

CHAPEL STAFF:

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Music Director: Rebecca Martin **Music**: Kim Araiza, Michael Enwright, Saul Garcia, Christina Roberts

Cleaning of Chapel Environment: Nubia Viasus

A Peace-filled New Year to all!



MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE **SOLEMNITY OF MARY. MOTHER OF GOD**

(Holy Day of Obligation)

December 31 Vigil Masses: 4:00 pm, 5:30 pm

January 1: 8:00 am, 9:15am, 10:30 am, 11:45 am, 1:15pm (español), 4:00 pm, 5:30 pm

Cover Art: Study for Flight of the Holy Family to Egypt, Almeida Júnior

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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stfrancischapel.org





SFChapel



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.

Reflection for the Feast of the Holy Family by Fr. James Doran, OMV

Did you ever notice how problematic the families in the Bible were? The first couple sinned and then Adam blamed Eve. She blamed the serpent. Neither assuming the responsibility of their actions. Their sons can't get along and Cane kills his own brother. One of Noah's sons was very disrespectful of his father. Remember how Sara was jealous of her polygamous husband, Abraham. (Polygamy caused a lot of problems). Remember the envy among Jacob's sons and how they sold Joseph into slavery. Moses was at times despised by his brother and sister, Aaron and Miriam. David disgraced his family committing adultery and homicide. Tobit and Job suffered in their relationships with their wives. Why are all these found in the Holy Book? They certainly show us that family life is not easy and that our actions have consequences. We have heard a lot about the **dvsfunctional family**; the family that does not function well.

What is the function of the family? What is the family supposed to do? You know that Saint John Paul II wrote a letter to families some years ago, and he says the mission or function of the family to create an environment in which each member may develop his talents and pursue his vocation. God gave each person a vocation. The family should help each one to discover and realize that vocation. Not only the children and youth but the adults and the aged also should have the opportunity to develop their potential. The family should provide conditions for each member to develop physically, intellectually and spiritually. Not just children but also the grownups need to continue to realize their potential as God will. The Holy Father has written eloquently on the dignity and the mission of the elderly. They have an important role to play. Their experience of life and their wisdom will help the other members of the family. Let's look again at the reading from Sirach 3:15. In time of tribulation it will be called to your advantage, like warmth upon frost it will melt away your sins. St. Paul shows us how to make the family work by being compassionate, kind, humble, gentle and patient, bearing with one another and forgiving one another as the Lord has forgiven each of us. He says put on love which is the bond of perfection. Let the peace of Christ control your hearts. Be grateful. Gratitude cures many spiritual emotional ailments. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another, singing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. It seems to me if the Word of God is to dwell in us richly, we need to read it more than once a week.

Pope Francis says; Today our gaze on the Holy Family lets us also be drawn into the simplicity of the life they led in Nazareth. It is an example that does our families great good... Let us remember the three key words for living in peace and joy in the family: "may I", "thank you" and "sorry". In our family, when we are not intrusive and ask "may I", in our family when we are not selfish and learn to say "thank you", and when in a family one realizes he has done something wrong and knows how to say "sorry", in that family there is peace and joy. Let us remember these three words... I would also like to encourage families to become aware of the importance they have in the Church and in society. The proclamation of the Gospel, in fact, first passes through the family to reach the various spheres of daily life. Let us fervently call upon Mary Most Holy, the Mother of Jesus and our Mother, and St Joseph her spouse. Let us ask them to enlighten, comfort and guide every family in the world, so that they may fulfil with dignity and peace the mission which God has entrusted to them.

NEWS



March for Life Expo

January 22 - 24, 2020, Washington, D.C. 2020 THEME:LIFE EMPOWERS: Pro-Life is Pro-Woman

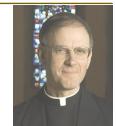
TOGETHER, WE GATHER TO CELEBRATE LIFE. We celebrate each and every life, from the moment of conception. We envision a world where every life is celebrated, valued, and protected.

Visit marchforlife.org

Overcoming Spiritual Discouragement: The Power and Spiritual Wisdom of Venerable Bruno Lanteri

A Seminar by Fr. Timothy Gallagher, OMV





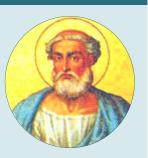
To register, email OMVUSA@gmail.com or call (617) 982-7264 (Please include the spelling of your name and phone number) Weekend Fee: \$50 – Students/Seminarians: \$30

Lunch will be provided (however we cannot accommodate food restrictions; if you have special requirements feel welcome to bring your own lunch.)

The Friends of God: Pope St. Sylvester I

Feast Day: December 31

Sylvester's papacy was marked by some very momentous events that had lasting impact on the Church and the world. He was pope from 314 to 335. In that time the Church emerged from the catacombs to become publicly accepted in the Roman Empire. His was the time of the rise of the powerful and consequential Emperor Constantine



and the Edict of Milan that recognized the legality of Christianity. The building of the great papal basilicas of St. Peter's and St. John Lateran came about during his reign as did the first ecumenical council of Nicaea in 325 AD. All of these events happened during his papacy but not necessarily by his initiative. Sylvester thus proves that responsible leadership never means unnecessary micro-management. Sylvester had the humility and the desire for the growth of the Church, and he allowed other actors to utilize their skills for the common good. The humble wisdom of Sylvester had a lasting impact on God's Church.

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sunday, Dec.29

8:00 AM + Francisco Xavier Mascarenhas

9:15 AM Memorial Tree Enrollees

10:30 AM + Edward O' Keefe

11:45 AM + Tom White

1:15 PM (esp.) + Miguel Angel Gonzalez

Santiago

4:00 PM Fr. G. Bradford Wolcott, MFJ **5:30 PM** Poor Souls in Purgatory

Monday, Dec. 30

8:00 AM + Paul Rimmele

12:05 PM + Josephine & Biagio DeSesa

4:45 PM + Leon Aranas

Tuesday, Dec. 31

8:00 AM + Medora & Edgar Guilbert 12:05 PM + Marilyn Birnie

4:00 PM Tom Parnin — healing **5:30 PM** Andy LaVallee

Wednesday, Jan. 1 Mary, Mother of God

8:00 AM Edith & Edward Forster

9:15 AM + Michael Kallal

10:30 AM Benefactors of St. Francis Chapel

11:45 AM + John J. Flaherty, Jr.

1:15 PM (esp.) Las Almas del Purgatorio

4:00 PM John Valleli — health

5:30 PM Special Intention

Thursday, Jan. 2 St. Basil the Great & St. Gregory Nazianzen

8:00 AM + Barbara Vasconculos 12:05 PM + Priests in Purgatory

4:45 PM + Fr. Philip O' Shea, OFM

Friday, Jan. 3 Holy Name of Jesus

8:00 AM Sr. Sheila Callaghan

12:05 PM + Br. Paschal & + Fr. Jeff, SSP

4:45 PM + John A. Lomartra

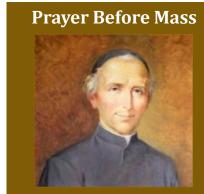
Saturday, Jan. 4 St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

9:00 AM Sophia Feitelberg
12:00 PM + Timothy & + Anne Murphy
Callahan

4:00 PM + Anthony & + Helen Lupi

5:30 PM + John Higgins

7:00 PM (esp.) Marianna Novellino



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: The True Marriage of Mary and Joseph

It has been sometimes asked whether we can say that Mary and Joseph truly had a marriage due to the fact that Our Lady remained a virgin. Even St. Jerome speculated that it may be more fitting to call Joseph the guardian of Mary rather than her husband. St. Thomas Aquinas answered this question in his estimable treatise the *Summa Theologiae* (Part III, Question 29).

Though Mary and Joseph never had conjugal relations, they did give their complete consent to the Divine Will by entering into the bond of matrimony in a very unique way as the family of the Son of God. Their union with each other was secured not conjugally but by a perfect acceptance of God's will. Secondly, every true marriage has for it's perfection not just the union of man and woman for each other's sake but for the sake of children. Mary and Joseph were perfectly united in fulfilling the needs of Jesus who was conceived not through human conjugal activity but by the miraculous intervention of the Holy Spirit. Their full cooperation with God and with each other achieved the end of rearing Jesus and in firmly establishing him for his mission to the world.

Letters to Leopoldo Ricasoli By Ven. Bruno Lanteri, Founder of the Oblates of the Virgin Mary

I rejoice highly to know that you are in Jesus full of good will, nor shall I neglect to ask insistently of the Holy Family for you have a holy perseverance in these more special days of blessing and grace; do not neglect in the meanwhile to nourish your piety with the usual daily exercises of prayer, of reading, and of frequenting the holy Sacraments.

Thank the Lord for the stillness of your heart, which I hope you have enjoyed for a long time, nor could you choose a more efficacious means to conserve this



peace than frequenting the holy Sacraments; add to this also in a stable manner every day a bit of meditation and of spiritual reading; and have no fear that the Lord will accord you all else that you desire. Rest assured that the difficulty of continuing with such a system is more in the apprehension than in the reality. Think that God deserves all effort, nor does he let himself be outdone in generosity.

The Catholic Way: Holy Family Consecration

For Families who Wish to Consecrate Themselves to the Holy Family

O Jesus, our most loving Savior! Thou Who was sent down from Heaven to enlighten the world by Thy teaching and example, and Who didst will to pass the greater part of Thy holy life in Nazareth, subject to Mary and Joseph, and thereby didst hallow the household which was to be the pattern for all Christian families, do Thou in Thy goodness receive our household which this day consecrates itself to Thee. Protect and guard us, strengthen us in Thy holy fear, establish in our hearts the peace and concord of Christian Charity, so that each one of us becoming like to the Divine model of Thy family, may be sharers of eternal joy.

O Mary, most loving Mother of Jesus Christ, our Mother, through thy love and mercy intercede, that Jesus receive this act of Consecration, and pour out upon us His graces and blessings.

O Joseph, most holy Guardian of Jesus and Mary, help us by thy prayers in all our necessities, both of body and soul; that together with the Blessed Virgin Mary and thyself we shall praise and thank Jesus Christ, our Divine Redeemer. Amen.

Lectio Divina

"Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another..."

— Col. 3

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? Is there anyone in your family who is need of receiving this message? Do you consider yourself among the chosen? What does "heart-felt" mean? 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.