



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. 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@holyroaryparish.org

MAILING ADDRESS

3600 Travis Street
Houston, TX 77002

RELIGIOUS ED. CENTER

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

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AUGUST 24, 2008

SECOND COLLECTION FROM SUNDAY, AUGUST 17TH - *Infirm Priests*, amounted to \$7,356.00. Thank you for your generosity.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: *Kathleen McEvoy, Louise Bering, Carol Elder, Denise Akeroyd Scanlin, Edward Rutkowski, Mary Willoughby, James Fisher, Marion Spiers, Nancy McDonough, Earley Magnuson, Neil Hanson, Ursel Lange, Brian and Virginia Geaslin, Alma Luna, Bonnie and James St. Julian and the Friars of Holy Rosary.* Please keep in your prayers Carmen G. Bridges who was buried on Saturday, August 23rd.

ALTAR FLOWERS In memory of the *James S. Miller family, Mr. and Mrs. M.J. Lahey, and Bernadine Miller.*

COFFEE AFTER MASS will be served today, August 24th, in the Parish Hall, Room 200. All are welcome. Please join your fellow parishioners for some social moments.

BAKE SALE TODAY: The Catholic Organization of Life (C.O.O.L.) youth group is sponsoring a bake sale after the morning Masses **today, Sunday, Aug. 24th**, in the courtyard to benefit the annual **March of the Surviving Youth**. The MSY, held in conjunction with Forty Days for Life, is a youth rally to raise awareness about abortion and encourage youth citywide to live their lives for LIFE.

WHAT'S COOKING: Just a reminder that Wednesday lunches will return on the first Wednesday in September. The price of the lunches will be increased to \$4.00 this year.

"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). August 31st topic, "*Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God.*"

2009 ENVELOPES - Time is running out if you wish to make any changes to your envelope status we must have the information in our office by **August 31st**. There are green parish envelope information forms in the vestibule of the church, please fill this form out if you have a change in address, phone number, etc. or if you **DO NOT** want to receive envelopes, this is for registered parishioners only. Remember if you didn't pick up your 2008 envelopes you will not receive envelopes for 2009, however, you will still be registered.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES will begin on Sunday, September 14th. New student enrollment will take place after the morning Masses today, August 24th, and also on Sunday, September 7th in the parish hall. Classes are available to **REGISTERED Holy Rosary** families (extended family members such as grandchildren, nieces/nephews require special permission to register). May all the blessings of the Holy Family extend to your families as you enjoy the end of your summer vacation.

Catechists (new and returning) and substitute catechists will have a training session on Saturday, September 6th, from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM in the Religious Education Center. (Across the street from the church adjacent to the gated parking lot) We are thankful for the response we have received so far and are anxious to have more people step forward to assist the families of Holy Rosary pass the Catholic faith on to their children. Praise Jesus Christ, the Divine Teacher!

MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE UNTO THE LORD - Do you love to sing? Do you love to make a joyful noise to the Lord? Would you like to do both in the new Co-Cathedral? The Archdiocesan Choir is holding its **final** audition on Sunday, September 7, from 1 to 6 pm. This select chorus of approximately 70 voices provides music for ordinations of bishops, priests and deacons, Chrism Mass and other liturgies. Requirements: 18 years or older, good singing voice, some ability to read music is preferred. Call the Office of Worship to schedule a time, 713-741-8760. For more information phone the office or visit the website: www.archgh.org/choir.

WELCOME - Fr. Victor Brown, O.P. was pastor of Holy Rosary Parish from 1986 until 1995. During the last three years he has been Chaplain to the cloistered Dominican Nuns at the Monastery of the Infant Jesus in Lufkin, Texas. Fr. Brown, who is now on Limited Service (what the Southern Dominicans call retirement) has been assigned to Holy Rosary Priory for his residential assignment. His Dominican Brothers welcome him to the Priory and we hope his many friends in Houston will enjoy having him around.

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER KONKEL: Holy Rosary Parish was audited by the Archdiocesan Audit Committee this last week. Management practices and the handling and recording of finances were among the many areas covered. We will receive a written report in a few weeks. I am sure there will be more information to share with the parishioners. God bless this endeavor

VENERABLE ROBERT NUTTER, O.P., Priest, Martyr
(born circa. 1555-died 1600)
“In both life and death, we are the Lord’s” (St. Paul)

Most candidates to a religious order have a personal visit with one of its members, then have some time to reflect before making a decision whether or not to enter. The English secular priest, Robert Nutter, applied by mail for membership in an Order that he only knew by hearsay, because Dominicans were banned from England at the time he applied. More than that, he was in prison at the time, awaiting sentence, and his letter had to be smuggled out by friends.

Robert Nutter was born in Lancashire, England, around 1555, of a wealthy family which usually sent its sons to Oxford. However, when Robert and his brother were of college age they both wanted to be priests. This was about 1572 and to be a Catholic in England meant sure persecution and, particularly for priests even death. A college had been founded at Rheims, France, for the education and training of priests for the English mission, so the two young Nutters were smuggled over to France and began their priestly training. Robert finished his training, was ordained in Rome in 1581, and was ready to return home.

At this time the English mission was a dangerous one, but not necessarily a deadly one, for Catholic priests. Henry VIII in 1534 passed the Act of Supremacy making him the Supreme Head of the (Catholic) Church in England and requiring each of his subjects to take an oath that he was such. Because Thomas More and Bishop John Fisher refused to take this oath, they were martyred for the faith in 1535. When Elizabeth I became Queen of England (1558) she followed her father’s policy but was content to punish recusants with prison sentences, not death. However, in November, 1569 there was a Northern Rising of English Catholics who rejected this Act of Supremacy. The government soldiers crushed this rebellion in blood. This event moved Pope Pius V to issue a Papal Bull, February of 1570, in which he excommunicated Elizabeth (she was still a baptized, though nominal, Catholic) and released her Catholic subjects from allegiance to her. In retaliation, Elizabeth passed a law saying it was treason to call her a heretic or to bring papal bulls into England. This put English Catholics in a bind. To be considered loyal Englishmen they must accept Queen Elizabeth not only as their queen but also as the Supreme Head of their Church in England. If they wanted to be loyal to their queen and country, and also be loyal to the pope as head of the Catholic church, then they were branded as ‘traitors’ to their queen and country. Nevertheless, great numbers of the English remained loyal to the ancient Catholic faith.

This was the situation when Robert and his friend, Fr. Haydock, planned their trip back to their home country after being ordained in Rome. In secular clothes and using forged names and passports, they entered England and began their priestly ministry. Robert stayed clear of the law for two years, until 1583, then he was captured and imprisoned in the Tower of London. Here he was tortured then released after some months. He, with twenty other priests, was banished from England, shipped off to Normandy, and threatened with immediate death if they ever returned.

For two years, Fr. Nutter taught at the English College in Douai, Belgium, for the training of priests for England. Then in 1586, refreshed in spirit, he attempted to return to England by boarding a French ship bound for Scotland. The ship was apprehended by an English ship before it reached Scotland. The priests on board were taken by the English and thrown into prison at Newgate, one of the most infamous of English prisons. After a year or two at Newgate, he and other priests were moved to Wisbich, a prison on an island near the eastern coast of England. This was not so filthy as Newgate and there was no torture. Fr. Nutter pointed out that many monks lived as austerely as they did in prison; and he with some other priests set up a rule of life, seeking to follow a kind of monastic routine. It seems that it was at Wisbich that Fr. Nutter sent the letter to the Dominican provincial at Lisbon, requesting admittance to the Order as a vowed friar, or perhaps as a priest promised to the Rule of the Dominican Third Order. The former seems more likely since it would mean a more full participation in the life of the Order with its accompanying spiritual benefits.

Fr. Nutter spent eleven years at Wisbich, probably most of them as a Dominican priest. It might seem that Fr. Nutter was a kind of ‘minimal Dominican’ since he did not live in a Dominican community, study St. Thomas, then preach and teach. Such a judgment would ignore two things: 1) he preached to his fellow-prisoners by the examples of his life, especially a rules of daily prayer and of concern for others; 2) he depended upon the spiritual support of the prayers and penances offered by his Dominican brothers and sisters throughout the world, and especially of those in Purgatory and Heaven. This second thing is doubtless the reason he decided to become a Dominican - to obtain a share in the merits and prayers of all the Dominican men and women on earth, in purgatory and in heaven.

After eleven years, Fr. Nutter and several other priests escaped from Wisbich because the Porter (Gatekeeper) accidentally left the gate of the prison unlocked. Fr. Nutter and three other priests escaped and got as far as Lincoln when they were arrested and immediately condemned to death.

Since the year 1585 the penalties against priests had become much more severe. In that year was passed “The Act against Priests and Disobedient Subjects” which made it an act of high treason for an English native, ordained abroad as a Catholic priest, to return and minister in England. This Act also extended to any person who harbored or assisted a priest in any way. Any person arrested under this Act would suffer the gruesome death penalty of being, “hanged, drawn and quartered.” This sentence was read to the condemned as they awaited death: “Ye shall be drawn through the open city to the place of execution, and there be hanged and let down while still alive, ... beheaded and quartered.” This was “The Act that made the martyrs” as one Jesuit commentator put it. Previous to this, prison was often the punishment for priests and those who assisted them, but after this Act the only punishment for an arrested priest was death. The English State under Elizabeth I wanted every English subject to conform to the state Church under the headship on the king (or queen) and realized the only way to do this was to eliminate the priests. Without priests for offering Mass and giving the sacraments the Catholic Church could not function publicly. Though thousands of Catholics remained faithful to the ancient Church they had to do so in secret, ‘on their own’ as it were, realizing that if their religion were publicly known they would be branded as traitors to the English state. Thomas Hesketh, Attorney of the Court of Wards and a notorious priest-hunter, was the one who arrested Fr. Nutter and wrote a letter to his superior describing the priest’s life and activities. He summarized the official government position in these words (using Old English spelling): “Your honor maie easily discern, and so did al men as I thincke that were at the execution, what notable traytors these kind of people are, for not withstanding all their Glorious Speeches, yet their Opinion and their doctrine is, that her highness is but tenant at will of her crowne to the Pope...”

Father Nutter and his companions were martyred on July 26, 1600, in Lancashire. He spent 18 years on the English mission, 16 of them in prison. Although officially branded a ‘traitor’ he never ceased to love his English people, gladly accepting years of prison along with torture and death so that the sacrifice of his life might help bring the salvation of Christ to his beloved English nation.

References:

New Catholic Encyclopedia, vol. 9, p. 328

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

Prepared by Austin Green, O. P.