

ENCOUNTERING THE HEART OF CHRIST IN THE HEART OF BOSTON

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT: DECEMBER 22, 2019

“Leave the crib with Jesus in the mind and Jesus in the heart.”

Venerable Bruno Lanteri

CHAPEL STAFF:

Fr. James Doran, OMV
(director@stfrancis chapel.org)

Fr. Isaac Abu, OMV
Fr. Michael Warren, OMV
Fr. James Walther, OMV
Br. Joseph O' Connor, OMV

Pastoral Associate: Isabelle Maria

Music Director: Rebecca Martin

Music: Kim Araiza,
Michael Enwright, Saul Garcia,
Christina Roberts

Cleaning of Chapel Environment:
Nubia Viasus



CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Dec. 24 Christmas Vigil Masses:
4 pm, 5:30 pm, 7 pm (español)

Dec. 25: Midnight Mass 12 am,
8 am, 9:15am, 10:30 am, 11:45
am, 1:15pm (español)

*The Chapel closes after the
1:15 pm Mass*

Cover Art: The Nativity,
Federico Barocci

SCHEDULE

Sunday Masses:

Saturday Vigil 4:00 PM, 5:30 PM,
7:00 PM en español

Sun. 8 AM, 9:15 AM, 10:30 AM, 11:45 AM,
1:15 PM en español,
4:00 PM, 5:30 PM

Weekday Masses:

Mon.—Fri. 8:00 AM, 12:05 PM, 4:45 PM
Saturday 9:00 AM, 12 PM

Confessions:

Mon.—Fri. 11:15 - 11:50 AM, 12:45 - 4:15 PM
Saturday 9:45 - 11:45 AM, 12:45 - 3:30 PM

Devotions:

Tuesday after Mass: Memorare,
5:30 PM Vespers;

Thursday after Mass: St. Jude;
Mon.—Fri. after 4:45 PM Mass: Rosary

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

Mon.—Fri. 8:30 - 11:45 AM, 1:00 - 4:30 PM;
Sat. 9:30 - 11:30 AM, 12:30 - 3:30 PM;
Sunday 2:30 - 3:30 PM

Gift Shop Hours:

Monday—Friday 10:00 AM - 5:30 PM;
Saturday 9:30 AM - 6:45 PM*;
Sunday 8:45 AM - 5:30 PM*

(*Closed during Sun. and Sat. Vigil Masses)

CONTACT US

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SFChapel



@stfrancis chapel

ST. FRANCIS CHAPEL PRAYER LIST

Send the names of loved ones for whom
you would like us to pray
to stfrancis@omvusa.org
or by mail to St. Francis Chapel,
800 Boylston St., Boston, MA 02199
and we will print them in the Lanterian.

ESPAÑOL

SPANISH LANGUAGE

ESPAÑOL

Reflexion para Cuarto Domingo de Adviento P. James Doran, OMV

Quien era este Ajaz? Era rey de Judá. Ajaz sentía temor de Asiria, un país muy poderoso que estaba avanzando y conquistando reinos pequeños. De hecho, los reyes de Israel y Damasco hicieron una alianza contra Asiria y querían que Judá también tomara parte; pero Ajaz no creyó que pudieran vencer contra Asiria. Entonces Israel y Damasco amenazaron a Judá. Ajaz hizo un trato con Asiria pidiendo protección. Fue una gran falta de confianza en Dios hacer esto porque haciendo un trato con Asiria, sería obligado adorar a los dioses de Asiria. Hasta pusieron un ídolo en el templo.

El profeta Isaías trató de convencer al Rey Ajaz que no debería hacer alianzas con otros; sino que era necesario tener fe en Dios. Pide una señal: (primera lectura). La Virgen dará a luz un Hijo. Esta señal fue realizada setecientos años después cuando la Virgen María dió a la luz su Hijo. No es nombrado Emanuel pero es Emanuel, Dios con nosotros.

José tenía planes de hacer una vida con María. De repente el descubre que ella está embarazada. Que misterio. ¿Será que José quedó desanimado?

El Ángel vino a San José para decir; “«José, hijo de David, no temas recibir a María por esposa, porque ella ha concebido por obra del Espíritu Santo.»”

Después, el Ángel da otro trabajo para José. Dará a luz un hijo y le pondrás por nombre Jesús, porque él salvará a su pueblo de sus pecados.» El hecho de que José da el nombre significa que adopta el Menino como su Hijo. José tuvo confianza en Dios.

El nombre significa “Dios salva”. Solo Dios puede perdonar los pecados. Este es la misión del Hijo de Dios, el Cristo. Una gran misión, pero mucha gente esperaba otra cosa del Cristo Mesías. Esperaban un líder militar para librar la Tierra Santa de los Romanos. Querían restablecer el reino de David, inclusive prosperidad material al pueblo. La promesa de perdonar los pecados parece poco. Los hombres se sintieron oprimidos, no tanto por sus pecados sino por sus sufrimientos y falta de libertad.

Papa Benedicto nos recuerda del paralítico que bajaron del techo a los pies de Jesús. ¿Qué dijo Jesús? “Hijo mío tus pecados son perdonados.” Nadie esperaba eso. No estaban preocupados por sus pecados. El hombre necesita caminar. El Papa escribió; “El hombre es un ser relacional. Y si su relación más fundamental está perturbada – su relación con Dios – entonces nada puede estar correcto”. Este es la prioridad para Jesús. Si tú no estás curado en tu relación con Dios, entonces no importa lo que tengas, no estás verdaderamente sanado. El Ángel dijo: “y le pondrás por nombre Jesús, porque él salvará a su pueblo de sus pecados.”

Emanuel Jesús. Dios está con nosotros y Dios nos salva. La mejor preparación para recibir a Jesús, es el perdón de los pecados, la reconciliación.

¡Ave María Purísima!

NEWS



Abortion is the most significant human rights abuse of our time. Will you take a stand?

JOIN US FOR THE NATIONAL MARCH FOR LIFE

Washington, D.C. | January 24, 2020

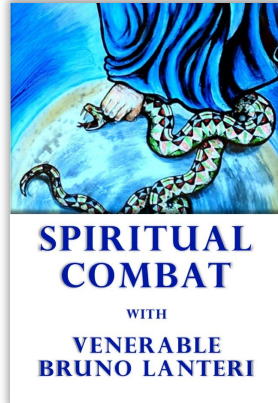
Visit marchforlife.org

SPIRITUAL COMBAT WITH VENERABLE BRUNO LANTERI

This little book of reflections and prayers, all by Venerable Bruno Lanteri, is a means to develop one's own spiritual program.

Like Venerable Bruno we are called to a contemplative life, but on the journey there we need to be anchored in verbal and written prayers so as to stay on the true course to God.

NEW AT THE GIFTSHOP

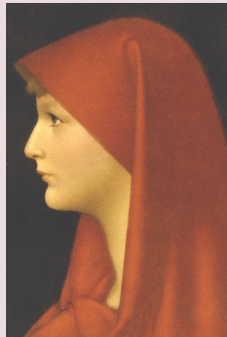


The Friends of God: St. Fabiola

Feast Day: December 27

Patron of: Those who are Divorced

Fabiola belonged to a fabulously wealthy patrician family in Rome in the 300's. She was an early devotee of St. Jerome. Her husband lived such a wretched life that she divorced him according to Roman law. She married a second time while her first husband still lived causing scandal to the Church in Rome. When her second husband died she approached the Lateran Basilica in Rome dressed in the clothes of a pauper and publicly repented, which had a marvelous effect on the people of Rome. From then on Fabiola used her immense wealth to care for the poor and suffering, even building a hospital in Rome where she personally nursed the poorest and most suffering patients. For a time she joined St. Jerome in Bethlehem studying scripture, praying and living a life of asceticism. She became a great patron of the Church and of religious orders.



MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sunday, Dec. 22

8:00 AM + James Green — birth anniversary
9:15 AM + + Mary Joaquin Marujo
10:30 AM + Joseph Timilty
11:45 AM + John Graham
1:15 PM (esp.) Tamayo Family
4:00 PM John Valleli Health
5:30 PM Poor Souls in Purgatory

Monday, Dec. 23

8:00 AM Sr. Confida
12:05 PM + Victor Rose & + Clarissa Elliot
4:45 PM + Clara Arno

Tuesday, Dec. 24

8:00 AM + John Fillerman
12:05 PM + Kamal Abu Hussein
4:00 PM The Cuniffe Family, Roger Lee & Dr. George Diamadopolous, MD
5:30 PM + Robert Donahue
7:00 PM (esp.) Mary O'Connor

Wednesday, Dec. 25 *Nativity of the Lord*

12:00 AM Daniel & Timothy
8:00 AM The Cuniffe Family, Roger Lee & Dr. George Diamadopolous, MD
9:15 AM Holy Souls in Purgatory
10:30 AM + Prof. Charlie Steele
11:45 AM + Mary Desesa
1:15 PM (esp.) + Chun Eung - In Woo Kim

Thursday, Dec. 26 *St. Stephen*

8:00 AM + Joe Hlatky
12:05 PM + Noreen Flavin
4:45 PM Fr. Wright's Family, Friends & Benefactors

Friday, Dec. 27 *St. John the Evangelist*

8:00 AM + Betty Coury & Maggie Alnge
12:05 PM Christian Nielsen — birthday
4:45 PM + Antonio Ozaeta — anniversary

Saturday, Dec. 28 *The Holy Innocents*

9:00 AM + Jerry E. Dubes
12:00 PM Sr. Jeane McDonald
4:00 PM + Vincent Arno
5:30 PM + David Brodsky
7:00 PM (esp.) + Consuelo Torres de Bustamante — 9^o mes

Prayer Before Mass



by Ven. Bruno Lanteri
*Founder of the Oblates
of the Virgin Mary*

My God, I offer you this holy sacrifice to recognize, honor and glorify your infinite greatness and the supreme dominion which, as the first principle and last end, you have above all created things. I give you this homage for all those who still do not know you or do not want to recognize you.

I offer this too in thanksgiving for the benefits that I and all the world have received and will receive from your infinite goodness; in satisfaction for my sins and those of the whole world; to implore the graces that are necessary for my eternal salvation and for all mankind. Oh, my God, I offer to you the merits of Jesus Christ; grant me at this Holy Mass a profound adoration.

My God, my Creator, I implore you to grant me the grace of final perseverance, I know by faith that I do not deserve it, nor can I deserve it, but your Divine Son deserves it for me with so many praises, with so many wounds he shows you in his Most Holy Body, on behalf of my wounded love. Amen.

Catechesis: *Images of God in Prayer*

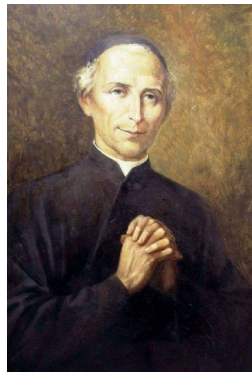
The images associated with the season are universally recognized and have been for centuries. Images of the manger and nativity scenes, the star of Bethlehem, the Three Wise Men, the infant Jesus and others all speak God's momentous entrance into the world through the birth of Christ. As part of our final preparations for the Mass of Christ (December 25), we should be attentive to the effects these images have on us interiorly.

The images of God we hold within us are vitally important to our spiritual state. Examining the images we hold of God should be a regular practice as these images influence how we receive grace. If our image of God, for example, is one of a very stern and unfeeling father, it would certainly elicit a different prayer response from us than an image of a father who remains warmly engaged with his family. The Father knew the image of his Son wrapped in swaddling clothes, laying in a manger would touch the human heart in a way unimaginable prior to that first Christmas. As we proceed through these last days of Advent, notice your interior responses to the different images of the season and how they inform you of the internal images of God you hold.

A Time for Spiritual Joy

By Ven. Bruno Lanteri, Founder of the Oblates of the Virgin Mary

Let each of us be stable in all holy spiritual exercises, considering them of great importance. Let us be careful to avoid that tacit disdain for them found when one says it is of no importance if I omit spiritual reading, an examination of conscience, the rosary, holy Mass, etc. Sometimes we omit them in order to deal with other people, other times for some small occupation or because we feel indisposed. Once we become lazy about our spiritual devotions only with great difficulty can God, with all the strength of his dealings with our heart, subject that heart to himself. The demons know that if they do not cut away these locks of hair from the soul, they will never be able to bind this Samson. Hold in great esteem and be glad to value all the tender devotions which help in loving God. The saints made use of these devotions, and esteemed them highly, knowing that as the leaves of a tree protect its principal fruit, so tender motivations nourish solid virtue.



The Catholic Way: *Las Posadas*

The Advent tradition of the Posadas originated in Spain and spread to Mexico via missionaries. A group of pilgrims imitates the journey of Joseph and Mary from Nazareth to Bethlehem. Pre-arrangement is made by friends and or family to participate. The pilgrim group journeys from one friend's house to another (as many houses as is arranged ahead of time). Along the way the pilgrims pray the rosary and carry candles. At the first home the pilgrims sing a song asking for the home to welcome them into the Inn. As in the Gospel scene those in the first home sing that they have no room at the Inn. This continues for as many homes as all agree to. At the last home all are finally welcomed and a celebration commences.

The Posadas (a name which means dwelling in English) is not meant to be just another Christmas party but truly an Advent exercise in communion with Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

The University of Notre Dame's Alliance for Catholic Education website — ace.nd.edu — has an informative article, "*Celebrate Advent a la Mexicana with Las Posadas*", with links to songs and resources.

Lectio Divina

"To all the beloved of God..." — Romans 1

Ask the Holy Spirit to open your heart and mind to receive the word of God with reverence and joy.

Notice the thoughts and emotions within you. As you prayerfully consider this passage, are you able to identify what thoughts and feelings are generated?

This is the word of God. Take time to consider it carefully. Clear from your mind all distractions. Does it bring you hope or frustration? Who are the beloved of God? Do you consider yourself among them? What does it mean to be beloved of God? What difference would it make if you used this as a title for yourself and others? Take time right now to let these words touch your heart. Might you ask Mary to help you listen with confidence to the Lord?

Ask the Holy Spirit, in your heart, to help you to apply this to your life.