

December 6, 2009
Second Sunday of Advent
“ Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths...”

Liturgical Ministry Schedule

Mass Intentions

Weekend of December 13, 2009

December 6, 2009

5:00 PM (ENGLISH)

LECTOR– E. St. Louis

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Y. Bellevue M. G. Josma Sr. E. Powell, BVM
 B. Fong Lee G. Maffettone

ALTAR SERVERS– S. McGorty, C. McGorty

7:30 AM.(ENGLISH)

LECTOR– M. Gonzalez

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

M. A. Brady F. Delle B. Powell
 M. Brown P. Delle D. Spagnoli

ALTAR SERVERS– C. Bargeron, M. Josma

8:45 AM (SPANISH)

LECTORS– D. Morales, M. Bueno, C. Mariduena

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

D. Suray J. Lazo V. Ampie
 V. Ticas A. Lazo V. Maldonado

ALTAR SERVERS– C. Manzo, R. Almonte,
 A. Mejia, K. Mejia

11:00 AM (ENGLISH)

LECTOR– M. Lebron

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

S. Bricourt J. Ferrier C. Nicholson
 M. Duroseau K. Graham L. Joachim

ALTAR SERVERS– R. Nieves, C. Ervilus

12:30 PM (HAITIAN)

LECTORS– K. Semexant, I. Lamour, L. Charles

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS–

E. St. Louis, L. Joachim

ALTAR SERVERS—

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



Monday December 7– St. Ambrose
 7:30 PM For Guidance for Andy Charlot

Tuesday December 8– The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 8:30 AM For our departed Legionnaires
 12:00 PM In Thanksgiving for the Immaculate Conception
 7:30 PM Spanish Mass

Wednesday December 9– St. Juan Diego
 8:30 AM In Thanksgiving for Rubena Waldron

Thursday December 10
 8:30AM Max and Carmen Thybulle

Friday December 11– St. Damasus I
 8:30 AM Marie Passananti

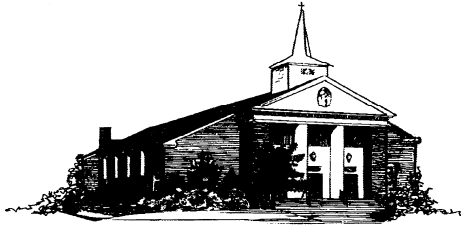
Saturday December 12– Our Lady of Guadalupe
 5:00PM Dr. Edward Antoine
 7:30 PM Luis A. Maldonado, Jr

Sunday December 13-Third Sunday of Advent
 7:30 AM Amazan Avignon
 8:45 AM Angelina Gonzales
 11:00AM Parishioners of Saint Martha
 12:30 PM Orianie Mongerard

The Bread and Wine for the Week of
 December 6 to December 12, 2009
 are offered
 In Thanksgiving for Richelle Maisonneuve
 Requested by
 Suze Maisonneuve

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR
Third Sunday of Advent
December 13, 2009
 Zephaniah 3:14-18a.
 Isaiah 12:2-6.
 Philippians 4:4-7.
 Luke 3:10-18.





St. Martha's Catholic Parish

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THE PASTOR'S WEEKLY LETTER – December 6th 2009

Second Sunday of Advent – Year C – Feast of Saint Nicholas

Dear Parishioners:

PARISH DINNER: Tonight St. Martha's Parish celebrates our 60th Anniversary at Verdi's in Westbury. Happy 60th to all of us – together! At the same time we honor the Ticas Family – Telma, Veronica and Alex, an outstanding family who contributes to the wonderful spirit of our community. Each member of the “Ticas trinity” works at spreading the Good News of the Gospel and the good news of our parish to everyone. We thank them for their prayerful, genuine and joyful donations of time, talent and love to all of us!

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION: This Tuesday is the Solemnity of The Immaculate Conception, Patroness of our country, and a holy day of obligation. The Mass schedule is:

Monday, December 7th 8:30 A.M. – *Exposition of Blessed Sacrament (Chapel)*
7:30 P.M. – Vigil Mass in ENGLISH (*Church*)

Tuesday, December 8th 8:30 A.M. – Mass (*Church*)
Exposition of Blessed Sacrament (Church – all day)
12 Noon – Mass (*Church*)
7:30 P.M. – Mass in SPANISH (*Church*)

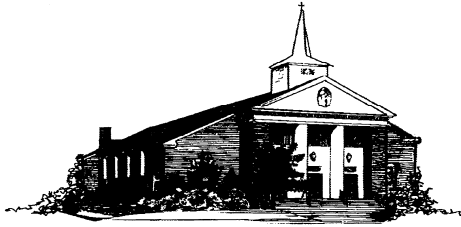
OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE: On December 12th 2009, our own Bishop Cabezas will celebrate a special Mass at 7:30 P.M. in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe. All are invited!

LOWER HALL: The lower hall of the Church is just about finished! Thank God! The success of this project is due principally to Mr. & Mrs. Frank Darcy and Mr. Francis (Fran) Darcy! Frank, our Trustee and his son have been here practically every day since April working with his staff to bring this venture to completion!!! We are six months ahead of schedule and thus far, a bit under our projected budget (which did not include the roof of the church – a later project). Only some finishing touches are left (a new curtain, new chairs, etc). With an outside donation and the generosity of *PC Richards* in Rockville Centre, we also have television monitors to polish off the undertaking. Stop down and see the new carpet!

GOING FORWARD: In the future we will be able to make use of our lower hall for lectures and missions, as well as Bingo. At the moment, we probably have the finest parish gathering space in the diocese! Our mutual hope is that it stays this way for awhile. That means that we all have to be ambassadors to preserve the beauty and elegance of the facility.

CIVIC MEETING: The Nostrand Gardens Civic Association will meet at 6:45 P.M. at the Uniondale Library on Monday, December 7th.

Fr Frank



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CARTA PASTORAL DE LA SEMANA – 6 de diciembre del 2009

Segundo Domingo de Adviento – Año C - Fiesta de San Nicolás

Queridos feligreses:

CENA PARROQUIAL: Esta noche la Parroquia de Santa Marta celebrará su 60° Aniversario en Verdi's, Westbury. ¡Feliz 60° a todos nosotros – juntos! Al mismo tiempo haremos un reconocimiento a la Familia Ticas – Telma, Verónica y Alex, una destacada familia que contribuye al espíritu admirable de nuestra comunidad. Cada miembro de la “Trinidad Ticas” predica la Buena Nueva del Evangelio y lleva las buenas noticias de nuestra comunidad a todo el mundo. ¡Les agradecemos por su devoción verdadera y donación de tiempo, talento y amor a todos nosotros!

INMACULADA CONCEPCIÓN: Este martes celebramos la Fiesta de la Inmaculada Concepción, Patrona de nuestro país, día de obligación. El horario de misas es:

Lunes, 7 de Diciembre 8:30 a.m. – *Exposición del Santísimo Sacramento (Capilla)*

7:30 p.m. – *Misa de vigilia en INGLÉS (Iglesia)*

Martes, 8 de Diciembre 8:30 a.m. – *Misa (Iglesia)*

Exposición del Santísimo Sacramento (Iglesia – todo el día)

12 del mediodía – *Misa (Iglesia)*

7:30 p.m. – *Misa en ESPAÑOL (Iglesia)*

NUESTRA SEÑORA DE GUADALUPE: El 12 de diciembre, nuestro Obispo Cabezas celebrará una misa especial en honor a nuestra Señora de Guadalupe a las 7:30 p.m. ¡Todos están invitados!

SALÓN SOCIAL: ¡Ya casi se termina el salón social! ¡Gracias a Dios! ¡El éxito de este proyecto se debe principalmente al empeño de los Esposos Darcy y Mr. Francis (Fran) Darcy! Frank, nuestro fiduciario y su hijo prácticamente desde abril han estado aquí todos los días con los trabajadores para terminar este proyecto!!! El trabajo tiene un adelanto de seis meses y por ahora, un poquito debajo del presupuesto (que no incluía el techo de la iglesia – un proyecto para mas tarde). Quedan algunos toques finales (cortina nueva, sillas nuevas, etc.) Con una donación de afuera y la generosidad de PC Richards en Rockville Centre, tendremos una pantalla de televisión para concluir esta obra. ¡Bajen y vean la alfombra nueva!

HACIA ADELANTE: En el futuro podremos usar el salón tanto para charlas y misiones como también para el bingo. Por el momento probablemente es el mejor salón de reuniones en la diócesis! Esperamos que permanezca así por mucho tiempo. Eso significa que todos tendremos que ser embajadores para conservar la belleza y elegancia del salón.

REUNIÓN CÍVICA: La Asociación Cívica Nostrand Gardens se reunirá a las 6:45 p.m. en la Biblioteca de Uniondale el lunes 7 de diciembre.

Padre Frank

Ecumenical Talk by Sister Elizabeth Myles, CSJ — November 25, 2009

On this eve of another Thanksgiving celebration we recall to our minds what this holiday, this feast is all about. It is a time for giving thanks for the harvest, in all the many and varied ways God goodness is lavished upon us and for expressing gratitude to our God for such overwhelming abundance. And so we pray together, "Give thanks to God, for God is good, God's love is everlasting." Or as we might say today, God is good, all the time! All the time, God is good! On that first Thanksgiving the Pilgrims and the Indians prayed that same prayer of praise to God and celebrated with one another with the only things they had to share. Their food and their prayer! There could not have been two more different groups than the Pilgrims and the Indians! Just look at them. Can you get the image in your mind...Indians dressed in animal hides with their faces and bodies painted and the Pilgrims donned in European clothing that probably did not even wear well in this New World? And how strange for the Indians to hear their country being called the "new world" What was new, they were here all along. But for the Pilgrims, this was the land of freedom; this new world was their destination after their flight from the oppression of the "Old World". This country was their liberation. America, land of the free and home of the brave! Could it be that this first Thanksgiving then was also the first multicultural event in the New World? The Indians and the Pilgrims shared their unique food and their cultural customs. They learned from each other to eat different food and to pray different prayers. The Pilgrims must have been quite surprised to see the colorful and melodious way the Indians prayed and celebrated with one another. The Indians must have been surprised by the adventurous spirit and openness of the Pilgrims to their new way of life, in their "New World".

At that first Thanksgiving both groups enjoyed each others many and meaningful traditions. Should this not be an example for us as well? Today, are we learning from and celebrating each others' traditions, as they did? Do we welcome the opportunity to share in the life of those whose ancestry is different from our own? Newcomers who arrive in our country are greeted in New York Harbor by the Statue of Liberty. Her placard reads:

*"Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me. I lift
my lamp beside the golden door."*

The Statue of Liberty in our harbor is the symbol of welcome and freedom for all. It has been said that this gift from France to the US was originally intended to be recognition for abolition of slavery, the United States giving freedom to the African Slaves. What many might not know is that the first model of the Statue of Liberty, sent over from France for the US congress to approve, was of an African Women in a dashiki with hands raised and with broken chains hanging from her wrists, that statue is now housed in a museum in Paris. What a powerful image that would have been. Nonetheless, our Lady Liberty stands tall, touch held high in welcome. I wonder if this symbol is in stark contrast to what happens to many people who come here to flee oppression or to find a better life, to find what the Pilgrims wanted, liberation for themselves and their families.....for freedom.

What is Thanksgiving all about if it is not gratefully and respectfully embracing the differences of those around us even today? Yes, we can still learn from one another. Isn't that what the first Pilgrims and Indians did? They incorporated each others ways into their own.

I think one of the reasons for the enduring nature and popularity of this feast of Thanksgiving is that it holds us, as Americans, to a very high standard, with ideals characterized by the virtues of interdependence, gratitude, respect and reverence for all creation. Unfortunately, we do know that the Pilgrims and the Indians did not always get along....the history of the Indian population in this country attests to the fact that Americans did not always abide by the ideals set forth and encouraged by this feast. If we take a look around the globe today, the heavens continue to cry out for compassion and understanding toward one another. You don't have to look too far or listen too long to know that there is still hatred and misunderstanding that lead to unspeakable violence in our world. Sometimes that violence happens in small acts of unkindness that we inflict on one another and sometimes it is the unspeakable outrage of war when one country devastates another. In war no one wins. Today in Iraq and Afghanistan, so much has been lost, our own men and women, our credibility around the world, our financial resources and how great the loss for the people of those countries, whose homeland has been bombed and devastated beyond recognition, the loss has been great. And possibly more enduring is the aura of fear that permeates the everyday lives of the people, not knowing when and where the next bombing will take place. Is that the environment to raise children, how scarred their lives have already become. The message of the first Thanksgiving is that we learn to work together for the betterment of all, that we always give thanks to God and to one another for all that we have. We must continue to work for freedom from oppression and violence as the solution to our world problems. We are challenged this day to bring about peace and understanding among peoples here and around the world. This challenge is echoed in the words of our President in a speech he gave at the United Nations, he said, " We can either accept as inevitable that peace remains as distant dream and, therefore, tolerate constant and crippling conflict, or we can recognize that the yearning for peace is universal and reassert our resolve to end conflicts around the world...for the most powerful weapon in our arsenal is the hope of human beings, the belief that the future belong to those who would build and not destroy, and the confidence that conflicts can end and a new day begin. Can we accept this challenge from the President?

We must very seriously question ourselves, what are we teaching our children? In many of our cities and small towns we have young people who are walking around with a sense of hopelessness, chained by the shackles of gangs and a drug infested materialistic culture and what about our young people in Uniondale, how are we addressing their needs and teaching them the ideals of this country and our faith. Has materialism so taken hold of our young people that we have \$200 sneakers on feet going nowhere? Do we have young people with no goals or motivation to make a difference? Our responsibility to our youth is to teach gratitude and responsibility and with that comes the self esteem and self assurance that is so needed to make a difference in our world. So what are we teaching our children? Are we teaching that war and violence are ok? Or are we teaching gratitude for the gift of life given us from God and compassion and understanding for that precious gift? One way to do this is by pointing out to our youth those who are living a life of compassion and generosity. If you need examples, look at the CNN website and see the ordinary, everyday heroes who by their simple giving of themselves have changed the lives of many others. Or maybe you don't need to go to the website because you already know people in your own home,

school and neighborhood who are living lives of self giving. These are the people for whom we are most grateful on this Thanksgiving Day; Those who embody the “golden rule” which tells us that always and everywhere we must love our neighbor as we love ourselves. These people are the true witnesses who answer the call to work for freedom, for all persons all over the world.

For me one of these outstanding witnesses is Immaculee Ilibagiza. Have you read her book? “Left to tell”, is the true story of Immaculee, a Tutsi woman who lived through the civil war in Rwanda in 1996 hiding for 91 days in a closet with eight other people, with no room to move. Each day holding her breath, waiting to be found and possibly be put to death by machete wielding Hutus. It is a horrifying real life story and it is hard to believe that in this day and age people can still have such hatred and disregard for human life that genocide of such magnitude could take place. Even more astounding though is the response of Immaculee, a woman of forgiveness who is working tirelessly to promote understanding among races and religions. She is a person we need to hold as a model of freedom and compassion. Like her we need to be bridge builders and work toward taking down the walls that separate people and nations.

In spite of grim statistics, we always have reason for hope. Every little step we take to bring peace has a ripple effect around the world. Each one of us has a responsibility to make this a more caring world for now and for the future. Your attempts and mine will give us a world to pass on to our children and grandchildren that is full of peace, not in pieces. Together we can create a beautiful mosaic of the face of Christ. Each of us adds to Christ’s image our own tiny piece of color and together the image shines forth to the world as an example of the beautiful diversity of God’s love and creativity. Let us not mar this image by our own failings but enhance it by our loving actions of gratitude to one another for the gift of each person, not in spite of our differences, but because of them. Let us delight in each others’ uniqueness.

On this Thanksgiving let us heed the words of the South African Creed, which says, Jesus has taught us to speak of hope as the coming of God’s Kingdom. (This same hope that our President spoke of in his address to the United Nations.) We believe that God is at work in our world turning hopeless and evil situations into good. We believe that goodness and justice and love will triumph in the end and that tyranny and oppression cannot last forever. One day, “all tears will be wiped away” and “the lamb will lie down with the lion.” True peace and reconciliation are not only desirable, they are assured and guaranteed. This is our faith, and our hope.

So we go forward, lifting high the torch, like our Lady Liberty, symbol of freedom, Let the light shine brightly, that light of Christ that always calls us to live the ideal of the “Golden Rule”. Let us love one another as God has loved us, with no exceptions! Let us gratefully welcome all peoples in our hearts and at our tables, especially as we celebrate this wonderful feast of Thanksgiving. Let us give thanks to God for God is good all the time, all the time God is good. Happy Thanksgiving!

THANKSGIVING HOMILY – November 26th 2009

The other day, a *Daily News* reporter asked Archbishop Timothy Dolan, the new Archbishop of New York, a Thanksgiving-interview question. The reporter said – *what* are you most grateful for in your life? Archbishop Dolan said, “no matter how many blessings I ever receive in life, there will never be anything for which I am more grateful – than to have been the *son* of Robert and Shirley Dolan.” And with that, he left New York last night to visit his mother in St. Louis. He added, “I look forward also to tasting once again, my mother’s pumpkin pie, which I still consider to be the best pumpkin pie anywhere in the world.”

I can *echo* the sentiments of parental gratitude of Archbishop Dolan – especially with my *mother* present here at this Mass – even though she neither makes nor enjoys pumpkin pie! When I think of the thousands of *blessings* I’ve received, my mother is at the *top* of the list.

The reporter’s question is a good one not just for today – but everyday. What are you most grateful for? The reporter asked a “*what*” question; but the Archbishop responded with a “*who*” answer [*who* he’s *most thankful* for]. “*Who*” are *you* most grateful for? Maybe the answer is: a parent, a spouse, a son or daughter; a grandparent; a neighbor, a teacher, a mentor or a friend. Perhaps the answer to that question is a loved-one in heaven! *Who’s* at the *top* of your list?

Thanksgiving is a special day in our country. It’s a day to *express gratitude*. As a people we’re hard-working, independent and busy people. We tend to express our gratitude with “things” rather than with words. We tend to *use words impersonally* rather than express what we really mean and feel.

As we gather today on Thanksgiving with family and friends we might take the time to *say* the good things that often go *un-said*. Perhaps we can think about *who* at the table I presume upon, and how do I presume upon them?

For some reason we find it hard to really express ourselves personally when it comes to saying *thanks*. We’re afraid to be vulnerable or to be beholden to others. Maybe we can learn from the *one* Samaritan leper who returned to thank Jesus, *how* we can express our gratitude – sometime this afternoon, especially to the people who sit across the table from us.

There may be somebody at the table who has hurt you or disappointed you this past year. Instead of holding back your affection because they didn’t “*measure up*,” why not think about what’s *good* in them and affirm them on Thanksgiving Day. You might see something in them that they don’t (even) see in themselves. *Young* people especially need encouragement if they are to grow. And *old* people need attention if they are to hope. And *middle-aged* people need gratitude if they are to bear the responsibilities for older and younger generations.

PAGE 2 – Thanksgiving Homily – 2009

Thanksgiving means to express gratitude; to acknowledge a favor or a kindness received. And it's important *not* to just look for the extraordinary. The things we presume upon (the things and people we take for granted) – are fertile ground for *gratitude*.

Gratitude enables us to live in the present moment. Gratitude opens our eyes to the blessings that can be missed when complaining blinds our sight. Gratitude lifts up our spirit to *see* that God is here, and that God is love, and that I must return to give thanks for his healing love – like the leper in the Gospel.

When you think about it, “thanksgiving” is like *stewardship*. Stewardship means to be entrusted with something that belongs to someone else. We think we *own* everything we've worked so hard for. But when you look at your life, from the perspective of faith – we own *nothing*. Everything is a *gift* from God! God creates. God gives. God loves. God forgives. God blesses. *We* are created. We receive. We're loved. We're forgiven. We're blessed!

If we expect everything to be perfect in life, we won't be able to be grateful. We'll be perpetually disappointed. If we expect to be free from sorrow and pain, we won't be grateful. We'll constantly complain. If we think God *owes us* because we try to *do* good (and to *be* good) we won't be grateful. We'll be self-righteous!

A steward is a child of God who recognizes that all is gift – all is grace.

Archbishop Dolan could have answered the reporter's question by saying that he's most grateful to the Pope for making him the archbishop of New York. But he knows where his first and greatest gift is – in *relationships* – not in things, or honors, or events, or anything else!

A steward knows God and sees God clearly through all the people whom God puts in his or her life. A steward doesn't demand that life must – and will – meet all his expectations. No, a steward begins with gratitude, recognizing that all is gift, all is grace. Thanksgiving is a day; stewardship is a way of life! So, *who* are you most grateful for? Who's at the top of your list? The answer(s) to those kinds of questions – are *why* we're here today! Happy Thanksgiving!

Msgr. Frank Caldwell

Haitian– American Apostolate -Hosts--2009 YOUTH ADVENT RETREAT
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2009, 10 AM TO 4 PM AT
St. Brigid/Our Lady of Hope Regional School , 101 Maple Ave, Westbury 11590
Presider: Fr. Marc Arthur Francois of St. Patrick & Assumption/All Saints Parish, Jersey City
Please Call HAAM at 516-678-5800 x233/407 for more information/directions.
Please Bring your Rosary, your Bible & your Lunch! Snack will be provided.

HOMILY – 1st Sunday of Advent – C Cycle – November 29th 2009

A month ago today, I left for a seven--day pilgrimage to the Holy Land. There were about 112 participants who met at Tel Aviv Airport and boarded three busses for the two-hour ride to Galilee. Each bus had its own guide who would stay with the group for the duration of the pilgrimage. . Two of the busses had married lay-men as their guides. My group was the “Blue Bus” and I thought we really lucked-out with our guide because we got a Franciscan priest.

Boy was I wrong! The Franciscans have “custody” of most of Holy Land shrines and they are experts in the spirituality, history, theology and geography of the Land.

We had, let’s call him – Father Angelo. He was a very nice guy, who was highly educated, spoke many languages, and had a great reputation as a *guide*. The only problem was – *he wasn’t into it* – at all. He seemed to be on “automatic pilot” seemingly – just going along for the 7-day ride. Instead of telling us about the sites and shrines – he often opted to pray the rosary. There’s nothing wrong with praying the rosary, of course, but *not* as we’re passing all these major historical and religious sites with no explanation.

After a day, I switched to another bus and a few others did the same. The guide on the “Red Bus,” named Fabricio, was phenomenal. He was totally in to “bringing to life” the scriptures and what we were seeing. He was a lawyer from Italy who taught Law and did this as an avocation. You could see that he was passionate about what he was saying, and I found him to be a real inspiration.

What does any of this have to do with the First Sunday of Advent? Well, as I thought of the comparison between Fabricio and Father Angelo, I thought of my responses to Advent in the past. It’s almost always a rushing through the season on “automatic pilot” going through the motions towards the magical “finish line” of December 26th! (Yes, not December 25th, but the next day, when “its” all over – December 26th!)

I could see myself in Father Angelo, even though, I didn’t like what I saw. At the same time, I could feel the Advent (and year-round) challenge: to be more invested, more devoted, and more passionate – about what we’re *all* supposed to be committed to.

The irony about Father Angelo is that he actually lives at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem. You and I can also live fairly “close to the center,” and yet, be pretty “far away” spiritually – because we’re not “*paying attention*” to the multiplicity of Advent signs that all around us, *everyday* of the year.

That “lack of attention” was brought home to me on the *last day* of our pilgrimage. Our group was at a residence owned by the Vatican and run by the *Legionnaires of Christ*.

I was in Room 129 of the *Notre Dame Center* (across the street from the wall of Jerusalem), and although I saw a small *memorial plaque* on the door under the room number, I didn't pay attention to it until I was leaving. The plaque read, "In this room, slept Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger – now Pope Benedict XVI – when he accompanied Pope John Paul II to Jerusalem in 2000." Knowing that before hand would certainly have made me appreciate the pilgrimage even more. Even there in the Holy Land, I wasn't paying full attention!

Jesus tells us today in the Gospel: "*there will be many signs in the sun, the moon, the stars, and all over the place. Beware that your hearts don't become drowsy from the anxieties of daily life and catch you by surprise like a trap. Be vigilant at all times and pray that you will have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent.*" In other words, we hear Jesus say again, "pay attention" to the moment; "be attentive" to the signs.

The problem that many of us have with Advent – and with life itself – is that we live by the illusion that we have "control" of time. The paradox of our age is that we purchase more and more technological gadgets to "save" time, but we lose the ability to "spend" time.

We can become experts at "banking time," but how often do we truly "enjoy" time. We can cram more and more things in our calendars and onto our date books – except life itself! Seeing the comparison between the two guides in the Holy Land has made me reflect upon this reality.

These four weeks (the *last* four of the civil calendar; and the *first* four of the liturgical year) remind us that every day of our lives is a vigil, a time for "putting things in order" – in preparation for our return to God.

It's very easy for any of us to simply turn-on the "automatic pilot switch" like those pilots' did, a couple of weeks ago, who literally "flew-over" their intended destination – (Minneapolis) asleep in the cockpit – without any awareness. It's kind of scary to know that that can happen – especially if you travel by plane on occasion. But at least there are controllers on the ground and flight attendants in the air who can rouse the pilot. That story is certainly a sign of our times. We can "fly-over" Advent, life, relationships, and everything in-between.

What happened to Father Angelo and to me might also be happening to you. Advent is the time for all us: to wake up, get hold of ourselves, to cherish the moment, and to get ready for God's coming anew into our lives – not just at the end of time; or the end of our lives; not just at Christmas; – but right now.

Msgr. Frank Caldwell

AVIS A LA COMMUNAUTE HAITIENNE

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 laisser pas le St Sacrement seul.

HORAIRE POUR LES FETES DE FIN D'ANNEE : Samedi 6 Décembre 2009 concert de Noel durant la messe de 5h PM Jeudi 24 : 5h PM messe et installation de la crèche - 7h PM messe en espagnol - 12h messe de minuit avec les trois chorals.

Vendredi 25 : 9h AM et 11h AM messe en anglais – 12h30 PM messe en créole.

Jeudi 31 Décembre : 5h PM messe en anglais – 7h PM messe en espagnol – 11h PM exposition du St Sacrement et messe de minuit en créole.

Vendredi 1^{er} Janvier 2010 : 9h AM et midi messe en anglais.

COURS D'ANGLAIS : Les cours d'anglais comme 2eme langue ont commencé depuis le mois de Septembre et beaucoup de personnes veulent en profiter pour améliorer leur connaissance de l'anglais. Cependant, nous n'avons pas assez de professeur et nous avons besoin de votre aide. Si vous voulez participer à cette œuvre de bienfaisance appeler au 481-2550 ext 301. Les classes ont lieu les mardis et les jeudis de 7 :45 – 9 :15 PM à la salle 213 de l'école St Martin de Porres Marianist.

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. Si vous cherchez du

travail ou si vous avez du travail à offrir adressez vous à Gilaine les mercredis et jeudis.

Nous comptons sur votre générosité pour aider les démunis, donner ce que vous avez : céréals, riz, mambas, boites de conserve, poulet, viande, de l'argent, couchette pour bébé. Dieu vous le rendra au centuple

CAMPAGNE CAPITALE : Pour continuer les travaux de restaurations de l'église nous vous demandons de ne pas oublier les enveloppes jaunes et de mettre des pièces de monnaie dans la grande bouteille placée à l'intérieur de l'église.

Une autre façon de contribuer à la Campagne Capitale c'est de vous inscrire aux classes de yoga les samedis matin de 9 :30 – 10 :45h au James Collins Hall. Frais de participation \$15 par classe, 4 classes pour \$50 (rabais de \$10) et 6 classes pour \$75 (rabais de \$15).

CADEAUX POUR NOEL-RAFLE DE BICYCLETTE : Rafle de deux bicyclettes de 20 pouces, une pour fille et une pour garçon au prix de \$1 le billet. Le tirage aura lieu après la messe de 5h PM le Samedi 12 Décembre 2009, jour de la fête de Notre Dame de la Guadeloupe. Les billets sont en vente chaque week-end jusqu'au 5 et 6 Décembre après chaque messe..

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.

*Thank you for your generosity
to St. Martha's Parish !
November 29, 2009*

**Vs Year
Ago**

Sunday Collection **\$8,897.42 -2%**
Poor Box **\$80.00**
Thanksgiving for Outreach \$1,009.96

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

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 Ext 320 or 481-2550 Ext

Voice Mail only: Must leave a message

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

Deacon Hernst Bellevue **Ext.346**
Baptismal Program

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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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

Ext. 343 (Voice Mail only)

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

Ext.342(Voice Mail only)



Celebrate the Spirit of Christmas

Our **Angel Trees** are waiting for you.
Choose a **special angel** from the tree
and Share your **Christmas joy** with
someone

in our community.

Please purchase a gift for the person.

Wrap it
and attach the Angel to the outside of
the package.

Please place the gift
under the Angel Tree
by Monday, DECEMBER 14th.

CHRISTMAS LIST SUGGESTION!

Looking for a gift for the person who has everything?

Why not consider a donation to

St. Martha's Capital Campaign? All sizes fit and the color is perfect.

THE SACRAMENTS AT ST. MARTHA'S

BAPTISMS of NOVEMBER 2009

Anthony Enox Diaz, Jr.

Valentinna Daza Gomez

Juan Lopez Gomez

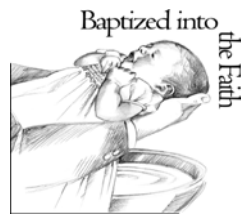
Valeria Sarai Mejia Zelaya

Katherine Nicole Marquez

Steven Rodolfo Marquez

Kevin David Vasquez

Camila Moya



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, Elizabeth Augustyn, Jean Beekman, Ann Boden, Thomas Brislin, Sharon Burke, Veronica Byrnes, Fr. Zachary Callahan, Marie Caruso, Ann Celentano, Thomas Celentano, Anne Cote, Edward Cserny, Ann DeNicola, Kevin Derham, Karl Droessler, Brian Duffy, Malorie Dzienius, Roderich Evans, Josephine Elgonitis, Mary Famularo, Jean Ferraia, Jack Flynn, Kathleen Flynn, Humbert Garel, Harriet Ganas, Sr. Patricia Gimblett, RSM, Ann Gould, Bertha Griffin, Joan Gurge, Lorraine Hardy, Frank Hayde, Jeanette Healy, Marlene Hicks, Eleanora Hinton, Marianne Imperato, Jack Kightlinger, Barbara Kirsten, Kevin Lawlor, Monserrate Lebron, Rita Liotta, Edith Lucchi, Faith Lyons, Nancy Martinez, Joan Mariconda, Arthur McNeill, Thomas Mc Govern, John Mueller, Steven Nieves, Mary O'Leary, Florence O' Sullivan, Teodocia Perez, Samuel Peters, Frances Powell, Mary Prutzman, Mary Rodefeld, George Schmidt, James Spagnoli, Frank Torie, Rubena Waldron, Sr. Margaret Williams, CIJ, Sharon Wicke, Betty Griffin, Leonisa Rivera, John Villavicencio, Marge Weiss, Jennie Vilhauslas, Kay Brown, Laura Mauro, Fernando Rodriguez Lamberty, Robert & Pam Henry, Alexander J. Wilamowski, Charles Droessler, Antoine Amie, John Flanagan, Jr., Rose Marie Allen and Rita Faure.

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

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Elisea Romero | +November 8, 2009 |
| Gertrude Beaubrun-St. Rose | + November 8, 2009 |
| Caroline Wade | + November 16, 2009 |
| Nettie I. Jeter | + November 16, 2009 |
| Joseph A. Boltuc | + November 20, 2009 |
| Andre Lilavois | + November 24, 2009 |
| James Healy | + November 2009 |



RINCON HISPANO

INTENCIÓN DE LA MISA: Por el eterno descanso de Rafael Guerrero.

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.

GRUPO JUVENIL: Cada jueves, a las 7:30 de la noche en el Salón Parroquial.

NUESTRO GRAN BAILE: Hoy, domingo en el Salón Verdi de Westbury, comenzando a las 6:00 PM. Por favor. Cooperen con este evento. Aún hay tiempo para comprar sus boletos, poniéndose en contacto con la Sra. Esther Williams, inmediatamente después de la misa.

LOS ARBOLITOS ESPECIALES: Ya los arbolitos especiales están en el centro de la iglesia. En dichos arbolitos hay numerosos angelitos y en cada angelito se ha inscrito un regalo para alguien necesitado en nuestra comunidad. Por favor, tomen uno de los angelitos, compren un regalo y colóquenlo envuelto debajo del arbolito, con el ángelito encima del paquete, lo más tardar, el domingo 13 de diciembre.

RIFA DE BICICLETAS DE NIÑA Y NIÑO: A \$1.00 el número de la rifa. Los boletos estarán a la venta después de cada misa y la rifa se llevará a cabo el sábado 12 de diciembre después de la misa de la Virgen de Guadalupe. Cooperen con este evento.

POSADAS NAVIDEÑAS: Como de costumbre se realizarán las posadas este año, a partir del 15 de diciembre.

NUESTRA SEÑORA DE GUADALUPE: Esta fiesta se celebrará el próximo sábado 12 de diciembre con una misa solemne aquí en la iglesia, a las 7:30 de la noche con Monseñor Cabezas como celebrante y la presencia del Coro. Traigan sus banderas nacionales y se espera la presencia de los niños y niñas con sus vestidos típicos. Esta es nuestra misa y se espera la participación de todos.

LA INMACULADA CONCEPCIÓN: Este martes se celebra la Fiesta de la Inmaculada Concepción. Como es fiesta de guardar, tenemos la obligación de asistir a misa. Nuestra misa será el mismo día martes, a las 7:30 de la noche en la iglesia, con Monseñor Alfonso Cabezas. Se espera la asistencia de todos los hispanos.

YA SE ACERCA: La fiesta de Navidad. El Centro Social depende de su generosidad y ayuda para proveer comida mediante las canastas que se entregan a los necesitados durante esta temporada. Vean el boletín para más detalle. Sean generosos.

MARQUEN SUS CALENDARIOS: Nuestra Misa Navideña se realizará el jueves 24 de diciembre, a las 7:30 PM de la Noche Buena. Ya no se admitirá excusa y se espera que la asistencia sea como una misa dominical. Navidad es día de obligación para todos.

Social Ministry / Outreach News

Job Bank of Outreach: Gilaine, is overseeing the Job Bank.

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 Wednesday 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, diapers, diaper wipes, toothbrushes and other person care items or store gift certificates. Clean grocery store plastic or paper bags.

Although the Social Ministry department is starting to concentrate on the Holidays the above everyday items are needed.

Thank you for your generosity!

CHRISTMAS

It is time again for us to provide for the needy of our community.

The Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays are drawing close.

We depend on your generosity In helping us to provide food baskets to our clients to make their holidays enjoyable.

We welcome your donations of

sweet potatoes,

rice,

pasta,

gravy,

cranberry juice,

cranberry sauce,

beans,

soup,

Vegetables

and any other foods.

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 <http://www.thecatholiccounselingcenter.net>



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

A PRAYER FOR OUR MILITARY

YOU ARE MY REFUGE AND MY SHIELD. I PUT MY HOPE IN YOUR WORD.”

(Psalm 119:114)

Lord, bless the men and women of our military as they answer the call to serve our nation and defend our freedom.

Protect them, particularly those in harm's way. Most of all let them know your love: that you are with them, and that you will never forsake or abandon them. I ask this in the precious name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Amen. Partners in Evangelism Ministry to Service Men and Women

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

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, U.S. Navy & Marines, Commander Kevin Seaton Canty.

LIVING STEWARDSHIP

December 6, 2009

Second Sunday of Advent

We are grateful
this week for all stewards
in our parish
who understand clearly
and rejoice
in what God is calling them
to be
and to do

Bulletin Reflection

December 6, 2009

Second Sunday of Advent

Good stewards believe that God,
who has begun this good work
in them, will carry it
through to completion.
In words and deeds,
they can sing with the Psalmist,
“The Lord has done great things
for us; we are filled with joy!”

| <u>Events at St. Martha's– Dec. 6th, 2009</u> | <u>Events at St. Martha's– Dec. 13th, 2009</u> |
|--|---|
| <u>Key:</u> A —Gym B —Lower Church C —Main Church | H —Social Ministry/Outreach L — John Darcy Chapel PC — Parish Center S — School |
| Sun. 12-06-09 Second Sunday of Advent 9:30 – 10:30am RCIA Adult Sacraments Session in English S Rm.209 9:45 – 11:00am Rel Ed. Prog S(A –All Rms) 9:45 – 10:45am Senior Choir Practice L 10:15 – 11:30am Spanish Gathering B 10:30am – 12pm RICA Adult Sacraments Session in Spanish H 11am – 12:30pm Ultreya Movimiento Cursillos Cristiandad L 2:00 – 4:00pm Haitian Fellowship B 6:00-10:00pm St.Martha Parish Dinner Dance | Sun. 12-13-09 Third Sunday of Advent 9:30-10:45am RCIA Adult Sacraments Session in English S Rm.209 9:45 – 11:00am Rel.Ed.Prog. S (A + ALL Rms.) 9:45 – 10:45am Senior Choir Practice L 10:30am-12:00pm RICA Adult Sacraments Session in Spanish H 11am-12:30pm Ultreya Movimiento Cursillos Cristiandad L 12:00 - 2:30pm Lower Church Hall (B) Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem |
| Mon. 12-07-09 7:30 – 9:30pm English Charismatic Prayer L | Mon. 12-14-09 7:30-9:30pm Charismatic English Prayer L |
| Tues. 12-08-09 Feast of the Immaculate Conception St. Martin dePorres & Parish Center Closed 7:30 – 9:30pm U Strong for Youth Group B | Tues. 12-15-09 7:30-9:30pm English as a Second Language (ESL) S Rms.210/213/214 7:30-8:30pm U Strong for Youth Group TBA |
| Wed. 12-09-09 6:30- 9:45pm Pace Group AA S (Art Rm.) 6:30 – 9:45pm Carismatic Hispanic Prayer A 7:30 - 9:30pm RCIA Adult Sacraments Session in English P.C. 7:30 – 9:30pm Haitian Charismatic Prayer L | Wed. 12-16-09 6:30-9:45pm Pace Group AA S (Art Room) 6:30-9:45pm Carismatic Hispanic Prayer A 7:30-9:30pm RCIA Adult Sacraments Session in English P.C. 7:30-9:30pm Haitian Charismatic Prayer L 7:30-9:30pm Parent Baptism Class in Spanish S (Rm.208) |
| Thurs. 12-10-09 5:00-6:00pm Children's RCIA P.C. 7:00-9:30pm Juventud sin fronteras B 7:15-8:30pm Rel. Ed. S (A and classrooms) 7:30 – 9:30pm (ESL) S (Rms. 210/213/214) | Thurs. 12-17-09 7:00 – 9:30pm Juventud sin fronteras B 7:15 – 8:30pm Religious Education Classes S (A + classrooms) 7:30 – 9:30pm (ESL) S (Rms. 210/213/214) 7:30 – 9:30pm Parent Baptism Prep Session in English S (Rm.201) |
| Fri. 12-11-09 10am – 1:30pm BINGO B 6:30 – 9:45pm Pace Group AA S (Art Rm.) 8:00 – 10:00pm Spanish Choir Rehearsal C 8:00-10:00pm Haitian Choir Rehearsal L | Fri. 12-18-09 10am- 1:30pm BINGO B 6:30 – 9:45pm Pace Group AA S (Art Rm.) 8 – 10pm Spanish Choir Rehearsal C 8 – 10pm Haitian Choir Practice L |
| Sat. 12-12-09 Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe 11am – 12:30pm Legion of Mary Mtg. L 3:00-5:00pm 2009 Advent Penance Service C 6:00pm-10:00pm BINGO B 7:30 pm Feast Day Mass in Spanish C Celebration continues after Mass in A | Sat. 12-19-09 11am – 12:30pm Legion of Mary Mtg. L NO BINGO this evening. |