



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

EVENING PRAYER

Weekdays after
5:15 p.m. Mass in Sacristy

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

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

PRIESTS ON STAFF

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

Adjunct Staff

Fr. William Brenda, O.P. Ext. 102
Fr. Albert Moraczewski, O.P.
Ext. 102

In Residence:

Fr. James Burke, O.P.
Fr. Austin Green, 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@holyroaryparish.org

MAILING ADDRESS

3600 Travis Street
Houston, TX 77002

RELIGIOUS ED. CENTER

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

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

January 13, 2008

SECOND COLLECTION TODAY - *Bishops Fund for Latin America*. This fund assists Catholics in Latin America and the Caribbean who are rich in faith but lacking in material resources. Sharing is caring.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK & CONVALESCENT - Louise Bering, Denise Akeroyd Scanlin, Fr. Albert Moraczewski, O.P. 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 placed on 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.

ALTAR FLOWERS are in celebration for this Most Holy time of year. *Christ is the light.*

COFFEE AFTER MASS will be served today, January 13th, in the Parish Hall, Room 200. All are welcome. Please join your fellow parishioners for some social moments.

HERE'S WHAT'S COOKING ... for January 16: *Stuffed chicken breasts, carrots marsala, green salad, coconut pudding, roll, coffee and tea*, will be served on Wednesday, after the 12:05 p.m. Mass in the Parish Hall, Room 200. Welcome. **Please note that there will be no take-outs available for Wednesday lunches until further notice.**

HOLY ROSARY PLAYGROUP - All mothers and children are invited to the Holy Rosary Playgroup. We meet the third Thursday, **January 17th**, of the month in the Religious Education Center from 10:00-11:30. Please bring a light snack for your family. Call Mollie Ullrich with any questions at 281-693-5892.

BIBLE STUDY CLASS -- This Sunday, January 13, 2008. Classes will be each Sunday from 9:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. in the Parish Library, room 106. Please call the office for more information. Please bring your Bible.

PARISH LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We have a wonderful parish library but have not been able to have it open on Sundays since our volunteer librarian moved out of state last September. Please consider volunteering time with fellow parishioners to keep this resource available to our parish community. We would like to have a meeting of volunteers as soon as possible. Please call the office 713-529-4854 ext. 101 for more information.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR REGISTERED PARISHIONERS - A statement of your contributions for the year 2007 will be available upon request after the 18th of January, please call 713-529-4854 ext.109 and leave a message. Thank you. A contribution statement for NON-PARISHIONERS can not be verified for your contributions for the tax year unless it is a donation of \$250.00 or more.

2008 CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES: If you have not picked up your 2008 envelopes, they will be in the Sunday "Time-Out" Room of the Parish Office/Hall after the Sunday morning Masses. See **yellow** sign on door. If you do not find your envelopes, please fill out the information sheet provided and the office will contact you and arrange for you to receive your 2008 envelopes. However, if in a prior year, you had requested not to receive envelopes while remaining a parishioner who would give loose checks instead of using envelopes, no envelopes were prepared for you in 2008. Any changes that you wish to make in envelope use will need to be arranged with the parish office. Thank you for your cooperation in this important matter.

2008 HOLY ROSARY CALENDARS - Calendars are now available in the office during office hours, Monday - Friday, 9:30 - 4:30. There will also be a limited number of calendars in the vestibule.

"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 20th topic, *Behold the Lamb of God.*

HOLY NAME CATHOLIC SCHOOL ALUMNI - The school is updating alumni formation for Annual Reunion Gala on Friday, February 1, 2008. If you attended Holy Name please call 713-227-9529 for further information. This year we are honoring former pastor Msgr. David Kennedy.

AVE MARIA UNIVERSITY FOUNDERS CLUB - Invites you to our next meeting on Monday, January 28, 2008, with guest speaker Nicholas J. Healy, Jr., President of Ave Maria University. For more information please call 281-488-5591 or email kld823@sbcglobal.net. Reservations no later than **January 24, 2008.**

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER KONKEL: This weekend marks the end of the Christmas Season. Where did all those wonderful days go? The parish staff and the Dominican Friars want you to know how grateful they are to have been part of the parish during this wonderful time of the year. We will miss the holy Masses, the beautiful flowers, the wonderful crèches, and the remarkable statues that have helped us celebrate this special season. Now, as we enter Ordinary Time in the Church year, we can anticipate the Lenten Season which will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 6th. How fortunate we are, as Catholics, to have these tremendous liturgical seasons to mark the days of our journey to the fullness of life with God. Perhaps, this year, we can all join together in prayer as we support each other by example and encouragement in our practice of the spiritual and corporal works of mercy. This year I also would particularly recommend to our prayerful intentions the infirm and the elderly. May God bless us all with health, peace of mind, and serenity.

MOTHER MARY WALSH, O.P., Foundress (1850-1922)

“Only when I met her, did I understand what it means to love your neighbor.”

(Words of a friend at Mother Walsh’s funeral)

On Friday, November 10, 1922, in the beautiful church of St. Vincent Ferrer in New York City a solemn requiem Mass was offered for Mary Walsh. It was attended by hundreds and hundreds of men and women from every walk of life and every social class, from the archbishop of the diocese to the humblest of workers. All came to pay their last respects to this remarkable woman who had dedicated her life to God in the service of his sick poor. Most impressive were the great numbers of the poor who came to show their love and gratitude to this Irish immigrant woman who not only began a great work but founded a religious congregation to carry it on, the Dominican Sisters for the Sick Poor.

On her way to work as a laundress one hot summer day in 1876, Mary Walsh noticed a small girl sitting in a doorway crying. She stopped to ask what was the matter and the child led her to a dingy tenement room in the Hell’s Kitchen section of New York City.

In this small, hot, filthy room on the fourth floor Mary found a critically ill woman with a newborn child dead beside her. Three other children under five huddled in a corner. No food or medicine was there, but Mary washed the woman’s face and wrapped the dead child in a blanket to remove it from the mother’s sight. Upon talking to the sick woman Mary learned her husband was in jail for fighting and drunkenness. Saying she would be back shortly, Mary returned to her own room and got out her small savings. Meeting several friends along the way, she told them of the family’s plight and begged them to help in any way they could. Within a few days she had obtained help in several ways. Fresh bedding and clothes were brought. The dead child was buried, food and medicine were bought and the gas bill was paid. Mary talked to the husband on his release from jail, getting him to promise to cut down on his drinking; he evidently was a good man but was overwhelmed by his family troubles. Mary talked to his employer and persuaded him to give Mr. Dunne another chance. Her care brought hope to this poor family.

Mary’s efforts brought her the loss of her job with a wealthy family, but also this incident turned her steps to the path of serving the poor, a path she faithfully followed for the next forty-six years.

Mary Walsh was born in London of Irish immigrant parents who both died when she was an infant. A paternal grandmother kindly took her to her home in County Limerick, Ireland, where Mary received good care and education in Catholic schools. When Mary was 18 her grandmother died, and she accepted an offer of an uncle to pay her fare to the U. S. if she would like with his family. It turned out the uncle only wanted her to work as an unpaid servant. So after working off her fare, Mary left the family within a year and in 1869 headed for New York City where she found a job as laundress for a wealthy family. Even after she was fired from her job, as mentioned above, she found work as a laundress for other families.

During these years Mary had been a faithful parishioner at St. Vincent Ferrer’s church, the Dominican parish in which she lived. She made the acquaintance of the pastor, Father Dominic Lilly, and under his direction joined the Dominican Third Order for the laity. She went through a preparation period for a year and a half and made her profession of promises in 1879. This rule of life, including daily Mass and rosary, and also contact with like-minded laity, was a great support to Mary. She already gave time to the poor, but now she teamed up with another member of her Third Order. They rented rooms in a Paulist parish, and began a life of prayer, manual labor and works of charity. They supported themselves by taking in laundry. Mary said, “Our road will be rocky and sometimes we will be discouraged, but we cannot fail because God is with us. When we think of it like that is it not truly wonderful?” They did laundry Monday to Wednesday, on Thursday asked for money and begged food and clothing. On Saturdays they distributed what they collected on Thursdays. They also helped clean the flats and bathe the children. They served about 20 families on a regular basis.

In 1885 two recruits joined them, and stayed. Despite the poverty and hard work the little group slowly grew. One postulant arrived to find everyone in the house sick and five tubs of laundry soaking, waiting to be washed, so she rolled up her sleeves and went to work. She said, “I couldn’t just walk out and leave the clothes unwashed, could I?” She was one of the first to stay.

At one point Mary was maligned to their spiritual director. He trusted the informant and Mary was sent away from the group. At the end of three years the informant was diagnosed as psychotic and sent away while Mary was welcomed back to the community with open arms.

By 1907 Mary had seven companions in ‘the work.’ On the advice of the Dominicans she applied to Rome to have her group approved as a branch of the Dominican Third Order Regular, and her request received a ‘yes’ in 1910. A Dominican sister came from Ohio as novice-mistress and for a year Mary and her companions received religious formation. Then on August 4, 1911, St. Dominic’s day, they made religious profession of vows, Mary taking the name of Mary Magdalene. This religious consecration gave a clearer purpose to all their activities, consecrating them as beloved spouses of Christ who could offer their daily work with the poor in close union with the heart of Christ. Mary Walsh was appointed mother superior.

It was Mary’s courage and vision which guided them. Her Irish wit also helped. Once the little group had no food and Mary was clowning around to help them forget their troubles. She began to crow like a rooster from her grandmother’s farm. Suddenly there was a banging on the door of their flat. They opened it to find an irate man from the next flat who said, “Here’s five dollars. Get rid of that rooster and let a man get some sleep!”

For forty-six years Mary Walsh prayed with and worked for the poor in the slums of New York City. The last 11 of those years she was superior of the little group of religious incorporated as the Dominican Sisters of the Sick Poor for the Immaculate Conception. The group grew and expanded. A branch house was founded in Columbus, Ohio where people were suffering from a flood. Mary was planning a house for Denver when death overtook her on November 2, 1922, in New York City where she first began her life of dedication to serving the needs of the sick and the poor. Her congregation has recently merged with two other Dominican sister’s congregations to form the Dominican Sisters of Hope with headquarters in Newburgh, NY. Within this merger, the Dominican Sisters of the Sick Poor continue to minister to the poor.

References:

St. Dominic’s Family, by Sister Mary Jean Dorcy, TAN pub., 1983

Modern Saints, vol. 1, by Ann Ball, TAN pub., 1987

Prepared by Father Austin Green, O.P.