

Saint Martha Parish



11301 Academy Road
Philadelphia, PA 19154-3304

Website: www.stmarthachurch.com

E-mail: churchoffice@stmarthachurch.com

SERVED BY:

Rev. Alexander Masluk, M.Div, M.A., Pastor
Rev. Msgr. Andrew J. Golias, S.T.D., Associate Pastor
Rev. Mr. Raymond F. Gwynn, Sr.
Rev. Mr. Stephen A. Guckin
Mr. Art Calvo, CCD Coordinator
Sr. Claire McMahon, IHM, Pastoral Care Coordinator
Marlena Snyder, Director of Music
Mrs. Karen Donofry, Principal, St. Martha School

Jean Gallagher, Parish Secretary
Maria Gilbert, School Secretary
Joseph Rafalowski, Business Manager
Art Calvo, School Development Director
Kevin Long, Director of Maintenance
Melanie Romano, Bulletin Editor



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on Facebook!

MISSION STATEMENT

We, the family of Saint Martha Parish, in order to live richly in our Catholic heritage and Parish traditions, through the gifts of the Holy Spirit and the example of Saint Martha's hospitality, devote our mind, body and spirit to:

Pray to God, through the most exalted mystery, the celebration of the Eucharist and recognize in this Union with Christ the Sacrifice, Sacrament and Real Presence.

Foster a home where Christianity is welcomed as the focal point, which will allow us to continue to grow as selfless, humble Catholic individuals and integral, involved members of our Parish and community;

Proclaim the Good News, as did our Patron, Saint Martha, by expressing our commitment to our faith as shown in our actions, spoken in our words, and reflected in our thoughts.

Serve, with humility, the spiritual and physical needs of all God's people, born and unborn, by practicing our faith, both inwardly and outwardly, to ensure and strengthen our Catholic future.

We join in communal and individual prayer to God, with Mary, our Mother, and with the help and strength of our parish patron, Saint Martha, so that we, like she, may carry the Gospel Message and profess our belief in Jesus as the Messiah, the Son of God.

WE ARE A TITHING PARISH

God gives us everything we have and allows us to keep 90% of it for any good purpose. He simply asks that we return the first 10% to Him (5% to the local parish, 5% to God's other good works, our personal charities) in gratitude. This spirituality of tithing is as old as the Bible itself, and disposes us to make God first in every area of our lives! The aim is to secure not the tithe, but the tither, not the gift, but the giver—for God!

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Elected / Appointed: Kathy Cantz, Art Calvo,
Bobbie Harrison, Agnes Brady,
Tracey Talley, Connie DiFillippo, Karen Peahota
Matthew Romano, James Shupe
Ex officio: Mrs. Karen Donofry, Deacon Ray Gwynn,
Fr. Al Masluk, Msgr. Andrew Golias,
Deacon Steve Guckin and Joanne Trusdell

WELCOME TO ST. MARTHA PARISH

Stewardship is a Way of Life

God's Plan for Giving:

Tithing: Weekend of August 13, 2017: \$9,863.02

Income for August 14, 2016: \$10,506.89

Children's Offering for August 13, 2017 (Included in Tithing): \$22.00

High School Offering for August 13, 2017 (Included in Tithing): \$15.00

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse that there may be food in my house and try me in this, says the Lord of Hosts. Shall I not open for you the floodgates of Heaven and pour down blessings upon you without measure?" Malachi 3:10

From the Pastor: Many times on the radio in the morning, I will hear on KYW's financial report what Americans plan to spend on their vacations. Somehow, even in tough financial times, we are crafty and resourceful enough to get the money together to assure some time away for us and our family. The wise tither makes the same commitment to setting aside for God the first 5% of what He gives us. It's planning ahead for the "ultimate vacation": preparing to be with God in His Kingdom by living the values of the Kingdom here on earth. God must be Number One. Thank you for embracing God's Plan for Giving.

Comments on Tithing from the pews. "I love the way tithing has been presented. I love the 5% to church and 5% to "other good works" suggestion. It makes people feel the church isn't simply after all the money. It makes it clear that the church wants us to use God's money to help God's people."

CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

Saint Martha Church is excited to announce that you can now manage your giving online! Giving online is easy and allows you to set up automatic recurring contributions and view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have access to the Internet. Contributions can be set up to debit automatically from your checking or savings account. Our electronic giving program offers convenience for you and much-needed donation consistency for our congregation. Simply follow these easy steps:

1. Visit the church website at www.stmarthachurch.com,
2. Click on the [Give Now] button,
3. Click on the Create Profile button, then
4. Follow the onscreen instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your recurring contributions.

SERVICES AND SCHEDULES

Mass Schedule

Daily Masses	8:15 Monday-Saturday
Sunday Vigil	5:00 PM Saturday
Sunday Masses	8:00, 10:00, 12:00
Holy Day Masses	As Announced

Reconciliation

Saturday	3:30 to 4:30 PM
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Sacrament of Baptism

Baptisms for children are celebrated on the first and third Sunday of the month at 1:15 (except during Lent) and on most Sundays of Easter. Parental instruction is required for the each child. See the priest after Sunday Mass to set up baptism. For adults, contact the rectory to join the RCIA program. These sacraments are usually celebrated at the Easter Vigil.

Sacrament of Marriage

Couples planning marriage should contact the parish office at least nine months in advance. Weddings are not celebrated during the Season of Lent.

Anointing of the Sick

Please contact the parish office at the onset of serious illness. On the Sunday before you enter the hospital, please ask one of the priests to administer the Anointing, so that the healing touch of Christ may come to you in this beautiful sacrament.

Communion Calls for Shut-Ins

The homebound can be visited regularly by the parish priests and pastoral staff and brought Holy Communion on Sunday by special ministers of the Eucharist. Contact Sr. Claire if there is a need.

Funerals

Upon the death of a family member, contact the parish office so that a priest or other member of the pastoral staff can visit to offer comfort and help plan the funeral liturgy. Arrangement regarding time and dates of funerals are made through a funeral director.

PARISH INFORMATION AND CONTACTS

CCD & Baptism Team	Art Calvo	632-3720
RCIA, Bible Study, Pre Jordan,		
Children's Liturgy of the Word	Michelle Whately	
Special Ministers and Lectors		632-3720
Choir	Marlena Snyder	632-3720
Pastoral Care	Sr. Claire	632-3720
Blood Drive	Marybeth Jannotti	637-8347
	Or Jerry Bowes	552-9204
CYO	Greg Smith	205-6738
Garden Club	Bill Jeffrey	632-6358
HS CYO	Nanette Sacidor	637-6364
Holy Dusters	Betty Janco	637-6671
Home & School	Kathy Goldstein	267-939-9766
Knights of Columbus/	Art Calvo	632-3720
Prayer Group	Bobbie Harrison	637-5441
Pre Cana	Tom & Maria Gilbert	
Pro Life	Ed & Ann Markowski	637-5446
Seniors	Dave Francis	637-8844
Ushers	Rich Konstance	637-5834
Ladies Who Love	Carol Lynn Steffen	637-2531
Alumni	Art Calvo	632-3720

Rectory Office Hours

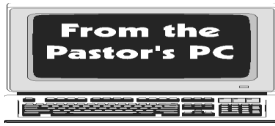
Monday to Thursday: 9:00 AM until 7:00 PM

Friday: 9:00 AM until 6:30 PM

Saturday and Sunday: Closed

SCRIP Office—215-632-5821 Email: smsscripoffice@yahoo.com

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Articles for the next bulletin must be submitted in writing to the rectory by noon on Friday. Bulletin inserts should be submitted to the rectory 10 days in advance of printing.



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

13 August 2017

Dear Members of the Parish Family,

This Tuesday, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a holyday of obligation for all Catholics (yes, even those at the shore!!). This feast celebrates the Church's belief, from her earliest days, that at the end of her earthly life, Mary was taken body and soul into heavenly glory, lest her body which was the tabernacle which carried the Christ should suffer the corruption of the grave.

What Mary received by a special favor, we too will receive in the fullness of time, when at the end of time our bodies and souls reunite forever. Then, all humanity will join in Saint Paul's taunting cry, "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?"

And so we are reminded that each of these components of our being need attention and nourishment: the body by nutrition, recreation, exercise and activity, and the soul by sacraments, contemplation, prayer and learning. Both are gifts of God, and destined for glory.

Be sure to not neglect the soul (as today's secularists do who don't believe in a world except for the one in which we currently live), nor the body (as do those who only see it as a tool for pleasure). Take time to care for both.

May we as a parish spend at least fifty more years "Believing, Welcoming and Serving," and may we, like Saint Martha, always be friends of Jesus.



God's Love,
Fr. Al

Follow Father Al's Pastor's Blog on St. Martha's facebook page.

WINNING THE FIGHT AGAINST THE BILLS
Each week, remember that our victory over current bills depends on taking in \$12,000 or more in the collection. Check the figures posted each week to see how we are doing. Thanks to all whose efforts are helping us in this struggle. Remember to be sure your offering comes every week, even when you are away. Consider electronic giving.

Sick Parishioners, Relatives and Friends
Patricia Angstadt, Andrew Avizius, John Baranosky, Sr., Christian Baus, Linda Bianco, Danielle Bobitsch, Elizabeth Bondiskey, Patricia Brennan, Michael Buck, Robert Buck, Zachary Canale-Schall, Angela Carrozzo, Carmen Cassidy, Debra Collins, Laura Comerton, Edward Coughlin, Robert Cowden, Samantha Crompton, Dorothy Delgado, Phillip Delgado, Lillian DeLuca, James Devenney, Rita DiFillippo, Frank Dorr, Barbara Elaine, George Fadgen, Jr., Caila Fencil, John Forward, Peg Fulforth, Joan Gain, Edward Gallagher, Joan Gallagher, Donna Garcia, Stephanie Gilchrist, Jennifer Graber, Courtney Rose Gross, Lorretta Gunn, Galen Hamel, Deacon Edward Hanley, Joanne Henes, Daniel Hennessey, Michael Jordan, Kelly Joyce, Colleen Kane, Mary Kane, Jerry Kean, Loretta Ketner, Maryanne Klinewski, Albert Kolber, Jr., Robert Konschak, Joseph Kubach, Janet Ladzenski, Robert Edward Loftus, Patricia Lutz, Ivy Lynch, Jane Marasino, Susan Marrone, Debra Marvel, Tom McCuen, Francis McEntee, Eileen McGranaghan, Sean McGranaghan, Margaret McGuigan, Michael McKee, Mary Meschler, Msgr. John Miller, Rich Miller, John Montagno, Brian Murphy, Baby Bridget Murphy, J. Murphy, John Murphy, Linda Nasife, Josh Newman, Francis Olsen, Christopher Pastino, Angela Perilli, Kathy Pisacano, Terry Plunkett, Chip Rapp, Gail Reid, Sarah Reid, John Ritter, Baby Adelynn Roush, Dolores Rozanski, Joseph Rozanski, Dominic Rufflo, Irene Russell, Julia Ryan, Brad Sacchetti, Rita Savage, Laurie Selfridge, Robert Shaw, Kathleen Slane, Riley Stone, Nicholas Vinci, Mary Walen, Bob Walsh, Lillian Weeks, Rich Whalen, Susan Wixted and Owen Ziglar

Men and Women in the Service
Miguel Araujo, Eric Baus, Brigid Burke, Kevin Bury, Michael Byrne, Allen Costello, Marianne Daniels, Thomas Delaney, Vincent DiRenzo, Ryan Evans, Chuck Fassano, Captain Courtney Gallagher, Alyssa Garfield, Matt Garvin, Luis Alexander Gonzalez, Thomas Gaus, Christopher D. Hingley, Jerry Kean, Samuel Kline, Patrick R. Lewis, Ricky Mallon, Mark McAllister, Nicholas McKee, Brett McMonagle, Adam Spina, Alec Trusdell and Connie Kline Whalen.

WEEKLY MEMORIALS
The sanctuary Lamp which burns before the Blessed Sacrament reminds us of the presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. It would be a wonderful way to memorialize a loved one who now enjoys the heavenly banquet. If you would like the lamp to burn in honor of a loved one, either in Church or in the Rectory Chapel, please send a suggested offering of \$10 to the rectory office with the name of the person remembered. We will publish these memorials in the bulletin. In addition, a donation of \$25 will help supply the bread and wine which are used for the Eucharist, another fitting memorial.

*The Sanctuary Lamp
and the Bread and Wine
have been donated this week
in memory of*
**Ernest Rodriguez
and
Phylis Rodriguez Meisenzahl**

Mass Intentions for the Week

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
 5:00 PM +Intention of Celebrant
Sunday, August 20, 2017 ~ 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
 8:00 AM +People of St. Martha
 10:00 AM +Isabel Gebhardt
 12 Noon +John Freeman
Monday, August 21, 2017 ~ St. Pius X
 8:15 AM +Martin Berkery, Sr.
Tuesday, August 22, 2017 ~ The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 8:15 AM +Charles Albert Rosner
Wednesday, August 23, 2017 ~ St. Rose of Lima
 8:15 AM +All Souls
Thursday, August 24, 2017 ~ St. Bartholomew
 8:15 AM +Mary Calvo
Friday, August 25, 2017 ~ St. Louis
 8:15 AM +Mary Lorenti
Saturday, August 26, 2017
 8:15 AM +Anne Colsher
The 21th Sunday in Ordinary Time
 5:00 PM +Intention of Celebrant
Sunday, August 27, 2017 ~ 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
 8:00 AM +People of St. Martha
 10:00 AM +Rev. Santiago Gebhardt
 12 Noon +Helen Cwiklinski (5th Anniversary)

WEEKLY PARISH CALENDAR

Sunday, August 20, 2017 ~ 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
 10:00 AM ~ CLOW
Monday, August 21, 2017
 7:00 PM ~ Rosary/ Church
 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM ~ Mothers Prayer Group/Chapel
Tuesday, August 22, 2017
 7:00 PM ~ Choir/Church
Wednesday, August 23, 2017
 9:00 AM ~ School Organization Day/Seminar Room
 2:00-7:00 PM ~ Blood Drive/Gym
 7:30 PM ~ Knights of Columbus Meeting/Rectory
Sunday, August 27, 2017 ~ 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
 10:00 AM ~ CLOW

ALTAR SERVER PARENTS, TAKE NOTE!

The reason most of our servers are faithful to their assignments is that they have good parents who teach them to be responsible for commitments they have made. However, there are a handful who have missed multiple Mass assignments over the summer, even after the pastor went to the trouble to ascertain their vacation schedules and worked hard to avoid those days. Be advised that the parish does not have money enough to buy Carnival bracelets for those who have missed three or more assignments over the summer. They will be bought as a reward for the faithful and responsible servers. No participation trophies, folks!



THERE IS STILL A LITTLE TIME TO REGISTER FOR THE SCHOOL DISNEY TRIP CELEBRATING OUR GOLDEN JUBILEE!!

We have about 50 folks heading for the Happiest Place on Earth, 15 January to 19 January 2018. You still have the opportunity to sign up—but time is limited and so are the rooms remaining. The pricing structure is listed below..

ALL STAR SPORTS (can accommodate up to 4 people):
 Room for four nights: \$757

PORT ORLEANS RIVERSIDE (can accommodate up to 5 people):
 Room for four nights: \$1146

Four day Park Hopper:
 \$407.37 – ages ten and up
 \$388.20 – ages three to nine

Disney Dining Plan (one quick meal, one snack, one sit down daily):
 \$305.14 (ages 10 and up)
 \$109.78 – ages 3 to 9)

Ask Father Al for a brochure TODAY! Tomorrow might be too late!

ATTENTION PARENTS OF SAINT MARTHA SCHOOL STUDENTS!

Please remember that tuition is due monthly and all tuition must be paid before your child is admitted to school in September. To receive the better tuition rate, you must attend Mass weekly and contribute at least \$10 weekly to the collection. The School Board will assist us in enforcing these regulations this year.

YOU ARE INVITED

Our Blessed Mother, on many occasions, has asked her children to pray the rosary. To honor that request, you are invited to join in the recitation of the rosary every Monday at 7:00 PM in the church. Please come as a family, come with a friend or come alone.



**“SPOTLIGHT ON
ST. MARTHA SCHOOL”**



Congratulations to the Class of 2017 of St. Martha Parish School who received Academic Awards

Excellence in the study of Religion

Carly Gilbert, Nicole Santos

Excellence in the study of Mathematics

Daniel Leaden, Jenna McIntyre

Excellence in the study of Social Studies

Zachary Kalitz, Samantha Lalli

Excellence in the study of Fine Arts

Jenna Simon

Excellence in the study of English Language Arts

Jovita DeGuzman, Nicholas Farlow

Outstanding Effort in the study of English Language

Arts

Hailey Barton

Excellence in the study of Science

Thomas McCrossan, Sarah McGuigan

Excellence in the Study of Computer Science

Sarah Umile

Excellence in the study of Physical Education

Shane Curran

Excellence in the study of Latin Language

Nicole Santos, Kirsten Seif

Overall Outstanding Academic Excellence

Kirsten Seif

Yes, Yes SMS!



THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM FOR INFANTS

Through Baptism, your children are plunged into the mystery of the Lord’s Death and Resurrection and become God’s own children, members of the family we call Church. You may arrange baptism by approaching one of the priests or deacons after Mass. To prepare for this sacred celebration, parents are required (and godparents invited but not required) to attend a Pre-Jordan Session. At this gathering, held on a Thursday evening at 7:30 in the rectory, one of the parish clergy and a couple who have presented children for baptism give an overview of the ceremony and theology as well as practical suggestions to enhance your experience of the big day. Consider coming to the class before your baby is born, when things are just a bit less hectic. The next Pre-Jordan Session **Thursday, September 21.**

PARISH REGISTRATION AND MEMBERSHIP

It is important that all Catholics within our boundaries be registered and active members of the parish. Circumstances sometimes change registration status. If you can answer “yes” to any of these questions, you need to be sure you are registered correctly in the parish. (1) Have you moved away from you parental home (not just for college)? (2) Have you recently changed your marital status? (3) Are you living with your parents, over eighteen, and not receiving your own mailings and envelopes? If any of these apply, please call the rectory office to update your registration status. New families moving into the parish can register after any Sunday Mass. Welcome!

ARE YOU GOING TO ARIA HOSPITAL?

Sister Maria, who will replace Sr. Kate at Aria Hospital, making “spiritual triage” visits to patients in preparation for the priests’ rounds, will not start until the fall. Therefore, we have lost a valuable source of information about when our parishioners are in the hospital. And so, if you are planning to enter Aria, please ask one of the priests to anoint you in church on the Sunday before you enter the hospital. If you enter unexpectedly, ask the nurse to leave a note at the main desk for the priest on call that day and he will anoint you in the afternoon. You might also have a family member call the rectory to let us know, so that we can visit on our day (Friday).

On Saturday, 9/16/17, St. John Neumann Adult Day Services will host a workshop. Alison Lynne, MSW, LSW, from Penn Memory Center will present on Self Care for the Care Giver, focusing on the emotional and logistical difficulties of caring for a loved one with dementia, and finding the personal “fuel” for the care giving journey. Workshop begins with lunch at 11:30 AM till 3:30 PM, at St. John Neumann Center for Rehab and Healthcare, 10400 Roosevelt Blvd. Phila., PA. 19116 RSVP to Diana 215-698-5656

ATTENTION SMS FAMILIES & PARISHIONERS
Help St. Martha School earn money by collecting Box Tops. Box Tops can be found on many different products. Each box top submitted before the expiration date is worth \$0.10 to St. Martha’s! Simply BUY a box top product, CLIP the box top and BRING them to school or church. St. Martha’s in return will earn \$\$\$. For your convenience we have a Box Tops Pink Mailbox in the church vestibule for collection all year. Thank you for your support!



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Registration is now open for CCD. Children 5-12 years old not enrolled in a Catholic School must be registered for CCD. There is no cost for kindergarten classes. Contact Art Calvo at acalvo@stmarthapa.org or at 215-632-3720.



ST. MARTHA SENIORS

St. Martha Seniors is sponsoring a trip on September 12, 2017 to Mount Airy Casino. For more information, contact Loretta at 215-637-9522.

The Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul conducts an evangelization ministry with the *Cathedral Ambassadors*. This enthusiastic group of trained Ambassadors staffs the Basilica every day of the week and is comprised of volunteers from all over the Archdiocese. They answer questions and offer assistance to all who come to the Cathedral Basilica. *Cathedral Ambassadors* provide a personal presence in the Basilica and most importantly they put a face on the Church. *Cathedral Ambassadors* are assigned 4 hour shifts. The schedule is flexible with assignments of one day or more a month. Training and materials are provided to support this evangelization ministry.

For more information and to become a *Cathedral Ambassador*, please contact Martha Ortiz, the coordinator of the *Cathedral Ambassadors*, at cathedral.ambassadors@gmail.com

You're Invited "Meeting Jesus One is Never the Same"
In today's world of 24/7 sound bites, non-stop commercials, loud music and the like, it can be difficult to hear the really important voices in our life. Sometimes we just need a quiet, safe place where we can listen to our God who knows us, loves us and wants to tell us what is best for us. The Malvern retreat House is such a place. Come, thanksgiving weekend November 24-26. To learn more, call Frank Coyne at 215-677-0985. Additional information on retreats for men, women, married couples and families can be found on our website at www.malvernretreat.com or call 610-644-0400.

MOTHER'S PRAYER GROUP

The Mother's Prayer Group at St. Martha's meets on the first and third Mondays of the month. We meet from 7:30-8:30 PM in the Chapel on the first floor of the school. We pray for our children and the intentions of each other. Join us! If you need additional information, contact Margaret Breen at 215-637-5666

Needed: Volunteers to assist with **Children's Liturgy of the Word** on Sundays during the 10:00 Mass. Please contact Michelle Whitely at 267-226-9571 for details.



SCRIP NEWS

Hours for the Scrip Office:

- ~ Thursday evenings from 6-8 p.m.
- ~ Saturday morning 9 to 11 a.m.
- ~ Sunday 8:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

Phone: 215 632 5821 E-mail: smsscripoffice@yahoo.com or visit Saint Martha Scrip on Facebook!



REMINDERS:

- ~ We can not cover orders of more than \$500 to any one retailer unless a Pre-Order has been placed.
- ~ We accept Pre-Orders every week if you need to order our additional retailers, make large purchases, or you just want to guarantee your sale.
- ~ Some retailers, like Home Depot, Lowes' and Disney, offer larger denominations—place your Pre-Order to use towards your next Home improvement project or trip.

Your participation in the program and continued patience with our staff is always valued and greatly appreciated!

St. Martha is holding it's summer blood drive on **Wednesday, August 23**, between 2 PM & 7 PM in the gym, sponsored by Knights of Columbus. All persons giving blood will be eligible to win one of two Wawa gift cards worth \$25 each. Email me to reserve a time to donate noleak872@aol.com Please help save a life.



Please keep St. Martha School healthy. Your gift of just \$10.00 a month will go a long way. Place your gift in an envelope, write "Development" on it and place it in the collection basket. **Your generosity is appreciated.**

If you have experience with grant research/writing and would like to volunteer a few hours/month to procure grants for St. Martha School, please contact Art Calvo at acalvo@stmarthapa.org or at the rectory (215-632-3720).

Bookkeeper, Full Charge, wanted for Northeast Parish, Full Time, Proficient in Quickbooks, Knowledge of Accrual Accounting. Send resume to: CLINDSAY@MATERNITYBVM.NET

Calling all Bambies from the Class of 1972!

A 45th reunion will be held on Friday, November 3, 2017 from 7:00 –11:00 at Georgine's Restaurant, 1320 Newport road, Bristol, PA. Please contact **Janice Nuzzolillo McCrossen** at 267-210-8992 or via email at janicemccrossen@gmail.com or **Pat Amberg-Blyskal** at 215-620-0480 or via email at pambergblyskal@comcast.net to give your contact information and to get more details. We hope to see you there!

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Saturday, October 28, 2017

Saturday, November 11, 2017

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