

# -St. Martin of Tours-

Bethpage, NY · Founded in 1923



## MISSION STATEMENT

We, the parish family of St. Martin of Tours, focus on the Eucharist because it affords all of its parishioners the opportunity to participate and celebrate the presence of our Risen Lord. We seek through Word and Eucharist to be guided by the Holy Spirit. We do so to build a welcoming community of love and mutual respect through our liturgical, spiritual, educational and social ministries where all can grow in their relationship with God.

**V. Rev. Patrick F. Woods, C.Ss.R., Pastor**  
**Rev. James McCabe, C.Ss.R.**  
**Rev. Ciya Thomas, C.Ss.R.**  
**Rev. Denis Sweeney, C.Ss.R.**  
**Rev. Deacon Thomas R. Hennessy**

**Trustees:** Carol Buffa and Frank Mekalainas

**Rectory Office: Tel. 516-931-0818/Fax 516-931-0559**

**Office Hours:** Monday - Friday 9AM-8PM; Saturday 9AM-7PM  
Lunch Hour during the week: 12 Noon - 1PM; Closed Sunday

**DAILY MASS:** Monday - Friday 6:30AM & 9AM/Sat. 9AM

**WEEKEND MASS:** Saturday 5PM & 7PM

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

**Confession:** 2PM Saturday and after the 7PM Mass

**Religious Education: 516-822-9768**

Patricia Ryan and Laura Leigh Agnese, Coordinators  
Monday - Thursday 9:30AM - 3:00PM/Closed Friday

**Parish Social Ministry: 516-931-7332**

Mary Vitti, Coordinator  
Monday 9:30AM - 2:30PM & Thursday 2:00PM - 7:00PM

**Music Ministry: 516-713-8854**

Elena Scollo, Director of Music

**Maintenance: 516-633-7944**

T.J. Hance, Manager

**St. Alphonsus Hall: 516-935-2723**

**First Friday: 9AM Mass after communion**

**Baptism: 516-454-6454**

Karen Dillon, Coordinator & Scheduler

**Matrimony:** For wedding arrangements, please contact Fr. Jim McCabe, C.Ss.R. at 516-931-0818 at least 6 months prior to the wedding date.

**St. Vincent de Paul : 718-687-8854**

**New parishioners & change of address, please notify the rectory office.**

**Masses For The Week**

**Monday - December 17**

6:30 Marty Laraia  
9:00 Aida Gilday

**Tuesday - December 18**

6:30 Kathy Ann Watson  
9:00 John McGlynn

**Wed. - December 19**

6:30 Joseph DeAngelo  
9:00 Donald Thomas Wright

**Thursday - December 20**

6:30 Mr. & Mrs. Felice Basile  
9:00 Mary Burfeind

**Friday - December 21**

6:30 Thomas & Mary LaGanga  
9:00 Sonia & Wallace Kankas

**Saturday - December 22**

9:00 MULTIPLE INTENTIONS ANNOUNCED AT MASS  
5:00 Ann & Bill Csajko  
7:00 Szmytkowski & Zoitke Family

**Sunday - December 23 - Fourth Sunday of Advent**

7:00 The People of the Parish  
8:30 Pat Volino  
10:00 George & Doris Held  
11:30 Kristine Benasutti  
1:00 Mary Agrella, Anniversary  
5:30 Joe & Rosemary Ogno

**Readings For The Week**

Mon. Genesis 49:2, 8-10; Matthew 1:1-17  
Tues. Jeremiah 23:5-8; Matthew 1:18-25  
Wed. Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a; Luke 1:5-25  
Thurs. Isaiah 7:10-14; Luke 1:26-38  
Fri. Song of Songs 2:8-14; Luke 1:39-45  
Sat. 1 Samuel 1:24-28; Luke 1:46-56  
**Sun. Micah 5:1-4a** *The Lord says to Bethlehem-Ephrathah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel.*

**Hebrews 10:5-10** *Sacrifice and offerings, holocausts and sin offerings, you did not want nor delighted in. Jesus comes to take away the first to establish the second, which is the perfect sacrifice his own Body and Blood.*

**Luke 1:39-45** *When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting the infant leaped in her womb. "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb."*



**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**

**12/9/18 Collection: \$17,166.18**

**Immaculate Conception: \$4,260.00**

**Religious Retirement: \$3,466.00**

**Thank you for your generosity.**

**Reflection and Living Stewardship**

Today's Gospel provides a blue print for good stewardship: "Let the man who has two coats give to him who has none. The man who has food should do the same."



We are grateful this week for all stewards in our parish who prepare for the coming of Christ by sharing what they have with those who have less...or none!

***Charismatic Prayer Group***

**Someone** The holidays are not always joyful. Have you said *I am sad and alone. I am sick. I am scared. I am far away from family. I am forgotten.* If you have, then you need us for support. Please join us. Things can be better. It will be the best present you give and get!!!

**Our next meeting is Monday, December 17th at 7:30 pm in St. Alphonsus Hall. All are welcome. Call 516-993-9672 for more information or prayer requests.**

**HOP Club Winners**

12/10/18 #61	Joanne Veltri	\$25
12/11/18 #301	Eleanor Shaw	\$25
12/12/18 #367	Gerard Holler	\$25
12/13/18 #25	Rose McGeever	\$25
12/14/18 #377	James T. Duke	\$50

## Wedding Banns

3rd James Priore & Christiane Laspina  
1st Phillip Cataliani & Trisha McQuade



*"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: egg noodles, boxed milk, evaporated milk, icing, sugar, pudding, Jell-O, ketchup, toilet paper, diapers (size 6), tissues and napkins. Thank you for all you do for those in need.

We are in need of helpers to work at the Pantry on Saturdays from 4 - 6PM, accepting Whole Foods donations as many workers are out for surgeries or vacations. You would be assigned one Saturday a month. If interested, please call Mary Vitti at the Pantry at 931-7332.

### 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 16 - 22, 2018*

*In Loving Memory of*  
*Helen & Henry Ruff*

*Sanctuary Candle*  
*Week of December 16 - 22, 2018*

*In Loving Memory of*  
*Kristine Benasutti*



**If you have experienced the loss of a loved one, this is the support group for you.** We plan to offer groups on **Thursday mornings from 10am to 11:30am on Jan 3, 10 & 17.** We will meet at **208 Broadway.** Call Parish Outreach at 516-931-7332 and leave a message for Mary.

**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  
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  
Tom Schuerlein, Katie Walsh, Louise Sandberg, Anthony Luisi  
Tommy Johnson, Chris & Raymond Mirendia, Florencio Carminate  
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, Daniel Costa, Hector Valentine, Theresa DuRoss  
Bob & Anna Baciuska Carol Ann Scudder, John Scudder  
Justine & Nicole Scudder, Vincent Esposito, Terry Hall  
Catherine A. McCarthy, Paul Granberg, 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  
Joseph & Joyce Kostyak, Johnny D., William Castle, Anthony Della Croce  
Nicole Carbone, Barbara Rusch, Connie Kane, Beverly Viselli, Casey  
Betty Mara, Teri Pigott, 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, Brendan Donahoe, Janet Scarpelli, Andrew McCarthy  
Alicia Manetta, Baby Lucia Bianchi, Pat James, Joseph David Iovieno  
Robert Daniel, Dorothy Eisenstadt, David Drohan, Martin Lee  
Ralph Caputo, Kristen Smith, Michael Vigotty, Vinny Vanturini  
Tom Mitchell, Pat Murphy, Tarabokija Family, Philip Marino  
Henry Hamilton, Libia & Maria Teresa Valdez, Nancy Gerace  
Robert Collelouri, Arthur Baudo, Kathy Smith, Samantha McNeill  
Veronica McCarthy-Pigott, Janine, Mary Jedlicka, Pete Moran  
Brian John Roe III, Fr. Paul Wood, The Kloos Family, Patricia Olive  
John Bunker, Jacklyn Baddalucco, Yolanda Zitelli, Rose Marie Gaccione  
Filomena Rosa, Andrew Bartolozzi, Pat Bergersen,  
Robert, Amy & Richard Ferranti, Bill Veltri, Joseph V. Pace, Jr.  
Justin Turner, Christopher Hehn, Baby Remy, Jimmy Rizzo, Thomas Kelly  
Peggy Epstein, John Murphy, Al DeBatto, Adeline Norton  
Ann Marie Wezel, Jeanie Wilkins Ann Soehngen, Ed Segretto  
Fred Cameron, Elaine Caiazza, Ryan Westbrook, Donna Strickland  
Anthony Clese, Valerie Haberly, The Family of Brendan Langhauser  
Helen Kurlowicz, Christine Marsiello, Michael M. Durante  
Sonny D'Ambrosio, Pasquale Patalano, Noelle Eichenlaub, Thomas Triola  
Keith Ferrara, Noelle Buchner, Margaret DeMarco, Annemarie Frayler  
Robert Amato, Yvonne McDonnell Denise Dolan, The Gallagher Family  
Henry Hamilton, Christian Bogdanos, Terry & John Bunker, Liam  
Margaret Young, John Lazzara, Rosemary Caiazza, Virginia Gala, Bridget  
Karen Murphy, Catherine Comiskey, Connie Sheehan, Richard Baker  
Dina Ledogard, Ed Russo, Petrina Dralas, Benito Picinic, Michael, John  
Joanne Gorman, Jean Vanturini, Diane Passaro, Mary Jane Bookman  
Toni Novak

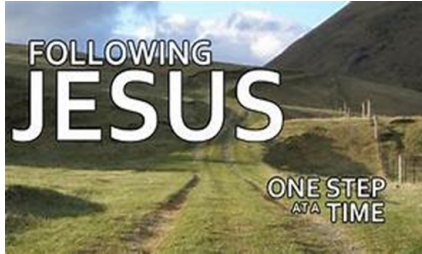
### *Rest in Peace*

**Alfred J. Puppo, Dorothy A. Duke**

## *The Pastor's Letter*

*(Homily for the Rite of Acceptance and Welcoming for our RCIA candidates)*

I have been a Catholic all my life with the exception of about two weeks. As was the common custom of the time, I was baptized the second Sunday after my birth. I presume the same is true for many of you.



In spite of being a very intelligent baby, I am not sure if I truly gave my heart to following Jesus as an infant. Although I cannot remember it, I am sure I received my first Holy Communion with devotion. In addition to wondering how much money I would get as gifts for my Confirmation, I am sure I was eager to receive the gift of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

Again, like you, I grew up in what I would call a Catholic culture where being Catholic was not something you thought about as a decision to make. Being a Catholic was for me as much part of my life as going to school, eating and sleeping. Almost everyone I knew was Catholic. By the time I was in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade, like almost every Catholic school student of the day, I could easily rattle off the Ten Commandments, all the key prayers of the Church (and with some of them in Latin, no less), the seven sacraments, the names of the apostles, and the four marks of the Church. I may not have grasped all their meaning, but I had them memorized.

I went to a seminary high school and would confess that I might have thought more about sports and playing pranks on my friends than I did on my relationship with Jesus. I was a Catholic. After high school, I decided to continue to think about a being a priest. There were many reasons why I considered this option, but it was no dramatic decision. When I first joined the seminary, there were 100 people in my entrance class. (Ten were ultimately ordained.) I followed many of my friends who entered the seminary a year earlier. After high school, we began what was called the novitiate in preparation to make vows as a religious. I have often described that year as a kind of spiritual boot camp. The entire focus of that year was to pray and reflect on the call to be a vowed religious. And that was the year, although not at any particular vivid moment, that I slowly began to truly know Jesus and to fall in love with him. I wanted to be his follower. It was a choice, an experience, that changed my life forever. I would be willing to bet, if you look over your own lives, you will see one, if not more, such moments when your choice to love God was not just because you had been raised Catholic, but because it became a decision you made from an invitation by God.

Today at this Mass, we have had the honor and privilege of witnessing several young men and women who are making choices to follow Jesus Christ in faith as Catholics. Each one has their own story and their own unique history as they choose to enter into the Catholic faith. They are responding to God's grace in their lives. They want to follow Jesus in a community of believers. That is you and me. I love the prayer at Mass before the sign of peace that says *look not on our sins, but on the faith of the church*. That is us - human and sinful but together filled with the grace of God. We are to witness to them our faith. At the same time, seeing them in their eagerness to follow Jesus in the Catholic faith is a powerful witness to all of us to never take our faith for granted. It is always an ongoing gift from God.

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

## Gaudete Sunday

Certain Sundays throughout the liturgical year have taken their names from the first word in Latin of the Introit, the entrance antiphon at Mass. Gaudete Sunday is one of these. What is Gaudete Sunday?



**Answer:** Gaudete Sunday is the Third Sunday of Advent. The Introit for Gaudete Sunday, in both the Traditional Latin Mass and the Novus Ordo, is taken from Philippians 4:4,5: "*Gaudete in Domino semper*" ("Rejoice in the Lord always").

Like Lent, Advent is a penitential season, so the priest normally wears purple vestments. But on Gaudete Sunday, having passed the midpoint of Advent, the Church lightens the mood a little, and the priest may wear rose vestments. The change in color provides us with encouragement to continue our spiritual preparation—especially prayer and fasting—for Christmas.

For this same reason, the third candle of the Advent wreath, first lit on Gaudete Sunday, is traditionally rose-colored. Gaudete Sunday has a counterpart in Lent: Laetare Sunday.

*Rejoice in the Lord always;  
for indeed, the Lord is near!*

### From Parish Social Ministry Office

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has a website available online through [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org) called "**Sharing Catholic Social Teaching: Challenges and Direction.**" Following is a quote on the life and dignity of the human person. "*Our belief in the sanctity of human life and the inherent dignity of the human person is the foundation of all the principles of our social teaching. In our society, human life is under direct attack from abortion and assisted suicide.*

*The value of human life is being threatened by increasing use of the death penalty. The dignity of life is undermined with the creation of human life is reduced to the manufacture of a product, as in human cloning or proposals for genetic engineering to create 'perfect' human beings. We believe that every person is precious, that people are more important than things, and that the measure of every institution is whether it threaten or enhance the life and dignity of the human person."*

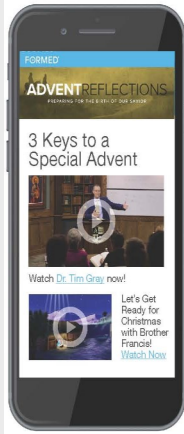


### Prepare for Christmas Like Never Before

How will you prepare for Christmas? Enrich your Advent with daily reflections for you and your kids sent directly to your inbox! Walk with Dr. Tim Gray on a journey of renewal to ready your heart for the coming of Christ! Plus, add children's reflections to your daily email, and Herald Entertainment's beloved *Brother Francis* will help your kids get ready for Christmas with joyful songs and valuable lessons.

Haven't signed up for your FREE FORMED ACCOUNT?

Register at [smtbethpage.formed.org](http://smtbethpage.formed.org)



Sign up at [formed.org](http://formed.org) or with the FORMED app!

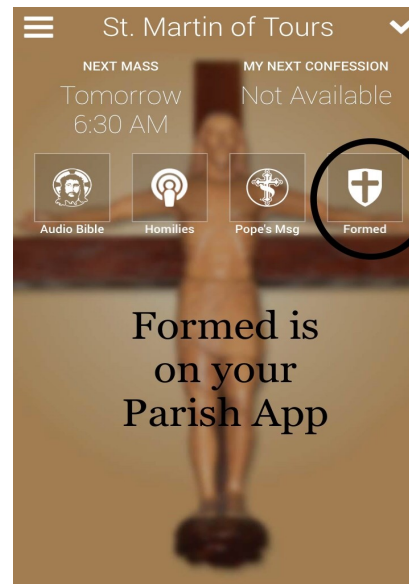


# Women's Group

of St. Martin of Tours

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 19 at 7pm in St. Alphonsus Hall. All women are welcome and do bring a friend!

Please contact us at [smtwomensgroup@gmail.com](mailto:smtwomensgroup@gmail.com) or at 516.931.0818 for more information. See you then!



### FORMED RECOMMENDATION

#### Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist

Every week, we gather at Mass and take part in an astounding miracle: the miracle of God giving us his very self in the Eucharist. It can however be difficult to fully understand and appreciate this gift. This week's FORMED Pick of the Week and the theme of last week's Advent Retreat at St. Martin of Tours, is a three-part video series that explores the mystery of God's love for us expressed in the Eucharist. If you were unable to attend our parish Advent Retreat or would like to share aspects of the Retreat with your loved ones, *Presence: Mystery of the Eucharist* will encourage a greater understanding and love for the Eucharist.

#### FORMED CHOICE: KIDS' KORNER

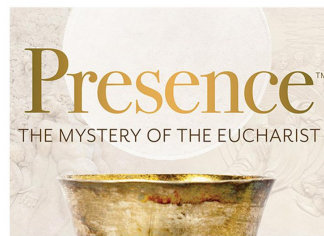
#### Nicholas: The Boy Who Became Santa

Watch *Nicholas: The Boy Who Became Santa*, the beautifully animated and fascinating story of the boy named Nicholas whose love and care for others make him one of the most popular figures of all times. Today, more than sixteen centuries later, the entire world celebrates his kindness and generosity!

### FORMED PICK

#### Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist

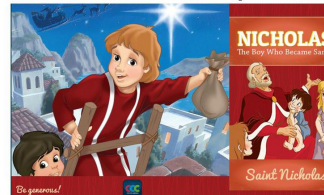
It's not about what it is. It's about *Who* it is.



Although the Eucharist appears to be simple bread and wine, it is actually the "source and summit" of the Christian life. Come explore the truth and beauty of Christ's Real Presence in the Eucharist.

### FORMED KIDS' KORNER

#### *Nicholas: The Boy Who Became Santa*



Nicholas discovered the gift of giving, by which he brought happiness to many people. Because of his love, kindness, and generosity for others, the entire world celebrates him.

Watch on [smtbethpage.formed.org](http://smtbethpage.formed.org)

Dear Parents,

As we begin our second basketball clinic program in January 2019 in St. Martin of Tours Auditorium, there are certain things that must be clarified to each of you concerning the use of the auditorium. Please note that the clinic ages are now from 2 years and up, K, 1st & 2nd grades. I ask that you read and discuss the following rules with your child:

1. Please do not leave your child without checking in with the clinic staff. Be sure to pick up your child on time.
2. Please do not allow other children (siblings, friends, etc.) to remain in the auditorium unsupervised. Clinic staff cannot be responsible for them.
3. Remind your child:
  - No running in the hall of the school building.
  - No ball playing except in the auditorium.
  - No spitting water or playing at the water fountain or in the bathrooms.
  - Children must be reminded that they are representing themselves, you and St. Martin of Tours each time they participate. Good behavior is a must.

We expect each parent to go over these rules to ensure their child's good behavior. We ask for your full cooperation and look forward to a happy and fun program.

Sincerely,

Father Patrick Woods, CSSR, Pastor

**ST. MARTIN OF TOURS BASKETBALL CLINIC REGISTRATION - Deadline December 30, 2018**  
**Clinic starts Sunday, January 6th and ends Sunday, March 31, 2019**

Child's Information (please print):

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

M / F Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Circle Grade: 2 years + up Kindergarten First Second

Street: \_\_\_\_\_ Town: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Attending Parish: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address (please print)

As parent or guardian, I assume all the risks and hazards incidental or associated with such participation including all activities, contests and practices. I hereby waive, release and absolve indemnity and agree to hold harmless St. Martin of Tours Church, Bethpage NY 11714.

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_



## Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary December 8

### Father Pat's homily of 12/8/18

Years ago, I went to a show called *Late Nite Catechism*. It was a one person show that had a woman playing a nun who was teaching a group of adult Catholics a remedial course on Catholicism of the 1950's. It was a very funny show, but it was also respectful of the nuns of that time who gave so much to the Church.

The actress interacted with the audience throughout the show. So, if you were in the audience chewing gum, the Sister had you spit it out into a wastebasket and said the next time you would have to put it on your nose. Throughout the show she asked the audience questions, and you were corrected if you did not begin your answer with the respectful word, *Sister*. So, she asked what the Immaculate Conception is. Many hands went up in the crowd, but they all got it wrong, saying it was about the birth of Jesus. I, dressed incognito, finally raised my hand and said, *Sister, it is the teaching that Mary the Mother of Jesus was freed from stain of original sin when she was conceived*. Sister congratulated me and gave me a gold star on my shirt. This is the only award I have ever won after a lifetime of studying about God.

There is old fable about a frog and a scorpion who meet at the side of the river. The scorpion asks the frog to help him across the river. The frog says no because he is afraid the scorpion will sting him. The scorpion says he would never do that. The frog still doubts him, but the scorpion is quite persistent and pleads that he would never hurt the frog if he does this good deed for him. The frog finally agrees and lets the scorpion on his back. Just as they get to the other side of the river safely, the scorpion stings the frog. The frog cries out in pain: why did you do this to me. You promised you would not sting me. The scorpion says, *I am sorry but it's my nature to sting*.

I thought of that story when I read our first reading from the book of Genesis. It is a very familiar story to us, and whether we take it literally or as a kind of parable, it has much profound truth to teach us. God created Adam and Eve to share his love with them. It is clear from the Word of God that it is the nature of God to share his love with creatures. The Father, Son and Holy Spirit, three Persons in a unity of one, created the angels to share in the wonder of Divine Love. God created all the glory and magnificence of creation. The animals of every kind and flowers fill the earth with innumerable colors and shades. He filled the ocean with fish and gave the sun for warmth and light. Then, he created human beings, similar to the animals but with a nature that gives them free will, the ability to love and be loved, and to delight in all that God had created. It was the plan of God that these human beings would have a most intimate relationship with Him.

However, the gift of free will becomes a challenge to his creatures. With all the gifts and wonder that the Almighty had given them, they still want more. Deceived by Satan, they turn away from God and choose sin. The choice to sin begins to overcome human beings and we soon have the murder of Abel by Cain, Noah's ark and the flood, and the idolatry of the chosen people. The horror of sin continues to this day in wars, genocide, crime, hatred, bitterness among families and a continual shout of *no* to the God who proclaims Love.



**B**ut God is not about giving up on creatures. His nature is to save, to redeem, to restore, and always give hope. Immediately after the sin of Adam and Eve, we read the words that God speaks to Satan: *I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike at your head, while you strike at his heel.*" God's nature is to forgive and this becomes the promise of redemption that is slowly revealed through the Old Testament and then we have that most dramatic moment that we soon celebrate: the birth of God who will take a human nature to save us from the power of sin. In our Gospel we begin to know that God will invite an ordinary young girl of Nazareth, perhaps fifteen or sixteen years old to speak for humanity. She is asked to say yes to the plan of God. All creation awaits her response. Full of grace, Mary responds Yes. It has been said that Mary is the new Eve and Jesus in the new Adam. A human cooperated with the Divine God for our redemption. Sin will not be the final story of humanity. We will be saved by this baby who will bring us home to the Father.

This feast of the Immaculate Conception brings our story back to the birth of Mary who will be the Mother of God. The love of God refuses to let the stain of original sin touch her at her conception in the womb of St. Anne. She is the Christ bearer and Christ and sin cannot co-exist. We draw strength and hope from this mystery. Since God could free his mother from the power of sin at her very conception, we know that we can call upon him now to be with us in our daily struggles to follow him and to join with his mother Mary in saying yes to his love.

### Men's Club

The Men's Club will meet on **Friday, December 21st at 7:30PM in St. Alphonsus Hall**. All men 18 and over are welcome!

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION SCHEDULE

Confession will be heard this week as follows:

**MONDAY, DEC. 17:**

**9:30-10AM; 3-4:30PM & 7-8PM**

**TUESDAY, DEC. 18:**

**9:30-10AM; 3-4:30PM & 7-8PM**

**SATURDAY, DEC. 22:**

**2PM (St. Alphonsus Hall) & AFTER the 7PM Mass**



### St. Martin of Tours CYO Girls' Volleyball

St. Martin will be offering CYO Volleyball for girls in grades 5 - 8. Priority for the program is to be parishioners of St. Martin's and girls who played in our initial season last year. Practices begin in January and games run from the end of February through the end of April. Local travel to other parishes in the Diocese will be required. If you are interested please contact CYO Coordinator Dave Fantry at email [dfantry@drvc.org](mailto:dfantry@drvc.org). If we get a good turnout, we will offer teams at each grade level possibly multiple teams. Registration will be held in Parish Auditorium sometime in late December and the program starts after the Christmas break. Last year was a huge success and we are working on building the program moving forward. Thanks and enjoy the holiday season.

#### FEES FOR SEASON

**1<sup>st</sup> child: \$150/2<sup>nd</sup> child from the same family: \$240**

**3 or more children from the same family: \$295    New Uniform Fee - TBD**

**Download Your Parish App@**  
[myparishapp.com](http://myparishapp.com)

**Download Formed @**  
[smtbethepage.formed.org](http://smtbethepage.formed.org)

**Visit Your Parish Website@**  
[smtbethepage.org](http://smtbethepage.org)

**Parish App Feature-of-the-Week**



- Easily contact our parish
- Helpful list of parish staff
- Connect with staff at the touch-of-a-button

Learn more or download our parish app at [myparishapp.com](http://myparishapp.com)

\*Available on Apple and Android Phones.



**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.



MAJ Gregory Holownia, US Army  
 MAJ Erika Holownia, US Army  
 SGT Zachary John Sheehy, USMC  
 PVT Travis Ruggiero, US Army  
 SGT Dennis Diesel, 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  
 CPL 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  
 L/CPL Daniel O'Shea, USMC

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  
 LTC Michael F. Wendelken, USAF  
 PVT John Marcel, Jr USMC  
 LCPL Brendan M. White, USMC  
 PFC Clint Applegate, US Army  
 CPT Patrick C. Looney USAF  
 SGT Ryan O'Keeffe, USMC

**Now is the time!** Registration for the 2019-2020 school year is already underway!  
 Don't miss out on all the fun that St. Martin de Porres Marianist School has to offer your child!  
 Call (516) 481-3303 to schedule your personal tour!



All High School Teens are welcome and encouraged to attend the 5:30PM Mass every Sunday.

- December 16th: Life Night will be spent caroling at Apollo!
- December 23rd: No Life Night
- December 24th: Life Teen will be celebrating Christmas Mass at 9:00PM.
- Everyone welcome!

Diana Hughes & Liam Gordon, Youth Ministers & the Life Teen Core Team  
SMT\_lifeteen@yahoo.com

**NEXT VIRTUS CLASS**  
**Wednesday, December 26th**  
**7PM - St. Alphonsus Hall**

All those who wish to volunteer in any capacity in the Diocese of Rockville Centre must attend. To register online, go to [drvc.org](http://drvc.org), click on Virtus found on their home page and follow the directions. Should you have a problem, please call our rectory office at 516-931-0818 and you will be directed to someone that can help.

**DRIVER EDUCATION**  
**DEFENSIVE DRIVING COURSE**  
**\$45.00 per person**

**Saturday, January 19, 2019**  
**8:30AM-3PM in St. Alphonsus Hall**

**Register with DRIVER EDUCATION**  
**(631) 360-9720**

**Monday - Friday 9AM - 4PM**

**Minimum enrollment: 15 people**  
**Maximum enrollment: 40 people**

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

**CALLING ALL ANGELS, KINGS AND SHEPHERDS**

The Children's Christmas Pageant will be on Monday, December 24th at the 6:00PM Mass in the Church. Please fill the space below and submit it to the rectory by December 20th. The one and only practice for the pageant will be on Thursday, December 20th at 4PM in Church.

CHILD'S NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_

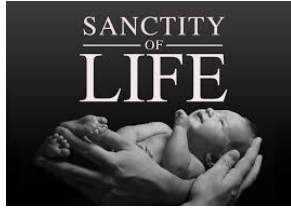
AGE(S): \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

PART REQUESTED: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT SIGNATURE & DATE

## RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

Washington D.C., Dec 10, 2018 (CNA/EWTN News).- The US Supreme Court will not hear an appeal from states which were seeking to terminate Medicaid contracts with Planned Parenthood, meaning that these contracts will remain. Kansas and Louisiana had attempted to block Medicaid funds from being used for preventative care services provided by Planned Parenthood. A lower court ruled that this policy violated federal law, and the states were attempting to appeal this decision.



By deciding not to hear the case, the court has not cast a judgement on the questions contained in the appeals. Only three judges – Justices Clarence Thomas, Samuel Alito, and Neil Gorsuch – voted to grant certiorari. This is one short of the four needed. Voting against certiorari were newly-confirmed Justice Brett Kavanaugh, Chief Justice John Roberts, and Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Stephen Breyer, Sonia Sotomayor, and Elena Kagan. In his dissent, Thomas wrote that he thought his colleagues on the bench were trying to avoid any cases involving Planned Parenthood, the country's largest abortion provider. This case in particular did not involve abortion, but concerned other services provided by Planned Parenthood.

"What explains the court's refusal to do its job here?" asked Thomas, adding, "I suspect it has something to do with the fact that some respondents in these cases are named 'Planned Parenthood.'" Thomas was furious with the court's denial of certiorari, saying: "But these cases are not about abortion rights," but rather "about private rights of action under the Medicaid Act." "Resolving the question presented here would not even affect Planned Parenthood's ability to challenge the States' decisions; it concerns only the rights of individual Medicaid patients to bring their own suits. Some tenuous connection to a politically fraught issue does not justify abdicating our judicial duty."

Former Planned Parenthood clinic director Abby Johnson told CNA that she did not agree with the court's decision. "States should have every right to divert funding away from the nation's largest abortion provider and towards health centers that provide true healthcare to patients, not one that promotes abortion above all else," Johnson said. She also pointed out that Planned Parenthood has done fewer and fewer preventative services in recent years. Between 2009 and 2016, the number of breast cancer screenings done by the organization dropped by 61 percent, she said. "Other cancer screenings have dropped by 64 percent during the same time. And forget about prenatal services and adoption referrals. Those services are barely offered, if at all at some Planned Parenthoods," added Johnson.

Johnson told CNA she believes states should instead fund federal qualified healthcare clinics, which "outnumber Planned Parenthood nearly 20-to-1 and sees ten times the number of patients that Planned Parenthood does every year."

Article written by Christine Rousselle: Catholic News Agency (CNA)

**FOR HELP IN A CRISIS PREGNANCY**

Call Diana Hart Mirando [itsidi@aol.com](mailto:itsidi@aol.com)  
(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

**Worldwide Marriage Encounter**

"Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice." Listen to God's voice by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are Feb 8-10, 2019 in Huntington, NY and Apr 26-28, 2019 in Huntington, NY.

For more information, call John & Toni Torio at 877-697-9963 or visit them at <https://wwmenyli.org/>.

**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](http://www.mommashouse.org).

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

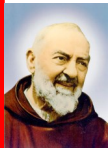
2160 Jericho Turnpike, Garden City Park NY  
(516) 746-8250

(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

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.

**Padre Pio Holy Hour**

There is no Padre Pio Holy Hour in December. The next date is January 15, 2019 at 7:30PM in the Eucharistic Chapel.

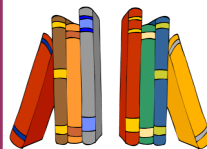
**Eucharistic Adoration\***

TUESDAYS 3-7:30PM Eucharistic Chapel  
Please check the [Upcoming Events](#) for any change to the hours.

\*Please note: there IS Adoration on Tuesday, December 17th from 3-7:30PM even though confessions are in progress.

**PARISH LIBRARY**

Hours: Mondays after 12PM - 3PM; Tuesday - Saturday from 9:30AM until 3:00PM.

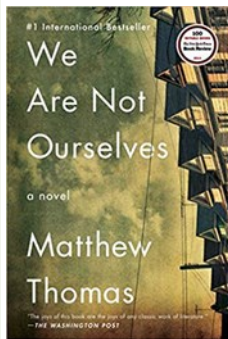


Instead of using the Seaman Avenue entrance, please come to the rectory and ask for the key to the side door of St. Alphonsus Hall.

John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals.

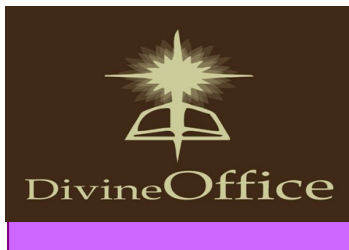
He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.





Our next regular book club selection is **We Are Not Ourselves** by Matthew Thomas. Our discussion will be on **Friday, February 1, 2019.**

Review: "Okay, straight out, this novel is the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but. *We Are Not Ourselves* delivers the deepest, most involving and best pleasures of reading, the pleasures that have you lose your hours while curled up in a comfy couch, that have you sneaking looks and reading when you should be doing other things. A true epic in the best sense of the word, encompassing the big great gorgeous heartbreak that was our American Century. You doubt me. Please do not. Each page is suffused with a relentless and probing genius, as well as a generous and humane heart, and the result not only explodes across the darkening sky, but remains with you long after you've finished the last page and handed it to someone you love. So long as there are novels like *We Are Not Ourselves*, so long as there are writers like Matthew Thomas, the form of the novel is more than alive, it is thriving, palpant." —Charles Bock, author of *Beautiful Children*



#### **DIVINE OFFICE - MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY**

Beginning December 3rd, the first Monday of Advent, to Monday, December 24th, we will say the Morning Prayer of the Church at 8:30AM in the Prayer Chapel. All are invited.

#### **Notes From The Music Ministry**

Please Join the St. Martin's Musicians and Choir for a Pre-Midnight Mass Concert on *Christmas Eve at 11:00 PM In The Church.* We Will Be Performing Songs, Old and New, that we are sure you will enjoy. This Will Be Followed by the Beautiful Mass at Midnight for The Nativity of the Lord.

*Don't Miss This Wonderful Celebration Of The Birth Of Our Savior.*

Wishing You All A Blessed Christmas And Health And Happiness In The New Year...  
From All Of Us In The St. Martin's Music Ministry.

#### **DECEMBER 24 -VIGIL OF CHRISTMAS**

**4PM CHURCH AND AUDITORIUM**

**4:30PM KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, CENTRAL AVENUE, BETHPAGE**

**6PM CHILDREN'S MASS IN CHURCH**

**9PM LIFE TEEN MASS IN CHURCH**

**11:00PM PRE MIDNIGHT MASS CONCERT**

**12AM MIDNIGHT MASS IN CHURCH**

#### **DECEMBER 25 - CHRISTMAS DAY - CHURCH**

**7AM, 8:30AM, 10AM. 11:30AM & 1PM. NO EVENING MASS ON CHRISTMAS DAY**



**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Dec 17: Confession: 9:30-10AM, 3-4:30PM, 7-8PM Church
- Dec 17: Charismatic Prayer Group 7:30PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Dec 18: Confession: 9:30-10AM, 3-4:30PM, 7-8PM Church
- Dec 18: Eucharistic Adoration 3PM - 7:30PM Eucharistic Chapel
- Dec 19: Women's Group 7PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Dec 21: Men's Club 7:30PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Dec 22: Confession at 2PM St. Alphonsus Hall & after the 7PM Mass Church
- NO PADRE PIO HOLY HOUR IN DECEMBER
- Dec 26: VIRTUS Training 7PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Jan 5: First Friday Devotions during 9AM Mass as Communion Meditation
- Jan 19: Defensive Driving 8:30AM-3PM St. Alphonsus Hall

