

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

SAT. - Dec. 7, 2019

5:00 pm: Henry & Rose Frey --- E . O.

SUNDAY- Dec. 1 - 2nd Sunday of Advent

8:30 am: Misa Pro Populo

- 10:30 am: 1. Henry Banden --- Banden Family
- 2. Charles & Concetta Pascucci -- Marianne & John
- 3. Joseph, Marie, & Marie de Angelis --- Family

12:30 pm: Kevin Keegan --- Maureen Meehan

Mon. - Dec. 9 - Immaculate Conception

8:30 am: Patricia Whitmarsh --- Family

7:30 pm: Misa Pro Populo

Tues. - Dec. 10

8:30 am: Mary Frances Sweeney -Margaret & Carl

Wed. - Dec. 11 - St. Damasus

8:30am: Arthur Amos --- Family

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

Thurs. - Dec. 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe

8:30 am: Jose Cruz -- Hun Familyl

Friday - Dec. 13 - St. Lucy

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

Sat. - Dec. 14 - St. John of the Cross

8:30 am: 1. Mary Sweeney --- Fr. Frank

2. Brian McLaughlin--- Weldon Family

3. Susan McConnell --- Family

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

*The Gifts of Bread and Wine are offered :
~ For a Special Intention ~
Requested by M.B.*

*The Altar Candles are offered :
~ In Thanksgiving for Prayers Answered ~*

PRAYING THE ROSARY

Please 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-School

SA-School Auditorium, MC- Murray Center

RC-Kateri (Rectory) Chapel BR--Board Room

Sunday - Dec. 8

- Religious Education -8:45 am -S
- Breakfast with Santa tickets on sale for Sat. Dec. 14
- **CHRISTMAS FAIR - SC -9 am**
- Christmas Raffle tickets on sale

Monday - Dec. 9

- Immaculate Conception Masses-8:30 am & 7:30 pm
- Bible Study - 7:30 pm - MC
- Alcoholics Anonymous Beginners mtg. -7-8 pm-SC
- Alcoholics Anonymous (Open mtg.) 8:30-9:30pm-SC

TUESDAY - Dec. 10

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



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

WED. - Dec. 11

- **Discussion- Bishop Baron's Book -7:30 pm - CH**
- Alcoholics Anonymous - big book - 7 pm - SC
- Alcoholics Anonymous - C - 8:30 pm - SC

THURS.- Dec. 12

- Leisure Club --11 - 3 --SC
- **Knights of Columbus - 7:45 pm - MC**

SATURDAY - Dec. 14

- **Breakfast with Santa - SC - 10 am**

SUNDAY - December 15

- Rel. Ed. - 8:45 am -SC

MONDAY - December 16

- Mon. Dec. 16 - Reconciliation - 4 pm - 8 pm --CH

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AT AMERICAN MARTYRS

- Mon. Dec 9 - Immaculate Conception - Mass will be celebrated in Church- 8:30 am & 7:30 pm.
- Sat. Dec. 14- **Breakfast with Santa** - 10 am - SC
- 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.*



Sunday CollectionsLast Weekend - Dec. 1, 2019

Monthly for the Support of my Church -- \$6,802.
Christmas Flowers. - \$1,891.

This Weekend - December 8, 2019

1. Weekly Offering for the Support of my Church.
2. Immaculate Conception.
Religious Retirement Fund.

Next Weekend - December 15, 2019

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

**Justice shall flourish in His time,
And fullness of peace for ever.**

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

**Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight His paths:
All flesh shall see the salvation of God.**

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.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

The Catholic War Veterans will host the Breakfast with Santa on Saturday, December 14, 10 am to 12 noon. Every child gets a gift! Plenty of photo-ops with Santa! **Children \$5 and Adults \$7.** 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.

St. Mary's Hospital for Children Holiday Drive

Now through Dec. 14 ~ new clothing (pj's, socks, underwear, sneakers) or toys (arts & crafts, musical books, rattles) Do not wrap. Gift cards, and checks payable to: **St. Mary's Foundation.** **3 locations for donations:** Martin A. Gleason Funeral Home, 36-46 Bell Blvd; 149-20 Northern Blvd, or 10-25 150 St., Whitestone.

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.



REFLECTION

On this Second Sunday of Advent, our second reading from St. Paul's letter to the Romans encourages us to focus our Advent preparations in this way: *"Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God." And how does Christ welcome us? With unconditional love.*



This is the essence of Christian hospitality, a vital aspect of stewardship living. Fully embraced, it has the power to transform our lives and the lives of those who experience it through us.

The practice of Christian hospitality is also a way for us stewards to answer the call of John the Baptist, in our Gospel passage from Matthew. His words apply just as much to us today as they did to the people awaiting the Savior's arrival. John says, **"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!"** And he recalls the words of the prophet Isaiah, **"Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths."** There is a definite connection between repentance and effective hospitality.

How can we make repentance a regular part of our everyday lives? We can make an "examination of conscience" a daily part of our prayers, thanking God for the times we said "yes" to Him, and asking forgiveness for the times we chose our own will. We can, and should, go to Confession this Advent. We can reach out to a family member or friend where there is distance or discord and make peace.

As we "straighten the paths" of our own hearts and minds, we become more hospitable people, better stewards of God's grace and mercy, far more open and ready to invite others into our lives, homes, and parish. This is preparation fitting for our merciful Savior.
~ thecatholicsteward.com

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:	\$107,462.
Amount Received:	\$105,008.
Donors:	212

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.

Sign up sheets are at the doors of the Church.

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.

"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 8th. Please visit <https://kofcam.weebly.com/> if your child has not already received an entry form with the rules or for further information.



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.

Please do not bring food or drinks into Church.

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.



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