On Veterans Day we honor the service of people who have worn the uniforms of the armed forces. Holy spirit, I stand with feet planted firmly on rich soil knowing what freedom is. Because of the veterans, I am free to honor God and country without persecution. Where there is injustice, I am free to fight. Where there is silence, I am free to speak. Where there is hate, I am free to love. AMEN
PARISH & SCHOOL STAFF

Fr. Anthony Huong Le, Parochial Administrator
Deacon Albert Dizon
dcnadizon@yahoo.com
Deacon David Holland
dcdnholland@yahoo.com
Jessica Griswold, Principal
Saint Catherine Elementary School
jgriswold@csdo.org
925-228-4140
RCIA
Parish Office
stcathmrtz@yahoo.com
Troy Killorn
Director of Music Ministry
Sylvia Lloren
Secretary

CHURCH LOCATION: 606 Mellus Street, Martinez, CA
PARISH OFFICE AND MAILING ADDRESS: 1125 Ferry Street,
Martinez, CA 94553-1720
TELEPHONE / FAX: 925-228-2230 / 925-228-1318
PARISH WEBSITE: www.stcatherinemartinez.com/
SUBMISSIONS: bulletinsubmissions@gmail.com

OFFICE HOURS: Mon-Fri 8:30 AM-1 PM & 2 PM-5 PM
GRAMMAR SCHOOL: 604 Mellus Street, Martinez, CA
TELEPHONE / FAX: 925-228-4140 / 925-228-0697
SCHOOL WEBSITE: http://school.stcatherinemartinez.com/
PRE SCHOOL: 1125 Ferry Street, Martinez, CA
TELEPHONE / FAX: 925-229-2255 / 925-229-2474

SAFE ENVIRONMENT: www.virtusonline.org

BAPTISMS: Registration is mandatory two months prior to Baptism. Parents & Godparents are required to attend a mandatory Baptism preparation class before reception of the Sacrament.

MARRIAGES: Arrangements and mandatory preparation need to be arranged at least eight months prior to the wedding.

FUNERALS: We recommend using Catholic Funeral and Cemetery Services at 925-932-0900. A representative will contact the parish office to coordinate your arrangements.

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS: To place an announcement in the bulletin, email request to: bulletinsubmissions@gmail.com. The deadline for requests is no later than noon on Fridays one week prior to the date of the bulletin in which the announcement is requested to appear.

EARLY DEADLINES: Closely watch early deadlines imposed by the publisher and plan ahead accordingly. Deadline for Nov. 18 & 25 has passed. Submissions for the weekend of Dec. 2 all items must be submitted by Fri, Nov 23 by noon. Please direct your inquiries to the email above. Thank you.

LITURGY SCHEDULE

SATURDAY:
8:00 AM and 4:30 PM
10:30 AM

SUNDAY:
7:00 AM
8:30 AM Children’s Liturgy of the Word
12:30 PM Spanish

WEEKDAYS:
8:00 AM (Thursday is a Communion Service)

HOLY DAYS:
8:00 AM, 12:10 PM and 7:00 PM

ADORATION:
Fridays from 12:00 PM to 5:00 PM

RECONCILIATION:
Saturdays from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM

MINISTRIES/ORGANIZATIONS CONTACTS

Altar Servers
Jack Watkins……………………………………………….925-957-0437
Art and Environment
TBA……………………………………………….925-228-2230
Bingo
Don Brocca………………………………………………...925-858-7330
Catholic Youth Organization - CYO
Gina Marks……………………………………………….925-817-9429
Children’s Liturgy of the Word
Debbie Friberg……………………………………………..925-212-7465
Communications
Eugene Dizon……………………………………………..925-370-8143
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
Viviana & Marta Magee……………………………………………….925-228-6460
Faith Formation - Religious Education (PreK-8th Grades)
Andrea Watkins…………………………………….Ext 30 925-228-2230
Finance
Don Brocca...925-229-4158 and Dennis Koller...925-335-9395
Grief Ministry/Card Ministry
Mary Cook……………………………………………...925-229-2665
Guadalupe Society
Guadalupe Cruz……………………………………………….925-997-2432
Hospital/Sick/Homebound
Tom Greerty / Legion of Mary…………………………………925-228-4387
Ignite
Cindy Bussaglia……………………………………………………...925-787-8396
Italian Catholic Federation - ICF
Tom Cook……………………………………………...925-229-2665
Knights of Columbus - K of C
Rik Silva…………………………………………….925-334-2429
La Comunidad Latina
Luca Cruz………………………………………………...925-348-2620
Lectors
Deacon Albert Dizon…………………………………….925-370-8143
Legion of Mary
Bobby Kiefer………………………………………………925-658-1442
Loaves & Fishes
Denise Silva……………………………………………….925-372-0740
Maintenance
Troy Killorn………………………………………………...925-228-2230
Mary Help of Christians - MHC
Margaret Flores……………………………………………925-812-1279
Pastoral Advisory Council
Karen Glen…925-788-7716 & Karen Sandri…925-370-7997
Respect Life
Linda Easterday………………………………………………925-372-3845
Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults - RCIA
Fr. Anthony Huong Le..………………………………925-228-2230
Safe Environment for Children Project - SECP
Andrea Watkins…………………………………….Ext 30 925-228-2230
SECP: No More Secrets - Survivor Outreach
Sherrie Hammon…………………………………….925-372-6091
San Lorenzo Ruiz Community - SLRC
Esther Concepcion…925-381-1835
Social Awareness
Anne Crisp……………………………………………….925-356-8822
Spark (young adult group ages 18 years to 35 years)
TBA……………………………………………….925-228-2230
Stewardship
Karen Glen………………………………………………925-788-7716
Sociedade Portuguesa Rainha Santa Isabel - SPRSI
Annette Liberty…………………………………………………….925-228-8428
St. Vincent de Paul Society - SVdP
Karen Glen ……………………………………………925-788-7716
Ushers
James McLaughlin…………………………………………925-228-1051
Young Ladies Institute - YLI
Peggy Hagerthy……………………………………………….925-228-6268
Youth Group/Confirmation (High School 9 to 12 Grades)
Paul & Jenny Holland…925-890-6229

Before serving or continuing in your ministry, complete the Diocesan required Safe Environment for Children Project Training @ www.virtusonline.org. Thank you.
From the Desk of the Parochial Administrator

32 Sunday in Ordinary, 2018, Year B

GENEROUS GIVING IS GOD’S WAY OF BEING GOD

Dear friends in Christ,

The pastor of a tiny country parish had been having trouble with stewardship and offerings. One Sunday he announced, “Now, before we receive the offering, I would like to request that the person who stole the car from Mrs. Carrie, please refrain from giving any money to the Lord. God doesn’t want money from a thieving sinner.” The collection baskets were passed, and for the first time in months everybody gave. Selfish giving is not a true act of generosity.

True giving is, on the other hand, inspired by love of God and neighbor. God is the model of generosity. Inspired by His love for us, He gives himself completely to us in Jesus Christ. He in turn asks us to do the same. Giving in imitation of God, then becomes a direct participation in the giving of God that brings heaven down to earth and us to heaven.

Giving or offering in the Old Testament is an act of thanksgiving to God for blessings received. Abraham, our father in faith, gave a tenth of his spoils to the royal priest, Melchizedek, after a successful military campaign. Moses, giving or offering to God, became institutionalized. All other tribes of Israel offered 10 percent of their harvest or income to the priestly clan- the Levi, who was responsible for the ritual worship of God and for keeping of the temple. As we might know, the Temple was the place where God has chosen to be with his people. Offerings that helped to continue the Temple and its spiritual services are seen as a concrete way to have God’s continuing presence in the world, in the community, therefore in one’s life.

In time of Jesus, the customs of giving or offering was still in place. In the Temple, there is a Court of Women where they placed 13 collecting boxes. Each of them was for a certain purpose. They were contributions for daily sacrifices and expenses of the Temple. So, the people gave accordingly. Many gave big contributions; others like the widow who gave all a lepton, which was no more than one fifteen of a penny. And yet, Jesus praised her because her tiny contribution was greater than all.

What does it make her tiny contribution, less than a penny, so great in the eye of God?

Jesus explains that it is so because she gave everything, her whole livelihood and others gave from their surplus. Clearly Jesus did not pay much attention to the amount of money offered, He rather paid close attention to the amount of love grabbed in the gift offered. In other words, the act of giving must be generated from the heart that loves and trusts God. In contrary to the rich young man who could not give up his possessions to follow Jesus, therefore possibly have eternal life. He turns away in sadness. The truth is selfishness truly cripples and makes us miserable. Generosity expands our heart for happiness and joys.

The Widow’s giving does not come from the mind that calculates the cost and benefits. She gave because her loving heart dictated her hands. This is an act of giving that makes a true difference in the world.

Do you know why? The same act of giving has been done by God himself. He gave up his Son for the salvation of mankind. God himself became man and gave up himself totally on the cross for us; He opened the gate of the Kingdom of Heaven for all of us to come in if we accept him. Thanks to him, we once were far off because of sins, now become nearer and nearer. The giving of Jesus makes heaven possible for us. Now He is inviting us to participate in this act of giving so that Heaven will be readily available to all.

The most basic act of giving is to offer God a little space in our heart. That may just be one or two hours a week, may be a minute per hour, a second per minute, or even a prayer appointment with God in our calendar. Only we have him in our heart, giving him a chance to work on us and in us, can any other acts of giving have meaningful impact on the world, otherwise it is not much different from what the scribes had done. If we do that the collection baskets are not just money collection tools, but a collection of our hearts that love, bodies that praise, and minds that long to see God. Everything of life, therefore, is also lifted high with our hands raised to Heaven.

In the end, when we give because we love God and others, because we want to participate in the ultimate act of giving of God as He gives up himself for us. What we will receive not just a smile of gratitude from mortals, but God himself. Heaven belongs to the generous!

May God bless us all.

Sincerely,

Rev. Anthony Huong Le.
Week-at-a-glance dates, times, and locations are taken from the website calendar: www.stcmtz.org. If further clarification is needed, please contact the parish office at 925.228-2230 extension 0.

To host hospitality, email bulletinsubmissions@gmail.com

Sunday, 11/11
8:00 AM PH 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Veterans Day in United States
Hosiptality—SPRSI hosts

Monday, 11/12
St. Josaphat, pray for us.

Veterans Day Holiday—Parish Office Closed
6:30 PM PC IGNITE Reading Reflection with Clergy

Tuesday, 11/13
St. Francis Cabrini, pray for us.

6:00 PM CH Choir Rehearsal
7:30 PM CH Spanish Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, 11/14
St. Lawrence O'Toole, pray for us.

5:00 PM PH Children’s Choir Rehearsal
6:00 PM CH/SC Faith Formation PreK-8th Grades
6:00 PM PH IGNITE Bible Study
6:30 PM PCL Legion of Mary Meeting

Thursday, 11/15
St. Albert the Great, pray for us.

6:30 PM PH Cub Scout Meeting
7:00 PM CH Lectors’ Meeting

Friday, 11/16
St. Margaret of Scotland, pray for us.

9:15 PM CH School Prayer Service
12:00 PM CH Adoration
5:00 PM CH Benediction
6:00 PM PH Wine & CheeseFest set-up
6:30 PM PCL Meeting-Thanksgiving Feast

Saturday, 11/17
St. Elizabeth of Hungary, pray for us.

9:30 AM PCL SVdP Food Distribution
11:00 AM PCL IGNITE Bible Study
12:30 PM CH Wedding
3:00 PM CH Reconciliation
5:30 PM PH Sr. Jeanne Wine & CheeseFest

Sunday, 11/18
8:00 AM PH 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Breakfast—Communidad Latino serves
1:00 PM PH Private Event
2:00 PM CH Baptisms
3:45 PM PCL Confirmation Prep Class
6:00 PM PCL Youth Group

CH = Church
RC = Rectory
SC = School
PH = Parish Hall
YY = School Yard
YS = Youth Shack
PC = Parish Center
PCL = Parish Center Library

Thank you for your continued generosity!

Thanksgiving Mass
Thursday, November 22
10 o’clock in the morning

Those who have pictures of your deceased loved ones on display on the Dia de los Muertos altars in the church for the month of November, we ask that you please remember to pick them up by Sunday, November 25.

Bulletin Holiday Deadlines

Please take note: In conjunction with the early deadlines imposed by the publisher, bulletin submissions and requests must follow the timeline dates listed below. Please plan ahead.

Dec 02: all items must be submitted by Fri, Nov 23 by noon
Dec 09: all items must be submitted by Fri, Nov 30 by noon
Dec 16: all items must be submitted by Fri, Dec 07 by noon
Dec 23: all items must be submitted by Fri, Dec 07 by noon
Dec 30: all items must be submitted by Fri, Dec 14 by noon
Jan 06: all items must be submitted by Fri, Dec 21 by noon

St. Catherine Parish offers deepest sympathy and prayers for the families; and, the repose of the souls of

Elfriede “Elfie” Gibson
Wm. Daniel Ridenour
who entered eternal life.

Ignite Weekly Reading Reflection with Clergy
Mondays 6:30—7:45 PM
Parish Center ~ St. Gabriel Room
On the Holy Day of Obligation, the church was decorated in “All Saints.” St. Catherine of Siena second grade students preparing to receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion join Fr. Anthony on the altar. They are from left to right: Kennedy Silvera, Luke Dobson, Evan Rogers, Peyton Fugate, Sophia Domnick, Anna Sophia Alameda, Madelyn Alford, Miley Bourroux, Layla Sattes, Ryder Moore, Isla Ablaza, and Emelia Wilber. All you holy men and women, pray for us! Follow us on Instagram and Twitter: @stcathmtz

HOPING THAT YOU’LL JOIN US! @ AUCTION on SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2019 & @ GOLF TOURNAMENT on SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 2019

MEMORIAL VOTIVE CANDLES are available to honor the deceased. They are located in Sacred Heart of Jesus Alcove in the church and can be reserved for one year, renewable thereafter. Forms are available at the alcove or call the office @ 228-2230.

SAVE THE DATE: K OF C CRAB FEED—SAT, DEC 15

St. Catherine of Siena Pastoral Care to the Sick & Homebound

Do you know someone who is homebound and/or ill & would like to receive the Eucharist or just a visit from a friendly face? If so, please email Deacon Dave Holland daveh@cfcoakland.org or call 925-413-9240 with your neighbor’s name, address, and telephone number. St. Catherine Pastoral Care to the Sick & Homebound will arrange for a visitor from the parish. Thank you.
Few people know nor remember a man named Cornelius, though he plays a significant role in the life of Peter and of Church history. In this session, Dr. Tim Gray shows us how the life of Cornelius intersects with Peter’s and redirects the New Covenant in a remarkable way. Crossing traditional lines that separate people and cultures, Peter points the Church to an all-encompassing love—and sets the stage for the work of the Apostle Paul.

You Are Cordially Invited to attend the 27th ANNUAL SR. JEANNE’S WINE & CHEESE FEST Benefitting Faith Formation Programs—SAT. NOV 17 @ 5:30 PM in the Parish Hall Wonderfully affordable adult evening out. Area restaurants feature trays of their best cuisine; delicious wines to enjoy! $20 each / $30 per couple
Tickets available from Catechists, Youth Group & the Office

FREE NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING (NFP) INTRO CLASS
DEC. 15, 1-4 PM IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY PARISH, BRENTWOOD.
Join other couples and individuals to hear about the science & effectiveness of family planning that is natural & healthy for women & marriages, while being supported by Church teaching. Dr. & Mrs. Tom & Debbie Lenz challenge cultural perceptions & present scientific & practical information on the variety of safe natural methods being taught all over the world. You can benefit from this timely introduction to NFP, whether you just want to understand your body better, avoid a pregnancy, or find an alternative to infertility treatments. For more info & RSVP @ 510.271.1936.

YLI’s Annual Holiday Lane will be open Saturday & Sunday, December 1 & 2 in the Parish Hall after all Masses
Admission is Free. There will be many great gift ideas at bargain prices. Also, baked goods & warm foods! YLI proceeds will be given to the parish & YLI various charities. Organizations are to donate 10% of their profits to the parish. If your parish organization wants to reserve a table please call Willy 228-9072 or Barbara 372-0775 or Sheila 957-6035

BLESSED NURSING HOME RESIDENTS
You’re invited to bring a wrapped gift for our local rest home residents. Please clearly label your gift WOMAN or MAN and place in the marked box under the tree no later than SUN. DEC. 16. Possible gifts: hats, slippers, socks, scarves, etc. NO lotions or perfumes, please; they are removed from gifts.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
You’re invited to donate a child’s UNWRAPPED toy and/or a gift of a sweatshirt or gift card for our adult clients. Select a YELLOW tag and tape it to the adult gift packages only. Please leave all presents unwrapped or placed in open ended gift bags. Gifts will be collected up to SUN. DEC. 16 from under the tree and distributed to clients on the weekend.

MOUNTAINVIEW SHELTER
You’re invited to select GREEN and/or RED tags bearing the names of current shelter residents. The age and gift suggestions are indicated on each tag. Shelter staff asks that there be NO BEADS or PLAY DOH given. FOR THE SHELTER ONLY, you can return gifts up to SUN. DEC. 23 at which time they will be distributed to the Shelter families after Masses.

AS ALWAYS, THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY
From the WLP Vault comes the Bible Story of Christmas featuring 8 Classic Christmas Carols and a reading of the Gospel of Luke 2: 4-20 by Bing Crosby! Also available on vinyl.

Visit WLPmusic.com to purchase your copy - CD $10.00

Your ad could be in this space!
## READING & REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK

### SUN, NOV 11, 2018: THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 
**Generosity, redefined**

Many are shocked at the idea of biblical tithing. Give 10 percent—or 10 percent!—of our resources to the Lord? Who would do this? Yet some Christians do it as a matter of course. No statistics indicate that anyone ever died of tithing—or of generosity exercised on any scale. The gospel doesn’t follow the widow who put her whole livelihood into the temple treasury after her signature gesture of trust. Yet we’re led to believe God will care for her with the same extravagance that she shows. The best counsel on generosity remains: give until it scares you.

**Today’s readings:** 1 Kings 17:10-16; Hebrews 9:24-28; Mark 12:38-44 or 12:41-44 (155).

*“But she, from her poverty, has contributed all she had.”*

### MON, NOV 12, 2018: MEMORIAL OF JOSAPHAT, BISHOP, MARTYR 
**Those “onion-capped” churches**

Josaphat, a 17th-century bishop, dedicated his life to bringing together the Ukrainian and Roman Churches, a reminder of how much remains undone some 400 years later and more than 50 years since our last ecumenical council. We remember today our *catholicism*, our universality, because the Eastern Catholic communities, as Father Richard McBrien points out, are “distinct Churches, not just ‘rites.’” In our Western view, the rituals of the Eastern Churches may seem exotic and mysterious, but we are drawn to brothers and sisters not because of the splendor or beauty of their liturgy but because of our oneness in Christ, something Josaphat deemed worth dying for.

**Today’s readings:** Titus 1:1-9; Luke 17:1-6 (491). “If your brother sins, rebuke him; and if he repents, forgive him.”

### TUE, NOV 13, 2018: MEMORIAL OF FRANCES XAVIER CABRINI, VIRGIN 
**Bloom where you are planted**

When you were young, was there something you wanted more than anything else? As the youngest of 13 children, the girl who would become known as Mother Cabrini (1850-1917) dreamed wild dreams. Her greatest desire was to be a missionary in China, which did not please her parents. They steered her into teaching. After their deaths, Frances started a congregation of missionaries and again thought of China. The pope had other plans; he directed her to the United States. Frances never got to China, but she did a lot of good for children and the sick wherever she went. Wherever you are, make the most of it.

**Today’s readings:** Titus 2:1-8, 11-14; Luke 17:7-10 (492). “Turn from evil and do good, that you may abide forever.”

### WED, NOV 14, 2018: Thanks for everything

Many of us have probably learned that there are four basic kinds of prayer: praise, petition, intercession, and thanksgiving, but the last seems to be at the heart of it all. The Catechism of the Catholic Church says that “every event and need can become an offering of thanksgiving.” Saint Paul says: “Give thanks in all circumstances.” And the poet e. e. cummings—quirky syntax and all—brings thanks and praise together when he says: “I thank You God for most this amazing / day: for the leaping greenly spirits of trees / and a true blue dream of sky; and for everything / which is natural which is infinite which is yes.”

**Today’s readings:** Titus 3:1-7; Luke 17:11-19 (493). “Has none but this foreigner returned to give thanks to God?”

### THU, NOV 15, 2018: MEMORIAL OF ALBERT THE GREAT, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH 
**Who’s learning from you?**

Sometimes we find virtue in unexpected places. In Saint Albert’s day (c. 1200-80), Christians had been distancing themselves from pagan traditions and philosophers for centuries. So when he began using the work of the Greek thinker Aristotle to explain Christian theology, he scandalized his fellow Christians. Over time, though, the Church accepted the “pagan” work of Albert and his student, a fellow named Thomas Aquinas, as foundations for understanding the faith. When Christ cured 10 lepers, He found it was the lowly, foreign Samaritan whose faith was the strongest. Are we too quick to dismiss people and their beliefs because they seem different from ours?

**Today’s readings:** Philémon 7-20; Luke 17:20-25 (494). “The days will come when you will long to see one of the days of the Son of Man, but you will not see it.”

### FRI, NOV 16, 2018: MEMORIAL OF MARGARET OF SCOTLAND 
**Develop your survival skills**

There are a number of parallels between the saints the Church remembers today and tomorrow, Margaret of Scotland and Elizabeth of Hungary, respectively. They were members of the nobility who entered into arranged political marriages that turned into love matches, where their holiness rubbed off on their spouses. And both were survivors, losing their husbands to war and disease but moving forward to continue their work of service to the poor and the Church. Through the twists and turns of life they stuck with their commitments with energy and spirit.

**Today’s readings:** 2 John 4-9; Luke 17:26-37 (495). “Let us love one another. For this is love, that we walk according to His commandments.”

### SAT, NOV 17, 2018: MEMORIAL OF ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY, RELIGIOUS 
**Look, up in the sky!**

When we’re children and hear the gospel about “losing your life” for the sake of another, we imagine jumping in front of a loved one to take a bullet meant for them, or some other equally magnificent act of a superhero. But maturity teaches us that true greatness is found in smaller, quieter acts of heroism. Elizabeth of Hungary (1207-31) was a woman of privilege thanks to an arranged marriage into a royal family, and she likely could have lived a long and privileged life if she had so chosen. Instead, she devoted every waking moment to helping the poor and the ill, regularly putting the riches of her royal family at the disposal of those less fortunate. Elizabeth died at the tender age of 24, likely from serving those stricken by an epidemic. But she remains a true superhero and model for any of us who strive to “lose our life” for others.

**Today’s readings:** 3 John 5-8; Luke 18:1-8 (496). “Will not God then secure the rights of His chosen ones who call out to Him day and night?”

### SUN, NOV 18, 2018: THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 
**Christ the light shine**

It used to be that sensible people shrugged off most apocalyptic talk as a religious scare tactic. After all, only Chicken Little seriously believes the sky is falling and life as we know it is ending! Yet the present global situation makes apocalypse sound pertinent, even descriptive of the texture of our times. The light of hope can seem dimmer than ever; nonetheless, when fear begins to sound like the wisest course and paralysis the only option, hold fast to the Good News and its promise of light and life!

**Today’s readings:** Daniel 12:1-3; Hebrews 10:1-14; 9:24-28; Mark 13:24-32 (158). “Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.”