The Oblates of the Virgin Mary at
SAINT FRANCIS CHAPEL
Encountering the Heart of Christ in the Heart of Boston
Third Sunday of Advent — December 16, 2018

St. John the Baptist Wearing the Red Tabard of the Order of St John, Mattia Preti
Healing the Wounds that Hold Us Back from a More Abundant Life

Join us Monday, December 17 at 6:00 pm for this inspiring talk by Fr. Shawn Monahan, OMV

Fr. Shawn Monahan, a native of Boston, entered the Oblates of the Virgin Mary seminary in 1995 after graduating from Franciscan University of Steubenville. He was ordained to the priesthood in 2002. Before returning to the seminary as Novice Master in 2013, he enjoyed a variety of apostolic work in Youth Ministry, Prison Ministry, Hospital Chaplaincy and Parish life. He studied at Creighton University’s Christian Spirituality Program in Omaha, Nebraska and completed his certification as a spiritual director and guide of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola at the Lanteri Center in Denver, Colorado.

"Over the past five years working in both the ministry of seminary formation and retreat ministry, I have developed a deeper understanding of the dynamics of growth and maturity in the Christian life and how to overcome and heal the wounds that hold us back from experiencing Jesus’ deepest desire for each of us: "I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly."

This year, the Christmas Giving Tree in the Chapel entrance will benefit two worthy Organizations: Back Bay Mobile Soup Kitchen (BBMSK) serves homeless communities in Back Bay and Cambridge providing clothing, sandwiches and a friendly presence to folks encountered on the street; Friends of the Unborn, a private home and Christian ministry, where women who are faced with an unplanned pregnancy and in need of support, can find caring and compassionate counsel, shelter, and guidance. Please take an ornament and help us give the gift of hope this Christmas. Thank you for your generosity!

The Chapel Gift Shop
Item of the Week…

Be Healed
A Guide to Encountering the Powerful Love of Jesus in Your Life
by Bob Schuchts

To help us better manage our offertory collection and for the convenience of our regulars, we are making weekly offertory envelopes available. If you would like an offertory envelope sent to you on a regular basis, please fill out one of the blue cards in the chapel entrance and drop it off at the Gift Shop. Thank you for your continued support!

Fr. James Doran, OMV
(director@stfrancischapel.org)
Fr. Robert Lowrey, OMV
Music Ministry:
Director: Rebecca Martin
Kim Araiza Justin Salisbury
Saul Garcia Robert Conley
James Agolia Michael Enwright
Christina Smith
Cleaning of Chapel Environment:
Nubia Viasus

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.

If you are interested in joining our choir for the 10:30 AM Mass on Sundays, please email Michael at michaelenwright@me.com.

Lanteri’s Corner
Spiritual thoughts from Venerable Bruno Lanteri, Founder of the Oblates of the Virgin Mary

If I find that I have done something wrong, I will give all glory to Him. If I find that I have done something evil, I will not lose heart — thinking that I did it because of who I am.

brunolanteri.org

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

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Thank you for your continued support!
A Reflection for the Third Sunday of Advent  
by Fr. James Doran, OMV

John was in Herod’s dungeon because he defended marriage. Herod had a wife. He was married to the daughter of an Arabian king. He was also living with his brother’s wife, Herodias. John the Baptist and Jesus criticized Herod’s immoral life because he was a public figure, national leader causing scandal, giving bad example. As a Jew, he should have been observing the Law; “you shall not have intercourse with your brother’s wife for that would be a disgrace to your brother.” Leviticus 18:16

So, John is in prison, and remember he had disciples. The day after John baptized Jesus a couple of his disciples started to follow Jesus. However it seems that not all of John’s men were convinced that Jesus was the long awaited Messiah”; so John sends them to ask; “Are you the One?”

Jesus says; “Tell John what you see. Blind see. Lame walk, lepers cleansed deaf hear. Dead raised. Gospel announced to the poor.” These were signs of Messiah.

I am sure John rejoiced when his followers recognized Jesus as the Messiah. This was John’s mission; prepare people to receive and believe in Jesus. As he said, “He must increase, and I must decrease. I am not worthy to untie His sandals.” Jesus loved John and appreciated everything John was doing for him. After his followers left, Jesus praises John. He recognized his penitential life, living in the desert. Jesus calls him more than a prophet.

John did not let himself be overcome with discouragement in the dungeon. He told his followers who came to visit him: “Go to Jesus and see what He is doing. Ask Him if He is the One.”

We can all get down in the dumps, but we do not have to stay there. Saint Ignatius says; don’t give in. Fight and know that God is with you even if you cannot feel His presence. He is with you. He permits you to suffer trials for a while for your own advancement in the spiritual life. Trials can convert us, help us grow in virtue.

A Christmas Novena
Pray Daily from December 16th to Christmas Eve

December 16: O Shepherd that rulest Israel, Thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep, come to guide and comfort us. *
*Recite one Our Father, one Hail Mary, and one Glory be.

December 17: O Wisdom that comest out of the mouth of the Most High, that reachest from one end to another, and orderest all things mightily and sweetly, come to teach us the way of prudence! *

December 18: O Adonai, and Ruler of the house of Israel, Who didst appear unto Moses in the burning bush, and gavest him the law in Sinai, come to redeem us with an outstretched arm! *

December 19: O Root of Jesse, which standest for an ensign of the people, at Whom the kings shall shut their mouths, Whom the Gentiles shall seek, come to deliver us, do not tarry. *

December 20: O Key of David, and Sceptre of the house of Israel, that openeth and no man shutteth, and shutteth and no man openeth, come to liberate the prisoner from the prison, and them that sit in darkness, and in the shadow of death. *

December 21: O Dayspring, Brightness of the everlasting light, Son of justice, come to give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death! *

December 22: O King of the Gentiles, yea, and desire thereof! O Cornerstone, that maketh of two one, come to save man, whom Thou hast made out of the dust of the earth! *

December 23: O Emmanuel, our King and our Law-giver, Longing of the Gentiles, yea, and salvation thereof, come to save us, O Lord our God! *

December 24: O Thou that sittest upon the cherubim, God of hosts, come, show Thy face, and we shall be saved. *

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If you are now considering your end-of-the-year charitable giving, we humbly ask you to consider St. Francis Chapel. It costs us over $50,000 a month to stay open. We gratefully appreciate your prayerful consideration.

Mass Intentions This Week

Sunday, December 16
8:00 AM + Christine Kerrissey  
9:15 AM Ria Wilson — birthday  
10:30 AM + Stephen Tarsa  
11:45 AM + Michael Desesa  
1:15 PM (esp) + Maria Ines Suarez  
4:00 PM Tony Arocho — health  
5:30 PM Purita Mann — healing

Monday, December 17
8:00 AM + Leslie & + Kathleen Gunther  
12:05 PM + Patrick Hudson  
4:45 PM + Fay E.Corbett

Tuesday, December 18
8:00 AM + Fr. Augustine Nguyen  
12:05 PM + Anna Mitchell  
4:45 PM + Teresa & + Alfred Nania

Wednesday, December 19
8:00 AM Sacco Family - living & deceased  
12:05 PM Special Intention— conversion  
4:45 PM George Kenrick

Thursday, December 20
8:00 AM + Dorothy J. Barry  
12:05 PM + Patricia Whammond  
4:45 PM + Daniel Rodriguez & + Utilla G. de Rodriguez

Friday, December 21
8:00 AM + Ardelle Rice  
12:05 PM Richard & Carol McCulloch— health  
4:45 PM + Patrick Hudson

Saturday, December 22
9:00 AM + Michael Glavin  
12:00 PM + Sr. Rosemary Martinez  
4:00 PM + Joseph Timilty  
5:30 PM + Mary Murray  
7:00 PM (esp) + Maria Aleida Collazo — 10° anniversario

Feast Days This Week

December 21: St. Peter Canisius  
Priest and Doctor of the Church

The Lanterian

Our new weekly Mass supplement is now available in the Chapel entrance.
Oblates of the Virgin Mary — USA

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.