

January 26, 2025
23rd Week in Ordinary Time
American Martyrs

Pastoral Staff
Rev. Peter J. Rayder, Pastor
Deacon Stan Galazin
Very Rev. Francis K. Asagba (in residence)

Parish Staff
Mrs. Theresa Asche
Director of Religious Education
Mrs. Patricia Adams
Office/Business
Mr. Jose Espindola
Parish Grounds

America Martyrs RC Church
79-43 Bell Blvd.
Oakland Gardens, NY 11364

Rectory: 718 + 464 + 4582
Religious Education 718 + 464 + 6411

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil at 4pm
Sunday 9am + 11:30am

Monday - Friday at 8:30am
Saturday Prayer Service at 8:30am

Holy Days
7:30pm Vigil + 8:30am + 7:30pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturdays 3pm - 3:45pm
Or Call Rectory for Appointment

Rectory Office Hours
Monday - Thursday: 9am -12noon and 1pm - 4pm
Friday - Saturday 9am - 12noon and 1pm - 3pm

Website: www.amparish.org
Email: Americanmartyrs@aol.com



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 3:00pm—3:45pm (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 January 20 2025

Parish Goal: \$66,706
Pledged: \$155,862
Paid: \$155,220
Pledges: 161



“Having faith does not mean having no difficulties, but having the strength to face them, knowing we are not alone.”

— Pope Francis

Remember in your Prayers the Sick of American Martyrs

Msgr. John Keppler, Rosalinda Apostadero, Elizabeth Coppola, Jen Flynn Limberg, Denis Keane, James + Anne Kingston, Elsie & Frank Paukowits, Martin Thaila, Vijay Devassy, Anita Mascoli, John O'Brien, John Buglione, John Sheridan Jr., Tom Holloran, Arlene Scherne, Vincent Sheridan, Jessie Carlone, Jackson Monchal, 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, Anna Bischoff, Robert Galazin, Stephen Feit, Richard San Severino, Jeremiah J. Doran, Vita Mazzola, Steven Troutman and Baby Charlie 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 January 26th + February 1st

9am

Mary Lou Horan (Requested by Lansden Family)

11:30am

Healing of Rick San Severino (Requested by)

Margart Mullooly (Requested by Susan, Rose & John)

George Panagiotopolos (Requested by Joseph Grisafi)

Monday 8:30am

Blessed Mother Mary (Requested by Migene Wippler)

Tuesday 8:30am

St. Anthony (Requested by Migene Wippler)

Wednesday 8:30am

John Galanaugh (Requested by American Martyrs Knights of Columbus)

Thursday 8:30am

Agnes Walsh (Requested by American Martyrs Knights of Columbus)

Friday 8:30am

Agnes Walsh (Requested by Ray + Nancy)

Saturday 8:30am Communion/Prayer Service

Catholic War Veterans

Saturday 4pm

Janette Gadell (Requested by Gadell 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...**

**Sister Agnes Patricia Bracken, DW
Patricia Touhey
Charles J. Marinello, Jr.
Mary M. Wedemeyer**

***The Gifts of Bread + Wine
In loving memory of
Jack Bills
(Requested by Ann Marie)***



***The Gifts of Altar Sanctuary Candles
In Thanksgiving for Deacon Stan & Mary
(Requested by Mom)***

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 in Ordinary Time January 26, 2025

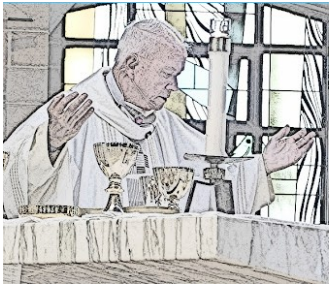


**"You are the body of Christ and individually members of it."
Are you being called to strengthen His body through a vocation
to the priesthood, diaconate or the consecrated life?**

**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... Read it and Pass it on...

The Red Boat

A man was hired to paint a boat. With his paint, brushes, and a steady hand, he began coating the boat in a vibrant red, as the owner had requested.

As he worked, he noticed a small hole in the hull, barely noticeable to the untrained eye. Without saying a word, he repaired it, considering it part of his job.

Once he finished painting, the owner paid him, and the man left, content with his day's work.

The next morning, however, the owner returned, holding a check far more generous than what was owed for the painting.

Surprised, the painter asked, "Sir, you've already paid me for the paint job. What is this for?"

The owner smiled and said, "This isn't for the painting. It's for fixing the hole in the boat."

The painter, puzzled, replied, "But that was such a small thing—certainly not worth this amount."

"My friend, you don't understand," the owner began. "When I asked you to paint the boat, I didn't even know about the hole myself. After you finished and the paint dried, my children took the boat out on a fishing trip without telling me. I was away, and when I got home, I was horrified to realize they had gone out in a boat with a hole in the hull."

The painter listened intently as the man continued, his voice now thick with emotion. "I was terrified, thinking they might never return. But when they came back safely, I rushed to check the boat and found that you had repaired the hole."

You didn't just fix a boat—you saved my children's lives. That's something I can never fully repay."

The painter stood silent, absorbing the weight of the man's words.

The owner added softly, "Sometimes, the smallest gestures can have the greatest impact. What seemed insignificant to you meant the world to me."

In life, we may unknowingly fix many "holes" for others—offering help, mending hearts, or simply being there when needed. We often don't realize how much those small actions can mean to someone else. You never know when your quiet kindness might save a life. Keep helping, keep caring, for the world needs more boat painters. Author unknown



Be Kind This Week
Fr. Peter

Online \$890.50	In-Pew \$5,007	Total \$5,897.50	Poor Box: \$197.00	Votive Candles: \$238.00
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Diocese of Los Angeles
\$2,331.00



Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: *Nehemiah 8:2-4a,5-6,8-10*

Ezra reads from the book of the Law and interprets it for all to understand.

Responsorial Psalm: *Psalm 19:8,9,10,15*

A song in praise of the Law of the Lord

Second Reading: *1 Corinthians 12:12-14,27*

Paul explains that all were baptized into the one body of Christ.

Gospel Reading: *Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21*

In the synagogue at Nazareth, Jesus reads aloud from the scroll of the prophet Isaiah and announces that this Scripture is now fulfilled.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today's Gospel reading combines two separate passages taken from the Gospel of Luke. First we hear the opening verses where Luke establishes the purpose of his Gospel. His style is typical of polished Greek and Roman literature. In this passage, we learn that Luke may have written to a specific person, Theophilus; but the word Theophilus may also be a general reference, functioning as the phrase "Dear Reader" might in contemporary writing. In Greek, the word Theophilus translates as "lover of God."

Today's Gospel reading then skips several chapters in which one would find the Infancy Narratives, Jesus' baptism by John, the temptations Jesus faced in the desert, and the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. In chapter four of Luke's Gospel, we hear that Jesus is in his hometown of Nazareth, attending the synagogue on the Sabbath, which is said to be his custom. In this account, we find another important clue that Jesus lived as a faithful, observant Jew. We will continue to read from Luke's Gospel in sequence for the next two Sundays.

As Jesus stands in the synagogue, he reads from the scroll handed to him; it contains the words of the prophet Isaiah. At this early moment in his ministry, Jesus announces his mission in continuity with Israel's prophetic tradition. This reading from Isaiah defines Jesus' ministry. We will find more evidence of this as we continue to read from Luke's Gospel throughout the year. Jesus' ministry will include bringing glad tidings to the poor, liberty to captives, healing to the sick, freedom to the oppressed, and proclaiming a year acceptable to the Lord.

Through this text from Isaiah, Jesus announces God's salvation. The "year acceptable to the Lord" is a reference to the Jewish tradition of

Sabbath years and jubilee. The Sabbath year was observed every seventh year. It was a year of rest when land was left fallow and food stores were to be shared equally with all. A year of Jubilee was celebrated every fiftieth year, the conclusion of seven cycles of Sabbath years. It was a year of renewal in which debts were forgiven and slaves were freed.

This tradition of Jubilee is the framework for God's promise of salvation. And yet in Jesus, something new begins. Jesus not only announces God's salvation, he brings this salvation about in his person. Jesus is Yahweh's Anointed One, filled with the Spirit of God. The Kingdom of God is now at hand. It is made present in Jesus, in his life, death, and Resurrection. Jesus will send the Holy Spirit so that the Kingdom of God can be fulfilled. The Holy Spirit is Jesus' gift to the Church. The Holy Spirit enables the Church to continue the mission of Jesus. When we do what Jesus did—bring glad tidings to the poor, liberty to captives, healing to the sick, and freedom to the oppressed—we serve the Kingdom of God.

Feast of St. Blaise Bishop and Martyr

Next Monday, February 3rd is the feast of St. Blaise.
The Blessing of Throats will take place after 8:30am Mass
Or you can knock on rectory door from 10am – 3pm

St. Blaise Prayer

"Through the intercession of Saint Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from every disease of the throat and from every other illness. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. I thank you, blessed St. Blaise, for interceding on my behalf and I know that I will be healed. Amen."



GLUTEN SENSITIVITY

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

AMERICAN MARTYRS SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

3PM SATURDAY CONFESSIONS

4PM SATURDAY VIGIL

**9AM SUNDAY
AND
11:30AM SUNDAY**



NEW YORK METS PITCHERS AND CATCHERS



**REPORT ON FEBRUARY 12 TO PORT ST. LUCIE
IN 18 DAYS**



Heart to Heart Ministry
An Extra Tablespoon of Love!



**A Tambourine of Hope
and a Cup of Faith!**
A Special Women's Brunch Retreat
There will be a Donation Basket.

Guest Christian Musician **Alverlis**

Saturday, February 15, 2025
9:30 AM - Noon

American Martyrs Parish, Sullivan Hall
79-43 Bell Blvd, Bayside, New York
(Accessible)

Parking entrance at corner of Bell Blvd. and Union Turnpike



Please R.S.V.P.

Fill out form below and mail to:
Sister Ave Clark, O.P.
Heart to Heart Ministry
151-58 17th Road
Whitestone, New York 11357

You may also RSVP to Sister Ave Clark
at 718-428-2471. (Speak directly to her)

Bring a friend, daughter and grandma too!
There will be a wonderful grace-filled and
happy message in that cup shared.

Name: _____

Phone No.: _____

No. of People Attending: _____ (Please List All Names Below)

Names: _____

www.h2h.nyc

ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY



REDMEN

ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY
FREE SPEECH AND HEARING EVALUATIONS

St. John's University Speech and Hearing Center
will be offering free speech and hearing evaluations from
February 3, 2025 through May 1, 2025

Call the center at 718 + 990 + 6480
to schedule an appointment or for more information.

Volunteers Needed to Participate in Corporal Work of Mercy **Feed the Hungry**



Saint Marguerite d'Youville
Foundress of the Grey Nuns

Marguerite's Pantry at Our Lady of Fatima Parish
2538 80th St, East Elmhurst, NY www.margueritespantry.org

Saturday morning February 8th from 9:00AM until 1:30PM

Future Saturday dates 2025: March 8th, April 12th, May 10th, June 14th, July 19th

*For more information contact us at kofc14666fm@gmail.com www.kofcam.weebly.com

Come Pray with Us **Helpers of God's Precious Infants**

****each prayer vigil is followed by a Rosary procession and prayer outside of a local abortion provider**

This is not a demonstration nor protest, just peaceful prayer. 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.

- Saturday January 25th - 8:00 AM mass-Our Lady of Sorrows, 104-11 37th Ave, Corona
- Saturday February 15th - 7:30 AM mass-St Catherine of Genoa, 520 Linden Ave, Brooklyn
- Saturday March 15th - 7:30 AM mass- Our Lady of the Cenacle, 136-06 87th Ave, Richmond Hill
 - Saturday April 12th - 8:00 AM mass-St Charles Borromeo, 31 Sidney Pl, Brooklyn
- Saturday May 31st - 7:30 AM mass-Presentation of the BVM, 88-19 Parsons Blvd, Jamaica
 - Saturday June 28th - 8:00 AM mass-Our Lady of Sorrows, 104-11 37th Ave, Corona



You are called to stand up for life! To respect and defend the mystery of life always and everywhere, including the lives of unborn babies, giving real help and encouragement to mothers in difficult situations. You are called to work and pray against abortion.

— Pope John Paul II —

Respect Life Ministry at American Martyrs

<https://kofcam.weebly.com/respect-life.html>

Drive for the Troops American Martyrs Church + Catholic War Veterans Post 1772

The Catholic War Veterans will be collecting all items to send to our troops overseas on Saturday and Sunday, February 1st +2nd at all Masses at the doors of the Church



List of Items Needed:

Personal Items

**Razors
Shaving items
Shampoo + Conditioner
Deodorant
Soap or Body Wash
Toothbrush
Toothpaste
Mouth Wash + Dental Floss
Sun Block
Chap Stick
Lotion
Hand Sanitizer
Powder
Cotton Balls
Pain Reliever's
Cold Medicine**

Fun and Games

**Disposable Camera
Flying Discs
Jump Rope
CD + DVD's
Puzzles
Deck of Cards
Dominos
Paperback Books
Comic Books
Books**

Food Items

**Pre-Sweetened Powder Drink Mixes
Canned or Dried Fruit
Tuna and Chicken (Cans or Pouches)
Beef Jerky
Single Servings of Cereal
Instant Coffee
Tea Bags
Microwave Popcorn
Sardines
Instant Oatmeal
Granola Bars
Crackers
Spices
Hard Candy
Gum
Soup Cans
Nuts + Sunflower Seeds
Single Serving of Chips**

Practical Items

**Bandanas
Batteries
International Phone Cards
Mini Fans
Hand Warmers
Small Flashlights
Stamps
Paper + Envelopes
Pens + Pencils**

St. Michael the Archangel

Pope Francis is inviting Catholics throughout the world to pray the rosary every day to ask St. Michael the Archangel to protect the Church from the devil, who is always trying to separate us from God and from each other.

Pray the prayer together with your entire family after dinner, for your prayers may just be what is needed to protect you, your family and your Church. The prayer to St. Michael was composed by Pope Leo XIII.

Dear Archangel Michael, I call upon you in this moment of need, asking for your protection and guidance. As the powerful warrior of God, I trust in your ability to defend me from all harm and danger. I ask that you wrap me in your divine light, shielding me from any evil that may come my way.



SATURDAY MARCH 8, 2025 AT 5PM

**ST PATRICK'S DAY PARTY AT
AMERICAN MARTYRS CHURCH**



**RESERVE YOUR TICKETS
CALL OR TEXT NOW 631 505 1312**



**WATCH THE
SUPER BOWL
AMERICAN MARTYRS
(Sullivan Center)
On A 150" TV Screen**

RSVP IS REQUIRED

**Enjoy Heroes, snacks, water,
soda, coffee, desert
BYOB**

**Sunday February 9, 2025
Doors open at 5:30pm
Kick off scheduled for 6:30pm**

**Open to All Ages
Come join us!**

RESERVE YOUR SPOT

**RSVP IS A MUST
CALL or TEXT 631 505 1312
Or Email KofCAM14666@gmail.com**

Holy Family Catholic Academy Fresh Meadows

We are already planning for our 2025-2026 school year!
This year our nationwide Catholic Schools Week is from January 26th through February 1, 2025.

Plan to visit our academy on our
OPEN SCHOOL DAY WHICH WILL BE ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2025.
Stay tuned for more information or feel free to call our school at 718-969-2124.

Holy Family Mass Schedule



www.holyfamilyfm.org
175-20 74th Avenue Fresh Meadows, N.Y. 11366
(P): 718-969-2448 (F): 718-591-6166 (E): rectory@holyfamilyfm.org

8:30am Monday - Saturday
Sunday Schedule

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

FEAST DAY OF ST. BRIGID OF IRELAND



St. James Cathedral Basilica

(250 Cathedral Place, Brooklyn, NY 11201)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2025

1pm Mass

Followed By:

Irish Cultural Performances



Join Bishop Robert J. Brennan at
the **FIRST** Irish Apostolate celebration
of the Feast of Saint Brigid of Ireland



**Schedule for the Lectors and
Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
SATURDAY/SUNDAY FEBRUARY 1/2**

Lectors

4pm Vigil: Nestor Diaz
9am: Orlando Hernandez
11:30am: Stephen Barry

Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

4pm: Mary Ann & Gregg Schreiber + Lillian Santos + Iris Diaz

9am: Berta Hernandez + Theresa Asche + Jillian Minarik
 Katie Caruso + Anne Caruso

11:30am: Diana Iorio + Getulio Cury
 Bernie Liu + Maureen Henry

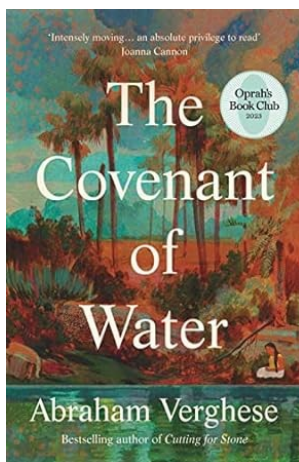
**Acolyte/Altar Servicers Schedule
SATURDAY/SUNDAY FEBRUARY 1/2**

Saturday 4pm VIGIL
 Omar + Julianna + Vincent

Sunday 9AM
 Lilly + Isabella + Vladimir

Sunday 11:30AM
 Katarina + Edward + Jose

**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**



January 26: Nancy Marchi
 February 2: Nancy Hill
 February 9: Mary Galazin
 February 16: Carol Fortune
 February 23: Nancy Marchi
 March 2: Nancy Hill
 March 9: Mary Galazin
 March 16: Carol Fortune
 March 23: Nancy Marchi

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



TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Saturdays' feast of the Presentation is a day for the blessing of candles. Why does liturgy require candles? In the first years of the church, worship was often at night, and candles and torches were carried from place to place within the worship space as needed. Candles were also a mark of festivity and hospitality when people gathered for prayer in homes, and later on in large buildings with thick walls and dark corners. But even after gaslight and electricity, candles were kept.

Part of the reason has to do with the warm, clean light of a candles flame. Candles are a good sign of the partnership of God and creation: wax made by bees, gathered and fashioned by human hands into something beautiful and useful. In order for the light to shine, the candle surrenders itself, almost as if it is pouring itself out so that the light can flood into the world. The candle of baptism, placed into our hands, and carried again and again, speaks silently of that same wisdom. If you would save your life, you must lose it. You must pour your life out like Christ so that you may be filled with the light of his love. --James Field, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co.

The Presentation of The Gifts at Mass



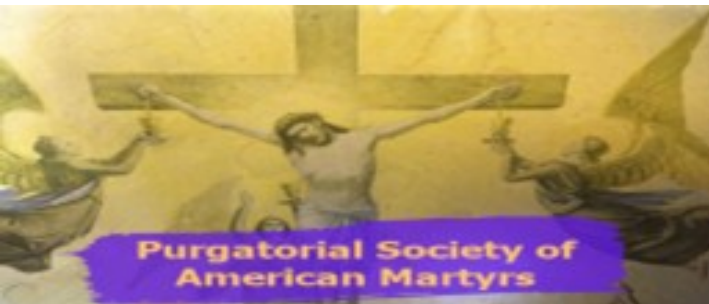
Before Mass each day the gifts of bread and wine are placed at the break of American Martyrs. If you are at Mass and the mass is being celebrated in memory of a loved one please feel free to sit near the gifts and bring them to the altar, where they will become the Body and Blood of Christ. If you are 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



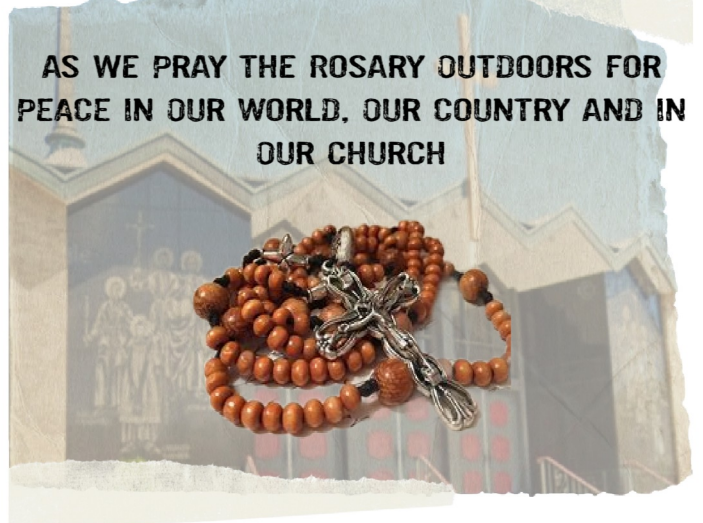
Purgatorial Society Enrollment in February 2025

Grace Reilly (Enrolled by Shoule Family)
Michael Reilly (Enrolled by Shoule Family)
Grace Shoule (Enrolled by Shoule Family)
Robert Shoule (Enrolled by Shoule Family)
Michal Jesiolkiewicz (Enrolled by Christine Jessik)
Stanislaw Jesiolkiewicz (Enrolled by Christine Jessik)
Marijana Jesiolkiewicz (Enrolled by Christine Jessik)

The Purgatorial Society enrolls a deceased loved one in 12 monthly Masses (starting on the month of enrollment) offered on the First Sunday of every month at the 10:30am Mass.

**BE A PART OF THE WORLD WIDE MOVEMENT
AND JOIN THE AMERICAN MARTYRS
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
FR. JOHN J. MURRAY COUNCIL #14666**

**AS WE PRAY THE ROSARY OUTDOORS FOR
PEACE IN OUR WORLD, OUR COUNTRY AND IN
OUR CHURCH**



**RAIN OR SHINE
EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 6PM**



Jubilee 2025

TIME

The holidays are well behind us; the year stretches out ahead. And what sort of year will it be? To judge by the words of Jesus in today's Gospel, it will be a year acceptable to the Lord. And Jesus surely didn't mean only the next three hundred sixty-five days facing his listeners at that time.

When Jesus announced the arrival of God's favor, it was a message for all time, for every year.

Similarly, we read today in Nehemiah how the people gathered with solemnity to hear God's word as though for the first time. They listened, and then fell to the ground and wept. But the prophet said, Today is holy . . . do not be sad, and do not weep.

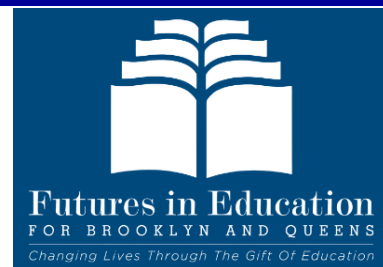
The year acceptable to the Lord is this year. The day that is holy is this day. The time to listen is now. What sort of year will you have? What sort of day? God's help is always here. What you do with each day can be holy and acceptable to the Lord if you but listen to and act on God's word.

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Tuition Assistance for Catholic Elementary Schools 2025 - 2026 School Year

Applications for Tuition Assistance for Catholic Elementary Schools (Grades K through 8) in the Diocese of Brooklyn and Queens For the 2025 + 2026 Academic Year is now open.

For more information, go to: www.futursineducation.org/ or call
Diocesan Futures in Education Office at 718 + 965 + 7340



Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Rejoicing in the Lord

In the first reading, Ezra gets a strange reaction from the people to whom he reads the book of the law. First they lie down, with faces to the ground, and then they all are weeping. Remember the background of this reading. The people of Israel had returned from exile and needed to become a unified nation. Most had never heard the laws, so when they learned what was expected of them and realized how much of the Law they had broken, they wept from shame. Many probably didn't know that they had been breaking the law. Others might have been overwhelmed with all the requirements of the law. Ezra and Nehemiah console the people by reminding them that their return makes this a day "holy to the LORD" (Nehemiah 8:10). He adds that they would draw strength from "rejoicing in the LORD." That may be good advice for us also.

We might find ourselves so trapped in sin that we think we could never be forgiven. We need to remember that Jesus loved sinners so much that he gave his life on the cross to free us from sin. No sin can be so bad that God's love cannot forgive it. In other words, God's forgiveness is only limited by our failure to ask for it. As the psalms say, God's mercy endures forever. In fact, the more I have to repent, the more God wants to forgive. So we can rejoice in the Lord's forgiveness and the Spirit will give us the strength to change our lives.

And what about those who find the law overwhelming? That usually means a lack of faith in God's willingness to help us or in our ability to do the best we can to live as Christians. It can also be because we have forgotten Jesus' saying that all of God's laws are contained in the command to love God and love our neighbor as we love ourselves. The more we come to accept God's presence in our lives and see God in others, the easier it becomes to keep the law of love. Tom Schmidt, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co

LOVE IN OUR WORKS

Our Lord does not care so much for the importance of our works as for the love with which they are done. --Teresa of Ávila



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:
Tuesday February 11

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

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COLUMBIETTES COUNCIL # 14666



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

Childhood Thoughts of Floater and Smitty

Floater: Plagiarism getting in trouble for something you didn't do..

Smitty: Beatlemania will never die. It seems they're still here, there, and everywhere.

Floater: It appears auto correct is my worst enema.

Smitty: Teacher: Use the word "detest" in a sentence. Me: I like math, but detest was very hard.

Floater: I've learned to make money at karaoke. So far, 3 bars are paying me to not sing at their pubs.

Smitty: I'm going to the Doctor because my leg keeps mooing. I think it's a calf injury.

Floater: A man tried to sell me a coffin today. I told him that's the last thing I need.

Smitty: Originally they were going to make 2 Yogi Bears, but they made a Boo-Boo.

Floater: French people give me the crepes!

Smitty: My cat is stuck on the church roof in Bayside. I think she's on a mission.

Floater: 95% of electric cars are sill on the road. The other 5% made it all the way home.

Smitty: I know many dolphin puns. But what's the porpoise?



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