

MASSES FOR THE WEEKSATURDAY - December 8

8:00 pm: LaSala Family --- Anthony & Maria LaSala

SUNDAY-December 9 - 2nd Sunday of Advent

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

10:30 am: 1. Margot Cigliano - Suzanne Malench

2. Abby Chimenti --- Michael Chimenti

3. Vincent Semet -- Coleen & Jack Wong

12:30 pm: Misa Pro Populo

Mon. - Dec. 10

8:30 am: Rosa & Agostino Mascioli - Joanne & Family

Tues. - Dec. 11 - St. Damasus

8:30 am: Arthur Amos --- Family

Wed.- Dec. 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe

8:30am: Muse Ochsner -- Misuzu Kato

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

Thurs. - December 13 - St. Lucy

8:30 am: Lucy & Michael Sica --- Family

Fri. - December 14 - St. John of the Cross

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

Saturday - Dec. 15

8:30 am: 1. Vito Merola --- Wife, Patricia

2. Theresa Kavaliauskas --- Family

3. Robert Kavaliauskas (Living) --- Family

5:00 pm: Misa Pro Populo

Sunday-Dec. 16 - Gaudete Sunday

8:30 am: Joseph A. Borst --- E.O.

10:30 am: 1. Theresa Kavaliauskas --- Family

2. Linda Walsh (Living) --- Family

3. David Zack (Living) --- Family

12:30 pm: Alice Tahaney --- Mary Rose Bosko

The Gifts of Bread and Wine are offered this week:

~ In Loving Memory of ~

Deceased Parishioners of American Martyrs

The Altar Candles are offered this week for:

John Chu ~ Healing

Requested by his Family

Jesus Comes in Human History - Our celebration of Christmas focuses on the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem. The Christmas crèche and liturgies help us recall the moment Jesus was born as a human being to live His destiny as the Son of God and our redeemer.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

SUNDAY - December 9

- NO Rel. Ed.
- CWV- tickets on sale for Breakfast with Santa
- Christmas Fair raffle tickets are on sale

MONDAY- Dec. 10

- Rosary Society Luncheon - 1 pm - SC
- Bible Study - 7:30 pm - MC
- Alcoholics Anonymous (Beginners Mts.) 7-8 pm - SC
- Alcoholics Anonymous (Open Mtg.) 8:30 - 9:30 pm-SC
- NO AA - Mon. Dec. 24

TUESDAY - Dec. 11

- RCIA - 7:30 pm - MC
- **BINGO - 7:30 pm --SC**

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

- **NO BINGO - Tuesday, January 1st**

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

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

WED. - Dec. 12

- Alcoholics Anonymous - big book - 7 pm - SC
- Alcoholics Anonymous - C - 8:30 pm - SC
- NO AA - Mon. Dec. 24

THURS. - Dec. 13

- Leisure Club --11 am - 3 pm -- SC

SAT. - December 15

- CWV- Breakfast with Santa -10 am - SC
- NO** Tickets will be sold at the door

SUNDAY - DECEMBER 16 -3rd Sunday of Advent

- Religious Ed. -- SC

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AT AMERICAN MARTYRS

- Sat. Dec. 8 - Tree Lighting after 5 pm Mass
- Mon. Dec. 10 - Rosary Society Christmas Party
- Sat. Dec. 15 -CWV Breakfast with Santa -10 am
- Mon. Dec. 17- Advent Reconciliation
- 4 pm - 8 pm - CH
- Sat. Dec. 29 - CWV - Clothing donation - 11 am
- Sat. Dec. 29 CWV-SC- 9 am after 8:30 am Mass
- NO Bingo- Tues. January 1, 2019
- Rectory Office Closed Tues. January 1, 2019

Sunday Collections

Last Weekend - December 2, 2018

My Monthly Offering for the Support of my Church. -\$7,030.
Christmas Flower Offering - \$2,240.

This Weekend - December 9, 2018

My Weekly Offering for the Support of my Church.
Religious Retirement Fund - to help support our
Retired Religious community.

Next Weekend - December 16, 2018

Weekly Offering for the Support of my Church.
My 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: e-giving.org/americanmartyrschurch 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:

Paula Abel, Jackie Arriaga, Alex Aponte, Janet Altieri,
Marge Aquino, Joel Arapiles, Eugenia Arpino, Elsa
Barbagallo, Roberto Barrientos, Mary Margaret Benza,
Iride Bubek, Frances Burgess, Bill Corrar, Frank
Carroll, Chang Family, William Christopher, Ralph
Colamussi, Jessie Carlone, Hilde Daempfle, Carrie Enright, John
Fazio, Diana Ferrante, Terry Flexer, Michael Gorry, Wilson
Grullon, Ray Hippeli, Herman Hiris, Daniel Hoffner, William
Krug, Cathy Losito, Ralph Marazzo, Aida Maravilla, Brian
Mastorocco, Susan McConnell, Peter Mesologites, Danny
Montchal, Mary Fitzgerald Murray, Ed Myles, Walter Panas,
Rosemary Parente, Kathleen Pastore, Sal Piazza, Peg Pinto,
Guillermo Ramirez, Maria Ramirez, Alexander Ramos, Amelia
Reyes, Lily & Mike Rivera, Patrice Rohde, Kinsey Saleh, John
Sheridan, Jr., Arlene Scherne, Marie Scuderi, Lee Servillo, Adam
Singer, George & Gussie Stellakis, Mary Sweeney, Suzanne
Szalkiewicz, Rosemary Tricarico, Julio Villagran, Joan Wagner,
Jesse Wagner, Carolann Wilk, Ed Wilm, McCaila Young,
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.

**Also, please pray for the men and women of our
Armed Forces serving in the U.S. and abroad.**

Nothing is more powerful than the power of prayer.

PILGRIMAGE TO GERMANY & AUSTRIA

Please join Bishop Cisneros, Spiritual Director
and Rev. Frank Schwarz, Chaplain, on
May 12 - 21, 2020 for this 10 day, once-in-a-
lifetime, pilgrimage to the 42nd world-famous
Passion Play which takes place every ten years
in Oberammergau!

Highlights include: Wurzburg, Mainz, Rhine River Cruise,
Heidelberg, Salzburg, Neuschwanstein Castle, Munich,
and of course the Passion Play in the town of
Oberammergau.

Visit: **Peter's Way Tours at petersway.com.**
Information is available at the Rectory Office

2019 Mass Book Intentions

The 2019 Mass Book is now open. You may choose to
commemorate a death anniversary, wedding
anniversary, birthday remembrance, in healing, or
simply a prayer of thanksgiving. Each offering is \$15.
You can pick up a Mass Intention sheet at the doors of the
Church, 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.**

POPE FRANCIS

Each year, the Holy Father asks for our prayers for a
specific intention each month. You are invited to answer
the Holy Father's request and to join with many people
worldwide in praying for this intention.

In Service of Transmission of Faith

That people, who are involved in the service and
transmission of faith, may find, in their dialogue with
culture, a language suited to the conditions of the
present time.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

SANTA!!!!



The Catholic War Veterans will
host the Breakfast with Santa on
Saturday, December 15, 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 .**

CWV - CLOTHING DRIVE - Sat. Dec. 29 -11am

The Catholic War Veterans will be holding a
Clothing Drive on **Saturday, Dec. 29 at 11 am**
in the Sullivan Center. Please bring your gently
used clothing (for Men, Women and Children)
to the SC at 11 am. A Veteran will be there to
accept your donation. We cannot accept clothing before
that date. Thank you.



REFLECTION

The readings for the Second Week of Advent offer both encouragement and challenge as we reflect and prepare for the two "comings" of Christ — His coming as a baby on the great feast of Christmas, and the anticipation of His second coming at the end of time.



Our First Reading, from Baruch, is a wonderful reminder that God has triumphed over sin and death and that we — His faithful disciples — will live in the light of His glory one day. Until He comes again, we must remain faithful to Him as true disciples and good stewards of all the gifts He has given us.

While it can be tempting to give in to the materialism and calls for self-indulgence that surround us, (ironically more than ever at this time of year), this reading calls us back to the spiritual reality that this life is passing and that we are made for eternal life with God. **We are called to prepare for eternal life by the way that we use our time, our talents and our treasure now.**

The Gospel reading from Luke shows us how personal and detailed is God's love for humanity as He prepared the way for Christ's coming among us. We are told the precise time, place and person, John the Baptist, He appointed to announce the arrival of our Savior.

John tells us how to celebrate to the fullest this first "coming" on the feast of Christmas and how to prepare for the second coming — through repentance.

This Advent, let's turn away from any bad habits or sin that may have crept in to our lives and turn our hearts and minds back to Christ. This is what the stewardship way of life is all about — moving closer ever closer in relationship with Christ and imitation of Him, ready to celebrate His birth, with eyes fixed on eternal life with Him. ~thecatholicsteward.com

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE 2018

Monday - December 24, 2018

5 pm & Midnight Mass - Christmas Eve

Tuesday - December 25, 2018 - Christmas Day

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

Monday - December 31, 2018

5 pm Vigil Mass

Tuesday - January 1, 2019 - Solemnity of Mary

8:30 am & 10:30 am

Dear Parishioners,

Please do not bring food or drinks into Church. Please do not chew gum in Church, and please wear proper Sunday attire in reverence of the Holy Eucharist.
~ Fr. Frank

GENERATIONS OF FAITH-CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Amount Pledged: \$1,240,000.

Total Paid on Pledges: \$877,281.

Amount returned to American

Martyrs: \$445,745.87

Number of Parishioners participating: 314

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



AMERICAN MARTYRS GIVING TREE

Please return wrapped gifts, with tag attached, today, to the Church.

Special Needs Parents Group

This is the Special Needs Parents Group schedule for January through June 2019: **Wednesday January 9**

Wednesday February 13 Thursday March 7

Tuesday April 2, Wednesday May 8, Thursday June 6

Call Georgette at 718-631-1307

"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 15th. 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 - KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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 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.



+ REMEMBER THE DECEASED +

Luba A. Mihalics

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 pray for the men and women of our
Armed Forces serving in the U.S. and abroad:
SPC Ruby Russo - US Army
LCPL Christopher Keane - USMC
PO3 John Schaefer - USCG**

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.

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

Healing Mass - St. Anastasia - Tues. Dec. 11

7 pm Rosary, Mass & Healing service --718-631-4454

Pilgrimage ~ Holy Land - Barcelona

March 10-21, 2019 - Spiritual Director: Fr. John Costello
Call: **A & G Peace Tours - 718-423-5077**

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.

2018 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

~ Answer The Call ~

We thank those who have already made a pledge, and we ask that everyone *prayerfully* consider making a gift to the 2018 Appeal.



Annual Appeal Goal for 2018: \$59,000.
Amount Pledged: \$107,387.
Amount Received: \$103,378.
Donors: 248

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. **CFBQ.org/ACAVideo.** **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

The Wellness Class

This class is a 45 minute Total Body workout that includes Aerobic Movement, Resistance Training, Basic Yoga and Meditation. This class is intended for both women and men, of all fitness levels. Suggested class price is \$ 5.00. All proceeds will go to the AM Columbiettes. Next class: **January 9th at 7:00 pm in the MC.**



THE MITTEN DRIVE IS BACK!

We will again be collecting donations of new or gently used mittens, gloves, hats and scarves for adults and children. Let's keep those in local family shelters warm this winter. **This drive will continue through January following the weekend Masses.**



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.



AMERICAN MARTYRS LEISURE CLUB

New Members are always welcome! Open all year! Come join us on any Thursday from 11 am to 3 pm, in the Sullivan Center for a few fun-filled hours, to socialize, play cards, celebrate holidays & plan occasional excursions. Our facility is air-conditioned & handicap accessible.

