Evans, US Army  
 ABHAA Michael Creagh, US Navy  
 PVT Steven DiPaolo, USMC  
 SSGT Sean V. Oliva, US Army  
 2LT Samantha Lopez, US Navy  
 SSG George Howard, US Army  
 LT Mario Lopes, USMC  
 PVT Brian Barcavage, US Army  
 CS1 Andrew L. DeMarsico, USN  
 MAJ Thomas E. Mangiamele, US Army  
 PVT Edward Morales, US Army  
 MAJ Michael F. Wendelken, USAF  
 PVT John Marcel, Jr USMC  
 LCPL Brendan M. White, USMC  
 PFC Clint Applegate, US Army  
 CPT Patrick C. Looney USAF  
 CPL Ryan O'Keeffe, USMC

**St. Martin's Men Club**

Meeting on Monday, October 30th  
 7:30PM at St. Stephen Room  
 in Alphonsus Hall



**St. Vincent de Paul Store Locations:**


**2160 Jericho Turnpike, Garden City Park NY  
 (516) 746-8250**

**(enter New Hyde Park if you use GPS)  
 OPEN MON-SAT 10-6**


**1705 Jericho Turnpike, Huntington NY  
 (631) 858-0380  
 OPEN MON-SAT 10-6**

**1425A New York Avenue, Huntington Station  
 (631) 385-1226 OPEN MON-SAT 9-5**


To arrange furniture, clothing, cars and other donated materials for pick-up, please call (516) 746-8250 (Nassau) or 1 800 884-7837 (Suffolk). You can also visit on line at <http://www.svdprvc.org/thrift-stores.html>. Follow the links. St. Vincent de Paul will review your donation request.




October 20 - 26, 2017  
 A candle has been lit for  
 Otto Gutbrod  
 in honor of St. Therese of Lisieux




October 20 - 26, 2017  
 A candle has been lit for  
 Special Intentions  
 in honor of St. Jude



October 20 - 26, 2017  
 A candle has been lit for  
 Terrence Lynam  
 in honor of St. Anne



October 30 - 26, 2017  
 A candle has been lit for  
 Grateful Thanks  
 in honor of St. Anthony of Padua



October 20 - 26, 2017  
 A candle has been lit for  
 Dolores Miller  
 in honor of St. Peregrine

**LIVING WATERS CATHOLIC COUNSELING**  
[www.livingwaterscounseling.biz](http://www.livingwaterscounseling.biz)  
 Melville location:  
 Campus of St. Elizabeth's Church  
 175 Wolf Hill Road, Melville NY 11747  
 Tel: 631-754-3990/Fax: 631-271-0914

**VIRTUS CLASS**  
**"Protecting All God's Children"**  
**MONDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2017**  
**7PM - ST. ALPHONSUS HALL**

Anyone who wishes to volunteer in a parish in the Diocese of Rockville Centre must complete and sign the required forms before attending the class. The forms can be picked up at the rectory office.

To register on-line, please go to [virtus.org](http://virtus.org). For those who do not have a computer, you can inform the rectory when you pick up the forms. Any questions, please feel free to contact the office at 931-0818.

**Congratulations to ALL H.O.P. Club Winners**

10/16/17 #99	Maureen Descovich	\$25
10/17/17 #288	Anna Marie & James McMahon	\$25
10/18/17 #535	Gerald C. Brace	\$25
10/19/17 #216	Irene Mosca	\$25
10/20/17 #387	Helen Sergio	\$250

**A Liturgy for those married 50 Years or more!**  
 Call or come by the rectory (931-0818) to register to attend a liturgy honoring couples married 50 years or more. Sunday, November 19th at Christ the King in Commack at 2:30PM (registration deadline November 6th).

**My Parish App**

To download myParish App on your iPhone or android, text **App** to **88202**. Select our parish after opening and you will have the latest info on your phone.

This APP is especially helpful for the parents of our children in Religious Education as you will be notified of class cancellations, meetings and other important information.



**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- All of October: New socks collection for the homeless. Collection box in Gathering Area
- Oct 21/22: Baby Bottle Campaign
- Oct 23: Charismatic Prayer Group 7:30PM Church
- Oct 30: Virtus Training 7PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Oct 31: All Saints Vigil Mass 7PM Church
- Nov 1: All Saints Day Masses 6:30, 9AM; 12 Noon & 7PM Church
- Nov 1: Rectory Closed for All Saints Day
- Nov 4: 9AM Mass of Remembrance (For the Deceased from Nov 1, 2016 - Oct 31, 2017)
- Nov 11: Feast Day of Saint Martin of Tours/Veterans Day
- Nov 11: Golden Harvest Festival & Raffle Party at 8PM Cafeteria

