Christ calls Zacchaeus down from the tree
ST. FRANCIS CHAPEL

50th Anniversary Appeal

Please take a brochure from the vestibule to learn how to help maintain this oasis of prayer in the modern marketplace.

God bless you!

THE OBLATES OF THE VIRGIN MARY

Come & See — November 8 - 10

The Oblates of the Virgin Mary want prospective candidates to grow in interior freedom as they seek God’s plan for their lives. To assist in the discernment process, we are happy to provide discernment retreats and priestly spiritual direction for men aged 18 to 40.

We invite you to visit Our Lady of Grace Seminary in Boston, where you will experience seminary life, accompanying the seminarians through the various activities of the day.

Our Lady of Grace Seminary, 1105 Boylston St., Boston
For more information, visit omvusa.org

The Chapel Gift Shop

Item of the Week…

Stained Glass Static Window Clings
Easy to apply, fully repositionable, lightweight replicas of window designs from churches all over the world.

Thank you for participating in our Baby Bottle Campaign!
Through your generous donations, we have raised $2,500 to help women in crisis pregnancies.

To learn more, visit: Partnersofyom.org

God bless you!
A Reflection on Indulgences
by Fr. James Doran, OMV

When I was 14 I had a paper route between five and six in the morning. I would load the papers into the bags on my bicycle and pedal around the neighborhood. One of my customers was very particular about wanting his paper on the porch, not beside it but on it. One morning I threw the paper and it hit the storm door and broke the glass. I heard it break but I was not going to wake the man up to tell him I broke his storm door. So I went home, and then went off to school. When I got home after school, there was a message waiting for me. With fear and trembling I called the man, wishing I had called him first. I was afraid he was going to yell at me, cancel his subscription and complain to the newspaper; my family would be mortified. You can imagine how a 14 year old worries. I identified myself and he asked me if I broke the glass. I admitted I had. He was very civil. He must have perceived my anguish because he tried to put me at ease, saying “accidents will happen.” He was not going to cancel, he was not going to register a complaint. ‘But you will have to pay half the price for the glass.” ‘That’s all?,” I thought. Wow. I was really getting off easy.

That’s the way sin is. We sin and if we are sorry, God forgives us. If it’s a mortal sin we have to confess. And we are forgiven, we are still friends with God, but we still have to pay a penance.

Why? Because every sin has two effects. First, it distances us from God, it cools our love for Him. Secondly, it creates an attachment to the sin committed. It becomes a vice. So even after we are forgiven, there is a residual attachment and tendency to repeat the sin. How do we get rid of that? Penance. Not just the little penance that the priest gives us in confession. That’s just for starters. We have to take it upon ourselves to do something more, like Zacchaeus who was not afraid to humble himself by climbing a tree in order to see Jesus. He promised to give half his property to the poor! And if he had cheated anybody, he would pay back 4x the amount. And Jesus was pleased.

Jesus appreciates the extra effort. Just as He appreciated the tears and extravagant generosity of the woman who wept over His feet and dried them with her hair. If we do not do sufficient penance for sins that we have confessed before we die, we get rid of that residual attachment to sin through purification in Purgatory. This purification frees us from what is called “temporal punishment” of sin. We should not think of this punishment as coming from God but as a consequence of the nature of sin. If I eat too much, it is not God who punishes me with a stomach ache. It is the natural consequences of sin. We should not think of this punishment as other than that it is the way God disciplines us. You can imagine how a 14 year old feels.

The Catechism says conversion and great charity purifies the sinner and cancels the temporal punishment. The Christian that strives to purify himself and become holy is not alone. Every Christian is united to the Mystical Body of Christ. There is a bond of charity between the saints in heaven, the souls in Purgatory and us on earth. And between us there is an exchange of holy things. One’s holiness profits another well beyond the harm that one’s sin could cause others. The holiness of Christ and His merits, the prayers and good works of the Lady and the saints who followed Jesus — this holiness is the treasure of the Church. This treasure, this reservoir of holiness can help the Christian who is struggling to purify his soul. An indulgence is a gift of part of this treasure to cancel temporal punishment. We can gain indulgences for certain prayers and works of charity for ourselves and for the souls in purgatory.

Pope St. Paul VI promulgated a document called the Handbook of Indulgences. During the first 8 days of November, we can gain an indulgence for the souls in purgatory every time we visit a cemetery to pray for the dead. It could be a plenary indulgence if we confess and go to Communion, pray for the intentions of the Pope and are free from affection for sin. That means one really detests his sins. “O my God I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee and I detest all my sins…” Those words mean something. They are not just filler.

So let us gain indulgences for our deceased. They will return the favor. “Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.”

Sunday, November 3
8:00 AM Emily Krueckeberg — birthday
9:15 AM + Maciora & Mk Families
10:30 AM + Maryon Melvin
11:45 AM + Ralph & + Imelda Rogers
1:15 PM (esp.) + Adela Gomez y Arturo Gallego
4:00 PM Poor Souls of Purgatory
5:30 PM Norma Lorenzana — 98th birthday

Monday, November 4
8:00 AM Poor Souls of Purgatory
12:05 PM + Marilyn Byrne
4:45 PM Sr. Jeanne MacDonald

Tuesday, November 5
8:00 AM Poor Souls of Purgatory
12:05 PM Otón Porres — good health
4:45 PM Francis & Mary Bane

Wednesday, November 6
8:00 AM + John J. Landers
12:05 PM + Andrea St. James
4:45 PM + Adam McGavin

Thursday, November 7
8:00 AM Marina Acero — good health & thanksgiving
12:05 PM + Rev. Timothy Murphy
4:45 PM + William P. Morrissey

Friday, November 8
8:00 AM Richard & Carol McCulloch — health and welfare
12:05 PM + Joseph Perkoski
4:45 PM Christie Thein

Saturday, November 9
9:00 AM + Francis Rezard
12:00 PM + Ercilia Nuñez

4:00 PM Krueckeberg Family
5:30 PM + Aldo Vajentic
7:00 PM (esp) + Hermanos Rojas Muñeton

Feast Days This Week
November 4: St. Charles Borromeo, Bishop
November 9: The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
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.