ENCOUNTERING THE HEART OF CHRIST IN THE HEART OF BOSTON

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
FEBRUARY 9, 2020

SAINT FRANCIS CHAPEL
STAFFED BY
THE OBLATES OF THE VIRGIN MARY

THE LANTERIAN

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SAVE THE DATE!
April 25, 2020
Annual Oblate Gala Celebration
Seaport Hotel, Boston, MA
Visit omvusa.org for more info

The Chapel Gift Shop
Item of the Week…
Cards for Valentine’s Day and other special occasions

The Pope’s Prayer Intention for February:
We pray that the cries of our migrant brothers and sisters, victims of criminal trafficking, may be heard and considered.

Schedule
Sunday Masses:
Saturday Vigil 4:00 PM, 5:30 PM, 7:00 PM en español
Sun. 8 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 PM Vesperas;
Thursday after Mass: St. Jude;
Mon.—Fri. after 4:45 PM Mass: Rosary
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:
Mon.—Fri. 8:30 -11:45 AM, 1:00 -4:30 PM;
Sat. 9:30 - 11:30 AM, 12:30 - 3:30 PM;
Sunday 2:30-3:30 PM

Gift Shop Hours:
Monday—Friday 10:00 AM - 5:30 PM;
Saturday 9:30 AM - 6:45 PM*;
Sunday 8:45 AM - 5:30 PM*
(*Closed during Sun. and Sat. Vigil Masses)

Contact Us
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stfrancischapel.org

Be the Salt of the Earth, Be the Light of the World
By Fr. James Doran, OMV

In his Sermon on the Mount Jesus said in Matthew 5, “Blessed are you when you are persecuted for righteousness sake, for yours is the kingdom of Heaven. Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad for your reward is great in Heaven, for so men persecuted the prophets who were before you. Our Blessed Lord is preparing His disciples for persecution. He reminds them that the prophets were persecuted because the heroic patience and sufferings of the saints gives us courage and comfort in our sufferings. We are not alone. St. John Chrysostom says Our Lord soothes the fears of His followers by mingling praises with His instructions saying, “You are the salt of the earth. (verse 13). You are the light of the world (verse 14).”

Salt preserves food from corruption; it brings out its flavor and makes it more pleasant. A selfish, self-centered self-indulged life is insipid. Self-centered life gets boring. Dante portrays Lucifer as miserable, sad and turned in on himself since he is the one who said “Non serviam”; I will not serve. We were made to know, love and serve God in this life and be happy forever with Him in the next. If we don’t, we will not be happy.

The spiritual and corporal works of mercy are examples of how we can be salt and light. Comfort the sorrowful; Bear wrongs patiently; Forgive all injuries; Pray for the living and the dead.

“I see now,” writes St. Therese, the Little Flower, “that true charity consists in bearing with the faults of those around us, never being surprised at their weaknesses, but edified at the least sign of virtue. I see above all that charity must not remain hidden in the bottom of our hearts: ‘nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand and it gives light to all in the house.’ It seems to me that this lamp is the symbol of charity; it must shine out not only to cheer up those we love best but all in the house”.

Pope Francis’ in his Apostolic Exhortation, The Joy of the Gospel, writes; “The good news is the joy of the Father who desires that none of his little ones be lost, the joy of the Good Shepherd who finds the lost sheep and brings it back to the flock. The Gospel is the leaven which causes the dough to rise and the city on the hill whose light illumines all peoples. The Gospel has an intrinsic principle of totality: it will always remain good news until it has been proclaimed to all people, until it has healed and strengthened every aspect of humanity, until it has brought all men and women together at table in God’s kingdom.”

So, let us not hide our faith. Don’t be afraid to bless yourself and say grace before meals at a restaurant. Don’t be ashamed to stand up for life and the Gospel in public. Blessed are you who do good works to glorify your Heavenly Father.
The Friends of God: St. Catherine de Ricci

Feast Day: February 13
Patron of: The sick

Catherine was her religious name taken when she entered the convent at a young age. She was born Alexandrina in Florence, Italy in the 16th century. She became known while in the convent for her virtue, mysticism and wisdom. Catherine suffered from an unknown illness that could not be treated. She prayerfully joined herself to Christ Crucified and bore the pain patiently. At one point in her life she experienced the wounds of Christ (stigmata) mysterically each Thursday beginning at noon. Catherine’s reputation for mystical prayer, efficient administration of the convent as prioress, and eminent sanctity lead to her being consulted by three cardinals, all of whom eventually became popes. Her greatest joy was to be united to Christ in prayer and then to care for the sick sisters of the convent, bringing to them the love that overflowed from her heart.

Mass Intentions This Week

**Sunday, February 9**
8:00 AM Mike Aiscone
9:15 AM + John Manning
10:30 AM + Jim Duffy
11:45 AM Annette Le Bout—health
1:15 PM (esp.) + Anna Bertha
4:00 PM John Valleli—health
5:30 PM + Franca Franzaroli

**Monday, February 10** - St. Scholastica
8:00 AM + Rose Aceto
12:05 PM + Genevieve Gallagher
4:45 PM + Roy Scarpatto

**Tuesday, February 11** - Our Lady of Lourdes
8:00 AM In Honor of Our Lady of Lourdes
12:05 PM In Thanksgiving to the Blessed Trinity
4:45 PM Tina—conversion

**Wednesday, February 12**
8:00 AM + Dwight Paulus
12:05 PM Abigail Revoir — health
4:45 PM + Carlos Fernandez del Castillo

**Thursday, February 13**
8:00 AM + Antonio Ozaeta
12:05 PM Souls in Purgatory
4:45 PM Ricardo Millien—birthday

**Friday, February 14** - Sts. Cyril & Methodius
8:00 AM + Michael Meads
12:05 PM + C.T. Chou
4:45 PM + William Bulens—birth anniv.

**Saturday, February 15**
9:00 AM Mary Joyce
12:00 PM Marie O’Sullivan
4:00 PM Chen Jian—birthday
5:30 PM + Richard Lim
7:00 PM (esp.) Luis Enrique Munar—95th cumpleaños

Prayer Before Mass

by Ven. Bruno Lanteri
Founder of the Oblates of the Virgin Mary

My God, I offer you this holy sacrifice to recognize, honor and glorify your infinite greatness and the supreme dominion which, as the first principle and last end, you have above all created things. I give you this homage for all those who still do not know you or do not want to recognize you.

I offer this too in thanksgiving for the benefits that I and all the world have received and will receive from your infinite goodness; in satisfaction for my sins and those of the whole world; to implore the graces that are necessary for my eternal salvation and for all mankind. Oh, my God, I offer to you the merits of Jesus Christ; grant me at this Holy Mass a profound adoration.

My God, my Creator, I implore you to grant me the grace of final perseverance, I know by faith that I do not deserve it, nor can I deserve it, but your Divine Son deserves it for me with so many praises, with so many wounds he shows you in his Most Holy Body, on behalf of my wounded love. Amen.
In the Gospel this Sunday Jesus says that our light must shine before others. Yet, later in the same Gospel Jesus says that when giving alms we should not let the right hand know what the left is doing. Is this a contradiction? The difference is between the virtue of honor and the vice of pride.

Honor is what rightfully belongs to someone when they use their gifts, talents and treasures to benefit others. When goodness is spread it is right that the one who does the spreading should also share in the goodness. What makes honor a virtue is that the focus is not so much on the person as on the goodness. We rightly give honor, for example, to the mayor of a city because of the goodness of the office. Regardless of whether any particular mayor is someone with whom we agree or think effective as a politician. With honor, the light (the goodness) should shine brightly.

The vice of pride, on the other hand, takes the focus off of the goodness and puts it on the person. If I give alms not because I wish to spread goodness but because I want people to notice me, then I am not acting honorably but with pride. To avoid this, Jesus says do not let the right know what the left is doing.

**The Imitation of Christ**  
By Ven. Bruno Lanteri, Founder of the Oblates of the Virgin Mary

The Spirit of Christ enlivens two bodies, that is, his mortal body and his mystical body. From this source derives his earthly historical life.

With death he ceased living in his own body, and he began to live in his mystical body. Since he could not further suffer and merit in his own person, he wished his passion and merits to continue in his mystical members and so to glorify the Father through the holy actions of their longsuffering lives until the consummation of time.

However, the life of the Christian properly speaking is none other than the expression and the continuation of the life of Christ, which in a certain sense is not yet completed, but is being completed daily in the lives of the saints who follow his example, and will be completed at the end of the world.

**Lectio Divina**

“*The just man is a light in darkness to the upright.*” — Psalm 112

Ask the Holy Spirit to open your heart and mind to receive the word of God with reverence and joy.

Notice the thoughts and emotions within you. As you prayerfully consider this passage, are you able to identify what thoughts and feelings are generated?

This is the word of God. Take time to consider it carefully. Clear from your mind all distractions. Does it bring you hope or frustration? What makes a person just? Do you know anyone who is a light in times of darkness? How would a just person be a light in darkness? Why would a just person be a light to the upright? Take time right now to let these words touch your heart. Might you ask Mary to help you listen with confidence to the Lord?

Ask the Holy Spirit, in your heart, to help you to apply this to your life.

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**A Message from Pope Francis:**

Jesus’ words, “Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest” (Mt 11:28) point to the mysterious path of grace that is revealed to the simple and gives new strength to those who are weary and tired… Why does Jesus have these feelings? Because he himself became frail, endured human suffering and received comfort from his Father. Indeed, only those who personally experience suffering are then able to comfort others. There are so many kinds of grave suffering: incurable and chronic diseases, psychological diseases, situations calling for rehabilitation or palliative care, numerous forms of disability, children’s or geriatric diseases… At times human warmth is lacking in our approach to these. What is needed is a personalized approach to the sick, not just of curing but also of caring, in view of an integral human healing. In experiencing illness, individuals not only feel threatened in their physical integrity, but also in the relational, intellectual, affective and spiritual dimensions of their lives. For this reason, in addition to therapy and support, they expect care and attention. In a word, love. At the side of every sick person, there is also a family, which itself suffers and is in need of support and comfort. Dear brothers and sisters who are ill, your sickness makes you in a particular way one of those “who labor and are burdened”, and thus attract the eyes and heart of Jesus. In him, you will find light to brighten your darkest moments and hope to soothe your distress. He urges you: “Come to me.”