

American Martyrs

Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 21, 2021



Parish Clergy

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

Sunday Assistants

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

Sunday Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil 5pm
Sunday 8:30am - 10:30am - 12:30 pm

Weekday Daily Mass is in Main
Church during the Lenten Season
8:30am Monday - Saturday

Holy Days See Bulletin For Schedule

Parish Staff

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

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
Telephone (718) 464 - 4582

Religious Education Office
(718) 464 - 6411

Website: www.amparish.org

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.

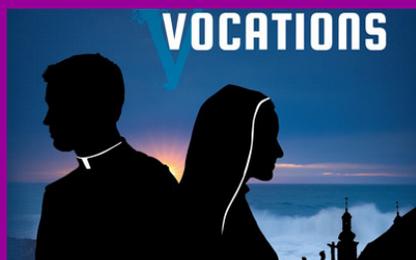
Be Vigilant of Child Abuse At All Times!

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



Fifth Sunday of Lent -- March 21, 2021
“The Father will honor whoever serves me.” Are you called to belong to Christ alone as a priest, deacon or through the consecrated life? 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 Faithful People of God,

Our Lenten journey continues and Holy Week begins next week. How am I doing so far this Lenten Season? Steps in the right direction or still stuck in a hole? The following story provides a wonderful insight on the Lenten journey. Read and pass it on

The story is told of a farmer who owned a mule. The mule fell into the farmer's well. The water wasn't very deep, so the mule could stand on the bottom.

The farmer heard the mule braying—or whatever mules do when they fall into wells. After carefully assessing the situation, the farmer sympathized with the mule, but decided that neither the mule nor the well was worth the trouble of saving. Instead, he called his neighbors together and told them what had happened and enlisted them to help haul dirt to help bury the old mule in the well and put him out of his misery.

Initially, the old mule was hysterical, but as the farmer and his neighbors continued shoveling and the dirt hit his back, a thought struck him. It suddenly dawned on him that every time a shovel load of dirt landed on his back he should shake it off and step up.

This he did, blow after blow of the dirt hitting his back. "Shake it off and step up . . . shake it off and step up . . . shake it off and step up." The mule repeated this statement over and over to encourage himself. No matter how painful the blows or how distressing the situation seemed, the old mule fought panic and kept right on shaking it off and stepping up.

It wasn't long before the old mule, battered and exhausted, stepped triumphantly over the wall of the well. What seemed like it would bury him, actually helped him because of the manner in which he handled his adversity.

That's life. If we face our problems and respond to them positively, refusing to give in to panic, bitterness, or self-pity, the adversities that come along to bury us usually have within them the very real potential to benefit us.

As people of faith, we know we do not walk alone. The Lord Jesus will always be our source of strength and peace. Life is filled with joy as well as sorrow. We are a people called to walk in the Light of the Lord Jesus who will always guide our lives.

We may wonder why God sometimes writes with crooked and contrary lines in our lives. Life is fragile, so always handle it with prayer. We may sometimes kick like an old mule and get angry with God, life or ourselves. Yet, the Lord Jesus is with us—even when we lock the Lord out of our hearts! We are richer today if we have laughed, given or forgiven and trusted that the Lord Jesus is with us in our times of joy as well as adversity. Remember, sorrow looks back, worry looks around and faith looks up!

Walking with you this Lent (detour your walk to Church During Holy Week)... ..Fr. Peter

GOOD INFORMATION

Our judgments are only as good as our information.--Anonymous



"Come Back To Me... ..With All Your Heart!"

**Received the Sacrament of Reconciliation
Monday Night (March 22)
Return to the Sacrament!**

Kateri Chapel (Rectory) 7pm - 8:30pm

**Next Monday is Reconciliation Monday
Kateri Chapel: 9:30am-10:30am
American Martyrs Church 3pm - 8pm**

Holy Week at American Martyrs



Reconciliation Monday
Confessions 9am-10:30am and 3pm-8pm

Holy Thursday
8:30 am Morning Prayer
7:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday
8:30am Morning Prayer + Divine Mercy Novena
3pm Passion of the Lord
7:30pm Divine Mercy Novena + Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday
8:30am Morning Prayer + Divine Mercy Novena
8pm Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday Mass Schedule
8:30am, 10:30am + 12:30pm Mass
Divine Mercy Novena after 12:30 Mass

Easter Week Divine Mercy Novena After 8:30 Mass

Divine Mercy Novena Schedule at American Martyrs



Good Friday Divine Mercy after 8:30am Morning Prayer
7:30pm Divine Mercy Novena followed by Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday Divine Mercy after 8:30am Morning Prayer

Easter Sunday after 12:30 Mass

Easter Week (Monday - Saturday) after 8:30am Mass

April 11, 2021 Divine Mercy Sunday
12:30pm Mass followed by
Adoration, Reconciliation and
3pm Divine Mercy Chaplet



Fr. John J. Murray Council 14666
Church of American Martyrs

**Knights of
Columbus®**

Baby Bottles for Life
“Every Cent Helps”

Help the Sisters of Life In their
Ministry to Unwed Mothers

Please Return Bottles on Palm Sunday
or Good Friday to Church

Treasures from our Tradition

Next weekend, many churches provide palms to be carried in the opening moments of the liturgy, as we gratefully recall Jesus entry into the holy city of Jerusalem. The children who greeted him on that day used what was both handy and traditional, since palms were carried to inaugurate the joyful harvest feast of Succoth. To this day, faithful Jews are directed to take a beautiful palm branch, green and straight as possible, called a lulav, and bind it with three myrtle branches fifteen inches long, and two longer willow branches. At the end of the temple service, everyone carries the lulav, circling the sanctuary in a dance called the Hoshanot, singing hymns of joy. In other climates, Jews and Christians alike have had to make accommodations over the years. In Italy, everyone carries olive branches today, often brought from their own garden. In England, forsythia branches are preferred, a relative of the olive, sign of peace. Germans prefer pussy willows, and others look for flowering spring branches. In our part of the world, what do you think would be the best choice to express joy and welcome, and to remind us of the joy of Christ’s victory even as we prepare to commemorate his passion? --James Field, Copyright J.S. Paluch

KNOW THE MASS, ONE WORD AT A TIME

Feed

Photo © John Zick



At Mass, we receive Holy Communion. We don’t take Holy Communion. We hear, “The Body of Christ,” and the host is placed in our hands or on our

tongue. We receive the Bread of Life. This pattern is so important, and it’s not just fussing about words or gestures. The action captures the reality that is so important. The Lord is feeding his people in the Eucharist. We are not taking our own food. We are not feeding ourselves. It is the Lord who in his generous love feeds and sustains us.

Perhaps our independent spirits push us to want to take care of ourselves and to feed ourselves, and maybe even control the whole of our lives. Receiving Holy Communion redirects us to our true dependency on him who feeds us and sustains. And it is the Lord.

Lenten Regulations

We once again enter into the grace-filled season of Lent. Throughout our Lenten journey, in preparation for the celebration of our Lord’s resurrection, we are invited to enter into a more intense period of prayer, penance, and almsgiving. In order to assist the faithful of the Diocese of Brooklyn to take full advantage of the Lenten season, our Bishop, Most Reverend Nicholas DiMarzio, would like to remind us of the following:

- † ABSTINENCE: All the faithful who have reached 14 years of age are required to abstain totally from meat on the Fridays of Lent.
- † FASTING: All the faithful between the ages of 18 and 59 inclusive are bound to fast on Good Friday. This practice involves limiting oneself to a single full meal and avoiding food between meals. Light sustenance may also be taken on two other occasions during the day.
- † The special Paschal fast and abstinence are prescribed for Good Friday and encouraged for Holy Saturday.
- † EASTER DUTY: After they have been initiated into the Most Holy Eucharist, all the faithful are bound by the obligation of receiving Holy Communion at least once a year. This precept must be fulfilled during the Easter season, unless for a good reason it is fulfilled at another time of the year. By special indult, in the United States, the time period for fulfilling this precept has been extended to include the period beginning the First Sunday of Lent (February 21, 2021) to The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity (Sunday, May 30, 2021).

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You a ?

Have you received the Grace of
the Sacrament of Reconciliation?



**Weekdays'
8:30 am Mass
During Lent
Will Be
Celebrated
in Our Main
Church**

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.
Call: 718-491-2525.

The Society will give back to American Martyrs.

Open AA Meetings
Sullivan Center Monday Evenings 8:30pm-9:30pm

Closed AA Meetings
Wednesday Evenings 8:30pm-9:30pm

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



SURE CURE

The only cure for sorrow is to kill it with
patience.--Irish Proverb

"I am, You are, We are the Church together"



**American Martyrs
2021 Annual Catholic**

**Appeal Update
March 15, 2021**

Parish Goal: \$66,706

Pledged: \$25,350

Received: \$12,106.25

Donors: 55



"I am, You are, We are the Church together"

FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 21

Saturday, March 20th

5:00 pm: Brendan Fullam (*Kathleen + Mark Flug*)

Sunday, March 21st

8:30 am: Faithful of American Martyrs

10:30am: Joseph + Marie + Marie deAngelis (*Family*)

12:30pm: Donato Mascieli (*Mr. + Mrs. Mascieli*)

Monday, March 22nd

Charles Taylor (*Ingrid Espindola*)

Tuesday, March 23rd

Judith O'Malley (*Edward Perez*)

Wednesday, March 24th

*In Thanksgiving for the Members of
Fr. John J. Murray Knights of Columbus*

Thursday, March 25th

*In Thanksgiving for the Members of
Fr. John J. Murray Columbiettes*

Friday, March 26th

*In Thanksgiving for the Priesthood of
Fr. George R. Cowan*

Saturday, March 27th

8:30 am: Catholic War Veterans

5:00 pm: John Wood (*Maria Nomikovdis*)



REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

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, Lorraine Rensch, Amelia Reyes, John Sheridan, Jr., Sheila Still, Arlene Scherne, Marie Scuderi, Paulette Wilson, Glen Ferguson, Kathy Evers, Tricia Zafferese, Irene McGrath, Frances Burgess, Maria Criscuolo and Chistine Biondi

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

*Michael Smith, Thomas Woods and
Gregory Raphael*



**REMEMBER THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED
OF AMERICAN MARTYRS AND IN OUR FAMILIES**

AS WE PRAY FOR THE SOUL OF



REST IN ETERNAL PEACE

Collection for March 14, 2021

E-Giving: \$977.50

Collection: \$4567.00

Total: \$5,544.50

Sunday, March 15, 2020: \$1,996

(1st Weekend of Corvid19)

**Thank You for your support of
American Martyrs during this difficult time.**



Jesus said to them,
"Let the one among you who is without sin
be the first to throw a stone at her." Jn 8:7

Why Lent? (Part 3)

Lent is a time for giving to the poor (almsgiving). What's my attitude to the poor? to the plight of refugees? what are my prejudices about them? Over the course of the year, how much do I give to the poor? How much of my time do I give to serving the poor? When I complain about what I don't have, do I take an honest look at all I *do* have? Could it be that I actually have more than I really need? How might I simplify my life this Lent - and how would that free me to give more to others?

**JOIN THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
EACH FRIDAY NIGHT OF LENT AS WE PRAY
7:15PM DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET
7:30PM STATIONS OF THE CROSS
FOLLOWED BY BENEDICTION**



Fr. John J. Murray Council 14666
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**Knights of
Columbus®**



COLUMBIETTES

News from The American Martyrs Columbiettes :
“A Catholic Organization for Women”

We warmly invite ladies age 18 + Up
To Join Our Awesome Council
For info please call Deneille Loprete @ 917-414-3753

**Catholic Men's Lenten Faith Reflection Into the Breach
Thursday, March 25th at 7:30pm**

Please consider joining other parish men in strengthening your faith this Lent by joining a Zoom meeting on Thursday evening, 3/25 at 7:30PM.

Open to men of all ages.

The group will begin by watching one of the short 12-minute videos from the Into the Breach collection <https://www.kofc.org/en/campaigns/into-the-breach.html> followed by a moderated conversation about how to apply the principles in our own lives and how to support each other to grow in virtue and take action to serve Christ and others.

Coffee, donuts, and whatever else you might have in your own home will be available during the Zoom call. Please email kofc14666fm@gmail.com to register or with any additional questions.

Fr. John J. Murray Council 14666
Church of American Martyrs

**Knights of
Columbus®**

Devotion to St. Anthony

**Tuesdays after 8:30am Mass
March 16 - June 8**



**St. Anthony, through your teaching
and preaching you bore witness
to the loving presence of
God in all of creation.**

Weekly Sacred Scripture Study

**Tuesday After 8:30am Mass In the Murray Center
For more Info call: Annabelle Villegas 917-331-1312**

Floater and Smitty

“We’re lost, but making great time!”

Floater: I ask the gentleman in Home Depot’s Lumber dept for some 2x4’s and he asked me how long I needed them. I said, for a long time as I am going to build a house.

Smitty: Go ahead and pronounce the "g" in lasagna. Nothin' matters anymore.

Floater: Those who get too big for their pants will be totally exposed in the end.

Smitty: Someone stole my scrabble set. I'm lost for words.

Floater: Someone stole my scrabble set. I'm lost for words.

Smitty: A man was arrested for bartering beverages made from fermented apples in a hotel/restaurant.... He's being charged with inn cider trading.

Floater: Just wanted to let you all know that I have been admitted into hospital and they are keeping me in. Apparently I've poisoned myself, thanks to my cooking skills. What I thought was an onion for my salad turned out to be a daffodil bulb. They said I should be out early spring...

Smitty: An Army Sergeant walked into a bar... and started ordering everyone a round...

Floater: The winning Chili Dish at the County Fair was named “Gossip.” Good to your face but talks behind your back !