Encountering the heart of Christ in the heart of Boston

Sunday of the Word of God
January 26, 2020

Saint Francis Chapel
Staffed by
The Oblates of the Virgin Mary
**Chapel Staff:**
Fr. James Doran, OMV  
(director@stfrancischapel.org)  
Fr. Isaac Abu, OMV  
Fr. Michael Warren, OMV  
Fr. James Walther, OMV  
Br. Joseph Y Connor, OMV  
Pastoral Associate: Isabelle Maria  
Music Director: Rebecca Martin  
Music: Kim Araiza, Michael Enwright, Saul Garcia, Christina Roberts  
Cleaning of Chapel Environment:  
Nubia Viasus

**Sign up to receive our online bulletin at:**  
stfrancischapel.org

**Get involved:**  
Learn about what's going on at the chapel and link to articles on our website and to our online bookstore.

**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 Vespers;  
- **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)

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**A Reflection by Fr. James Doran, OMV**

"Come after me and I will make you fishers of men." Who are called by Christ to be fishers of men? Peter and Andrew; James and John and all baptized. In the rite of baptism, after the handing over of the candle, the priest touches the ears and mouth of the child saying; “The Lord Jesus, who made the deaf hear and the dumb speak, grant you in His time, to listen to His Word and proclaim the Faith, to the praise and glory of God the Father. Amen.” Jesus wants us to hear His Word and proclaim the Faith. This is to Evangelize. Today many say, “I do not speak of holiness because I am not holy.” Isabelle Maria Escrivá, one of the most important apostles of the twentieth century, founder of an immense movement of lay apostles called Opus Dei, was asked to describe himself by saying what he thought about himself as an apostle. He replied: “I am a paper envelope carrying great divine messages. God writes His messages and casts them into that envelope called an ‘apostle’, to take them to their recipients. Once the messages are received, one can throw the envelope in the trash. I am a sinner who loves Jesus Christ and wants to make Him loved by many others. The important thing is not that they love me or appreciate me but love my Lord Jesus Christ. I do not want anyone to outdo me in loving the Virgin Mary, because, I have come to realize that God squanders His spiritual aid, especially on those who love the Blessed Mother.”

Father Garcia Herreros, a notable apostle of television and radio in Colombia, the promoter of the charismatic movement throughout America, a true man of God, said that his spiritual director told him: “The first condition for apostolate is: “Love, love much, love God, be enthusiastic about Jesus Christ, love your neighbor very much and show him that you love him, and you will see that the apostolate progresses.” It is necessary to leave a mark on history and the best thing for this is to get excited about Jesus Christ and get others excited about Him. We should all have the "mania" to talk about God, that is Theophoros, God bearer; St. Christopher carried Christ. Father García said; “What I ask is that one speaks to me of God and of eternity. The rest bores me. I am not afraid of death, nor kidnapping. The only thing of which I have terrible fear is that I don’t love Jesus Christ enough.” Pope St. Paul VI said: “The first one who has to be evangelized is the evangelizer. Let yourself be evangelized every day by listening or reading, so that you can evangelize better. To be evangelizers we need to be evangelized.”

A Puerto Rican Blessed, Carlos Manuel Rodriguez, better known as Charlie, said: "Good friends, good books! ... stars that illumine thought, flowers to perfume the heart." Charlie was a layman who died in 1963. He strove to make people understand how beautiful the Catholic Faith is. Speaking of apostolate, he said; “The best apostolate is always the example of life. ... The saints have not been men without spirits, without blood in their veins, without strong impulses, without struggle. But men pervaded with love.”

Saint John Newman, converted from Anglicanism to the Catholicism, said: “Each apostle must tell himself: ‘God has entrusted me with a job that has not been entrusted to anyone else. He created me to serve Him on a special mission. He did not create me to do nothing, I will do my job, I will do well. I will trust God wherever I am and how I am. If I am sick, my illness can be used to convert sinners. If I am humiliated, my humiliation may be useful to transform a hardened heart. If I am suffering from any other discomfort, that annoyance that I suffer can be used by the good God to sanctify some soul. He does nothing vain and knows for what good purpose he has allowed all this to happen to me.” “Come after me and I will make you fishers of men.”

**Pray to Protect Human Life!**
January 21-29  
3:30 PM at the chapel

9daysforlife.com

**Next Come & See date:**  
February 5 - 9, 2020
The Friends of God: St. Peter Nolasco

Feast Day: January 28

Peter was born in France in the late 12th century to a wealthy merchant. Early in life he began to dedicate himself to works of service, forsaking a merchant’s life for himself. The constant wars between Christians and Muslims in the 13th century had produced many slaves and hostages. Peter, along with Raymond of Pennafort, formed a religious congregation in 1218 to help secure the release of Christian slaves from the Muslims. They dedicated themselves to either purchasing the freedom of slaves or trading themselves in exchange for the release of others. Peter himself twice exchanged his freedom for the sake of others. In his lifetimes, he helped secure the freedom from bondage of almost 3,000 Christians. His congregation, the Mercedarians, secured the release of nearly 70,000 people throughout its mission.

Overcoming Spiritual Discouragement: The Power and Spiritual Wisdom of Venerable Bruno Lanteri

A Seminar by Fr. Timothy Gallagher, OMV
February 8 - 9, 2020
St. Clement Eucharistic Shrine, 1105 Boylston St.
To register: email OMVUSA@gmail.com or call (617) 982-7264

Regular reading of sacred Scripture and the celebration of the Eucharist make it possible for us to see ourselves as part of one another. As Christians, we are a single people, making our pilgrimage way through history, sustained by the Lord, present in our midst, who speaks to us and nourishes us. A day devoted to the Bible should not be seen as a yearly event but rather a year-long event, for we urgently need to grow in our knowledge and love of the Scriptures and of the risen Lord, who continues to speak his word and to break bread in the community of believers. For this reason, we need to develop a closer relationship with sacred Scripture; otherwise, our hearts will remain cold and our eyes shut, struck as we are by so many forms of blindness. — Pope Francis

Prayer Before Mass

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 his Letter to the Corinthians St. Paul discusses division that has arisen in the community. The division is based on whom the disciples claim to be their master. Some say Paul, some say Cephas, some Apollos, and others say Christ. The people are making their claims based on who is their favorite priest. Their preferences are based on who preaches the best or who celebrates baptism in the most solemn way. Paul admonishes the community for these divisions. He reminds the Corinthians and us that we are not saved by our favorite ministers, we are saved by Christ, that salvation does not come in the form of human eloquence, it comes through the power of Christ’s cross. If salvation is reduced to liking one minister’s preaching over another, then the cross of Christ is emptied of its meaning.

Paul says that human eloquence distorts the meaning and power of the cross if the faithful become attached to the minister. We are supposed to be drawn to the power of God’s love and his way of accomplishing salvation. If the faithful become attached to the preaching style of a minister, then it is not faith in the love of God that brings them to join the Church, it is faith in a human being, the minister. Paul urges us to be aware of this temptation and to avoid it.

Every good action comes from God as from a good and noble father.

God ordinarily makes use of lowly things in order to accomplish great things, as with the ass of Balaam, or simply its jawbone. He made use of ignoble and unlearned apostles in order to show that the work was his doing alone.

The truths which have persuaded me are those which persuaded the saints; they are, and will always be, the same. Neither time nor lack of reflection will make them lose their force; hence just as these truths move me once, so, with the help of God, they must always move me. Follow always and generously the will of God once recognized, and make conscious note of the times when you transgress it. Do not give importance except to faults which are certain and deliberate, since we do not have to give an account to God except of that which we know we ought to have done, and did not do.

Each month of the year the Holy Father has a prayer intention in which he invites the whole Church to join. The Pope’s Worldwide Prayer network has been entrusted with his own intentions by every pope since Leo XIII in 1890. Each month those who are part of this apostleship of prayer join their hearts and lift up the prayer intentions of the Pope. They also allow the pope’s intentions to become their own as they shape their daily activities in accord with the Church’s mission as expressed by the Holy Father.

The Apostleship of Prayer began with the Jesuits in the mid 19th century. A Jesuit priest began to instruct his novices that they should not have as their daily focus missions far off in India, which is what they typically thought about. The Jesuit priest reminded them that their daily activities, right here and now are what matter most to God. He began to teach them how to find meaning and purpose in their daily tasks through prayer of the heart. Eventually this method of daily prayer and work began to spread throughout the world. It was given official papal approval by Pope Pius IX and in 1890 Pope Leo XIII entrusted the Apostleship of Prayer with his own missionary intentions. To join this network and learn the method of daily prayer and to pray for the Pope’s intentions, please visit the Prayer Network at www.popesprayerusa.net