

Masses For The Week

Monday - January 7

6:30 Joseph & Rita Courtney
 9:00 Emil & Blanche Zalzal

Tuesday - January 8

6:30 Guileo Laraia
 9:00 Andrew McCarthy, Anniversary

Wednesday - January 9

6:30 Marie Cecilia Rodman
 9:00 Irma Barretto

Thursday - January 10

6:30 Neil Cooper
 9:00 Benjamin Mauro

Friday - January 11

6:30 Frank Cardomone
 9:00 Edward Naughton, Anniversary

Saturday - January 12

9:00 MULTIPLE INTENTIONS ANNOUNCED AT MASS
 5:00 Richard Godek
 7:00 Joseph & Kathleen Doherty

Sunday - January 13 - The Baptism of the Lord

7:00 The People of the Parish
 8:30 Ann Myles
 10:00 Anthony Guglielmo
 11:30 Paul Schraff
 1:00 Marie Severin
 5:30 May Tortorici

Readings For The Week

Mon. 1 John 3:22-4:6; Matthew 4:12-17, 23-25
 Tues. 1 John 4:7-10; Mark 6:34-44
 Wed. 1 John 4:11-18; Mark 6:45-52
 Thurs. 1 John 4:19-5:4; Luke 4:14-22a
 Fri. 1 John 5:5-13; Luke 5:12-16
 Sat. 1 John 5:14-21; John 3:22-30

Sun. *Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11* A voice cries out in the desert, "Prepare the way of the Lord! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God!"

***Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7* St. Paul tells us that when the kindness and generous love of God our Savior appeared, he came not because of any righteous deed we had done but because of his mercy he saved us through the bath of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.**

***Luke 3:15-16, 21-22* After John had baptized Jesus, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. A voice from heaven said, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."**



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

Our Weekly Sacrificial Gift

12/23/18

Regular Collection: \$17,115.18

Total for Christmas: \$53,127.00

12/30/18:

Regular Collection: \$15,873.18

Thank you to our parishioners and visitors during the Christmas Season for your generosity!

Reflection and Living Stewardship

The three kings in today's Gospel traveled a great distance at considerable cost to offer their richest gifts to the Infant Jesus. How far will I go and what will I offer to do homage to this newborn King and Savior?

We are grateful this week for all stewards in our parish who develop their talents to the fullest in order to use them to benefit church and community by assisting the poor, feeding the hungry, consoling the sorrowful and teaching the young.



Charismatic Prayer Group

"For You alone are the Holy One. You alone are the Lord. You alone are the Most High Jesus Christ. With the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father." Sound familiar? It's the ending of the Gloria. Such beautiful words! Say them slowly. We need to be reminded to always give glory to God in all we do, not for His sake, but for ours.

Start the New Year by coming to our next meeting on Monday, January 7th in the Church. Please call 516-993-9672 for prayer requests or for more information.

HOP Club Winners

HOP winners from Dec. 31st to Jan. 4th will be in next week's bulletin.

Wedding Banns

2nd Larry Negron & Theresa Gombar



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

This week, the Pantry is low on: egg noodles, pancake mix, pancake syrup, tomato paste, pasta sauce, ketchup, juice, juice boxes, boxed milk, toilet paper, tissues, shampoo, bar soap and diapers (size 6). *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 January 6 - 12, 2019

In Loving Memory of
Nelson & Margaret Miles



Sanctuary Candle

Week of January 6 - 12, 2019

In Loving Memory of the
Kevin White, Sr.

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 Carmentate
Mary McCarthy, Karen Kilgard, Ann Marie Frayler, Nicholas Balducci
Robert Kennan, Corey Voboril, Baby Scarlett, May Duffey, Daniel Costa
Anna M. Bosco, Janet Medina, Kevin Henson, Marie Newman
The Mascia Family, Hector Valentine, Theresa DuRoss, Terry Hall
Bob & Anna Baciуска Carol Ann Scudder, John Scudder, Elsa Ryan
Justine & Nicole Scudder, Vincent Esposito, Catherine A. McCarthy
Paul Granberg, 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 Czarnacki, 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 Caiazzo, Ryan Westbrook, Donna Strickland
Anthony Clese, Valerie Haberly, Brendan Langhauser Family
Helen Kurlowicz, Christine Marsiello, Michael M. Durante
Sonny D'Ambrosio, Pasquale Patalano, Thomas Triola, Keith Ferrara
Margaret DeMarco, Annemarie Frayler, Mario Ratti
Robert Amato, Yvonne McDonnell, Denise Dolan, The Gallagher Family
Henry Hamilton, Christian Bogdanos, Terry & John Bunker, Liam
Margaret Young, John Lazzara, Rosemary Caiazzo, 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, Ryan Castles, Susan Estabrook

Rest in Peace

**Rev. Brendan Greaney, CSsR, Harry Brody, Clarence Knowles
Carol A. DiBatto, Ann Gramila, Tommy Corrado, Irys Stanton-Korn
Dorothy D. Wright, Dolores B. Carbone**

The Pastor's Letter



As I have written previously about New Year's Day, it has never been a very special day to me. Actually, I often get a bit of the blues on this day, unless the Jets are in the playoffs which never happens. I love the Advent and Christmas seasons.

As New Year's (although not the *liturgical* end of the Christmas season) comes and goes, you begin to see Christmas trees at the curb to be picked up, Valentine's Day decorations in the stores, and the ever present cold and possibility of snow. I might suggest to the Lord that Christmas should be followed by spring, the opening of baseball season, and making plans for a summer vacation. My simple joy on New Year's Eve is being with my family, seeing the little ones struggling to keep their eyes open until midnight, and watching for the 50th time reruns of *The Honeymooners* on Channel 11 throughout the night and day of New Year's.

I have been insistent on not speaking much about the departure of the Redemptorists from the parish in August since, like any good Irishman, I enjoy a good wake, but not in this case. Even if the Redemptorists were not returning the pastoral care of the parish to the Diocese of Rockville Centre, I would have been leaving the parish this coming summer since my term of eight years was over. I began to feel it at Thanksgiving, one of my favorite Masses of the year here at the parish. Then the days of Advent and Christmas seemed over in an instant, and I waved goodbye to the angels with their wings waving back. During my time, our parish purchased those angels. I know that many parishioners are sad at the thought of the Redemptorists leaving in August. You have come to know and love us as family.

There are lots of unknowns for both the parish and the Redemptorists who serve here as we move into 2019. We expect that the diocese will name a new pastor and team for our parish in the late spring or early summer. The new pastor will probably come to the parish and live a few weeks here with the present Redemptorist community to help make a smooth transition. I have great confidence in our wonderful staff and ministry leaders and all of you that this transfer of the parish over to the new clergy will go very smoothly. I also know that you are a people who love and appreciate your priests and you will welcome the new priests with joy. The Bishop or one of his representatives will come and speak to you about your hopes and desires as they assign a pastoral team. Over the past eight years, I have also given ten or so missions in this diocese, and I have come to have great respect for the clergy of Long Island and see them as dedicated and caring men from whom I have learned much.

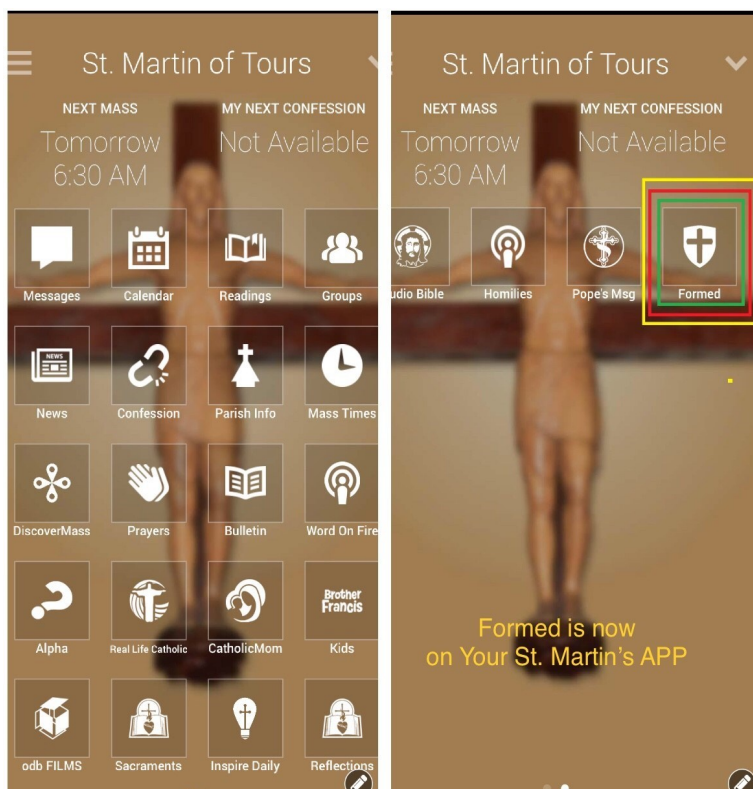
We are just taking some very preliminary steps to begin to plan a farewell to mark the 32 years that the Redemptorists had the privilege of sharing in the life of St. Martin's. I am sure it will be quite a party! To celebrate the farewell is to rejoice the graces that God has given to the parishioners and to the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer over these years. Enough about transitions. We still have eight months to come together as the Body of Christ at St. Martin's!

I am looking forward to our annual international dinner, to the St. Patrick's Day Mass, to the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation with our young people, to the crowds on Ash Wednesday, to morning prayer during Lent, to the Stations of the Cross in Bethpage State Park, to a parish mission, to the beautiful Holy Week Services culminating with the Great Easter Vigil and the joy of those entering the Catholic community, to the joys of first communions for our children, to the May Crowning of the Blessed Mother, to the Corpus Christi Procession, to Pentecost, to another ALPHA, to the Feast of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, to the faithful crowd at the 6:30 a.m. Mass, to the community of the 9:00 a.m. daily Mass, to hearing our choirs, to seeing our earnest servers, to weekends and sharing the Word and the Eucharist, to celebrating the mercy of God in the confessional, to the painting of the outside of the church, and to questions about the Mets and the Jets. We will celebrate the joys of weddings and baptisms and grieve with those who are mourning and pray for our sick.

Thanks for letting me write this. It helped me get over my New Year's blues.

Every Day is a gift.
All is grace.

Father Patrick Woods, CSsR, Pastor
www.smtbethpage.org woodscsr@aol.com



NEXT VIRTUS CLASS
St. Martin of Tours, Bethpage
Monday, January 28th at 7PM
St. Alphonsus Hall

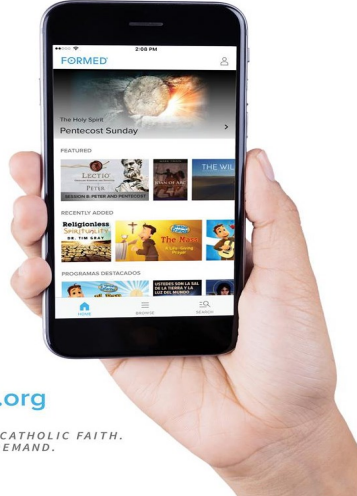
All those who wish to volunteer in any capacity in the Diocese of Rockville Centre must attend. To register online, go to drvc.org, click on Virtus found on their home page and follow the directions.

Should you have a problem, please call our rectory office at 516-931-0818 and you will be directed to someone that can help.

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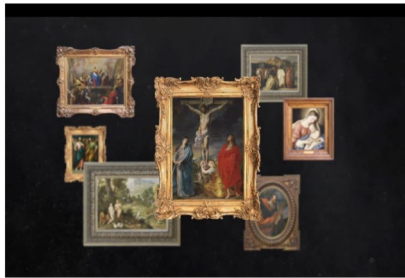


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FORMED PICK

Divine Mercy Episode 1: God's School of Trust



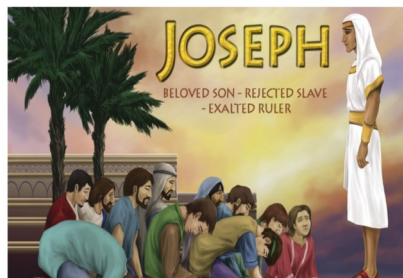
God works tirelessly to reveal the intricate ways that He is preparing the world for His divine mercy. Let us learn to trust Him more.

FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK: DIVINE MERCY EPISODE 1: GOD'S SCHOOL OF TRUST

Do you believe God is present and active in the historical and current events of the world you know today? In this FORMED Pick, join Fr. Michael Gaitley as he weaves together history, Sacred Scripture, the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima, and the witnesses of Saints Faustina, John Paul II, and Maximilian Kolbe to reveal the intricate ways God is preparing the world for his divine mercy. As one viewer said: "This series will change your life!" This week, go to formed.org and watch *Divine Mercy In The Second Greatest Story Ever Told*.

FORMED KIDS' KORNER

Joseph



The thrilling Biblical story of Joseph who despite hardships is lead to an exalted position because of his faith!

KIDS' KORNER FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK: JOSEPH , SON OF JACOB

The thrilling Biblical story of Joseph is from the Book of Genesis. Sold into slavery by his jealous brothers and despite his many hardships, Joseph is lead to an exalted position because of his faith.

Watch on: smtbethpage.formed.org

Father Pat's Homily of December 23, 2018

W

ith tomorrow being Christmas Eve, this fourth Sunday of Advent leaves us with a challenge: how do we enter into Advent with Christmas upon us? It is hard for me not to be distracted thinking about the Christmas Masses, hoping for good weather, the Christmas pageant, and looking forward to being with my family for a few days. I am sure you may be thinking if you missed anybody on your gift list...do you have the food ready for the dinner of the seven fishes...do you need more wrapping paper...will there be traffic if you are visiting family on Christmas Day...and what will your strategy be to find a parking spot here at St. Martin's tomorrow night. And if you are a child (and we all are at Christmas) what gifts can we expect.



For the past several years, I have gone to the Knights of Columbus Christmas party at the Hartigan Manor. Besides saying a Christmas blessing, I am called upon to lead all the Knights and their guests in a dramatic *Singing of the Twelve Days of Christmas*. I call upon someone at each table to sing a verse and to express the words in gestures. So, I have people trying to look like *a partridge in a pear tree, four calling birds, eight maids a milking, and twelve drummers drumming*. It is quite a production and lots of fun, and I am such a ham that I can lead the song with the world's worst singing voice. It is a great party song.

It has been pointed out that this seemingly funny song was used by Catholics during times of religious persecution as a way of holding onto the faith. Just to mention two of the symbolic meanings: Jesus, it is said, is the partridge in the pear tree, which brings to mind his death on the cross, and the twelve drummers drumming are the apostles spreading the good news of the Gospel.

I am thinking about the twelve days of Christmas and how quickly they pass. December 26th is the day of half price sales on Christmas cards and wrapping paper, and on December 27, we begin to see the stores putting up Valentine's Day decorations. Once Christmas passes, New Year's Day dominates for a few days, but it is to my mind a very secular holiday that does not do much for me. Just as we have celebrated four weeks of Advent, we are now not celebrating a day, but a season in our liturgy. We are invited to celebrate and rejoice not for a day but for a season because we are so in awe and wonder of God becoming man.

Traditionally, the days of Christmas would be between Christmas and the Great Feast of the Epiphany, when the star brings the Magi to the stable of Jesus. Epiphany is on January 6th and thus the twelve days between the 25th of December and the 6th of January. However, the church moves the Feast of the Epiphany to the second Sunday after Christmas so people are able to attend what is sometimes called Little Christmas. Finally, one more curve, the Sunday after Epiphany marks the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan and this day is really the end of the Christmas season, so we get some extra days to celebrate. If you tell this to your boss at work, he or she will give you those extra days off from work. Now you may be sitting here saying to yourself, thank you Father for the lesson on liturgy but I have wrapping to do and cookies to bake so what is your point. A fair question.

My message is to try to truly enjoy the moments of the Christmas season: the innocence of the children opening their gifts from Santa, sitting by your Christmas tree, sipping a hot chocolate or a Jamison, admiring your tree and enjoy being with one another. Take your children or grandchildren to the parish crèche and tell them about the Baby who loves them so much. Re-read your Christmas cards, visit friends and family, make phone calls to those who are not able to be at home, savor that Christmas cookie, enjoy the Christmas music.

I said Christmas is not a day but a season. You and I live in a time when Christ has come. We are not waiting for him. He has sent his Holy Spirit to be with us. Jesus is Emmanuel which means *God with us*. He is with us in a profound way here at the Mass and in the Holy Eucharist, in all our Sacraments, in our relationships with one another, in all the joys and sorrows of life, he is with us. Today, in our Gospel, when the Archangel Gabriel reveals to Mary that she is to be the mother of God, that she is full of grace, the presence of the divine is in her womb, she rushes off to help her older cousin Elizabeth with her own pregnancy. She must share the news with others. Grace leads her to want to help another, to share love and life.

Every day of the year is a day of grace, but the power of the many symbols of this season makes it even more evident. The poet W.H. Auden wrote, *when grace comes, you have to dance*. Grace has come to us in Christ. Let us joyfully dance.



Respect Life Holy Hour

Please come and give honor and praise to Christ in the Blessed Sacrament on ***Friday, January 18, 2019 at 3PM in the Church.***

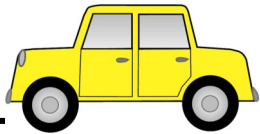
We pray that all humanity respect the precious gift of life. You are welcome to come for all or any part of the hour.

**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**



**Download Your Parish App@
myparishapp.com**

**Download Formed @
smtbethpage.formed.org**

**Visit Your Parish Website@
smtbethpage.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.



- 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

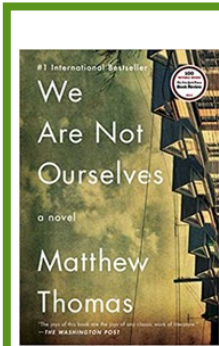
- SGT Matthew C. Windisch, USMC
- E3 CORPSMAN Robert Fidnarick, US Navy
- 1LT Brian Thorpe, US Navy
- PO3 Joshua Zimmerman, US Navy
- MAJ Brendan McEvoy, US Army
- SPC Matthew F. Mayerhofer, US Army
- PO3 James Fischer, US Navy
- LTC John Evans, US Army
- ABHAA Michael Creagh, US Navy
- PVT Steven DiPaolo, 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



All High School Teens are welcome and encouraged to attend the 5:30PM Mass every Sunday. We will have our first life night meeting of the new year on January 6th right after the 5:30 Mass.

We are looking forward to a successful year in 2019 and wish everyone a very Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year with all of God's blessings.

Diana Hughes & Liam Gordon, Youth Ministers
and the Life Teen Core Team SMT_lifeteen@yahoo.com



Our next regular book club selection is We Are Not Ourselves by Matthew Thomas. Our discussion will be on Friday, February 1, 2019 in St. Alphonsus Hall at 7:30PM.
—Charles Bock
author of Beautiful Children



Our outdoor American flag in front of the school is getting damaged by the weather.

The parish is happy to buy a new one but I thought to ask if someone had a flag that they would like to have fly in our parish, you are welcome to give it to me for this use.

BASKETBALL CLINIC

To the parents of boys and girls 2 years and up, Kindergarten, first and second graders.

Clinic starts: Sunday, January 6, 2019
Clinic ends: Sunday, March 31, 2019

We will meet following the 10AM Mass from 11AM- 12 Noon at SMT Auditorium

Before you know it....



Please call the rectory office at 931-0818 and speak to Susan, our finance manager to obtain a receipt for your 2018 contributions to St. Martin of Tours.

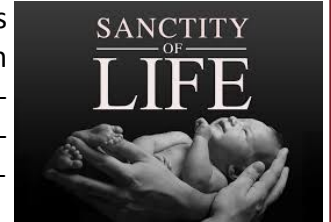
We thank everyone for your support!

RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

YOUTH SUICIDAL BEHAVIOR

USCCB: (2018) Daniel Brown, M.A, Art A. Bennett, M.A and Frank J. Moncher, Ph.D.

Suicide is the third leading cause of death in people ages 15 - 29 (after accidents and homicides) and the 6th leading cause for children ages 5 - 14. Long a problem for teenage boys, the suicide rate for teenage girls (ages 10 - 17) and young women (18 - 24) has tripled in the past 25 years. While girls are more prone to depression than boys, teen boys and young men are four times more likely to commit suicide.



In the next 24 hours, 1,439 teens will attempt suicide, and 12 young people between the ages of 15 and 24 will die by committing suicide. The fact that some teens have resorted to such desperate means to make a change or communicate their distress shows how our culture has lost its bearings. Youth suicide is another consequence of society valuing only what is "useful" and rejecting whatever does not show an immediate, material benefit. The diminishing respect for human life complicates problems for youth. It is no longer generally understood that we are created in God's image and destined for eternal happiness in union with God, and for that reason, that life is infinitely valuable. The increasing public advocacy for "Assisted Suicide" to avoid emotional or physical suffering can encourage youth to entertain suicide as an option. The cheapening of life seen in tolerance for abortion and abortifacient contraceptives can be expected to inevitably do the same.

Youth suicidal behavior is a serious problem in American society. Our contemporary culture, with its emphasis on material success, can hamper the ability to find meaning in situations where suffering occurs. For more information and help on this most important effecting our youth: www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/respect-life-program/youth-suicidal-behavior.cfm.

NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE: Available 24 hours every day. Call 1 -800-273-8255

SUICIDE PREVENTION/YOUTH.GOV. <https://youth.gov>. Youth.gov is the U.S. government website that helps you create, maintain, and strengthen effective youth programs. Included are youth facts, funding information, and tools to help you assess community assets, generate maps of local and federal resources, search for evidence-based youth programs, and keep up-to-date on the latest, youth-related news.

46th ANNUAL MARCH FOR LIFE, FRIDAY, JANUARY 18, 2019 WASHINGTON, D.C. Anyone who may be interested in joining the MARCH FOR LIFE in Washington: CONTACT: RESPECT LIFE OFFICE DRVC: (516) 678-5800 EXTS. 626 & 381 or email- dtellis@drvc.org. For information on buses leaving for Washington: Long Island Coalition For Life: 631 243 1435 www.ProLifeLI.org.

ROE V. WADE MEMORIAL FACE THE TRUTH: SUNDAY, JAN. 28, 2019 1:30 - 3pm. IN FRONT OF NUMC, 2201 HEMPSTEAD TPKE. EAST MEADOW, NY.

PRAYER FOR LIFE HOLY HOUR: Before the Blessed Sacrament with Father Pat on Friday, January 18th at 3PM in the church. If you cannot make the trip, let us join together in prayer for the safety and success of all those who can. May their voices be heard, and hearts changed.

FOR HELP IN A CRISIS PREGNANCY

Call Diana Hart Mirando 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://www.menyli.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.

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

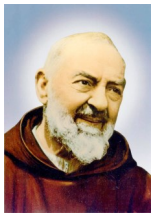
(631) 858-0380 OPEN MON-SAT 10-6

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.

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.

**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.

LIVING WATERS CATHOLIC COUNSELING

www.livingwaterscounseling.biz

Campus of St. Elizabeth's Church

175 Wolf Hill Road, Melville 11747

Tel: 631-754-3990/Fax: 631-271-0914

A Flashback to What *Is*

I can remember always hearing when I was younger about "the good old days" when everything was different and people really cared. I still hear that phrase and have used it myself, but I realize that for each age group often what *was* seems better than what *is*. Perhaps we are more comfortable with what we *were* living than what we are living now. The title of my thoughts seems odd, but I am thinking that the changes that really matter never really happened to the really important things.

Recently, I worked once again with the Alpha journey but this time on kitchen duty. I was attempting to follow Pat Ricci who does a great job at everything that she does. It was a great deal more responsibility than being a leader. I worked with Debbie and Frank Mekalaines, Joan and Ray Landers, "Mother" Mary Miller and Bobby Pirone. Not to be forgotten was our male food server, Jerry Della Rocca. What a pleasure! Cooking is not easy for large groups but all of the above cooked, baked, and cleaned up. We were organized so we got to just chat and it was rewarding to listen to parishioners who you only locked glances with before. This is not to forget Kate Mayerhofer and Greg and Diane Curley, our leaders. Everyone jumped in to do what was needed and the discussions were great and the food delicious. Since Alpha aims to help us to grow even closer to Jesus Christ - and He is in an unseen chair at every meal - I couldn't help but think that Jesus enjoyed the dinner conversation and the food as much as anyone else. *Flashback...*people from the past back to biblical times loved good food, friendly faces, and a chance to share their thoughts. It is what *is* and not what *was*.

St. Martin is a "what is" parish. Doing the flowers recently was another example. It is always a challenge when the last week of Advent runs smack into Christmas Eve and Day. The flowers are delivered earlier and have to be stored which means changing Reconciliation to someplace else and finding nothing scheduled in the church. The only feasible time was after the 5:30pm Mass on Sunday. Many of those who attended that Mass just joined in to take the plants out of the confessionals and line them up. The "plant whisperers" ...Debbie and Frank Mekalaines, Janice True, Bobby Pirone, Lucy McNamara and her family got to work with a "What can we do to help?" The results are spiritually meaningful and rewarding. The aches and pains are physically felt but equally rewarding is the result. That's St. Martin....I can help. *Flashback...*Good intentions and caring is what *is* not what *was*.

I can't count the number of times that I have been doing something in the church that someone asks if I need help or doesn't say, "Good job!" I would be remiss if I didn't mention Father Pat and Father Denis who came to join in at Alpha. You have to have clergy willing to let the laity work with them to have successful results. Along the same lines, a very special "THANK YOU" to Genny Mitchell who probably has pitched into the needs of every ministry in this church. Just a few quick reflections: 2018 will not go down necessarily for all as a happy memory but we have had bad and good years in the past. We always have *our Father, our Brother Jesus, and the Holy Spirit* working on our side, not by doing for us but by giving us the grace and strength to live through what was, is, and will be. That makes us winners and survivors.

Dream about and remember all that *was* but open your heart, mind, and soul to what *is*. Nurture it all with love and prayers because we need to use them both on the glorious path to what *will be*. *Flashback...*It's always been, with the help of God's grace, up to us.

Just an after thought...On Christmas Day I attended the 1pm Mass. Seated in front of me were two rows with family members arriving to fill the row. There were many rows like this. Grandparents sat on the sanctuary steps with their grandchildren surrounded by flowers. Big smiles and, "Send that one to me " heard from other family members. One man was taking pictures and told me that he comes to our church every year to take pictures and sometimes to make his Christmas cards. Wow, St. Martin, that's the best! Who knows what one visit to a warm, celebrating church could mean for what **will be** for those who see that our church is a lovely dwelling place of Our Lord?



I am always looking for signs to let me know that everything is fine. This year we decided to return the angels but not let their wings move. On the Feast of the Holy Family, I pray to and for my family and I got my sign. I looked up and the angel on the left facing us moved a wing in salute! And people say that miracles don't happen!

Ann Hughes

Thank You SMT Youth Ministry!



The picture on the left represents four out of about 90 homeless people who enjoyed a lovely sit down dinner at "The Café" located at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Farmingdale. I approached SMT's youth minister, Diana Hughes, about the socks she collected for the homeless. Because of our youth ministry and your donations during the "Sock-tober" collection, each person received at least one pair of new, warm socks. That's a lot of socks!!

I wanted our parishioners to know what a great job Diana, her co-leader, Liam Gordon, the Core Team and our Teens are doing for the community outside of our parish as well as here at St. Martin of Tours. Thank you all!

Gratefully, Kathy Devine

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 10 & 17.** **We will meet at 208 Broadway.** Call Parish Outreach at 516-931-7332 and leave a message for Mary.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Jan 7: Holy Face Devotions 1PM Church
- Jan 7: Charismatic Prayer Group 7:30PM Church
- Jan 8: Eucharistic Adoration 3PM - 7:30PM Eucharistic Chapel
- Jan 15: St. Padre Pio Holy Hour 7:30PM Eucharistic Chapel
- Jan 18: Respect Life Holy Hour 3PM Church
- Jan 19: Defensive Driving 8:30AM-3PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Jan 23: Women's Group 7PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Jan 28: Virtus Class 7PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Feb 1: Regular Book Club 7:30PM St. Alphonsus Hall

