American Martyrs February 16, 2025 The 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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 3pm—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

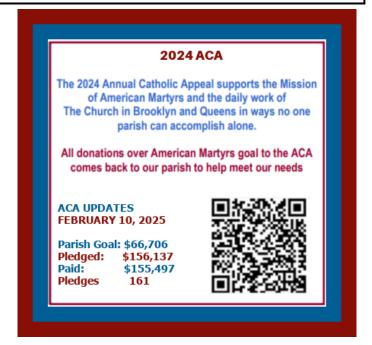
Call the Parish Office for information and appointment with a priest at least six months prior to the date you wish.

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





"Where there is truth, there is also light, but don't confuse light with the flash." 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 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, 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 <u>UNLESS</u> THERE IS A REQUEST FOR THE PERSON TO REMAIN ON THE PRAYER LIST FOR ANOTHER 3 WEEKS)

Mass Intentions Week of February 16th + February 22nd 9am

Diane Thomas (Requested by Ann Marie Sanfier)

11:30am

Jack Bills (Requested by Ann Marie)

Patrick Zafferese (Requested by the Family)

Ernesta Mongelli (Requested by the Family)

Monday 8:30am

Shanahan + Kearney Families (Requested by the Family)

Tuesday 8:30am

Elizabeth Humdhrey (Requested by Pat Merola)

Wednesday 8:30am

In Thanks to Blessed Mother (Requested by Migene Wippler)

Thursday 8:30am

In Thanks to Blessed Mother (Requested by Migene Wippler)

Friday 8:30am

Roselino, Guillermo, Richardo + Herman Ramirez Family(Requested by Cecilia + Faustro Frustaei)

Saturday 8:30am Communion/Prayer Service

Catholic War Veterans

Saturday 4pm

Doreena Pepe (Requested by Ann Marie Sanifer)



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...

Franco Ventrella

The Gifts of Bread + Wine Healing of "Baby" Charlie Woods



(Requested by Fr. Peter)



The Gifts of Altar Sanctuary Candles In Thanks for Deacon Stan

(Requested by Mary)

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

February 16, 2025 Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time



"Blessed are those who trust in the Lord."

Are you being called to deepen your trust in the love of the
Lord by serving Him as a priest, deacon, religious sister or brother?

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



This Could be you



My Side of the Altar

Dear Faithful People of God,

Some years ago, Bill Gates gave this speech to Mt. Whitney High School in Visalia, California. Wonderful words of wisdom anytime of year—including this bitter cold time in New York City! Agree or disagree think about it and pass it on

Rule 1: Life is not fair - get used to it.

Rule 2: The world won't care about your self-esteem. The world will expect you to accomplish something BEFORE you feel good about yourself.

Rule 3: You will NOT make \$40,000 a year right out of high school. You won't be a vice-president with a car phone until you earn both.

Rule 4: If you think your teacher is tough, wait till you get a boss.

Rule 5: Flipping burgers is not beneath your dignity. Your grandparents had a different word for burger flipping – they called it opportunity.

Rule 6: If you mess up, it's not your parents' fault, so don't whine about your mistakes, learn from them.

Rule 7: Before you were born, your parents weren't as boring as they are now, they got that way from paying your bills, cleaning your clothes and listening to you talk about how cool you are. So before you save the rain forest from the parasites of your parents' generation, try delousing the closet in your own room.

Rule 8: Your school may have done away with winners and losers, but life has not. In some schools, they have abolished failing grades and they'll give you as many times as you want to get the right answer. This doesn't bear the slightest resemblance to ANYTHING in real life.

Rule 9: Life is not divided into semesters. You don't get summers off and very few employers are interested in helping you find yourself. Do that on your own time.

Rule 10: Television is NOT real life. In real life people actually have to leave the coffee shop and go to jobs.

Rule 11: Be nice to nerds. Chances are you'll end up working for one.

At the same time, we are called to love this world back into life with our lives rooted in the Lord Jesus. Lives rooted in prayer and grounded in faith. Also, may we never lost perspective Keep reading

One Sunday a church with a large congregation invited a guest priest to offer the mass and to preach. When he got up to preach he said, "There are three points to my homily." Some people yawned when they heard this. They heard this many times before and figured they would be quite bored by the time he finally got to the end of point three.

"My first point is this: Today there are about two billion people who are starving in our world because of lack of food." The reaction in the pews was much the same, since they had heard that kind of statement many times before.

"My second point," he said. People sat up and started to listen. He was already on the second point. "My second point is that most of you don't give a damn!" The priest paused for a moment as gasps and rumblings flowed through the congregation.

"My third point is that the real tragedy among Christians today is that many of you are now more concerned that I said 'damn' than you are that I said two billion people are starving to death." He then left the pulpit and sat down.

The whole homily took less than a minute. It is in many ways one of the most powerful homilies ever given. The preacher was reminding us we are not being called by Jesus to only piety, but to genuine morality. We are being called to action, not to fancy words.

Christianity is about what you practice, not just about you profess. Keep smiling, Fr. Peter

Happiness and moral duty are inseparably connected. -George Washington



February 9

Online \$ 1,390.50 In-Pew \$3,693.00 Total \$5,083.50 Poor Box: \$87.00 Votive Candles: \$99.00

Fuel Collection: \$1,300.00

Weekend Snow Wiped Out Our Weekly Collection





Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time February 16, 2025

First Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-8
Put trust and hope in the Lord, not in human beings.

Responsorial Psalm: *Psalm* 1:1-4,6 Blessed are those who follow the law of the Lord.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:12,16-20
Our hope for resurrection is sure because Christ has been raised from the dead.

Gospel Reading: *Luke 6:17,20-26*Jesus teaches the crowd the way to happiness.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Last Sunday we heard Jesus call Peter to be his disciple. Jesus then travels with Peter and the other disciples. Luke reports acts of healing (a person with leprosy and a paralytic man) and the call of Levi, the tax collector. Jesus also replies to questions from the Pharisees regarding fasting and the observance of the Sabbath. In the verses immediately before today's gospel reading, Jesus is reported to have chosen 12 men from among his disciples to be apostles. *Apostle* is a Greek word that means "one who is sent."

Today's gospel reading is the beginning of what is often called the Sermon on the Plain. We find a parallel to this passage in <u>Matthew 5:1-7,11</u> that is often called the Sermon on the Mount. As these titles suggest, there are differences and similarities between these gospel readings.

When spoken from the mountaintop in Matthew's Gospel, we can't miss the impression that Jesus is speaking with the authority and voice of God. The mountaintop is a symbol of closeness to God. Those who ascend the mountain see God and speak for God; recall the story of Moses and the <u>Ten Commandments</u>. As Luke introduces the location of Jesus' teaching, Jesus teaches on level ground, alongside the disciples and the crowd. Luke presents Jesus' authority in a different light. He is God among us.

Another distinction found in Luke's version is the audience. Luke's Sermon on the Plain is addressed to Jesus' disciples, although in the presence of the crowd; Matthew's Sermon on the Mount is addressed to the crowd. In keeping with this style, the <u>Beatitudes</u> in Luke's Gospel sound more personal than those in Matthew's Gospel—Luke uses the article "you" whereas Matthew uses "they" or "those." There is also a difference in number: Matthew describes eight beatitudes; Luke presents just four, each of which has a parallel warning.

The form of the Beatitudes found in Luke's and Matthew's Gospel is not unique to Jesus. Beatitudes are found in the Old Testament, such as in the Psalms and in Wisdom literature. They are a way to teach about who will find favor with God. The word *blessed* in this context might be translated as "happy," "fortunate," or "favored."

As we listen to this Gospel, the Beatitudes jar our sensibilities. Those who are poor, hungry, weeping, or persecuted are called blessed. This is, indeed, a Gospel of reversals. Those often thought to have been forgotten by God are called blessed. In the list of "woes," those whom we might ordinarily describe as blessed by God are warned about their peril. Riches, possessions, laughter, reputation . . . these are not things that we can depend upon as sources of eternal happiness. They not only fail to deliver on their promise; our misplaced trust in them will lead to our demise. The ultimate peril is in misidentifying the source of our eternal happiness.

The Beatitudes are often described as a framework for Christian living. Our vocation as Christians is not to be first in this world, but rather to be first in the eyes of God. We are challenged to examine our present situation in the context of our ultimate horizon, the Kingdom of God.

Super Bowl LIX
"Put it in the Books"
Thank You to the Knights of Columbus
Joe Timpa, Peter Bootsma, Carl Reyes
and as always the two behind the scene
Theresa Asche and Deacon Stan!









St Patrick's Day Party
American Martyrs (Sullivan Centre)

5pm Saturday March 8, 2025
Irish buffet, Music, Step Dancers, Raffles & BYOB

NO TICKETS SOLD AT THE DOOR RESERVE YOUR TICKETS NOW

CALL or TEXT 631 505 1312 or Email KofCAM14666@gmail.com



If you leave payment at the Rectory, include this stub with check payable to Knights of Columbus

For ZELLE or VENMO info call 631 505 1312

NAME:		PHONE	
	Number of	Leprechauns attending	
\$45 tickets		\$30 tickets	\$25 tickets

Tickets are not issued. You will be added to a guest list Visit our website KofCAM.weebly.com Join the Knights

Toy Story is Rated Number 1

The number One Movie in the "Top 100+ Family Movies Of All Time," by Ranker

"Toy Story" holds the record as being the first full-length film to be fully animated via computers. It's about a group of toys that comes to life when they're out from under the eyes of their watchful humans. When Woody and Buzz get left behind on moving day, the formerly feuding rivals must work together if they're going to escape the clutches of their evil neighbor Sid and be reunited with their boy, Andy. Ranker is a data-driven media company







St. Francis Hospital Outreach Bus

Free Health Screenings

Includes a brief cardiac history, blood pressure and a simple blood test for cholesterol and diabetes for adults 18 and older.

We also provide patient education and referrals.

No appointment is required.

American Martyrs
79-43 Bell Boulevard, Bayside, NY 11364
Friday, March 14, 2025
10:00am-2:00pm

(Last screening at 1:45pm)

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



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

Saturday morning March 8th Future Saturday: April 12, May 10, June 14 and July 19

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

www.kofcam.weebly.com

Come Pray with Us

Helpers of God's Precious Infants

http://www.helpersbrooklynny.org/

Upcoming Prayer Vigils - 2025

**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 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



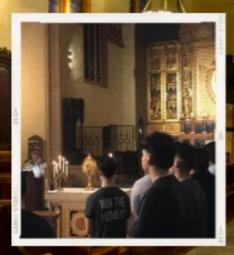
Respect Life Ministry at American Martyrs

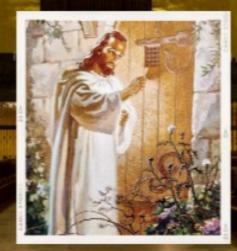
https://kofcam.weebly.com/respect-life.html



BISHOP'S ANNUAL VOCATION RETREAT

SEMINARY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
440 WEST NECK ROAD, HUNTINGTON
FEBRUARY 28 - MARCH 2, 2025
OPEN TO YOUNG MEN AGES 16 - 22







ADVANCE REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Email: cdost@diobrook.org Vocation Office: 718.827.2454

Holy Family Mass Schedule



8:30am Monday - Saturday Sunday Schedule 5pm Vigil Mass 7:30am + 9am + 10:30am + 12 Noon + 5pm

Special Needs Parents Group



We invite parents/guardians with children/adults with all special needs or IEP's to join us to share and exchange ideas in an informal setting at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Bayside. We will be meeting at 10:00 AM on Tuesdays March 11, April 8. May 6 and June 10

For further information please contact Georgette Lyons at 718-631-1307 or email ashreligiousedbayside@yahoo.com



Tuition Assistance for Catholic Elementary Schools 2025 - 2026 School Year

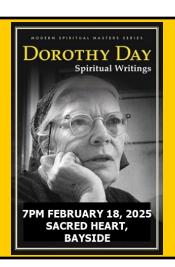
Applications for Tuition Assistance for Catholic Elementary Schools (Grades K through 8) in the Diocese of Brooklyn and Queens For the 2025 + 2026 Academic Year is now open.

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

Dorothy Day: A Pilgrim of Hope
A Presentation by Kevin Ahern, Ph.D.
Professor of Religious Studies, Manhattan University

Sacred Heart Church 215-35 38th Avenue Bayside, NY 11361 7PM February 18, 2025

Admission is free! Sponsored by Deanery #5
All are welcome to attend. Light refreshments will be served.
For more information contact: Sacred Heart Church: 718 428-2200
or visit website at sacredheartbayside-queens.org



PLEASE BE MINDFUL!

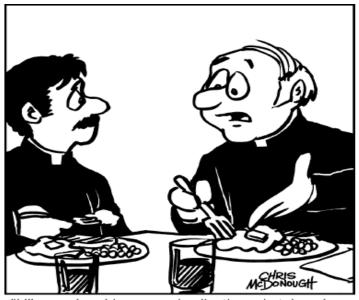
When entering American Martyrs please be mindful that many people are praying. If you wish to greet someone do so in quiet tones so as not to disturb another's prayer time.



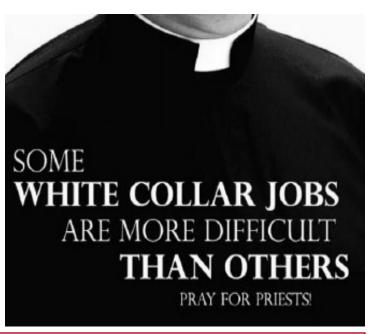
PILGRIMS OF HOPE TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

In recent years, there has been remarkable progress in drawing persons with disabilities into full celebration. Now it is generally accepted that worship places need accommodations such as ramps or elevators, large-print materials for those who are sight-impaired, and perhaps even an assisted hearing system or signing in American Sign Language. American Sign Language is not merely English translated into movement, but a distinct language with its own grammar, syntax (word order), and vocabulary. For this reason, the American Catholic bishops have approved American Sign Language (ASL) as an official language of the liturgy.

Celebrating liturgy in our own language (the vernacular) means that liturgy must be accessible to all languages and cultures. The fact that Mass is celebrated this weekend in some places in total silence, but with the full participation of deaf people praising God in the movements of their hands, and sometimes even with a priest who is deaf, is nothing less than the Church being faithful to the image of Jesus, who made the deaf hear and the mute speak. Remember too that deafness is an invisible disability, and that there may well be people in your parish who are quietly yearning for Mass to be signed for them in ASL. --James Field, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co.



"I like modern ideas... and collections do take a long time. But install EZ Pass at the door? No, thanks."





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.

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time: BLESSED

When we think of the word Beatitude we think of today's discourse from Luke's Gospel, or the more familiar one from Matthew (which begins Blessed are the poor in spirit . . .). Actually, beatitudes occur throughout the prophets and Gospels. Today in Jeremiah (with an echo in the psalm) we hear, Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord (Jeremiah 17:7). Following his resurrection in Johns Gospel, Christ proclaims, Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed (John 20:29). The evangelists placed these sayings throughout the Gospels as short reminders about the characteristics that one will find in a follower of Christ, characteristics that will help spread the Good News in this life and lead to eternal blessings in the next. In Latin, the saints are called the Beati, the Blessed, for they are the ones who lived the blessed life as described by Jesus throughout the Gospels. How blest are we, when we also strive to make our own days a living beatitude! Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co..



Schedule for the Lectors and Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion SATURDAY/SUNDAY FEBRUARY 22/23

Lectors

4pm Vigil: John Sullivan9am: Paul Williams11:30am: Valerie Day

Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

4pm: Donna Sosna + Stephen Sica Barbara Froehlich + Lillian Santos

9am: Jillian Minarik + Michael and Bobby Shoule Katie and Anne Carouse

11:30am: Bernie Liu + Johanna Zefferese Olivia Miranda + Maureen Henry

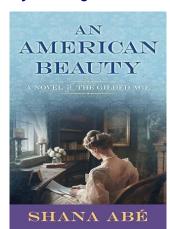
Acolyte/Altar Servicers Schedule Saturday/Sunday Feburary 22/23

Saturday 4pm VIGIL
Omar + Landon + Madrazo

Sunday 9AM Lilly + Adrian + Leo

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 March 10 at 7pm



The Book of the Month is

An American Beauty: A Novel of the Gilded Age

By Shana Abe



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.





WOV

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

American Martyrs Rectory Office Hours

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

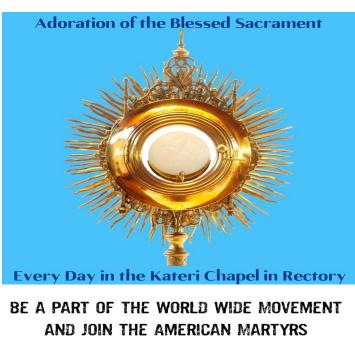
Friday and Saturday
9am - 12 noon + 1pm - 3pm

After Hours by Appointment

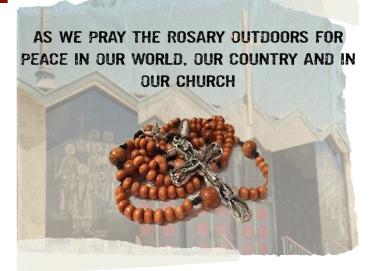
The Presentation of The Gifts at Mass



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.



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



RAIN OR SHINE EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 6PM



Rectory Office
Will Be Closed
Monday In Honor of
George Washington and
Abraham Lincoln

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 of Floater and Smitty

Floater: The local hairdresser got robbed. The police are combing the area.

Smitty: Apparently you can't use 'beefstew' as a password. It's not stroganoff

Floater: I read a stat that the average person eats 46 slices of pizza a year. First time in my life I'm above average at anything. Smitty: If you are arguing loudly on your cell phone in public, please put it on speaker, I need to hear both sides of the story.. Floater: Smitty just texted me asking what does IDK mean. I said

I don't know... ...He responded darn, nobody does.

Smitty: Good morning! Don't forget to eat breakfast, drink lots of water, and mind your own business today.

Floater: When I was young my mom used to feed me alphabet soup claiming I loved it. I didn't really, she was just putting words in my mouth.

Smitty: Not Feline Well? Maybe you need to call a Purramedic. **Floater**: I have been promoted to director at Old McDonald's Farm, I am now the CIEIO.

Smitty: Recently took a pole: 99% of people were annoyed when their tents fell down.

Floater: My therapist set a half glass of wine in front of me and asked me if I was an optimist or a pessimist. I drank the wine and answered, "Neither. I'm a problem solver.



