March 23, 2025 Third Sunday of Lent 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 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

Bishop's Overseas Appeal Collection March 30, 2025



This **appeal** is intended to help restore religious orders and re-institute religious education after years of oppression and persecution in Eastern and Central European countries. Support of this **appeal** is crucial to the development of the Catholic Church in the **United States**.



"As the family goes, so goes the nation and so goes the whole world in which we live."

John Paul II



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, Margaret Reyes 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 March 23, 2025

9am

Angel Andres, Jr. + Lenora SantaMaria Santigo (Requested by Santamaria & Family)

11:30am

Zaida & Juan Lozano (Requested by Aspinall Family)

Jovan Ross (Requested by Edgar Rivera)

Cheryl Molo Zarate (Requested by Messa Family)

Monday 8:30am

In Thanks to Blessed Mother (Requested by Migene Wippler)

Tuesday 8:30am

Pacita Fernandez (Requested by Rey + Helen Fernandez)

Wednesday 8:30am

In Thanks to St. Anthony (Requested by Migene Wippler)

Thursday 8:30am

Agnes Walsh (Requested by Volmar Family)

Friday 8:30am

Laurent + Jessie Richard (Birthday: Requested by Jessie Richard

Saturday 8:30am Communion/Prayer Service

Catholic War Veterans

Saturday 4pm

Jayson Jacob (Requested by Stacy Jacob)



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...

Rolf Hofmann

The Gifts of Bread + Wine
In Memory of
Rev. John J. Garkowski
(Requested by AnnMarie Sanfier)





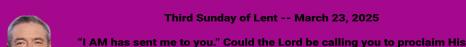
The Gifts of Altar Sanctuary Candles In Thanks for Deacon Stan

(Requested by American Martyrs Parish)

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



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

name as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life?







My Side of the Altar

Dear Faithful and Not-So-Faithful People of God,

Our Lenten journey to the Cross continues with the Lord. What does Lent mean to you? What could Lent mean in light of the struggles, pains and hurts of life? What gets you out of bed each morning and keeps you going?

Life is a gift from God which is packaged with many surprises. It is not so much what we do, but what we allow the Lord Jesus to do through us.

The following story beautifully captures our Lenten response this Holy Season as we seek to connect the mystery of God with our lives.

When the houselights dimmed ant the concert was about to begin, the mother returned to her seat and discovered that the child was missing. Suddenly the curtains parted and spotlights focused on the impressive Steinway on the stage. In horror, the mother saw her little boy sitting at the keyboard, innocently picking out "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star."

At that moment, the great piano master made his entrance, quickly moved to the piano and whispered in the boy's ear, "Don't quit." "Keep playing." Then, leaning over, Paderewski reached down with his left hand and began filling in a bass part. Soon his right arm reached around to the other side of the child, and he added a running obbligato. Together, the old master and the young novice transformed what could have been a frightening situation into a wonderfully creative experience. The audience was so mesmerized that they couldn't recall what else the great master played. Only the classic, "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star."

Perhaps that's the way it is with God. What we can accomplish on our own is hardly noteworthy. We try our best, but the results aren't always graceful flowing music. However, with the hand of the Master, our life's work can be truly beautiful.

The next time you set out to accomplish great feats, listen carefully. You may hear the voice of the Master whispering in your ear, "Don't quit." "Keep playing."

Great advice this Lenten Season! ... And I close with this food for thought....

May we not forget the infinite possibilities that are borne of faith.

May we use those gifts that we have received, and pass on the love that has been given to us. May we be content knowing we are children of God.

Let this presence settle into our bones, and allow our souls the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love. It is there for each and every one of us.

Keep Smiling! It's nice Springing with you, Fr. Peter

Welcome! Make American Martyrs You Home

We are delighted to welcome you to Mass today, whether you are visiting, visiting our parish or looking for a parish to join. Through your presence and active participation, we can offer rich, spiritual renewal every day. There are many ways to get involved. Join one of our ministries or attend an upcoming event featured in today's bulletin. Or become a new member of our Faith Community – all are welcome! Just call the rectory to be a member of "God's Country, American Martyrs."

Happiness and moral duty are inseparably connected. -George Washington

March 16, 2025

Poor Box: \$57.00 Votive Candles: \$145.00



Third Sunday in Lent March 23, 2025

First Reading: *Exodus 3:1-8a,13-15*God speaks to Moses from the burning bush and sends him to the Israelites.

Responsorial Psalm: *Psalm 103:1-4,6-7,8,11*A prayer in praise of God's mercy

Second Reading: *1 Corinthians 10:1-6,10-12*Paul teaches that the Scriptures were written to set an example for us.

Gospel Reading: *Luke 13:1-9*Jesus preaches a lesson on repentance.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Now into the third week of the Season of Lent, our Sunday Gospel prepares us to hear Lent's call to conversion and repentance. Today's reading is found in the chapters of Luke's Gospel that describe Jesus' journey to Jerusalem. During this journey, Jesus teaches and heals. He must also respond to those who question and challenge his authority and actions. There is no parallel in Mark's or Matthew's Gospels for today's reading from Luke. While Mark and Matthew describe an incident in which Jesus curses the fig tree, today's reading makes the barren fig tree the subject of a parable.

Luke tells us that some among the crowds report to Jesus a massacre of Galileans by Pilate. The intention of the crowd seems to be to ask Jesus to explain why these people suffered. It was commonplace to render people's suffering as evidence of their sinfulness. Jesus challenges this interpretation. Those who were massacred were no more or less sinful than the ones who report the situation to Jesus. Jesus replies that even a fatal accident, a natural disaster, ought not to be interpreted as punishment for sin.

Jesus' words at first appear to have a fire-and-brimstone quality. Jesus says in essence, "Repent or perish as these people did; all are sinful before God and deserving of God's punishment." The tone changes, however, in the parable that follows. The parable of the barren fig tree contrasts the patience and hopefulness of the gardener with the practicality of the property owner. When told to cut down the fig tree because it is not producing fruit, the gardener counsels patience. If properly tended, the barren fig tree may yet bear fruit.

Throughout his journey to Jerusalem, Jesus has been teaching about the Kingdom of God. In this parable, we find an image of God's patience and hopefulness as he prepares his Kingdom. God calls us to repent, and it is within his power to punish us for our failure to turn from our sinfulness. And yet God is merciful. He delays punishment and tends to us so that we may yet bear the fruit he desires from us.

This, then, is our reason for hope: Not only does God refuse to abandon us, he chooses to attend to us even when we show no evidence of his efforts. Next week's Gospel will give an even clearer picture of the kind of mercy that God shows to us.

MID-LENT CHECK-IN

God says to Moses, This is what you shall tell the Israelites: I AM sent me to you . . . The LORD, the God of your [ancestors], the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob (Exodus 3:14, 15). As Jesus would later say, God is not a God of the dead, but of the living, and so we believe that the dead will one day rise. At this midpoint of Lent, we pause to consider how our repentance is leading us to the Resurrection, to our reunion with the great I AM. Part of our repentance involves working to secure justice for all and helping our neighbor to live in Gods ways. We encourage each other and nurture each other, like the compassionate gardener of today's Gospel, who tells the owner of the orchard that he will nurture the tree, fertilize it, and perhaps it will bear fruit. Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co.



Traveling Madonna within our Parish American Martyrs Rosary Society

The purpose of this Virgin Mary statue is to bring the graces of Fatima and Our Lady's message of peace and hope.

For the past 9 years, the Rosary Society has been passing the statue of Mary through the parish. In this difficult time, as we pray for peace, anyone interested in joining the rotation, please call Margaret Reyes at 718 217-7110.

In these unsettled times, praying the Rosary is important. Please join us on the first Sunday of the month at 10 o'clock to pray as a group.

All welcome to host the statue!







Knights of Columbus American Martyrs Rev. John J. Murray Council #14666

Lenten 40 Hours Devotion
In the Rectory's Kateria Tekakwitha Chapel

Starting 4pm Thursday March 27 Ending 8am Saturday March 29



Volunteers are needed to "Spending Personal Time with the Lord in Prayer and Adoration"

Call or Email Joe Timpa to Sign Up 631-505-1312 EMAIL: KofCAM14666@gmail.com

https://kofcam.weebly.com/calendar-schedules-events.html



American Martyrs Diocese of Brooklyn Lenten Pilgrimage



Saturday, March 29, 2025

8:30am Mass

9am Adoration

9:30am Rosary

10am - 11:45am Silent Adoration

12 Noon Mass

12:45pm -2:45pm Mel Gibson's Passion of the Christ Sullivan Center (Lower Church Hall)

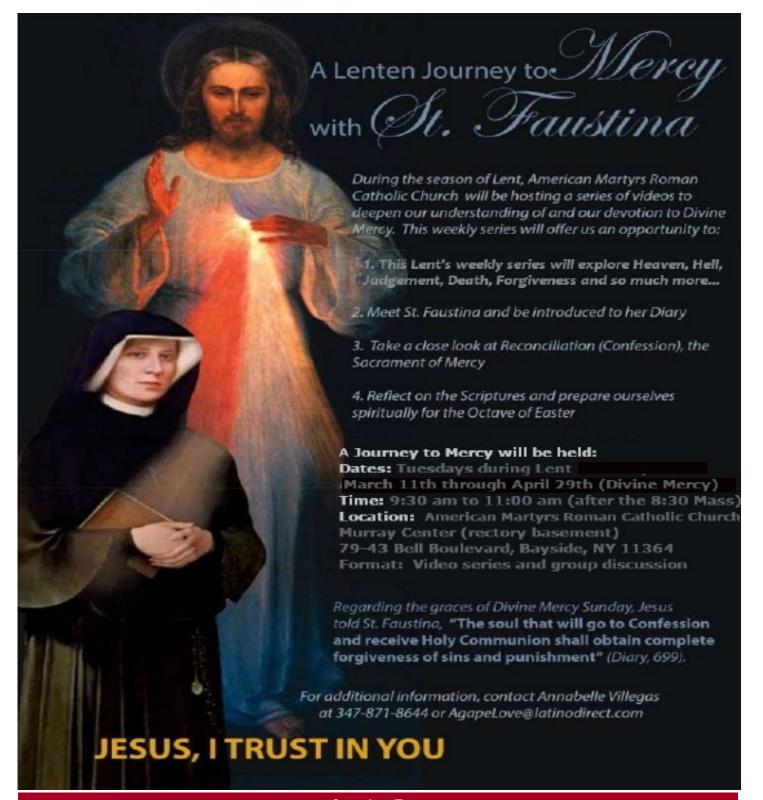
Adoration Continues After Noon Mass (Until 3:45pm)

Confession 3pm – 3:45pm

4pm Vigil Mass 5pm – 7pm Confession + Adoration + Benediction



Elevator Entrance by Parking Lot



Complete Trust

Meditation: After Holy Communion, I heard these words — You see what you are of yourself, but do not be frightened at this. If I were to reveal to you the whole misery that you are, you would die of terror. However, be aware of what you are. Because you are such great misery, I have revealed to you the whole ocean of My mercy. I seek and desire souls like yours, but they are few. Your great trust in Me forces Me to continuously grant you graces. You have great and incomprehensible rights over My Heart, for you are a daughter of complete trust. You would not have been able to bear the magnitude of the love which I have for you if I had revealed it to you fully here on earth (Diary, 718).

My Prayer Response: Lord Jesus, consume our miseries in the flame of Your merciful love. May our humble submission to You draw upon us and upon other souls an entire sea of Your mercy.

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 April 12 Future Saturday: 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 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



American Martyrs Catholic War Veterans Post 1772





Breakfast with the Easter Bunny



10am Saturday, April 12
Breakfast + Pictures +
Egg Hunt +Gifts
Tickets on Sale After Mass
March 29th + 30th
and April 5th + 6th
Adults \$10 + Children \$5

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 Tuesday 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

Homebound?

If you or a loved one are homebound and would like to receive the sacrament of Penance or to have Communion brought to you, please call the rectory at 718+464+4582. You will be visited by a priest and then a member of the parish will contact you to set up a date when Communion can be brought to you.

Do you know a neighbor who is unable to get out to Mass and might not see this notice? Why don't you bring them a bulletin and / or tell them about Communion to the homebound. We are all called by God to reach out and serve others. What a beautiful way to do that...right here in our own parish of American Martyrs.



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 MID-LENT CHECK-IN

God says to Moses, This is what you shall tell the Israelites: I AM sent me to you . . The LORD, the God of your [ancestors], the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob (Exodus 3:14, 15). As Jesus would later say, God is not a God of the

dead, but of the living, and so we believe that the dead will one day rise. At this midpoint of Lent, we pause to consider how our repentance is leading us to the Resurrection, to our reunion with the great I AM. Part of our repentance involves working to secure justice for all and helping our neighbor to live in Gods ways. We encourage each other and nurture each other, like the compassionate gardener of today's Gospel, who tells the owner of the orchard that he will nurture the tree, fertilize it, and perhaps it will bear fruit. Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co.

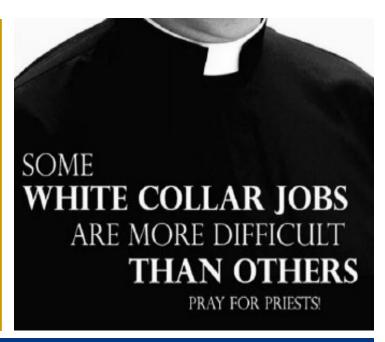
Fr. John J. Murray/American Martyrs Knights of Columbus Council #14666

The Knights of Columbus are running "Share the Change" Baby Bottle Campaign. It is an opportunity for you and your family to provide critical support for the Sisters of Life.

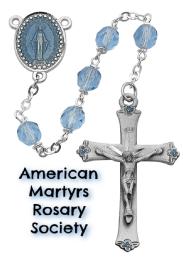
A little spare change, bills, and checks can go a long way in making a difference in the lives of the women they serve.

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.



American Martyrs Rosary Society



All Ladies - Mothers - Daughters, Grandmothers & Grandaughters are invited to join us for Tea Sunday April 6 at 2pm in the Sullivan Center

Tea - Sandwiches - Scones - Desserts along with a selection of teas will be served

Tickets are \$20 and will be sold after Masses
March 22/23 and March 29/30

For more info call Carol @ 718 - 631 - 0896 or Barbara @ 718-465 -- 0585

Save the Date: Monday, May 5 @llam Day of Recollection

Schedule for the Lectors and
Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
SATURDAY/SUNDAY MARCH 29/30

Lectors

4pm Vigil: Nestor Diaz 9am: Huguette Volmar 11:30am: Maureen Henry

Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

4pm: Donna Sosna + Stephen Sica Barbara Froehlich + Iris Diaz

9am: Theresa Asche + Michael Shoule Katie and Anne Carouse

11:30am: Bernie Liu + Johanna Zefferese Stephen Barry + Terry Marchia

Acolyte/Altar Servicers Schedule

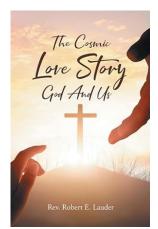
SATURDAY/SUNDAY MARCH 29/30

Saturday 4:00pm VIGIL Omar + Isabella + Vladimir

Sunday 9:00 AM Edward + Katarina + Jose

Sunday 11:30AM
Julianna + Vincent + William

Next Meeting of the Book of the Month Club Will Take Place in the Murray Center on Monday Evening April 21 at 7pm



The Book of the Month is
The Cosmic Love Story, God and Us
By Rev. Robert E. Lauder
(Fr. Lauder Will Lead the Discussion)





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.





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



THE Defensive Driving Course

"You Can't Afford to Miss If"

THIS COURSE WILL BE HELD: Location: American Martyrs Saturday, Apr. 5, 2025 9:00 AM -3:30 PM

For reg & info, call: 631 360-9720

STRENGTH TO SPLIT ROCKS

Do you know that oftentimes a root has split a rock, when suffered to remain in it? Give no judgment to the seed of evil, seeing that it will break up your faith.

-St. Cyril of Jerusalem

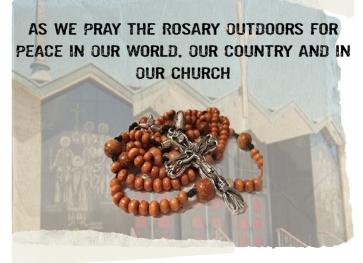
The Presentation of The Gifts at Mass



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

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* (March 9, 2025) to *The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity* (June 15, 2025)



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: You hear about the guy that evaporated? - Yeah, he'll be mist.

Smitty: A man asked me for a dollar. I told him I only carry big bills. He said give me one of those. I gave him my electric bill. **Floater**: Oh, the stories I could tell.....if I could remember them. Smitty: I asked my North Korean friend what it's like to live in

North Korea. He said he can't complain.

Floater: Before it was carved. Mt. Rushmore's natural beauty was unpresidented.

Smitty: When you speak two languages and start losing vocabulary in both of them you become byelingual

Floater: My wife just opened my car door for me. Would have been a nice had she not been going 70mph.

Smitty: Over 100 years ago two brothers announced they could fly. Turns out they were Wright.

Floater: If you ask me, a worm is a pretty disappointing prize for getting up so early.

Smitty: After dinner, my wife asked if I could clear the table. I needed a running start, but I made it.

Floater: If your wife does something wrong, just explain to her how your mom did it. She will appreciate your advice and strive to do it as she did.

Smitty: I've discovered that you can turn a regular sofa into to a sleeper sofa simply by forgetting her birthday.



