



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.
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@holynosaryparish.org

MAILING ADDRESS

3600 Travis Street
Houston, TX 77002

RELIGIOUS ED. CENTER

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

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AUGUST 17, 2008

SECOND COLLECTION TODAY SUNDAY, AUGUST 17TH - *Infirm Priests.*

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: *Kathleen McEvoy, Louise Bering, 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 remember in your prayers, Dr. Jim Considine who passed away last week.*

ALTAR FLOWERS are donated in celebration of the wedding of *Sean Rieger* and *Cynthia Zrubek*. Please remember them in your prayers.

COFFEE AFTER MASS will be served today, August 17th, in the Parish Hall, Room 200. All are welcome. Please join your fellow parishioners for some social moments.

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.

CATECHISTS NEEDED: Our religious instruction classes for children have enjoyed an increase in attendance in the past couple of years and a few of our beloved catechists will not be able to return for the upcoming catechetical year. If you are a confirmed Catholic who would enjoy passing on the richness of our faith to the next generation of Catholics, please contact the parish. We are in need of your assistance and would love to have you share your particular gifts and talents with the children of Holy Rosary. Please contact Marisa Mendoza through the parish office. May God the Holy Spirit breathe His gifts upon you and inspire you to share so that more children can come to know Him, Love Him and serve Him. Please call the office at 713-529-4854 ext.101 or email Marisa Mendoza at star123marisa@yahoo.com with your name and your phone number.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - will be serving hot dogs and refreshments in the courtyard **this Sunday**, August 17th. You are invited to stop by and enjoy a hot dog and a special treat, popsicles to help beat the heat, with your family and friends after the Sunday morning Masses. We will serve until 2:00 p.m. Thank you for your past and continued support.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - The Knights of Columbus Council 11023 will be collecting contributions for the purpose of helping in funeral expenses for the Vietnamese community who suffered in the tragedy of loss of members in the bus accident on August 8, 2008. This is not a second collection. The Knights will have a collection basket at the hot dog booth for this purpose.

"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 24th topic, *"You are the Christ, the Son of the living God!."*

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.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER - "O woman, great is your faith Let it be done for you as you wish." We only need to call on Jesus to help us have the best Sacrament of Marriage or Holy Orders. For more information call Brian and Tina Little at 281-485-5648

ST. DOMINIC VILLAGE - We would like all Catholics who need independent living, assisted living, or nursing home care for themselves or their family and friends to know about the wonderful services we provide at St. Dominic Village. For more information please contact Karen Perry at 713-440-3413. Come enjoy being part of our secure, serene, friendly community and receive your third month's rent absolutely free! A \$150.00 donation will also be made to your home parish in your honor when you move in. This special offer for move in must be before October 31, 2008.

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.

RICHARD BARRY, O.P. Priest and Martyr (d.1647)
“Take off that traitor’s gown.” (Commander of English forces to Fr. Barry)

In the Acts of the Dominican General Chapter (meeting of the superiors of the Dominican Order) of 1656 there is commemorated “an abundant harvest of those who in our Irish province have suffered cruel torments for the Catholic faith and have been gathered in these days into the heavenly granaries.” One of the Dominican friars remembered in this group of confessors to the faith was Father Richard Barry, who died at the storming of the Rock of Cashel in 1647.

Ireland, the “land of saints and scholars”, had welcomed the mendicant friars, especially Franciscans and Dominicans, in the 13th century and by the 16th century there were hundreds of Dominicans in communities all over the Emerald Isle. The king of England also claimed to be king of Ireland so when Henry VIII of England apostasised and claimed to be supreme head of the Catholic Church in England, this also affected Ireland. But it was not until the last years of the reign of Elizabeth I, Henry’s daughter by Anne Boleyn, (1558-1603) that the Catholics in Ireland began to suffer persecution if they did not conform to the Church of England set up by Henry. All the members of the Dominican communities at Colerain (21 members) and Derry (32 members) on the northern coast of Ireland were put to death sometime before 1603, during the reign of Elizabeth. We do not even know the names of these friars who were among the first to give up their lives for the faith at the beginning of the Protestant reformation in Ireland. As the persecution continued, sometimes more strongly than other times, we have the name of Father Richard Barry, O.P., who gave up his life for the faith in 1647, a time of civil war in England when the Parliamentarians who ruled in place of the king had sent an army to Ireland to force the Catholics, especially the landed gentry and the priests, to conform to the state religion of the English Church.

Father Barry was prior of the Dominicans in Cashel, one of the more important sees in Ireland with a venerable history, going back to the time of St. Patrick in the fifth century. The ancient cathedral was built on the “Rock of St. Patrick” and was included in the town’s fortress. When the English army of about 7,000 soldiers attacked the town it was soon taken for it had few defenses, but the 300 Irish soldiers who were the defending garrison, along with many of the Catholic townspeople and about twenty priests, took refuge in the fortress, the “Rock”. There they held out for many days and when the English finally conquered the “Rock” it was only over about five hundred dead bodies of their English comrades. The English commander was angered at this stout defense and ordered his soldiers to show no mercy, not sparing even women or children. The priests, however, were set apart for a longer and more painful torture. There were about twenty priests, secular priests, Franciscans, Dominicans and a Jesuit. Fr. Barry was the prior (superior) of the Dominican community and it was he, as one of the main encouragers of the Irish defenders of the fortress, that the English commander sought particularly to arrest.

When the English soldiers came upon him, he faced his attackers with his main weapon, not a sword but the rosary with its attached crucifix. This was the weapon that the Dominicans had used to spread and strengthen the Catholic faith among the Irish people. The English commander, impressed with his resolute and noble appearance, offered him safety if he would take off his Dominican habit, thought he phrased it roughly, “Take off the traitor’s gown” (meaning the black cloak and white tunic of the Dominican habit). Fr. Barry replied, “My dress (habit) is the emblem of Christ and his passion, and the banner of my warfare. I have borne it from my youth and I will not put it off in death.” Accordingly, he was tortured and then burned alive. The other priests after him were also tortured and killed in various ways, all remaining faithful unto death.

A woman named Margaret, seventy years old and a member of the Dominican third Order (a Tertiary) was also killed in the Cashel massacre by the sword of a soldier. Another Tertiary, who survived the slaughter and hid for the three days that the soldiers stayed to plunder, recovered the remains of the body of the martyred Father Barry and saw to it that he received honorable burial.

The years of bitter persecution in Ireland, when priests and religious were under the constant danger of capture and death, were years of true greatness for members of the Dominican Third Order. Young women who could arrange it obtained permission to take the secular Third Order vows and the veil privately, and wear the Dominican religious habit at home, a practice that would bring them death if discovered. This part of the Order flourished and produced many unsung heroes and heroines during the time that the other branches of the Order could not function in public. Many of the Tertiaries were pledged to offer hospitality for fugitive priests and other Catholics who needed help.

Convents of the Second Order (that is, cloistered nuns) were founded in Spain and Portugal for Irish girls. One group of nuns made a foundation in Galway in 1651, but soon had to flee to Spain. Thirty years later, a convent founded in Dublin had to break up immediately after its founding, but the nuns put on secular clothes and stayed in Ireland. They lived in a miserable mud hut near the Boyne River, and a Dominican priest in the disguise of a fisherman rowed across the river each morning to say Mass for them. In 1722, several Dominican Tertiaries who were nieces of St. Oliver Plunkett, the archbishop of Armagh martyred in 1681, opened a school for young children in Drogheda.

Irish exiles went to every friendly country, trying to gain support for their beleaguered countrymen. Fr. Dominic O’Daly, O.P., built a convent in Portugal through the charity of the Catholics there and it served as a formation house for Dominican friars, most of whom expected and desired to return as priests to serve the spiritual needs of their brother and sister Catholics in Ireland.

There is a story about the Dominican bishop of Clonfert, Ireland, who was forced to flee the country, taking with him no possessions but a treasured picture of Our Blessed Mother. He took refuge in Raab, Hungary, where the Catholics received him with hospitality. On St. Patrick’s day, 1697, the picture could be seen shedding tears and it was covered with a thin film of blood. It presaged more trouble for the Catholics in Ireland since it was in that very year the Act of Banishment was passed, condemning priests who were apprehended to slavery in the West Indies.

This time of active persecution of Catholics in Ireland lasted from the reign of Elizabeth I (1558-1603) to the death of Queen Anne (d. 1714), a time of about 150 years when public profession of the Catholic faith might be done only at the cost of your life. Yet even during these years there were times when the persecution slacked off, only to be resumed again more bitterly. During the 18th century, when Catholics in Ireland were not killed for the faith, the Penal Laws against Catholics were still in effect, and their right to own property and hold public offices was severely limited. Catholics were truly “second class citizens.” It is a great tribute to the courage and faithfulness of the Irish people that during these difficult centuries they held fast to the ancient faith of the Catholic Church.

One of the English commanders made the remark, “It is very difficult to get rid of the Dominicans.” This indicates one reason, an important reason, why the Irish were able to keep the Catholic faith, namely, the tenacious presence of Dominicans, as well as Franciscans, Jesuits, and secular priests who faithfully ministered to the spiritual needs of the Catholic people, even in the face of death.

References: New Catholic encyclopedia, vol. 7, p. 678

St. Dominic’s Family, by Sister Mary Jean Dorcy, O.P., TAN pub., p.412

Prepared by: Fr. Austin Green, O.P.