



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-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SEPTEMBER 7, 2008

SECOND COLLECTION THIS SUNDAY, Catholic University of America/University of St. Thomas.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Charles Plunkett, Kathleen McEvoy, Louise Bering, Denise Akeroyd Scanlin, Mary Willoughby, 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 remember in your prayers James Fisher, parishioner, who passed away last week.

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the *Glory of God* and for special intentions. Please remember the donor in your prayers.

COFFEE AFTER MASS will be served today, September 7th, in the Parish Hall, Room 200. All are welcome. Please join your fellow parishioners for some social moments.

WEDNESDAY LUNCHESES ARE BACK! - HERE'S WHAT'S COOKING ... for September 10th. *Ritzy chicken, green salad, brownies with ice cream, coffee and tea*, will be served on Wednesday, after the 12:05 p.m. Mass in the Parish Hall, Room 200. Welcome. And as a reminder the lunches will be \$4.00 this year due to food cost increases, and there will be no take-outs.

SPECIAL EVENTS Don't miss the first installment of The Journey of St. Paul at the Parish Coffee, upstairs in the Parish Hall this Sunday, September 7 after the morning Masses.

Our **Octoberfest** dinner, which many in the parish have attended and highly recommend, will be held on Sunday, October 5 from 10:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. The Adult Menu will be Bratwurst, Sauerkraut Balls, German Potato Salad, Sweet and Sour Cabbage, Bread, German Chocolate Cake, \$8.00; Children's Menu is Hot Dogs, Chips, Cookie, \$2.00. Watch the September bulletins and posters in the vestibule for further information

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES will begin next Sunday, September 14th. New student enrollment will take place after the morning Masses on **this Sunday** 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 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!

"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). September 14th topic, "*Love conquers hate.*" Exaltation of the Cross.

THE CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN CORPS PASTORAL ASSISTANTS FORMATION TRAINING - The Catholic Chaplain Corps (CCC) of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston provides pastoral and sacramental ministry for the patients in the Medical Center Hospitals. The CCC also provides such care in other hospitals in the Houston area as well as the UTMB in Galveston. A very important part of the Corps Ministry is offered through the Pastoral Assistants (PA). The PA formation process is one year in length. If you are interested in learning more about being a Pastoral Assistant and in serving those who are ill, please call Fr. Page Polk, OFM, at 713-747-8445. A new series of classes begins December 6, 2008.

SENIORS DAY St. Dominic's Village, 2401 Holcombe, will hold a Seniors Day Workshop - Learn, Worship and Enjoy on Thursday, September 18, 2008, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. A special Mass will be held at 10 a.m. with Archbishop Emeritus Joseph A. Fiorenza. Seminars on health screening and demonstrations will be provided. Limited seating, for reservations please call 713-440-3413 or email: kperry@stdominicvillage.org

A GENTLE REMINDER - Please *HOLY SILENCE* in the presence of *GOD* in the Blessed Sacrament. *His* house is a place of prayer, not a meeting hall. Please remember to turn off your cell phones and beepers, no food or drink permitted, and when your little one needs a 'Time Out' we have a 'Time-Out' room, first floor in the parish hall. This room has closed circuit T.V. with hymnals and Sunday bulletins. You are able to keep up with the Mass and return in time for the Holy Eucharist.

A MESSAGE FROM FR. KONKEL - There will be a Memorial Mass for Jim Considine at St. Mary's Seminary, 9845 Memorial Drive, Houston, on Saturday, September 20th, at 11:30 a.m. The Mass is sponsored by the Serra Club. They want to invite Jim's friends to attend.

JOHN BRÉHAL, O. P., Priest, Inquisitor (born ca. 1410, died 1479)
“Truth will prevail.”

The popular idea of the Inquisition of the Catholic church is not a flattering one. It may conjure up images of sinister-looking men clothed in black and white condemning a poor wretch standing before them of heresy, and to the punishment of burning, images perhaps influenced by Dostoyevsky's "Grand Inquisitor" in the novel "The Brothers Karamazov." Yet the reality of the Inquisition in the Catholic Church was quite different. It is true that the Inquisition was sometimes misused by influential men for political ends instead of the religious goal of the salvation of souls for which it was originally established. Yet misuse was the exception, and generally the Inquisition was a help to establishing the true teaching of Christ in the medieval society where it operated. An example of the misuse of the Inquisition is the case of St. Joan of Arc who was condemned as a heretic by the ecclesiastical court of the Inquisition and consequently burned at the stake in 1531 in the city of Rouen, France. An example of the beneficial use of the Inquisition was the retrial of St. Joan the Maid conducted by the Inquisition twenty years later, and which resulted in the vindication of her life and mission. This second trial not only invalidated the proceedings and the sentence of the first trial but it brought out clearly the true holiness of the "Maid of Orleans" and opened the way for her eventual canonization as a saint of the Catholic Church.

The inquisitor who organized and conducted this second ecclesiastical trial was a Dominican priest and theologian, John Bréhal. He was born at Evreux, France, and took the religious habit in the Dominican Convent of that same city. He was still a student for the priesthood at the time St. Joan was burned as a heretic, and his sympathies, like those of most of the French, were entirely with St. Joan and against those who arranged her death. Little did he realize at this time in his studies how important a part he would be called upon to fulfill in the rehabilitation of her good name.

In 1443, at about the age of 33, he received the degree of Doctor of theology from the Dominican University in the city of Caen, Normandy. Two years later he was elected Prior (superior) of the Dominican convent of St. Jacques, Paris, some of whose members became teachers at the famous University of Paris. Fr. Bréhal was an excellent theologian and well-trained in Church law. It is presumed that he taught theology and Church law to Dominican students as well as students at the University of Paris for a period of about 10 years. He was well-thought of as a teacher and an expert in Church law, with the result that in 1450 he was appointed as the inquisitor-general for France, meaning that he had the final decision about all the cases that came before the courts of the Catholic Church in France.

At this time France was a divided country. Generally the north and west were controlled by the English while the eastern and southern parts were loyal to the French king. In 1420 by the Treaty of Troyes, the English king, Henry V, had himself declared king of France. The legitimate French king, Charles VI, had become insane and his legitimate heir, the Dauphin (future Charles VII) has been set aside by this Treaty. After both Henry V and Charles VI had died, the Duke of Bedford, English ruler of France for the new English king, Henry VI, tried to complete the English rule of France by capturing the Dauphin and besieging the key French city of Orleans. In January, 1429, Joan, a peasant girl of 17, led by her "voices", secretly left her home and obtained an audience with the Dauphin. After suitable investigations she was put in charge of the reassembled French army and led them to victory over the English at Orleans in May; with another victory in June she led the Dauphin to Rheims where he was crowned King Charles VII of France in July. A year later the English were able to capture Joan. They planned to discredit Joan and thus cast doubt on the legitimacy of King Charles VII, whom Joan supported. At Rouen, a church trial was arranged by the bishop of Beauvais who was on the English side, and the bishop forced the Dominican sub-inquisitor of the city to approve the procedure of the trial. Through perjured testimony Joan was convicted as a relapsed heretic and burned in 1531.

In 1450, having retaken Rouen from the English, King Charles asked his counselor to open an inquiry into the truth of the proceedings of the English trial against Joan the Maid. The counselor realized that since Joan had been condemned by the Church court, the Inquisition, only that same court could conduct such an inquiry so he contacted the papal legate in Paris, Cardinal d'Estouteville, who in turn requested the help of the inquisitor-general, John Bréhal. Fr. Bréhal gladly assented and harnessed himself to a task that would absorb his considerable theological and legal skills for a space of four years. The Cardinal and Fr. Bréhal went to Rouen in May, 1452, and began the inquiry, summoning many witnesses. This gathering of testimony from over 300 witnesses took many, many months. The official trial was opened only in 1454 under the supervision of Fr. Bréhal, authorized by the archbishop of Rouen who was now Cardinal d'Estouteville. The case was put before the Church court, the Inquisition, at the plea of the mother and brother of Joan, for they were still loving. This Church trial took two years to complete. It was conducted freely and openly, in contrast to the first trial, and its findings clearly showed that in the first trial many rules of procedure had been violated, records of sworn testimony had been changed, with threats of violence to those who dared to offer testimony in favor of Joan. The final verdict handed down by Fr. Bréhal was that the first trial of Joan was invalid in its procedure and in its condemnation. This final verdict was announced on July 7, 1456, amid great rejoicing by the French people.

One further result of the investigation conducted by Fr. Bréhal and those who assisted him was that the sanctity of Joan shone out more clearly: her loyalty to pope and church, her defense of her purity, her truthfulness, her love for Christ and his saints. It was the devoted and painstaking work of John Bréhal which helped to bring out the true character of 'Joan the Maid' and this helped make possible her canonization—564 years later, in 1920.

Fr. John Bréhal also was involved in another famous case brought before the Inquisition in France. The faculty of the University of Paris refused to allow members of the mendicant orders—Franciscans, Dominicans, Carmelites and Augustinians—to teach at the University. Fr. Bréhal referred the case to Rome and was able to obtain papal approval for mendicants teaching at the University of Paris.

These cases give some indication of the help that the Church court, the Inquisition, has offered to members of the Church in the past. It is also a tribute to the dedication of Fr. John Bréhal in helping those who called upon the aid of the Church court. In 1474, Fr. Bréhal retired from his post as inquisitor-general and returned to his home convent of Evreux, to live the religious life among his Dominican brothers, and there he died in 1479 at the age of about 69. May he receive the reward of his labors.

References: New Catholic Encyclopedia, vol. 7, p. 992, The Retrial of Joan of Arc, by Regine Pernoud, Ignatius Press, 2007, St. Dominic's Family, by Sister M. Jean Dorcy, TAN pub., 1983

Article Prepared by Father Austin Green, O.P.