

HOLY NAME SOCIETY

MANHATTAN + BRONX + STATEN ISLAND

SPRING

www.fdnyholynamesociety.com

2012

CHAPLAINS:

PRESIDENT: Joseph R. Bryant

Msgr. Marc A. Filacchione (212) 563-0060

Rev. Christopher Keenan, O.F.M. (917) 881-1090

EDITOR: Susan L. Hovestadt

Power, Prestige, and Possessions

God has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; He has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. – Luke 1:51-53

In Jesus' consistent teaching and in Mary's great Magnificat, both say that there are three major obstacles to the coming of God. I call them the three P's: power, prestige, and possessions. Mary refers to them as "the proud," "the mighty on their thrones," and "the rich." These, she says, God is "routing," "pulling down," and "sending away empty." (This great prayer of Mary was considered so subversive by the Argentine government that they banned it from public recitation at protest marches!) We can easily take nine-tenths of Jesus' teachings and very clearly align it under one of those three categories: Our attachments to power, prestige, and possessions are obstacles to God's coming. Why would we do that?

For some reason, we tend to localize evil in our bodies more than in our mind, heart, and spirit. We are terribly ashamed of our embodiment, and our shame is invariably located in addictive things like drinking, drugs, sex, overeating, and body image. Maybe that is why God has to become a body in Jesus! God needed to tell us it was good be a human body. That is central and pivotal to the Christmas message.

I'm surely for a proper sexual morality, but Jesus never once says this is the core issue. They tend to be sins of weakness or addiction, more than malice or power. In fact, Jesus says that the "prostitutes are getting into the kingdom of God" before some of us who have made easy bedfellows with power, prestige, and possessions. (Matthew 21:31) These are the attitudes that numb the heart, allow us to make very egocentric judgments, and dull our general spiritual perception.

For some reason, much of Christian history has chosen not to see this, and we have localized evil in other places than Jesus did. It is the sins of our mind and heart (see Matthew 5: 20-48) that make the Big Picture almost impossible to see. This teaching is hidden in plain sight, but once we see it in text after text, we cannot any longer unsee it. Mary seems to have seen long, deep, and lovely.

REFLECT

How are power, prestige, and possessions preventing you from entering the kingdom?

- Richard Rohr, OFM and Chris Keenan, OFM

Do You See Yourself In This Picture? If Not, Then YOU Missed A Good Time!

Captian Timothy Stackpole Annual Retreat, October, 2011



Times When God Touches Our Lives

- 1. At our conception God infuses a soul, created specifically for us, into our newly conceived embryo.
- 2. At our Baptism God marks our soul with His Holy Spirit, removing any stain our flesh propagated to our soul.
- 3. During the Sacrament of Reconciliation God cleanses our soul, returning us to His good graces.
- 4. God feeds our soul with the Eucharist, giving us the full expression of His love.
- 5. At Confirmation God completes the infusion of the Holy Spirit He started at our Baptism, strengthening us for adulthood.
- 6. In Matrimony God binds two souls together for life.
- 7. God draws the soul of a deacon, priest, and bishop to His own Spirit in Holy Orders.
- 8. At an Anointing of the Sick God heals our soul, hopefully leading to a physical, mental, and emotional healing, but always effecting a spiritual renewal.

And every moment in between!

God Blesses Us through the Sacraments

-Tom Roche

DUES

Reminder to Members Please forward your dues to:

ACTIVE MEMBERS

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

RETIRED MEMBERS

Joe Kelly
12 Bass Street, Staten Island, NY 10314
** DUES ARE NOW \$10.00 **

ONLINE DUES PAYMENTS FOR ACTIVE MEMBERS

To pay your dues online you need to enroll in

PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS

To enroll: www.nyc.gov/ess
Go To: Payroll and Compensations
Navigate to: Deduction Information

Go To: Inquiries

Go To: FDNY Fraternal Organizations

Click on: Holy Name Society

WALT'S RETIREE'S CORNER

Hi! We have had a great winter so far; only one snow storm in October. John Morrissey got a new addition to his home a dog, named Max. John wrote to me over Facebook & told me to check out John Funican's Facebook page, he said "it is all about the Bronx during the 1970/early 80s. You will have to save it for a rainy day." I know Funican from the Emerald Society. He is a strong advocate for the Irish & the history of the Irish immigrants, especially during the Great Migration during the 1850s. It just so happens my grandparents arrived in America in 1849. Their name was Gibbons. I have my e-mail address posted & I am on Facebook now thanks to John Morrissey's wife, Mary. If anybody wants to be my friend look me up! For some reason, I had missed a few get togethers' but the one I didn't miss was the Annual Christmas Party at Goldwater Hospital. All the usual volunteers including my granddaughter Abigail, on violin with the "All-Hands Band". About fifteen or more members of the Emerald Society bag pipe band took their time on Saturday to give to the least of our brothers. We could always use more help. Please call Bill Greco who is the President of the Anchor Club & has an ability to get men & women to join him. He leads by example, having folks do what he is willing to do. He's a natural born C.E.O. We have been losing a few members at Calvary Hospital this winter. All snow birds, heading to Florida hoping to have a successful mating with the early bird. Among them is Bill Dunleavy, our former marine who still knows his general orders. Military guys will know what I am talking about. Mike Heffron is also heading South. Jim McDermott is not going to continue his volunteering at Calvary Hospital after sixteen years but he has new grandchildren on the way.

God bless all our troops and brother firefighters. If you have a message or a joke or want to contact an old friend call me at (914) 779-1826 or write Walt Whitmore 126 Windermere Drive Yonkers, NY 10710 or e-mail me at wpwhitmore126@gmail.com

-Walter Whitmore





Communion Mass & Breakfast

In Memory of Our Fallen Firefighters

Sunday, April 15, 2012

St. Patrick's Cathedral

Communion Mass: 10:15 a.m.

Breakfast

immediately following at the

New York Hilton Hotel

Avenue of the America's & 53rd Street

ờ Honoring 🤜

KEVIN BUTLER

Deputy Assistant Chief Bronx Borough Commander

JOE BROSI SR.

Lieutenant-Engine 88-Retired

Tickets: Donation \$47.50 (\$50.00 at the door)

Chris Ward via e-mail—cward23@optonline.net

Joe Kelly—(Retirees) - (718) 761-5411

HNS'S Jubilee 2012 Tickets/Information

Chris Wardcward23@optonline.net
Joe Kelly (Retirees)(718) 761-5411
Or Send a Check or Money Order to:
Holy Name Society Attention: Chris Ward 1800 Pettit Avenue North Merrick, NY 11566 Please Include your:
Name:
Address:
City/State/Zip:
Or Unit/ Batt./ Div
Phone:
Number of Tickets:
Total Donation Enclosed:

Spring Schedule Meeting Dates

Monday, March 5th

The Greentree, Bronx 8:00 PM

Monday, April 2nd

Hillside Swim Club, Staten Island 8:00 PM

Monday, April 30th

Eleanor Rigby's, Mineola, LI 8:00 PM ELECTIONS OF BOARD MEMBERS

HIGHER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

The drawing for the higher education Scholarship will take place during the Annual Communion Breakfast.

Members must be in good standing and be PRESENT at the breakfast to have their children eligible for the drawing. Applications will be available from our Scholarship Chairman Bill Treanor at (718) 885-0648. Or write to Bill Treanor, 98 Bay Street, Bronx, NY 10464. All applications must be returned to Bill by April 6th to be included in the drawing. Remember that the Higher Education Scholarship Award has been INCREASED this Year!

December 2011

The Christmas season is always an exciting time. It is a season of hope. The children are excited because they wait for Santa Claus (S.C.). We on another level also find an excitement. We don't always express it, but it is an inner excitement. It goes all the way back to when we were young. These feelings include not only Santa (S.C.), but the Spirit of Christmas (S.C.). It is the joy that comes from what Christmas is all about, the birth of our Savior. During this season, we are led by the light of the Star of Bethlehem. The light makes it easy to feel the joy.

After Christmas, when the glow of the star is in the past, we sometimes lose the glow that the light brings. The dark days of winter can make us forget the light. Although life is always busy, we may find that on a deeper level, we may experience a darkness. This darkness is not only because of the lack of sunlight to enlighten us, but a loss of focus on what the Light of Christmas brings. This loss of focus may bring a melancholy or a feeling of hopelessness with it. It is a time of the year when we have to search for the things that enlighten our lives.

Last October, at the Holy Name Retreat at Bishop Molloy about fifty men found a way to enkindle the Light within and among ourselves. Everyone left glowing by the shot of spirituality and camaraderie that they experienced.

The retreat is ten months away, but there is another season of hope. Lent starts on Feb. 22. This is an excellent time to refocus on the most important things in life. By prayer, repentance and almsgiving we can escape the doldrums. We will find ourselves feeling lighter and we will again find the ability to bring light to the lives of others. As we prepare for the resurrection of Easter we will again have the opportunity to be filled with the Light. Lent is an opportunity to prepare and journey to the resurrection of Jesus. You will be amazed at the brilliance of the Light. So will those with whom you come in contact. Have a enlightening and passionate Lenten journey.

- Steven Dmato

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!



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

Jesus gathered His Apostles at the table for their last supper together. It was many years ago and overall it was to be a joyous occasion. The last supper has become the cornerstone of our religion since it has given us the body and blood of Christ in the Holy Eucharist. Even at this happiest of times Jesus knew someone was about to betray Him and He announced this to all present. None of those present thought it was one of them. We all know who it was who betrayed Jesus. Jesus then questioned each Apostle but they all said they stood strongly behind him. Then He explained to John that John would betray him in the near future. Jesus was giving us all a reminder when He spoke to John. That it is very possible any one of us could deny Jesus at some time or another. It is very difficult to honor Jesus each and every day. This is what He was telling us when He spoke to His Apostles. Do not deny Him, forget Him but return His love. He is always forgiving and He wants to know you better. One way to gain and renew His love is at your firefighter retreat. Have the courage to seek Gods love and join your active and retired firefighters at your retreat. You will find a glowing warmth that our Lord gives to each attendant.

- Retired Battalion Chief Jim Scheppel

The FDNY Holy Name Society is facing **EXTINCTION!**

The present, board of officers, have been in office for quite some time. We would ask you to consider stepping up and taking over one of the positions to help keep the society viable. There are 5 meetings a year and a couple of other events that are scheduled.

Executive Board Positions and Responsibilities:

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.

SERGEANT AT ARMS: insures order during meetings – chairman of the rules committee – assists the president during meetings.

<u>VICE PRESIDENT MANHATTAN</u>: 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.

<u>VICE PRESIDENT BRONX</u>: 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.

<u>VICE PRESIDENT STATEN ISLAND</u>: 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.

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

<u>VICE PRESIDENT EMS</u>: to the board of officers who would be the liaison between the board and our EMS members. We would like to add this position to the board!

As you can see from the above list, most of the societies business <u>can be done at home or at the fire house at your own pace</u>. Also it does not take time away from your family life. If anything, it gives you more to do as a family like the annual communion breakfast, or nights out at other organizations' functions. So please, give some thought to being a member of the board. <u>Please **STEP UP** for one of the Positions!</u> Any questions please call Joe Bryant at (516) 775-5120.

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

Wishing you and your loved ones a very happy holy, and healthy New Year! Let us all pause and thank the good Lord for all the gifts that we have received. Last year we suggested that we all set some goals for ourselves. Let us look back and see if we reached our goals. If not, let us make a new set of goals for the coming year. This will give us something to work for and a feeling of accomplishment.

Just a reminder, our scholarship programs have been increased starting this year to \$1500.00 and a new Vincent A. McCarthy Scholarship has been added. Visit our web site for more information: http://www.fdnyholynamesociety.com. In order to be eligible for our scholarship program you have to be a member in good standing, which means that your dues have to be paid up to date. If in doubt, get in touch with me before the end of July at (516)775-5120! The 88th Annual Communion Mass will be held on Sunday, April 15th at 10:15am at the St.Patrick's Cathedral with the breakfast to follow at the NY Hilton Hotel.

The retired men's dues letter was mailed in December and the active members dues letter will be mailed in February. Our Active members will now be able to pay their Holy Name Society dues ONLINE, as well as by mail or by company delegate. At this time the payroll direct payment is only set up for our active members.

We hope to begin the distribution of or 50 year pins to our members this year at our scheduled meetings. More information is to follow.

Once again I plead for some members to step up to the plate and take over a board position to help keep the HNS viable. If you look at page 5 you will see the list of the board positions and the duties that go with it. Please take the time to review this list and see what position would best fit you! If you have any questions please feel free to give me a call. I would be happy to discuss it with you (516) 775-5120. Have a great winter and stay safe out there!

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE AND CELEBRATION COMMITTEE 2012 SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST

It is that time of the year! College level research paper contest worth \$5,000.00 and a High School Level research paper contest worth \$2,500.00. For applications and eligibility requirements, call Joe Bryant (516)775-5120. Or you can go to the website:

www.NYC-St-Patrick-Day-Parade.org

All research papers have to be <u>returned</u> to the Parade Committee by <u>April 2,</u> **2012**

WTC MEDICALS & PRESCRIPTIONS

Any FDNY retiree, Fire, and EMS, who participated for any amount of time, in the rescue & recovery efforts at the WTC, Land Fill, Morgue, etc., between 9/11/01-7/02 is eligible for free comprehensive medicals and free prescription drugs (NO COPAY). Drugs for respiratory problems, chronic sinus, gastro intestinal disorders, & mental health problems. Retirees can call 718-999-1858 for more information or to make an appointment. If it is over a year since your last medical, call toady for a follow up medical now!

FRIENDS OF FIREFIGHTERS

Friends of Firefighters is located at 199 Van Brunt Street in Red Hook Brooklyn. They have vans that are available to transport members to their doctor Appointments and hospital visits. If you need a ride give them a call. They are also in need of drivers to drive these vans. If you have some time and would like to volunteer give them a call at 718-643-0980 or go to their web site: www.friendsoffirefighters.org. If you cannot volunteer you can always send them a donation.