

**October 26, 2025
American Martyrs
30th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

The Partnership Mass Schedule of American Martyrs and Holy Family

**American Martyrs
8:30am Weekdays**

**4pm Saturday Vigil
Sunday 9am + 11:30am
Saturday Confession 3pm -3:45pm**

**Pastoral Staff
Rev. Sean M. Suckiel, Pastor
Rev. Ralph Edel, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Peter J. Rayder, Parochial Vicar
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**

**Holy Family
8:30am Weekdays**

**5pm Saturday Vigil
Sunday 7:30am + 10:30am
12 noon + 5pm
Saturday Confession 4pm**

**America Martyrs RC Church

79-43 Bell Blvd.
Oakland Gardens, NY 11364
Rectory: 718 + 464 + 4582
Religious Education 718 + 464 + 6411**

Holy Family R.C. Church

**175-20 74th Avenue
Fresh Meadows, NY 11366
718 + 969 + 2448**



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.

Pastors Advisory Board/Parish Council

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

**“God’s joy is not loud, but it truly
changes history and brings us closer
to one another.” (Mass for priestly ordinations)**

Pope Leo XIV



**Annual Catholic
Appeal 2025**
DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN

The 2025 Annual Catholic Appeal Jubilee of Hope, Renewal of Faith, and Charity!

The 2025 Annual Catholic Appeal supports the mission of American Martyrs and the daily work of the Diocese of Brooklyn in ways no one parish can accomplish alone.

All donations over our goal will be returned to American Martyrs

Weekly Updates for October 20, 2025

**Goal: \$64,455
Pledged: \$136,220.00
Paid: \$131,260.89
Donors: 143 Families**





Remember in your Prayers the Sick of American Martyrs

Msgr. John Keppler, Elizabeth Coppola, Denis Keane, Anne Kingston, Martin Thaila, Vijay Devassy, Anita Mascoli, John Buglione, John Sheridan Jr., Vincent Sheridan, Gloria Saavedra, Jack Goydas, John Bennett, Michael G. McLoone, Gloria Valdez, Stephen Feit, Patrick Kearney, Roberto + Raquel Barrientos, Kalyan Sham, Mike Tramonte, Gracinda Silva, Anna Bischoff, Robert, Vita Mazzola, Vincent Martin, James Pagano, Jesus Fernandez, Natalia Bianco, Jack Bradley, Dr. Mirian Lumbreras, Rick San Severino and Mike Tremonte

(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 October 26, 2025

9am

Frank Smaldino (Requested by Mary Ann + Gregg)

11:30am

Barbara Castaldo (Requested by Diana Iorio)

Elisa DeVoto Castro (Requested by Theresa + Lorenzi)

Nery Pascual (Requested by Edna)

Monday 8:30am

George McGuire (Requested by Rosemarie Bandin)

Tuesday 8:30am

Cammillo Ferrare (Requested by Antonietta DiRado + Family)

Wednesday 8:30am

John Alexander (Requested by William McConnell)

Thursday 8:30am

Joseph Valentine (Requested by Juan Mendez)

Friday 8:30am

Joseph Zec (Requested by Gregory + Joana Fegos)

Saturday 8:30am

Paulette Wilson (Requested by Nilda Vargas)

Saturday 4:pm

Samatha Hope (Requested by her 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...

The Gifts of Bread + Wine

**In loving memory of
John Buzzone**

Requested by Deacon Stan + Fr. Peter



**The Gifts of Altar Sanctuary Candles
In Loving Memory of John Buzzone**

Requested by Deacon Stan + Fr. Peter

PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS

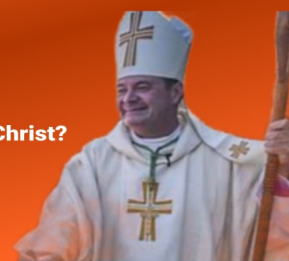


Rev. LT. Mark Bristol, USN,
PO3 John Schaefer - USCG
TAO Sean Reiley—USN
Raymond Esquilin, CW4
Lisa Johnston,
WO 1 Crystal Robles
2nd Lt. Daniel Wolf, USAF
SFC Sheldon Warren
Rubayet Molla

October 26, 2025
Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"All who humble themselves will be exalted."
Is humble service as a priest, deacon or in the
consecrated life your path of holiness and eternal glory in Christ?

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





A Letter from the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Next Sunday we will celebrate All Souls Day. We know from sacred Scripture that nothing unclean can enter Heaven. We also know that during Christ Passion and death, Christ earned infinite merits that opened the gates of Heaven for those who truly seek it.

Many people who die in friendship with Christ still bear the stain of the venial sins they committed during their earthly lives. Before they can enter Paradise, they must first be purified in Purgatory. As Catholics, we intensify our prayers for these poor suffering souls not only on All Souls Day, but throughout the month of November.

Here are some important things to be reminded of:

- ◆ Heaven is attainable for everyone, but not every choose to go to heaven by the way they conduct their lives, and the seriousness of their faith.
- ◆ We need to help the lost souls in Purgatory to get to heaven. We assist them with our prayers, especially having Masses offered for them, worthy reception of Holy Communion, and visits to the cemetery.
- ◆ Funeral Masses are important. The heart of the funeral of a Christian has been the celebration of the Eucharist for the departed, with the earthly remains of the deceased present whenever possible. This is called The Mass of Christian Burial.
- ◆ The primary purpose of a Catholic Funeral is to plead the mercy of God upon the soul of the departed person. The Mass is, of course, the most powerful prayer we can offer God, and therefore we, the living, have an obligation in charity to offer the Mass for the departed. In the Mass of Christian Burial we also thank God for the gift of salvation given by Christ to the departed, and ask that the consolations of faith be given to those who mourn. The presence of the body or remains of the departed in God's House is a final act of honor to that body which was the Temple of the Holy Spirit in this life and will be a glorified body of a saint in the resurrection on the Last Day.
- ◆ The practice of cremation has grown and become more common in the United States, and it is often presented as a more affordable alternative to traditional burial. What is often overlooked is the Church's teaching regarding the respect and honor to the human body. The Order of Christian Funerals' Appendix on Cremation states: "Although cremation is now permitted by the Church, it does not enjoy the same value as burial of the body. The Church clearly prefers and urges that the body of the deceased be present for the funeral rites, since the presence of the human body better expresses the values which the Church affirms in those rites" (no. 413). The cremated remains of a body should be treated with the same respect given to the human body from which they come. This includes the use of a worthy vessel to contain the ashes, the manner in which they are carried, and the care and attention to appropriate placement and transport, and the final disposition. The cremated remains should be buried in a grave or entombed in a mausoleum or columbarium. The practice of scattering cremated remains on the sea, from the air, or on the ground, or keeping cremated remains on the home of a relative or friend of the deceased are not the reverent disposition that the Church requires. (no. 417).

Finally, let us remember that we are resurrection people and that Christ broke the prison bars of sin & death so that we may attain eternal life in heaven. Let us always remember the honor we must give our Deceased brothers and sisters.

United in prayer

Fr. Sean

Save the Date

**COLUMBIETTES OF
FR. JOHN J. MURRAY
AMERICAN MARTYRS
NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY**

Collection for Sunday October 19, 2025

Online \$1,158.00

In-Pew \$ 4,533.00

Total \$5,691.00

Poor Box: \$145.00

Votive Candles: \$138.00

World Mission Sunday Collection: \$1,263.00



My Side of the Altar

Dear People of God, life is difficult. As children, we all have hopes, dreams and goals which will certainly become reality. However, the twists, curves, hills and forks in the road called life change our plans. And the journey of life can be beautifully summarized with the powerful line from John Lennon: "Life is what happened while I was making other plans."

The journey called life is not an easy path, but we do not walk alone. The Lord Jesus is our hope, strength and guide along the way. We need to realize all is gift and whenever we have a gift we must have a giver—and God is the giver of all gifts. As we grow older is the gift of life making me bitter or better? Do I trust God or does life always have to be on my terms? Am I grateful for what God has blessed me with or do I focus on what I do not possess? Tough questions with no easy answers.

The key to a "successful" life is rooted in God, faith, family, friends and prayer. Prayer is the thread that weaves and connects all the facets of our life together.

I share with you a powerful story that was given to me. Read . . . And pass it on

DADDY'S EMPTY CHAIR

A man's daughter had asked the local priest to come and pray with her father. When the priest arrived, he found the man lying in bed with his head propped up on two pillows. An empty chair sat beside his bed. The priest assumed that the old fellow had been informed of his visit. "I guess you were expecting me," he said. "No, who are you?" said the man. The priest told him his name and then remarked, "I saw the empty chair and I figured you knew I was going to show up." "Oh yeah, the chair," said the bedridden man. "Would you mind closing the door?" Puzzled, the priest shut the door. "I have never told anyone this, not even my daughter," said the man. "But all of my life I have never known how to pray. At church I used to hear the pastor talk about prayer, but it went right over my head. I abandoned any attempt at prayer," the old man continued, "until one day four years ago, my best friend said to me, 'Johnny, prayer is just a simple matter of having a conversation with Jesus. Here is what I suggest. Sit down in a chair, place an empty chair in front of you, and in faith see Jesus on the chair. It's not spooky because he promised, 'I will be with you always.' Then just speak to him in the same way you're doing with me right now. So, I tried it and I've liked it so much that I do it a couple of hours every day. I'm careful though . . . If my daughter saw me talking to an empty chair, she'd either have a nervous breakdown or send me off to the hospital.'" The priest was deeply moved by the story and encouraged the old man to continue his journey. Then he prayed with him and anointed him and returned to the church. Two nights later the daughter called to tell the priest that her daddy had died that afternoon. "Did he die in peace?" he asked. "Yes, when I left the house about two o'clock, he called me over to his bedside, told me he loved me and kissed me on the cheek. When I got back from the store an hour later, I found him. But there was something strange about his death. Apparently, just before Daddy died, he leaned over and rested his head on the chair beside the bed."

Always remember, if God brings you to it, God will bring you through it.
Happy moments, praise God. Difficult moments, seek God.
Exercise daily—walk with the Lord!

Enjoying fall with you and I'll see you in Church
Fr. Peter



"Oh no! Clocks go back November 2nd and I can't remember where I bought mine." Dr. Bill Buzzone

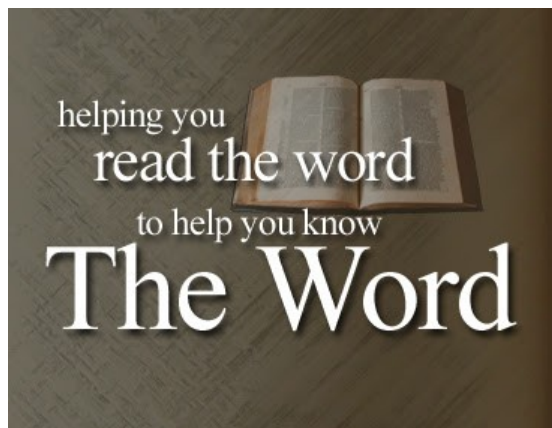


Winter Coat Drive

Thank You Thank You to all that "Answered the Call"

*The Coat Drive Was A Total SUCCESS
As Over 200 Coats Were Donated*





Thirty Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday, October 26, 2025

First Reading: *Sirach 35:12-14, 16-18*
God hears the prayer of the poor.

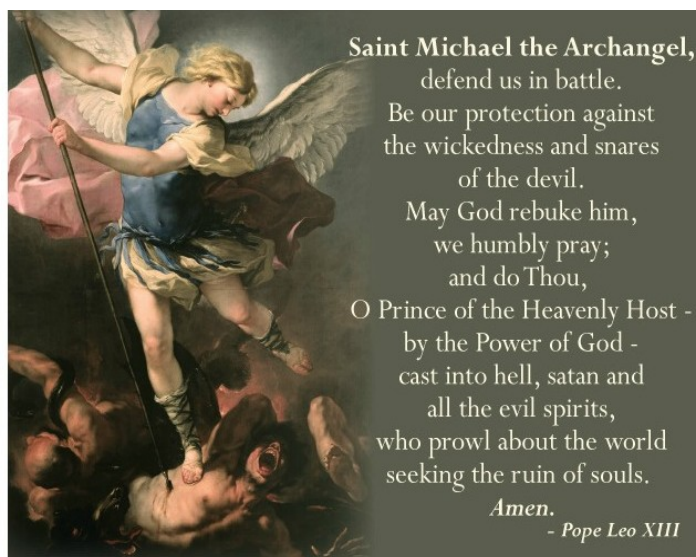
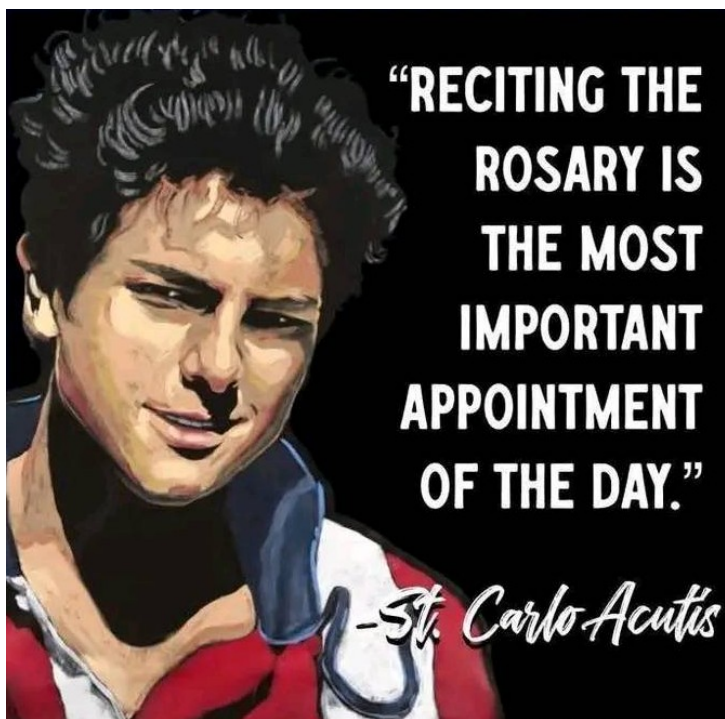
Responsorial Psalm: *Psalm 34:2-3, 17-18, 19, 23*
The Lord hears and answers the cry of the poor.

Second Reading: *2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18*
Paul perseveres in faith, confident that God will rescue him.

Gospel Reading: *Luke 18:9-14*
Jesus tells the parable of the proud Pharisee who prayed from his self-importance and the tax collector who prayed humbly.

Background on the Gospel Reading

The second parable that Jesus tells in Luke 18 addresses attitude in prayer. In contrasting the prayer of the Pharisee with the prayer of the tax collector, Jesus teaches his disciples to pray in humility before God. Jesus again surprises his listeners by showing the tax collector as the example of faith, rather than the Pharisee. Remember that Pharisees were members of a sect of Judaism active in Jesus' time. They taught an oral interpretation of the Law of Moses as the basis for Jewish piety. If anyone would be a model for prayer, a Pharisee was a likely candidate. In contrast, Jesus offers the tax collector as a model for prayer. Tax collectors were collaborators with the Roman authorities in a system that allowed the tax collectors to line their own pockets by charging in excess of the defined taxes. Yet, in this parable, Jesus offers the humility of the tax collector as a model for the prayer of a disciple. The parable reminds us that when we pray, we must remember our need for God in our lives. If we are too full of ourselves, there is too little room for God's grace to work in us.



All Saints Vigil

*Called to be Saints,
Our Companions of Hope*

featuring

St. Josephine Bakhita • St. Gianna Beretta Molla
St. Louis Martin & St. Zélie Martin
St. Thérèse the Little Flower



*Guest Preacher:
Fr. Justin Cinnante, O. Carm.*

OCT. 31ST • 7PM IN THE CHURCH

Join us on the Vigil of All Saints at 7PM: Readings from the lives of the four Saints, sung night prayer and candlelight procession to the reliquary for veneration.



HOLY FAMILY PARISH

175-20 74TH AVENUE, FRESH MEADOWS NY 11366

Purgatorial Society Enrollment in September 2025

Robert Hofmann (Enrolled by Susan + Robert)

Gino Bracaglia (Enrolled by Vivan + Children)

Michael O'Shaughnessy (Enrolled by Fr. Peter)

John Buzzone (Enrolled by The Buzzone Family)

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.





CELL PHONES FOR SOLDIERS DURING THE ENTIRE MONTH OF NOVEMBER

**DONATE + CELL PHONES + TABLETS + MP3 PLAYERS
(Any Condition)... Power Cords as Well**



**Don't Forget Backup and Erase All of Your DATA
Turn off the "Find My iPhone" feature if it is an iPhone
Your Donation provides calling cards for
Active Troops and Emergency Funding for Veterans in Need**

Drop of in the Collections Boxes in Church or at the Rectory



**Fr. John J. Murray - American Martyrs Knights of Columbus
WEBSITE ADDRESS: www.KofCAM.weebly.com**

American Martyrs Rosary Societys Opening of the Year

*Our Fall Harvest Luncheon will be held on
Monday, November 3rd at 12noon in the Sullivan Center*

Tickets are \$40 and will be sold after all Masses this Weekend October 25/26



*For more information call
Carol Fortune 718-631-0896,
Barbara Froehlich 718-465-0585 or
Diana Iorio 718-740-0643*



All Ladies + Gentlemen Are Welcome to Join Us

Donations for the Chinese Auction would be Greatly Appreciated

RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

Today's readings invite us into prayer, into relationship with God. Because relationships feel more natural when we know one another well, Sirach encourages us to know God better. In his wisdom, Sirach tells us what God is like: fair, open-minded, compassionate, and attentive.

The Lord will not delay, he says. Knowing that Gods help comes right on time, whenever we need it, calms our hearts and helps us trust the Lord. In his second Letter to Timothy, Saint Paul demonstrates his own trust in God. Despite the grueling struggles Saint Paul has faced because of his Christian faith, he praises the Lord for rescuing him time and again.

Today's Gospel draws us close to Jesus too, revealing his special love for the poor and humble. As Jesus tells his parable about the prayer habits of a Pharisee and a tax collector, our hearts long to become as gentle as Christ's. 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.

Are There Any Good Movies To Watch???

Movies, music, television, and the Internet are the main sources of entertainment for your children. There is a lot of inappropriate material that their eyes and ears can pick up, so talk with your children about what is appropriate entertainment for them. If you are worried about what your children could be seeing or hearing, take advantage of parental blockage systems on your cable and internet systems. Use the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Movie Review website as your guide for what movies are appropriate. www.catholicnews.com/movies



MOVIES
to watch with your
KIDS



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.**



A Journey to Divine Mercy with St. Faustina

American Martyrs cordially invites you to ***A Journey to Divine Mercy with St. Faustina***, in video and discussion format.

Our focus this year will be on prayer. Not the type of prayer you may be familiar with but the type of prayer that called the Saints to the depths of contemplative communion with our Lord:

- *"Prayer is still a little-known means; however, it is the most effective way to re-establish peace in our souls because it allows us to get ever closer to God's love."*
St. Maximilian Kolbe



- *"When it is well done, it moves the Divine Heart and makes Him always more inclined to grant our requests."* **St. Padre Pio**
- *"Great is the power of prayer – a queen, as one might say, has free access always to the King, and able to obtain whatever she asks."*
St. Therese of Lisieux
- *"Give me a man of prayer and he will be capable of everything. He may say with the apostle, 'I can do all things in him who strengthens me.'"* **St. Vincent de Paul**
- *"For whatever the virtue you see, pray. And pray in this way" by reading in the Book of Life, that is, in the life of the One who is God and man, Jesus Christ."* **St. Angela of Foligno**

*** Journey with us on November 18, 2025** after the 8:30 mass and ends at 11am. Sessions are held every third Tuesday of the month and weekly during Lent. Refreshments are available.

LOCATION: American Martyrs RC Church, 79-43 Bell Blvd
Oakland Gardens, NY 11364 in the Fr. John J. Murray Center (rectory side door)



"L&J Limberg" Pumpkin Patch Returns To American Martyrs this weekend

Pumpkins will be given to all the children after Religious Education Class today.

And quite possibly some may available after the 11:30am Mass



PILGRIMS OF HOPE: TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

The Solemnity of All Saints and Saturdays Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed fit well at the beginning of November. The liturgical readings of this final month in the Church year are keyed to the end of time and the fulfillment of Jesus saving acts. Nowhere is this more fully celebrated than in Mexico, where November 2 is the Day of the Dead. Missionaries moved an ancient Aztec festival from midsummer to November, linking the festival to Christian themes. Today, it is a time for remembering the dead and celebrating the continuity of life, principally by festive picnics in cemeteries. There are special foods and games, and people socialize with other families and tell favorite stories about their dear ones.

The sweetness of life is honored by sugary desserts and treats. Flowers, music, lights, and feasting assure that the day is not at all morbid. Traditionally, the day begins with Mass, a procession to the cemetery, and a morning feast. Most families have a special dinner with the pan de muerto, or bread of the dead. A toy skeleton is baked into the loaf, and the one who bites into it is considered lucky indeed. The dead are not feared, but deeply loved, and this joyful family feast points both to age-old customs and Resurrection faith. Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co.



Traveling Madonna within our Parish of 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. The Rosary Society has been passing the statue of Mary through the parish. In this difficult time, as we pray for peace, anyone interested 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!

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Although the opening lines of today's first reading claim that the Lord knows no favorites (Sirach 35:15) and is not unduly partial toward the weak (35:16), the remainder of the passage makes it clear that the Lord does indeed pay special attention to the weak, the oppressed, and the orphans and widows. The psalmist reiterates: The Lord hears the cry of the poor (see Psalm 34:18). In the Gospel, Jesus claims that a tax collector is more justified in his prayer for mercy than the Pharisee, whose prayer was an account of his own righteous deeds. Jesus point could not have been clearer: tax collectors in the Jewish society of Jesus day were not just lowly; they were considered outcasts and cheaters. They collected taxes for the hated Romans and almost certainly collected enough to assure a generous income for themselves.

THE PRAYER OF THE LOWLY PIERCES THE CLOUDS

When Jesus was teaching or preaching, he would regularly upset assumptions about how the world works, especially the world of religious observances. Moreover, just when we think we've figured this out, we get caught off guard yet again--disorientation layered over surprise.

The Pharisees of Jesus' day emphasized the observance of Mosaic Law in everyday life, providing a path of righteousness for people unable to attend temple sacrifices. However, some of them also took pride in their own observances, looking down on others and becoming self-righteous. Jesus addressed this parable them, to those who were convinced of their own righteousness and despised everyone else, like tax collectors. But didn't they have a point? Tax collectors were among society's outcasts; didn't this one just admit his own sinfulness? How could a tax collector be justified (that is, made right) before God, while the Pharisee was not? Why would God even listen to the prayer of a tax collector? This surely was a surprise, upsetting common assumptions about righteousness.

BUT WHO ARE THE LOWLY?

There is another layer of assumptions that gets exposed here: tax collectors could hardly be considered lowly. Widows, orphans, those who suffer--these are truly lowly ones for whom the Law commands kindness, and obviously God hears their prayers. But tax collectors? They collected revenue for the pagan Romans; they were outcasts, objects of scorn. How could they be considered among the lowly? For that matter--what is a tax collector doing in the temple anyway? Here the parable might be more than surprising; it might even be disorienting. What if the people we cannot imagine being justified before God, embraced by God's mercy, are the ones whom God sees as lowly? What if the parable challenges us to question whether we ourselves unconsciously categorize people as either worthy or unworthy, either like us or one of them? What if we took seriously the idea that God's love is for them just as much as it is for us? Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

HEARTFELT JUDGMENT

When you meet someone, you judge them by their clothes; when you leave them, you judge them by their heart. --Russian proverb

AMERICAN MARTYRS
WHITE ELEPHANT COLLECTION
(IN THE SULLIVAN CENTER)



SATURDAY NOVEMBER 15, 2025 1PM - 3:30PM

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 16, 2025 12PM - 3PM

PLEASE NO CLOTHES, BOOKS, BIG ELECTRONICS OR FURNITURE

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO AMERICAN MARTYRS

To Boast or Not to Boast

The Gospel makes it pretty clear that exalting yourself is not the way into the Kingdom. So it might sound strange to hear Paul saying he competed well and finished the race and now expects the winner's crown. So why is he any different from the Pharisee in the Gospel?

The Pharisee probably was being honest about himself. Sure, he fasts and tithes, is not greedy or adulterous, but he misses the point. He thinks that justification, being right with God, comes from a person's accomplishments. He feels no need to ask for God's mercy. Yet if he relied on that mercy, he wouldn't boast about his good deeds. Instead, he would ask for God's mercy and then thank God by doing good or being generous. In other words, he put the cart before the horse. He thinks that God is waiting to be bribed with good deeds (or at least a lack of bad ones) so that he can be justified. "After all," thinks the Pharisee, "what else are good deeds for if not to make me look good?" St. Paul, on the other hand, looks at his life as a Pharisee and is amazed that God forgave his "good works" of keeping the law and persecuting Christians. He is so grateful for God's mercy that he can't wait to tell everyone about Jesus and how he loves us. His boasting is not about what he has done for God; it's more about what God has done through him. In verse 17, he credits God, who gave him the strength to preach the Good News.

Maybe you have examples of what God has done in your life: the people God sent to love you, the talents or abilities God gave you, the times God forgave your sins. Are you so grateful for what God has done that you want to do more for God? Or do you go to church, put your offering in the collection, and work a booth at the parish picnic so that God will be grateful to you? It sounds obvious when put that way, but it is tempting to think that God loves us more when we do good things. Remember that God loved St. Paul while he was still persecuting Christians, loved him enough not only to forgive him but to make him into a great apostle. Why waste your time trying to earn that love, when you could be doing whatever you can to thank God for it? Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co.

American Martyrs



Saturday December 6th 10am - 3pm

Sunday December 7th 9am - 3pm

VENDORS WANTED

Call Theresa at 718-464-6411



**Be part of the "World Wide" Movement and the
American Martyrs The Knights of Columbus
Fr. John J. Murray Council #14666
Praying the Rosary Outdoors for Peace in Our World,
in Our Country in Our Church
Rain or Shine Every Wednesday at 6pm**



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

Lectors

4pm Vigil: Nestor Diaz

9am: Michael Shoule

11:30am: Stephen Barry

Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

4pm: Mary Ann & Gregg Schreiber

Lillian Santos + Iris Diaz

9am: Getulio Cury + Theresa Asche
Fortune Tramonte + Anne Caruso + Katie Caruso

11:30am: Bernie Liu + Maureen Henry
Emily Ledesma + Terry Marchia

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

Saturday 4pm VIGIL

Brooke + Madison + Jose

Sunday 9:00 AM

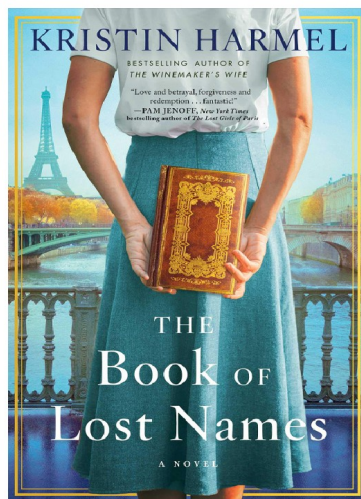
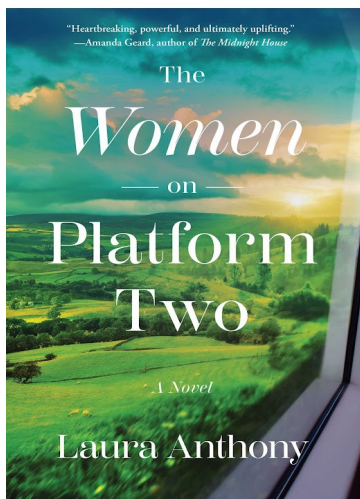
Lilly + Vladimir + Isabella

Sunday 11:30AM

Edward + Katarina + Landon

*Next Meeting of the Book of the Month Club
Will Take Place in the Murray Center
Monday October 27, 2025 at 7pm*

Books to read...



**Rosary Societys
Altar Linen Schedule**



October 26: Carol Fortune

November 2: Nancy Marchi

November 9: Nancy Hill

November 16: Mary Galazin

November 23: Carol Fortune

November 30: Nancy Marchi

December 7: Nancy Hill

December 14: Mary Galazin

If you are unable to do a week call
Carol 713 + 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



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

Thoughts of Floater and Smitty

Floater: I told my plants I love them. Now, they're rooting for me.
Smitty: Scientists got bored after watching the Earth turn after 24 hours. So they called it a day.

Floater: My brother Buddy asked me if I was building a new house. I said of course I don't see any reason to build an old one.

Smitty: There's no better karate instructor than a spider web in your face

Floater: It felt very uncomfortable driving in the cemetery today. The GPS blurted out: You Have Reached Your Final Destination.

Smitty: I'm reading a book on DIY house construction, by Bill Jerome Holmes.

Floater: Some people exercise every day. I'm watching a show I don't like because the remote fell on the floor.

Smitty: I ate a shepherds pie today. Oh, he was livid!

Floater: I've just got back from the hospital. Doctor said I have pneumonoultramicroscopicsilicovolcanoconiosis. But it's hard to say at this stage of testing.

Smitty: I know my dog loves me but if I had a squeaker in me he's gut me like a fish.

Floater: My mom didn't raise no fool, and if she did it was my brother.

Smitty: I tried to tell the cashier at Key Food a joke....but it didn't seem to register

Floater: My wife's logic: I went to buy a dress but I saw this purse, so I bought these shoes.

Smitty: I go to the gym nearly everyday. Nearly went Monday. Nearly went Tuesday...

Floater: Did you know that a cardiology video is a totally clips of the heart.

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FIRST PLACE
CPA award winner
Best Facebook Account – Diocesan Bishop

Looking to Help???
Bridge to Life Needs Diapers!
Pampers
THE BRIDGE TO LIFE
Please Leave Diapers @ Entrance to American Martyrs

Feed the Hungry
Is God Calling you to the Priesthood?
See Father Peter to Answer the Call and begin the journey