



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 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@holYROsaryparish.org

MAILING ADDRESS

3600 Travis Street
Houston, TX 77002

RELIGIOUS ED. CENTER

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

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JUNE 15, 2008

Happy Father's Day

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.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK & CONVALESCENT - 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 given in memory of *Mr. John Thompson*. Please remember him and the donor in your prayers.

ALTAR FLOWERS The flowers on the altar every Sunday are donated by a parishioner. You can donate them for anything: anniversaries, in memory of a loved one, or any prayer request you may have. If you are interested in doing the same here is the information: Contact Nelly Abdo at 281-242-7401 or nelly_abdo@yahoo.com. The cost for two floral arrangements is \$130.00.

COFFEE AFTER MASS will be served today, June 15th, in the Parish Hall, Room 200. All are welcome. Please join your fellow parishioners for some social moments.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - Because of Father's Day the Knights **will not** be selling hot dogs this weekend. **Next Sunday, June 22, the Knights will be selling hot dogs.**

"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 22 topic, *Nothing is concealed that will not be revealed.*

SUNDAY, JUNE 29TH - PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION The theme for this year's Collection *Christ Our Hope* echoes that of the Holy Father's apostolic journey to the United States in April 2008. The theme reflects the message of Pope Benedict XVI's encyclical *Spe Salvi*: an invitation for people to encounter Jesus Christ personally. In the encyclical, Pope Benedict said that faith in Christ brings well-founded hope in eternal salvation, the great hope that can sustain people through the trials of this world.

Contributions to the Peter's Pence Collection will ...

Enable the Holy Father to respond with immediate emergency assistance to the most disadvantaged throughout the world-those who suffer as a result of war, oppression, disease, and natural disaster.

Provide an opportunity for Catholics to support the Holy Father's mission - an active expression of Christ's love for the poor - and stand in solidarity with Catholics worldwide.

Have totaled more than \$190 million in contributions by dioceses of the United States, who generously provide nearly half of all gifts made to the collection

Your contribution to the Peter's Pence Collection on June 29th allows the Holy Father to respond with timely and effective emergency assistance to our suffering brothers and sisters throughout the world. Thus, in solidarity with the Pope, we Catholics participate in works of goodness that distinguish us as followers of the Gospel.

SPECIAL THANKS TO HOLY ROSARY VOLUNTEERS: Our parish is growing and much has happened as the membership has grown in spirit, size and energy. Much of what has been accomplished has occurred because of the hard work and devotion of many volunteers; not just people who call the pastor with suggestions, but persevering members of the parish who work on the projects and the development of the parish. May God bless them for the gift of their talents and their hard work. And if you would like to volunteer please call the parish office, 713-529-4854 ext.101 for further information.

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER KONKEL: Several people have already indicated they are interested in helping me and the Dominican Friars have access to fresh herbs and vegetables in the garden plot located in front of the original parish rectory of Travis Street. If we have delays in the project, we will blame part of that on the very hot weather. I also will have to accept some of the blame due to a short vacation I have planned starting next Thursday. I will be with family and friends in New Orleans and the panhandle of Florida for eight days. I will not be working on my sun tan, but I will be catching up on my relaxation. I will be back for the last weekend of June.

RAPHAEL CAPTIER, T.O.P., and COMPANIONS, Martyrs (D. 1871)

“Let us go, my friends, for the sake of God...” (Fr. Raphael, as he and his companions were led to death.)

Raphael Captier was one of the first four recruits for the teaching community of diocesan priests founded by Pere Lacordaire circa 1855. This clerical community had as its goal the education of French youth in the truths of the Catholic faith. The activity of the religious orders in France had suffered certain restrictions. Aware of this, Lacordaire found four diocesan priests who shared his concern and were willing to devote their priestly ministry to the religious education of boys and young men, while living in a community guided by the rule of the Dominican Third Order. They remained diocesan priests but were full-time teachers.

Many diocesan priests joined this Third Order teaching institute and the institute flourished, forming communities in several locations in France. The group of Father Raphael was located in Arcueil, a suburb of Paris, and four priests of the institute plus several laymen were teaching the young men at the college there. Father Raphael was the founder of the college in 1863, two years after the death of Pere Lacordaire, as well as being superior of the group. He and his companion-priests bound themselves to follow the rule for the Dominican Third Order, sharing prayers and a limited community life. Yet they remained diocesan priests under obedience to their bishop. This community of the College of St. Albert the Great (its official name) were dedicated to the Catholic education of youth.

Father Raphael and his companions proved their dedication to the faith of Jesus Christ and to their task of evangelizing Catholic youth by giving up their lives in the revolution of the Paris Commune during March to May, 1871.

In 1870 the German armies invaded France, advancing to Paris and laying it under siege. The college had to be closed and the young men sent home, away from danger. The college building was turned into a hospital and several members of the faculty joined the ambulance corps and spent the siege searching the battlefields for the wounded and in caring for the sick and the dying. They were within range of the German guns, but the enemy respected the Red Cross that flew over the temporary hospital. And the French army expressed their gratitude for the care of their wounded and sick. In January 1871, an armistice was agreed upon and the Germans lifted their siege, allowing the students to come back to the college. The routine of the school had no sooner begun than a new danger presented itself, one that would turn out to be more menacing than the German guns.

After the armistice, the new republican government was organizing itself at Versailles and the regular army was in the vicinity, waiting for orders from the new but disorganized rulers. Meanwhile in the city of Paris there was great confusion until the revolutionaries of the Communist-socialist party took command, using some troops of the local National Guard to bring some order to the city. The revolutionary leaders claimed to have authority from the people of the city of Paris and so they were called the Paris Commune. They held the ruling power in the city for only three months, from March to the end of May, 1871, but their main goal during that period seems to have been to vent their hatred against the Catholic Church, and especially against those who held authority in the Church. The arrests began toward the end of March and no reason for them was given; the hatred the revolutionaries had for the Catholic Church was considered sufficient excuse for any violence they wished to inflict on its ministers.

There were three groups of martyrs, of whom the Dominicans formed the second group. The first group arrested included the Archbishop of Paris, two secular priests, two Jesuits and a public magistrate, a senator. After several weeks of captivity they were executed on May 24th.

The next target of the revolutionaries was the College of St. Albert. On May 19th, one of the most cruel of the revolutionaries led the attack on it, breaking open its main door and arresting everyone in the building, from the superior down to the servants. One of the teachers managed to conceal a few of the children and two of the older boys, arrested with the teachers, were later released. The sisters, who had done nothing more wicked than take care of wounded soldiers, were carried off first and threatened with all the horrors their captors could invent—none of which were carried out. The women servants were then taken to prison and frightened half to death, but evidently were soon released. Then the priests and teachers were lined up and made to march to prison. The group consisted of Father Captier, Father Bourard, O.P., of the First Order, chaplain of the college, four other priests of the teaching Third Order, a clerical student, a secular priest and four laymen, all five on the teaching faculty, plus twelve other employees of the school. They were imprisoned along with priests of other Orders, a journalist, a banker and several police officers. For a week they suffered from hunger and thirst, cold nights spent trying to sleep on damp straw, and days spent enduring the insults of soldiers. As they were led to prison a woman had remarked, “There goes Jesus Christ with his disciples to Jerusalem to be crucified again.” At first the prisoners had appealed for a trial, but soon realizing the futility of this, they began to compose themselves for death, making their confessions to one another.

In the morning of May 25th, they were moved to another prison within the city on the Avenue d’Italie, enduring many insults and realizing that death was coming closer.

In the late afternoon of May 25th, the prison door was flung open to the street and the prisoners were ordered to go out one by one. Fr. Captier, whose courage had sustained his fellows during their long ordeal, said, “Let us go, my friends, for the sake of God...” and then was the first to step out. As he and the others emerged into the street they were shot down, some dying immediately, some lingering for hours. The official of the Commune, sitting in a carriage with a woman, watched the massacre calmly and made no comment when the soldiers looted the bodies and mutilated them.

The bodies remained on the ground until the next day, May 26th, when the regular army troops at last arrived from Versailles and drove the Commune from this part of the city. Then friends came and rescued the bodies, collecting them and bringing them to Arcueil where they were buried with reverence in a mass grave on the school’s campus and a fitting monument was erected over them. Their cause for beatification was opened in 1924.

There was a third group of 22 martyrs, most of them priests, whom the revolutionaries on May 26th, marched to their last stronghold on Belleville Heights. There a crowd of men, women and children, attacked the defenseless prisoners and literally hacked them to pieces in an hour. It was the last gasp of the revolutionaries for within two or three hours of the massacre the regular army conquered this last stronghold of the Commune.

We pay our respects to, and thank God for, the unconquerable faith of all these martyrs. But especially we remember our Dominican brothers who, along with the others, have left us such an example of courage, fidelity and love of Jesus Christ.

References:

- Catholic Encyclopedia, ed. 1913, vol. 4, p. 168
- St. Dominic’s Family, by Sister M. Jean Dorcy, O.P., TAN, pub., 1983
- Encyclopedia Britannica, ed. 1947, vol. 6, p. 128