

# Church of Saint Martin of Tours

40 Seaman Avenue, Bethpage, New York 11714  
smtbethpage.org



## 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.

## THE CLERGY

Rev. Christopher Costigan, Pastor  
Rev. Sylvester Ileka, Associate Pastor  
Rev. Vincent Schifano, in Residence  
Rev. Deacon Thomas R. Hennessy  
Rev. Deacon Christopher P. Quinn

Trustees: Carol Buffa and Frank Mekalainas

Parish Council: Martin Meaney, Tom Beck, Annette Crofton  
Louie Gandolfo, Rosanna Kluth, Michael Leva, Kate Mayerhofer  
Lucy McNamara, Robert J. Smith

Finance Committee: John McCarthy, Frank Aiello, Carol Buffa  
John Lynam, Lucy McNamara, John McTigue, Frank Mekalainas  
Tina O'Donnell, Susan Oliver

Liturgy: Deacon Tom Hennessy, Deacon Chris Quinn, Ann Hughes  
Janet McKenna, Frank Mekalainas, Pat Ricci, Elena Scollo

Rectory Office: Tel. 931-0818 • Fax 931-0559  
Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9AM-8PM • Lunch 12-1PM  
Saturday 9AM-7PM • Closed Sunday

Office of Faith Formation: 822-9768  
Patricia Ryan and Laura Leigh Agnese, Coordinators  
Monday - Thursday • 9:30AM - 3:00PM • Closed Friday

Parish Social Ministry: Mary Vitti, Coordinator • 931-7332  
Monday 9:30AM - 2:30PM • Thursday 2:00PM - 7:00PM

Music Ministry: Elena Scollo, Director of Music • 713-8854

Facility Manager: George Lucas • 635-7944

First Friday Devotions: After the 9AM Mass

First Saturday Devotions: 8:30AM Church

The Sacrament of Baptism: Karen Dillon, Coordinator • 454-6454

The Sacrament of Matrimony: Please contact the rectory office at least 6 months prior to the wedding.

St. Vincent de Paul : 718-687-8854

New parishioners: please fill out a parish registration form at the rectory office during business hours.

Change of address: Please notify the rectory.

## DAILY MASS

Monday - Friday 6:30AM & 9AM • Saturday 9AM

## WEEKEND MASS

Saturday Vigil 5PM

Sunday 7:30AM, 10AM, 12:00PM, & 5:30PM

Holy Days of Obligation - as noted in the bulletin

## CONFESSION

Every Saturday at 2PM

Monday - Friday immediately following 6:30AM Mass

8:30-8:50AM before 9AM Mass

Sundays from 4:30-5:15PM

6PM - 6:45PM preceding the 7PM Mass  
on the Eve & Day of Holy Days of Obligation



The Holy Family of  
Jesus, Mary and Joseph  
December 29, 2019

**MASSES FOR THE WEEK**

**Mon. December 30**

6:30AM Victor Sirianni, Living  
 9AM Angelena Caccavale

**Tues. December 31 - St. Sylvester I, Pope**

NO 6:30AM

9AM  
 5PM People of the Parish (Vigil Mass)

**Wed. January 1, 2020 - Mary, Mother of God**

10AM Michael Russo  
 12 Noon Michael Croan

**Thurs. January 2 - Saints Basil & Gregory  
 Bishops & Doctors of the Church**

6:30AM  
 9AM Rose Beatrice

**Fri. January 3 - Holy Name of Jesus**

6:30AM  
 9AM John OBritis, Living

**Sat. January 4 - St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious**

9AM Eugene Maley, Francesca Mignano  
 Vito Gambino  
 5PM Marie Schifano

**Sun. January 5 - Epiphany of the Lord**

7:30AM Julius Fuzia  
 10AM The People of the Parish  
 12PM John O'Mara  
 5:30PM John & Lucy Speelman, Wedding Anniv

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Mon. 1 John 2:12-17; Luke 2:36-40  
 Tues. 1 John 2:18-21; John 1:1-18  
 Wed. Numbers 6:22-27; Luke 2:16-21  
 Thurs. 1 John 2:22-28; John 1:19-28  
 Fri. 1 John 2:29-3:6; John 1: 29-34  
 Sat. 1 John 3:7-10; John 1:35-42

**Sun. Isaiah 60:1-6** *Isaiah prophesies that a light has come to Jerusalem, while darkness covers the earth. All will come to the city bearing gold and frankincense and proclaiming the praises of the Lord.*

**Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6** *Paul tells the Ephesians that Gentiles are coheirs of God, along with the people of Israel.*

**Matthew 2:1-12** *Magi arrive in Jerusalem from the east in search of the newborn king of the Jews. Herod is troubled by this, and the magi visit Mary and her child and offer gifts.*

**OUR WEEKLY SACRIFICIAL GIFT**

Immaculate Conception: \$1,569.00  
 December 15th: \$14,358.19  
 December 22nd: Will be in the next issue.

**Thank you for supporting SMT!**



**Bulletin Reflection:**

In today's Gospel, we hear about St. Joseph's obedience to the will of God. He is constantly open to the will of God and he knows that is what is best for him and his family.

**Living Stewardship - Pillar of Service**

Once again we can learn a lot from St. Joseph. As he cared for his family, let us remember those in our family who may need our love and prayers this week.

***Charismatic Prayer Group***

Do you know where love is found? *Jared Jewelers* says it's in diamonds. *Hallmark* says it's in cards. *Nestles* says it's in cookies. **God** says it's in a manger! Did you find it? Love was right there--wrapped in swaddling clothes!

***Our next meeting is Monday, December 30th at 7:30 p.m. in the Church. All are welcome. Be a friend and bring a friend. Call 516-993-9672 for more information or prayer requests.***

**The Dec. 22nd bulletin, listed Margaret Pigott as the winner of \$25 on Dec. 18th. Actually, she won \$500 for the "one week before Christmas" bonus! Congratulations Margo!**

**H.O.P. CLUB WINNERS - CONGRATULATIONS!**

12/23/19	#91	Jean McLean	\$25
12/24/19	#391	Connie Shine	\$25
12/25/19	#532	Thomas Kerrigan	\$25
12/26/19	#5	Janice Fiscina	\$25
12/27/19	#184	Ken & Marie Evans	\$50



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

St Mother Theresa Outreach Center  
St Martin of Tours Parish

This week the Pantry can use coffee, sugar, mustard, tomato paste, paper towels, toilet paper, dish soap and laundry soap. Thank you for all you do for those in need.

**Parish Outreach Food Pantry:**

**208 Broadway, Bethpage**

**Phone: 516-931-7332**

**Monday: 9:30AM - 2:30PM**

**Thursday: 2:00PM – 7:00PM**



*Altar Bread & Wine  
Week of Dec. 29 - Jan. 4, 2020*

*In Loving Memory of  
Adolph & Helen Haack*

*The Sanctuary Candle  
Week of Dec. 29 - Jan 4, 2020*

*In Loving Memory of  
Stephen Marano*



**REST IN PEACE**

**Michael Graziano  
Mary R. Brady, Robert S. Leddy**



Saint Maria Faustina

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

**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, Liz Robertson, Amy Hayes, Mom & Dad  
Matthew Messina, Pat Cannata, Christopher Gratton  
Barbara Thompson, Donald Castor, Dorothy Quinn, Zachery Duff  
Sam Zubov, Patricia Morrone, Mary Lynn Brassil, Brendan Rodriguez  
Rebecca Passaro, Annette Giuliano, 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, Daniel Costa, Janet Medina  
Kevin Henson, Marie Newman, Hector Valentine, Theresa DuRoss  
Terry Hall, Bob & Anna Baciuska, Carol Ann Scudder, John Scudder  
Elsa Ryan, Justine & Nicole Scudder, Vincent Esposito, William Boyce  
Catherine A. McCarthy, Paul Granberg, Sarah Messina, Michael Arato  
Jo Ann Anastos, Connie Burgess, Dolores Miller, Elizabeth Ryan  
Layla Barr, Susan Carroll-Goyan, Patty & Tom Turano, Jesusa Aquin  
Nicholas Amato, Joseph McCroary, Richard Graziano, Jean Mulligan  
Taylor Edward Boyce, Fran Gandolfo, Johnny D.  
Joseph & Joyce Kostyak, 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, Pete Moran, Brendan Donahoe, Janet Scarpelli  
Andrew McCarthy, Alicia Manetta, Baby Lucia Bianchi, Pat James  
Joseph David Iovieno, Robert Daniel, Dorothy Eisenstadt, David Drohan  
Ralph Caputo, Kristen Smith, Michael Vigotty, Vinny Vanturini  
Tom Mitchell, Pat Murphy, Tarabokija Family, Philip Marino  
Kathy Smith, Henry Hamilton, Nancy Gerace, Robert Collelouri  
Arthur Baudo, Samantha McNeill, Veronica McCarthy-Pigott, Janine,  
Mary Jedlicka, Fr. Paul Wood, Brian John Roe III, Jacklyn Baddalucco  
Yolanda Zitelli, Rose Marie Gaccione, Andrew Bartolozzi, Pat Bergersen  
Robert, Amy & Richard Ferranti, Joseph V. Pace, Jr., Justin Turner  
Christopher Hehn, Baby Remy, Jimmy Rizzo, Thomas Kelly  
Peggy Epstein, John Murphy, Al DeBatto, Adeline Norton, Ed Segretto  
Ann Marie Wezel, Jeanie Wilkins, Ann Soehngen, Fred Cameron  
Ryan Westbrook, Donna Strickland, Anthony Clese, Valerie Haberly  
Brendan Langhauser Family, Helen Kurlowicz, Christine Marsiello  
Michael M. Durante, Sonny D'Ambrosio, Thomas Triola, Keith Ferrara  
Margaret DeMarco, Annemarie Frayler, Mario Ratti, Robert Amato,  
Yvonne McDonnell, Denise Dolan, Henry Hamilton, Christian Bogdanos  
Liam, The Mooney Family, Bridget, Karen Murphy, Richard Baker, Kevin  
Dina Ledogard, Ed Russo, Petrina Dralas, Michael John, Jean Vanturini  
Diane Passaro, Mary Jane Bookman, Toni Novak, Ryan Castles  
Susan Estabrook, Baby Luke, Heather Gilroy, Linda Jean  
Marie Sirianni, Frances Valenti, William Wojcik, Denise Lombardi  
Christopher Connelly, Mike & Carol Leva, Michael Barry  
Deborah A. Sullivan, Mary Castora, Diana Hart Mirando  
Patricia & Ralph Keck, Inge Luckmann, Lucy Zgrablic, James Carbone  
Theresa Leicht, John O'Sullivan, Brian Kevan, Adam May, Barbara Weis  
Thomas Fahey, Teri Bunker, Diane Kelly, Andy Lomuscio, Baby Dominick  
Kathy McKerlie, Bridget Lissy, Madison Milio, Patrick Vanacore  
Mary Jane Pendl, Terri Smith, Edison Esposito, Gene Stasiuk  
Carlo Ruggiero, Francis & Kathleen Meehan, John Krahn  
Bucky Montgomery, Steve Lazzara



## *The Pastor's Letter*

The Sunday in the Octave of Christmas is observed as the Feast of the Holy Family. We know that the family is the building block of society. Strong and faithful families lead to strong and faithful societies. In a culture in which the family is under attack from many different sides, we turn to the intercession of Mary and Joseph and seek the graces that come from Jesus to strengthen our families so that they may be domestic churches to build up and strengthen society as a whole.

I mentioned the Octave of Christmas. Christmas, like Easter, are observed as an octave of eight days. Each of these 8 days is celebrated as if it was Christmas Day! The Christmas season then extends to the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord! Don't take down those decorations yet--we are only a few days into the season!

Thank you to all who have worked so hard over these days of Advent and the beginning of the Christmas season: our choirs and music ministers, servers, lectors, ushers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Knights of Columbus, and so many other others. Thank you also to our parish maintenance staff and office staff for all you have done during these weeks...and during these few months of parish transition.

This coming Wednesday is the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, a holy day of obligation. See the schedule for Masses below. There will be no 6:30am Mass Tuesday or Wednesday. Happy New Year to all!

**Father Christopher Costigan, Pastor**  
 fathercostigan@gmail.com      www.smtbethpage.org



### **Why do Catholics honor Mary as *Mother of God*?**

Simple: Jesus is the son of Mary. Jesus is God. Therefore, Mary is the Mother of God.

On this holy feast day, we take a moment as we start our new year to honor our Blessed Mother, who in her "yes" to God brought our Savior into the world to redeem us.

**Lost & Found Tip:** Jesus says on the cross, "Behold your Mother." As we all jump into the frenzy of the new year and start attempting to bring our resolutions to fruition, let us call on the aid of our Mother Mary to give us the strength to draw closer to her Son every day this year. (source: Catholics Come Home)

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2019  
 DAILY MASS AT 9AM**

**SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD  
 VIGIL MASS 5PM  
 WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2020**

### Rectory Cook

St. Kilian RCC in Farmingdale is seeking a **temporary** rectory cook. This position is 25 hours per week Monday-Thursday and Saturday.

#### **Responsibilities:**

- Planning, preparing and serving dinner
- Setting and caring of dining room for meals
- Shopping for needs of the kitchen, meals
- Cleaning and care of kitchen, dining room, pantries and appliances
- Being aware of and accommodating the dietary needs of the priests
- Planning, preparing and serving of special occasion meals and events
- Needs as the pastor and priests request

#### **Qualifications:**

Friendly, reliable, strong interpersonal and organizational skills, flexible

#### **Please submit cover letter and resume to:**

Ed Fronckwicz  
Business Manager  
(516)249-0127  
[edwardf@stkilian.com](mailto:edwardf@stkilian.com)

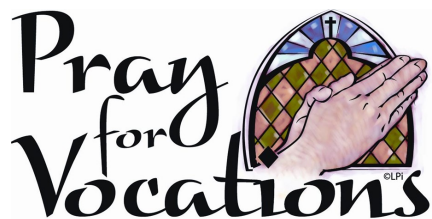
### MOMMAS HOUSE



**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)



**HELP! WE NEED YOU TO ...**

...consider joining in the formation of a new **Hospitality Committee** here at St. Martin of Tours. Time is precious to everyone so we would like to have a great response so that no one person is left to work alone. We would create a forward-looking calendar so that individuals could have flexibility in choosing a convenient time to serve.

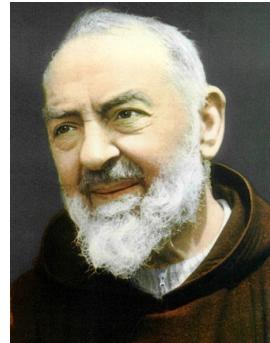


There isn't an overwhelming number of events and some do occur in the evening or on the weekend. We need a leader, set-up people, clean-up people, and shoppers. Once we receive this great response, **Ann Hughes (516-433-6972)** will arrange a meeting. Men as well as women are encouraged and most welcome to help.

**PADRE PIO HOLY HOUR**

Padre Pio Holy Hour returns on Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at 7:30PM in the Eucharistic Chapel.

His first and second class relics will be venerated.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

**BOYS AND GIRLS AGES 9 - 14**

**HARTIGAN COUNCIL'S ANNUAL FREE THROW CONTEST**

**St. Martin of Tours School Auditorium • Sunday, January 5, 2020 • 1:00 PM**

*For more information  
Call Bob DeRosa 516-776-0688*



## Catholic Home Care

Catholic Health Services

At the heart of health

Each day, more than 2,900 patients turn to the Catholic Home Care team of more than 700 dedicated professionals, para-professionals, and support staff to ensure that their home care needs are being met 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Physicians, discharge planners, insurance case managers, and family members refer patients who can benefit from skilled services in their home environment.

Catholic Home Care provides services to patients in Nassau, Suffolk and Queens counties. Our highly experienced, friendly, and helpful staff are available for referrals and inquiries seven days a week to ensure care coordination needs are met. Referrals can be made from facilities, physicians, families, and patients.

**To speak with a representative from admissions  
please call 516-586-1421 or 631-465-6830.**

### THE GIANNA CENTER

[WWW.CHSLI.ORG/GIANNACENTERLONGISLAND](http://WWW.CHSLI.ORG/GIANNACENTERLONGISLAND)



Available to women and couples of all faiths, the Gianna Center is located at **CHS's Good Samaritan Hospital, 1000 Montauk Highway, West Islip, and can be reached at 631.376.3232.**

Directions and a map to this location are available online by visiting [www.chsli.org/gianna-center-long-island](http://www.chsli.org/gianna-center-long-island) and navigating to "Contact the Gianna Center of Long Island."

For anyone with an unexpected or crisis pregnancy, the crisis pregnancy support social worker/navigator can be reached at 1(855) 301-4CHS from 8AM to 4PM, Monday through Friday and is supported 24/7 by a team of trained professionals evenings, weekends and holidays.

The confidential, dedicated telephone number for this program is **1 (855) 301-4CHS**, supported by the availability of multilingual interpretive services. Anyone of any faith may call or refer to this support line, including representatives of parishes, colleges and crisis pregnancy centers, to facilitate safe, non-judgmental companioning for women and couples in a crisis pregnancy.

To speak to someone about pregnancy options immediately between 7:00 pm and 7:30 am Monday to Friday or on the weekend, please call **1 (800) 712-HELP (4357)**.

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

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

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

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




- Daily Mass readings
- Official NAB(re) version
- Easily bookmark readings to reread at a later time

Readings

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

\*Available on Apple and Android Phones.

**FORMED FOR ADULTS: VITA**

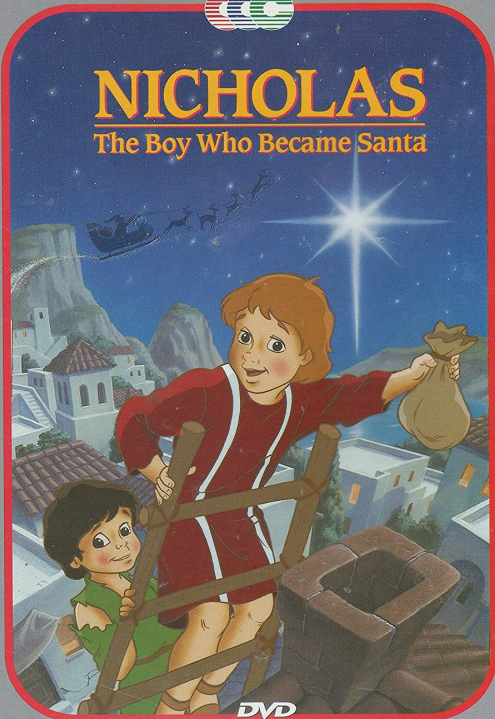


*Are you living for Heaven today?* We talk about Heaven as the most important goal of our lives, but how often do we consider our final home in daily life? In VITA, Fr. Burns explains that we tend to misunderstand Heaven with images of clouds and harps, but the reality of what God has in store for us is deeper, and much more attractive: Heaven is the final, fulfilled answer to our deepest longing for communion.

In this stunning video, accompanied by stirring music and thought-provoking narration, we are called to increase our desire for ultimate communion with God and aim for Heaven in everyday life.

**FORMED FOR KIDS**

**NICHOLAS - The Boy Who Became Santa**



Nicholas was still a young child when he discovered a very special secret that changed his life forever. It was the gift of giving, by which he brought happiness to many people. Nevertheless, in sharing this gift, Nicholas had to face many dangers.

Here is the fascinating story of the boy 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 the kindness and generosity of the man we call Santa Claus.





**UPCOMING WORKSHOPS**

**January 2020 through March 2020**

**Register Online [WWW.DRVC-FAITH.ORG](http://WWW.DRVC-FAITH.ORG)**

**RCIA Level I**

**Our Lady of Grace, West Babylon**

Wednesday, January 15, 22, 29

February 19, 2020

6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

**St Martin of Tours, Bethpage**

Thursdays, January 16, 23, 30,

February 6, and 13, 2020

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**Ministry of Consolation Level I**

**St. Aidan, Williston Park**

Wednesdays, January 22, 29;

February 5, and 12, 2020

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

**Building Intercultural Competences in Ministry**

**St. Frances Cabrini, Coram**

Thursdays, February 6, 13, 27;

March 12, and 19, 2020

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

*Or*

**Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, Roosevelt**

Mondays, February 10, 24;

March 2, 9, and 16, 2020

6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

**Catechist Training Level II**

**St. James, Setauket**

Tuesdays, March 10, 17, 24, and 31, 2020

6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

**Bereavement Conference**

**St. Frances de Chantal, Wantagh**

Saturday, March 21, 2020

8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Bereavement Ministry Facilitator Training  
Level I & II**

**St. Mary's, East Islip**

Saturday, March 28; April 4, 18, 25;

May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; and June 6, 2020

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.



**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  
 SSGT Michael Patrick Murphy, US Army  
 CPL William Corrigan, USMC  
 LCDR Daniel Cloonan, USCG  
 PVT Daniel Kuhlmann, US Army  
 LCPL Jonathan M. Gordon, USMC  
 CPT Sean O'Donnell, USAF  
 A1C Jake DeRossi, USAF  
 CPT Mike Polan, US Army  
 L/CPL Daniel O'Shea, USMC  
 PVT Salvatore Castellano, 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  
 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

**For Our Military**

All-powerful and ever-living God,  
 when Abraham left his native land  
 and departed from his people  
 you kept him safe through all his journeys.

Guard and protect our Military.

Be their constant companion and their strength in battle,  
 their refuge in every adversity.

Guide them, O Lord, that they may return home in safety.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

# 2019 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

Supporting *Dramatic Missionary Growth* in Our Community



Witnessing Forgiving Loving Helping Teaching Igniting Evangelizing  
Teaching Igniting Evangelizing Forgiving Loving Helping Witnessing

## *Caring Teaching Loving Forgiving Helping Igniting Evangelizing*

**‘In the shoes of the other, we learn to have a great capacity for understanding, for getting to know difficult situations.’ Pope Francis**

### **Pause and Reflect this Christmas Season**

Are you still struggling to get a unique present for someone special? Consider a gift for all seasons – a donation to the Catholic Ministries Appeal. It’s a special gift that touches the lives of over 600,000 people by supporting programs that allow us to -- Live and Share Our Faith, Build the Kingdom of God and Care for God’s People.

How does the **Catholic Ministries Appeal Care for God’s People**? It supports programs that help to feed people in our community each year through Catholic Charities and our Parish Outreach programs.

**If you have not had an opportunity to donate to this year’s appeal, there is a new tool you can use to donate!**

**TEXT-TO-GIVE to make a donation!  
It’s fast and secure.**

**TEXT Keyword: 004stmartinoftours  
To (516) 271-3338**

**Make checks payable to: Catholic Ministries Appeal**

Parish \_\_\_\_\_ Pledge: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Down payment: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

To make a donation in honor of someone special for the Christmas Season, you can also visit <https://www.drvc.org/donate/cma-memorial/> or call us at 516-678-5800 ext. 296

Thank You!

**FOR HELP IN A CRISIS PREGNANCY**

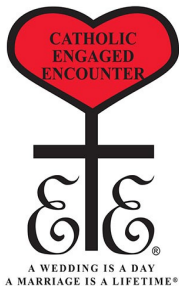
Call Diana Hart Mirando itsidi@aol.com  
(C) 830-5077 (H) 605-1979

**ROSELINE LIFE CENTER 24 HOURS 631-243-2373**  
**PROJECT RACHEL WWW.HOPEAFTERABORTION.COM**

**Baby Safe Haven, Safe Babies, Safe Place**  
**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**



**CATHOLIC ENGAGED ENCOUNTER OF LI**

**A Pre-Cana program preparing couples for marriage recognized by the Catholic Church.**

**For more information contact**  
**Pat and Lenny Walker, Coordinators**  
**631-563-1032**  
**or visit**  
**[www.engagedencounterli.org](http://www.engagedencounterli.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**

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## A CHRISTMAS CAROL



This Charles Dickens' classic is a compelling tale of greed, love and charity featuring *Ebenezer Scrooge*, a man of business who has no use for Christmas. Throughout the story, three ghosts visit him representing his past, present and what might be. Dickens was sending a message to his readers that Christmas is the time of year where *everyone* has the right to rejoice and be happy. He was trying to make a statement that we should *all* enjoy life because we have only *one* chance to live it.

During Victorian times, London became a center for poverty, crime and pollution. Dickens was outraged at the conditions in which the working class lived. He wanted to draw attention to these atrocities to the upper-class. This is the reason Dickens wrote novels with a social conscience so as to raise public awareness of these situations. In "*A Christmas Carol*," Dickens portrays Scrooge as a very unpleasant and miserly man. He describes him as a tight fisted, nose-to-the-grindstone character. This paints a picture of a stingy old man obsessed with money and work. From the very beginning, the author wants the reader to see just how awful a human being Scrooge is. Dickens says he is a sinner, behaving selfishly and hinting that he is evil!

Each of the ghosts that visited him on the Eve of Christmas, journeyed to other parts of his life - the past, the present and the future. He is made to realize how he became such a miserable person. The Ghost of Christmas Past shows him as a child, unloved and dismissed by a parent. Then he sees himself letting go of Belle, his young love. Because of the success he was enjoying, all he can see now is her poverty - not the kind of wife he is suited for. The Ghost of Christmas Present, opens his eyes to the great hardships of the average person living in London. He visits the home of his *Clark*, who he pays a meager salary. Bob Cratchit has a wife and five children to support. His youngest, Tiny Tim, is a very sick child. He is the selfless child, innocent, and accepting of his small world, for it is filled with love and caring. And finally, the Ghost of Christmas Future, where the Grim Reaper brings him to a cemetery, unvisited, unknowing, and uncaring of the life of the name on the tombstone - *Ebenezer Scrooge*.

The beauty of this classic story is redemption. He finally sees how his life has affected others by his ignorance and greed. He now understands how he has missed the true beauty of love and reaching out to others. At the close of this wonderful story, Scrooge says, "*I will live in the past, the present and the future. The Ghosts of all Three shall strive within me. I will not shut out the lessons that they teach.*" Here, he shows repentance and remorse at his previous life and vows to live every day for the present and to honor Christmas always. Dickens was trying to convey the fact that no one is completely evil and that everyone has some good in them which they will discover by looking inside themselves. *A Christmas Carol* appeals to the social consciousness of all of us, and it makes us actually stop and think about the world today. It will still be relevant another hundred years from today as there will always be the problem of social division. Dickens was not writing just for the audience of his era, but for every person in every time. Maybe he knew it would still have relevance today.

The book is a quick read, and the play can be seen at Theater Three in Port Jefferson through New Year's. Christmas is a wonderful time to stop and find out where our paths are leading us. Time to reach out and share whatever it is we may have. And to remember, as Tiny Time proclaimed, "*God Bless Us, Everyone!*"

RESPECT LIFE  
respect • love • protect



*a prayer for a new beginning*

If you're reading this, you lived to see the new year. This is no small matter! Your life makes a difference in the universe, whether or not you embrace your God-given power. May this prayer accompany your initial steps into the future.

God of all time,  
help us enter the New Year quietly,  
thoughtful of who we are to ourselves and to others,  
mindful that our steps make an impact  
and our words carry power.

May we walk gently.  
May we speak only after we have listened well.

Creator of all life,  
help us enter the New Year reverently,  
aware that you have endowed  
every creature and plant, every person and habitat  
with beauty and purpose.

May we regard the world with tenderness.  
May we honor rather than destroy.

Lover of all souls,  
help us enter the New Year joyfully,  
willing to laugh and dance and dream,  
remembering our many gifts with thanks  
and looking forward to blessings yet to come.

May we welcome your lavish love.  
May we cast off the small, vindictive god our fears have made.  
May the grace and peace of Christ bless you now and in the days ahead.

*by Vinita Hampton Wright  
Managing Editor at Loyola Press*

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Dec 30: Charismatic Prayer Group 7:30PM Church
- Dec 31: 9AM Morning Mass; Vigil at 5PM
- Jan 1: Mary, Mother of God 10AM & 12 Noon
- Jan 3: First Friday Devotions at 9AM Mass
- Jan 4: First Saturday Devotions 8:30AM Church
- Jan 6: Holy Face Devotions 1PM Church
- Jan 6: Charismatic Prayer Group 7:30PM Church
- Jan 7: Eucharistic Adoration 3PM - 7:30PM Eucharistic Chapel
- Jan 21: St. Padre Pio Holy Hour 7:30PM Eucharistic Chapel
- Jan 29: Women's Group 7PM St. Alphonsus Hall

