First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2019

Pastor
Rev. Msgr. John F. Barry, P.A.

Associate Pastors
Rev. Joseph Kammerer
Rev. Rick Prindle

Deacons
Fred Rose, Derek Brown
Chris Amantea, Dick Williams

Business Manager
Bob Hodges

Weekend Mass
Saturday Vigil: 5PM
Sunday:
7AM, 8AM, 9:30AM, 11:30AM and 5PM
7PM, on the first Sunday of the month

Weekday Mass
Monday / Wednesday / Friday:
8:10AM, 12:10PM, 5PM
Tuesday / Thursday:
6:30AM, 8:10AM, 12:10PM & 5PM
Saturday: 8AM

Holy Day Mass
Vigil: 5PM
Holy Day: 6:30AM, 8:10AM,
12:10PM, 5PM, and 7:30PM

Reconciliation (Penance)
Tues/Thurs: 7-7:15AM
Wed/Fri: 5:30-6PM
Saturday: 8:30-9AM | 4-4:30PM
Eves of Holy Days: 4-4:30PM
Confessions by request anytime;
call Rectory for appointment.

700 15th Street
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266
(310)545-5651
AmericanMartyrs.org

@AmericanMartyrs
CatholicCommunity
@MsgrJohnBarry
@AmericanMartyrs
@MsgrJohnBarry
@AmericanMartyrsChurch

Nazareth to Bethlehem,
Our Journey Too
We welcome you to American Martyrs Catholic Community

**Parish Facilities**

**RECTORY / PASTORAL CARE**
Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm | Sat, 10am-1pm
310-545-5651 | for 424-327-9703

**PARISH CENTER:**
700 15th St., Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

**WELCOME CENTER:**
310-545-5651
Mon-Thurs, 8am-6pm | Fri, 8am-5pm
Sat, 4:30-6:30pm | Sun, 8:30am-1pm & 4:30-6:30pm

ELEVATOR from Plaza/Welcome Center to Parish Offices/Deegan Pl. and Church crosswalk

**PARISH OFFICES:**
Mon-Fri, 9am-4:45pm

**O’DONNELL HALL:** Use Plaza entrance.

**ST. KATERI ROOM:**
Use Deegan Pl. entrance or East parking lot entrance.

ELEVATOR to St. Kateri/upstairs rooms in Blessed Virgin Mary wing inside east St. Kateri entrance

**BLESSED VIRGIN MARY WING:**
- OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL
  - Ground level - enter from Plaza.
  - For the 2nd floor meeting rooms, use either of the eastside entrances - Blessed Virgin Mary or St. Kateri

- OUR LADY OF FATIMA
- ST. JUAN DIEGO
- ST. MOTHER TERESA

**AMERICAN MARTYRS SCHOOL**
310-545-8599 | 1701 Laurel Ave, MB 90266

**SCHOOL OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**
310-546-4734 | 1701 Laurel Ave, MB 90266

**AMERICAN MARTYRS PRESCHOOL**
310-802-8149 | 1705 Laurel Ave, MB 90266

**GYM** - 310-802-8720 | 701 15th Street

**HOLY FAMILY HOUSE** - Use O’Donnell parking structure. Cross 15th St, past Gym, through gate, and up the stairs on the left side to the front door.

**PARISH HOUSE** - 659 15th Street

**SACRED HEART HOUSE** - Use O’Donnell parking structure. Cross 15th St, and enter the schoolyard, and walk to the far side.

**SPIRITUALITY CENTER** - 770 17th Street

Use O’Donnell parking structure, and walk to 17th St.

We are happy that you have joined us today. If you are traveling, we hope you find our Catholic home welcoming. If you are new to the area, we hope you return to celebrate with us, and please consider joining our parish community. Stop by our Welcome Center for more info or visit us at www.americannmartys.org.

**Next Weekend’s Mass Celebrants**

**Sat 5:00PM:** Fr. Rick Prindle
**Sun 7:00AM:** Fr. Joe Kammerer
**8:00AM:** Fr. Rick Prindle
**9:30AM:** Msgr. John Barry (Livestream)
**11:30AM:** Fr. Joe Kammerer
**5:00PM:** Msgr. John Barry

This schedule is subject to change.

We are collecting blank Christmas cards (English language) and 2020 calendars. During the holiday season, the cards are made available to diners at the Catholic Worker’s Hippie Kitchen to send to family and friends. We are also collecting small religious items (medal, rosaries, crosses, prayer cards, etc) to give through our outreach programs to those in need. Please drop these items at the Welcome Center.

**American Martyrs Catholic Church**

**Daily Prayers of the Church**

**EUCHARISTICADORATION CHAPEL**
Mon-Fri, 7am-8pm | Sat, 7am-5pm | Sun, 1pm-5pm
For off-hour access contact TBritton@AmericanMartyrs.org

**DAILY ROSARY:** Mon - Sat, 7:30AM
**MORNING PRAYER:** Tues after 6:30AM Mass
**OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP (DEVOTION & BENEEDICTION):**
Tues after 8am Mass

**Rosary for the Unborn:** Wed after 5pm Mass, followed by the Divine Mercy Chaplet

**Pray for the Sick**

Please pray for the sick in our community that they may find comfort and healing in Christ, especially:

- Cait Naylor
- Nancy Smith
- Helene Grik
- Blake King
- Sheri Skulick
- Rachel Hamilton
- Jon Strauss
- Fr. Bill Bourke
- Deacon Scott Palmer
- Mitchell Woods
- Martha Corbett
- Peter & Carol Champagne
- Anne Filek
- Anthony Napolitano, Sr.
- Rick Mirabito

**In Memoriam**

Virginia Rose Golden | Diana Satoris
May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

**Sacramental Information**

**Infant Baptism** - 1st, 2nd & 3rd Sundays at 1:00PM
Complete the Family Information Form online at our website and then contact Deacon Fred Rose, 310-545-5651.
Pre-Baptism instruction for parents and godparents is required.
**Next class is Sunday, December 8 at 7:00PM.**

**Adult Baptism, Confirmation & Eucharist (RCIA)**
Deacon Derek & Terri Brown, RCIA@AmericanMartyrs.org
Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults welcomes and prepares adults for full participation in the sacramental life of the Church.
Classes begin in September.

**Marriage** - Contact Rectory at least 6 months prior to wedding date.

**Anointing of the Sick** - Celebrated at various times throughout the year. Call the Rectory anytime in case of serious illness.

**Mass Intentions** - Request in person at the Welcome Center.

**Prayers for the Sick and Deceased** - Contact the Rectory with the names of family members who are ill or deceased.

**Funeral Planning**
Contact the Rectory to arrange Funeral or Memorial Services.

**Bereavement Support**
Deacon Chris & Yvonne Amantea
camantea@americanmartyrs.org | yamantea@americanmartyrs.org
## THIS WEEK

**MONDAY, December 2**
- 9:00 AM PH: Monday Morning Faith Sharing
- 5:00 PM B&B: Latin Chant Class
- 7:00 PM HFH: Al-Anon Meeting

**TUESDAY, December 3**
- 5:30 AM PH: Men's AA Meeting
- 9:15 AM SpC: Tuesday Morning Scripture Study
- 10:00 AM SK: Senior Fellowship Group
- 3:30 PM PH: Legion of Mary
- 3:45 PM SCH: SRE Grades 1-6
- 6:00 PM HFH: Teen Tuesday
- 6:30 PM ODH: Senior's Christmas Dinner
- 7:00 PM HFH: Beginning Again
- 7:00 PM OLMM: Bereavement Support Group
- 7:00 PM PH: Matthew 25 Meeting
- 7:00 PM SCH: Women's AA Meeting
- 7:15 PM SCH: Jr. High SRE
- 7:30 PM StMT: Al-Anon Meeting

**WEDNESDAY, December 4**
- 9:30 AM SK: Mothers of Young Children
- 10:00 AM OLMM: Weekly Scripture Reading with Fr. Joe
- 3:45 PM SCH: SRE Grades 1-6
- 7:15 PM SCH: Jr. High SRE
- 7:30 PM SK: RCIA

**THURSDAY, December 5**
- 5:30 AM PH: Men's AA Meeting
- 9:00 AM OLMM: Career BridgeBuilders Workshop
- 9:30 AM HFH: Mothers Outreach Ministry
- 3:00 PM SpC: Matthew 25 Saturday Blessings Clothes Sorting

**FRIDAY, December 6**
- 11:00 AM ODH: Altar Society Christmas Luncheon
- 11:15 AM SpC: Silent Meditation
- 3:00 PM SpC: Matthew 25 Saturday Blessings
- 6:30 PM ODH: Exceptional Kids Organization Dance

**NOTE:** Dates and locations are subject to change without notice. Please check with the ministry to verify event.

### Facilities:
- B&B: Sts. Brigid & Brendan Music Room
- CH: Church
- GHP: Church Patio
- GYM: Holy Family House
- ODH: O'Donnell Hall
- ODK: O'Donnell Kitchen
- OL: Our Lady of Fatima
- OLMM: Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal
- PH: Parish House
- Plz: Welcome Center Plaza
- SpC: Spirituality Center
- SpG: Sacred Heart Garden
- StMT: St. Mother Teresa

### Planned Giving
Don't cancel life insurance you no longer need!
By naming American Martyrs as beneficiary, you provide lasting financial support and possibly qualify for tax benefits as well.
For information, contact Bob Hodges at 310-545-5651 or bhodges@AmericanMartyrs.org

## NEXT WEEKEND

**SATURDAY, December 7**
- 10:00 AM HFH: AA Women's Meeting
- 10:30 AM B&B: Latin Chant Class
- 2:00 PM ODH: Christmas Project
- 7:30 PM SCH: AA Meeting

**SUNDAY, December 8**
- 7:45 AM ODH: Coffee and Donuts
- 8:00 AM ODH: Christmas Project
- 10:00 AM SpC: Infant Baptism Preparation Class

### 2020 RELIGIOUS ART CALENDARS
are available in the vestibule of the church.
Suggested donation is $3
Please place your donation in the "Poor Box."

## MASS INTENTIONS AND READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**MONDAY, December 2**
- **Readings:** Is 4:2-6; Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9; Mt 8:5-11
  - 8:00 Janet S. Relova † (Merlyn R. Neilson)
  - 12:10 John Anthony Payne † (Joyce C. Payne)
  - 5:00 Greg Stratton † (Tom & Dianne Harrington)

**TUESDAY, December 3 - St. Francis Xavier**
- **Readings:** Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24
  - 6:30 Dorthy Reidy † (Tom & Mary Rose Jeffry)
  - 8:00 Dr. Lee Parker † (Joyce Newburn)
  - 12:10 Anna Dell’Oro † (Kirk & Beverly Busby)
  - 5:00 Nestor Endrenal † (Betty Nery)

**WEDNESDAY, December 4 - St. John Damascus**
- **Readings:** Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Mt 15:29-37
  - 8:00 Jerry Schultz † (Anne Marie & Dale Gebele)
  - 12:10 Margaret Cooney † (Leach Family)
  - 5:00 Susie Fragnoli † (Joan Fragnoli)

**THURSDAY, December 5**
- **Readings:** Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27
  - 6:30 Mike Schafer † (Sandy & Gene Walsh)
  - 8:00 Mario Mignone † (Sheila Lood)
  - 12:10 George Barry †
  - 5:00 Patrice Esposito Tracy † (Karen McCormick)

**FRIDAY, December 6 - St. Nicholas**
- **Readings:** Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 2, 3-4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31
  - 8:00 Jim Essman † (Patti & Dick Williams)
  - 12:10 Elaine & Joe Scholz † (Scholz & Vos Families)
  - 5:00 Joan Curran † (Condon Family)

**SATURDAY, December 7 - St. Ambrose**
- **Readings:** Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8
  - 8:00 Virginia Freedman (Quilliam Family)
  - 5:00 Irmgard Fella † (Kim & Russ Neglia)

**SUNDAY, December 8 - Second Sunday of Advent**
- **Readings:** Is 1:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12
  - 7:00 Peter Bernard Daenzer † (Judy & Jimmy Orland)
  - 8:00 Nicetas Hontucan † (Hontucan Family)
  - 9:30 For the Parishioners, Living and Deceased
  - 11:30 Antonietta Lombardo † (Angelo Lombardo)
  - 5:00 Douglas Sweeney † (Helen Bell)
Year-End Planning - IRA Charitable Giving

If you are age 70½ or older and have an individual retirement account (IRA), you have the unique opportunity to satisfy your required minimum distribution and support the important ministries of American Martyrs at the same time - by directly rolling funds over from your IRA to the Parish as a gift.

Once you reach age 70½, you are required to take a minimum distribution annually from your retirement account(s). Rolling over this distribution to American Martyrs is extremely tax-efficient. A charitable IRA rollover not only lowers your tax liability, but also allows for donating a larger gift to our church at no additional cost to you.

Bob Hodges, our business manager, can answer any questions you may have. The Planned Giving Office of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles can also provide more information on IRA Charitable Gifts and Planned Giving. You may reach them at 213-637-7504 or adlalegacy.org.

Bob Hodges, Parish Business Manager
310-545-5651 | bhodges@AmericanMartyrs.org

Advent Penance Celebration

Monday, December 16
7:30PM, in the Church
Tuesday, December 17
7:30PM, St. James, Redondo Beach

Youth Altar Server Training

Mandatory Parent Meeting
Tuesday, December 3
7:00PM, in the Church

PARENTS:
If your child is 5th grade or older and interested in becoming a Youth Altar Server - please attend this informational parent meeting and get information regarding:
Training requirements · Ministry participation requirements
Training dates for Winter / Spring of 2020
Sign-up procedures

Questions? Contact Jeff & Joanne Harang, amcyas@AmericanMartyrs.org

Attention All Twenties & Thirties!
The T&T Mass is Tonight
December 1, 7:00PM
O’Donnell Hall

Join us for Praise and worship at 6:45PM, Mass at 7:00PM, and a Social afterwards.

Questions? Monica Leon, mleon@AmericanMartyrs.org

First Friday Adoration And Holy Hour With Fr. Joe

Please join us in the church at 1:30PM the first Friday of each month. All ages are welcome, especially children (babies to teens).

More Info? Contact Gigi at 310-528-9024

Join a Choir!

All of our music groups are inviting people who like to sing and experience a deeper spirituality to join us.

(One rehearsal and one Mass per week). For more info, contact Bill Svarda, 310-640-8505 | bsvarda@AmericanMartyrs.org

Be sure to follow American Martyrs social media to listen to the inaugural five episodes of the NEW DIGITAL DISCIPLES PODCAST hosted by Msgr. John Barry.
Hear conversations about faith and family with guests who serve our parish - and are growing their relationship with God. You will find insight, inspiration and ideas for living as a Digital Disciple of Christ.
We want to hear what you think about it!
Be sure to like, comment or share your feedback.
Coffee & Donuts in O'Donnell Hall

Mens Cornerstone are hosting Coffee & Donuts after the 7AM, 8AM, and 9:30AM Masses.

NEXT WEEK: Christmas Project will host Coffee & Donuts in O'Donnell Hall after the 7AM, 8AM, and 9:30AM Masses.

Senior Fellowship

Welcome to our "Game Days" at 10:00AM every 1st Tuesday of the month, followed by a Potluck Lunch at 12NOON (bring a dish for 6-8 people for the lunch.)

Our next Game Day is Tuesday, December 3 in St. Kateri.

New Members welcome and would be a pleasant surprise.

Questions? Judy Parnin, 310-374-9804.

Mothers of Young Children

Wednesday, December 4
9:30–11:00AM, St. Kateri

Our guest speaker will be from Art to Grow, and will have a fun craft for all the kids to participate.

MOYC provides a network of friendship and local resources to mothers with babies through pre-school aged children in American Martyrs Parish. Whether you’re a first time mom or you come with a brood, we welcome you! Bring your children, your parenting questions, and your prayer intentions for fellowship in a relaxed, supportive environment.

Ministry Contact: Joanne Rees, 831-320-9828
Elizabeth Serrano, 310-245-4459
or mail us at MOYC@AmericanMartyrs.org

Arlene’s Lighthouse

Our next meeting is Friday, December 13 at 6:00PM in the Holy Family House.

Our group meets once a month to play games, sing, pray, do crafts and have dinner. It is a social event for kids with disability and their families. We invite everyone to come and hang out with our kids, and establish bonds of friendship.

Thank you for your support to our ministry. We hope to see you there!

Questions? Contact Regina Dell’Oro, goldcroms@gmail.com

Scrip.Etc

Tis the Season - Let us help make your Christmas shopping a bit easier! We have a fantastic selection of gift cards for both local and national vendors. Gift cards are a great gift for friends, family, customers, teens and the hard-to-shop-for. We have or can order anything you have seen at the grocery store kiosks. The bonus is that with every purchase from us, you are supporting our schools and ministries.

Scrip Hours:
Weekdays: 8AM – 4PM (Fridays till 1PM)
Sunday: 8:30AM – 11:30AM

SPECIAL ORDERS OR OTHER INFO: Contact the Scrip office at 424-327-9608 | ScripDesk@AmericanMartyrs.org

Resume Essentials Workshop

Thursday, Dec 5, 9:00AM–11:00AM

In a competitive environment, it's important to stand out. Learn the fundamentals of the resume and how to develop a compelling resume for fellowship in a relaxed, supportive environment.

Thank you for your support to our ministry. We hope to see you there!

Questions? Contact Andrea Connolly, careerbridgebuilders@AmericanMartyrs.org or check out our group on LinkedIn

Christmas Breakfast Potluck

Thursday, Dec 19, 9:00AM–11:00AM

As we celebrate Christmas and the year comes to a close, join us for our final meeting of the year, for a holiday breakfast potluck. Please be sure to RSVP with Andrea.

CBB workshops are in Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal room.
I'm sure we have all grumbled about the early arrival of Christmas promotions, music and decorations. While I was growing up, people waited until the day after Thanksgiving to start those “endearing” Christmas advertisements and jingles. The advertising campaigns looking to exploit the Christmas season are enough to cheer the most ardent consumer into a version of Ebenezer Scrooge, but the offense is broader than that. The advertising campaigns switch again the day right after Christmas, urging us to start planning for the next holidays - New Year’s and Valentine’s Day. There is a peace associated with Christmas that should linger with us for weeks, but instead, we are thrust into another round of buying and decorating. We are rushed into the season and rushed out of it just as quickly. Why?

I've been reflecting on this until today, this first day of Advent, and in light of today's Gospel reading, Advent is a season of preparation for the first coming of Christ. Our upcoming readings will take us through the familiar stories of the Annunciation to the birth of Jesus. But, unlike advertising campaigns, Christmas Time doesn’t end there. In our 2020 Liturgical Calendar it continues until we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord on Sunday, January 12.

How does this fit with today’s Gospel which describes a scene that takes place much later in Jesus’ life? In the passage from Matthew, Jesus offers a vision (not a parable) describing the futility of losing ourselves in earthly delights and not focusing on the true goal of our lives. Just like no one knew the time of the first arrival of our Savior, Jesus warns that no one will know the time of the second coming, and those who are unprepared will regret it.

So how do we prepare? (Lot’s of questions this week!) One excellent method is leading a Stewardship way of life. It's the way Jesus lived, a life lived outside of Himself, helping and caring for those on the fringes of society.

Please take that first small step into that kind of life and complete and return the Stewardship Commitment Card you recently received. Then, if we keep our focus on those commitments and a life of stewardship, maybe those annoying ad campaigns and commercials won’t seem too terribly intrusive after all.

Please contact us at Stewardship@AmericanMartyrs.org, with questions or comments about Stewardship.
M25 Outreach - St. Francis Center

Matthew 25 Ministry is serving at the St. Francis Center grocery service on Saturday, December 7. The Center (www.sfcla.org) serves impoverished adults and children in the South Park and Garment District neighborhoods of downtown LA.

*We meet in the AMC parking lot at 8:45 AM* and carpool to the Center. Volunteers help sort through produce and grocery items, and distribute them to needy families, and *return to American Martyrs by 1:00-1:30 PM*. Openings are available for up to 8 volunteers.

**To reserve your spot, please RSVP by Tuesday, Dec 3, to Matt Conway, matt.conway.1618@gmail.com, and to John Harder, john.harder.3rd@gmail.com. Give your name and state that you will participate with American Martyrs on Dec 7.**

Matthew 25 meets monthly on the 1st Tuesday at 7:00 PM. Please join us to see how you can get involved in service!

Our next meeting is Tuesday, December 3 in the Parish House.

The Life and Family Ministry needs support in distributing baby bottles at the end of each weekend Mass. The time commitment is limited, but your impact will be great!

Contact Marie Bentler, bentlermarie33@gmail.com for more information or sign up at: https://tinyurl.com/yy8v8vas

For information about **Life and Family Ministry**, contact Steve Perry, 818-800-5653 | LifeandFamily@AmericanMartyrs.org

Knights of Columbus

We have a beautiful Knights of Columbus Hall for rent for your event - it can accommodate up to 150 people for a sit down dinner.

Catering and full bar services are available. Available to all.

Discount for events hosted by a Knight of Columbus.

For info and a quote go to www.kofc4567.org and fill out the rental information.

**Knights of Columbus**

**EKPTO Holiday Dress-up Dance**

Friday, December 6
O’Donnell Hall, 6:30-9:00 PM

$1.00 Donation at Door | Refreshments $.50 each
All Exceptional Dancers 14 years and older welcome.

Volunteers are invited to help beginning at 5:00 PM with decorating, food, securing a safe environment, or dancing. Or come to be with the kids; they know we are there for them.

Questions: Lee Dolley, ldolley1@verizon.net

**Matthew 25 Outreach - Saturday Blessings**

Saturday Blessings needs help to feed, clothe and share our hearts with the Downtown LA Homeless.

Every Saturday we meet at 5:45 AM in the O’Donnell Hall parking lot, arrive in DTLA at 6:30 AM and finish around 8:00 AM.

Please contact James Redin, 310-465-7620, in advance so we can coordinate how many will be joining us.

We are in need of these items:

- Mens sneakers
- Mens jeans
- Sweatpants, sweatshirts
- Warm jackets
- Blankets
- Sleeping Bags
- Tents

Items can be labeled **SATURDAY BLESSINGS** and left in the Rubbermaid lockers at the bottom of the parking lot stairs.

**M25 Outreach - Hearts for the Hungry**

**Saturday Blessings: Every Saturday to downtown LA**
Contact: PJ Murphy, 310-430-5676
pjmurphy90266@gmail.com

**St. Francis Center: 1st Saturday of every month**
Contact: Matt Conway, matt.conway.1618@gmail.com

**St. Lawrence of Brindisi: 2nd Saturday of every month**
Contact: Jim Quilliam, jimquilliam@outlook.com

**Santa Monica: last Saturday of every month, 7AM - 12NOON**
Contact: Michael Concannon, 714-852-2112
michael.concannon@bovislendlease.com

Find this bulletin online at AmericanMartyrs.org
**Faith Formation**

**Men’s Cornerstone Retreat**

**WHY SHOULD I CONSIDER CORNERSTONE?**
Are searching for a community of like-minded individuals? Are you going through a challenging time in your life and seek support? Are you looking for ways to take your faith to the next level? If one or more of the above resonate with you, we welcome you to join us **Friday, January 31-Saturday, February 1, 2020** to explore Men’s Cornerstone.

For more information come to our tables outside Mass in December or visit: AmericanMartyrs.org > Exploring My Faith > Men’s Cornerstone Retreat.

**Questions?** Contact Jason Samson, 562-453-6656 | MensCornerstoneRetreat@AmericanMartyrs.org or Mike Wilk, 310-292-7774 | MikeWilk@am-rem.com

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**Women’s Cornerstone Retreat**

See your with God’s Love

**February 7-8, 2020**

**5PM Friday - 8PM Saturday**

Registration options are:
- Register online at www.AmericanMartyrs.org
- Register in person after all Masses, next weekend, Dec 7-8
- Submit an Application to the Welcome Center
- Email the application to WomensCornerstoneRetreat@AmericanMartyrs.org

**Applications are in the Welcome Center and Church Vestibule.**

Give yourself the Gift of Cornerstone. Reflect and revitalize your relationship with God. Gather with ordinary women for this extraordinary experience!

For additional info, contact Paolina Amadio, 310-439-8764 or WomensCornerstoneRetreat@AmericanMartyrs.org

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**Infant Baptism Preparation**

Pre-Baptism instruction for parents and godparents is required to have your child baptized at American Martyrs. Complete the Family Information Form online at our website and then you will be contacted for an appointment.

For information and schedule of classes, go online to www.AmericanMartyrs.org | Sacraments | Baptism.

**Next class is Sunday, December 8 at 7:00pm in St. Kateri.**

Questions: Contact Deacon Fred Rose, 424-327-9610 or deaconfred@AmericanMartyrs.org

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**Newly Baptized at American Martyrs**

We welcome the new members of our Catholic Community.

Emerson Edi Basol  
Roxy Marie DeSantis  
Chase T P Le  
Remey Koa Mihalik  
Juliet Marie Ross  
Claire Grace Temme  
Bodie William Courtney  
Charlotte Callahan Hooks  
Brynlee Paige Leach  
Ryder Morrison Pomeroy  
Ashton Howard Smith

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Prayer is not just spending time with God. It is partly that - but if it ends there, it is fruitless.

No, prayer is dynamic. AUTHENTIC PRAYER CHANGES US - unmask us, strips us, indicates where growth is needed. Authentic prayer never leads us to complacency but needles us, make us uneasy at times. It leads us to true self-knowledge, to true humility.

*St. Teresa of Avila*

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If you are looking to foster unity, discipleship and friendship, join our LinC community today!

LinC community registration is open for our **3 week Advent Series** that begins this week, December 1 thru December 15.

You can search for an Existing Group online based on meeting location, time, or group type. If you would like to become a Host – just grab a few friends, a time and place to meet, and then find the curriculum on the website.

Please visit AmericanMartyrs.org, then click on Exploring my Faith and then LinC Small Faith Groups.

Questions or more Info? Contact Matthew Leon at 310-545-5651 x9681 or LinC@AmericanMartyrs.org

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If you are looking to foster unity, discipleship and friendship, join our LinC community today!
Families in Faith

TODAY is the Children's Liturgy at 9:30AM Mass
We invite all children, grades 1-6, to join us for a liturgy prepared just for you. We meet the 1st Sunday of the month during the 9:30AM Mass in Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal.

All children are welcome and parents can stay as well!

SRE Classes, Tues/Wed
Grades 1-6, 3:45-4:45pm | Grades 7-8, 7:15-8:30PM
Dec 3/4
Dec 10/11

Sunday SRE, Grades 1-8, 10:45AM-11:45AM
Dec 5
Dec 15

Director of Religious Education: Patti Williams, 310-546-4734
PWilliams@AmericanMartyrs.org

Faith Enrichment & Prayer

BIBLE STUDIES
Tuesday Morning Scripture Group
Tuesdays, 9:15-11:00AM, in the Spirituality Center
Contact: Alvin Fletcher, 310-379-5241

Sunday Scripture Reading with Fr. Joe
Wednesday, 10:00-11:30AM, in Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal

MONDAY MORNING FAITH SHARING
Mondays, 9:00-11:00AM, in the Parish House
Contact: Joanne Dispoto, jodispoto@gmail.com | 310-344-5833

SILENT MEDITATION
Friday, 11:15-12:00NOON, in the Spirituality Center Chapel
(please use Pacific Ave. entrance.)
Contact: Beverly Busby, 310-376-2056

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION
Contact: Jenny Attanasio for referral, 310-545-5651

SPIRITUAL LIBRARY (The Upper Room)
Open Sunday, 10:00AM-4:00PM, in the Spirituality Center, 2nd floor
Contact: Anna, 310-374-0863 or Millie, 310-938-3125

Families in Faith

Confirmation Classes
SEALED, 1, Session 4 - TODAY, December 1, at 3:30PM

Youth Ministry

Teen Tuesday Bible Study - every Tuesday, 6:00-7:15PM, in the Holy Family House.
Life Night - Sunday, December 15
Join us at our next Life Night from 6:15-7:45PM in St. Kateri. Life Nights are open to all high school teenagers so bring a friend and we will see you then.

Confirmation:
Monica Leon, mleon@AmericanMartyrs.org
Nick Waggoner, nwaggoner@AmericanMartyrs.org

Youth Ministry:
Matthew Leon, matthew.leon@AmericanMartyrs.org

Youth Ministry

Sunday Preschool
Go to AmericanMartyrs.org
Questions?
Contact Kathy Glynn, SundayPreschool@AmericanMartyrs.org

Youth Ministry

Confirmation Classes
SEALED, 1, Session 4 - TODAY, December 1, at 3:30PM

Youth Ministry

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Safeguard the Children

Children in sports are at risk for head injuries

Sports are a great way for children to burn off energy, learn about teamwork, and stay active and healthy. But some sports come with risks, including head injuries. Football is an especially high-risk sport for these types of injuries, given the nature of the game.

If your child wants to play contact sports, make sure he or she does so safely. Provide proper safety equipment that fits. Check helmets and protective gear periodically to ensure that all are still working. Talk to coaches and referees about regular safety checks for fields and team equipment as well.

For more information about “Sports and Head Injuries,” visit http://www.la-archdiocese.org/org/protecting/Pages/VIRTUS-Current-Online-Articles.aspx.

For particular help, call Assistance Ministry at 213-637-7650.
Independent Compensation Program for Victim-Survivors of Abuse by Diocesan Clergy

As part of our long-standing commitment to provide pastoral care and to support the healing process for victim-survivors, the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, along with five other dioceses in California, is participating in the new Independent Compensation Program by the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, Diocese of Fresno, Diocese of Orange, Diocese of Sacramento, Diocese of San Bernardino, and Diocese of San Diego for Victim-Survivors of Sexual Abuse of Minors by Priests (ICP). The program began accepting registrations on Monday, September 16, 2019, from any person who has been sexually abused as a minor by diocesan priests of the participating dioceses, no matter when that abuse might have occurred. Funding for the program in our Archdiocese will come from self-insured reserves, monies set aside for this purpose. We pray that this new program might provide another avenue toward healing and hope.

For more information on the ICP, please visit www.californiadiocesesicp.com.
ADVENT REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1st Week of Advent:
In the first reading there is a joyful call to “climb the Lord’s mountain… so that God may instruct us….

• “What is it that you need to hear from God this Advent?

In the reading from Romans, Paul tells us to “put on Christ….

• “How do you put on Christ in your daily life, your relationships, your living out of your faith as a disciple of Jesus?

Source: LinC’s Advent resource, Waiting with Joy by Sister Donna L. Ciangio, OP

PREGNANCY HELP CENTER - Volunteer Positions Available
The Pregnancy Help Center, a pro-life pregnancy medical clinic in Torrance, is looking for volunteers to fill some key positions such as
• RNs (especially Mondays and some Saturdays)
• Receptionist/Greeter (especially Mondays/Fridays)
• Client Advocates.
You will be assisting women facing unplanned pregnancies. You do not need experience, just a passion for helping women and their pre-born children.
To learn more about these positions, please contact Jennifer at 310-320-8976 or jlegrand@phctorrance.org.

WORLDWIDE CANDLE LIGHTING -
Sunday, December 8, 6:30-8:00 PM
St. James School, O’Gorman Center
If you have lost a child or grandchild, consider honoring them at the annual Compassionate Friends Candle Lighting Ceremony.
This event occurs worldwide and will take place at St. James School’s O’Gorman Center, 4624 Garnet Street, Torrance (enter from Anza). It is free; candles and hot drinks will be provided. You may bring cookies to share.

St. Margaret’s Center Christmas Program
St. Margaret’s Center is seeking volunteers for our annual Christmas Program that will take place on Saturday, December 14, 2019 at Lennox Middle School in Lennox, CA (near Inglewood, CA). 1,000 low-income children and their parents will participate.

VOLUNTEER HOURS AND DAYS:
December 11th, 12th & 13th: 9:30 am to 6 pm (partial days o.k.)
at Lennox Middle School, (11033 Buford Ave, Lennox, CA 90304):
• Sorting toys
• Preparing goody bags
• Decorating
• Helping with set-up

December 14th - Christmas Program
3 shifts available: 1) 8:30 am -1:30 pm, 2) 12:30 pm – 5:30 pm, 3) clean-up only: 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Please note: You must pre-register online to volunteer
Register at: https://forms.gle/Tn1Nc2x8eY6sDnFZ7

For More Information
• Email smcxmas@gmail.com
• https://sites.google.com/site/smcxmas/
• Call (310)672-2208
If you are unable to volunteer, there are other ways you can help! You can make a donation or host a toy drive. For more information visit our website: https://sites.google.com/site/smcxmas/wish-list
**What is the Annual Christmas Project?**

- An American Martyrs PARISH tradition that brings our faith community together to collect wish-list items that are, in turn, distributed to various local organizations who serve less fortunate families at Christmas.
- An opportunity for all parishioners to share the joy of giving with those whose children might not otherwise receive Christmas gifts, or families that might not have a decent meal on the table on Christmas Day.

**Who receives the collected items?**
The Christmas Project serves local families in need. Organizations that help us distribute the gifts are groups such as St. Margaret’s Center that serve local families who have requested assistance and local schools within the LA archdiocese. Food and toiletries are donated to the St. Lawrence of Brindisi food pantry and the Downtown Women’s Center.

**What items are needed?**

- **UNWRAPPED! NEW Toys** (no stuffed animals) for Infants to Teens (see list to right)
- **Non-perishable Food** (see list to right)
- **NEW Non Food Items** (see list to right)
- **NEW Bedding / Blankets / Linens**
- **Cash / Scrip** donations.

**When and where is the Christmas Project?**

- **Saturday, December 7** - from 2:00pm to help set-up O’Donnell Hall, until 7:00pm to collect donations after Mass.
- **Sunday, December 8** - after morning Masses, in O’Donnell Hall until 1:00pm. Bring your donations and stay around to wrap presents, fill family wish lists, sort food, and get in the Christmas spirit with your fellow parishioners!

We thank God that American Martyrs has always shown a deep concern for others and that we have been able to express our gratitude to God for the gifts we receive through our readiness to share.

With sincere gratitude and blessings,

*Rev. Msgr. John F. Barry*

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**SUGGESTED TOYS:**

**INFANT**
- Toys
- Books
- Clothing
- Blankets

**CHILD**
- Dolls
- Legos
- Board Games

**TEEN**
- Art Supplies/Kits
- Sports Balls
- MP3 players
- Books
- Accessories (jewelry, scarves, gloves, purses)

**SUGGESTED FOOD ITEMS:**

- Baby Food
- Baby Formula
- Beans
- Pasta
- Rice
- Noodles
- Cereals
- Oatmeal
- Raisins
- Coffee
- Canned Juice
- Canned Fruits & Vegetables
- Soups
- Stuffing Mix
- Canned Meats
- Canned Fish
- Canned or Powdered Milk
- Flour
- Sugar
- Cornmeal
- Enchilada Sauce
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Jam
- Jelly
- Peanut Butter
- Mayonnaise
- Ketchup
- Mustard
- Salsa
- Spices

**SUGGESTED NON-FOOD ITEMS:**

- Batteries
- Bleach
- Detergent
- Aspirin
- Disposable Diapers
- Combs
- Brushes
- Deodorant
- Soap
- Shampoo
- Napkins
- Paper Plates
- Utensils
- Toilet Paper
- Feminine Products
- Toothbrushes
- Tooth Paste

**BEDDING / LINENS:**

- Blankets
- Linens for Double Beds
- Dish Towels
- Bath Towels
- Washcloths