Farewell from Fr. Gijo

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

With a heart filled with mixed emotions, I write this farewell message to express my deep gratitude and affection as I prepare to embark on a new chapter in my journey as a priest. It is with a sense of both sadness and excitement that I bid farewell to the beloved community of the Church of St. Martin of Tours which has been my home for the past 12 years.

As I reflect upon my time here, I cannot help but be overwhelmed by the countless blessings and graces that God has bestowed upon me. Your unwavering commitment to your faith has been an inspiration to me especially during Covid 19 and I am truly grateful for the opportunity to have served alongside you.

I am particularly grateful for the trust you placed in me during the most intimate moments of your lives. It has been an honor and a privilege to celebrate the sacraments with you, to witness the baptism of your children, to bless your marriages, and to accompany you in times of grief and loss.

When I had my stroke and during my recovery, so many of you from the parish, friends from abroad prayed, visited, called and checked on me regularly. You made certain that I was OK and you all supported me in many ways. To continue my recovery I will be on medical leave for the next three months and then, I will take up new responsibilities at the St Thomas Carmelite Province in India, I carry with me the memories and experiences I have shared with all of you. You have left an indelible mark on my heart, and I will forever cherish the relationships we have formed and the moments we have shared.

Let us continue to support and pray for one another, even as our paths diverge. I have no doubt that this community will continue to grow in faith, love, and service, guided by the Holy Spirit.

No matter the distance that separates us, God continues to unite us through the celebration of the Mass, for we all share and participate in the one Mass that is celebrated in Heaven for all eternity.

God bless; you all will be in my thoughts, love, and prayers.



THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS Every Friday of Lent we will have the Stations of the Cross at 7:00 pm followed by

Mass.

"Welcome Coffee Sunday

March 2 & 3, 2024 is coffee Sunday. Please join us in the Carmel Hall after each mass including Saturday 5 pm mass for treats and coffee for an opportunity to welcome Fr. Biju Felix Antony to our parish as Pastor.

PARISH ACTIVITIES

THIS WEEK	
Monday,	February 26
7:00 pm	Beginners Line Dancing – Carmel Hall
7:00 pm	Knights of Columbus Executive Meeting-Lisieux Room
Tuesday,	February 27
7:00 pm	RISE Choir Practice- Church
7:30 pm	RCIA – Padua Room
Wednesday,	February 28
7:00 pm	Wedding Rehearsal- Church
7:30 pm	RCIC-Padua Room
Thursday,	February 29
7:30 pm	Choir Practice – Church
Friday,	March 1
6:00 pm	God's Family Choir Practice – Assisi Room
8:15 pm	Advanced Line Dancing-Carmel Hall

CWL Lenten Soup and Samosas Dinner Night

The Catholic Women's League is hosting a Lenten Soup and Samosa Dinner Night on Saturday, March 9, 2024 in the Carmel Hall. This is a great way to create a sense of community within our parish and invite family and friends to spend time together during this Lenten season. Please save the date and invite others to join. Members will be selling tickets after all scheduled weekend Masses on Feb 24-25 and March 2-3, 2024

SCHEDULE FOR LENT and HOLY WEEK

March 18 - 20

	7:00 pm – 8:30 pm Parish Mission Preacher: Father Christopher Kulig
March 21	7:00 pm to 9:00 pm - Lenten Confessions
March 23/24	PALM SUNDAY Saturday, March 23 at 5:00 pm Sunday, March 24 at 8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00pm
March 28	HOLY THURSDAY 8:00 pm - Holy Eucharist and Washing of the Feet followed by Adoration to midnight
March 29	GOOD FRIDAY 10:00 am - Stations of the Cross 3:00 pm - Celebration of the Passion of Our Lord 7:00 pm - Stations of the Cross prepared by Youth Group
March 30	HOLY SATURDAY 8:00 pm - Easter Vigil Mass
March 31	EASTER SUNDAY

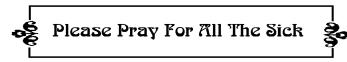
8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 pm

A fond farewell ...

Fr. Gijo, words can't express how grateful the community of St. Martin of Tours Parish are for your dedication and spiritual leadership you have given us the past 12 years both as Associate Pastor and the last 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ years as our Beloved Pastor.

Thank you for your dedication and service. You have been a source of strength, wisdom and comfort to every member of our Parish. Your guidance has blessed us all with spiritual fulfillment and love. You have taught us to look at the bigger picture, and to appreciate every good thing that happens, no matter how small it may be.

Now, our endless prayers are with you as you recover and continue to serve our loving Father with your beautiful gifts. Your kindness, your wisdom and unwavering spirit will truly be missed.



Annie Hurley, Gregory Kelly, Fred Weber, Miyanna Figueroa, Brian Cabral, Mariana Weglinski, and Aissa Aro.

And we pray for those whose death anniversaries occur about this time that they may live in glory forever with God and all the Saints.

Masses For The Week

<u>8:30 am</u>

Monday, February 26

For the repose of the souls of Peter Yee & Melvyn Stuart; Requested by the Yee Family

Special Intentions and Blessings for Tania, Laila and Oman; Requested by Elizabeth

Special Intentions and Healing for Pearla Valles; Requested by Maria Farhat

<u>8:30 am</u>

Tuesday, February 27

For the repose of the soul of Leonardo Sylianco Sr.; Requested by the Family

Birthday Blessings for Alzira Monteiro; Requested by the Family

8:30 am Wednesday, February 28 Special Intentions & Birthday Blessings for Hazel Lee-Ting; Requested by the Lee-Ting Family

Thanksgiving for Blessings and Special Intentions for Yolanda; Requested by the Family

8:30 am

Thursday, February 29

Special Intentions and Healing for Hazel Lee-Ting; Requested by the Lee-Ting Family

<u>8:30 am</u>

Friday, March 1

Special Intentions and Healing for John Marco; Requested by the Family

<u>7:00 pm</u>

Special Intentions and Thanksgiving; Requested by the Mastine Family

<u>9:00 am</u>

Saturday, March 2

For the repose of the soul of Teresita Cortes; Requested by the Lau Family

Special Intentions and Birthday Blessings for Lavinia MacDonald; Requested by the Family

Special Intentions for the Nixey Family; Requested by the Family

<u>5:00 pm</u>

For the repose of the soul of Rosemary Payaket; Requested by Rosa Villa & Zita DeSa

For the repose of the soul of Ursula Gabriel Machado; Requested by Llewellyn & Valerie D'Mello

Special Intentions and Healing for Carmen & Rudy; Requested by Carmen Mendez

8:00 am

Sunday, March 3

For the repose of the soul of Tiago Leite; Requested by Maria Leite

For the repose of the soul of Aida Gingoyan; Requested by the Family

For the repose of the soul of Nora Pereira; Requested by Winnie Moniz

<u>10:00 am</u>

For the Intentions of the Parishioners.

12:00 pm - Multiple Intentions

- + Anna Makaronska
- + Everett Swartley

<u>Friday, March 1, 2024</u> Please join us for First Friday 8:30 am Holy Mass followed by Benediction and Adoration.



Thank you to everyone who generously donated to last week's offering.....\$5718.65