



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

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@holynosaryparish.org

MAILING ADDRESS

3600 Travis Street
Houston, TX 77002

RELIGIOUS ED. CENTER

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

TENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

June 8, 2008

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Kathleen McEvoy, Louise Bering, Denise Akeroyd Scanlin, Mary Willoughby, Marion Spiers, Earley Magnuson, Brian and Virginia Geaslin, Bonnie and James St. Julian and the Friars of Holy Rosary.

ALTAR FLOWERS are given in memory of the John and Lena Alexander family. Please remember them and the donor in your prayers.

COFFEE AFTER MASS will be served today, June 8th, in the Parish Hall, Room 200. All are welcome. Please join your fellow parishioners for some social moments.

WHAT'S COOKING: Wishing our Wednesday lunch bunch cooks a much deserved rest and relaxation. Enjoy your summer! They will return on the first Wednesday in September.

BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSION FOR PARENTS: The next session for parents will be Saturday, June 14th, 2008 from 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. in the library of the Parish Office Building, Room 106. This Baptism preparation session, given by Father Isidore Vicente, O.P., is for parishioners of Holy Rosary Parish only. Please call the office to register, 713-529-4854 ext. 101.

THE HOLY ROSARY PLAYGROUP will not meet at Church during the month of June. This summer we will have some "off-campus" play dates at various venues in the Houston area. For more information, please call Mollie Ullrich at 281-693-5892.

COURTYARD FOUNTAIN: Our courtyard and its fountain is a true thing of beauty with the blooming flowers and the tranquil sound of the flowing waters. Please let's keep it that way. The fountain can not function with paper, cigarette butts, cigar butts, sticks and money thrown into the fountain. The flowing waters can not function with these items and then to drain and repair any problems caused by the above mentioned and then to refill the 800 gallon fountain becomes very costly. Also, please do not drink the water or give the plants in containers in the courtyard any of the water from the fountain, as the water contains chemicals to keep the algae from forming in the water and on the walls of the fountain. Thank you for your help in keeping this beautiful and tranquil area just that beautiful and tranquil.

"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). June 15th topic, "From God, all fatherhood receives its name."

AN EVENING OF CATHOLIC FELLOWSHIP AND LEARNING PRESENTED by the Ave Maria University Founders Club. "Him only shall you serve" presented by Fr. Reuben Nwankwo, who currently serves as a chaplain in the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston. Presentation on Tuesday, June 24th, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel 1700 Smith beginning at 6:30 p.m. - registration and social time, 7:15 p.m. dinner (\$25 per person) and 8:00 p.m. guest speaker. Please call 281-488-5591 or email kld823@sbcglobal.net for further information.

MARRIED COUPLES-Give your marriage a well deserved vacation. Attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend June 13-15 and July 18-20. For more information please contact Brian and Tina Little at 281-485-5648 or Zeke and Ashley Metzler at 281-356-2204 or go on-line to www.mehouston.org. You will come back with a marriage that is refreshed and full of energy.

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER KONKEL: One of parishioners told me that he would bring a tomato plant for the Priory courtyard to provide some tomatoes for the friars to eat later this summer. When he mentioned the vegetable plant, I was reminded that when we planned the additions to the rectory, we provided two large planting areas in front of the old rectory on the Travis Street frontage. The idea was to plant some vegetables, some herbs, and perhaps a few flowers. I am sorry to report that nothing has been planted during the last two years and that lovely plot of land is waiting for the herbs and vegetables. Now you know since "good intentions" are worth less without action, I am admitting my inaction and I wonder if there are any members of the parish who would like to assist me in starting a small vegetable garden in this prepared area in front of the original rectory.

I am further motivated by the thought of very fresh produce for our dining pleasure though I am not sure that I will persevere in the labor necessary to making this a successful endeavor. If anyone has an interest in this project (or pipe dream), please call me at the parish during weekly office hours.

SPECIAL REQUEST FROM PRIESTS OF THE PARISH: Please do not make appointments with a priest in front of church on Sundays, especially hospital visit requests. We need to have the requests in writing or phone messages made through the parish secretary. Thanks for your help.

BLESSED JAMES OF VORAGINE, O.P., Priest, Bishop, Author (1226-1298)

The long-standing cult of this holy friar has been accepted by the Church as a mark of his sanctity and though he has not been formally canonized he has been given the title of 'blessed' and he may be publicly venerated. He was a creative genius in the Church of his day, using contemporary means to spread the word of God. His enduring claim to fame is that he was the author of a book of lives of the saints, called "The Golden Legend", a book which, as we shall see, had a significant impact on church history.

James was born in the town of Voragine (Varazze, in Italian) about the year 1226 near the city of Genoa, Italy, and he entered the Dominican Order in Genoa. After priestly ordination he taught theology and scripture in various houses of the Order and tradition says that he was the first to translate the Bible into Italian.

He held positions of responsibility in the Order, first as prior of Genoa and then as provincial, or superior, of Lombardy which comprised most of northern Italy. He also had a reputation for strict observance, heroic charity and good sense. He was a builder, and the money that wealthy people gave him was transformed into churches as well as hospitals for the sick and food-kitchens for the poor.

Above all he was a preacher, with a genius for adapting means of contemporary entertainment to preach God's word. When he was stationed at Milam, he organized a group of Dominican students from their house in San Eustorgio and turned them into a troop of jugglers and acrobats who would gather the crowd in a public square, gain their attention, and get them 'softened up' to the preaching of Friar James. By innovations such as these he gained a reputation as a preacher.

His most lasting effect on the life of the Church, however, was his writing a book of lives of the saints. In those days, one of the chief means of catechizing people was by means of sermons which often took their keynote from the feast of the day. James loved to preach about the saints, and his book began with a collection of his sermons preached at these saints festivals. He preached in Italian rather than in Latin and his sermons, which were immensely popular, were collected into a book. This was the genesis of his book of saints, entitled "The Golden Legend". These sermon-stories were so popular that the book was rapidly translated and copied into the various European languages so that it became, next to the Bible, the most popular spiritual reading book of the Middle Ages.

The lasting influence of this book is exemplified in the story of the conversion of St. Ignatius of Loyola, the famous founder of the Jesuit Order. When Ignatius was still a soldier, at age 30, he was wounded in the siege of Pamplona, Spain, and was brought back to his family's castle at Loyola in order to recover from his wounds. He was an avid reader of romances (our modern equivalent would be 'paperbacks') but no such books were available in the castle. The only reading material they could find for him was a "Life of Christ" written by a Carthusian monk and "The Golden Legend" of James of Voragine. He read these books, meditated on them, and he began to ask himself the question, "Why could I not do great things for God as St. Francis and St. Dominic did?" He also noticed that the lives of the saints left him with an inner joy, while the romances he used to read would leave him empty when he finished them. This was the beginning of his conversion to Christ as well as the basic insight of his Spiritual Exercises.

This incident shows how the "Golden Legend" of Blessed James had an influence on the life of the Church. Surely this is only one of many such examples. It also is a reminder to us of the graces that come through the reading of good spiritual books. This practice of 'spiritual reading' cannot be praised too highly as a means of helping a devout soul to attain a deeper faith, hope and love of God and of Jesus Christ. If you are in doubt as to what saints lives read, ask Blessed James to help you make a good choice. Or else read the lives of the saints who appeal to you.

Let us return to the life of Blessed James. In the year 1288 Blessed James was elected by the clergy of the archdiocese as their archbishop. But when informed by Pope Nicholas IV of this election, James refused to accept it. He was content with his preaching and writing and with his religious life, judging that this was the best way he could serve the needs of the Church and give glory to God. After four more years, in 1292, the archbishopric of Genoa again fell vacant and James was elected again as archbishop. This time the Pope forced James to accept the office. James, seeing this as the manifest will of God, accepted the office wholeheartedly and for the next six years served with great zeal as archbishop of Genoa. His desire to spread God's word found a new outlet in his preaching and teaching and administrative duties for his archdiocese, finally ceasing with his death on July 13, 1298. He was revered by his people in the archdiocese of Genoa as well as by his Dominican brothers as a priest and bishop who helped others recognize the presence of God's grace working among them.

As an afterword, let us briefly consider how the apostolic zeal of one man influenced the spirituality of both the Church of his time and the Church in following centuries. His influence of St. Ignatius Loyola is only one example, for there are countless others whose spiritual lives were inspired by the lives of the saints as recounted in the "Golden Legend" of Blessed James. Although the "Golden Legend" is out of print, it has served its purpose. Now we have much larger collections of saint's lives, such as Butler's "Lives of the Saints", as well as many of the references you have seen in these brief bulletin articles. They still have the capacity to inspire us, as they did St. Ignatius. In addition, we also pray to them for their help in our various needs as well as praying with them so as to give tribute to the glory of God. "God is wonderful in his saints."

References:

St. Dominic's Family, by Sister Mary Jean Dorcy, TAN pub., 1983
Supplement to the Liturgy of the Hours, O.P., editor D. Wright, O.P., Chicago IL
The Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius, Image Books, 1963

Prepared by Father Austin Green, O.P.