

American Martyrs

First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2020

Parish Clergy

Rev. Peter J. Rayder, Pastor
Rev. James W. King
Deacon Stanley Galazin
Rev. Msgr. John F. Keppler,
Pastor Emeritus

Sunday Assistants

Rev. Msgr. John J. Bracken
Rev. George R. Cowan
Rev. Emmanuel Narthey



Parish Staff

Ms. Patricia Adams, Business Manager
Mrs. Theresa Asche, Religious Education
Ms. Cynthia Macias, Youth Minister
Mr. Jose Espindola, Maintenance

Sunday Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil 5pm
Sunday 8:30am - 10:30am - 12:30 pm
Weekday Daily Mass
8:30am Monday - Saturday
American Martyrs Kateri Chapel
Holy Days 8:30am - 12 Noon - 7:30pm

Fr. John J. Murray

Knights of Columbus Council #14666
First Friday Holy Hour
7:30pm American Martyrs Church

American Martyrs RC Church
79-43 Bell Blvd.
Oakland Gardens, NY 11364
(718) 464 - 4582
Religious Education Office
(718) 464 - 6411



American Martyrs Mission Statement

We, the diverse Catholic family of American Martyrs, are spiritually centered in the Word and the Eucharist. Our warm, welcoming community creates an atmosphere for a wonderful faith experience as we gather at the table of the Lord to help each other grow in Christ and live according to His teachings. Inspired by the faith and example of our patrons, the North Americans Martyrs, and the Blessed Mother, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we work together to spread the message of Jesus to all.

American Martyrs Celebrates the Sacraments

Penance: Every Saturday at 4:00pm—4:45pm (Also at anytime convenient upon request)

Baptisms: The last Sunday of the month at 2:00 p.m., except during Lent and Christmas Seasons. Parents must speak to Deacon Stan and are required to attend an instruction class on the second to last Sunday at 11:30 a.m. in the Murray Center.

Sacrament of the Sick Anointing of the Sick: This sacrament is available for any baptized Catholic who is seriously ill or suffering the effects of advanced age. Please call the rectory to make an appointment for a priest to come to the home, or call anytime for a sudden illness. If serious surgery is scheduled, call to arrange for the anointing before you enter the hospital. A communal celebration of this sacrament is celebrated annually.

Pastoral Care to the Homebound: We are concerned about parishioners who are homebound and would like to receive the Eucharist, the Sacrament of Reconciliation or the Anointing of the Sick. If you are homebound, or if you know someone who is unable to come to Mass, please do not hesitate to contact the parish office at (718) 464-4582. Visits will be happily arranged for you.

Holy Matrimony: Call the Parish Office for information and appointment with a priest at least six months prior to the date you wish.

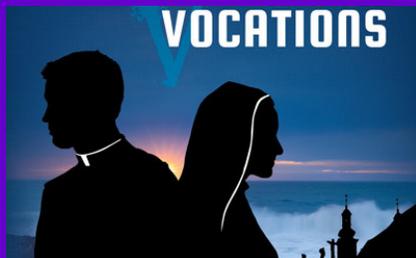
Be Vigilant of Child Abuse At All Times!

It is vitally important that we are constantly vigilant—that we always observe the behaviors of those who interact with children. And we must always communicate our concerns to the appropriate parties. Sometimes this means communicating our safety concerns to our children. And sometimes this means communicating our concerns about seemingly inappropriate behavior to those who are in a position to intervene. Parents must also listen carefully to their children and observe both their children's activities and the behavior of older children and adults who interact with them. When children exhibit dramatic behavioral changes, adults must find out what caused the changes. Being aware of what's happening with our children means talking to, listening to, and observing them—at every opportunity.

For help or info call: Maryellen Quinn: Diocese of Brooklyn's Safe Environment Coordinator 718-965-7300

AMERICAN MARTYRS WEB ADDRESS

AMPARISH.ORG



First Sunday of Advent -- November 29, 2020

“We are the clay and you the potter; we are all the work of your hands.” Being chosen to serve as a priest or in the consecrated life is an amazing work of the Lord. Ask the Holy Spirit and our Blessed Mother to help you recognize and be faithful to your vocation. Contact the Vocation Office at (718) 827-2454 or email: vocations@diobrook.org

PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS

Rev. LT. Mark Bristol, USN
LCPL Christopher Keane - USMC
PO3 John Schaefer - USCG
TAO Sean Reiley—USN

PRAYER FOR OUR TROOPS

**LORD, hold our troops in your loving hands.
Protect them as they protect us.
Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they
perform for us in our time of need.
And give us peace.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
Our Lord and Savior. Amen**

If you know of any parishioner who is currently serving in the Armed forces and would like to be added to our prayer list, please call the Rectory. 718-464-4582.

Bit's and Pieces from Mike and Mike: "Building A House's Deck... ..One Nail at a Time!"

Dear People of God , Why is Advent an Important Preparation for Christmas is an important theme for Advent, but more is involved. Advent gives us a vision of our lives as Christians and shows us the possibilities of life. The vision of life that Advent gives us is twofold; it looks back to the first coming of Christ at Bethlehem, and it looks to the future when Christ will come again. In the interval between these two events we find meaning for our life as a Christian. First we celebrate Christ-become-human. We view his life and experience his presence as a human being in our history. Christ came to show us what life can and should be. He gave us true and valid principles by which we can live true and valid lives. But Jesus knew that the human heart could not live in isolation. He formed the Church around the concept of a people held together by love. In that community we discover unlimited possibilities and meaning. Alone we can do nothing. Together we find real meaning. When Christ left this earth, he did not abandon us. He remains with us in his Spirit, the Church, the sacraments, the Scriptures and each other. He lives in community with us and keeps his vision of life before us. When Christ comes again, his presence will no longer be hidden behind the signs and symbols of the liturgy or the words of the Scriptures. His presence among us will be revealed in all its fullness, a presence that will never end, a presence that will perfect and complete our community. This is the "greater significance" of Advent. In these few short weeks we take in the sweeping panorama of time - from Christ's birth to his Second Coming. The season of Advent brings us the magnificent vision of life and hope for the future given to us by Christ. Advent is our time to become more involved, more caught up in the meaning and the possibilities of life as a Christian community. Thus we are preparing not only for Christmas but also for Christ's Second Coming. This means that when he comes again, we will be awake and watchful. He will not find us asleep.

The Advent Wreath

The Advent Wreath, a venerable European tradition, can be a way to involve even very little children in learning about Christian preparation - not only for celebrating Our Lord's birth, but to make our hearts truly ready to receive Him. The wreath's symbolism of the advent (coming) of Light into the world is clear. The gradual lighting of the four candles, one on each Sunday of the Advent season, combined with the liturgical colors of the candles (purple is the penitential color used during Advent and Lent; rose is a liturgical color used only on Gaudete Sunday in Advent and Laetare Sunday in Lent) help to symbolize not only our expectation and hope in Our Savior's first coming into the world, but also in his Second Coming as Judge at the end of the world. The wreath itself is also symbolic. The circle of evergreen in which the candles are placed represents everlasting life. The seedpods, nuts and cones used to decorate the wreath are symbolic of resurrection, and fruits represent the nourishing fruitfulness of the Christian life. Gathering materials for the wreath-perhaps on an outing in the park or woods, or even in the backyard- and assembling it at home is an interesting family project in which even the youngest children can participate. On the first Sunday of Advent, you may sprinkle the wreath with holy water and bless it before the first purple candle is lit. The appropriate Advent collect can be said as the candle[s] are lit each day of the week, followed by the blessing before meals, if you use the wreath at mealtime. The second Sunday two purple candles are lit; the third Sunday, two purple and one rose; and all candles are lit on the fourth Sunday. Children who are old enough can take turns lighting the candles. (The littlest ones can blow them out at the end of the meal.) If you use the wreath at mealtime, it is helpful to place it on a tray or platter so it can be moved, and to protect the table from candle wax.

**Let's Be Prepared and Pray for each other...
...As we journey to Bethlehem, Fr. Peter**

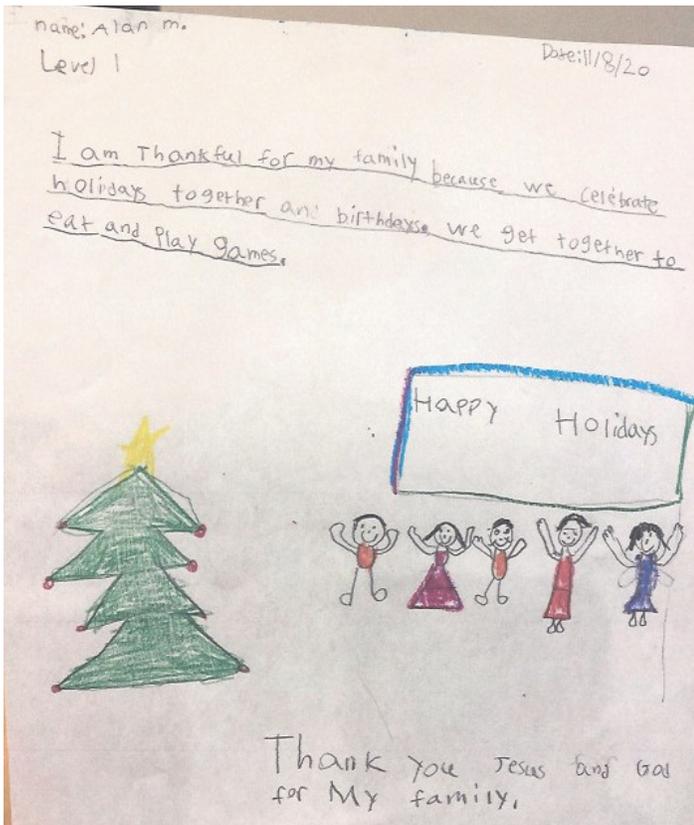


AMERICAN MARTYRS
CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE
BLESS A FAMILY THIS CHRISTMAS



TAKE A TAG AND
GIVE A GIFT TO
THOSE IN NEED

PLEASE PLACE
WRAPPED GIFT
BACK UNDER THE
GIVING TREE BY
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13



PARENTS OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CHILDREN THERE WILL BE A MANDATORY MEETING OF ALL PARENTS (ONE PARENT FROM EACH FAMILY MUST ATTEND)

TUESDAY NIGHT, DECEMBER 1ST AT 7PM. MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE IN CHURCH TOPIC: ONLINE REMOTE LEARNING

HOPEFUL EXPECTATION

Our liturgical year begins with the season of Advent—a time of hopeful expectation of the coming of the Lord. On the First Sunday of Advent we look forward to the end of time when we will awaken to the dawn of Christ's new day. Today we hear Isaiah speak of a day when God's power will have brought universal peace and God's Word will have instructed all people, radiating God's "light" (teachings) into all of human society. Only when humanity walks "in the light of the LORD" (Isaiah 2:5), when all people desire to be instructed "in [God's] ways" (Isaiah 2:3), will the world be set aright and our deepest longings fulfilled. The reading from Romans calls us to "awake from sleep" for this final "day is at hand" (Romans 13:11, 12). Together this Sunday's scriptures proclaim our Christian faith that Jesus is the One who will finally come to fulfill God's plan of salvation. **Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.**



Blessing of the Advent Wreath at Home

Let us now pray for God's blessings upon us and upon this wreath. Lord our God, we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ: he is Emmanuel, the hope of the peoples, he is the wisdom that teaches and guides us, he is the Savior of every nation. Lord God, let your blessing come upon us as we light the candles of this wreath. May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us salvation. May he come quickly and not delay. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

November 28, 2020 Collection

SEE NEXT WEEKS BULLETIN DUE TO EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINE THIS WEEK
Thank you for your support of American Martyrs Church.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, November 28st
5:00 pm: **For the Faithful of American Martyrs**

Sunday, November 29th
8:30 am: **Jean Marie Galazin** (Mom and Dad)
10:30: **Angelo & Frank Chiauzzi** (Family)
Breege McDonnell (Mills & Morales Families)
Frances Kelly (Weiner Family)
12:30: **Patricia Kurtz** (Chimenti Family)

Monday, November 30th
Danvid A Zack (Ruth Zack)

Tuesday, December 1st
Rev. Joseph Pfaff (Galazin Family)

Wednesday, December 2nd
Robert Gatti (Marianne & John Pinto)

Thursday, December 3rd
Estelito Santos (Family)

Friday, December 4th
Danvid A Zack (Ruth Zack)

Saturday, December 5th
8:30 am: **Gerlimina "Minnie" DiGirolmo** (Weiner Family)
Danny Montchal (Family)
The Blessed Mother (Migene)
5:00 pm: **Joseph Ossanna**



*The Gifts of Bread & Wine
are offered for:*

Anthony Zafferese

REMEMBER THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Eternal Rest grant unto them Lord. May perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace; and may their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. ~ Amen



Our Sick, Homebound and Hospitalized:

Michael Arriaga, Barbagallo Family, Roberto Barrientos, Iride Bubek, Rose and Jessie Carlone, Bill Carrar, Frank Carroll, Chang Family, Diana Ferrante, Michael Gorry, Jack Kopcinski, Daniel Limberg, Brian Mastrorocco, Steve McCabe, Ed Miles, Mary Modica, Frank Mollo, Frank Pagano, Lorraine Rensch, Amelia Reyes, John Sheridan, Jr., Sheila Still, Arlene Scherne, Marie Scuderi, Paulette Wilson, Glen Ferguson, Kathy Evers, Patrick Carragee and Jack O'Grady

When you are filling out your Christmas Cards this Year take a Card and Send to this Address:

**A Recovering American Soldier
C.O. Walter Reed
Army Medical Center
6900 Georgia Avenue
NW Washington, D.C.
20307-5001**




COMMUNITY NEWS

Sisters of the Handmaids of the Holy Child Jesus
Will minister to the elderly in their own homes. Call 718-888-7708.

Catholic Charities Home-base Program
assists those with housing crisis, Call 718-674-1000 for more info

Associated Vincentian Charities of Brooklyn
Donate your old Car, Truck or Van - running or not. 718-491-2525.
The Society will give back to American Martyrs.

Al-Anon and Ala-teen Family Groups
Hope, help, and happiness are attainable. -- 212-941-0094
nycalanon.org

Catholic Charities Neighborhood Home Delivered Meals
Call 718-357-4903 for more information.

Nar-Anon Never Alone: Call for info 718-217-0364.

National Suicide Prevention Help line: -1-800-273-8255

Healing After Abortion: Sisters of Life at: 866-575-0075



Fr. John J. Murray Council 14666
Church of American Martyrs
**Knights of
Columbus**[®]



Pro-Life Mass & Prayer Vigil Saturday Morning December 19, 2020

Please consider attending the Helpers of God's Precious Infants (helpersbrooklynny.org) Pro-Life mass Saturday morning 11/21 at 7:30AM at St. Mary's of Long Island City located at 10-08 49th Avenue in Long Island City. After the mass, if you choose to participate, there is the opportunity to join the 10-15 minute Rosary procession to abortion provide-Planned Parenthood where we will continue to pray the Rosary with our masks on before processing back to the church. Prayer is our greatest tool as Catholics as we do our part to protect and advocate for the unborn so please invite a friend or family member to attend as well.

Keep Christ
in Christmas



Poster Contest Sponsored by
Fr. John J. Murray Knights of Columbus Council # 14666
Visit : www.kofcam.weebly.com for more information

KNOW THE MASS, ONE WORD AT A TIME

Photo © John Zich



Believe

Each Sunday at Mass, we make our profession of faith that begins, "I believe in one God. . . ." We re-affirm what we believe. The Creed holds all the great mysteries of our faith: Creation, the Holy Trinity, the Incarnation, the Redemption,

the work of the Holy Spirit in the Church, and finally "the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come." To all this, we say, "Amen. I believe."

What is this Creed about? Why every Sunday? To whom are we speaking? There is repetition. We need that to cling more surely to what we believe. We do talk both to God and to ourselves, so that we can stand more firmly in faith. And there is something else at work in this profession of faith. To believe means both to accept the revealed mysteries and to attach ourselves in ever more confident trust to God who has revealed the mysteries to us. Finally, we seal our profession with a resounding great Amen—at the end of the Creed, but also at other special moments of faith, as at the end of the Eucharistic Prayer and before the Body of Christ presented to us. "Amen. I do believe."

Floater and Smitty American Martyrs in House Comedians

Floater: My pen writes underwater. It also writes a lot of other words too.

Smitty: My friend Jay recently had twin girls and wanted to name them after him. So I suggested Kay and Elle.

Floater: I had a scary joke about math but I'm 2² to say it.

Smitty: Some people just have to get credit for the work they do. Not me. I prefer cash.

Floater: At a track meet I saw a guy, carrying a very long fiber glass stick. I asked him, "Are you a pole vaulter?" "Nein, I am German," he replied. "But how did you know my name is Valter?"

Smitty: I have furniture that goes back to Louis the 14th, that is, unless I can pay him by the 13th

Floater: I wanted to tell you a chemistry joke, But all of them Argon.

Smitty: Security guards who walk aerobic instructors to their cars late at night are part of the "Fitness Protection Program"

Floater: How do you fix a broken tuba? With a tuba glue of course.

Smitty: The 200th anniversary of the founding of each buffalo sanctuary in the United States will be marked by a Bisontennial celebration.