



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.

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. 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.

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JULY 13, 2008

Sunday, June 29th's Second Collection, PETER'S PENCE, for the Holy Father's Charities, amounted to \$12,929. More envelopes have been sent for this collection. I might have a chance to announce another increase. Again, thank you for your generosity.

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT SUNDAY, July 20th is the *Annual Black Bag Collection* for the *St. Vincent de Paul Society*. 100% of your donation goes directly to the society to help people who are hungry, hopeless, alone, frightened as they carry their cross of suffering and pain.

DIOCESAN SERVICES FUND - Pope Benedict teaches that as we receive the Eucharist, we are called to reach out to all people with the love of the risen Christ. We have listened to that call, we have responded as the Body of Christ in reaching out and sharing our gifts. Thank you and bless you for your generosity. Those of you who have not yet responded to the call please respond today. Please remember that you may give on-line at www.archgh.org/dsf. Our parish goal is \$111,522.00. This amount which is set by the Archdiocese is based on the most recent year of parish income. We should be proud that Holy Rosary parishioners are making a significant financial contribution to the ministry of the Church in part of the world.

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

ALTAR FLOWERS Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Leamont donated the flowers this Sunday in memory of her beloved grandfather, William Davied French, and aunt, Sandra Kay Moore, who passed away recently.

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

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). July 20th topic, "Let the weeds and wheat grow together until harvest."

2009 ENVELOPES: Just a reminder, envelopes that have not been picked up after next, Sunday, July 20th, **will not** have 2009 envelopes printed for those persons. The primary reason for not printing them is to avoid extra expense for items that will never be used. The envelopes are outside Room 200 in the Parish Hall. **We have blank parish envelope information forms (green) in the vestibule of the church for your convenience in updating your information or requesting that you wish to receive/or not receive your envelopes for 2009, this applies to registered parishioner only.**

SACRED HEART SCHOOL in Conroe will soon be celebrating its 50th anniversary as a school and we are looking for all alumni, students and employees. If you are an ex-alumni please call Martha C. Byrd, 936-756-8186, Secretary, Sacred Heart Church, Conroe, Texas.

FATHER VICENTE will be on vacation until the end of July. The next Baptismal Preparation Session for Registered Parents of Holy Rosary Parish infants will be **tentatively scheduled for the second Saturday in August.** Please call the parish office to register with the secretary, 713-529-4854 ext. 101 after July 21st.

A GENTLE REMINDER: Please remember to turn off your cell phone, pager or beeper before entering church. Also, the church is a Sacred and Holy place; not a lunch room. Please do not bring food or drink into the church. We should also strive to dress appropriately for attendance at Mass. We are fortunate to have air-conditioning even though we realize that different people prefer different temperatures. Remember you are in the Lord's house.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS TO OUR PARISH:

Mr. and Mrs. Vidal Ramirez, Mr. William Elliott, Mr. Peter Pham, Mr. William Hadney and Mr. and Mrs. Roger Burks.

WELCOME NEWLY BAPTIZED:

Paul Zachary James Nguyen, Emmery Alysse Patton, Jake Thomas Smith, Santiago Emiliano Vargas, Alexander Xavier Lopez, Isabella Krista Denena and Bianca Alejandra Santos Ramirez.

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER KONKEL: Some of you may have noticed that there is an official notice hanging on one of the Light poles in the parking lot on Milam directly across from the Church. The Parish Finance Committee is investigating the possibility of having the City of Houston sell the parish the one-block stretch of Berry Street between Milam and Louisiana. It is possible to propose this because the parish owns the blocks which abut that portion of the street. If, in the future, the land becomes ours, it will be developed and landscaped for parking.

'The human race forms one society, hence one law should determine international relations.'

"At the time the concept of national sovereign states was first developing, the Dominican friar, Francis de Vitoria, rightly considered as a precursor of the idea of the United Nations, described this responsibility (The responsibility of those governing to protect those governed) as an aspect of natural reason shared by all nations, and the result of an international order whose task it was to regulate relations between peoples..." this quote from the address of Pope Benedict XVI to the delegates of the U. N. in New York on April 18 of this year points to the continuing influence of this Dominican friar who in the 16th century influenced the colonial policy of the Spanish empire of Charles V.

Francis de Vitoria was born about 1483 in Old Castile, Spain, and at about the age of 17 entered the Order of Preachers at Burgos. After his novitiate and philosophical studies he was sent to the main Dominican theology house of studies at St. Jacques, Paris. There he was ordained, studied and taught for 18 years, becoming acquainted with Erasmus and other leading humanists. He was an outstanding teacher and in 1523 he was appointed as regent (dean) of studies at St. Gregory's College in Valladolid. In 1526 the principal chair of theology at the University of Salamanca fell vacant and the students chose Fr. Vitoria to fill that post. Because of the religious upheaval of the Reformation, this University soon became the theological center of Catholic Europe during the 16th century, and after. Here Fr. Vitoria introduced the "Summa theologiae" of St. Thomas as a classroom text, a practice soon followed by other Catholic universities and seminaries.

Among his students during his tenure at Salamanca were the Dominicans Melchior Cano and Domingo Banez-who offered invaluable service to the Church at the Council of Trent. The Spanish Emperor, Charles V, consulted Fr. Vitoria on matters of state. The Emperor's aunt was Catherine of Aragon, wife of Henry VIII of England. The Emperor asked the opinion of Fr. Vitoria about Henry's demand for a divorce, and Fr. Vitoria's reply was that the marriage was valid and could not be nullified. Unfortunately, this opinion was ignored by King Henry.

For 20 years at the beginning of each academic year, Fr. Vitoria delivered a formal address to the University discussing current world problems. Twelve of these have survived, several of them are famous. Two of them, "On the Indies" and "On the right of Spaniards to Make War on the Barbarians" are the basis for Fr. Vitoria's title as founder of modern international law. These lectures were occasioned by the discovery of the New World, and the consequent discussion among rulers on the rights of Spaniards to colonize the new lands and to trade with the natives and to Christianize them. These two taken together constitute the first treatise concerning the law of peace and war. Two other lectures, "On the civil power" and "On the power of the Church" complement and develop the first two. For Fr. Vitoria the state alone is the legally perfect civil society; it is a natural outgrowth of society and essential to it. God, as author of the law of nature, is the source of civil authority; but once the political community is set up, its people may freely determine the kind of rule it wants and who the rulers should be. On citizenship, he held that it depended on place of birth rather than the nationality of parents. However, it is possible to change citizenship; but all who accept citizenship must share equally in the burdens of the state, fostering the common good of all citizens.

Fr. Vitoria was a staunch advocate of the rights of the Native Peoples. He held they had been in rightful and peaceful possession of their property. He made allowance that in the case of backward peoples, a more enlightened state (the Spaniards) might rule them, provided it was for the true welfare of the natives and not merely for the profit of the Spaniards.

His teaching influenced the ruling body of Spain, the Cortes, to make laws for their colonies, forbidding the enslavement of the natives, and providing for their education, especially in the truths of the Catholic faith. The Dominican missionaries in New Spain, under the leadership of Anthony Montesinos and Bartolome de las Casas, agitated continually for the enforcement of these laws. But unfortunately (especially for the enslaved natives) the Spanish colonizers mostly ignored these laws and directives, following the dictates of their own greed. Ultimately the laws supporting the humanity of the natives did become recognized and have a beneficial effect on the Spanish New World colonies.

Fr. Vitoria, in discussing the rights of Spaniards in the New World based these on the Law of Nations. He said, "What natural reason has established among all nations is called 'The Law of Nations.'" He went further and stated the relationship of national states to one another, visualizing an international society constituting one integral political order.

Fr. Vitoria visualized humanity as a universal society made up on the various nations in the world and governed by the 'law of nations', i.e., the law of nature applied to a universal political reality. It was his vision that all Christian nations would elect a king, or ruler, whom all the nations would be obliged to obey. This idea only began to be carried out in the practice first by the League of Nations after WWI and then by the United Nations after WWII. At present it is still far from the ideal of Fr. Vitoria, yet his thought continues to influence our modern age. 'Ideas have consequences', and good ideas have good consequences, although it may take them some time to appear. Fr. Vitoria's ideas about international law, first expressed in the university classrooms of Salamanca in the 16th century, continue to influence international society in the 21st century.

Fr. Vitoria, the Dominican and priest and individual man, is hidden behind the figure of the renowned theologian. We know next to nothing about the life of Fr. Vitoria outside of what we have in his lectures. Even these would not have been preserved unless his students, anxious to catch every word he said, had not taken notes of many of his lectures so that later they could be published.

Fr. Francisco Vitoria, O.P., died in 1546 while still an active teacher at the University Of Salamanca. Although he does not have the title of saint or blessed, or even venerable, he does have the title of great Catholic theologian whose teachings helped the rulers of Spain to recognize the human dignity and the rights of the native peoples in the lands of the New World which they occupied. Even today he is recognized as the father of international law.

References:

New Catholic Encyclopedia, edition of 1966, vol. XIV, pp. 727-28
St. Dominic's Family, by Sister Mary Jean Dorcy, TAN pub., 1983