Our Lady Praying the Rosary with Bernadette, glass art — Basilica of Our Lady of Lourdes, France
Lenten Events at the Chapel

BE TRANSFORMED
A Life-Changing Encounter with Christ
A talk by
Fr. Shawn Monahan, OMV
March 11, 2019
6:00 PM

HOLY HOUR
HAKUNA BOSTON
WEDNESDAYS AT 3:30 PM

CALLING ALL YOUNG ADULTS!
Are you a young Catholic in the Boston area looking to meet other Catholics at St. Francis Chapel?
Would you like to pray the rosary and attend a Bible study after the Sunday Mass?
Contact: jmariebria@yahoo.com

The Chapel Gift Shop
Item of the Week…
Travel Kits
With a rosary, holy water bottle, prayer cards and other prayer aids for your journey.
“You received without payment; give without payment” (Mt 10:8).
These are the words spoken by Jesus when sending forth his apostles to spread the Gospel, so that his Kingdom might grow through acts of gratuitous love.

Life is a gift from God. Saint Paul asks: “What do you have that you did not receive?” (1 Cor 4:7). Precisely because it is a gift, human life cannot be reduced to a personal possession or private property, especially in the light of medical and biotechnological advances that could tempt us to manipulate the “tree of life” (cf. Gen 3:24).

Amid today’s culture of waste and indifference, I would point out that “gift” is the category best suited to challenging today’s individualism and social fragmentation, while at the same time promoting new relationships and means of cooperation between peoples and cultures. Dialogue – the premise of gift – creates possibilities for human growth and development capable of breaking through established ways of exercising power in society. “Gift” means more than simply giving presents: it involves the giving of oneself, and not simply a transfer of property or objects. “Gift” differs from gift-giving because it entails the free gift of self and the desire to build a relationship. It is the acknowledgement of others, which is the basis of society. “Gift” is a reflection of God’s love, which culminates in the incarnation of the Son and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

Each of us is poor, needy and destitute. When we are born, we require the care of our parents to survive, and at every stage of life we remain in some way dependent on the help of others. We will always be conscious of our limitations, as “creatures”, before other individuals and situations.

A frank acknowledgement of this truth keeps us humble and spurs us to practice solidarity as an essential virtue in life.

Such an acknowledgement leads us to act responsibly to promote a good that is both personal and communal. Only if we see ourselves, not as a world apart, but in a fraternal relationship with others, can we develop a social practice of solidarity aimed at the common good. We should not be afraid to regard ourselves as needy or reliant on others, because individually and by our own efforts we cannot overcome our limitations. So we should not fear, then, to acknowledge those limitations, for God himself, in Jesus, has humbly stooped down to us (cf. Phil 2:8) and continues to do so; in our poverty, he comes to our aid and grants us gifts beyond our imagining.

I urge everyone, at every level, to promote the culture of generosity and of gift, which is indispensable for overcoming the culture of profit and waste. Catholic healthcare institutions must not fall into the trap of simply running a business; they must be concerned with personal care more than profit. We know that health is relational, dependent on interaction with others, and requiring trust, friendship and solidarity. It is a treasure that can be enjoyed fully only when it is shared. The joy of generous giving is a barometer of the health of a Christian.

I entrust all of you to Mary, Salus Infirorum. May she help us to share the gifts we have received in the spirit of dialogue and mutual acceptance, to live as brothers and sisters attentive to each other’s needs, to give from a generous heart, and to learn the joy of selfless service to others. With great affection, I assure you of my closeness in prayer, and to all I cordially impart my Apostolic Blessing.

FROM THE MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS
FOR THE XXVII WORLD DAY OF THE SICK
FEBRUARY 11, 2019

Mass Intentions This Week

Sunday, February 10
8:00 AM Arylex Auguste & Family - conversion
9:15 AM + Harry + Colleen Hammerqust
10:30 AM Ana Anayron - birthday
11:45 AM + Michal DeSesa
1:15 PM Caroline & David Osterman - cumpleaños
4:00 PM John Valleli - health
5:30 PM Sheila Coffey - healing

Monday, February 11
8:00 AM Maureen Hunter
12:05 PM + Eric M. Hunt
4:45 PM Janice McWeeney - health

Tuesday, February 12
8:00 AM Maureen Hunter
12:05 PM + Nicolette Mancuso
4:45 PM + Antonio Ozaeta - birthday

Wednesday, February 13
8:00 AM Maureen Hunter
12:05 PM Arylex Auguste & Family - conversion
4:45 PM + Lauri Baptiste

Thursday, February 14
8:00 AM + William Bulens - birthday
12:05 PM Kingsley Family
4:45 PM Ricky Millien - birthday

Friday, February 15
8:00 AM + Patrick Vautour
12:05 PM Jian Chen - birthday
4:45 PM Danielle Smith - joining the Navy

Saturday, February 16
9:00 AM Lapsed Catholics
12:00 PM Deacon Rafael Solorio, OMV
4:00 PM + Juan A. Portillo
5:30 PM + Fr. Myron McCormick, OFM
7:00 PM + Letitia Yepez

Feast Days This Week

February 11: Our Lady of Lourdes
World Day of the Sick

February 14: Saints Cyril, Monk
and Methodius, Bishop
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.