The Oblates of the Virgin Mary at
SAINT FRANCIS CHAPEL
Encountering the Heart of Christ in the Heart of Boston

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time — July 8, 2018

CHAPEL SCHEDULE

Sunday Masses:
Sat. Vigil 4:00 PM, 5:30 PM, 7:00 PM en español;
Sunday 8:00 AM, 9:15 AM, 10:30 AM, 11:45 AM,
1:15 PM en español,
4:00 PM, 5:30 PM

Weekday Masses:
Mon. - Fri. 8:00 AM,
12:05 PM, 4:45 PM; Saturday 9:00 AM, 12 PM

Confessions:
Mon. - Fri. 11:15 -11:50 AM, 12:45 - 4:15 PM;
Saturday 9:45 - 11:45 AM, 12:45 - 3:30 PM

Devotions:
Tuesday after Mass: Memorare, 5:30 p.m. Vespers;
Thursday after Mass: St. Jude;
Monday - Friday after 4:45 p.m. Mass: Rosary

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:
Mon. - Fri. 8:30-11:45 AM, 1:00-4:30 PM;
Saturday 9:30 - 11:30 AM, 12:30 - 3:30 PM;
Sunday 2:30-3:30 PM

Gift Shop Hours:
Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri. 10:00 AM - 5:30 PM;
 Tuesday - closed;
Sat. 9:30 AM - 6:45 PM*; Sun. 8:45 AM - 5:30 PM*
(*Closed during Sunday Masses and
Saturday Vigil Masses)

800 Boylston Street, Suite 1001, Boston MA 02199
617-437-7117
stfrancischapel.org

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Is God calling you to join the Oblates of the Virgin Mary?
Contact our Vocation Director Fr. John Luong, OMV at frjohnomv@gmail.com or visit omvusa.org

CHAPEL STAFF
Fr. James Doran, OMV (director@stfrancischapel.org)
Fr. Peter Gojuk, OMV
Fr. Tom Carzon, OMV
Fr. Robert Lowrey, OMV

Music Ministry:
Director: Rebecca Martin
Kim Araiza
Joanna Vasquez
Saul Garcia
Robert Conley
Justin Salisbury
James Agolia

Cleaning of Chapel Environment:
Nubia Viasus

The Chapel Gift Shop
Item of the Week...
Tiny Saints Charms

If you are interested in joining our choir for the 5:30 PM Vigil Mass on Saturdays, please email Kim at kim.araiza@gmail.com. Rehearsals are at 4:45 PM every Saturday.

THE OBLATES OF THE VIRGIN MARY AT ST. FRANCIS CHAPEL
35 Years of Service
1983 - 2018

Save the Date!
35th Anniversary Celebration
September 12
5:30 PM Mass followed by a reception at the Sheraton Hotel

Help us tell our story
Share your pictures and experiences at the chapel at stfrancischapel.org

Mass Intentions This Week

Sunday, July 8
8:00 AM Robert West
9:15 AM + William Bulens
10:30 AM Linda Le Jeune — health
11:45 AM Matteo Piedrahita and the Piedrahita Family
1:15 PM (esp) + Marta Yepes — 2o aniv.
4:00 PM + Frank Sullivan
5:30 PM Benoit Pelletier

Monday, July 9
8:00 AM + Josephine Filipowicz
12:05 PM + William Postar
4:45 PM + Benoit Pelletier

Tuesday, July 10
8:00 AM Emily Krueckeberg
12:05 PM + Grace Newman
4:45 PM Susan Henshaw

Wednesday, July 11
8:00 AM Frank Porter
12:05 PM Karl & Sonya Feitelberg
4:45 PM + Ercilia Nuñez

Thursday, July 12
8:00 AM Jean Slepian
12:05 PM Jacqueline Nolan Haley
4:45 PM + Marjorie Thomas

Friday, July 13
8:00 AM + John W. Swann
12:05 PM + Frank Williams
4:45 PM + Lawrence Fenton

Saturday, July 14
9:00 AM + Maria & Holy Souls in Purgatory
12:00 PM + Attilio & Lina Eleuteri
4:00 PM + Marie Griffin
5:30 PM + Roberto Cardenas
7:00 PM (esp) En Gratitud a Flor Maria y Elking Correa

St. Francis Chapel
July 8, 2018
Prudential Center, Boston
St. Maria Goretti, Patron of Girls
Feast Day — July 6

“I give praise to You, Father, Lord of Heaven and earth, for although you have hidden these things from the wise and learned You have revealed them to little ones.”

I want to tell you about about a little girl named Maria. She was born in southern Italy in 1890, to a poor couple, Luigi and Assunta Goretti. They were sharecroppers; they worked the land for a share of the crop. They didn’t have their own land; they worked the farm of others.

Mr. Goretti moved to a small town and struck up a deal with a man named Serenelli who had a son named Alessandro. The two families lived in a large building owned by a count and worked the land.

When Maria was nine years old, her father contracted malaria and died. The widow, Assunta and her children stayed on the property as it was their only way of making a living. Maria couldn’t read or write but she learned her catechism and made her First Communion.

Mr. Serenelli and Alessandro did not practice religion. They did abuse alcohol and Alessandro had posted on his walls suggestive, sensuous pictures of women. On several occasions and harassed Maria with indecent suggestions.

On the afternoon of the 5th of July 1902, Maria was taking care of the youngest of her siblings in the big house while the adults were in the fields. Alessandro came back to the house and found Maria sitting on the stairs, mending a shirt. He tried to persuade her to come into the bedroom. She refused, so he dragged in and tore her clothes. Alessandro threatened her with death if she would not give in to him.

She fought him and screamed, “No! It is a sin! God does not want it. You will go to hell.”

She was almost twelve years old. He was twenty. But she was strong and he became so frustrated that he stabbed her with a pointed farm instrument fourteen times and left her to die.

When Assunta got home, she found her daughter in a pool of blood, still alive and conscious. She asked; “who did this?” And Maria was able to tell her that it was Alessandro.

With the help of the neighbors she managed to get the child to the hospital in a horse drawn cart. The priest was called, she received Communion and she was asked if she forgave her assailant.

She said, “Yes, I forgive him and I want him to be in paradise with me one day.”

In the midst of her pain she found comfort in her Faith in God, in the Sacraments of Holy Communion and Anointing.

After twenty hours of suffering she died.

There you have it; A little girl, poor, weak, illiterate, but strong enough to prefer death to sin and strong enough to forgive her murderer.

What happened to Alessandro? He went to prison for 27 years. At first he denied his guilt and when a priest came to see him he lunged at the priest howling like a maniac.

As time went on he lost his appetite, grew ever more nervous. He fell into depression. Six years of prison life brought him to the brink of despair. Then Maria appeared to him one night in his cell. She was surrounded by lilies. And she smiled at him. “Come to Me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am meek and humble of heart, and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy and my burden light.”

From that moment, peace filled his heart and he began to live a constructive life.

He was released on Christmas Eve and headed straight for Assunta’s residence. He knocked on the door. Assunta answered, and he asked her, “Do you remember me?” “Yes”. “Do you forgive me?”

“If my daughter and Christ have forgiven you, how can I refuse?”

They went to Christmas Mass together. He acknowledged his sin and begged forgiveness of the community.

Forty years later in 1950 Pope Pius XII canonized Maria Goretti, virgin and martyr. It was the first time in history that a million people were present at St. Peter’s square at one time. And it was the first time a mother was present at the canonization of her own child.

Alessandro was there too. At the beatification process, he gave extensive testimony in behalf of Maria’s virtue.

Alessandro worked as a farm laborer and spent his last years at a Capuchin monastery where he attended Mass daily. He died in 1970.

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— Fr. James Doran, OMV
The Oblates of the Virgin Mary is an international religious community of priests and brothers serving in Italy, France, Austria, Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Nigeria, the United States and the Philippines. The Oblates are involved in retreat and parish missions, spiritual direction, parish work, the mass media, clergy formation, and the foreign missions.

The US Province of the Oblates of the Virgin Mary is dedicated to St. Ignatius of Loyola, and includes communities in Massachusetts, Illinois, Colorado, California and the Philippines.

The OMV US Province House is at St. Clement’s in Boston.

The OMV motto, “MARIAM COGITA, MARIAM INVoca” “THink of Mary, CALL on Mary” is taken from a homily by St. Bernard.