

April 11, 2010— Divine Mercy and Second Sunday of Easter
“ You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me, says the Lord;
 blessed are they who have not seen me, but still believe!”

Liturgical Ministry Schedule

Mass Intentions

Weekend of April 18, 2010

5:00 PM (ENGLISH)

LECTOR– A. Purchase

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Y. Bellevue P. Peisel G. Maffettone

F. Defay M. L. Lebon

ALTAR SERVERS– S. McGorty, C. Mc Gorty

7:30 AM (ENGLISH)

LECTOR– R. Phillip

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

M. A. Brady O. Davis P. Dell

V. Costello F. Dell D. Spagnoli

ALTAR SERVERS– C. Bargeron, J. Fray

8:45 AM (SPANISH)

LECTORS–

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

A. Lazo D. Suray A. Ticas

J. Lazo A. Canas C. Jara

ALTAR SERVERS– J. Hernandez, J. Canas,
R. Almonte, K. Gamez



11:00 AM (ENGLISH)

LECTOR– B. Fong Lee

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

S. Bricourt K. Graham L. Magloire

W. Delpesh L. Joachim V. Semper

ALTAR SERVERS– I. Chiedo, A. Cheido, C. Antoine

12:30 PM (HAITIAN)

LECTORS– A. Exantus, M. Denis, M. Felix

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

E. St. Louis, L. Joachim

If there is any difference between the above and your individual schedule, the individual one is to be considered correct.

April 11, 2010

Monday

8:30 AM

April 12

Frances Powell

Tuesday

8:30 AM

April 13– St. Martin I

Betty Leonard

Wednesday

8:30 AM

April 14

Frances Powell

Thursday

8:30 AM

April 15

Gerald Cook

Friday

8:30 AM

April 16

In Thanksgiving for
Antonine Myrthil and Family

Saturday

5:00 PM

April 17

Robert McGuigan

Sunday

April 18

Third Sunday of Easter

7:30 AM

Rita Faure

8:45 AM

Francisca Jose

11:00AM

Victor Fray

12:30 PM

Parishioners of Saint Martha's

The Bread and Wine for the Week of

April 11 to April 17, 2010

are offered

In Memory of John W. Mahoney

Requested By

Barbara Mahoney

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR

Third Sunday of Easter

April 18, 2010

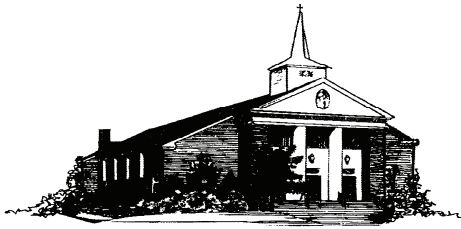
Acts of the Apostles 5:27-32,40-41

Psalms 30:2,4-6, 11-13

Revelation 5:11-14

John 21:1-19.





St. Martha's Catholic Parish

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THE PASTOR'S WEEKLY LETTER – April 11th 2010

~ Divine Mercy Sunday + Second Sunday in the Octave of Easter ~

Dear Parishioners, Chers Paroissiens, Queridos feligreses:

WELCOME This weekend the Parish Family welcomes Father Mickey Bancroft as a visiting celebrant. Father Mickey is the Chaplain at St. Charles Hospital in Port Jefferson and covering while several of us are participating in Saturday's Diocesan Pilgrimage to the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Welcome Father Mickey.

U.S. CENSUS: This weekend members of the *U.S. Census Bureau* will be here (in Bethany Hall) to assist you with any questions or concerns you may have about the 2010 Census Form. Welcome to Omar and to Rahsmia Zatar who will speak at the Masses about the importance of "being counted."

THANK YOU: Thank you to all who helped to make the liturgies of Holy Week a fruitful spiritual experience – especially Deacon Hernst and Mr. Alvin Ingram, Liturgy Committee, the choirs and musicians and all who helped to prayerfully enhance the worship environment. ~ Thanks also to Lady Gloria Maffettone, and *all* who volunteered for the *Papal Orders Day of Recollection* with Dr. William Donohue of *The Catholic League*. Next year's presenter will be His Eminence Edward Cardinal Egan, Archbishop-Emeritus of New York – which may be the first time a Cardinal visits St. Martha's.

BIENVENUE: Ce week-end, la Famille Paroissiale accueille le Père Mickey Bancroft, notre célébrant visiteur. Père Mickey est l'aumônier de l'Hôpital St. Charles à Port Jefferson et il nous remplace pendant que nous participons samedi au Pèlerinage Diocésain au Sanctuaire National de l'Immaculée Conception. Bienvenue, Père Mickey.

ROBE DE MARIÉE: Une amie nous a fait don d'une belle robe de mariée qui sera gardée pour les futures mariées au Centre Paroissial Outreach. Nous espérons recevoir d'autres articles qui pourront servir à ceux qui en auront besoin. Vos suggestions pratiques et vos dons utiles sont toujours appréciés.

MERCI: Merci à tous ceux qui ont aidé à faire des liturgies de la Semaine Sainte une expérience spirituelle fructueuse - particulièrement le Diacre Hernst et M. Alvin Ingram, le Comité de Liturgie, les chorales, les musiciens et tous ceux qui ont contribué à créer une atmosphère de recueillement et de prière. ~ Merci également à Mme. Gloria Maffettone et à tous ceux qui se sont portés volontaires pour le *Jour de Récollection des Ordres Papaux* avec le Dr. William Donohue de *La Ligue Catholique*. Le présentateur l'année prochaine sera Son Éminence l'Archevêque Honoraire Edouard Cardinal Egan – qui sera peut-être le premier Cardinal à visiter Ste. Martha.

BIENVENIDA: Este fin de semana la Familia Parroquial recibe con agrado al Padre Mickey Bancroft quien está de visita. El Padre Mickey es el capellán del Hospital St. Charles en Por Jefferson y me sustituirá, mientras muchos de nosotros participamos en el Peregrinaje Diocesano al Santuario de la Inmaculada Concepción el sábado. Bienvenido Padre Mickey.

CENSO AMERICANO: Este fin de semana miembros del *U.S. Census Bureau* estarán aquí (en el Salón Betania) para ayudar con preguntas o alguna inquietud que puedan tener acerca cuestionario del Censo del 2010. Bienvenidos Omar y Rashmia Zatar quienes se dirigirán a los feligreses en todas la misas para notificarnos de la importancia de "ser contados"

AGRADECIMIENTOS: Gracias a todos los que ayudaron hacer de las liturgias de Semana Santa una experiencia espiritual fructífera – especialmente al Diácono Hernst y Alvin Ingram, Comité de Liturgia, coros, músicos y quienes con sus oraciones dieron al ambiente un realce de devoción. ~ Gracias especiales a la Srta. Gloria Maffettone, y todos los voluntarios en el Día de Reflexión de la Orden Papal con el Sr. William Donahue de la Liga Católica. El próximo año el ponente será Su Eminencia Edward Cardinal Egan Arzobispo Emérito de Nueva York – podría ser la primera vez que un Cardenal visita Santa Marta.

Fr. Frank Pere Frank Padre Frank

HOMILY ~ HOLY THURSDAY, Mass of the Lord's Supper ~ April 1st 2010

Did you know that a Court (a Judge) in Florida has recently established a “holiday” for all Atheists? Here’s the breaking news in a nutshell:

FLORDIA COURT SETS ATHEIST HOLY DAY

In Florida, an atheist created a case against the upcoming Easter and Passover holy days. He hired an attorney to bring a discrimination case against Christians, Jews and observances of their holy days. The argument was that it was unfair that atheists had no such recognized days. The case was brought before a judge. After listening to the passionate presentation by the lawyer, the judge banged his gavel declaring, “Case dismissed!”

The lawyer immediately stood up objecting to the ruling saying, “Your honor *how* can you possibly dismiss this case? The Christians have Christmas, Easter and others. The Jews have Passover, Yom Kipper and Hanukkah, yet my clients and all atheists have no such holidays.”

The judge leaned forward in his chair saying, “But you do, Your client counsel is woefully ignorant.” The lawyer said, “Your Honor, we are unaware of any special observance or holiday for atheists.”

The judge said, “The calendar says April 1st is April Fools Day. Psalm 14:1 states, ‘The fool says in his heart there is no God. Thus, it is the opinion of this court that if your client says there is no God then he is a fool. Therefore, April 1st is his day! Court adjourned.

You have to love a Judge that knows his scripture! The disciples in tonight’s Gospel might have thought that Jesus was pulling an *April Fool’s Day* Prank on them when he got down on his knees and washed their feet. But it was no joke! He was deadly serious!

To understand this story we have to switch back to the Passion Account of Luke that we heard last Sunday. St. Luke says in Chapter 22: “*As the disciples were on their way to this last supper, a dispute arose among them as to which of them was the greatest.*” If we remember this argument we can understand what happened and what it caused. To appreciate the magnitude of what Jesus did, we have to put ourselves back in Palestine. Even today, as I witnessed when I was in the Holy Land last November – many of the roads *there* are dirt or gravel. Then – and even now – the streets and roads carry the *debris* of animals, plus the dust and dirt from the surrounding desert. That’s why at every household *door* there was a water pot and a servant to dry one’s feet.

Because there was no servant in this “apostolic group” of 12 disciples, the apostles used to take turns doing this duty. But as we hear, they got into such a state of competitive pride that no one took up the task. So they all walked into the house (the Cenacle) each one filled with his own isolated pride and sat down, with un-washed feet. No one took up the task until Jesus did – much to their mortification.

And as always, what Jesus did, he did for a *purpose*. The first purpose, of course, was to *teach* his followers the *way it should be* with Christians. He said, that among the pagans, “those who exercise authority are those who lord it over others.” They demand preferential treatment and wanted to be waited-on. “But with you it must be different. Let the one among you who would be the greatest be the servant. And if I, Lord and Master have washed your feet” [then] this is an indication (a “mandate”) of what the Christian community should be identified as – a community that goes forth and washes the feet of the world!

As I envision Jesus going about this task, I suspect that he *didn’t look up* to see the *faces* – that *belonged* to those feet! Weather it was the feet of Peter, or John, or Judas Iscariot. He *didn’t want to know* the difference. Even though he *did* seem to know that Judas would betray him, and Peter would deny him. He just wanted everybody to know that his love went out for them all. He *didn’t want to see* whether the face was beautiful or

PAGE 2 – Holy Thursday Homily – April 1st 2010

ugly; whether the face had virtue – or vice written on it; whether the face was noble with dignity – or swollen with drink or drugs; whether the face was on a virtuous body – or one that come through every house and every indecency in town. He didn't know (or want to know) whether the face: was black or white or red or yellow; whether it belonged: to a man or woman, slave or free, master or servant; Jew or Gentile.

His community of believers (us) must do – as he did. “This is my body given for all of you. This is my blood shed for all. As I wash humankind's feet of its grime of sin and indignity. I won't look up to make my preferences.” That's the first lesson. The apostles learned it well much to their April Fool's Day shame! *This* is what it *all* means. This is the *summation* of the Gospel. If we aspire to greatness, then we must wash the feet of all manner of humankind.

There's a second lesson. It has to do with the Eucharist. Jesus is saying this: “you want to know what we're doing at this meal? By taking the bread and wine, and sharing it among you by my washing of your feet, I want you to know, what the Eucharist would mean. The Eucharist will be forever a living *sign that I am in your midst* urging you to do that service. When I take this bread and say: ‘look, this is my body and it's broken for you; this is the cup of my blood shed for you,’ – so, the Christian community should do that – as well!”

Perhaps the greatest *symbol* of the washing of the feet is when Jesus took that *chalice*, (that cup) and very likely, he held it up for a moment so that they could get the full impact. And in effect he was saying (as He says now at every Eucharist) “A *cup* – is poured out like parents who pour out their lives. A cup is *emptied*, and so are we emptied of strength and health – in sickness and old age.

A cup is *filled* and so are we (filled) when we come to heaven; or, when we come to each new day with its happiness or with its new beginnings. A cup is *held out* and shared every day. The cup is *broken*, a life is broken by sin, and its continuity is broken by death. But God's love has the *power* to make it whole again. To *share the cup* at Mass *means* that we share life with all its sorrows and joys *strengthened* by Jesus who is *still* with us. He urges us and says “take your body and give it for others in love. Take the cup of your blood – empty it, hold it out, and help restore others – so that fractured humankind may be whole again. Whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you do it truly in memory of me.

Today, Holy Thursday is by coincidence April Fool's Day. Maybe we can put a “spiritual spin” on it and *pretend* that we're with Jesus in the cenacle (in that “Upper Room”). He's just washed our feet and we're ashamed like the apostles but, now we have the *message* as well as the *example*. It's April Fool's yes, but we're only fools if we don't make the connection that Jesus makes for us tonight!

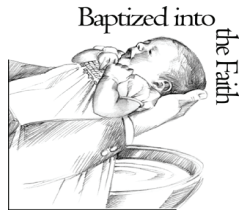
The atheist fool says in his heart “there is no god” (Psalm 14). The foolish disciple says in his heart “all I need to do is come to church” (to do the minimum). That's good enough! When we accommodate ourselves to that least common denominator (that least amount of commitment) we've fallen for the “April Fool's” Joke.

For us who are here tonight the question is what do we acknowledge? If our following of Jesus is lacking in service we're commemorating the biggest April Fool's Joke of all time. If we are ready and willing to take the next step in outreach to others, we're celebrating the “*mandatum*” (the mandate) of Jesus – “as I have done for you, so you must do for others. Yes we do “*this*” (all this, indeed everything) ... “in memory” of him.”

Msgr. Frank Caldwell

THE SACRAMENTS AT ST. MARTHA'S

BAPTISMS of March 2010



Skylar Destiny Blake
Daniel Canales
Ana Giselle Perez
Carlos Alberto Perez
Cristian Fabio Perez
Emanuel Alexander Perez
Jonathan Chavez
Fredy Gerardo Romero

TREE OF LIFE:



Memorialize a loved one with a leaf on our parish's *Tree of Life*, located in the Church Lobby. If you would like more information about this lovely memorial, Please contact **the Parish Office at 481-2550 Ext 301**

OUR FAITHFULLY DEPARTED

Vickie Speciale	+March 11, 2010
Genevieve Drice-Bernadel	+March 12, 2010
Dr. Francois Joachim	+March 15, 2010
Josephine Shayne	+March, 16, 2010
Kathryn Toscano	+March 20, 2010
Basil Antonio Gallier, II	+March 20, 2010

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Please call in the names of those who are ill. Names of the ill will be published for one month, which then is renewable. Names of people can be placed on the Sick list only by the individual or family member.

Martha Alce	Edith Lucchi
Elizabeth Augustyn	Nancy Martinez
Jean Beekman,	Joan Mariconda
Ann Boden	Arthur McNeill
Thomas Brislin	Thomas Mc Govern
Sharon Burke	John Mueller
Veronica Byrnes	Steven Nieves
Fr. Zachary Callahan	Mary O'Leary
Ann Celentano	Florence O'Sullivan
Thomas Celentano	Teodocia Perez
Anne Cote	Samuel Peters
Ann DeNicola	Mary Prutzman
Kevin Derham	George Schmidt
Karl Droessler	James Spagnoli,
Brian Duffy	Frank Torie
Malorie Dzienius	Rubena Waldron
Roderich Evans	Sr. Margaret Williams,
Josephine Elgonitis	CIJ
Mary Faularo	Sharon Wicke
Jean Ferraia	Betty Griffin
Jack Flynn	Leonisa Rivera
Kathleen Flynn	Marge Weiss
Humbert Garel	Jennie Vilkauskas
Harriet Ganas	Kay Brown
Sr. Patricia Gimblett,	Laura Mauro
RSM	Fernando R. Lamberty
Ann Gould	Alexander J.
Bertha Griffin	Wilamowski
Lorraine Hardy	Charles Droessler
Frank Hayde	Antoine Amie
Jeanette Healy	Manuel Sepulveda
Eleanora Hinton	Geraldine Ford
Jack Kightlinger	Monica Brown
Barbara Kirsten	Joseph Ortado
Kevin Lawlor	Viergiena Charlcime
Monserrate Lebron	Theresa Laurice
Rita Liotta	George Ludewig

PASTOR'S HOMILY ~ EASTER VIGIL ~ April 3rd 2010

At the beginning of Lent right *here* in the church, St. Martha's hosted a dramatic presentation of the Passion of Jesus put on by a troupe called "Creative Ministries." This group goes around from church to church to act out the "Stations of the Cross," the stops along the way of the Via Dolorosa.

Just before the presentation began, a little 5 year-old kid sat down next me in the pew. His mother – one of the members of the cast – came by and told him (that) he "better be good." I should have picked up immediately that he's a bit of a precocious kid. When I put my cell phone down on the pew, he said: "you can't use that during the play." "I know," I said, "don't worry it's off." "O.K." he said. Already I could tell he took he take a sort of ownership of the production. I found out afterwards that he has to sit through 3 or 4 presentations a week during Lent so he's really got the whole thing down pat – which is probably why he was so fidgety.

Every time that the woman who played Mary moved or said anything the kid would turn to me and say "she's my mom too." Apparently he wasn't aware of the fact that I had some awareness of "the story." So, at the point that the "Jesus-figure" is passing right by us carrying the cross, the little guy let me in on the secret which was whispered-information only for me. He looks over, spills all the beans, and says: they're *gonna kill 'em.*"

+ + + + +

"*They're gonna kill 'em,*" is a simple but powerful reality (and fact) even today. "*They're gonna kill 'em*" is a very real way of looking at life for some people. We know the story of Jesus very well. They're still "*killin' 'em*" in different (*more sophisticated*) ways through wars, domestic violence, abortion, gang brutality, and many other less dramatic ways. Yes, *they* "*gonna kill 'em,*" they *do* kill him; and people will *continue* to "kill 'em." But we're here to celebrate the central mystery of our faith in the resurrection because we know and believe in the possibility, the reality, of *new life* even in the midst – of the many deaths we face before we die. Death is all around us. But so is *life* – and *that's why* we're here today.

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Death and life can even be in holy places. Last November on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land I visited the Basilica of the Holy Sepulchre which houses (what's believed to be) the actual spot of the Empty Tomb – where the body of Jesus had been placed in on the *first* Good Friday. That church is nothing like St. Martha's at all! You have to see it (and experience it) – to believe it! It's dirty, dark and divided. There's dust and dirt in much of the building, it's not well-lit at all, and worst-of-all it's literally divided by concrete walls by several different Christian denominations (*including ~ the Greek Orthodox, Armenian, Latin, rites, etc*).

Can you imagine this building being divided? Maybe the Spanish parishioners ~ building a wall over there on the north side, and Haitian Community building a wall here ~ on the south-side, and the rest of the community carving out separate territories as well? Well, that's exactly what it's like in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre! It gets worse, though, because the people and priests often have fist-fights over both denominational and common areas of the church. Sometimes Israeli police have to be called in to break-up a disturbance. And because the various denominations haven't gotten along for so long, two Arab-Muslim Families open and lock-up the place each day. No Christian has the key to the church.

When I was there, another priest and I were waiting for Mass to begin in the Roman Catholic area. And since we were vested early, we started to walk around. Big mistake! We wandered into the Greek Orthodox section and "*all hell broke loose*" (as it were). Unbeknownst to us, going into another area *with vestments on* – means that you're claiming ownership and taking over. People looking on probably said: "they gonna kill em." And they almost did – but we escaped in time. (Although I can't say I've been thrown out of better places).

PAGE 2 – EASTER VIGIL 2010 HOMILY

The point that I'd like to make is that even *there* in the most sacred shrine of Christianity –things are not perfect. Life can be pretty bad and ugly, and they're still "*killing 'em*" in nearly the same spot. But somehow, through the faith of the people, Jesus is present: – in the upheaval of the church; in the problems of the world; in the dysfunction of our families; and in every other issue we face together.

And that's why we're here. The mission of the Gospel is accomplished *in spite of us* all. Jesus continues to *rise* in so many different ways. And because of Jesus every person in the world can have his or her *own* story of new life and resurrection.

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Let me offer one example about and Easter friendship between two non-Christians in a story that I saved for today from the December 31st 2009 issue of *The New York Times*. It's about Orel and Marya – two 8 year-olds who have been neighbors for nearly a year. Orel and Marya talk, they watch television together, and they share favorite treats. The two kids are *best friends*. He can be kind of wild and impulsive; she's smart, always upbeat and strong-willed. But friends put up with that in each other.

Orel and Marya are patients at Jerusalem's Alyn Hospital. Both children are recovering from devastating wounds suffered in the violence that's normal in their homeland –a place where there's always the fear of "*they're gonna kill 'em.*" But what makes this simple friendship special is this – *Orel* is an Israeli Jew and *Marya* is a Palestinian Muslim.

They don't understand the centuries of war and division between their two peoples! They're kids. They play, they cruise the hospital corridors in their wheelchairs. *SOMEONE* forgot to tell them that they're *supposed* to be *enemies*. Orel suffered severe brain damage during a Hamas rocket attack in Gaza last summer. Marya's spinal cord was broken when a missile from an Israeli jet-fighter mistakenly hit the car she was riding in.

Their families – from different backgrounds and cultures – have become good friends, as well, and Marya's father often helps with Orel's therapy. The bond between these two kids has inspired not only their families, but the hospital staff, volunteers, and the parents and families of other patients at Alyn Hospital which specializes in treating young people with serious physical disabilities.

Orel and Marya have developed a kinship that defies ancient hatreds. Orel's mother says: "the wounds of our children, their pain, and our pain have connected us. Do we need to suffer in order to learn that there's no difference between Jews and Arabs?"

This is a simple story of Easter friendship where Resurrection is found even among non-Christians. Hope triumphs and love reigns in this friendship between two broken children. It's a friendship that defies old hatreds, a friendship that stares evil down, a friendship that's a certain sign that the kingdom of God is here and now.

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Resurrection takes place in our midst in such small, simple, hidden moments. Many of us have our own resurrection stories. Easter is about new life and new chances. Human beings only flourish by passing through certain crises! Sometimes we know that others are out to "*kill us.*" But we mature by enduring little deaths and resurrections.

That's why we're back again with the Risen Lord. Easter pushes us out of the tombs we bury ourselves in and challenges us to discover fulfillment in a life centered beyond ourselves. Easter throws us out of the *cemeteries* where we hide – and invites us to embrace the love of Christ. Easter calls us to rise with him and to live the miracle of new life – NOT just when we die but right now and forever. Amen! Alleluia.

Msgr. Frank Caldwell



**PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR THOSE
IN THE UNITED STATES MILITARY**



A PRAYER FOR OUR MILITARY

U.S. Air Force: Staff Sgt. Francisco J. Velasquez, SSGT Adam Smith.

U.S. Army:

Master Sergeant Jill Agront, Sgt. Hisnard Cadet, Jr., Staff Sgt. Misael Exantus, Spc. Danny Mendez, Sgt Aaron Fullerton, PFC Zaymery Villalobos, Special Force Kareem Inniss, Colonel Verb Washington, Major Elizabeth Werns-Romano, Flight Surgeon, LTC Christopher Jenkins, Spc. Richard Aquilar, 1st Lt. Gavin Campbell McMahon, LTC Douglas Boltuc.

U.S. Marines:

Sergeant W. Jason Ferris, L Cpl. Jason Fullerton, L. Cpl Alfonso Rodriquez, Cpl. Adam Griffin, L Cpl. Eaton Farrell, LCPL Alexis Vazquez

U.S. Navy:

Airman Herbert J. Alvarado, JE-4/CS3 Jesus Ron, P.O.1st Class John V. Sparkowski, Lt. Joseph A. Baugh, Cpl. Eric Omar Matos.

Dear Parishioners:

Your prayers are appreciated by the families of the service personnel that we have listed in our Bulletin.

1st Lt. Gavin Campbell McMahon's uncle called to let the people know that their prayers are "very, very, very, much appreciated." His nephew was sent our bulletin and others with his name in it and wrote his parents. About two months ago in Afghanistan his unit was hit by an IUD, but no one was seriously injured. 1st Lt. McMahon has since been promoted to Headquarters working with computers. Needless to say his family is grateful. The Editor

BULLETIN REFLECTION

April 11, 2010

Divine Mercy Sunday

"Blessed are they who have not seen and have believed,"

Jesus says in today's Gospel. For those who have not seen to believe, however, we must be good stewards of our faith, living it joyfully and sharing it generously

LIVING STEWARDSHIP

April 11, 2010

Divine Mercy Sunday

We are grateful this week for all stewards in our parish who put their faith into action even where they may not "see" the fruits of their service.

PASTOR'S HOMILY ~ EASTER SUNDAY MORNING ~ April 4th 2010 ~

This past November – while on *pilgrimage* to the Holy Land – I visited the *Basilica of the Holy Sepulchre* in Jerusalem which *houses*, what's believed to be, the *actual spot* of the Empty Tomb – that the body of Jesus had been placed in on the first Good Friday. *That* church is *nothing* like St. Martha's! You have to see how awful it is – to believe it! It's dirty, dark divided and dysfunctional. There's dust and dirt in much of the building, it's not well-lit at all, worst-of-all it's literally divided by concrete walls into several different Christian denominations (*including ~ the Greek Orthodox, Armenian, Latin, rites, etc*) and it's dysfunctional in the way it operates.

Can you imagine *this* building being *divided*? Maybe the Spanish parishioners building a wall over there on the north side, and Haitian Community building a wall on the south-side, and the rest of the community carving out separate territories as well – in the choir loft, the sacristy and downstairs? Well, that's exactly what it's like in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre!

It gets worse, though, because the people and priests often have fist-fights over both denominational and common *areas* of the church. And guess *what* day is *most* problematic of the entire year? Today – *Easter*, especially *this year* when the Orthodox and Catholic 'Easters' fall on the same day. You can be sure that right now there are "turf" problems going on. Sometimes Israeli police have to be called in to break-up a disturbance. And because, the various denominations haven't gotten along for so long, two Arab-Muslim Families open and lock-up the place each day. No Christian has *the key* to the church.

When I was there, another priest and I were *waiting* for Mass to begin in the Roman Catholic area. And since we were *vested* early, we started to walk around. Big Mistake! We wandered over into the Greek Orthodox section and all hell broke loose (as it were). Unbeknownst to us, going into another area *with vestments on* means that you're claiming ownership and taking over! It was a really a *scene*! But we escaped in time.

The point that I'd like to make is that *even there* in the most sacred shrine of Christianity things are *not perfect*. *If* life can be pretty bad and ugly in that *supposedly* most holy place, then you can be sure that life can be bad and ugly in *less holy* places – like our families, our work-places, our relationships, and within our hearts. The Church of the Holy Sepulchre is a *microcosm* of our church, a microcosm of the world and a microcosm of life!

But in the mist of that chaos; in the middle of the darkness; in spite of the dysfunction; all around the mess – the risen Christ is there – and right here. You know it from the faith of the people. We know it through our gathering this morning. Maybe that's the way God wants the Church of the Holy Sepulchre to be. Maybe God wants the imperfections, the loose ends, the unfinished business to be HIS way of saying the same thing, that Jesus says to his disciples: "Peace – don't be afraid; don't be overwhelmed; *I'm here in the mess*; I'm here in *middle* of all your problems.

PAGE 2 – EASTER SUNDAY MORNING – 2010 HOMILY

This has been a very long and hard winter. Storm after storm; several feet of snow weighing us down; the bitter cold; and after the snow, then the rain, the wind, the floods, the power outages; any everything else besides! The **hope** held out was that *it won't* last forever. The spring was coming – the spring has arrived –and we have this beautiful, warm Easter Day. The death of winter yields to the beautiful, blossoming new life of spring.

There's an article in today's *Newsday* that raises a fascinating question. *What if* modern science could come up with a way to remove death forever? What if there would be no winter, no death, no storms, no problems? What if science could keep us alive forever? *Would* that be a good thing? *What* would happen?

Well, the answer given is that: humanity would become extraordinarily old; there would be no room for youth; the capacity for innovation would die; and an *endless life* would be *no paradise* – if *anything*, it would be a *condemnation*.” [Pope Benedict XVI – *Easter Vigil 2010*] Rather than prolonging death, baptism and Easter offers the “*medicine of immortality*.” That the *hope* that we have – gathered around this Easter Light.

Easter confirms the Christian *hope and conviction* – that despite: all the storms: of weather, or unemployment, or violence, or family dysfunction, or divorce, or scandal, or sickness, or even death – God is present! And “new life;” new possibilities; new hope is possible in our sometimes dark, dirty, divided and dysfunctional lives and world (and church)!

Everyone one of us has our own resurrection stories. Your presence in such great numbers here in church today shows you haven't thrown the baby out with the bath water! Easter is about new life and new chances. Human beings only flourish by *passing through* certain *winters*, various *storms*, and many *long seasons of Lent*, in addition to the “little deaths” ‘*along the way*’ of life. We mature by enduring little deaths and resurrections. *That's why* we're *back again* with the Risen Lord – who invites us – to live the miracle of new life – NOT just when we die – but right now, right away, forever and ever. Amen! Alleluia!

Msgr. Frank Caldwell

2010 CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF LONG ISLAND

Ladies, tell the Men in your life about our 2nd Long Island Catholic Men's Conference! It will be held at Trinity High School, Saturday April 24th from 8am (registration) - 4:30pm (Bishop will say Mass for us at that time). Network, Pray, laugh, with other men and get pumped with Inspiring talks by men and for men. Rediscover the masculine heart and turn that adventurous little boy living inside every man into a man of excitement and passion! Last year tickets sold out so get yours early. Contact Evenou Saint-Louis at (347)720-0671 for tickets or visit our web at <http://www.catholicmensministry.net>

MESSE DOMINICALE: Chaque dimanche à partir de 12h30, la communauté haïtienne se réunit à l'église pour célébrer la messe. Le mercredi soir à partir de 7 h30 PM nous avons une prière charismatique à la chapelle. Vous êtes tous invité(e)s.

ADORATION: Chaque lundi après la messe de 8h30 AM à la chapelle il y a exposition du St Sacrement jusqu'à 4h PM. Il nous faut une présence à tout moment durant l'exposition. S'il vous plaît ne laissez pas le St Sacrement seul.

JOURNEE DE RETRAITE : Le Samedi 24 Avril 2010 de 9h AM – 4h PM, il y aura une belle journée de retraite au Tabor House (église St Antoine à Oceanside). Pour plus d'information contactez Marlène au 538-6585 ou au 292-1603.

SERVICE SOCIAL: Les bureaux du service social de Ste Martha sont à votre disposition si vous avez besoin de nourriture, habits, service d'immigration etc. Contactez les au 292-1603 du lundi au vendredi excepté les mardis de 10h AM – 2h PM. Nous comptons sur votre générosité pour aider les démunis, donner ce que vous avez : céréals, riz, mambas, boîtes de conserve, poulet, viande, de l'argent, couchette pour bébé. Dieu vous le rendra au centuple. Le service d'immigration sera à votre service le Mercredi 14 Avril prochain de 10h AM-2h PM. Les premiers arrivés seront les premiers servis.

BONNE NOUVELLE : A cause du désastre qui a frappé le territoire haïtien le mois dernier, les Haïtiens illégaux peuvent maintenant obtenir leur permis de travail. Pour plus d'information contactez Catholic Charities Immigration Services au (631) 789-5210.

CAMPAGNE CAPITALE : Les travaux de restauration n'ont pas fini, il y a encore beaucoup à faire, et nous avons besoin de votre aide. Votre contribution si petit soit il nous sera d'un grand concours. Alors penser à offrir vos dons à la campagne capitale. Que Dieu vous bénisse.

BULLETIN DU DIMANCHE: Prenez avec vous le bulletin du dimanche et lisez le. Vous y trouverez des informations importantes sur votre communauté et votre paroisse.

INTENCION DE LA MISA: Los Feligreses de Santa Marta.

GRUPO DE ORACIÓN: Cada miércoles, a las 7:00 de la noche en el Gimnasio.

ULTREYA: Cada domingo, a las 11:00 de la mañana en la Capilla.

JUVENTUD SIN FRONTERAS: Cada jueves, de 7:0 a 9:30 de la noche en la Capilla.

EL MOVIMIENTO FAMILIAR CRISTIANO: Cada domingo, inmediatamente después de la misa en la Escuela, salón 208.

LA MEGA CAMPAÑA: La meta es de \$800.000. Se espera recaudar un total de \$443,575 de parte de personas que se han comprometido. 287 personas han donado y ha habido 29 actividades y colectas mensuales. Se ha recibido un total de \$396,245 en donaciones y aún nos falta \$356,425 para alcanzar nuestra meta.

EL CENTRO SOCIAL NECESITA:

Hamburguesas congeladas, carne cuartizada, pollos pequeños, pollos cuartizados, hot dogs, atún enlatado, frijoles, arroz, aceite, leche en cajón (parmelat), jalea-jelly, peanut butter, yames/papas dulces, diversas clases de jugos, te en bolsita, cereal frío, avena en paquetitos individuales, jabón, papel higiénico, toallas de papel, servilletas, pañales y bolsas de papel, plástico, o de tela.

UN CONSULTOR DE IMIGRACIÓN: Estará en el Centro Social, el segundo miércoles de cada mes. La próxima fecha será este miércoles 14 de abril, de 10:00 am a 2:00 pm.

NUEVO E-MAIL: De la parroquia: saintmartha@yahoo.com

CAMPAMENTO DE LIDERAZGO PARA

JOVENES: Este campamento para los grados de 7 a 12 se llevará a cabo en los Catskills, NY, agosto 15 al 21 de este año. El objetivo es inspirar y formar jóvenes católicos como líderes. Habrá diversas actividades como natación, volleyball, basketball, la Santa Eucaristía, Adoración, catequesis y numerosos testimonios. Para más detalles consulten el internet en campveritas.com

SEGURO DE SALUD FIDELIS: Cada miércoles, desde las 10:00 am hasta las 12 meridiano en el Centro Social. Pregunten por Claudia.

Social Ministry / Outreach News

Job Bank of Outreach:

Do you need a babysitter, home health aid, housekeeper or landscaper? Or can you provide these services? Register with St. Martha's Social Ministry Job Bank. Call 292-1603 on Monday or Thursday between 10 AM and 2PM.

FIDELIS CARE HEALTH INSURANCE

Is in Social Ministry every Wednesday from 10 –12 PM. Ask to see Claudia.

CAN YOU HELP?

ITEMS NEEDED: Frozen hamburgers, one pound frozen chopped meat packages, small chickens, chicken parts, hot dogs/franks, tuna fish, beans, rice, oil, individual boxed milk (ie. Parmalat), jelly, peanut butter, yams/sweet potatoes, all kinds of juice (esp., small sizes), tea bags, any cold cereal, individual packs of oatmeal, bar soaps, toilet tissue, paper towels, napkins, toothbrushes and other personal care items or store gift certificates.

BABY ITEMS NEEDED:

Diapers, diaper wipes.
Strollers and car seats that meet current standards.

Professional Therapy and Counseling:

Family, marriage, and individual therapies, provided by New York State licensed therapists, are available to our parish . This program, provided by the Catholic Counseling Center is under the direction of Dr. George Giuliani. Most insurance policies, including Medicare, are honored. For confidential information and appointment, call Dr. Giuliani at 631-243-2503 or go to our website at

JOBS AVAILABLE!

There will be jobs available starting in March and April for the United States Census 2010. Call 1-866-861-2010 to schedule a test. Be counted and support your community.

SHOPPING BAGS NEEDED

Our Outreach department needs paper, plastic or cloth shopping bags. If you do not have another way to re-use them, could you save them for us? We would also be glad to take misprinted or discontinued bags from your business. Bags can be brought to the Outreach office or left in the gathering room of the Church.

⇒ **FREE FOOD FOR THOSE IN NEED** ⇐

The Commodity Supplemental Food Program (formerly FAN) sponsored by Catholic Charities and funded by federal and state food agencies is offering free food for seniors age 60 and over, children from the age of 5 up to their sixth birthday, and 6-12 months post-partum women, who are income eligible. The food package includes cheese, milk, cereals, juices, canned fruits, canned vegetables, starches, canned fish, canned meats and more. For further information and income guidelines please call:

631-491-4166 in Suffolk or
516-623-4568 in Nassau

An Immigration consultant will be at the Parish Social Ministry the second Wednesday of each month. The next date will be on Wednesday, April 14th, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Thank you for your generosity
to St. Martha's Parish !

April 4, 2010

Easter Collection \$16,475. 50
Sunday Collection.....\$6,577.00
Poor Box \$103.40

If you do not get your envelopes or misplace them please use a plain one and write your full name, address, number & amount. If you are changing your address or are going to be temporarily away please inform the bookkeeper about 6 weeks before. Thank you.

St. Martha's Parish

Family Fun Night

Friday, May 21, 2010

7:00-9:00PM

James Collins Hall

Bring your games and join in the fun.

We will have card and board games,

The latest video games,

Chess, Dominoes, and much more.

Free Pizza and Soda

RSVP: Parish Center 481-2550



PARISH CENTER DIRECTORY

Msgr. Francis Caldwell, Pastor---Ext. 302

Mrs. Barbara Fong Lee-----Ext. 301
Parish Secretary

Mrs. Martha-Ann Brady -----Ext. 304
Bookkeeper & Bulletin Editor

Mrs. Marlene Jean- Baptiste
Director of Social Ministry
----- 292-1603 or 481-2550 Ext 320

Voice Mail only: Must leave a message

Mr. Richard Lee-----Ext. 345
Counseling & Marriage Preparation

Deacon Hernst Bellevue -----Ext.346
English/ Creole Baptismal Program

Mr. Alvin Ingram -----Ext.347
Liturgy Chairperson

Mr. Tom Gould -----Ext. 348
Facilities Manager

Mrs. Dulce Sepulveda-----Ext. 349
Spanish Baptism Program

Ms. Renee Stakey-----Ext.350
Choir Director & Organist

Lizette Joachim -----Ext. 351
Ministry of Consolation

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sr. Elizabeth Myles, CSJ
Pastoral Director— Religious Education
516-481-2550 Ext. 311

Sr. Eileen Curley, RSM,
Pastoral Associate, and
Adult faith formation and RCIA director-
516-481-2550 EXT 314

April 23, 2010

A DAY FOR HAITI
A NIGHT FOR HAITI
FREE AT HOFSTRA

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 516-463-5669

Save the Date!

<u>Events at St. Martha's— April 11, 2010</u>	<u>Events at St. Martha's— April 18, 2010</u>
Key: A —Gym B —Bethany Hall -Lower Church C —Main Church	H —Social Ministry/Outreach L — John Darcy Chapel PC — Parish Center S — School
Sun. 4-11 -10	Sun. 4-18 -10
NOTE: No Religious Education Program Until 4/18	
9:45-10:45am Senior Choir Rehearsal L	9:45-10:50am Religious Education Program S (A + all rooms)
10:00-11:30am Hispanic Gathering B	9:45-10:45am Senior Choir Rehearsal L
10:30am-12pm RICA Session in Spanish H	10:00-11:30am Hispanic Gathering B
11am-12:30pm Ultreya Movimiento	10:30am-12pm RICA Session in Spanish H
Cursillos Cristiandad L	11am-12:30pm Ultreya Movimiento
11am-1pm Movimiento Familiar Cristiano	Cursillos Cristiandad L
S (Rm.208)	Movimiento Familiar Cristiano
1:00-6:00pm Carismatic Hispanic Prayer A	S (Rm.208)
	Haitian Fellowship B
	2:00-4:00pm
Mon. 4-12-10	Mon. 4-19-10
7:30-9:30pm Charismatic Prayer in English L	7:00-9:00pm Teacher's Meeting S
	(St. Martin's Rm.)
	Charismatic Prayer in English L
Tues. 4-13-10	
7:30-8:30pm U Strong 4 Youth B	7:30-9:30pm
7:30-9:30pm English as a Second Language	Tues. 4-20-10
S (Rms.) 210/213/214	7:30-8:30pm U Strong 4 Youth B
	English as a Second Language
	(ESL) S (Rms.) 210/213/214
Wed. 4-14-10	Wed. 4-21-10
7:30-9:45pm Pace Group AA S (Art Rm.)	7:30-9:45pm Pace Group AA S (Art Rm.)
6:30-9:45pm Carismatic Hispanic Prayer A	6:30-9:45pm Carismatic Hispanic Prayer A
7:30-9:30pm RCIA Adult Sacraments	7:30-9:30pm RCIA Adult Sacraments
Session in English PC	Session in English PC
7:30-10:00pm Haitian Charismatic Prayer L	7:30-10:00pm Haitian Charismatic Prayer L
	Baptism Prep Session for
	Parents in Spanish S Rm.208
	Thurs. 4-22-10
	7:00-9:30pm Juventud sin fronteras L
	7:15-8:30pm Religious Education Program
	S (A + classrooms)
	ESL S (Rms. 210/213/214)
	Baptism Prep Session for
	Parents in English S (Rm.201)
	10am-1:30pm BINGO B
	Pace Group AA S (Art Rm.)
	Choir Rehearsal Spanish C/
	Creole L
	Fri. 4-23-10
	7:30- 9:45pm
	8:00 – 10:00pm
	Sat. 4-24 -10
	6:00-10:00pm BINGO B
	Legion of Mary Mtg. L