



HOLY NAME SOCIETY

♦ MANHATTAN ♦ BRONX ♦ STATEN ISLAND

FALL

www.fdneyholynamesociety.com

2012

CHAPLAINS:

Msgr. Marc A. Filacchione (212) 563-0060
 Rev. Christopher Keenan, O.F.M. (917) 881-1090

PRESIDENT: Joseph R. Bryant

EDITOR: Susan L. Hovestadt

ELECTION 2012: VOICES THAT WILL NOT BE HEARD

One of the largest homeless populations in the USA is Viet Nam Veterans! We rejected them and their service when they returned. My younger brother Brian was refused admission to the local American Legion Post because "you weren't in a real war". Among other medical issues he has become deaf from his combat missions on the DMZ. However, his medical conditions are not recognized by the VA because he can't prove they were from the roar of helicopters or sound of repeated mortar attacks.

My experience is that the cry for help in the voices of our veterans then and now is still not being heard.

In addition to the complex challenges faced by our returning veterans from multiple missions, we are also facing in this

election the possible loss of our collective bargaining rights as union members and civil servants of NYC. We have an uncertain future regarding Medicare and our pensions (my FDNY pension will be \$4,800/year!!).

There are other voices that are rarely heard, especially our NYC children living in poverty.

In the recent 2010 census statistics the following results were published last fall for the 8+ million New Yorkers in the 5 boroughs we serve as firefighters:

- 1) One in every five adults lives below the poverty line;
- 2) One in five households qualifies for and has food stamps;
- 3) 30% of the children live below the poverty line
 (i.e., less than \$20,000 for a family of four);
- 4) 32% of the children of NYC do not finish school;
- 5) In the Bronx alone, 43% of the children live in households with less than
 \$20,000 annually!!!

Whatever our judgments are about these adults, what are we going to do for these children?

We are the richest city in the world in the richest country of the world and this is our reality.

So whatever way you belong to the 1% or the 99%, how as members of the Holy Name Society do we exercise our awe-some freedom to vote in this upcoming election?

How about the 30% of all our children who live in households of less than \$20,000 a year?

As a member of the Society of the Holy Name of Jesus you are to be his voice for these Poor!!

Christopher Keenan, OFM
 FDNY Chaplain

The 20th century and the early part of our current millennium are challenging periods for our beloved Catholic Church, and for those who strive to follow her precepts. Not that the tenets of the Faith have changed, just that those opposed to the Christian philosophy have become much more hostile in their attacks on our faith. These hostilities are not directed exclusively at the Church, as all people of faith and goodwill seem to conjure the ire of the anti-religion groups, but it appears they believe the Catholic Church is the main obstacle to the promotion of their agenda, because much of their rage is directed at Popes of different generations (usually contrary to the actual facts), the Bishops, and anyone who proposes the difficulties of the present world can be improved by an adherence to the Word of God.

This is not the first period of turbulence for the Church, which experienced fatal persecution for most of its first 300 years. Heresies and heretics have plagued Catholicism for millennium and tyrants have suppressed and oppressed the Church universally. The difference now is that those who have taken an oath to protect the rights of the individual citizens (our elected and appointed officials) are disregarding those rights in order to force us to adhere to their ideology. A judge in Germany recently ruled it illegal for parents to circumcise their infant boys, placing an unjust burden on Jewish and Moslem families living in that judge's jurisdiction who want to follow the tenets of their particular faiths. Amazingly the judge used the reasoning that the child did not consent to the procedure. No child has or would consent to their abortion, but that same judge did not outlaw that procedure based on the same lack of consent. If my wife and I had to have our children's consent to send them to school each day, quite frankly we would have a house full of illiterate children playing games all day.

Honesty has almost completely disappeared from the public forum. Journalists are allowed to slant the story to support their respective opinions, regardless of the actual facts. According to the new world order, there is no absolute truth except that which satisfies each and every whim. A major focus of the entertainment industry is the propagation of instant gratification, selfishness, and fulfilling personal desires (especially sexual) instead of promoting justice, compassion, and truth. When we condone the inordinate passions of the individual over the common good of the nation, our civilization will suffer, because we are all weak sinners who tend toward lust, greed, power, and gratification at any cost when we are not held at bay by social norms.

Most concerning is the assault on the innocence of our children by militant activists. Under the present conditions, passing on the faith of our parents to our children has become increasingly more difficult. Watch any TV show or movie produced in the first half of the 20th century and you are likely to learn a moral lesson. Prime time TV shows and Hollywood movies produced from the 1970's on rarely teach any lesson on virtue, but are full of the pleasures attained from vice. Society has a responsibility

to protect the weak, not prey on them by introducing ideas that are harmful to our mind, body, and soul. Please pray for the resurgence of a moral media who envisions serving culture not subverting our civilization.

God created humans with a free will and allows us to choose whether we will devote ourselves to Him or concentrate solely on what makes us feel good. Now if God in His infinite wisdom gave us a choice, why are modern officials so anxious to rule every aspect of our lives? Are they more intelligent than the masses and therefore legislate to protect us from ourselves? God has already assigned a guardian angel to each soul for that purpose. While we need governments that protect all people's rights, we don't need a government that insists it knows better than the populace in private matters, especially when they do not take sufficient care of what is truly their responsibility, like balancing the respective budgets of their jurisdictions. America will be better off when we stop blaming others for these difficult financial decisions and take care of business in an efficient and fair manner. As the prophet Moses instructed, "Do not pervert justice; do not show partiality to the poor or favoritism to the rich, but judge your neighbor fairly." (Leviticus 19:15). In other words, all people are to be treated with the same respect and dignity which is due each and every human being.

We all fall short of meriting salvation on our own, but the good news is that God can take our evil ways and provide an outcome that is good. That is exactly what the Father achieved when we put the Son to death, and by the power of the Holy Spirit Jesus was raised from the dead, having sacrificed Himself for our redemption. While I readily admit I wish the whole world believed in the salvation won for us by Jesus Christ, I would never dream of forcing someone to join the Church against their will, nor would I hate someone and spew vile things at or about them just because they disagreed with my view of life. We must learn to love and respect one another regardless of our ideologies.

Because the Catholic faith faces opposition on social and political battlegrounds, teaching the faith is more important than ever. In this age of instant gratification and slanted media messages, our children need their faith and the support of the Church to live honest and virtuous lives. Even with all the technology and scientific knowledge we have developed in this era, we still need God. In fact, we need Our Father now more than ever, because the public has placed too much power in the hands of those who have arrogated to themselves the ability to discern society's best interests. To counteract the output of a negative and harmful media, and the unjust and erroneous actions of some leaders worldwide, we must reinforce and consolidate our education of the Catholic youth, and encourage them to overcome the pressures of temptation and stand up for what is right.

-Emma and Tom Roche

ANNUAL MEMORIAL MASS
Father Julian Deeken
Sunday November 11, 2012
 9:30 am at
St. Francis of Assisi Church
135 West 31st Street, Manhattan

9th Annual 9-11 Father Mychal F. Judge
Walk of Remembrance
Sunday September 9, 2012

Rosary to precede the Mass @ St. Francis of Assisi
 9:00 am

For more information please call:
Steven McDonald (347) 386-9400
Bill Schillinger (917) 902-6689
John Bates (516) 238-0952
www.paddybrown.org

Annual Blue Mass

Sunday October 21, 2012
11:00 am

St. Francis of Assisi Church
 135 W 31st street
 (Across the street from Engine 1 - Ladder 24)

Stand up for LIFE

"What Can One Person Do?"

Coming to Long Island this October ...

Pro-Lifers will have an opportunity to participate with family & friends, with people of all faiths, with people of all ages, in a huge public statement for life.

Sunday, October 7, 2012

2:00 PM—3:30PM

(rain or shine)

Along Route 25 & Route 110 (Huntington, LI)

&

LIE exit 70S & County Road 111 (Manorville, LI)

Signs will be distributed at site and will read:

ABORTION KILLS CHILDREN
LOVE THEM BOTH

Call Ann (631) 754-9141 or Bill (631) 288-3263

High School Scholarship Test

Saturday, December 1, 2012

Commencing 8:30 a.m.

All Hallows High School

111 East 164th Street

Bronx, NY 10452

(between Walton Ave. & Grand Concourse)

High School Scholarship applications will be available only after **September 30th** from our Scholarship Chairman, Bill Treanor (718-885-0648) or at 98 Bay Street, Bronx, NY 10464. Completed applications must be returned by **November 21, 2012**.

2012 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS!

Pictured left to right: Commissioner Cassano, Slater O'Brien, Brendan Tighe, Frank Baldassare, Matthew Harris, Kevin Treanor, Bridget Ulrich, Scholarship Chairman Bill Treanor, Elizabeth Nealon, Edward Curry, Brian Johnston, and Amanda Pecora



High School Scholarships
Awards Increased!

Our High School Scholarship awards have been increased! The four awards for \$1000.00 for four years to a catholic high school will be **increased to \$1500.00 per year for four years**. The Fordham Prep award will stay the same. We will **create the Vincent A. McCarthy Scholarship Award for \$2000.00 one time cash award each year**. (You will **NOT** be required to attend a catholic high school, but you will be required to take the High School Scholarship Test.) A substantial bequest from Vincent A. McCarthy has made these increases possible. Please visit our web site, go to scholarship and check the Requirements for our Scholarship program. This way there will be no surprises. If you have any questions, contact us from our web site link or an E-mail: fdnyholynamesociety@verizon.net.

Come for a "24"

Do not forget about the "24" hour format for the Retreat! It was introduced to help those members who have limited time available to make a full retreat at the Bishop Molloy Retreat House. You may come for the day, come for a meal, or come for a conference. What ever you decide you have time for!

Jonathan Living Seagull is a short parable by Richard Bach. It is about a seagull who is not satisfied with being a seagull. He longs for more. He spends endless hours trying to soar higher and to fly faster. Anything that he can do to break out of his confined life is something that he will try. He is driven by the fact that he is hopelessly restless. Many times he crashes and almost kills himself, but he keeps trying.

This is a story about ourselves. We too, are hopelessly restless. There is an interior drive in all of us to be something more than we are. There is an insatiable need to push further and further toward the horizon. We want a bigger house, a nicer car, a summer tan, more insight, stronger relationships, and more love. No matter how much we achieve we desire more. At times, we may crash from trying so hard.

The physical and psychological things that we desire in life cannot satisfy the strong yearnings within us. It is only through the spiritual that we can find any semblance of peace or serenity.

That which is "bigger" than us is the only thing that can begin to ease the longing within. Those "smaller" things cannot satisfy.

St. Augustine prayed to God: "You have made us for yourself Lord and our hearts are restless until they rest in you." He spent much of his life searching for thing to fulfill himself. He always came away empty until he discovered the ethereal, those things belonging to the heavens. Only when he searched for the spiritual did he attain peace.

We also search for peace. We will only find it when we forge a stronger contact with our higher power. It is not always an easy task and it does not come automatically. Our search for God can be long and difficult if we fight the journey. We must open ourselves to the reality that finding God in our lives is the only solution to the all consuming desire that drives us.

Today, is a new beginning. We should try something new in our approach to God. Pray like you have never done before. God is always there for you, talk to Him. One easy way is the Holy Name Retreat on Oct. 23. Explore the possibilities.

Steve DMato

Fall Schedule Meetings

(ALL MEETINGS BEGIN @ 8:00 PM)

Monday, October 1 : The Green Tree - Bronx

Monday, November 5 : Hillside Swim Club -Staten Island



**Captain Timothy
Stackpole
Annual Retreat**

at the
**Bishop Molloy
Retreat House**

from **Supper** on
Tuesday, Oct. 23, 2012
through breakfast on
Thursday, Oct. 25, 2012

Call now and make your reservations:
Bishop Molloy Retreat House
718-739-1229

Over the years firefighting methods have constantly changed. Years ago firefighters worked without masks & were called "Smoke Eaters" while battling flames. Today firefighters labor with heavy protection gear & heavy equipment. They face different perils, new design of buildings, rapidly burning material in furniture & the threat of terrorism. Firefighting has changed to keep up with modern times. Many things have changed. The word freedom now means anything goes. Money, fame, power & knowledge have become number one. A lot is missing. Our motto "In God We Trust" has quickly faded. Its time to let God know he is important to all of us. He is in everyone's heart but many times he has been replaced by ideas & idols. We must recognize Him & return Him to His proper stature. We face a major problem today & that is to return God into our lives. Your retreat is always alive. Come join us to return God to His proper place in society. Remember firefighting has always been a perilous profession but we always come together to defeat the battle with fire.

DUES

*Reminder to Members
Please forward your dues to:*

Joseph Bryant
4 Maple Drive, New Hyde Park, NY 11040

Retired Members:

Joe Kelly
12 Bass Street, Staten Island, NY 10314

Mission Accomplished?

As Catholics we often wonder if the Catholic Faith will be properly passed on to the next generation. Our Churches are no longer filled with as many children, teenagers, & young adults as there were in the past. The younger families who do attend Mass seem to believe that they do not have to attend Mass every Sunday or on Holy Days of Obligation. Many of our former Catholics are now joining "non denominational" churches. There appears to be a crisis of faith in the Catholic Church.

At the same time there are many children, teenagers, young adults, and younger families who are attending Mass regularly every weekend. They seem to value their Catholic Faith with much enthusiasm. The picture is not all bad.

We have a job to do as Holy Name Society members. Before Jesus ascended to Heaven, He told His followers; "Go out to the world and spread the Good News." This is a duty that Jesus gave to all of His followers. There are three ways we can do this job. First we must continue to be loyal to our Catholic Faith & to our Bishops and the Pope. Second, we can invite our friends who no longer practice their Catholic Faith to return. Thirdly and most importantly, we should pray for those who seemingly have left the faith, trusting wholeheartedly that God will answer our prayers.

Jesus has a mission for all of His followers. Our Job is to fulfill this mission, to spread the Gospel. If we put our minds to it, and pray for His help, we can accomplish our mission!

Fr. Thomas Haren
Spiritual Moderator
Cleveland Diocesan Union HNS
(NAHNS Newsletter)

UFOA Retiree's Meeting

The UFOA will be holding a special meeting for retiree's on **September 20th** in Queens. Every retired officer is requested to attend this important meeting. The UFOA white Jackets will be distributed at this meeting. So, it is important that you call the UFOA now and let them know you will attend, and give them your jacket size. In addition to the political issues the meeting will include many of the UFOA's benefit providers. If you have any questions or concerns about the benefits they will be addressed at the meeting. **Call the UFOA today at (212)-293-9300!**

Walt's Retiree Corner

50 Year Pins! Over the last year we have been presenting some of our members with their 50 year pins. The pins have been presented at our general membership meetings, along with a certificate for the occasion. We will continue the presentation of pins at our fall meetings. You may go to our website to check out our members who have received the 50 year pins. Those members who are eligible for the pins & are able to make the Bronx meeting or the Staten Island meeting give Joe Bryant a call or e-mail & leave your name and phone number thank you!

I would really like to receive any news you would like to share. A story? We would also like to hear your jokes, we could really use a good laugh, right? Also, if you know of a firefighter who is sick please let us know so we can pray for them and their families. Contact me e-mail WPWhitmore126@GMAIL.COM or write Walt Whitmore, 126 Windermere Drive, Yonkers, NY 10710 or call (914) 779-1826. Thank you & God bless you!

[illegible]

PAYROLL DUES DEDUCTION CHECK-OFF

The Holy Name Society, Manhattan, Bronx, & Staten Island is a tax exempt, catholic & fraternal organization which has served the FDNY for nearly 100 years, both uniform and civilian. We are starting to go green by providing our **ACTIVE MEMBERS ONLY** with a **PAYROLL DEDUCTION**.

To enroll go to: www.nyc.gov/ess,
Click : Payroll & Compensations
Go to: Deduction Information
Click: Inquiries
Find : FDNY Fraternal Organizations
Click on: Holy Name Society

New members or members who have moved or transferred please go to fdnyholynamesociety.com and contact us. Print your name, address, phone#, rank, unit, battalion & division. This will help us keep our records up to date.

Congratulations Once Again to Our 2012 Men of the Year!

Picture from Left to Right: Chief of Department Edward Kilduff, Lieutenant Joe Brosi, Bronx Borough Commander Chief Kevin Butler, President HNS Retired Chief Joe Bryant



**N.Y. FIRE DEPARTMENT
HOLY NAME SOCIETY**

4 MAPLE DRIVE
NEW HYDE PARK, NY 11040

Non-Profit
Organization
US POSTAGE
PAID
Hicksville, NY
PERMIT NO. 823

Presidents Message

With the lazy hazy days of summer coming to an end and the weather hopefully getting a little cooler, everyone's activity's start to pick up pace, along with the Holy Name Society's. The Father Mychal Judge Walk of Remembrance will be held on September 9th starting at 9 AM at St Francis of Assisi Church across from Engine 1 & Ladder 24. After the rosary and mass the walk is started downtown, to ground zero, stopping at various firehouses and police precincts along the way. Join us for a truly great day. Continuing our activities, our first meeting will be in the Bronx on October 1st followed with our November 5th meeting on Staten Island. The Family Transport Blue Mass will be held on Sunday October 21st at St. Francis of Assisi at the 11 AM Mass. Our Annual Captain Timothy Stackpole Retreat at the Bishop Molloy Retreat House will take place from supper on Tuesday, October 23rd through breakfast on Thursday October 25th. If you cannot make the entire retreat, come for a "24". The Annual Father Julian Deeken Memorial Mass will be held on Sunday, November 11th at 0930 hours at St. Francis of Assisi Church. Don't forget the annual high school scholarship test which will be held on Saturday, December 1st at All Hallows High School. We have started to go green with payroll dues deduction check-off. At this time the dues check-off is for active members only. If you moved, retired, transferred or have been promoted, please send us your new information by mail, e-mail or from our web site. I want to thank the following members for stepping for our board positions: Bob O'Brian for Sergeant of Arms, and Kevin Allen for Vice-President EMS. The present board members have been in office for quite some time and would like you to give them some relief. So please, give some thought to being a member of our board to give our present members the relief they need.

Joe Bryant

Executive Board Positions and responsibilities that are still available:

PRESIDENT: preside at all membership meetings – shall appoint all committees – shall see all books and reports – chief executive of the society.

VICE PRESIDENT AT LARGE: in the absent or unavailability of the president, will become acting president.

RECORDING SECRETARY: keep the minutes and records of the society meetings – submits minutes of the meeting to the president before the next meeting – maintains and ensures continuity of information.

TREASURER: care and custody of all monies belonging to the society.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY: collects and keeps records of the payment of dues and monies – keeps a list of members standing and issues membership cards to members upon payment of dues.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: receives and reviews correspondence received by the society – sends out notices of executive board and other meetings – sends thank you letters and other letters directed by the president.

VICE PRESIDENT MANHATTAN: liaison between the board and the company delegates – keeps and updates the list of company delegates -assists the financial secretary in keeping the members dues updated.

VICE PRESIDENT BRONX: liaison between the board and the company delegates – keeps and updates the list of company delegates -assists the financial secretary in keeping the members dues updated.

VICE PRESIDENT STATEN ISLAND: liaison between the board and the company delegates – keeps and updates the list of company delegates -assists the financial secretary in keeping the members dues updated.

VICE PRESIDENT RETIRED MEN: liaison between the board and the retired members, Assists the financial secretary in keeping the members dues updated.