



MARCH 19, 2023  
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT  
AMERICAN MARTYRS R.C. CHURCH

Rev. Peter J. Rayder  
Very Rev. Francis K. Asagba  
*(In Residence)*

Rev. Mr. Stanley Galazin

**SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE**

Saturday Vigil 5pm  
Sunday 8:30am, 10:30am + 12:30pm  
WEEKDAYS 8:30am Monday - Friday  
Saturday 8:30am Communion Service

**Holy Days**

7:30pm Vigil, 8:30am + 7:30pm  
Confessions Saturday 4pm - 4:45pm  
(Also by appointment)  
Website: [www.amparish.org](http://www.amparish.org)



**PARISH STAFF**

Ms. Patricia Adams  
Business Manager  
Mrs. Theresa Asche  
Director of Religious Education  
Mr. Jose Espindola  
Parish Grounds

Knights of Columbus Council #14666  
Fr. John J. Murray/American Martyrs  
Columbiettes

79-43 Bell Blvd. Oakland Gardens,  
NY 11364  
Rectory: 718 + 464 + 4582  
Religious Education: 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 an 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 second Saturday at 1pm and the last Sunday of the month at 2:00 pm  
Parents must speak to Deacon Stan one month in advance before the scheduled date.  
Due to Corvid19 restrictions parents and sponsors are not required at this time to attend an instruction class.

***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

**The Collection for March 12, 2023**

**Online \$1,650.50**

**In-Pew \$5,378.00**

**Total \$5,428.50**

*There is an appointed time for everything, and a time for every affair under the heavens, a time to heal*  
**Remember in your Prayers the Sick of American Martyrs**

Msgr. John Keppler, Jimmy O'Neil, Rosalinda Apostadero, Pasquale Scottie, Daniel Coppola, Jen Flynn Limberg, Tom Dana, James + Anne Kingston, Elsie + Frank Paukowitz, Martin Thaila, Vijay Devassy, Anita Mascoli Michelle Valencia, Msgr. Martin T. Geraghty and Fr. Jim Cunningham

(THE SICK WILL STAY ON LIST FOR 3 WEEKS AND THEN BE REMOVED UNLESS THERE IS A REQUEST FOR THE PERSON TO REMAIN ON THE PRAYER LIST FOR ANOTHER 3 WEEKS)

**Mass Intentions**



**March 19<sup>th</sup> - March 25<sup>th</sup>**

**Sunday 8:30am**

*Diane Thomas (Requested by Ann Marie Sanfier)*

**10:30am**

*Linda Walsh (Living Intention Requested by Ruth Zack)*

*Antonio + Ernesta Mongelli (Requested by Family)*

*Patrick Zafferese (Requested by Family)*

**12:30pm**

*(The Faithful of American Martyrs)*

**Monday 8:30am**

*Healing of Brandonlynx DiManche (Requested by mom)*

**Tuesday 8:30am**

*Craig Hauser (Requested by Fortune Family)*

**Wednesday 8:30am**

*Deceased of the Considie Family (Requested by Lauren)*

**Thursday 8:30am**

*Catherine Giuarnera (Requested by Catherine)*

**Friday 8:30am**

*James M. McCorey (Requested by Knights of Columbus)*

**Saturday 8:30**

*Juan Vargas (Daughter)*

*Catholic War Veterans*

**Saturday 5pm**

*Brian Mastrorocco (Requested by W. Kump Family)*

*There is an appointed time for everything,  
and a time for every affair under the heavens,  
A time to live and a time to die...*

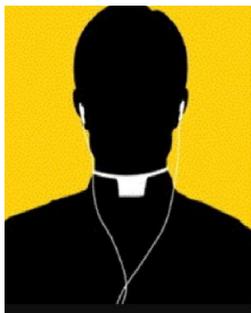
**REMEMBER THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED  
OF AMERICAN MARTYRS**

**IRENE FLASHER**

**The Gifts of  
Bread + Wine  
in thanksgiving to  
St. Joseph**



**The Gifts of  
Altar Sanctuary  
in thanksgiving to  
St. Patrick**



March 19, 2023  
Fourth Sunday of Lent

That like the man born blind, we will allow Jesus to open our eyes and hearts to His will and bring more men and women to respond to His call to serve Him and His Church as priests, deacons and in the consecrated life.

Have a Vocation? For more information Contact the Vocation Office at (718) 827-2454 or email: vocations@diobrook.org.

**PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS**  
**Rev. LT. Mark Bristol, USN, PO3 John Schaefer - USCG**  
**and 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.**

## ***Lenten Journey Thought***

Dear People of God, our Lenten journey to the Cross continues with the Lord. However, the Cross of Christ does not end in death and defeat, but is a victorious Cross of life --- life so abundant we call it eternal.

Why Lent? Why these 40 days? Lent is an opportunity to see life through a different lens. We all get into ruts. At times our life goes into a slump. Lent is a splendid time to squarely face ourselves in the mirror and see our life through the eyes of Christ – the Lord’s perspective.

The following story beautifully illustrates how our perspective can help us see life in a fresh way.

One day a father of a very wealthy family took his son on a trip to the country with the firm purpose of showing his son how poor people can be. They spent a couple of days and nights on the farm of what would be considered a very poor family.

On their return from their trip, the father asked his son, “How was the trip?”

“It was great, Dad.”

“Did you see how poor people can be?” the father asked.

“Oh yeah,” said the son.

“So, what did you learn from the trip?” asked the father.

The son answered, “I saw that we have one dog and they had four.” “We have a pool that reaches to the middle of our garden, and they have a creek that has no end.” “We have imported lanterns in our garden, and they have the stars at night.” “We have a small piece of land to live on and they have fields that go beyond our sight!” “Our patio reaches to the front yard and they have the whole horizon!” “We have servants who serve us, but they serve others.” “We buy our food, but they grow theirs.” “We have walls around our property to protect us; they have friends to protect them.”

With this the boy’s father was speechless. Then his son added, “Thanks, Dad, for showing me how poor we are.”

Too many times we forget what we have and concentrate on what we don’t have in life. What is one person’s worthless object is another’s prize possession. It is all based on one’s perspective. Makes you wonder what would happen if we all gave thanks to God for all we have been provided by Him, instead of worrying about wanting more.

I would also like to close with four “food for thought” sayings my dear mother shared with her children when we were growing up.

1. Treat everyone with respect and kindness.
2. Say “yes” whenever possible.
3. Always keep a sense of humor.
4. It’s not about you – always help and serve others.

Lent is the time to put our life into perspective --- and let the Lord Jesus take us by the hand and guide our journey.

***On the Lenten journey with you... ..Fr. Peter***

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### ***Ancient Prayer of St. Joseph***

O St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God, I place in you all my interest and desires.

O St. Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession, and obtain for me from your divine Son all spiritual blessings, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

So that, having engaged here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of Fathers.

O St. Joseph, I never weary of contemplating you, and Jesus asleep in your arms; I dare not approach while He reposes near your heart. Press Him close in my name and kiss His fine head for me and ask Him to return the kiss when I draw my dying breath. St. Joseph, patron of departing souls, pray for me. Amen.



## READINGS FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

**First Reading:** (1 Samuel 16:1b,6-7,10-13a)

Samuel is sent to anoint David as king.

**Responsorial Psalm:** (Psalm 23:1-6)

The Lord is our shepherd.

**Second Reading:** (Ephesians 5:8-14)

The Ephesians are told to live as children of light.

**Gospel Reading:** (John 9:1-41 (shorter form: John 9:1,6-9,13-17,34-38))

Jesus heals the man born blind and reveals himself to him as the Son of Man.

### Background on the Gospel Reading

As we did last week, we are reading today from the Gospel of John. In today's Gospel, the healing of the man born blind invites us to focus on the physical and spiritual aspects of sight and light. In the first part of today's Gospel, we hear Jesus' response to a prevalent belief of his time: that misfortune and disability were the result of sin. That belief is why Jesus is asked the question of whose sin caused the man's blindness—his own or his parents'. Jesus does not answer directly, but instead gives the question an entirely different dimension—through this man's disability, God's power will be made manifest. Jesus then heals the man.

The healing is controversial because Jesus heals on the Sabbath. The Pharisees, the religious authorities of Jesus' time, understood that the law of Moses forbade work (including healing) on the Sabbath. They also have trouble believing that Jesus performed a miracle. To determine whether the man was really born blind, the Pharisees question him and his parents. The man challenges the leaders of the synagogue about their assessment of the good that Jesus has done. In turn, they expel the man for questioning their judgment.

The final revelation and moment of enlightenment comes when the man born blind encounters Jesus again. Having heard the news of his expulsion, Jesus seeks out the man born blind and reveals himself to him as the Son of Man. In this moment, the man born blind shows himself to be a man of faith and worships Jesus. Jesus replies by identifying the irony of the experience of many who encounter Jesus: Those who are blind will now see, and those who think they now see will be found to be blind.

As in last week's Gospel about Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman, today's reading has many allusions to Baptism. The washing of the man in the pool of Siloam is a prototype for Christian Baptism. Through the man's encounter with Jesus, the man born blind is healed, his sight is restored, and his conversion to discipleship begins. The man born blind gradually comes to a greater understanding about who Jesus is and what it means to be his disciple, while the Pharisees (those who should see) are the ones who remain blind.

### 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 Robert J. Brennan, 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 26, 2023) to The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity (June 4, 2023)



### Defibrillator MD or Do Needed

American Martyrs is looking for a NYS licensed MD or DO to act as medical director for our public access defibrillator program. If interested or if you know of a doctor that could help call Ed Pearce 917-971-4635



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
9am - 3pm Monday - Friday  
Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Chapel

# Holy Week at American Martyrs



*Palm Sunday*

*5pm Vigil + 8:30am + 10:30am + 12:30pm*

*Reconciliation Monday*

*9am-10:30am + 3pm to 8pm*

*Holy Thursday*

*8:30am Morning Prayer*

*7:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper*

*Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*

*11pm Night Prayer*

*Good Friday*

*8:30am Morning Prayer*

*12 Noon Outdoor Stations of the Cross (Gather by Rectory)*

*3pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion*

*7:30pm Divine Mercy + Stations of the Cross*

*Holy Saturday*

*8:30am Morning Prayer*

*8pm The Easter Vigil*

*Easter Sunday*

*8:30am + 10:30am + 12:30pm*

**American Martyrs  
Catholic War Veterans Post 1772**



Breakfast with the  
**EASTER  
BUNNY**



**10am Saturday, April 1, 2023**

**Breakfast + Pictures with the Easter Bunny  
Easter Egg Hunt + Every Child Receives A Gift**



**Tickets on Sale After Every Mass  
Adults \$10 + Children \$5**



*"Happily Ever After Begins Here And Now  
Living The Beatitudes Today And Beyond"*

*Stations Of The Cross + Exposition Of The Blessed Sacrament*

*"Blessed Are The Poor In Spirit  
For Theirs Is The Kingdom Of Heaven."*

*7:30pm Friday, March 24, 2023  
Reflection By Steven Caruso*

*March 31: Juan Mendez*



American Martyrs Columbiettes Fr. John J. Murray Council 14666  
79-43 Bell Blvd., Bayside, NY 11364 718- 464 4582



The Columbiettes are selling Palm Crosses for Palm Sunday.

Pre-Orders are available NOW until March 19th 2023 at \$16 each with this form (cash/check). Otherwise they will be sold after masses March 25th and March 26th at \$20 each at the church.

Any questions please call Anne 347-626-9802 or email [carusoanne@aol.com](mailto:carusoanne@aol.com)

**PRE-ORDER FORM \*please print legibly**

Please cut & fill out and leave at the rectory. Please put form and payment in an envelope and write on front of envelope Attn Columbiettes Palm Cross pre-order.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_ # of crosses: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$16.00 each

\*Make checks payable to American Martyrs Columbiettes\*



# American Martyrs Rosary Society



## Afternoon Tea- Rosary Society

All ladies, Mothers, Daughters, Grandmothers and Granddaughters are invited to join us for a Tea Sunday on April 16 at 2pm in the Sullivan Center

Tea, sandwiches, scones and desserts along with a selection of teas will be served. Tickets are \$20 and will be sold after all Masses the weekends of March 25/26 and April 1/2.

For more information call Carol at 718-631-0896 or Barbara at 718-465-0585

We will have a small boutique as well.

Please bring your own Tea Cup!!!



PLEASE ALSO SAVE THE DATE!  
MONDAY, MAY 8 AT 11AM  
DAY OF RECOLLECTION

A  
R  
Star  
&  
Rosary  
Society

*Schedule for the Lectors and  
Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion*

SATURDAY/SUNDAY MARCH 25/26

*Lectors*

5pm Vigil: Getulio Cury  
8:30am: Jillian Minarik  
10:30am: Paul Mwilliams  
12:30pm: Valerie Day

*Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion*

5pm: Mary Ann Schreiber + Raquel Barrientos + Dianna Iorio  
8:30am: Donna Sosna + Stephen Sica + Michael Shoule  
10:30am: Theresa Asche + Linda Limberg + Bobby Shoule  
12:30pm: Steven Day + Terry Marchia + Nora Dubouzet

*Schedule for the Lectors and  
Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion*

SATURDAY/SUNDAY MARCH 25/26

**Saturday 5pm Vigil**

Kayla Hobdy + Samantha Hobdy + Katarina Binec

**SUNDAY**

**8:30AM**

Natale & Nicole Barnett + Brooke Hodness

**10:30AM**

Robert Shoule + Vincent Shoule + Omar Gonzales

**12:30PM**

Landon Madrazo + Sophia Madrazo + Hilarion Santos Damiao

*Divine Mercy Weekly*

Ways to Pray at Three O'clock

**Meditation:**

In this hour you can obtain everything for yourself and for others for the asking: it was the hour of grace for the whole world - mercy triumphed over justice. My daughter, try your best to make the Stations of the Cross in this hour, provided that your duties permit it; and if you are not able to make the Stations of the Cross, then at least step into the chapel for a moment and adore, in the Blessed Sacrament, My Heart, which is full of mercy; and should you be unable to step into the chapel, immerse yourself in prayer there where you happen to be, if only for a very brief instant. I claim veneration for My mercy from every creature, but above all from you, since it is to you that I have given the most profound understanding of this mystery.

(Diary, 1572)

**My Prayer Response:**

Lord Jesus, You so desire that we take advantage of the Hour of Great Mercy that You offer us a variety of ways to venerate Your mercy. Help us to draw down all the available graces for a world in desperate need of Your mercy.

\*The words of Jesus appear in boldface type

A Journey to Mercy: Follow this Lenten video series online or join us in the Murray Center. For more details, contact Annabelle Villegas at 347-871-8644 or [AgapeLove@latinodirect.com](mailto:AgapeLove@latinodirect.com)

**American Martyrs Leisure Club**

Come join us on any Thursday 11am - 3pm in the Sullivan Center for a few fun filled hours to socialize, play cards, and celebrate holidays, birthdays and occasional excursions. Sullivan Center is heated, Air conditioned AND Handicap Accessible.

**Fr. John J. Murray/American Martyrs  
Knights of Columbus Council #14666**

The men from the Knights of Columbus are running "Share the Change" Baby Bottle Campaign.

It is an opportunity for you and your whole family to provide critical support for the Sisters of Life.

A little spare change, bills, and checks can go a long way in making a difference in the lives of the women they serve.

When you fill and donate a baby bottle with your change, YOU are a part of the change.

Return your bottle during Holy Week to American Martyrs Church.

**Looking to Help???**  
**Bridge to Life Needs Diapers!**

**Pampers**



Please Leave Diapers @ Entrance to American Martyrs

JOIN THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
FR. JOHN J. MURRAY/AMERICAN MARTYRS  
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL # 14666



For more information Email: KofCAM14666@gmail.com  
Website: KofCAM.Weebly.com

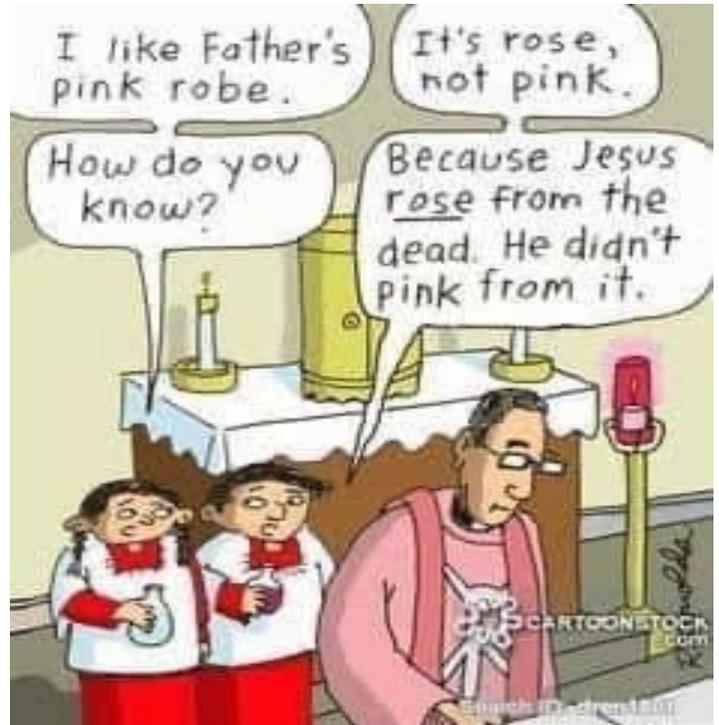
JOIN THE COLUMBIETTES  
FR. JOHN J. MURRAY/AMERICAN MARTYRS  
COLUMBIETTES COUNCIL # 14666



For more information call Anne Caruso 347 - 626 - 9802  
"A CATHOLIC ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN"

### Laugh with Floater and Smitty

**Floater:** People who spread germs... ..make me sick!  
**Smitty:** Today I was looking at my ceiling, it's not the best but it's up there.  
**Floater:** Sometimes I talk to myself for no reason... ..me too!  
**Smitty:** I'm trying to organize a hide-n-seek game but good players are hard to find.  
**Floater:** People see me spending money and think I'm rich, but I'm just irresponsible.  
**Smitty:** My wife's intuition is so great she sometimes knows I'm wrong before I even open my mouth.  
**Floater:** I saw this guy going up a hill with a wheelbarrow full of horseshoes, four leaves clovers and rabbit's fee. I thought: "He's really pushing his luck!"  
**Smitty:** I'm at the airport and there's a man passed out on the baggage carousel... ..He's slowly coming around now.  
**Floater:** Engineers have just made a car that runs on parsley... ..now they're hoping to make a bus that runs on thyme!  
**Smitty:** They say we learn from our mistakes. That's why I'm making as many as possible. I'll be a genius real soon.



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For more information call Carol at 718-631-0896 or Barbara at 718-465-0585

We will have a small boutique as well.

Please bring your own Tea Cup

PLEASE ALSO SAVE THE DATE!  
Day of Recollection - Monday, May 8 at 11am

### Raising Faith-Filled Kids • One Word at a Time

## Work



There's an old story about a traveler who approached two stone masons and asked each one what he was doing. The first mason grumbled, "All day long I have to take these big stones and break them into smaller stones." The second one smiled and said, "I get to build a cathedral!" Work can sometimes seem like a curse, but our Catholic faith tells us work is a blessing. Our attitude plays a big part in whether we experience work—whether on our jobs or in our homes—as drudgery or joy. Instead of saying, "I have to..." practice saying, "I get to..." Rather than "I have to take my kids to soccer practice," say, "I get to take my kids to soccer practice." This trick can turn dreary days into wonderful opportunities for you and your family. —Tom McGrath