

December
18
2011

Church of St. Patrick

400 Main Street Huntington, New York 11743 631-385-3311

The
Fourth
Sunday
of
Advent

The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth to a virgin named Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace!
The Lord is
with you.



Behold, you will conceive
in your womb and bear
a son, and you shall
name him **JESUS**



Ave Maria, Dominus tecum

Hail Mary, the Lord is with you

“SOMETHING PATRICK-AL*”**

“MAKING A LIST, AND CHECKING IT TWICE”

.... among Santa’s chores, the familiar Christmas song tells us. And so it is for us. There is our gift list (for both “giving” and “getting”), handy for a trip to the mall, a “Black Friday” sleep-over, or for www.shoponline.com Let’s not forget our food shopping list for all of those wonderful recipe specialties at Christmas. And then, there is our Christmas card list.

As you can imagine, Pastors get phone calls, letters, brochures from sales representatives. Their products range from olive wood statues to seasonal liturgical items, altar breads (I prefer working with two contemplative religious communities), fund-raising projects, gutter replacement, leak repair, electric votive candles [ugh!], and so on. One such “promo” is a Parish Address Book, provided at “no cost to the parish”, even a donation / rebate upon publication. Parish information would be listed on several pages; there is lots of space for names, addresses, phone numbers, etc. I haven’t “taken the bait”, knowing that more and more of us use a computer file instead [much neater than erasures] “*Who pays for the book?*” Glad you asked! That is my second reason! Local merchants, area restaurants, professionals, service trades already and graciously make our Weekly Bulletin possible; many of them also support School fund-raising events, proudly displaying a “Shop The Shamrock” decal in their windows. Approaching them for yet another project seems a bit much, in my view.

Our Christmas card lists Are they up to date? “*They moved, I think; I’ll call ; she’ll know their new address.*” Are your cards pre-printed? Do some need notes, a check, a “portrait of a former President”? Do you prepare a Christmas letter, sharing the year’s family events, joys and sorrows, comings and goings, achievements and appendectomies? A Westbury contemporary lives in Texas; his family’s Christmas letter rhymes — and very well! How is it, though, that “Forever” stamp rates increase steadily?

And our thoughts as we write our cards? “*Gee, I haven’t seen them in years; I must call him; I would love to see her; we really should get together.*” “*I’ve got to cut down this list!*” “*Did he retire? I can’t recall ...*” “*She was ill, last I heard; that’s a phone call I need to make - and soon!*” “*I don’t think I got a card last year; I wonder what happened*” I know someone who sprinkled her Income Tax forms with holy water before mailing them—“audit prevention”, she called it — successfully! How about a better idea — a prayer over our Christmas cards? Several years ago, an article suggested precisely that; having written our Christmas cards, addressed and stamped them, we offer a prayer of blessing* over them: (Sent the cards already? Why not pray the prayer anyway?)

*“Father in heaven, in Jesus your very Word becomes flesh. Bless these words of ours addressed to those we love. May these cards express to them your word of peace, of happiness, of comfort, of healing. May they proclaim the good news of your coming and your constant presence among us. And make us letters of Christ, that we may proclaim his love in the words of charity and compassion, in the ink of justice and peace. Bless and protect, too, those who will deliver these cards and till of our Christmas mail in the days ahead.” **

What a wonderful idea! I especially appreciated that prayer’s last sentence; my father worked in the Westbury Post Office for many years — despite that, he loved Christmas!

* From “*Blessings For A Busy Advent Season*”, by Jay Cormier, in *Liturgical Catechesis*. Dec. 2002 / Jan. 2003; reprinted in *Connections* Homily Newsletter, Dec. 2005; Jay Cormier, -Ed; ... www.connections-mediaworks.com publ. MediaWorks, 7 Lantern Lane, Londonderry, NH 03053; Used with permission, gratefully acknowledged.

Blessings galore!

PRESIDERS

Vigil of Christmas, Saturday, Dec 24th

3:30pm Fr. Donnelly
 3:45pm (Lower Church) Fr. Tuite
 5:30pm Fr. Gallagher
 5:45pm (Lower Church) Fr. Tuite
 7:30pm Fr. Edamattam
 10:00pm Msgr. Bennett

Christmas Day, Sunday, Dec 25th

7:30am Fr. Edamattam
 8:45am Fr. Gallagher
 9:30am Fr. Tuite
 10:00am Fr. Donnelly
 11:30am Msgr. Bennett
 1:00pm Fr. Gallagher



Altar Servers

Saturday Dec. 24th Christmas Eve

3:30 Children's Mass

Kevin Broshek, Gabrielle
 & Epiphany Ramirez,
 Maggie McGovern

3:45 Lower Church

5:30 Children's Choir

Eddie Daubel, Lianna DeChiaro,
 Carolyn McPharlin

5:45 Lower Church

7:30PM

Ryan Brosky

10:00PM

Amanda & Alek Sajewski

Sunday Dec. 25th Christmas Day

7:30AM

8:45AM

Victoria Mallia,
 Brendan & Brianna Hines

9:30AM Lower Church

10:00AM

Aidan & Nolan Hinphy,
 Madison Callinan

11:30AM

Will Henfling, Jack &
 Maggie Horn

1:00PM

Note: NO 5:30PM Mass on Christmas

Christmas and New Year's Schedule, 2011



CONFESSIONS

The Saturdays of Advent - 3:30 - 4:45 pm
 The Mondays of Advent - 7:15 pm
 Mon. Dec. 19 - 3:30 - 5:00; 7:00 - 8:30 pm
 Wed. Dec. 21 - 3:30 - 5:00; 7:00 - 8:30 pm
 Sat. Dec. 24 - 10:30 am to 12:00 noon ONLY
 Sat. Dec. 31 - 3:30 to 4:30 pm

MASSES

Vigil of Christmas, Sat. Dec. 24

3:30 pm — Children's Mass / Children's Procession
 3:45 pm - Vigil Mass [Lower Church]
 5:30 pm - Mass with Children's Choir
 5:45 pm - Vigil Mass [Lower Church]
 7:30 pm - Vigil Mass
 10:00 pm - Liturgy of Midnight Mass

Christmas Day, Sun. Dec. 25

Masses at 7:30; 8:45; 10:00; 11:30 am; 1:00 pm *
 Lower Church: 9:30 am
 * - Christmas Day ONLY; usually 12:45 pm
 [No 5:30 pm Mass on Christmas Day]

New Year's Eve & New Year's Day

Sat. Dec. 31 - Mass at 5:00 pm
 Sun. Jan. 1 - Masses at 7:30; 8:45; 9:30 [Lower Church];
 10:00 & 11:30am; 12:45pm noon
 [No 5:30 pm Mass on New Year's Day]

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Morning Masses on Sat. Dec. 24: 8:30 am ONLY  
 Morning Masses on Sat. Dec. 31: 8:30 am ONLY

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**“WHAT HAPPENED TO  
MARY’S STATUE?” ....**

“You know ... the one in front of the school ... it’s been there for years .... “ Thank you, parishioners, for asking about it these past several weeks. Someone’s anonymous Voice-Mail message, irately condemned its irreverent removal on our part, and demanded its immediate replacement — “or else!” The truth is .....



This statue of Mary has been vandalized repeatedly, especially in the last year or more. The last such incident, a few months, damaged the statue and its base beyond repair. We delayed replacing it immediately, not only hoping to find one which would be less susceptible to damage, but also because some un-related summer-time brick and stone repairs were being done at that entrance to the School.

We have recently ordered a new statue, about five feet tall, whose delivery will take a few months’ time. Its fiberglass composition [painted white], and the fact that Mary’s fingers are not extended will hopefully deter damage, and enable us to replace this Main Street land-mark. [Perhaps it will be here in time for St. Patrick’s Day festivities in March — as we mark our Parish’s Patronal Feast, and during our School’s Ninetieth Anniversary year]. Hopefully also, some additional lighting at the front of the School will be helpful.

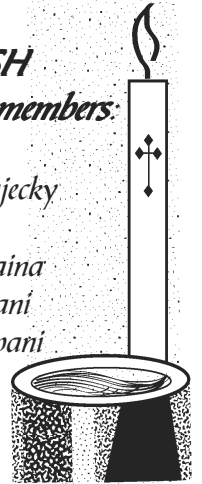
As CBS news commentator often reminded us, “And now you know the rest of the story!” Thank you for your goodness which makes such projects possible!

Msgr. John Bennett

**Baptisms**

**We WELCOME into the  
CHRISTIAN  
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY  
and into  
OUR PARISH  
the following new members:**

- Hugo Kenneth Pidhajecky*
- Kaitlyn Rose*
- Nathan Gaetano Traina*
- Kaitlyn Rose Trapani*
- Luciano Joseph Trapani*



*A  
Loss in Our  
Church Family*

**Please Keep  
in Prayerful  
Remembrance  
Our Beloved Dead:**

- Emily Bianco*
- Maureen Kelly*
- Edward Meehan*
- William Holden*
- Catherine A. Falco*



*Building God’s Kingdom with our Gifts of  
Time, Talent & Treasure*

**STEWARDSHIP  
Bulletin Reflection**

In the first reading, God promised King David that his house and his kingdom will endure forever. It is through Mary’s “Yes” - “I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let it be done to me as you say.” - that the promise finds fulfillment.

**Living Stewardship**

We are grateful this week for all stewards in our parish who have the courage, like Mary, to listen to God’s voice in their own hearts and conscientiously pursue the tasks to which they have been called.

## MASS INTENTIONS

## BREAD & WINE INTENTIONS

### Monday, December 19th

7:15 AM Isabel Bautista (L)  
9:00 AM Peter M. Januzzi +  
12:00Noon Rivoir & Lee Families (L & D)

For Our Parishioners  
For Our Parishioners  
Tony Kuhn +

### Tuesday, December 20th

7:15 AM Celia Lupoli +  
9:00 AM Joseph & Mary Fiteni +  
12:00Noon Joseph LaVeglia +

For Our Parishioners  
For Our Parishioners  
For Our Parishioners

### Wednesday, December 21st

7:15 AM The Priests of St. Patrick Parish (L)  
9:00 AM Caridad Datoc +  
12:00Noon Anne Lee +

For Our Parishioners  
For Our Parishioners  
For Our Parishioners

### Thursday, December 22nd

7:15AM Charles Zolnowski +  
9:00AM Frank Sotnik +  
12:00Noon Cheryl Robbins Laing +

For Our Parishioners  
For Our Parishioners  
For Our Parishioners

### Friday, December 23rd

7:15AM Agnes Roche +  
9:00AM M/M Telesforo DeAngel  
12:00Noon Angelo Mastra +

For Our Parishioners  
For Our Parishioners  
For Our Parishioners

### Saturday, December 24th

8:30AM Joe & Mary DiTommaso +

For Our Parishioners

## VIGIL OF CHRISTMAS

All Masses are offered for all parishioners, living & deceased, and their families

## Sunday, December 25th - SOLEMNITY OF CHRISTMAS

All Masses on Christmas Day are offered for all parishioners, living & deceased, and their families

### FOR THE SICK WHO HAVE ASKED TO BE REMEMBERED IN PRAYER



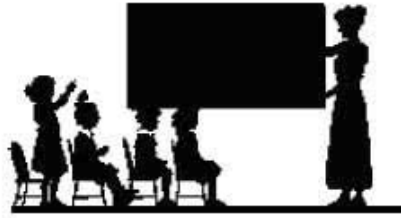
Phyllis Castorina, CPRL Jonathan Pruziner, Baby Anthony Mainini, Gloria Green, Lena Perricone, Frances B. Rice, Kathy La Russo, Christopher Castorina, William Conroy, Pat Ernst, Ruth Ellen Trimmer, Tom Fiorello, Eileen Coyle, Baby James Martin, Rev. Matthew Kotteram, William Gondek, Joseph Petrone,

Baby Ella, Christine Gavzy, Richard Szramiak, Ginger Shikowitz, John LoScalzo, Edward McDowell, Aidan Biggica, Laura McKean, Gregory Munch, Salvatore Cinquegrana, Michael Nicklas, Kenneth Nicklas, Guy Nicklas, Baby Joy, Marie Baum, Maria Lisena, Frances O'Riordan, Barbara Cosgrove, Michael Renyolds, Meighan Hackett, Joseph Woodstock, Jr., Frank Cernese, Kate Van Buitenen, Myra Berardo, Glen Knauer, Roman Switckar, Nicholas Croce, Bogdon Bezmertni, Laurie Walters,

John Schnider, Don Mansfield, Patti Hardy, Peter DiCurtis, Gerard Poole, Baby Lilia Krystyna Clifford, Angela LaBadie, Kathy Sorensen, James Lane, Baby Rowan James Sullivan, Carol Flint, Carol Mustnug, Patty Patino, Pamela Daly, Susan Pisicano, Connie Zurcher, Barbara Waldo, Kaila Harlan, Matthew DiNapoli, Judy Brown, Irene Rey Angela Labadie, Ursula Engel, Mimi Vachris, Greg McCarthy, William Paul Schupler, Patricia Hardy Bozzella, Steven Bartolli, Stanley Arbatowicz, Anne Frey, John Boyle, Mildred Ungurath, Carl Zazzarino, Paul Carbone, Christina McCloskey, Julia Johnson, Joanne Barrese, Joseph Sepe, Collette Kunz, Anne Baldante



# ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ



"Under the Alphabet"

at  
St. Patrick School

## Santa's Workshop 2011!

One of the most popular days of the school year has arrived! Our first graders visited Santa's Workshop escorted by seventh and eighth graders. Everyone is anxiously awaiting the arrival of Santa Claus!



Thank you to all the parents who volunteer their time to bring joy and happiness to the students of St. Patrick School.

# Catholic Daughters of the Americas



**Our Lady of Victory, Court #375**

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas are a group of women dedicated to the promotion of justice, equality and the advancement of human rights and dignity for all. Our work includes acts of charity in our own communities and around the world. In unity and charity we are committed to changing our world one little piece at a time.

**We cordially invite you to attend our  
next meeting on  
Wed. January 4, 2012  
At 7:00 PM in Murray Hall**

**We are actively seeking new members!**



**At this meeting we will  
be having a "baby  
shower" to help those in  
need.**

**Please bring an  
unwrapped baby gift.**

**As usual refreshments will be served.**

**Please call Kathy Rendall for further  
information**

**@ 631-774-4688**



**Honor Roll Students  
Holy Trinity Dioc. High School**

**Thomas Bischoff, Ty Graynor**

## PATRICIANS

**ST. PATRICK SENIOR GROUP  
-55 YRS. AND OLDER-**



Seniors Page

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 19TH**  
**BRIDGE** games will be played  
from 12:30PM to 4:00PM. All  
welcomed.

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20TH** CANASTA  
games will be played from 12:30PM to 4:00PM.

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21ST** we will not meet

**PATRICIANS WILL NOT MEET AGAIN  
UNTIL JANUARY 3RD, 2012.**

*We wish you  
a Merry Christmas  
and a  
Happy New Year!*



*Merry Christmas*

### **WEEKLY ENVELOPES**

If you will be away for  
a month or more,  
would you kindly contact the Rectory  
Office at 385-3311 x 214 and let us  
know. We will put a temporary hold  
on your envelopes.

This is NOT first class mail and  
they do get returned to us for postage  
due.  
Thank you.



 **Church of St. Patrick**  
**Religious Education** 

400 Main Street Huntington, NY 11743 631.385.3311  
Fax 631.673.4102  
www.stpatrickchurchhunt.org reducation@stpathunt.org



During the month of December, the 6<sup>th</sup> grade will be collecting items for the Huntington Service League. We are asking for a toy or game, suitable for children aged eleven or twelve. A gift card to Target, K-Mart, Toys 'R Us and or Walmart may be donated instead of the toy or game. The Huntington Service League helps families & children in our area who are in need. The students are encouraged to "earn" the money to purchase the item by doing "chores" around the house.

**Items can be dropped off during  
Religious Education classes.**

<http://www.fsl-li.org/>

**Moms & Tots**

**Christmas Party  
Cookies & Gift  
Exchange**



**Thursday  
December 22nd  
11:00am**

**St. Patrick Church  
Murray Hall (Lower Church)**

\$10 gift per child for grab bag  
Every Mom bring some holiday cookies (homemade or store bought). Let the kids play, listen to Christmas music, eat cookies and get a gift.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!**  
[Michelelc8@verizon.net](mailto:Michelelc8@verizon.net)



The following parishioners and friends will be remembered in prayer throughout the year. They serve in the armed forces and their family and friends enrolled their names at the Blessed Mother Shrine. Feel free to add names of family members and friends, who are in the services, throughout the year.

Lt., Joseph Gavin, USMC, James T. Rooney, Captain Naval Reserve, Ln. Cpl. Sean Fagan, Marine Corps, Sgt. Rodney Rael, US Air Force, Joseph J. McGann, U.S. Air Force, Lt. William Lutgen, Jr., US Navy, Joseph Delba, US Army, Anthony Corps, Pvt. 1st Class Ryan Marcell, U.S. Marine Corp., John Callaghan, U.S. Marine Corps, Dr. Thomas Weisenberger, U.S. Army, Capt. Timothy Sullivan, U.S. Army, Sgt. Kevin Hallinan, U.S. Army National Guard, Jacob Soviero, U.S. Navy, Trevor Renadette, U.S. Army National Guard, James Patrick Gallagher, U.S. Marine Corps, Patrick Holden, U.S. Marines Corps., Major Christine L. Gibney, U.S. Army, 1st Calvary, Evan Schider, Medic, U.S. Army, Captain Andrew Henning, US Army, Pvt. 1st Class Jonathan Battista, Pvt. 2nd Class Erik Kishlicky, U.S. Army, Lt. J.G. U.S. Navy-Sean Patrick Condon, Pvt. 1st Class David Ivins, Jr. U.S. Marines, Samuel Schuff, Jr., U.S. Army, Christopher Daniels, U.S. National Guard, Robert Daniels, U.S. National Guard, Lt. James W. Ronan, U.S. Marines, Pvt. 1st Class Dominic Valentino, US Army, Bart Williams, U.S. Coast Guard, Sgt. James McKeon, U.S. Army National Guard, Spc. 1st Lt. Christopher M. Green, US Army, Stf. Sgt. Michael A. Lazari, US Air Force, FDNY, SPC James Ristuccia, US Army, Lt. Edward Hart, USMC, Lt. Brian Hart, USMC, Johnathan Lang US Navy, SPC Jason Jacobs US ARMY, Sgt. Jonathan Jacobs US ARMY, Capt William Perrich, US ARMY, Pvt. Stephen Soper, US ARMY, Capt. Michael Rodick, US ARMY, Lcpl. John Barrett Dayton USMC, Lt. Craig James Marolf, US ARMY, 1st Lt. Patrick McGorman, US ARMY, COPRL, PFC Daniel Anthony Nigro, US ARMY, Morgan Williams, U S Coast Guard, Lt. Michael Apone, US NAVY Airforce, James McKeon, US ARMY, Lt. Hillary Allegretti, U.S. Coast Guard, SSgt. Denis Cashin, USMC, Lyle Williams, US ARMY, Maj. Jeremy Quimby, US ARMY, Maj. Dan Miller, US ARMY, PFC Patrick Michael Reynolds, US Marines, Andrew Fortmann, Navel Seal, Steven Fortmann, Navel Seal, Brian Hughes, US Army, Patrick Mulderrig, Ensign Michael Wolf, US Navy, 2nd Lt Michael Castelli, US ARMY, Christopher Caruso, US Marines, Maj. Andy White, US AIRFORCE, Lt. Elizabeth Verardo, US ARMY, Jeffrey Schmitz, US Marie Corp., Luis Yazquez, US ARMY, Spec. Linda E. Wiebalck, US ARMY, PFC Keith Gasparik, Maxwell Carroll, US Marine, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. James Byler, US Marines, Pvt. Preston Villumsen, US Army, 1st Lt. Brian McGrath, US ARMY, 2nd Lt. Daniel McGrath, US ARMY, Christopher James Peckham, US ARMY

**Pray For America: Every Saturday at 9:00am, the rosary is said in front of St. Patrick's Church for one of the soldiers above.**

We invoke the protection of Our Mother. We pray publicly for the safety of our Service Men and Women, (especially of Huntington), our leaders and in obedience to the requests made at Fatima. YOU are important to this calling. Can you join us for even one Hail Mary? If you wish us to pray for a soldier, please contact the rectory with his/her name. 385-3311 X214



We are having a heartwarming time giving out and delivering presents, baskets and gift cards that were donated through our "Help a Family" Christmas program for the needy in our community. Many parents have been overcome with emotion as they receive gifts for their children. Seniors and individuals were happy that they were not forgotten. Smiles abounded with grateful hearts. Thank you for your generosity. God bless you all.

**LEGAL CLINIC:** Our next legal clinic will be Tuesday, January 3, 2012. Our legal clinic is available to anyone in our area who cannot afford to pay for the services of a lawyer. Our attorney is at Trocaire the first Tuesday of every month. A brief assessment is needed before an appointment can be made. For information please call Marie ext 213 Mon./Fri. 10:00 - 2:00. All calls are confidential



**PANTRY;** Suggested items: Juice, canned fruit, canned mats, sugar, white rice, snacks for kids, cookies, coffee, mayo, syrup, toiletries, aluminum foil, saran wrap and paper goods

Any items needing refrigeration can be brought to Outreach during the hours of 10:00am and 2:00pm. We are grateful for your support.

**SPECIAL NEEDS:** Small computer desk and chair. Four pronged cane and shower chair.

We have a family who would like to donate a chair lift (the rail is mounted to the treads of the stairs). Please call the office if you or someone you know has a need

**EMPLOYMENT:** We also have people ready willing and able to work cleaning houses, babysitting or as home health aides. Please give us a call. Phyllis, our employment coordinator is at Trocaire. every Wednesday between 12:00 and 2:00.



**Parish Outreach Trocaire House**



For Information, call  
**385-3311 x 216**

**Trocaire Office Hrs: 10am - 2pm Mon.- Fri.**

**Adoption:** Grace by appt. - (516)367-7413  
**Adult Reading Instruction:** Call the office.  
**Bible Study/Scripture:** Helen Keller, Call the office.  
**Bread Pick-Up:** Tues.:Annette Gentile/Pat Regan  
Thurs.:PatMorehouse/Alice Novotney

**Community Service:**Call the office, 10 -2pm, Mon - Fri.  
**Craft Group: Crocheting & Knitting,** Millie Gabriel,  
Wed.: 10 - 12 pm

**Crest Hollow Food pick-up and preparation:**  
Jo-Ann Bartumioli Tues. 10 - 12pm

**Driver Coordinators:** Debbie Gerrity /Ellen Gregorie  
**Employment:** Phyllis Pniewski, Wed. 12 -2pm

**Food Pantry:** Joyce Inzerillo  
**Friendly Visitors:** Call the office, 10-2pm, Mon - Fri.

**Legal Clinic:** First Tues. each month -call for appt.  
**Meals at Home:** Call the office, 10-2pm, Mon - Fri.

**Nursing Home Visits:** Thurs., Marianne Gratto, Marjorie Pozderec  
**Prayer Shawl Ministry:** Millie Gabriel, Wed. 10-12pm

**Prostate Cancer Info:** Art Dignam, 631-261-2583  
**Senior Citizen Social:**Thurs. 10:30-12pm, Reggie Kelly

**Sign Language -10am-12pm, Sat. Rect. Bsmt**  
**Special Needs:** Mon. - Fri. 10:00 - 2:00pm Rosa Coelho

**Staff-** Marie Monte, Outreach Coord. x 213  
Rosa Coelho, Asst. Outreach Coord. x 216  
Sr. Frances Viola, Spirituality x 217

**Trocaire House is located in the lower church (Murray Hall) of St. Patrick's at 400 Main Street. Office hours are Monday to Friday from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. We welcome everyone to stop by for a cup of coffee or tea.**

**DO YOU HAVE PROSTATE CANCER OR DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO DOES ?**

Prostate cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in American men. Over 30,000 men die from this cancer each year. One in six men will get prostate cancer and yet, it is a very treatable disease if detected early through a simple blood screening test (PSA).

A Prostate Cancer Support and Information Group is available to answer your questions. We explain information and resources available to you as you face dealing with this disease. Emphasis is placed on trying to help you get answers to the wide range of personal questions and issues that you will have. Prostate Cancer survivors who are willing to share their experiences with the group are welcome. We are available by just a phone call.

**Please call Art Dignam (631 261 2583), or John Schob (631 549 7948).**

**Teens @Stpats      The fourth Sunday of Advent**

The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you." But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.

All creation with its countless universes and galaxies come from God's infinite love, creativity, power and love. But we are only aware of one creature (Who knows? There may be many more) in that creation who is capable of being aware of this God. And that's us. Human beings alone can know the One who is infinite Love. But, as you know by now, that's not always easy. Why? Because for all their intelligence, sensitivity, openness, capacity to love and care, ability to use language, music, develop knowledge and civilization, human beings are also able to be ignorant, unfeeling, unloving, shallow and destructive. Our connection to God is something that humans slowly and gradually have come to know and have also resisted.

Today's Gospel is a story of the Great Breakthrough. It is the story of a young woman (probably no more than 15) who is chosen by God. It is the story of the Annunciation when the angel Gabriel comes to Mary and asks her to be the bearer of God's Infinite Love. Have you ever wondered "Why Mary?" We don't and can't know for sure. We know only a little bit about the mother of Jesus. But we get some hints in the reading. Gabriel greets Mary as one who is "full of grace". Being "full of grace" is a description of the human heart and soul as one that is wide open to God's presence. Being "full of grace" means that this heart and soul's first instinct is to love, to care, to forgive, to pray, to do what is right. To be "full of grace" means that this is a heart that is open to the voice of angels. As Gabriel puts it, this is a heart that "has found favor with God".

All this may seem so long ago and far away and disconnected from your life. But it is not. In fact, it is a model of your life and mine. Our goal in life is to become "full of grace". Our life is to learn how to cultivate our souls, our spirits, our hearts so that we too may hear the voices of angels (not literally, of course). And where you are female or male, your job and mine is to be open to the gift of Infinite Love and help to bring it more fully and deeply into the world.

Finally, Mary is not only the one who is full of grace, she is also the one who says "yes". Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Mary's "yes" was a yes that led to a thousand more yeses. It meant living inside a mystery that she did not always understand. It meant humiliation and shame from those who believed that she had been unfaithful to Joseph. It meant a hard and dangerous journey nearly nine months pregnant. It meant having a son who would go his own way. It meant watching him be brutally tortured to death on a cross. But it remained an unshakeable yes to the very end. And it was a yes that led to the gift of the Spirit at Pentecost and an eternal role in the mystery of faith and salvation. But it only happened because she said yes.

**ST. PATRICK PARISH WEEKLY COLLECTION  
AUTOMATED WITHDRAWAL FORM**

Name: (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

I authorize the following  New Payment  Change in Payment  Discontinue Payment

I would like to enroll in the St. Patrick Parish program. I understand that my monthly contribution amount will be transferred directly from my checking account or credit card, to St. Patrick Parish account, a record of my gifts will appear on my bank or credit card statement and my transfers will begin on date indicated below. I understand that I can increase, decrease or suspend my giving by contacting St. Patrick Parish at (631) 385-3311

Signature: X \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**BANK /CREDIT CARD ACCOUNT INFORMATION**

(Please attach voided check)

Bank Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Account Title:  Checking    Routing Number \_\_\_\_\_    Account Number \_\_\_\_\_

Savings    Routing Number \_\_\_\_\_    Account Number \_\_\_\_\_



Type of Credit Card: \_\_\_\_\_ 3-Digit Security Code (From back of card): \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Billing Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it appears on Credit Card (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Sunday you wish to start: \_\_\_\_\_

Stewardship contribution amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Did you know...**

A few years ago, our parish started offering **Automated Giving** as an option to parishioners for the regular Sunday collection. Currently, many families have signed up for this way of giving.



Many churches throughout our country are now inviting people to use Automated Giving. One reason is the convenience of it for the parishioner and for the Church. Another is that it helps people to worry less about supporting their church at times when they are not physically present at services.

Please consider signing up for Automated Giving. Contact the Rectory, 385-3311

## VIRTUS TRAINING

Thursday, December 15th

8:30 – 10:00am or 7:00 – 8:30pm

School Café

Please contact Susan 3385-3311 X253 to register. *St. Patrick School parents are required to attend Virtus training course, if they have not yet done so.*

RCIA

## St. Patrick's Church

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults



### We are here and we can help!

- Do you know a non-catholic who might be interested in learning more about the Catholic faith?
- Do you know a non-catholic who is interested in becoming Catholic?
- Do you know a Catholic who, for whatever reason never received First Communion or Confirmation?

### Do you know the RCIA is an Adult Education Program for both Catholic and non Catholic adults?

- Do you struggle with your own questions or challenges with the Catholic faith?
- Do you think that the Church is irrelevant or out of touch with contemporary issues?
- Do you realize that if your Catholic education ended in grade/high school, you may have a limited understanding of the Church's teachings?
- Do you know that many present-day adult Catholics misunderstand or are misinformed about some of the Church's teachings and the meaning behind them?
- Do you realize that all of life, its purpose and direction, finds its most profound meaning in the context of the Catholic Faith?
- Do you know that, particularly in times of trial and suffering, the Catholic Faith can give you the tools to function and live to heights you would not think possible?

### CONTACT:

Jerry Rorke

( 516 ) 238-5833

JerryRorke@aol.com

**The Heart of Jesus Prayer Group** meets every Friday from 9:45-11:30 am in the lower rectory meeting room. We share prayer and praise through song, scripture and witness. Healing prayer is available at the end of every meeting. Please join us. For information call Marianne, 673-1031

## VOCATION PROGRAMS



Over the past two years the Vocation Office has responded to over 200 requests for Vocation Events at various schools, parishes, youth groups, religious education classes, etc. WAS YOUR PARISH OR MINISTRY ONE OF THEM? If not, please consider us for this year! For further information please contact the Vocation Office Phone: 631-424-9888 ;E-mail: Vocations@drvc.org

### *Eucharist for Homebound Parishioners*

**Do you know someone who is homebound, perhaps a neighbor, friend or family member?**

These members of our parish community are no longer able to join our celebration of the Eucharist. Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist are available for flexible weekly visits. Ministers visit the same parishioners during these visits and bring both the Eucharist and a personal connection with the larger parish community. Prior to home visits, Ministers complete diocesan training including guidelines for bringing the Eucharist into homes as well as tips and suggestions from social workers; this training helps create a spiritual and comfortable experience for all involved.

**If you know someone who would benefit from this ministry please call Pastoral Care 385-3311 ex. 211**

**EMMAUS** is an opportunity to learn and pray in a community of adults committed to growing in faith. **It meets on Monday nights from 7:30-9pm in the rectory basement.**



*This year's theme: Paul and the early church.*

We will examine Paul and the early Church through the lens of history, theology, spirituality and contemporary applications.

All are welcome!

### **EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

takes place each Monday, after the 9:30 am Mass or the last Funeral, and continuing through 8:00pm. Please spend some time in adoration and prayer. The Blessed Sacrament should not be left un-attended. Thank you, Christine Giordano, for setting up times for people wishing to spend specific time in prayer. Please call her at 351-0374 to set up a time convenient for you. What a wonderful opportunity is this special, grace-filled time of prayer for our parish!

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# Church of Saint Patrick \*400 Main Street \* Huntington, N Y 631-385-3311

■ Church Fax: 673-4102 ■ Church Telephone: 385-3311 ■ Parish Website: [www.stpatrickchurchhunt.org](http://www.stpatrickchurchhunt.org)

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|------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Rev. Msgr. John F. Bennett, Pastor                                     | 223      | Pastoral Care: Tricia Krug                                                                   | 211          |
| Rev. Stephen Donnelly                                                  | 222      | RCIA: Jerry Rorke                                                                            | 516-238-5833 |
| Rev. Thomas Tuite                                                      | 220      | Rectory Office:                                                                              |              |
| Deacon William Casey                                                   | 360      | Parish Secretary, Stephanie Natalello,                                                       | 214          |
| Deacon Dale Bonocore                                                   | 360      | Religious Education Office:                                                                  | 351/357      |
| Deacon Louis Cosentino                                                 | 360      | Religious Education Coordinator: Jill Rowbo                                                  | 350          |
| After School Ministry                                                  | 897-2128 | School:                                                                                      |              |
| Business Manager: Anthony Trombino                                     | 206      | Office:                                                                                      | 252/253      |
| Cemetery Office: Stephanie Natalello                                   | 215      | Sr. Maureen McDade, Principal                                                                | 249          |
| Cemetery Grounds: John Janssen                                         | 385-3268 | Jean Grasso, Assist. Principal                                                               | 250          |
| Computer Tutors: Thomas Ernst                                          | 304      | Board President: Maribeth Walsh                                                              | 252          |
| EMMAUS: Tony Marinelli                                                 | 362      | Nursery School                                                                               | 252          |
| Eucharistic Ministers, Church, Nursing Home,<br>Hospital and Homebound | 211      | School Website: <a href="http://www.stpatrickchurchhunt.org">www.stpatrickchurchhunt.org</a> |              |
| Hospital Ministry: Fr. Thomas Edamattam                                | 221      | Sports Board                                                                                 | 375          |
| Human Services-Trocaire- Food Services                                 | 216      | Stewardship:                                                                                 | 206          |
| Lectors:                                                               | 211      | Trocaire House: Marie Monte                                                                  | 213          |
| Music Director: Matthew Koraus                                         | 230      | Ushers:                                                                                      | 361          |
| Patricians: Sr. Clare O'Keefe                                          | 236      | Youth Ministry: Tony Marinelli                                                               | 362          |

### Sacrament of Baptism:

Each Sunday at 2:00pm. A Baptismal preparation class for first time parents is required. **PARENT PREPARATION CLASS WILL NOT BE HELD DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER.** Contact the Rectory Office for a Baptismal Registration Form.

### Sacrament of Matrimony:

To arrange a date, please call the rectory at least eight months in advance for an appointment with a priest or deacon. A marriage preparation program (Pre-Cana) is required. Reserve the Church before booking a reception.


### Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick:

Every Sunday immediately after the 12:45 Mass and as emergencies warrant.

### Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Monday nights 7:15-7:45 pm and Saturdays at 3:30-4:30 pm. Eves of First Friday and holydays 3:30-4:30 pm.

### Mass Schedule

Saturday: 8:30 am, 5:00 pm  
 Sunday: 7:30am, 8:45am, 9:30am (L.C.)   
 10:00am, 11:30am, 12:45pm, 5:30pm  
 Weekdays: 7:15, 9:00 am & 12 noon  
 Holy day schedule as announced in our bulletin.

### Rectory Office Hours:

Monday to Thursday 9:00am – 9:00pm  
 Friday 9:00am - 5:00pm  
 Saturday 9:00am - 12:00noon  
 Sunday 9:00am - 1:00pm

### Devotions:

*Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Novena* is prayed on Wednesdays following the 9:00 am Mass.

The rosary is prayed immediately following the 9:00 am Mass each morning.

*Exposition* on Monday 9:30 am - 8:00 pm.

*Nocturnal Adoration* each first Friday from 7:30 - 8:30 pm and 8:30 - 9:30 pm.