

Masses For The Week

Monday - December 11

- 6:30 Marty Laraia
- 9:00 Deceased Members of the Legion of Mary

Tuesday - December 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe

- 6:30 Mary Kate Dolan
- 9:00 Edward & Shirley Miller

Wednesday - December 13 - St. Lucy

- 6:30 Stephen Walicki
- 9:00 William Spencer

Thursday - December 14 - St. John of the Cross

- 6:30 Victoria Salzone
- 9:00 Rev. Thomas Schmidt, CSSR, 10th Anniversary

Friday - December 15

- 6:30 Bernard G. & Bernard J. Helldorfer
- 9:00 John J. Jauregui

Saturday - December 16

- 9:00 MULTIPLE INTENTIONS ANNOUNCED AT MASS
- 5:00 John & Delia Connaughton & Bernie Lavin
- 7:00 Josephine Griffo

Sunday - December 17 - 3rd Sunday of Advent

- 7:00 The People of the Parish
- 8:30 Amelia Regateiro
- 10:00 Angelina Cilmi, 26th Anniversary
- 11:30 Mary O'Neil
- 1:00 Robert Hermann
- 5:30 Russell Peterson

Readings For The Week

- Mon. Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 5:17-26
- Tues. Zechariah 2:14-17; Luke 1:39-47
- Wed. Isaiah 40:25-31; Matthew 11:28-30
- Thurs. Isaiah 41:13-20; Matthew 11:11-15
- Fri. Isaiah 48:17-19; Matthew 11:16-19
- Sat. Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Matthew 17:9a, 10-13

Sun. *Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11* *Isaiah announces a year of favor from the Lord in which all manner of suffering is soothed.*

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 *St. Paul reminds us to rejoice, to pray always and to give thanks in all circumstances.*

John 1:6-8; 19-28 *We hear that the Light has come into the world, and it cannot be extinguished.*



Divine Mercy Novena

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

Our Weekly Sacrificial Gift

Weekly Budget: \$17,500.00
Weekly for 12/3/17: \$20,086.00

Thank you, SMT, for your generosity!

Reflection & Living Stewardship

John the Baptist's call to repentance is echoed in the US Bishops' pastoral letter on stewardship. "Christians must beg God for the grace of conversion: the grace to know who they are, to whom they belong, how they are to live - the grace to repent, change and grow to become good disciples and stewards."

We are grateful this week for all stewards in our parish who strive to respond to God's grace through service to our parish and the wider community, especially Parish Social Ministries and Senior Services.



Charismatic Prayer Group

'Tis the season of lights, decorations, family, friends and songs. The lights remind me of the Star of Bethlehem. The decorations - the Magi's gifts. Family-of course, the family of Mary, Joseph & Jesus. Friends - the shepherds. And the songs - the choir of angels singing so joyfully. So as you prepare for Christmas and think about how commercial it's become, I hope you use my suggestions to bring you back to the wonder and miracle of the birth of Jesus. While you're at it, give yourself a gift - come to our meeting. You'll leave with peace and joy in your heart!

Our next meeting is Monday, December 11th at 7:30PM in St Alphonsus Hall (next to the rectory). What's more important than preparing your heart for Jesus? Think of what He's done for you!! Call 516-993-9672 for more information or prayer requests.

Congratulations to ALL H.O.P. Club Winners

12/4/17	#586	JoAnn Klein	\$25
12/5/17	#240	Peggy Frando	\$25
12/6/17	#285	Flora Houston	\$25
12/7/17	#502	Yvonne & Danielle Iovieno	\$25
12/8/17	#72	Rosemarie Guigliano	\$50



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

This week the Pantry can use coffee, Jell-O, mayonnaise, oil and pancake mix. As always we thank you so very much for all that you do for those in need. Thank you again for your help in November. We were able to assist 452 people and 90 individual families.

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 December 10 - 16, 2017
In Loving Memory of the
Deceased Members of the
Szmytkowski & Zoitke Family*



*Sanctuary Candle
Week of December 10 - 16, 2017
In Loving Memory of
Carmela Gandolfo*

Rest in Peace

Acts 7:49:

"Lord Jesus, receive my spirit."

Elizabeth M. Haley, Lorraine Gallo
Joseph Saitta, Leo Bongiorno



The 2nd Sunday of Advent: Be ready, for you do not know the day or the hour of Christ's return. Prepare and repent and know that Jesus is our Lord and King. Be that voice crying in the wilderness, proclaiming the mightiness of our Savior!

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, Tommy Johnson
Chris & Raymond Mirendia, Florencio Carmenate, Mary McCarthy
Karen Kilgard, Ann Marie Frayler, Nicholas Balducci,
Robert Kennan, Corey Voboril, Baby Scarlett, May Duffey
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
Connie Burgess, Dolores Miller, Elizabeth Ryan, Layla Barr
Susan Carroll-Goyan, Patty & Tom Turano, Nicholas Amato
Jesusa Aquin, Joseph McCroary, Richard Graziano, Jean Mulligan
Taylor, Edward Boyce, Geraldine Zeterberg, Fran Gandolfo
Fr. Edmund Faliskie CSSR, Tom Doty, Joseph Kostyak, Johnny D.
William Castle, Anthony Krich, Aida Gilday, Frank Ballatore, Jr.
Anthony Della Croce, Nicole Carbone, 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
Brendan Donahoe, Janet Scarpelli, Helen Uhl, Andrew McCarthy
Alicia Manetta, Frank LoPinto, Baby Lucia Bianchi
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 Colletouri, Arthur Baudo, Kathy Smith
Veronica McCarthy-Pigott, Unborn Identical Twins
Anthony Hanlon, Janine, Mary Jedlicka, Lisa Lazzara
Pete Moran, Bernard Kelly, Brian John Roe III, The Kloos Family
Patricia Olive, John Bunker, Jacklyn Baddalucco, Yolanda Zitelli
Rose Marie Gaccione, Filomena Rosa, Andrew Bartolozzi
Pat Bergersen, Robert, Amy & Richard Ferranti
Joseph V. Pace, Jr., Justin Turner, Christopher Hehn
Baby Remy, Jimmy Rizzo, Thomas Kelly, Linda Reilly
John Murphy, Colette Sin, Al DeBatto, Adeline Norton
Ann Marie Wezel, Jeanie Wilkins, Rosemary Curtin
Ann Soehngen, Jerry Vega, Mary Leonard, Ed Segretto
Gregory Happ, Fred Cameron, Bill Veltri, Peter Volberg
Ryan Westbrook

Pastor's Letter

Advent is the season of hope. For centuries, human beings waited for God to show Himself in a way that we could truly touch Him, hear Him, and learn from Him the path to eternal life. The expectations and desires of humanity were met beyond any possible dream we could have had in Jesus Christ, fully human and like us in all things but sin, and at the same time, the Son of God who enters the mystery of God the Father and a continual outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

Although I am person of fundamental hope, there are moments of discouragement for me as I know there are for you. I can get a bit down about my limited vision of the future of the church that Jesus has given us. Religious vocations to the priesthood and religious life have diminished dramatically in the past forty years. I am sixty-seven years old and I am still below the median age of the Redemptorists of the province that serves here at St. Martin's. Attendance at Mass in the United States is also experiencing a serious decline. I have heard many of you voice your sadness at the fact that your children and grandchildren, to whom you sought so diligently to pass on the Catholic faith, no longer go to Mass or even have their children baptized. I know this can break your heart. We can see with our own eyes that many of the young are not in our pews. I think I could say the same about many of our adults who find attending Mass to not be a major priority of their lives. Here at St. Martin's, a parish that I love and one that has wonderful parishioners, it can be difficult to get enough volunteers to help distribute Holy Communion at our Sunday Masses. We are committed to trying any program that will help people to come to know and love the God revealed in Jesus who so loved them.

I do not place blame or guilt on those who do not seem to practice their Catholic faith. There are many reasons for this reality. Much of the cause lies with our culture that has grown so very secular. I often use the image of a tsunami of secularism that has hit our world. God, either directly or indirectly, is pushed out of our society and He is considered by many to be irrelevant. I also know that some of the causes rest within our Church. We fail to make the Good News of Jesus Christ truly good news to our world. Maybe some stay away because we are not feeding their hungers. It seems that life is more hectic and demanding today than it was in the recent past. When you greet someone with the words, *how are you?* a frequent response is, *I am so busy. I have no time between work, taking care of the kids and the house, and all the other things that must be done.* Still, I believe people do what they want to do. If people want to be active Catholics, they can - no matter how busy they are. I know that being a person, or even a disciple of Jesus, is not marked by Mass attendance alone. There are many incredibly generous and loving people, who are concerned about others in need and the problems of society, who are doing God's work and following Him in their own way. Attending Mass, receiving the Eucharist, hearing the Word of God does not make you a good person, but it is a great source of God's grace to live out our call to be a disciple of the Lord. I often quote Debra Barone, Raymond's wife, in *Everybody Loves Raymond*, who, when asked by Ray why she goes to Mass, responds, *I go to be part of something bigger than just you and me and the kids. I go to thank God for the week I had with you and the children, and I go to pray for the grace to get through another week with you and the kids!* I think that is one of the best definitions of the power of the Mass I have ever heard. I go to Mass to find the grace to follow Jesus. I need the Eucharist.

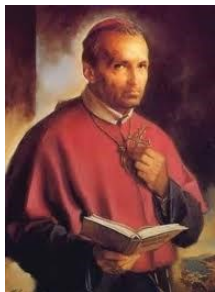
Most of the time I am happy and joyful. It is only when I start thinking about the future of the Church and where it is going that I get a bit concerned. The other night, we had a talent show for the young people of the parish that was organized by our parish youth minister, Diana Hughes. I encouraged her when she asked to do this, but I worried that she (and I) might be disappointed by the results. It is a temptation to get caught up in numbers. How many people went to Mass? What was the collection? How many children were confirmed? How many ushers are there at the Masses? Practical and real questions, but not the most important ones. I have done many missions with Father John McGowan over the years. Some were to packed churches and others could have been held in a phone booth. We always say, *Jesus said to feed them, not count them.*



Well, the talent show was a tremendous success (somewhat to my surprise) with many young people participating. They showed great dedication, and what they did in the show was a variety of singing, dancing, playing instruments and funny skits. A significant number of parishioners attended and enjoyed both the talents and the energy of the show. Numerous people and groups donated baskets for the auction. People were generous in supporting the fifty-fifty and the auction. As a parish we can be so very proud of Diana and her great team, the young who showed their talents, worked in the background, and all those who attended.

What seemed to inspire the young people so very much, as well as all those who participated in the evening, was that the money raised was to provide an adaptive tricycle for a special needs child. So, our young people were on fire with the desire to provide this gift. The tricycle will be delivered in a festive way to the surprised child. Whenever the goal of the event was mentioned, everyone clapped with enthusiasm. The Talent Show raised over \$2,500.00 which is more than was expected and will certainly meet the goal of providing the trike. The young people of St. Martin of Tours Parish were very determined to do this good deed.

I think of the words of Jesus, *what you do to the least of my brothers and sisters, you do me.* They were putting the Gospel into action and serving the Lord. I could not be prouder of them. So, to all who made this night of love so possible, I say thank you. I also thank you for giving your pastor a B-12 shot of hope and joy to kick off the Advent season!



REDEMPTORIST LAY ASSOCIATES

On Saturday, December 16th following the 9AM Mass, there will be a gathering of people interested in learning about Redemptorist History and Spirituality. This session will last no more than 45 minutes in St. Alphonsus Hall.



Upcoming Meeting: No meeting Sunday, December 10th. Sunday, December 17th we will be singing Christmas Carols at Apollo Circle following the 5:30PM Mass. This year the 4th Sunday of Advent is December 24th. There is NO 5:30PM (or 1PM) Mass that day. Life Teen will be celebrating Christmas Mass at 9PM, December 24th. All are welcome!

TALENT SHOW & AUCTION: The Youth Ministry was in awe of the generosity of so many parishioners who donated to the auction and attended the talent show on December 1st. The proceeds came to over \$2,500.00!! We were able to purchase the adaptive tricycle made possible through the Share the Voice Organization. The trike will be delivered to a family in Massapequa on Saturday, December 16th with assistance from the No. Bellmore Fire Department & former WWF wrestler, Mick Foley as Santa.



We thank Father Pat for agreeing to have us take on this project, Father Ciya and Father Jim for their encouragement and support, and special thanks to Father Denis for his time and talents in helping to put this show together. Many, many thanks to Dee Cutler (stage manager & spotlight director), Liam Gordon (sound & lighting manager), TJ Hance & Ed Indelicato (cafeteria & auditorium prep), Chris McCarthy (piano accompanist), Elena Scollo, Shannon Hughes & Kayla Leone (ticket sales), Charlie & Dottie Lotten and Teresa "Little T" Clese (refreshments crew), all those who baked (and baked!), Matt Goldstein (Master of Ceremonies), Kelly Ryan, (vocals coach), Genny Mitchell (program designer), Meghan Cronin (scenic artist/set designer) and Chris Mitchell & Dornell Williams (F.R.E.E. Players Drum Corp directors).

Last but never least, many thanks to our stage crew, singers, dancers, actors and instrumentalists. You were not only wonderful, but made us so proud!

Youth Minister Diana Hughes & The Life Teen Core Team

4th Sunday of Advent/Christmas Mass Obligations

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- Although Christmas this year is the day after the fourth Sunday of Advent, the U.S. Catholic Bishops said Catholics should attend separate Masses for the two days.

A newsletter issued in February by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Divine Worship noted that a "two-for-one" Mass cannot occur in the very rare circumstances when two of the six holy days of obligation -- the feast of the Immaculate Conception or Christmas -- fall the day before or after Sunday. "When consecutive obligations occur on Saturday-Sunday or Sunday-Monday, the faithful must attend Mass twice to fulfill two separate obligations," the committee said.

The reason Catholics might consider the idea of receiving dispensation from a Monday Mass likely stems from the U.S. bishops' vote in 1991 to lift the obligation to attend Mass on holy days of obligation that fall on Saturdays or Mondays. But that vote was only for **three** of the six holy days: the feast of Mary, Mother of God, January 1; the feast of the Assumption, August 15; and the feast of All Saints, November 1. This does not apply to Christmas and the feast of the Immaculate Conception, which is December 8. *Source: Long Island Catholic*

LIFE LINE SCREENING

Wednesday, January 10, 2018 - St. Alphonsus Hall

Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, is pleased to offer a preventive health event at St Martin of Tours Parish St Alphonsus Hall on 1/10/2018. Five screenings will be offered. Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. **There are three ways to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call toll-free 1-888-653-6441 or visit <http://lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle> or text the word circle to 797979.**

GIRLS CYO VOLLEYBALL OPPORTUNITY

St. Martin of Tours will be offering for the first time CYO Volleyball for girls in grades five through eight. Priority for the program is that the family members are registered parishioners of St. Martin. Local travel to other parishes in the Diocese will be required.

Please contact Dave Fantry, CYO Coordinator, at Fantry14@aol.com. Depending on the interest, we will offer teams at each grade level, so please be sure to contact Dave as soon as possible in order to establish this new program. Registration will be held some time in December in the school auditorium and the program will begin after the Christmas break.

St. Gerard Majella, CSsR is a very popular saint of the Catholic Church as the special patron of those who are seeking to get pregnant or adopt and those who are pregnant and praying for a safe delivery. He is Redemptorist, the same religious community that has served here at St. Martin's for the past thirty years.



As you know, we have a beautiful icon of St. Gerard in our prayer area of our church. You are welcome to ask any of the priests or deacon for a blessing with the St. Gerard relic if you are seeking to become pregnant, adopt or are pregnant.

CALLING ALL ANGELS, KINGS AND SHEPHERDS

The Children's Christmas Pageant will be on Sunday, December 24th at the 6:00PM Mass in the Church. Please fill the space below and submit it to the rectory by December 21st. The one and only practice for the pageant will be on Thursday, December 21st at 4PM in Church.

CHILD'S NAME(S): _____

AGE(S): _____ **PHONE:** _____

PART REQUESTED: _____

PARENT SIGNATURE & DATE

St. Martin of Tours Church

BASKETBALL CLINIC

FOR BOYS AND GIRLS - Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd Graders

Where: St. Martin of Tours Auditorium

When: Sundays from 11AM - 12 Noon

Starts: January 14, 2018

Registration forms are in the gathering area of the Church.

Registration Ends January 7, 2018

Minimum participation needed for clinic - 20 children

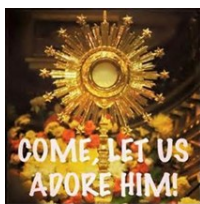
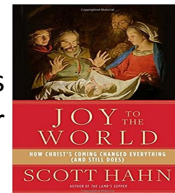


BOOK CLUB SELECTIONS



The Regular Book Club: our next selection is Charles Dickens' great classic, "A Christmas Carol." We will meet to discuss the book on Friday, December 15th at 7:30PM in St. Alphonsus Hall. (Janice promises to dress as *Scrooge!*)

Spiritual Book Club: our next selection is Scott Hahn's "Joy to the World." We will meet on Friday, December 22nd at 7:30PM in St. Alphonsus Hall.



The Advent Holy Hour will be on Wednesday, December 20th from 3:00 to 4:00PM.



The Parish Men's Club will meet on Thursday, December 21st at 7:30PM St. Alphonsus Hall.



I love to watch sentimental movies at Christmas time. I tear up every time I watch the ending scene of *It's a Wonderful Life*. Tiny Tim saying, *A Merry Christmas to us all! God bless us...everyone!* can warm the heart of any *Scrooge* moments I may have. Another favorite Christmas movie of mine is *The Bells of St. Mary's*. Father O'Malley, the unconventional priest from *Going My Way*, continues his work for the Catholic Church. This time he is sent to St. Mary's, a run-down parochial school on the verge of condemnation. He and Sister Benedict work together to save the school, though their differing methods often lead to good-natured disagreements. Father O'Malley is played by Bing Crosby and Sister Benedict by Ingrid Bergman. It is a three-handkerchief movie. The semi villain in the movie is Horace P. Bogardus. He is the owner of a beautiful new building that the Sisters want him to give to them for a new school. Bogardus is trying to have St. Mary's Catholic School condemned so he can buy it for further development. The nuns pray and pray that Bogardus will soften his heart and give them the building as a new school...and at no cost.

I feel a bit like Horace Bogardus. I know some parishioners have been praying fervently to touch the heart of the pastor to change his decision about cancelling the 7:00PM Saturday Mass. The prayers have been heard, and I am going to update my decision about the 7:00PM and have it continue. I am not sure if I am a weak leader who bends at the prayerful requests of parishioners, or a wise man who listens to information and is open to change his mind. I may be a mix of both. Here is why I changed my mind:

- A couple of parishioners came to me in great sincerity and explained that the 7:00PM Mass was the only Mass that was easy for them to attend since they worked on weekends until 5:00PM. They love the parish and did not want to attend Mass elsewhere. I had not been aware of this information when I initially made the decision.
- When we were discerning the decision to change the Mass schedule, we had three priests on staff. With the unanticipated addition of Father Denis, we now have four. All the priests here are happy to celebrate Masses for the parish.
- I have noticed that the Mass attendance at the 7:00PM is like some of the Sunday Masses, and was left wondering if I should have chosen a Sunday Mass. Currently, I have no intention to change our Mass schedules unless there are unforeseen circumstances.

I still believe our parish does not need eight Masses on the weekend for the same reasons I gave: priests should not say numerous Masses on the same day unless there is a very good reason; and a Mass has more spirit when more people attend. This is not to suggest that a few people cannot have a deeply spiritual Mass. They can and do, but I do believe a fuller church lifts all of us.

Since there will be a new pastor at St. Martin's in the summer of 2019, I will let him decide what, if any changes, he would make in the Mass schedule. If the new pastor feels the need to do so, I know you will be fair to him since I think such changes are inevitable and most of us do not like change. If we were to have a priest transferred, something I do not anticipate but one never knows, then I may move to cancel a Mass. I do not want the 7:00PM to become locked in with Mass intentions so intentions can be obtained the last week of the month for the upcoming month at the parish office. So in the last week of December 2017, you can have a Mass said in January of 2018. This process will continue month to month.

Spoiler Alert! In the movie, *The Bells of St. Mary's*, the Sisters promise to pray for Mr. Bogardus' health since he has a heart condition. For those who have been praying for me to change my mind about the 7:00PM Mass, I ask you to pray that I live to see the Jets win a Super Bowl...that will guarantee me a very long life! Merry Christmas and God bless us...everyone! - Father Patrick Bogardus

RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

A TIME FOR GIVING, LISTENING AND SHARING

As we await the birth of Our Lord Jesus and seek peace and comfort in His coming, we can get caught up in the frenzy that we now accept as holiday shopping. So much noise! Traffic, horns beeping, people fighting for a parking space, Black Friday, Cyber Monday, lots of noise. But, at this time of year, there is noise that will soothe the heart and bring us peace if we just listen. The ringing of a bell by someone outside a store, train station, or town square, asking for a donation for the poor. What a sound, that solitary bell ringing as we pass. The bells ringing from a church, beckoning us to come sit awhile, light a candle, say a prayer. To kneel before the Nativity, awaiting the manger to once more to behold the Son of God. There is a beautiful "quiet" in those bells. Children hear the bells. They envision sleigh bells on a Christmas Eve night with dreams of gifts, snow and stockings filled with candy and treats. They are waiting for a magical moment, and so are we, but we need to listen.

During Advent, we fill the Food Pantry, take a gift tag from the Giving Tree in the Gathering Place, maybe give a little more in our weekly donations, all for the beauty of the season. Here are other ways of giving and sharing.

- Did you know The AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY provides free rides to and from cancer-related medical appointments. Many patients do not have transportation, and getting the word to them is vital for their recovery. Information Center 1-800-ACS-2345. Information 24 hrs. 7 days a week.
- TOYS FOR TOTS: U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program distributes toys as Christmas gifts to needy children in the community in which the campaign is conducted. NASSAU: All MARINE CORPS RECRUITING OFFICES, WALGREENS, TOYS R US, and BABIES R US. SKATE SAFE AMERICA, 182 Sweet Hollow Rd, Old Bethpage NORMA'S SCHOOL OF DANCE, 340 Broadway, Bethpage.
- FREE HOLIDAY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS FOR LONG ISLAND, NASSAU AND SUFFOLK COUNTY. CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF LONG ISLAND. 90 Cherry Lane, Hicksville, NY 11801-6299 (516) 733-7000.
- MAYBE, you can visit someone in a nursing home, bring a toy to a child in a children's ward at a nearby Hospital. Invite someone alone to your Christmas table. Volunteer at a shelter for the homeless. Call someone you have neglected; send that Christmas card. Take a moment to brave the night chill and go Christmas caroling. Everyone will listen, and you will fill the night with magic. Most of all, GO RING YOUR BELL!

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

**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**

Father Peter Schavitz, CSsR

A good friend of mine, Father Peter Schavitz, CSsR, stationed in St. Louis, will be preaching on themes of Advent on the 2nd Sunday of Advent.

Welcome Father Pete, originally from Chicago, and another man I tutored to help him through the seminary.

Father Pat

ATTENTION 8th GRADERS

**You are invited to participate in a special
Advent Life Teen Mass on Sunday, December 17th
at 5:30PM St. Martin of Tours Church.**

We are looking for Students to do the following:

- **WELCOME PARISHIONERS AT THE DOORS**
- **HAND OUT SONG SHEETS**
- **READ SCRIPTURES**
- **ACT IN FATHER PAT'S SKIT**
- **BRING GIFTS TO THE ALTAR**
- **SING WITH THE BAND**
- **JOYFULLY JOIN THE CONGREGATION IN WORSHIP**

**This is a great opportunity to gain service time for Confirmation!
(and it's fun too!) *PLUS!!!* All participants are invited to the Life
Teen Youth Group's Christmas Party following Mass.**

**For more information and to sign up for this event, please email
Elena Scollo at ladymusicst@aol.com or you can call (516) 713-
8854.**

LET'S MAKE IT AN AWESOME ADVENT EVENT!!!!

On Saturday, December 2, we completed our second ALPHA program here at St. Martin's. There were twenty participants in the ten-week program who came together on Saturday mornings for a hot breakfast, an excellent video, and a lively discussion. As was the case for the first ALPHA we held last Spring, those who shared the experience felt it very helpful to their lives as they come to deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ. I am very grateful for all those who participated and those who served in a variety of ways to make ALPHA happen.



ALPHA is growing all over the world as a dynamic program to seek meaning and understanding in life through Jesus. Anyone, devout Catholics, people with doubts and questions, those who feel they do not really know Jesus, people of other faith traditions, and those who struggle to believe in God are welcome. We will soon be planning and scheduling our next ALPHA. I know ten weeks sounds like a lifetime, but I am convinced that you will find ALPHA one of the best experiences of your life. I know many of you have family and friends who may be searching for meaning in life. It would be a great blessing to them and to you if you would consider inviting them to come to our next ALPHA with you.

Please read carefully as this year the Mass schedule for December 24th includes the 4th Sunday of Advent.

CONFESSIONS, CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR SCHEDULE

CONFESSIONS

SATURDAY, December 16
2:00PM & after the 7:00PM Mass

MONDAY, December 18
9:30–10:00AM; 3:00–4:30PM & 7:00–8:00PM

TUESDAY, December 19
9:30–10:00AM; 3:00–4:30PM & 7:00–8:00PM

SATURDAY, December 23
2:00PM & after the 7:00PM Mass

MASSES

SATURDAY, December 23 - 5PM & 7PM

SUNDAY, December 24 - 4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT
7AM, 8:30AM, 10AM & 11:30AM
There is NO 1PM or 5:30PM Mass

SUNDAY, December 24 - VIGIL OF CHRISTMAS

4:00PM - Church & Auditorium
4:30PM - Knights of Columbus
Fr. Hartigan Council Hall (Central Ave)
6:00PM - Children's Mass in Church
9:00PM - Life Teen Mass in Church
11:15PM - Pre-Midnight Mass Concert
12:00AM - Midnight Mass in Church

MONDAY, December 25, CHRISTMAS DAY

7:00, 8:30, 10:00, 11:30AM & 1:00PM
No 5:30PM Mass on Christmas Day

SATURDAY, December 30 - Confession 2PM & 8PM

Masses 5PM & 7PM

SUNDAY, December 31

7:00, 8:30, 10:00, 11:30AM, 1PM & 5:30PM

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

Not a Holy Day of Obligation

MONDAY, January 1, 2018 - 9AM Mass Only



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
 CPT Mike Polan, US Army

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

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.

For more information, call 516 781-8637 or go to the website:
www.mommashouse.org

The Psalms of the Church's Morning Prayer will be prayed at 8:30AM before the 9AM Mass. This will be done Monday to Friday during the four weeks of Advent.

MOMMAS HOUSE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The North Shore Pops will perform at the annual concert on Thursday, December 14th at 7:30PM at St. Rocco's Parish Hall, Third Street, Glen Cove. No charge - free will offerings are welcome. Mommas House, Glen Cove residence adjacent to St. Rocco's Parish Hall will be open for refreshments immediately following the concert.



December 8 - 14, 2017

A candle has been lit for
Philip Mascia
in honor of St. Therese of Lisieux



December 8 - 14, 2017

A candle has been lit for
Matt Herzog & Family
in honor of St. Jude

St. Martin of Tours Giving Tree



All Giving Tree gift cards must be returned
by this Sunday, December 10th to allow
ample time for distribution, and can be de-
posited in the rectory door mail slot.

Thank you very much for your generosity!

LIVING WATERS CATHOLIC COUNSELING

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

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 donat-
ed 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.

St. Martin of Tours

BLOOD DRIVE

Wed., December 13, 2017

2:30 - 8:30PM

38 Seaman Avenue, Bethpage
St. Alphonsus Hall

Questions concerning
medical eligibility,
call 1-800-688-0900

To make an appointment,
please contact
Genny Mitchell
at 516-931-0818

WALK-INS WELCOME!!

UPCOMING EVENTS



- Dec 10: Return Date for Giving Tree Gift Cards - Bring to the Rectory
- Dec 11: Charismatic Prayer Group 7:30PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Dec 13: Blood Drive 2:30 - 8:30PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Dec 15: Regular Book Club 7:30PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Dec 16: Redemptorist History & Spirituality following 9AM Mass St. Alphonsus Hall
- Dec 20: Advent Holy Hour 3PM Church
- Dec 21: Children's Pageant Practice 4PM Church
- Dec 21: Men's Club 7:30PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Dec 22: Spiritual Book Club 7:30PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Dec 23: Anointing of the Sick at 9AM Mass
- Jan 10: Life Line Screening St. Alphonsus Hall