



December 15, 2024
Third Sunday of Advent
American Martyrs

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

Parents must speak to Deacon Stan one month in advance before the scheduled date.

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

Pastors Advisory Board/Parish Council

Theresa Asche
Anne Caruso
Deacon Stanley Galazin
John Limberg
Ken MacPherson, *Trustee*
Jillian Minarik
Michael Mitts
Edward Pearce
Margaret Reyes
Mary Ann Schreiber, *Finance Council*
Maureen Shoule, *Trustee*
Robert Shoule
Johnny Sullivan
Joseph Timpa

2024 ACA

The 2024 Annual Catholic Appeal supports the Mission of American Martyrs and the daily work of The Church in Brooklyn and Queens in ways no one parish can accomplish alone.

All donations over American Martyrs goal to the ACA comes back to our parish to help meet our needs

ACA UPDATES
December 9, 2024

Parish Goal: \$66,706
Pledged: \$150,490
Paid: \$148,349
Pledges 155



GLUTEN SENSITIVITY

We have gluten-free hosts. Just identify yourself before Mass begins so we can ensure your reception of the Blessed Sacrament.

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, Rosalinda Apostadero, Elizabeth Coppola, Jen Flynn Limberg, Denis Keane, James + Anne Kingston + Irene McGrath, Elsie & Frank Paukowitz, Martin Thaila, Vijay Devassy, Anita Mascoli, John O'Brien, John Buglione, John Sheridan Jr., Tom Holloran, Arlene Scherne, Vincent Sheridan, Jessie Carlone, Jackson Monchal, Jeancarlo Roach, Gloria Saavedra, Jack Goydas, John Bennett, Michael G. McLoone, Dave Tavella, Gloria Valdez, Patrick Kearney, Tom Dana, Roberto + Raquel Barrientos, Samantha Harris, Kalyan Sham, Mike Tramonte, Alexa Kropf, Dr. Renato Gega, Dr. Gilda Versales, Gracinda Silva, Steven Troutman, Anna Bischoff, Robert Galazin, Stephen Feit, Richard San Severino and Baby Charles B. Woods

(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 Week of December 15th + December 21st

8:30am

The Faithful of American Martyrs

10:30am

Joanne Trigano (Requested by the Vincent Trigano)

Joseph Tretter (Requested by the Frank + Elsie Paukowitz)

John Montiel (Requested by the Cabrera Family)

12:30pm

Maria Lucia Bautisa (Requested by her Family)

Monday 8:30am

John + Hedwig Sosna (Requested by the Donna + Steve)

Tuesday 8:30am

Tom Chacko, Jr. "Birthday" (Requested by his family)

Wednesday 8:30am

Gloria Valdez (Requested by the Valdez Family)

Thursday 8:30am

In Thanksgiving (Requested by Jessie Richard)

Friday 8:30am

Patrick J. Kearney, Sr 7th Anniversary (Requested by the Family)

Saturday 8:30am Prayer/Communion Service:

(Requested by the Dowd Family)

Saturday 5pm

Victor Cabral, Sr. (Requested by the Cabral 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...**

**Agnes Walsh
Antonio P. Santiago**

**The Gifts of Bread + Wine
Charles B. Woods' Health**

(Requested by Fr. Peter)



**The Gifts of Altar Sanctuary Candles
Agnes Walsh
*(Requested by a friend)***



PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS

Rev. LT. Mark Bristol, USN,
PO3 John Schaefer - USCG
TAO Sean Reiley—USN
Raymond Esquilin, CW4
Lisa Johnston,
WO 1 Crystal Robles
2nd Lt. Daniel Wolf, USAF
SFC Sheldon Warren

Third Sunday of Advent -- December 15, 2024



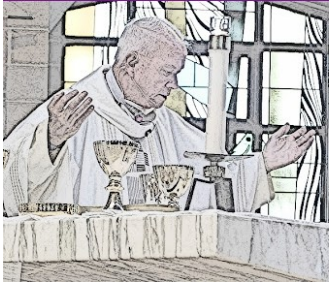
**"The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has
anointed me." You belong to Christ and Christ is God's!
How will you respond to so great a love?**

**Is He asking you to follow Him by serving in the priesthood or
consecrated life?**

**Contact the Vocation Office (718) 827-2454 or
email: vocations@diobrook.org**



This Could be you



My Side of the Altar

Dear People of God, Our Advent Season is coming to a close. Did we spend the last four weeks waiting and preparing for the birth of Our Lord Jesus into our world? I would also include that the Season of Advent is a marvelous opportunity to listen—listen through prayer. What am I listening for?

This time of year becomes incredibly hectic and frenetic for most of us. I don't have time to pray or listen—too many things need to be accomplished. Yet, there is more to life than increasing its speed.

Advent is a time for waiting, preparing and listening. These are not passive words. On the contrary, active listening takes work—the ability to make the time and calm from within so God can touch the deepest part of our heart. Am I a good listener? What am I listening for? Am I tuned into God or have I clicked off?

This time of year is a beautiful opportunity to give thanks to God for the gift of Jesus into our world and lives. Life is difficult, but what a glorious time of year to share with family and friends. Yet, many people are saddened by the death of a loved one this past year. Cherish their presence by sharing stories and more stories. Laugh. Cry. Give thanks and give God more thanks.

As our Advent Season gives way to Christmas morn it is important not to lose the gift of Christmas' real meaning— the birth of Jesus Christ. Jesus became human so we could become divine in our love and care for each other. Also, sprinkle the week with love, prayer and humor. Gather with family around the Table of the Lord and share Eucharist—and give thanks.

This stopped me in my tracks! So Please Slow Down and enjoy the 'Presence'

Every minute someone leaves this world behind. We are all in "the line" without knowing it. We never know how many people are before us. We can not move to the back of the line. We can not step out of the line. We can not avoid the line. So while we wait in line - Make moments count. Make priorities. Make the time. Make your gifts known. Make a nobody feel like a somebody. Make your voice heard. Make the small things big. Make someone smile. Make the change. Make love. Make up. Make peace. Make sure to tell your people they are loved. Make sure to have no regrets. Make sure you are ready.

Journeying with you through Advent at a slow pace and rejoicing on Christmas Day, Fr. Peter

Not Ready? No Problem!

While Advent is a beautiful time to prepare for the coming of the Lord, we often get so caught up in all the things we do to prepare for Christmas that we forget Advent all together. The readings remind us that in spite of the stress we may feel thinking about how close Christmas is, we are called to rejoice for the Lord is near.

The stress we feel may be from fear: Fear that I won't get the shopping done by Christmas, fear that people won't like the gifts I bought, or fear that I forgot someone that should be on my list. But did you ever notice how much easier it is when you have someone to shop with you, or write the Christmas cards, or decorate the tree? "Shout for joy. ..fear not!" says the prophet Zephaniah in the first reading. (Zeph 3:14) He tells us the Lord is not coming to punish us for waiting till the last minute to put up the tree. The prophet says the Lord is in our midst, we are not alone. "He has turned away your enemies" (Zeph 3:15), enemies like fear, doubts, and loneliness. And as if that wasn't good enough, he says that the Lord rejoices over us! How many times have you wondered if you could ask the Lord for help? Zephaniah reminds us that the Lord is happy to help. And St. Paul says the same thing in the second reading: "Have no anxiety at all. . .make your requests known to God." (Phil 4:6) That is where Advent comes in. We can look forward to the Lord's presence in our lives. We can be confident of his love for us. That is why faith and hope are central to the theme of Advent. Our faith in God's love for us gives us hope that he will support us in our weakness and fill us with the joy he has

OVER US. Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co.

December 8, 2024

**Online \$2,835.50 In-Pew \$ Total \$ Poor Box: \$91.00 Votive Candles: \$171.00
Religious Retirement Fund: \$1,490.00**

December 9, 2024

Immaculate Conception Collection: \$991.00



Third Sunday of Advent

First Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-18a

A savior is promised to Israel.

Responsorial Psalm: Isaiah 12:2-3,4,5-6

A song of praise to God our savior

Second Reading: Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice always because the Lord is near.

Gospel Reading: Luke 3:10-18

John the Baptist teaches the path of repentance and announces Christ.

Background on the Gospel Reading

This Sunday's Gospel continues last week's focus on John the Baptist and his role in preparing the way for Christ. Recall that last week's reading described John's appearance in the desert and established his connection with the prophetic tradition of Israel. If we were to read Luke's Gospel continuously, we would learn about John the Baptist challenging the crowds who came to him and calling upon them to show evidence of their repentance. John tells his listeners that they cannot rely on their lineage as Israelites because children of Abraham can be raised up from stones. Repentance, rather, must be observable in one's actions. Here, Luke is continuing to set up two important themes of his Gospel message: the Christian faith is expressed in one's actions, and the call to salvation is extended to everyone, Jews and Gentiles.

In today's Gospel reading, the crowds ask John the Baptist for specifics. What evidence of repentance is required? John replies by naming concrete actions: crowds should share their food and cloaks; tax collectors should be just; soldiers should act fairly. The concern for justice is a hallmark of Luke's Gospel.

When the crowd begins to wonder if John the Baptist might be the Messiah, John interprets his baptism and makes it clear that his ministry is in preparation for the Messiah. John the Baptist knows his place and role in God's plan of salvation. By encouraging the crowd to act similarly in accordance with their stations in life, John's teaching suggests that each person has a role to play in God's salvation. It is the great mystery of our salvation that God permits and even asks for human cooperation in his divine plans.

The third Sunday of Advent is also called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is a Latin word that means "rejoice." This name is taken from the entrance antiphon for Sunday's Mass, which is also echoed in today's second reading from the Paul's letter to the Philippians. Some people mark this Sunday by lighting a pink candle instead of a purple one on their Advent wreath. It is a reminder that the Advent season is a season of joy because our salvation is already at hand.

AN AUTISM CHRISTMAS

Twass the night before Christmas, and all through the house...

The noises were different, with more people about.
I don't like not knowing, what to expect
I need my routine and space to reflect.

I want to keep eating, my usual food
Not talking to visitors, doesn't mean I'm rude.
I love all my presents and having no school,
But it can feel overwhelming, with new rituals and rules.

I may not react, like other children do
But I really am grateful, for my presents from you.
So be gentle with me, be patient and kind
And remember your world, looks different to mine.

Week 1 Hope	Week 2 Faith
 Reminds us... Jesus is coming Bible verse Romans 15: 12-13 Bible verse Luke 2:10 Reminds us... The joy at the coming birth of Jesus	 Reminds us... To prepare the way of the Lord Bible verse Luke 3:4-6 Bible verse Luke 2:14 Reminds us... "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace for those he favours"
Week 3 Joy	Week 4 Peace
 Reminds us... The joy at the coming birth of Jesus	 Reminds us... "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace for those he favours"

American Martyrs Christmas Mass Schedule

5pm Christmas Eve

12 Midnight

8:30am

10:30am

12:30pm



AMERICAN MARTYRS
ADVENT RECONCILIATION
MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2024

HOURS

9am + 11am

2pm + 5pm

6pm + 8pm



DJ J Antonio returns!!

New Year's Eve Party

*Hot Buffet, Dancing, Beverages, BYOB
Dessert, Champagne Toast*

8:00 PM TO 1:00 AM

HOSTED BY AMERICAN MARTYRS
COLUMBIETTES

79-43 BELL BOULEVARD
BAYSIDE, NY 11364

(Sullivan Center - church parking lot entrance)

Early Bird Special available - buy before December 4th

\$65 (AGES 15+), \$30 (AGES 6-12), FREE (0-5)

Bought between December 4th - December 23rd**

RSVP TO FRAN BY DECEMBER 23RD

FOR MORE INFO

LISSIETU@AOL.COM / CALL OR TEXT 347-338-0595

American Martyrs Columbiettes - New Year's Eve Tear off - 8pm to 1am

Tickets Purchased

Before Dec. 4th

Adults \$65

Child \$30

Dec. 4th thru Dec. 23rd **

Adults \$75

Child \$35

First and Last Name _____

Phone# _____

of Adults (ages 15+) _____

of Children (ages 6-14) _____

of Infants (0-5; FREE) _____

**Tickets not sold at the door.

Date: _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Make checks payable to:

American Martyrs
Columbiettes

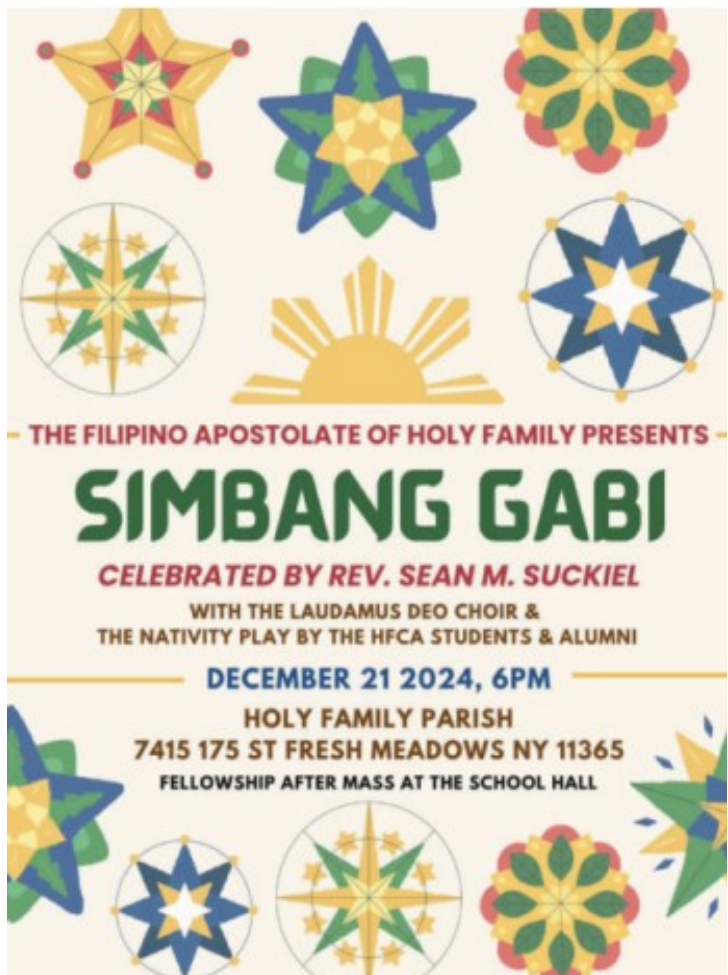
Mail cash/checks to:

American Martyrs
Church
c/o Fran for NYE
79-43 Bell Boulevard
Queens, NY 11364

American Martyrs Christmas Novena Continues



December Novena December 12 – December 20



Marguerite's Pantry - Saturday morning 12/21

Volunteers are needed at Marguerite's Pantry at Our Lady of Fatima RC Church, 25-02 80th St. in East Elmhurst. Set-up begins at 9:00 AM which is when the greatest number of volunteers are needed. Many hands make light work so please just show up if you can and when you can for as long as you can.

Monthly Mass For The Helpers of God's Precious Infants

8am on Saturday December 22
Our Lady of Sorrows
104-11 37th Avenue
Corona, NY 11368

Many will
rejoice because
of His birth

Luke 1:14





Sacred Heart of Jesus Bayside invites parents/guardians with children/adults with all special needs or IEP's to join us to share and exchange ideas in an informal setting.

For information contact Mrs. Lyons at 718-631-1307 or email at shreligiousdbayside@yahoo.com.

Meetings are at 10:00 AM in the Church Hall on the following dates:

Thursday January 9
Tuesday February 11
Wednesday March 12



Holy Family Mass Schedule

8:30am Monday - Saturday

Sunday Schedule

5pm Vigil Mass 7:30am + 9am + 10:30am + 12 Noon + 5pm



THE FOUR WEEKS OF ADVENT

During the first two weeks of Advent we light the first two purple candles. The Third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete (Rejoice) Sunday. On this day we celebrate that our waiting for the birth of Jesus on Christmas day is almost over. Rose is a liturgical color that is used to signify joy, so we light the single pink candle on the third Sunday of Advent. Then on the fourth Sunday of Advent, the final purple candle is lit to mark the final week of prayer and penance as we wait expectantly for the soon-coming birth of the King of Kings. Traditionally, each of the four Advent candles have a deeper meaning which you can read more about in many Advent prayer books that are available.

The 1st Sunday of Advent symbolizes Hope with the "Prophet's Candle" reminding us that Jesus is coming.

The 2nd Sunday of Advent symbolizes Faith with the "Bethlehem Candle" reminding us of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.

The 3rd Sunday of Advent symbolizes Joy with the "Shepherd's Candle" reminding us of the Joy the world experienced at the coming birth of Jesus.

The 4th Sunday of Advent symbolizes Peace with the "Angel's Candle" reminding us of the message of the angels: "Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men."



DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN
SERVING BROOKLYN AND QUEENS

Monday,
DECEMBER 23, 2024
7:30 PM

FESTIVAL OF
LESSONS
AND
Carols

featuring
THE DIOCESAN CHOIR
and the
RESURRECTION-ASCENSION
JUNIOR CHOIR



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CENTER
7200 Douglaston Pkwy, Douglaston, NY 11362

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

SATURDAY/SUNDAY DECEMBER 21/22

Lectors

5pm Vigil: Getulio Cury
8:30am: Jillian Minarik
10:30am: Paul Williams
12:30 Maureen Henry

Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

5pm: Mary Ann and Gregg Schreiber + Terry Marchia
8:30: Donna Sosna + Stephen Sica Joe Timpa
10:30am: Johanna Zafferese + John Limberg
Katie Caruso + Theresa Asche

12:30pm: Stephen Barry + Bernie Liu

Acolyte/Altar Servicers Schedule

SATURDAY/SUNDAY DECEMBER 21/22

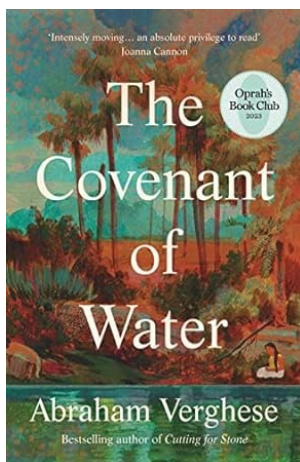
Saturday 5pm Vigil
Jose + Landon + Sophia

Sunday 8:30AM :
Julianna + Vincent + Omar

Sunday 10:30AM:
Lilly + Edward + Katarina

Sunday 12:30PM:
Brook + Madison + Aya

**Next Meeting of the Book of the Month Club
Will Take Place in the Murray Center on
Monday Evening January 27 at 7pm**



**The Book of the Month is
Abraham Verghese's
The Covenant of Water**

**Rosary Societys
Altar Linen Schedule**



December 15: Mary Galazin
December 22: Carol Fortune
December 29: Nancy Marchi
January 5: Nancy Hill
January 12: Mary Galazin
January 19: Carol Fortune
January 26: Nancy Marchi
February 2: Nancy Hill
February 9: Mary Galazin

If you are unable to do a week please call
Carol 718 + 631 + 0896



Father Vincent Capodanno

May God who has offered healing and strength through the hands of the His only Son, Our Lord, and through Christ's many servants grant me the favor of His healing hand through the intercession of His servant, **Father Vincent Capodanno**, priest, missionary, and chaplain, who always sought to heal and comfort the wounded and dying on the field of battle.



**American Martyrs Catholic War Veterans
Post 1772 ON GOING RECRUITMENT**

If you served in the United States Military PLEASE Consider joining our Post.
FOR MORE INFO CALL RAY 917-515-9102



Annual Christmas Mitten Drive Is Back



Please share your "gently" used or new adult & children
Gloves, Mittens, Scarves, Hats to warm those in need.

Place them in the boxes as you enter church and we will do the rest!



Mitten Drive is during the entire Christmas Season!!!

The Presentation of The Gifts at Mass



Before Mass each day the gifts of bread and wine are placed at the break of American Martyrs. If you are at Mass and the mass is being celebrated in memory of a loved one please feel free to sit near the gifts and bring them to the altar, where they will become the Body and Blood of Christ. If you are at Mass and no one gets up to bring the gifts to the altar, please feel free to bring them to the altar yourself. This is a parish celebration and we are all parishioners.

American Martyrs Rectory Office Hours

**Monday - Thursday
9am - 12 noon + 1pm - 4pm**

**Friday and Saturday
9am - 12 noon + 1pm - 3pm**

After Hours by Appointment

REJOICE!

Today has traditionally been called Gaudete Sunday. The Latin tag is derived from Paul's appeal in the second reading to rejoice always in the Lord, and the Latin Mass text based on that reading. The irony and paradox of this Christian joy is underlined by the fact that Paul wrote those words in prison. But from there he could see the progress of God's work. Is it obvious to us? We feel that this is not the time for joy when there is so much suffering and moral evil. It is interesting, then, that the first reading is from the prophet Zephaniah, who is almost exclusively concerned with gloomy visions of Judgment Day. Today the Church selects the only optimistic text in Zephaniah, in which the prophet has been touched by the spirit of joy.

This, we are assured on all sides, is the season of joy. Let us recapture that feeling of joy in our lives and reflect it to those who are joyless.
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No man is a failure who has friends!

**Grandpa - faithful
to attend church.
Dad - attending
church is optional.
Son - attending church
is unnecessary.
Grandson - Jesus who?**



CHRISTMAS FAIR

Thank You to all the Volunteers.



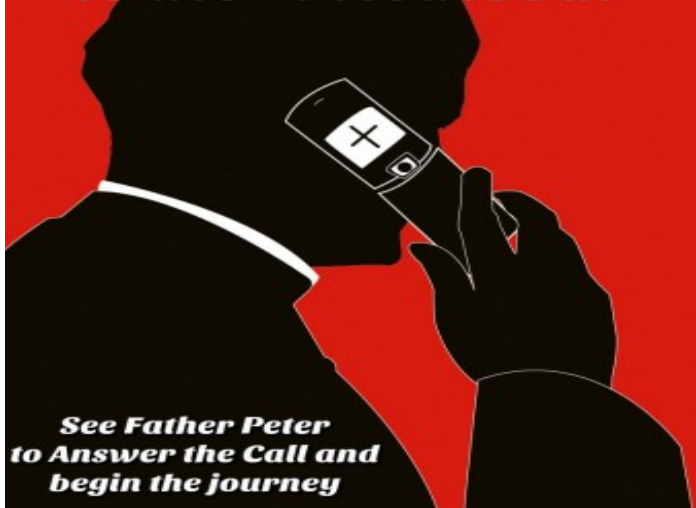
your time helped make the
Fair a total success



† St. Vincent de Paul
Society of

Neighbors helping neighbors.®

**Is God Calling you
to the Priesthood?**



See Father Peter
to Answer the Call and
begin the journey

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"

Thoughts as you prepare for Christmas with Floater and Smitty

Floater: Inventor of the Wind Chill Factor died recently, he was 88, but felt like he was 63

Smitty: A hypnotist once convinced me I was a soft, malleable metal with an atomic number of 82.. I'm easily lead...

Floater: If someone calls you fat, just ignore them. You're bigger than that!

Smitty: In a span of 11 years 115 people died in a weightlifting accident at the gym. In the same 11 years only 1 person died eating a donut, "Make Good Choices"

Floater: When people give me directions and say 'you can't miss it,' -- buddy, you have no idea what I'm capable of.

Smitty: "How to remove leaves from your lawn," by Ray King.

Floater: The most embarrassing moment in my golfing was having to get my golf ball retriever regripped.

Smitty: Did you know ants never get sick, its because they have little Anty Bodies.

Floater: Daffy Duck and Elmer Fudd break into a distillery. Daffy turns to Elmer and says: "Is this Whiskey? Elmer said: "Yes, but not as whiskey as wobbling a bank!"

Smitty: NY Yankee Aaron Judge will be at Times Square this New Year's Eve so he can drop the ball.

Floater: The bartender asked; "If you are drinking to forget, please pay in advance

Smitty: My wife an I drove from NYC to Tampa FL. A hotel clerk asked us if we take turns driving. I said "Of course! There's no way to drive in a straight line."

Floater: I'm pretty sure I seized the wrong day!

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


Pampers®



Please Leave Diapers @ Entrance to American Martyrs

PRAY FOR
SEMINARIANS
Saint Charles Borromeo, pray for our future priests

Follow Bishop
Robert Brennan
on Facebook

Click here or search Bishop
Robert Brennan on Facebook.



FIRST PLACE
CPA award winner

Best Facebook Account – Diocesan Bishop



10 DAYS TILL CHRISTMAS



17 DAYS TILL NEW YEAR



33 DAYS TILL BILL BUZZONE'S BIRTHDAY **HAPPY BIRTHDAY**



57 DAYS TILL PITCHERS + CATCHERS