



Holy Rosary Parish



3600 Travis Street - Houston, Texas 77002

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Vigil - Saturday - 5:00 p.m.

8:00 a.m.
9:30 a.m. (Latin)
11:00 a.m.
12:30 p.m.
3:15 p.m. (Vietnamese)
5:00 p.m.
6:30 p.m. (Vietnamese)

Time Out Room may be used

Sunday during
9:30 & 11:00 a.m. Masses
in the Parish Center

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

12:05 p.m.
5:15 p.m.

ROSARY

Recited weekdays at 5:00 p.m.
Sat. & Sun. at 4:45 p.m.

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Weekdays 15 minutes before
all weekday Masses

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Fridays 12:45 - 5:00 p.m.
Benediction 5:05 p.m.

CATHOLIC DAILY MESSAGE 713-529-4449

PRIESTS ON STAFF

Fr. Joseph Konkel, O.P. Ext. 107
Pastor
Fr. Juan Torres, O.P. Ext. 103
Parochial Vicar
Fr. Isidore Vicente, O.P. Ext. 104
Parochial Vicar

In Residence:

Fr. Victor Brown, O.P.
Fr. James Burke, O.P.
Fr. Austin Green, O.P.
Fr. Ronald Henery, O.P.

Priory 713-526-6322

PARISH OFFICE

First Floor Parish Center
(entrance in courtyard) Rm.100
3617 Milam Street
Office hours:
9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Monday - Friday
Phone 713-529-4854
Fax 713-522-3967

Extensions:

101 - Parish Secretary
105 - Director of Music
108 - Parish Bookkeeper
109 - Special Projects Secretary
110 - Wedding Coordinator

E-mail:
office@holynosaryparish.org

MAILING ADDRESS

3600 Travis Street
Houston, TX 77002

RELIGIOUS ED. CENTER

3535 Louisiana Street
713-526-4389
Marisa Mendoza, D.R.E.

EPIPHANY

January 4, 2009

A Message from the Pastor

The Priests and staff of Holy Rosary Parish wish abundant blessings for all of you. May the gracious Lord gift you with blessings of health, love and peace, this New Year 2009 and always. Beginning in January 2009, some changes will be made to the format of the parish bulletin. We hope that you will especially appreciate the art work which will include a portrait of our Lady of the Rosary of the cover page. The portrait is a photograph of the beautiful front altar window of our church. We also hope that you will be pleased with regular information features such as the mass intentions for the week, the regular schedule and special activities of the parish.

Much work and effort has been done by many people in the planning and design of the new bulletin. One special word of thanks, though, is to be given to Elizabeth Thurber Kimes who created the format and took photographs of the church windows that will be used as art work for the bulletin.

SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY: Jesus Christ, the Son of God, has come by a Light to all nations. The central theme of this Feast of God's eternal plan of Salvation for all, manifested symbolically in the three kings who come to offer Him homage. We Christians do the same today.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Kathleen McEvoy, Louise Bering, Denise Akeroyd Scanlin, Mary Wiloughby, Marion Spiers, Alma Luna, Bonnie St. Julian and the Friars of Holy Rosary. Being a prayerful community we are anxious to pray for all who are ill. Names of parishioners will remain on the list for three months and may be extended as needed in serious cases. If you wish to have prayers for yourself or a loved one added to the sick and convalescent announcement in the bulletin, please contact the parish office, 713-529-4854 ext. 101. If the person you wish to have placed on the prayer list is not a parishioner their name will be placed for one month on the list. Also, at every Eucharist we pray for all who are in need, whether mentioned by name or not.

COFFEE AFTER MASS will be served today, January 4th, in the Parish Hall, Room 200. All are welcome. Please join your fellow parishioners for some social moments.

WHAT'S COOKING: January 7th, hot dogs with all the trimmings, dessert, coffee and tea, will be served on Wednesday, after the 12:05 p.m. Mass in the Parish Hall, Room 200. As a reminder the lunches are \$4.00 and there are no take-outs.

COOKS NEEDED: Holy Rosary Parish has had a tradition of volunteers to cook a Sunday meal for the six priests in the Priory. The Friars enjoy traditional meals, whatever you are inspired to bring to the Priory by 1 P.M. on Sunday. In the past this has amounted to providing a Sunday meal about four times for the entire year. Please call or email Louis Tankus at 281-913-2250; olaf2002@cebridge.net to obtain more information.

2009 CHURCH CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES FOR REGISTERED PARISHIONERS are here. If you have not picked up your envelopes for 2009 they are located in the Parish Hall, Room 200. They are arranged in alphabetical order. If for some reason you did not find your envelopes please add your name, address and phone number to the sheet provided on the envelope table and the office will get in touch with you on Monday. Thank you.

"CATHOLIC LIFE IN THE ARCHDIOCESE": A 15-minute radio program, hosted by Fr. Austin Green, O.P., is aired every Sunday morning at 5:30a.m. (KWWJ-AM, 1360, Baytown) & 6:45 a.m. (KYOK-AM, 1140, Conroe). January 11th topic, "Come to me heedfully." (Isaiah c.55)

KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS MONTHLY MEETING - The Knights of Columbus Council 11023 has scheduled their monthly meeting for this Saturday, January 10th. The social hour will begin at 9a.m. and the business meeting at 10a.m. in the Religious Education Center on Louisiana and Berry Street. All Knights are encouraged to attend.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES will meet this Sunday, January 4th. Classes will be in the Religious Education Center at the usual time of 9:30 a.m.

THE 20th ANNUAL SOUTHERN DOMINICAN GALA - As you plan your tax deductible gifts for 2009, please remember the **Southern Dominican Gala**. This lovely evening of silent auction, dinner and dancing on Thursday, May 7, raises funds for the **Friars of the Southern Dominican Province**, which includes Holy Rosary. For more information contact Carole Kelley in the Parish office, ckelley@holynosaryparish.org, 713-529-4854 ext.109

WALK WITH PAUL INTO 2009: "Staying the Course: Enduring Suffering on the Journey of Life." Father Seán Charles Martin, Priest of the Catholic Diocese of Dallas and Associate Professor of Biblical Studies at the Aquinas Institute of Theology in St. Louis will be the speaker on January 9-10, 2009, Friday, 7-9 p.m. is free and Saturday, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. is \$40.00 (\$25 for students). For more information please contact Sister Carol Mayes, 713-440-3718 or cmayes@domhou.org before **January 5, 2009.**

BLESSED BENEDICT XI **Friar and Pope (1240-1304)**

He was known for his love of the brethren and his service to the Church. (Prayer on his feast, July 7)

Nicholas Boccasini was the second Dominican friar to be elected pope, and his pontificate only lasted nine months, from October, 1293 to July 1294, yet, despite its brevity, he has been beatified. His steadfast loyalty to Pope Boniface VIII when Nicholas was Master General of the Dominicans, kept the Order loyal to the Bishop of Rome, and his ability to reconcile kings brought peace and order to the Church during a time of turmoil.

He was born in 1240 in Treviso, Italy, of a noble, but poor, family. His father died when Nicholas was still a child and the little boy was put in the care of an uncle, a priest of Treviso. The boy was very intelligent and the uncle saw to it that he received a good education. When he was 10 years old his uncle obtained for him a position as tutor for children of a noble family, a position which he enjoyed for he had a natural aptitude as a teacher.

At the age of 14 he entered the Dominican community at Venice and here, as well as in other parts of Italy, he spent the next 14 years completing his religious and clerical education. It is likely that St. Thomas Aquinas was one of his teachers. After priestly ordination at age 28, receiving also the degree of Lector of Sacred Theology, Nicholas was put to work as a teacher, a position he filled extremely well. St. Antoninus of Florence, O.P., said of Nicholas, "He had a vast store of knowledge, a prodigious memory, a penetrating genius; and everything about him endeared him to all." He was a distinguished scholar, having written in the course of many years commentaries on the Psalms, the book of Job, the gospel of Matthew and the book of Revelation. His writings give us an idea of the importance that Sacred Scripture played at that time in the training of young Preachers for the Order. It was the key subject in the houses of study so that other subjects were studied in relation to it. If the Preacher was to be effective in spreading the message of Christ he must live the spirit of the Scripture himself and know how to pass it on to others. That Nicholas was an excellent teacher for aspiring Preachers is indicated by the fact that in 1295 the highest degree in the Order was bestowed upon him, that of Master of Sacred Theology.

Yet Nicholas was also an able administrator. In his province of Lombardy, northern Italy, he was chosen for the office of sub-prior and then prior of his local community and then was elected provincial of the whole province of Lombardy - not only once but three times - from 1282 to 1296. How he managed to combine the duties of administrator with those of full-time teacher is a tribute to his own genius and even more to God's grace.

His Dominican brothers trusted Nicholas, as indicated by their choosing him for many superiors' posts. They trusted him so much that they elected him Master General of the whole Order of Preachers in 1296. His election was not surprising because, as provincial, Nicholas had proved himself a leader willing to speak out for the rights of the Dominicans in the affair of the deposition of their Master General, Munio de Zamora, by Pope Nicholas IV in 1291. Father Zamora had been strict in legislating that all Dominican teachers must hold to the teaching of St. Thomas Aquinas and avoid "all vain and profane subjects." He had punished two Dominican professors at the University of Paris for not observing this legislation, and they had retaliated by reporting to Pope Nicholas IV that Fr. Zamora was incompetent, making up a good case for themselves against their Master General. The Pope believed their story and suspended Fr. Zamora from the exercise of his office. The Dominican provincials, in response, made Fr. Nicholas their spokesman and he replied to the Pope, "A most rigorous examination has only served to make perfectly clear to us the merits and virtue of our Father General, who is...completely irreproachable and an example to good religious. This we know and have evidence to prove...We are aware that Your Holiness has been given false information, and wish only to point out the truth. Let us have a direct accusation and give our Father General a chance to answer the charges." The pope's reply was to formally depose Fr. Zamora and give penances to the Dominican provincials who had defended him.

During the interval of 1291-1296, the Dominicans had elected Stephen of Besancon as Master General but he had died in 1294 after two years in office. Now, a year and a half later, the Dominicans elected Fr. Nicholas, but he, too, only remained in office for two years, 1296-1298. In 1297 he had rallied the whole Dominican Order to the support of Pope Boniface VIII in his struggle to protect the French clergy against the unjust financial demands of King Philip IV of France. He had also served as a member of a papal commission seeking to mediate a peace between the kings of England and France, a project that failed. Yet Nicholas had earned the respect and gained the attention of Pope Boniface, who in 1298 made him Cardinal-bishop of Ostia. This meant Nicholas had to give up his post as Master General; to his objections and those of his Dominican friars, the pope only replied enigmatically, "I am preparing you for a heavier burden" - taken as a veiled prophecy that Nicholas would be a future pope.

One of the outstanding services of Nicholas as cardinal was as papal legate to Hungary in 1300 when he negotiated the successful accession of Carobert of Anjou to the throne of that kingdom. It sounds strange to Catholics of the 21st century to hear of popes deciding disputes about which candidate will be the temporal ruler of a Christian kingdom. Yet it was during the pontificate of Boniface VIII that this claim of the pope to have the power of "the two swords", namely, both spiritual power and temporal power, was put forth most strongly, especially in his bull, "Unam sanctam." It helps to remember that at this time the pope himself was also a temporal ruler of the Papal States, comprising all of central and north-central Italy. But this claim of Pope Boniface (and it was not new with him) was only accepted to a very limited extent by Christian rulers, and in Boniface's time it was utterly rejected by the French King, Philip IV (the Fair). To insist on it, ultimately cost Boniface his life.

Pope Boniface called for a Council at Rome, which met in November, 1302, but less than half the French bishops were present because King Philip had forbidden their attendance. Immediately after this Boniface issued the bull "Unam sanctam" which stung Philip to greater fury against Boniface. At a political meeting in France in March, 1303, Philip's henchmen bitterly attacked Boniface as a usurper, heretic, blasphemer, and other such calumnies. Two of them formed a band of 2,000 mercenaries and in September attacked the town and castle of Agnani, a few miles from Rome, where Pope Boniface had taken residence with six of his cardinals, including Cardinal Nicholas, O.P. they seized and plundered the town and the castle, and the two leaders confronted the pope in his audience-room. Four of the cardinals had fled, leaving Cardinal Nicholas and one other to support the pope. One leader wanted to kill Pope Boniface on the spot but the other stopped him. They held the pope prisoner in his castle for three days, thinking they could talk him into abdicating. But Cardinal Nicholas was able to get out and helped rouse the sympathy of the townspeople for the pope, so that on the third day the people were able to drive out the intruders and free the pope. The shock of this attack was too much for Pope Boniface and he died three weeks later.

In the conclave, Cardinal Nicholas was elected on the 1st ballot and took the name Benedict XI. He was esteemed by all as a holy man and prudent administrator. Benedict turned out to be a peace-seeking pontiff, anxious to end the discord of the latter part of Pope Boniface's reign. Without sacrificing principle he was able to modify some of the harsher strictures of Boniface and he also reconciled Philip the Fair with the papacy, by lifting the interdict that Pope Boniface had laid on the French people.

The story is told that when Pope Benedict's mother came to visit him, the papal attendants decided she was too poorly dressed and gave her some finery. Thus attired she entered his presence, and Pope Benedict refused to recognize her, saying, "I am looking for that small, poorly-dressed woman whom I love so dearly."

Pope Benedict died suddenly at Perugia in July, 1304, while processing the case against the two leaders of the attack on the pope at Agnani. Many miracles were preformed at his tomb, and some cures were worked even before his burial. He was beatified by Pope Clement XII in 1736, and his feast is observed by the Dominicans on July 7th.

References:

New Catholic Encyclopedia, vol. 2, p. 275

St. Dominic's Family, by Sister M. Jean Dorcy, O.P., TAN pub. 1983

Article prepared by Fr. Austin Green, O.P.