PARISH STAFF
Msgr. James P. Sullivan
Rev. Abraham K. George, M.C.B.S.
Rev. Daniel Tuite
Deacons: Victor Salamone, Franklin Hung, David Nash, James Fiorio, Michael Correale
William Kennedy, Parish Finance Director
Kathleen Davis, Administrative Assistant
Patti Norman, Administrative Assistant
Jackie Hourani, Music Coordinator
Karen Hansen Simon, Trustee
PJ Darcy, Trustee

MASS SCHEDULE
SATURDAY VIGIL: 5:00 PM
SUNDAY: 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 AM, 5:00 PM
WEEKDAYS: 6:45 AM & 12:15 PM
SATURDAY: 8:00 AM
HOLY DAYS: Consult Parish Bulletin

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
Saturday: 3:45—4:45 PM
and other times, please call the rectory.

SCHOOL
845.452.4428
Mrs. Kathleen Leahy, Principal
www.stmartindeporresschool.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
845.471.8728
Mrs. Janet McGuirk, Coordinator
Mrs. Ellen Farina, Assistant Coordinator
Office Hours Monday—Thursday 9:30—1:30 PM

PARISH CEMETERY
Call 473-4222

BAPTISM: Celebrated on Sundays at 2:00 PM. Please contact the rectory well in advance of the Sacrament. Baptismal preparation class is on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM in the Church.

MARRIAGES: Couples should contact one of the priests or deacons at least 6 months prior to the wedding date. A marriage preparation program is required.

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK: Please call the rectory if you wish to receive the Sacraments at home. Notify us of any hospitalization so that we may be of assistance.

NEW PARISHIONERS: We welcome you and would like to meet you. Please introduce yourself to one of our priests, deacons or call the rectory. Please consult the bulletin for registration information.

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS: Monday—Friday 9:30 AM—3:30 PM
Pray without ceasing.
(1 Thessalonians 5:17)

Without ceasing? At all? Obviously, Paul is not talking about praying all day long. Rather, he is calling us to faithfulness in prayer and asking us to develop a prayerful disposition for our lives. Paul knows that prayer is the best way to stay close to God, so it’s worth scheduling time every day to make sure we are coming into God’s presence.

Think about the way you breathe. Your lungs work twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. They never stop, whether you are aware of them or not. If your lungs were to fail, you would die. Likewise, if you lose your prayerfulness, you will die. If external residue, like smoke, enters your lungs, breathing becomes more difficult. Similarly, when sin comes into us, it makes prayer more difficult. That’s why repentance is so valuable. It clears up the damage caused by sin and makes prayer easier.

Praying without ceasing means getting into the habit of praying a few times during the day: when you wake up, when you go to Mass, before lunch and dinner, and before bed. One psalm even tells us to pray seven times a day (Psalm 119:164)! Of course, this doesn’t always have to be a structured prayer time! Rather, it means trying to maintain a spirit of prayer. If we could just stop a few times during our day and turn to the Lord, we would be amazed at the difference it makes. Jesus is our best example of this. Whether he was performing a miracle, preaching a sermon, or arguing with his opponents, he kept his mind on his Father.

Finally, praying without ceasing means living in a way that is consistent with our prayer. Caring for others, being just, developing our talents, doing good for other people, and helping the poor—these are all valid ways that we can continue to pray without ceasing.

That doesn’t seem too hard!

“Lord, help us become a praying people. May we stay close to you in all circumstances until you come in glory!”

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The Parish office will be closing Tuesday, December 23rd at 1:00 pm and will reopen Friday, December 26th from 9:30am till 1:00pm.
PARISH INFORMATION

Calvary Cemetery
62 Lagrange Avenue, Poughkeepsie 473-4222

Caring Committee Parish Office at 473-4222

Charismatic Prayer Group Meetings
Monday-7:30 PM Bill Haag 462-3669

C. Y. O. - Chris Fields 462-8790

Knights of Columbus Peter Stafford 462-2110

Parish Council William Kennedy 462-4717
Meets the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM in The Nativity Center

Health Care Ministry Doris Kennedy 462-4717

Senior Program Val Brown 471-7567

Youth Ministry Grace McNamara 636-0514

Music Ministry Jackie Hourani 223-3439

Catholic Charities 452-1400

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
Every Friday from 7:30 AM-12:00 noon.

ROSARY - (Mon.-Sat.) after the First Mass of the day.

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA
Monday after the 12:15 PM Mass

ST. MARTIN de PORRES NOVENA
Wednesday after the 12:15 PM Mass

CARE NET PREGNANCY CENTER 845-471-9284

HOPE & HEALING AFTER ABORTION
212-750-3967/ hopeandhealing@sistersoflife.org

SEPARATED & DIVORCED – 1st & 3rd Thursday in the Nativity Center, 7-8:30pm. For info call Fran @ 914-522-5928 or Cathy @ 845-546-0268.

FLOCKNOTE’S-Stay connected to the Parish and the Archdiocese. Text Martin to 8457 or go to flocknote.com/smdpough to sign up.

PASTORAL INFORMATION
If you are new to the parish and would like to register you may do so by filling out the registration form in the vestibule of the church or printing a form off the parish web site and returning it to the parish office via collection basket or mailing it to 118 Cedar Valley Rd. Poughkeepsie NY, 12603, or stop by the parish office.

If you are a parishioner & need to update your information, please e-mail updates to smdpnorman@gmail.com. Please let us know if you have an address, phone # or e-mail address change; are moving out of the parish; or if a family member is sick and would like to be visited by a priest or a deacon.

REMEMBER OUR SICK
Daniel Kelleher, Dennis Lengyl, Christopher LalFoe, Jeanette Iulo, Robert Stoutenburgh, Peter Cavaliere, Pat Drain, Cathie Geerlings, Francesco Ramirez, Stephanie & Kevin Gieseler, Anthony Coviello, Phil Harman, Matthew Bisanz, Bridie Craig, George Salchert, Josephine Bohac, Mary Peluse, Flo Napolitano, Mary Trabucco, Mary Marquardt, Peggy O’Neil, Frank Hartenfels, Margaret Trojan, Tom George, Robert Belmonte, Sherry Fanelli, Catherine Gary Stuewer, Genie Rudmann, Beth Dziminowicz, Michael Micik, Katherine Murry, Janet & Gordon Gray, Patricia Harth, Arnold Barber & Paul Bucher, III.

MILITARY SERVICE
We would like to remember all of our parishioners serving in the Armed Forces, at home, but especially those serving overseas. Please remember especially:

Pvt. 1st Class Evan Simeon; LT. Ryan Henebery; Sgt. Christopher Wilks; Arm. Robert Wilks; Pvt. Donald Schneider; Sgt. Philip D. Percesepe, USMC; Sr. Airman Anthony DiMase; Corey R. Tag; E-4 James LeRoy, US Army; Ens. Kathryn Munson; Sgt. Vincent A. Fiorillo; Airman Frank Lauria; LT. Eric Hung, USN; Petty Officer 3rd Class Robert J. LaBarbera, III U.S.N.; Pvt2 Donald D. Biro; Sgt. Marc Coviello; Michael Wagner, Army; Pvt. Nathan Wentworth; Petty Officer 3rd Class Brian Brandon USN; Sgt. Levi Santagate, USMC; AM2 (AW) Bridgit Stratton; Capt. Eddie Preisser, US Army; Sgt. William Haas, USMC; Airman 1st Class Preston David Wtulich, USAF; Richard Milliot, 2nd Mate.

Catholic Widows & Widowers
The Catholic Widow & Widowers of Dutchess & Putnam will meet on the third Tuesday of the month at 7pm in the parish meeting room at St. Kateri, Lagrangeville. 845-223-3097.

Christmas Concert - Food Pantry Fundraiser
St. Mary’s Fishkill presents their 19th Annual Christmas Concert - Food Pantry Fundraiser on Sunday, Dec 14th at 4 pm at 103 Jackson Street.

Retirement Fund for Religious
This weekend our parish is conducting the annual collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious, which offers vital financial assistance to help meet day to day needs & benefits some 34,000 senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. Please support this fund generously and pray for God’s continued Blessings on our elderly Religious.

Senior Center Program Events
ECUMENISM: THE IRREVERSIBLE QUEST FOR UNITY

In his remarks to Pope Francis on November 30, 2014, in Istanbul, Turkey, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew offered a resounding declaration of his sure hope for the full unity between the Churches of East and West: "As a result of their meeting ... fifty years ago [Pope Paul VI and Patriarch Athenagoras, in Jerusalem], the flow of history has literally changed direction: the parallel and occasionally conflicting journeys of our Churches have coincided in the common vision of restoring our lost unity; the cold love between us has been rekindled, while our desire to do everything in our capacity so that our communion in the same faith and the same chalice may once again emerge has been galvanized. Thenceforth, the road to Emmaus has opened up before us - a road that, while perhaps lengthy and sometimes even rugged, is nonetheless irreversible - with the Lord as our companion, until he is revealed to us 'in the breaking of bread' (Luke 24:35)."

Sacraments to the Homebound

Homebound parishioners who may be, temporarily, unable to participate, in the Parish liturgical celebrations, due to illness or hospital recuperation, please call the rectory to schedule a visit by a priest /Deacon during this Christmas Season. The Sacrament of the anointing of the Sick or Confession can be arranged at home at your convenience. "When there are people sick among you, let them send for the priests..." (from the ritual for anointing the Sick).

Bringing the Christmas Spirit to Families in Need

Catholic Charities Community Services of Dutchess County serves many of the families throughout the county who are in need. We are inviting you to “adopt” a family or individual & provide them with some basic Christmas gifts for their family that they are not able to afford this year. If you or your family, friends or co-workers would like to Adopt-a-Family, please call the 452-1400 x4217 to speak with Mary Marshall or email at: mary.marshall@archny.org or 452-1400 x4905 for Michelle Metelski. Please help us bring the Hope & Joy of Christmas to others throughout the local Dutchess communities.

World Wide Marriage Encounter

"...do not quench the spirit..." Today's second reading reminds us that there is much in life that will drag down our spirits. World Wide Marriage Encounter can help couples and ordained religious keep their sacrament fresh and alive. For information call 1-877-NYS-WWME ext 3.

EnCourage

A Catholic Support Community that supports families of those experiencing same-sex attractions. There are scheduled meetings in the Orange County area, and we are looking to develop additional meetings throughout the archdiocese. For further information, e-mail the Orange County EnCourage group at encourageny@hotmail.com. To learn more about Courage and EnCourage visit www.couragenc.com, or call the Family Life+Respect Life office at 646-794-3186

Ways to support St. Martin de Porres School

SCRIP - The PSA will be selling gift cards after 5:00pm Saturday and 9:30 & 11:30am Sunday Masses this weekend.

Target: Take Charge of Education:

Register your card designating SMDPS School code 10910). The school will receive 1% of your total bill.

Tools for School: Register your Price Chopper AdvantEdge card designating SMDPS (School code 16284).

Box Top for Education & Campbell Soup Labels:

Send in box tops and labels for the school to receive credit for supplies.

A+ Bonus Bucks: Register your S&S card designating SMDPS (school code 07838) and the school will earn money based. All you have to do is: Log on to www.stopandshop.com/aplus to register online OR Dial 1-877-275-2758 to register your card over the phone. Please visit the PSA website for all information regarding our committee and events.

www.teacherweb.com/NY/StMartindePorres/PSA/

St. Martin’s Choir Sings at Mariapolis Luminosa

Each Christmas, throughout the month of December, Mariapolis Luminosa displays over 200 Nativity scenes from every continent in the world. People come from near & far to visit this beautiful event. This year St. Martin de Porres’ parish choir is invited to make the 2014 Nativity Scene Display even more special by performing a medley of Advent and Christmas Carols on Sunday, December 14 from 1:30-3:00 pm.

Mariapolis Luminosa is located at 200 Cardinal Rd. Hyde Park, NY 12538. The display runs from December 1-30, 2014, Sat-Sun 1:00pm-5:00pm, Mon-Fri 2:00pm-5:00pm. Other times, by appointment only. Admission is free, but donations are welcome. For more information please call (845) 229-0230 ext. 133. luminosa@focolare.us.

Nativity Pageant

Children, we need your help to tell the story of Jesus’ birth! To sign up angels, shepherds, and magi for our annual Christmas pageant on Dec. 21st at the 9:30 am Mass, please call Carolyn at 233-4774. Children & parents will need to attend one rehearsal.

Bless the Baby Jesus

As we get closer to Christmas, it can be hard to keep the focus on the true ‘reason for the season.’ With this in mind, we invite you to bring your Baby Jesus statues from your nativity sets at home to have them blessed at the 9:30 am Mass on Dec. 21st. All statues, from Fisher-Price to Fontanini, are welcome!
2014
CHRISTMAS WEEK SCHEDULE

PARISH SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
Monday, December 15th
(SCHEDULED RECONCILIATION IN ALL PARISHES)
4:00-8:00 PM

Wednesday, December 17th
9:00-10:00 AM

Saturday, December 20th
3:45-4:45 PM

MASSES ON CHRISTMAS EVE
4:00, 6:30 & 10:00 PM

MASSES ON CHRISTMAS DAY
7:30, 9:30 & 11:30 AM
NO EVENING MASS

STORY HOUR FOR PRESCHOOL
Please join us on Thursday, December 18, 2014 for Story Hour for Pre-Schoolers. It will be held at the School Library at 10:00 AM. Please call the school at 452-4428 to make your reservation today!

Bereavement Group
This group, led by Deacon Vic, will meet on Tuesday, December 16th at 7:00 PM in the Nativity Center, back room. This week’s series will discuss “Coping with the holidays”. All are invited to attend.

St. Mary’s Wappinger’s
A 2-Penny Social will be hosted at St. Mary’s School in Wappinger Falls on January 31, 2015 (2 Convent Avenue). Free admission. Parking at school. Doors Open at 11:30 a.m. Calling begins at 1:00 p.m. Over 200 new items. Food will be for sale. 50/50 raffle tickets for sale. Proceeds go to the school. For questions, please contact Mary Joe at 592-0147 or maryjoempq@aol.com.

K of C Free Throw Competition
The Knights of Columbus, council #7551, is sponsoring a free throw competition for boys and girls from ages 9-14 (age as of 1/1/2015). The event will take place on Monday, January 19, 2015 in the St. Martin de Porres school gym. Registration will be from 6:30 to 7:00 PM and the competition will run from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. Please bring proof of age to registration. The winning boy and girl, from each age group, will receive a basketball and earn the chance to compete in the District competition. If you have any questions, please contact the event chairperson Rick Schultz at 845-489-7362 or Rick@MyMidHudsonAgent.com.

Annual Lighting of Mt. Alvernia
December 14th in the Chapel.
Celebration includes: Advent Vespers Service followed by concert of praise & worship music & Christmas Carols presented by Spirit-Fire music ministry, followed by the lighting of Mt. Alvernia Retreat Center, followed by fellowship, cake, cookies & beverages in Center dining room. Free will Offering.

Mass on New Year’s Eve
5:00 PM

Masses on New Year’s Day
7:30, 9:30 & 11:30 AM
NO EVENING MASS
Teen Group Fundraiser

Our Reach Christ Youth Group will be wrapping Christmas presents for anyone who would like them wrapped. If you would like us to wrap your gifts, please bring them to the Nativity Center on Saturday, December 20th from 10am till 4pm. We will be providing all wrapping paper, please bring your own boxes. There is no fee but Donations are greatly welcomed.

Come Spread Christmas Cheer!!

St. Martin de Porres
Annual Christmas Caroling Event
Sunday, December 14th at 6:15 pm.
We will meet in the church, then break off into large groups to Carol through our local neighborhoods.
(Directions, Maps, & Carol Books will be provided)
After Caroling, Come back to The Nativity Center to warm up & socialize with hot cocoa, tea & cookies.
(Please bring cookies to share)
Also bring your voices, families, friends, flashlights, candles (guards will be available) or battery operated candles & dress for the weather!
Children must be accompanied by parent/guardian.
Cancellations will be on cancellations.com.
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