

MASSES FOR THE WEEKSATURDAY - December 3, 2016

5:00 pm: Anthony Zafferese --- Family

SUN. Dec. 4, 2016 - Second Sunday of Advent

8:30 am: Misa Pro Populo

10:30 am Members of the Purgatorial Society

12:30 pm: Charles & Concetta Pascucci - Marianne & John

Mon. - December 5

8:30 am: Margot Cigliano -- Suzanne Malench

Tues. Dec. 6 - St. Nicholas

8:30 am: Josephine Sosna --- Donna & Steve

Wed. - Dec. 7 - St. Ambrose

8:30 am: Pat Servidio -- Jovie & John & Family

Thurs. December 8- The Immaculate ConceptionHoly Day of Obligation

8:30 am: In Honor of the Immaculate Virgin Mary

12:00 pm: Special Intention - Susan Miller

7:30 pm: Misa Pro Populo

Fri. - Dec.9- St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin

8:30 am: Henry Bandin --- Family

Saturday - Dec. 10

9:00 am: 1. Rosa Mascioli --- DiLucci Family

2. Purita Bonifacio ---Jovie & Family

3. Ed Malench --Barbara & John Beckerman

5:00 pm: Anna Smaldino --Gregg & MaryAnn

Sunday - Dec. 11 - Third Sunday of Advent

8:30 am: Misa Pro Populo

10:30 am: 1. Paul Canestro -- Fr. Frank

2. Msgr. Joseph Funaro --- Fr. Frank

3. Fr. Dan Weiscopf --- Fr. Frank

12:30 pm: Arthur Amos --- Gerri Amos

*The Gifts of Bread and Wine and Altar Candles
are offered this week:*

*~ In Loving Memory of Anthony Zafferese ~
requested by Linda, John & Cindy*

+ PURGATORIAL SOCIETY - DECEMBER +*Paul Canestro*

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 10:30 am Mass. The stipend to enroll a loved one is \$25.00. The names of those enrolled for the first month will be published in the bulletin.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

CH-Church, SC-Sullivan Center, S-School, SA-School Auditorium, MC-Murray Center, KC-Kateri (Rectory) Chapel ---BR--Board Room

Sunday- December 4

- Religious Education - S
- **CHRISTMAS FAIR**
9 am - 3 pm -- SC

MONDAY- December 5

- Bible Study --7:30 pm --MC
- Alcoholics Anonymous (Beginners Mts.) 7-8 pm - SC
- Alcoholics Anonymous (Open Mtg.) 8:30 - 9:30 pm-SC

TUESDAY - Dec. 6

- **BINGO - SC -7:30 PM**

Total Prizes: \$3,000. Early Bird 7:15 PM.

***** HANDICAP ACCESS *****

“NO Smoking” “Air Conditioned” Please join us!
We are grateful for all of our volunteers.

WEDNESDAY - Dec. 7

- Alcoholics Anonymous - big book - 7 pm-SC
- Alcoholics Anonymous - C - 8:30 pm -SC

THURSDAY - Dec. 8 - Immaculate Conception

- Masses: 8:30 am, 12 noon, 7:30 pm
- Leisure Club -- 11 am - 3 pm -- SC
- Knights Columbus -- 7:45 pm - MC

SATURDAY - December 10

- Breakfast with Santa 10 am -SC
- Religious Ed. - all grades - 4 pm - SC
- Christmas Tree Lighting after 5 pm Mass

SUNDAY- December 11

- Religious Education - S
- Lessons & Carols - 1:45 pm -CH

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AT AMERICAN MARTYRS

- Mon. Dec. 12-Rosary Society Christmas Party-1pm- SC
- Mon. Dec. 19 - Advent Reconciliation - 4-8 pm -CH

Our Christmas Fair 50/50 Raffle tickets are being sold after all Masses. The raffle drawing will be held on Sunday, December 11 after the 12:30 Mass. Raffle



Sunday Collections

Last Weekend -- November 27, 2016

My Weekly Offering for the Support of my Church- \$6,067.

This Weekend - December 4, 2016

My Monthly Offering for the Support of my Church.
My Christmas Flower Offering.

Dec. 8 - Immaculate Conception

Next Weekend - December 11, 2016

My Weekly Offering for the Support of my Church.
Religious Retirement Fund - to support our aging
religious Sisters, Brothers & Priests in our Diocese.

*****NOTE:** Please make all checks payable to:
American Martyrs Church.

If you are unable to attend Mass for a few Sundays, please use
your "Catch Up" envelope for your contributions.
We need you & your financial support!

ONLINE GIVING IS AVAILABLE: It's a convenient and secure
way to make your regular Sunday contributions and there's no cost
to you to set up your account on line. Just go to our website:
Americanmartyrsbayside.com and click on the big **Parish Giving**
red button on the right and follow the instructions.

**Please remember the Roman Catholic Church of
American Martyrs in your will and estate planning.**

****** The November 50/50 Winner: ******

**Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Amarain who won
\$142.50 in our November drawing.** Look for the **December
50/50 (yellow) envelope** which is included in your monthly
mailing of donation envelopes. The next drawing will be held
after the last Sunday in **December. Good Luck!**

Please Pray for our Sick, Homebound and Hospitalized:

Paula Abel, Alex Aponte, Marge Aquino, Jeffrey Arcello, Josephine Attard, Roberto Barrientos, Cecilia Bello, Mary Margaret Benza, Iride Bubek, Owen Canavan, Joan Cerrone, Chang Family, William Christopher, Ralph Colamussi, Jen Costa, Florence D'Anna, Eva Maria Ditaranto, Carrie Enright, John Fazio, Diana Ferrante, Terry Flexer, Michael Gorry, Rose Granelli, Margaret Grasso, Mary Grecco, Daniel Hoffner, John Horvat, Philip Hren, Dr. Pamela Ierardi, Joseph Kinney, Jean Kozinoski, Bill Krug, Cathy Losito, Mary & Ralph Marazzo, Aida Maravilla, Susan McConnell, C. J. Marino, Danny Montchal, Minor Morales, Mary Fitzgerald Murray, Pat North, Walter Panas, Sal Piazza, Lynn Pickett, Peg Pinto, Guillermo Ramirez, Maria Ramirez, Alexander Ramos, Lorraine Rensch, Gloria Riccioppi, Lily & Mike Rivera, Patrice Rohde, Lee Servillo, Adam Singer, George Stellakis, Sheila Still, Mary Sweeney, Suzanne Szalkiewicz, Denise Tully, Joan Wagner, McCaila Young, Fred Uy, Jacqueline Zeller, Genevieve Zenka, Fireman & 9/11 Survivor - Michael Arriaga. **If you would like to add a name to our sick list, please call the Rectory office.**



+ REMEMBER THE DECEASED +

Eternal Rest grant unto them Lord. May perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace; and may their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.
~ Amen

Please take pleasure in our new seat cushions, but please do not bring food or drinks into the Church.

A Note From The Music Ministry

Our Adult Choir needs reinforcements. We're just starting to rehearse for the Advent/Christmas Season. It's the perfect time to join. We sing at the Sunday 10:30 Mass every week, and rehearse after Mass, with a few additional rehearsals down the road. Please see Pat White at the organ, for more information.

LESSONS & CAROLS

Lessons & Carols



Take a break from your hectic holiday schedule and join us for **Lessons & Carols, Sunday, December 11, at 1:45 pm,** featuring The American Martyrs Adult & Youth Choirs, directed by Mr. Patrick White.

Queens Deanery #5 Facebook Page

Join Queens Deanery #5 on Facebook where you will learn more about the upcoming spiritual events in the parishes of our Deanery, as well as find all of the weekly bulletins, contact information, Mass schedules and so much more. Just visit Queens Deanery #5 on Facebook and "like" the page to receive updates, or visit us on the web at

www.queensdeanery5.org.
Facebook.com/Queens Deanery 5

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE 2016

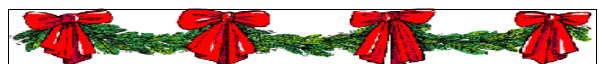
Saturday- December 24, 2016 - Christmas Eve
5 pm & Midnight

Sunday - December 25, 2016 - Christmas Day
8:30 am, 10:30 am, 12:30 pm

Saturday - December 31, 2016
5 pm Vigil Mass

Sunday - January 1, 2017

8:30 am & 10:30 am 12:30 pm



ADVENT DAY OF RECOLLETION -Mon- 12/19

Advent is the time of year when we prepare for Christmas, celebrating the encounter between God and ourselves. Pope Francis has encouraged us to attend to God's presence in order to deepen our relationship with Jesus, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

In preparation of Advent, Monday, December 19, our Diocese will join the Archdiocese of New York in celebrating Advent Reconciliation Monday. Over 500 Churches in NY City and upper counties will be simultaneously offering the sacrament - a powerful invitation to those Catholics who may be away from the sacrament, to be drawn back to this encounter with God's reconciling love.

Confessions will be heard from 4 pm to 8 pm in Church on Monday, December 19.

This Advent, let us open our hearts to God's presence by listening more attentively to God's Word in Scripture and to the promptings of the Holy Spirit in our hearts so that when Christmas arrives we can welcome Jesus with joy and make our lives a gift of love and service.

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight His paths; all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

GIFTS
American Martyrs
FUN Church FOOD
BELL BLVD & UNION TPKE - BAYSIDE, NY

Dec 3, 2016 10am - 3pm RAFFLE

Dec 4, 2016 9am - 3pm SHOPPING PHOTO WITH SANTA

Mitten Drive !

Boxes are at the entrances of our Church, through January, to collect gently-used or new Gloves, Mittens, Scarves and Hats for children and adults. These items will be donated each week to the Salvation Army family residence for those less fortunate than ourselves to help make their winter more comfortable.



2016 & 2017 Mass Book Intentions

The 2017 Mass Intention book is now open. There are still many Mass Intentions open for 2016. You may choose to commemorate a death anniversary, wedding anniversary, birthday remembrance, in healing, or simply a prayer of thanksgiving. Each offering is \$15. Please come to the Rectory or call to request a special Mass offering for your loved one. Also, you may wish to offer the gifts of Bread and Wine or the Altar Candles for one week. The offering is \$25. Mass Intention forms are located on the tables in the Church.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Saturday, December 10, 10 am to 12 noon. Every child gets a gift! Plenty of photo-ops with Santa! Children and Adults \$5. Don't miss this ever popular event!



So that we can plan properly, **NO** tickets will be sold at the door. **Tickets will be on sale after all Masses.**

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Holy Day of Obligation

Thursday, December 8, Masses will be celebrated in Church at 8:30 am; 12 noon; and 7:30 pm.

CHRISTMAS GIFT

Please consider making a Christmas gift to American Martyrs Church.



Envelopes have been placed at the doors and front pews of the Church for the convenience of those who do not receive envelopes at home.

SATURDAY MORNING MASS-TIME CHANGE

Please note the time change: As of January 1, 2017, the Mass on **Saturday mornings** will be at **8:30 am. Monday through Saturday, all Masses will be at 8:30 am in the Rectory Chapel. All Sunday Masses will stay the same: 5 pm-Saturdays; 8:30 am, 10:30 am & 12:30 pm.**

"KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS" POSTER CONTEST

Please encourage the young people in your life to share their talents and remind us all of the true meaning of Christmas by having them enter the "Keep Christ in Christmas" poster contest sponsored by our Father John J. Murray Knights of Columbus Council. Open to children ages 5 through 14, first (\$25 gift card) and second (\$15 gift card) place prizes will be awarded in three age groups. All entries must be submitted by Sunday, December 18th. Contact kofc14666fm@gmail.com if your child has not already received an entry form with the rules or for further information.



CHRISTIAN REFUGEE RELIEF FUND - K of C

To help aid our suffering Christian sisters and brothers in the Middle East the Father John J. Murray Knights of Columbus Council will be selling buttons and magnets during Advent. All proceeds are being donated to the Knights of Columbus Christian Refugee Relief Fund. **There are five different "Keep Christ in Christmas" buttons that sell for \$2 each or 3 for \$5.** The "Jesus - The Reason for the Season" car magnets are 5.75" round and depict a beautiful, full color version of Mary holding baby Jesus and sell for \$5 each. Thank you in advance for your support and your prayers.

***** COMMUNITY NEWS *****

Catholic Charities - Bayside Senior Center-

221-15 Horace Harding Expy. 718-225-1144 Serves full meals at 11:30 every day. Programs: Chair Yoga, Line Dancing, Tai Chi, Exercise, Bingo, Computer, and more.

Sisters of the Handmaids of the Holy Child Jesus:

Will minister and care for the elderly in their own homes. Call 718-888-7708.

Family, Marriage and Individual Therapy- The Catholic Counseling Center offers professional therapy by NYS licensed therapists. 631-243-2503. Dr. George Giuliani. Or visit: thecatholiccounselingcenter.com

Catholic Charities Home-base Program - assists those with housing crisis, (i.e.-- rental arrears, utility shutoffs, etc.) Call 718-674-1000 for more information.

St. Vincent de Paul: donate your old car-718-491-2525. The Society will give back \$50/\$100 to American Martyrs.

Al-Anon and Ala-teen Family Groups: if you've been affected by or are concerned about someone else's drinking, you've come to the right place! Hope, help, and happiness are attainable. www.nycalanon.org -- 212-941-0094

Catholic Charities Neighborhood Home Delivered Meals:

Are you or someone you know 60+ years old, living in the Northeast Queens area and would benefit from a hot meal each day? Call 718-357-4903 for more information.

Meals-on-Wheels -- Sub. Drivers needed on call--Mon - Sat. 4 hours per workday. 718-357-4903 #1 - Maria or Kathy

Alzheimer's Adult Day Program - Catholic Charities Neighborhood Services. Mental and physical stimulation, a hot lunch and door to door transportation. 718-358-3541. Weekly caregiver support group.

2016 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

~ *Share the Joy of the Gospel* ~

Annual Appeal Goal for 2016: \$61,392.

Amount Pledged (as of 11/21/16): \$87,950.

Amount Received: \$80,527.

Donors: 244



Pledge envelopes have been placed at all the entrances to the Church. You can make a pledge online by going to www.rcdobdonate.org, or simply mail in the commitment form with the amount of your pledge. Some companies have matching gift programs, so please check to see if your place of employment participates. If you have not yet seen the video presentation, you may do so on our website: americanmartyrsbayside.com.

Remember, every dollar received over goal comes back to the Parish.

Thank you for all you do for American Martyrs.

~ *Reverend Frank L. Schwarz, Pastor*

GOSPEL REFLECTION

In the Gospel passage from St. Matthew, St. John the Baptist declares, among other things, "Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight his paths." Isn't that a sign to us of what Advent means to us?

St. Paul writes in his letter to the Romans, our Second Reading on this Second Sunday of Advent: "May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to think in harmony with one another." That statement is prayer-like, something that Paul tends to do in his letters, because Paul recognizes and knows that it is only through the Holy Spirit that each of can find that internal conversion to have the same endurance and patience to achieve the harmony for which we seek.

That in part is what we are striving for during this Advent season. Often, especially at this time of year, we are in a hurry. God may seem to work too slowly for us. God's plan is based upon patience and endurance. Paul continues that we need to "...welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you." Christ does indeed welcome us with all our faults and our sins as well. Throughout His ministry the Lord called us to treat one another, to love one another, as He treats and loves us.

As part of our Advent journey we need to work toward finding that same love in our hearts that the Lord feels for us. First, we need to recognize and accept that love. Then we need to seek the conversion that allows us to translate that love into our treatment of others. This is, in effect, what stewardship is all about — to glorify God in our actions by thinking of others first, by sharing who and what we are.

-thecatholicsteward.com