



# St. Boniface Martyr

## Roman Catholic Church

Established 1898

Serving the people of God in the communities of  
Sea Cliff ~ Glenwood Landing ~ Glen Head ~ Glen Cove  
“We are a pilgrim people on a journey toward the Kingdom of God.”

Fr. Robert A. Romeo, Pastor



The Nativity of the Lord  
December 25, 2011

## Mass Schedule



Daily Mass	8am
Sunday Masses	Saturday: 5pm Vigil; Sunday: 8am, 10:15am
Holy Day Masses	5pm Vigil; 8am, 7pm

### **Nativity of the Lord, December 25**

*Isaiah 52:7-10; Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1-18  
or 1:1-5, 9-14*

The altar bread, wine and candles being used this week were donated in memory of **Tony Leopardi** by Adrianna, children and grandchildren.

4pm (Bernadette Keslar)  
6:30pm (James M. Lennon)  
12 Midnight  
8am ( Mark Costello)  
10:15am (John Stehling)  
12 Noon (Tony Leopardi)

### **Monday, December 26** (Frank De Rosa)

*Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Matthew 10:17-22*  
Celebrant: Fr. Azubuike

### **Tuesday, December 27** (Kevin Gebhard)

*1 John 1:1-4; John 20:1a, 2-8*  
Celebrant: Fr. Azubuike

### **Wednesday, December 28** (Frank De Rosa)

*1 John 1:5-2:2; Matthew 2:13-18*  
Celebrant: Fr. Azubuike

### **Thursday, December 29** (Rob Welch)

*1 John 2:3-11; Luke 2:22-35*  
Celebrant: Fr. Bob

### **Friday, December 30** (Giovanni De Rosa)

*Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3 or Hebrew 11:8, 11-12,  
17-19; Luke 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40*  
Celebrant: Fr. Bob

### **Saturday, December 31**

*1 John 2:18-21; John 1:1-18*  
Celebrant: Fr. Bob

## The Paradise Tree

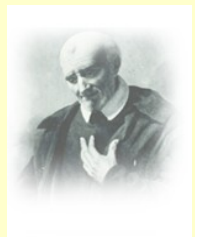
What is the decorated evergreen tree—the light and sight and smell of which means “Christmas”? It is the tree in the center of the garden, lost to us by our first parents’ folly, restored to us by Christ’s saving deed. It is the tree that claps its hands uproariously before the Lord, who comes. It is the tree—once drafted into death’s service—that now blooms forth and shines in splendor: He who died in its arms has defeated death and lives forever. This is the tree of life straddling the river of life in the new Jerusalem. Bearing twelve kinds of fruit, it is laden with enough joy for all the tribes. It marks the spot where heaven intersects with earth. And look! That spot is here—in the house of the church. That spot is here—in your own house. Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord! Paradise is so very close to home.



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### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

The angel told the shepherds that the Savior was born and where to find him. How and when are we told? God reveals divine presence in someone’s generous offer, in a plea for help, in the cry of the poor and the oppressed, in the child needing reassurance, in the aged needing a listening ear, in the sick needing a consoling hand. Today we see not a Baby in the manger, but a saving God working through and among us. This Christmas through your gifts the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to bring Christ to the hearts of the poor, by assisting families, providing food, gifts and money for utility and rent bills.



#### **Thank you for all your support!**

Furniture and financial donations are always welcome.

*You are too!*

Come join the St. Vincent de Paul Society  
and be a communal part of your parish.

Call 822-3132.

## Diocesan Pilgrimage to the 50<sup>th</sup> Eucharistic Congress Dublin, Ireland June 4 - 13, 2012

The Diocese of Rockville Centre is sponsoring this pilgrimage under the leadership of Bishop John C. Dunne, auxiliary Bishop of our Diocese. Msgr. Jim McNamara, pastor at Holy Cross Church in Nesconset, is coordinating the pilgrimage events. This pilgrimage is open to everyone.

Our pilgrimage will begin with the western part of Ireland and will end with the first three days of the Eucharistic Congress. Since Bishop Dunne's parents came from Castlebar, we are designing this pilgrimage around his family roots in the west of Ireland. This will enable us to visit some well-known sites (like the Cliffs of Moher and Kylemore Abbey) and other places of interest that will introduce us to the richness of Irish culture and heritage. We will celebrate Mass each day including at the Cathedral in Tuam and Knock. The pilgrimage begins on Monday, June 4 with a flight from JFK to Shannon airport. After some relaxing days in the west of Ireland and a visit to the shrine of Our Lady of Knock, the highlight of the pilgrimage will be the beginning of the Eucharistic Congress on Sunday, June 10<sup>th</sup> with the opening Mass. The theme on Monday is exploring and celebrating our Communion through the Sacrament of Baptism. Tuesday's theme will be exploring and celebrating the Communion of Marriage and Family. Unless you wish to stay longer, our pilgrimage group will return to JFK from Dublin on Wednesday, June 13<sup>th</sup>. There will also be an option to come for only the Eucharistic Congress portion in Dublin (departure from New York JFK June 9<sup>th</sup>) and then go off on your own to visit relatives or explore Ireland.

Travel arrangements are being made through 206 Tours in Hauppauge. For a brochure, contact Eva at 631-361-4644 or [eva@206tours.com](mailto:eva@206tours.com) or: [Pilgrimages.com/bishopdunne](http://Pilgrimages.com/bishopdunne).

St. Boniface Cantor **Kathleen Clancy** in a Solo Cabaret Show

### "ON MY WAY TO YOU"

is a musical journey of mishaps on the path to true love.

Featuring songs by Harold Arlen, Stephen Sondheim,  
Jason Robert Brown, Ahrens & Flaherty,  
Rodgers & Hammerstein, and more.

**January 22 @ 4pm**

**January 24 @ 7pm**

**January 28 @ 9:30pm**

Metropolitan Room, 34 West 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, New York, NY 10010

\$15 cover/2 drink minimum.

Call 212-206-0440 for reservations or visit [www.metropolitanroom.com](http://www.metropolitanroom.com)

Check future bulletins for more info!

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED**

Please pray for the members of our parish who have entered into eternal life.



Placement of names on the sick list must be requested by an immediate family member through Fr. Bob. Names will be announced at weekend Masses for 3 weeks and then listed in the bulletin only.

*Christina Bavaro, Valentina Bravin, Mae Caffney, George Bohn, Lucille Cappiello, Ronald Caputo, Resurreccion and Caesar Cavese, John Cini, William J. Dobrowski, John Duignan, Sam Giordano, Mara Grayson, Sandra Haberle, Carol Hartney, Baby Jack, Janine D. Kelly, Ernest Longobucco, Robert Lynch, John McGrath, Larry Martone, James Molloy, Baby Max, Catherine Mortell, Mike Napoli, Gloria Weis, Carolann White.*

## PRAY FOR OUR ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ MILITARY

Lieutenant Melissa Buffa & Lieutenant Travis Buffa  
Petty Officer Keith Cano USCG  
Lance CPL Matthew B. Christman  
Flight Lieutenant Joseph Doyle  
Pvt. Gregory Knox  
Commander Brett Korade  
Lieutenant (Junior Grade) Brian McMenamin  
Lieutenant (Junior Grade) Ian McMenamin  
Private First Class Joshua McMillan  
Captain Christina Merrick  
Lieutenant Drew Whitting, USN.

**PRAYER GROUP**

**Mondays 7:30pm in the Chapel.**

All welcome. Come and bring a friend! Call John & Rosemary Murello at 676-2767 for more information.



**ST. BONIFACE HOLY HOUR  
AND BENEDICTION  
Wednesdays at 2pm in the Chapel**

**PRAYER VIGIL FOR THE SICK  
Thursdays 7pm -7:30pm  
in the Chapel**

**STEWARDSHIP . . . A WAY OF LIFE**

Thank you for your financial Stewardship last week.

**SEMINARY of the IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

*offers the following graduate degrees –*

**MASTER of ARTS in THEOLOGY**

**MASTER of ARTS in PASTORAL STUDIES**

SPRING SEMESTER BEGINS Jan. 30, 2012

REGISTRATION CLOSES JAN. 25, 2012

*For further information, contact:*

Academic Office

440 West Neck Road, Huntington, NY 11743

(631) 423-0483 x 112 or 147

*Or visit our website – [www.icseminary.edu](http://www.icseminary.edu)*

**5% DONATION**

*“Your plenty at the present time should supply their needs so that their surplus may in turn one day supply your need.” (II Cor 8:14)*

If you have any “plenty” left over, please place it in an envelope marked **“For Special Assistance”** and Fr. Bob will make sure it is given to those “to supply their need.” **PLEASE PRAY** about this and see what Jesus is calling you to do.

**ST. BONIFACE BIBLE STUDY**

**7:30pm Thursdays**

in the Parish Center. *All are welcome.*

Contact John or Rosemary Murello at 676-2767 for details.

**THE CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY**

*“Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful,” from Saint Faustina’s diary;*

**Fridays at 3pm in the Chapel**

**MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA**

The Miraculous Medal Novena, with the veneration of the relic of St. Catherine Labore, is prayed **each Saturday after the 8am Mass** in the Chapel.

**LAY CARMELITES**

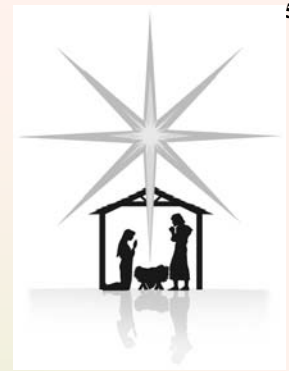
of Blessed Titus Brandsma meets every **third Saturday of the month** at 9am in the Parish Center. Call Flora at 656-9375 or Pat at 887-7265 for details.

**ROSARY**

Monday-Saturday after 8am Mass in the Chapel.

Dear Parishioners,

*"A Savior has been born to you, who is Christ and Lord" Lk 2:13*



How often do we hear that Christmas doesn't feel like it used to feel? Something is missing in our experience that robs us of the joy that this day is meant to convey. I suggest that maybe our focus needs a little readjustment. The celebration of Christmas began around the time of Halloween and certainly is geared up by the day after Thanksgiving. We have seen the decorations and Christmas carols have been ringing in our ears. The secular world describes Christmas as a time of gift-giving, reaching out to the poor and the gathering of family. The sentiments are heart-warming and centered around themes and stories that at the same time bring a tear to our eyes and cause our hearts to become uplifted. While these things are all true and CAN be part of the Christmas celebration, they are secondary to the meaning of this holy season. I dare say our problems may be that we have reversed the **"cause and effect"** of Christmas. We act and do all the "traditional" activities of Christmas because it is the Birth of Jesus. Without Jesus, this holiday can just be reduced another money maker for the retailers and greeting card manufacturers. Even the very name is often removed. Merry Christmas is replaced with Happy Holidays and the Christmas Tree has become simply "the Tree Lighting." I am finding this even in Christian circles. As I said, without Jesus it just becomes another holiday. But we, my sisters and brothers, have something even more wonderful. We know that what we celebrate is the coming of the Prince of Peace into our world. Jesus, born of Mary, has reminded us "that God is with us." This is the **"Cause"** of the celebrating. What we do from that acknowledging the Lordship of Jesus is the **"Effect"** of how we respond. So gift-giving, taking care of the poor and gathering with family are wonderful opportunities BUT we have to remember it is in the Name of Jesus that for us, all these things happen. The Church has been celebrating Advent these last 4 weeks. Our hearts have been hearing the words of St. John the Baptist *"Prepare the way of the Lord."* The call has been one of introspection, looking at our lives and evaluating how well we have embraced the Gospel of Jesus. St. John reminds the people and us, that to receive Jesus we need to repent from our sins and find joy in the forgiveness that Jesus offers us in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. When we re-direct our focus to the Birth of Jesus as the sign of God's tremendous love for us, then this celebration can take on a whole new and certainly a deeper meaning. The joy of this day is not dependent on how many gifts we have given or received, or how well behaved our family is on Christmas Day. We have something more permanent and life changing.... we have JESUS.

The secular world can certainly help put us in a Christmas mood but it is faith that puts flesh on it. Remember even though the world has had the trappings of Christmas for some time, for us as Catholics, the day begins today. We celebrate Christmas in what we call the Octave (8 days). So for 8 days it is Christmas. And the seasons continues for a few more weeks. Maybe this year, try to really celebrate the feast **on** Christmas Day. Keep the Christmas tree and decorations up till the Epiphany (little Christmas), gaze at the Nativity Scene and ponder what God is saying to you. And maybe next year, hold back decorating till it is closer to Christmas (so you won't get so tired of the decorations) and enter into the Season of Advent. You may re-discover that lost joy for Christmas.

I would like to thank all the ministers in our parish who give so much of themselves throughout the year. We have over 45 ministries here at St. Boniface filled with people who have responded "yes" to serve Jesus by serving the parish. It is my privilege and pleasure, as pastor, to witness all the good that is done in the Name of Jesus. A special thanks to all who helped decorate our church, for the ministers at this Mass and to each of you. I am certainly blessed to serve as your brother and priest.

On behalf of myself, Fr. Azubuike and the entire Staff here at St Boniface Martyr, we wish you and your families a very blessed and joyful Christmas.

Our Parish Campaign to **"Renew and Restore the House of God"** continues. Please see our insert. I continue to ask all families, if you have not already done so, to consider being a part of this important parish endeavor. We need to prepare our Church building for the future, so that the building may assist us in expressing how we worship; to help cut costs that will realize us a savings each year and to adapt to the changing needs of those in our parish. With the support of many this becomes a true expression of our parish life. If any of our volunteers call you to make an appointment to talk about the Campaign, I ask you to welcome them into your homes as your brothers and sisters in faith. Feel free to ask any questions or give me a call.

In Jesus, the Prince of Peace,  
Fr. Bob



### **Sunday, December 25, 2011**

One year during Saint Francis of Assisi's life, Christmas fell on a Friday. Knowing the holy man's love of fasting in imitation of Jesus, the brothers asked Francis if he wished them to fast even though it was Christmas. "Fast?" Francis replied. "How can we fast on the feast of the Lord's birth? Rather we should smear the walls with meat!" Obviously not a vegetarian, and perhaps prompting a little queasiness in his hearers, Francis' point was that in celebrating the God-who-becomes-flesh even the walls rejoice! Nothing is held back from the God who held nothing back from us but who embraced our whole humanity. In your joy today, in your compassion, reconciliation, forgiveness, mercy, and justice, don't hold anything back.

### **Monday, December 26**

#### **Feast of Stephen, first martyr**

What does it mean to be a martyr? Does it mean to be like Saint Stephen, willing to give your very life for what you believe? The root of *martyr* is "witness," and there are many ways we are called to testify to the gospel. These can be familiar but they are no less courageous than the path Stephen took. Being a good parent, a loving partner, honest in business dealings, compassionate—these are powerful forms of attesting to the Good News. How will you testify to the gospel with your life today? On this second day of Christmas let us pray for a spirit of courage for that witness not only in words but with our lives.

### **Tuesday, December 27**

#### **Feast of John, apostle, evangelist**

Each of us has firsthand knowledge of the presence of Christ in the world. First and foremost, in the bread and wine of the Eucharist. But not only there: We've experienced Christ in the community of the church. We've encountered Christ in the grace of many sacraments and received from his tender hands the forgiveness of our sins. We've known the love of Christ in faithful marriages and felt his healing touch in times of sickness and despair. And daily, we see Christ in the eyes of the poor. On this third day of Christmas, imitate the memorable testimony of Saint John, and tell others about your own encounters with Christ.

### **Wednesday, December 28**

#### **Feast of the Holy Innocents, martyrs**

King Herod's order to kill every male child in and around Bethlehem under the age of 2 is surely one of humanity's most terrible moments. It's a dark story for a

dark time of year. Yet darkness, whether it belongs to the whole of humanity or resides in our own soul, has much to teach those who desire to deepen and grow spiritually. As the poet Pablo Neruda advises, "We need to sit on the rim / of the well of darkness / and fish for fallen light / with patience." On this fourth day of Christmas, let us pray for the gift of compassion and courage to explore our shadow-side so that its influence on our actions might be diminished and our inner light can shine more brightly.

### **Thursday, December 29**

#### **Feast of Thomas Becket, bishop, martyr**

In Catholic liturgy, a *col-lect* (stress on the first syllable) is a liturgical act that calls us to pray together in dialogue with the presider, as in the opening prayer of the Mass. From the website *CatholicCulture.org*, here is a collect we can pray together today, the fifth day of the Octave of Christmas, as we bring to mind Saint Thomas Becket, who died in defense of his faith: "O God, who gave the martyr Saint Thomas Becket the courage to give up his life for the sake of justice, grant, through his intercession, that, renouncing our life for the sake of Christ in this world, we may find it in heaven."

### **Friday, December 30**

#### **Feast of the Holy Family**

For some of us, this late in the holiday season, the burden of family may just be starting to express itself. (Will this houseful of relatives ever leave?) Yet many also find themselves away from their homes or families for reasons not entirely under their control, ranging from military service, education, employment, illness, divorce, loss, or estrangement. For them even a slightly used and tarnished family would be better than none at all. On this sixth day of Christmas, share your heart and home by inviting someone in to enjoy the gift of belonging.

### **Saturday, December 31**

Today, the close of the calendar year and the seventh and next-to-last day of the Christmas season, there is much to be grateful for. Perhaps the greatest source of thanksgiving is for the very gift of God's Son, whose coming into the world we are in the midst of celebrating. In the words of the Second Vatican Council, "God chose to reveal himself and to make known to us the hidden purpose of his will": Through Christ, the Word made flesh, and in the Holy Spirit, humanity would have access to the father and share in divine nature. Wow! God wants us to be divine, to share in God's very nature. Now that is a gift worth keeping and learning how to use.



The next **High School Youth Group** will be meeting on **Sunday January 8th** from 6pm-8pm in the youth center. All are welcome!

The Youth Group will be participating in a **Midnight Run** this year on **Saturday, February 18th** in NYC. Midnight Run is an organization established to connect youth groups to the homeless of New York. Our Youth Group will be collecting new and gently used clothing, toiletries and food from the two parishes and delivering the supplies in person to those in need during the night of February 18<sup>th</sup>. This type of profound experience is not only an opportunity for the youth, but for the parish as a whole to come together and be hands of Christ to those most in need. If you wish to donate *new or gently used clothing* there will be items listed in the front of the church after the New Year that you can select from to return to help in our ministry. Your donations and prayers are greatly appreciated as we journey through this awesome experience!

For an updated schedule of youth group events please join our Facebook page 'St. Boniface Martyr Youth Group' or email the youth minister, Chris, at [stbonym@gmail.com](mailto:stbonym@gmail.com).

**Pastor:** Fr. Robert A. Romeo  
E-mail: [stbonpastor@gmail.com](mailto:stbonpastor@gmail.com)

**Deacon Tom Fox:** [stbondcntom@gmail.com](mailto:stbondcntom@gmail.com)

**Music:** Jeffrey Schneider  
E-mail: [stbonmusic@gmail.com](mailto:stbonmusic@gmail.com)

**All Saints Regional Catholic School (ASR)**  
Principal: Mr. James Thompson  
12 Pearsall Avenue, Glen Cove, NY 11542  
(516) 676-0762. Website: [www.asrcatholic.org](http://www.asrcatholic.org)

**Religious Education:** Karen Croce  
Phone: (516) 671-0418; E-mail: [stbonccd@gmail.com](mailto:stbonccd@gmail.com)

**Youth Ministry:** Chris Mandato  
Email: [stbonym@gmail.com](mailto:stbonym@gmail.com)

**Parish Outreach:** Gerry Moran & Kevin O'Shea  
Parish Center. Wednesdays & Saturdays. 10 am-1pm (note time).  
Phone: (516) 676-0676. Email: [stbonchurch@gmail.com](mailto:stbonchurch@gmail.com)

**Business & Finance:** Eileen Krieb  
E-mail: [stbonfinance@gmail.com](mailto:stbonfinance@gmail.com)

**Administration:** Joan Schiller  
E-mail: [stbonchurch@gmail.com](mailto:stbonchurch@gmail.com)

**Bulletin Editor:** Julie Byrne  
E-mail: [stbonbulletmin@gmail.com](mailto:stbonbulletmin@gmail.com). **Deadline: Noon Monday.**

**Webmaster:** Robert Lynch  
website: [www.saintboniface.org](http://www.saintboniface.org)

**Maintenance:** Anacleto Rivera: 516-676-0676

**Parish Center:** 145 Glen Avenue, Sea Cliff, NY 11579  
(516) 676-0676 / Fax: (516) 674-6742

E-mail: [stbonchurch@gmail.com](mailto:stbonchurch@gmail.com) / [www.saintboniface.org](http://www.saintboniface.org)  
**Office Hours:** 9am-12:30pm & 1:30pm-4:30pm, Monday-Friday

**Parish Registration:** We welcome all new members of our parish family. We ask all parishioners to welcome and invite new neighbors and their families to become a part of St. Boniface Martyr Parish. Parish registration (census) forms available by the main doors of the church and in the parish office for new members. Please return completed forms to the parish office.

**Baptism:** Parents wishing to present a child for Baptism should be registered members of St. Boniface Martyr Parish. Parents are required to have a Baptism Preparation Interview and attend a Baptism class. Baptisms are celebrated on the last Sunday of the month. Godparents must be fully initiated members of the Catholic Church (having received the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist), and provide a sponsor certificate. Please call 676-0676 to pre-arrange.

**Marriage:** Couples wishing to be married should call the parish office before any other arrangements are made. A minimum of six months is needed for marriage preparations.

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA):** An ongoing process of formation for those who ever wonder if they should become "Catholic". If interested, please call Fr. Bob at 676-0676.

**Reconciliation (Confession):** Saturdays from 4pm to 4:30pm in the church unless otherwise indicated. ❖

Save the Date:  
February 11, 2012



## Mardi Gras Casino Night

*An evening of fun & games for all!*

The Swan Club  
Glenwood Landing