

MASSES FOR THE WEEKSAT. - Dec. 14, 2019

5:00 pm: Vito Merola --- Patricia Merola

SUNDAY- Dec. 15 - 3rd Sunday of Advent

8:30 am: Anna Smaldino --- Gregg & Maryann

10:30 am: 1. Luba A. Mihalics (1st Ann.) --- Family

2. Bridie & Patrick Golden --- Daughter

3. Patrick Golden --- Sister

12:30 pm: Misa Pro Populo

Mon. - Dec. 16

8:30 am: Antonia & Hortnsia Torres --- Vincent

Tues. - Dec. 17

8:30 am: Tereza Santos --- Family

Wed. - Dec. 18

8:30am: Mary Sweeney -- Andrew Raftery

After the 8:30 am Mass - Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

Thurs. - Dec. 19

8:30 am: Mary Sweeney -- Frank & Ann Tomitz

Friday - Dec. 20

8:30 am: Patrick J. Kearney, Sr. --- Family

Sat. - Dec. 21 - St. Peter Canisius

8:30 am: 1. Rev. Thomas Kehoe --- Fr. Frank

2. Nancy Mancini --- Fr. Frank

3. Marie de Angelis --- Fr. Frank

5:00 pm: Victor Cabral, Sr. --- Family

Sunday- DEC. 22 - 4th Sunday of ADVENT

8:30 am: Misa Pro Populo

10:30 am: 1. Ray Hippeli --- Irene McGrath

2. John F. (Jack) Bills --- Ann Marie

3. Gloria Riccioppi --- Patricia Merola

12:30 pm: Anna & Sal Tringali --- Anita Mascioli

*The Gifts of Bread and Wine are offered for :**~ Kate Zabala ~**Requested by the Zabala Family**The Altar Candles are offered :**~ In Thanksgiving for Prayers Answered ~*PRAYING THE ROSARYPlease join us on the first Sunday of every month at 10 am to pray the Rosary.**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**CH-Church, SC-Sullivan Center, S-SchoolSA-School Auditorium, MC- Murray CenterRC-Kateri (Rectory) Chapel BR--Board RoomSunday - Dec. 15

- Religious Education -8:45 am -SC-- (last day)
Rel. Ed resumes on Sun. Jan. 5, at 8:45am--S

Monday - Dec. 16

- **Reconciliation - 4 pm - 8 pm --CH**
- **Rosary Society Christmas party -- 1 pm - SC**
- Alcoholics Anonymous Beginners mtg. -7-8 pm-SC
- Alcoholics Anonymous (Open mtg.) 8:30-9:30pm-SC

TUESDAY - Dec. 17

- **BINGO -7:30 pm - SC**
- Total prizes: \$3,00 - Early Bird- 7:15 pm
***** HANDICAP ACCESS *****

BINGO			
15	28	37	51 73
6	17	32	45 61
9	15	★	60 70
12	26	44	52 66
7	22	34	48 72

Please join us! We are grateful for all of our volunteers.

WED. - Dec. 18

- **Columbiettes meeting - 7 pm -MC**
- Alcoholics Anonymous - big book - 7 pm - SC
- Alcoholics Anonymous - C - 8:30 pm - SC

THURS.- Dec. 19

- **Leisure Club --11 - 3 --SC**

SATURDAY - Dec. 14

- **K of C Christmas Party - SC - 6 pm**

SUNDAY - December 22

- **NO Rel. Ed.**

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AT AMERICAN MARTYRS

- **Mon. Dec. 16 - Reconciliation - 4 pm - 8 pm --CH**
- **Tues. Dec. 31 -- New Year's Eve Party -- SC**

*For the sake of His sorrowful passion,
have mercy on us and on the whole world.**~ Chaplet of Divine Mercy*

O God, help me to find ways to be alone with You, to speak to you, to listen to you, to ponder your words deep in my heart and so be renewed and transformed. Fill me with your grace, which makes me do all things with joy.

Amen

~ St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta



Sunday Collections

Last Weekend - Dec. 8, 2019

Weekly for the Support of my Church -- \$7,078.
 Religious Retirement Fund -- \$1,490.
 E-Giving for November --- \$1,440.

This Weekend - December 15, 2019

1. Weekly Offering for the Support of my Church.
2. Christmas Gift to my Church.

Next Weekend - December 22, 2019

1. Weekly Offering for the Support of my Church.

*******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. Go to:

Americanmartyrs-queens.org

Find "Ways to Give" and follow the instructions.

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

Please Pray for Our Sick, Homebound and Hospitalized:

Michael Arriaga, Barbagallo Family, Roberto Barrientos, Rose & Jessie Carlone, Bill Carrar, Frank Carroll, Chang Family, Diana Ferrante, Michael Gorry, Jack Kopcinski, Daniel Limberg, Brian Mastrococco, Steve McCabe, Ed Miles, Mary Modica, Danny Montchal, Lorraine Rensch, John Sheridan, Jr., Sheila Still, Arlene Scherne, Marie Scuderi, Lee Servillo, Genevieve Zenka.

Please pray for the men and women of our Armed Forces serving in the U.S. and abroad:

- Rev. LT. Mark Bristol, USN
- LCPL Christopher Keane - USMC
- PO3 John Schaefer - USCG
- SGT Christopher Cola -USA



If you know of any parishioner who is currently serving in the Armed forces and would like to be added to our prayer list, please call the Rectory. 718-464-4582.

Nothing is more powerful than the power of prayer.

Lord, come and save us.

If you are not yet registered in the Parish, please stop into the Rectory Office for a Census Form Monday through Saturday from 9am to 2pm.

PILGRIMAGE TO OBERAMMERGAU

THE PASSION PLAY

Visits to: Wurzburg, Rothenburg, Regensburg, Passau, Salzburg & Munich

MAY 12 - 21, 2020

Bishop Octavio Cisneros, Spiritual Director
 Rev. Frank Schwarz, Chaplain

For a Brochure call: Peter's Way Tours at:
 516-605-1551 ext 17.

Or visit: Kaitlin@petersway.com.

Information is available at the Rectory Office

**The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
 Because He has anointed me
 to bring glad tidings to the poor.**

The Mitten Drive is back.

Donations of new or gently-used hats, scarves, gloves and mittens for adults and children at Family Shelters will be collected after weekend Masses through the end of January. Your generosity is always appreciated.



ROSARY SOCIETY

Come join us for our **Christmas Party in the Sullivan Center on Monday, Dec. 16 at 1 pm.** There will be light refreshments, coffee and Cake. We will also have a small Chinese Auction. All Ladies are welcome to join us.



POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER FOR DECEMBER

That every country determine to take the necessary measures to make the future of the very young, especially those who suffer, a priority.



Please do not bring food or drinks into Church.

Lord, it is hard to trust that you love me so much that you forgive me. Send forth your angels to conquer the darkness that seeks only to blame and condemn me. Help me turn to your mercy, and give me faith and courage to trust in your promise.

What do I most hesitate to acknowledge and bring openly to God in my prayer?

REFLECTION



Good news, Christian stewards — we are gaining ground on our Advent mountain climb and it is time to take a moment to rejoice in the Good News that our Savior will come again in triumph one day. **Today's readings on this Gaudete ("Rejoice") Sunday are filled with reminders of God's final victory over suffering and injustice, and encouragement to remain steadfast in our mission to live as faith-filled disciples.**

Such a day almost seems too good to be true, especially when we look around at the dire circumstances we face in our world at present. But by faith we know this day is coming. Lest we grow weary as we await the glorious day of Christ's return, St. James, in our second reading, offers wise counsel. "Be patient, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord... Make your hearts firm... Do not complain, brothers and sisters, about one another, that you may not be judged."

This is excellent advice for us Christian stewards as we face the challenges of everyday life in our broken world, especially in the hectic days that precede Christmas, when stress can make us and those around us less than our best selves. St. James reminds us that we can choose our response to both the great strains and the minor annoyances of life.

In other words, we can be good stewards of our attitude, "making our hearts firm" by practicing patience with others and refusing to give in to the temptation to complain.

We can choose to see and rejoice in God's presence with us, no matter the circumstances surrounding us.

ADVENT DAY OF RECOLLECTION - Mon- 12/16

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 during Advent, Monday, December 16, 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 American Martyrs on Monday, December 16.** 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.

2019 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

~ FAITH & GOOD WORKS ~

We thank those who have already made a pledge, and we ask that everyone *prayerfully* consider making a gift to the 2019 Appeal.



Annual Appeal Goal for 2019:
\$58,725.

Amount Pledged:	\$107,562.
Amount Received:	\$105,118.
Donors:	213

You can make your gift online at:

AnnualCatholicAppeal.org

Many companies have special *Matching Gift Programs*. Call the ACA office at:

718-965-7375, ext. 1602.

Your donation is tax deductible.

Please visit: AnnualCatholicAppeal.org

to watch the video. Remember, every dollar received over our goal comes back to American Martyrs Parish. Thank you for all you do for American Martyrs.

~ Reverend Frank L. Schwarz, Pastor

MARCH FOR LIFE

The March for Life Rally began in Washington, D.C. as a small demonstration and rapidly grew to be the largest pro-life event in the world. This peaceful demonstration marks the somber anniversary in 1973 of Roe v. Wade and is a witness to the truth concerning the greatest human rights violation of our time - legalized abortion on demand. The 47th March for Life rally will be held on **January 24, 2020**. American Martyrs parish and friends are planning to attend this rally. Plans are being made to rent a bus to take us to and from Washington. Please email KofCAM14666@gmail.com if you are interested in attending with us. Visit our webpage for more info at <https://kofcam.weebly.com/>. This is an opportunity for us to come together as a parish to take a stand against abortion.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE 2019

Tuesday - December 24, 2019

5 pm & Midnight Mass - Christmas Eve

Wednesday - December 25, 2019 - Christmas Day

8:30 am, 10:30 am, 12:30 pm

Tuesday - December 31, 2019

5 pm Vigil Mass

Wednesday - January 1, 2020 - Solemnity of Mary

8:30 am & 10:30 am



+ 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

***** 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.

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

Associated Vincentian Charities of Brooklyn:

Donate your old Car, Truck or Van - running or not.

718-491-2525. **The Society will give back \$75/\$200 to American Martyrs.** For anyone that has a neglected vehicle that they would like to dispose of contact:

SVDPAUTO@GMAIL.COM

IRS Tax Deduction - Free Towing - Any Condition.

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.

Nar-Anon Never Alone: is a 12-step support group for anyone affected by a loved one's use/abuse of drugs. 718-217-0364.

National Suicide Prevention help line: -1-800-273-8255

Healing After Abortion: Sisters of Life at: 866-575-0075
Hopeandhealing@sistersoflife.org.

GENERATIONS OF FAITH-Capital Campaign

Amount Pledged: \$1,227,929.

Total Paid on Pledges: \$1,013,393.

Amount returned to American Martyrs: \$588,687.



Number of Parishioners participating: 317

For those who have pledged, thank you for your faithfulness in fulfilling your pledges.



AT

**AMERICAN MARTYRS
SULLIVAN CENTER**

DECEMBER 31, 2019

7:30 PM - 12:30 AM

\$65.00 / PERSON

**APPETIZERS, DINNER AND
DESSERT (BYOB)
PROFESSIONAL DJ**

**BRING YOUR DANCING SHOES
AND YOUR APPETITE**

**LET'S TOAST AND
WELCOME YEAR 2020
TOGETHER!!!**

RSVP DEADLINE DECEMBER 23, 2019

**MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO :
AMERICAN MARTYRS CHURCH**

**For information contact Theresa
@ 718-428-5308 or Jovie's e-mail
jovie212@yahoo.com**

Tickets are available at the Rectory.