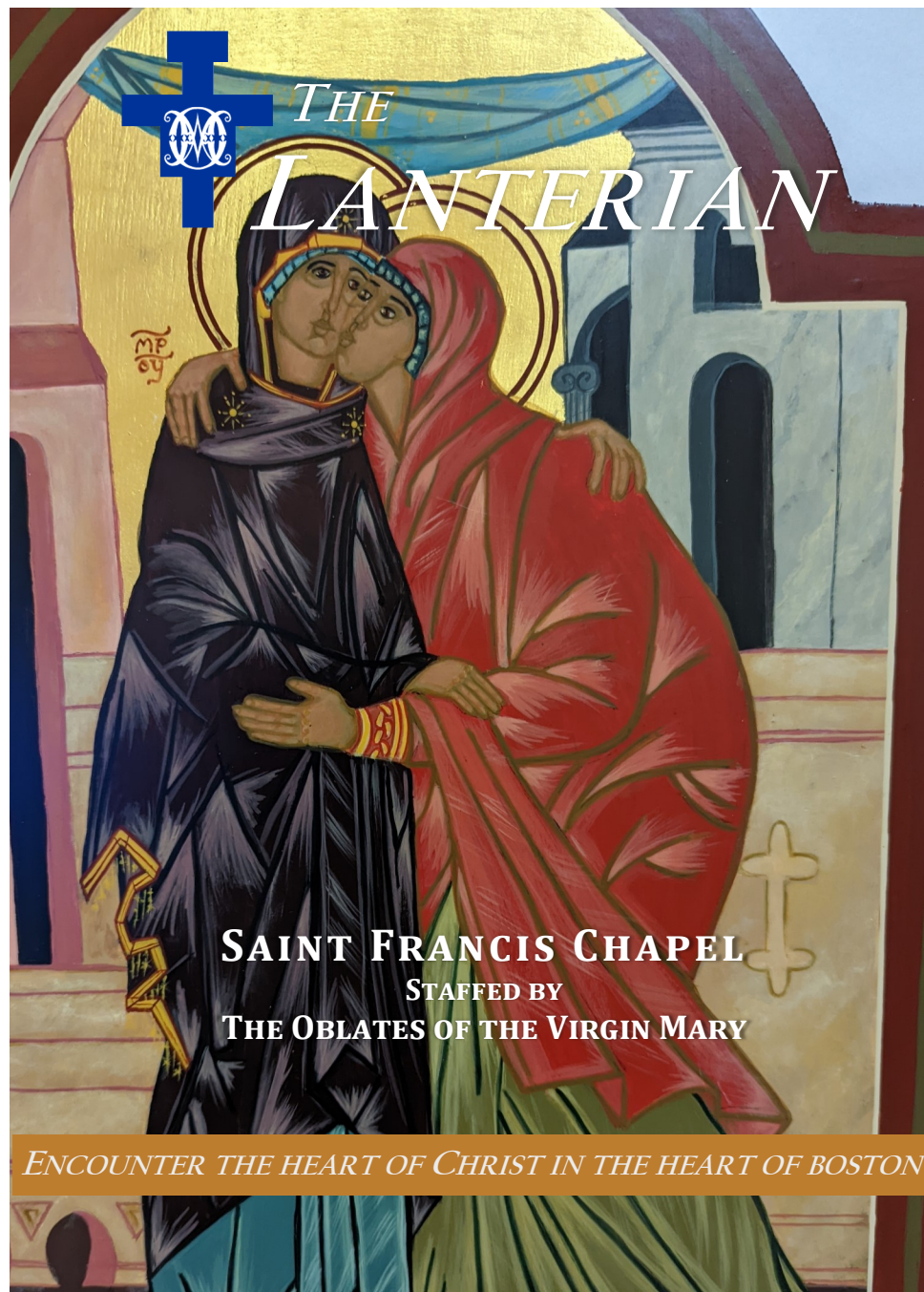




# *THE* *LANTERIAN*



**SAINT FRANCIS CHAPEL**  
STAFFED BY  
**THE OBLATES OF THE VIRGIN MARY**

*ENCOUNTER THE HEART OF CHRIST IN THE HEART OF BOSTON*

**FOURTH SUNAY OF ADVENT**

**DECEMBER 19, 2021**

## CHAPEL STAFF:

Fr. Isaac Abu, OMV  
Fr. James Doran, OMV  
Fr. Michael Warren, OMV

## Sundays:

Fr. James Walther, OMV  
Fr. Sean Morris, OMV

## Pastoral Associate:

Isabelle Maria, CFP, CKA

**Music Director:** Michael  
Enwright

**Music:** Saul Garcia, Cesar  
Garcia, Christina Roberts

## Cleaning of Chapel

**Environment:** Nubia Viasus

## The Pope's Prayer Intention for December:

Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.



Cover Art:

*The Visitation.* Icon by Norman Brown of Pittsburg. In the vestibule of St. Francis Chapel—Boston

## SCHEDULE

### Sunday Masses:

**Saturday Vigil** 4:00PM,  
5:30 PM, (en español)

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

### Weekday Masses:

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

### Confessions:

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

### Devotions:

**Tuesday** after Mass: Our Lady  
**Wednesday** after Mass: St. Joseph  
**Thursday** after Mass: St. Jude

### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

**Mon.—Fri.** 8:30-11:50AM, 12:30-4:30PM;  
**Sat.** 9:30-11:30AM, 12:30-3:30PM;  
**Sunday** 2:30-3:30PM

### Gift Shop Hours:

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

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

## CONTACT US

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SFChapel



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## Reflection by Bro. Jonas Verdeflor, OMV

“Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste” (Lk 1:39). She does not let the difficulty of travel during the first century deter her from helping her cousin Elizabeth.

And she says yes.

How beautiful Mary's act of love is.

Have you ever met someone who just exudes love? No matter where they go, they spread joy. A simple smile from that person changes the mood of a room. Here, Mary radiates the love the Holy Spirit gave her first at the Immaculate Conception and again at the Annunciation. In his book *Consecration to St. Joseph*, Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC describes how the travels of Mary and Joseph prefigure our modern Eucharistic processions. Such processions reveal the Real Presence of Jesus through the Blessed Sacrament. In a sense, a pregnant Mary was a living ciborium containing the infant Jesus. Possibly, one of the first processions was this trip to Elizabeth in the hill country of Judea.

And she says yes.

Catholic songwriter Matt Maher wrote the song “Always Carry You” after Amy Grant told him that as a mother, she always carried her children with her even after they are born. The song contains these poignant lines from Mary's perspective:

“From the moment I believed, I've always carried You  
To a world in need of a love that's true.”

This should be the model of our actions. In a few moments, we will receive Jesus in Holy Communion. Having Jesus inside us is a marvelous thing because His presence changes us more into Him. But we are not meant to keep Him to ourselves. The Mass encourages us to share Him with others through our prayers, words and actions. For example, when the priest dismisses us after Mass, he can use the old Latin formula: “Ite, missa est” (“Go, it is sent.”). What is sent? The Eucharist. How is it sent? First, in the distribution to the sick and homebound. But also, in us, who now carry Jesus into the world. This world desperately needs us to show Jesus, who answers its deep yearnings for true love.

And she says yes.

Today's Gospel displays the effect of bringing Jesus to others. Prompted by Mary's simple greeting (more likely, “Shalom” or “Peace”), John the Baptist and his mother, Elizabeth, express joy through the Holy Spirit. Elizabeth says, “For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled” (Lk 1:44-45). Then, Mary starts the Magnificat, her beautiful hymn of praise to God: “My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord” (Lk 1:46). Jesus brings peace, joy and praise because of Mary's willingness to travel. Can we do the same? Can we bring Jesus' peace, joy and praise to everyone we meet today?

And she says yes.

With her help, we can say yes to bringing Jesus to others, too.

## Mass Schedule for December Holy Days

### Friday, December 24, 2021: Christmas Vigil

The normal daily Masses for the last day of Advent at 8:00 AM and 12:05 PM will be celebrated as usual

4:00 PM  
5:30 PM (Espanol)  
7:00 PM

### Saturday, December 25, 2021: Christmas Day

Midnight Mass (12:00 AM)  
8:00 AM  
9:15 AM  
10:30 AM  
11:45 AM  
1:15 PM (Espanol)

**There are no Masses at 4:00 PM or 5:30 PM PM on Christmas Day**

### Saturday, January 1, 2022: The Solemnity of the Mother of God

This year it is NOT a Holy Day of Obligation  
The Mass schedule will be the usual daily schedule on Saturday.  
The Mass on Friday, December 31 at 4:45 PM will be a Vigil Mass for the Mother of God



## MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

### Sunday, Dec. 19

8:00 AM Holy Souls in Purgatory  
9:15 AM +Stephen Tarsa  
10:30 AM +Robert Malloy  
11:45 AM +Albert Crasta  
1:15 PM Joseph Biden  
4:00 PM Stephanie Roberts  
5:30 PM Rose Zawia

### Monday, Dec. 20

8:00 AM Holy Souls in honor of St. Joseph  
12:05 PM +Rita Elliott  
4:45 PM +Welcome Reeves Holiday

### Tuesday, Dec. 21

8:00 AM +Tina, +Joseph & +Peter Ciano  
12:05 PM Mr. & Mrs. Jason Allain  
4:45 PM Thomas Son Vo & Maria Phuoc Nguyen

### Wednesday, Dec. 22

8:00 AM +Juan Madariaga  
12:05 PM +Joe Mustascio, Sr.  
4:45 PM +Joe Timilty

### Thursday, Dec. 23

8:00 AM +Robert Levinsky  
12:05 PM Fernando & Adriana—birthday  
4:45 PM Diana Capone

### Friday, Dec. 24

8:00 AM The Holy Souls  
12:05 PM Mary Anderson  
4:00 PM Cuniffe Family, Roger Lee, George Diamondapolous  
5:30 PM +Maria Bellolen de Poggioli  
7:00 PM +John Ackerman

### Saturday, Dec. 25

12:00 AM Lavit—Lopez Family—health  
8:00 AM Cuniffe Family, Roger Lee, George Diamondapolous  
9:15 AM Harley Auguste  
10:30 AM In Thanksgiving  
11:45 AM Dolly Salazar—birthday  
1:15 PM +Jose Andres Salares—40th anniv.

## Prayer Before Mass



by Ven. Bruno Lanteri

My God, I offer you this holy sacrifice to proclaim, honor and glorify your infinite greatness, and in recognition of 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 of him.

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 all his virtues and with all the wounds he shows you in his Most Holy Body, on behalf of my wounded love. Amen.



## BLESSING OF A CHRISTMAS CRIB FOR THE HOME

### MARY'S MAGNIFICAT

**Antiphon:** The Lord has regarded humble persons and places, therefore all generations shall call them blessed.

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior:  
Because he has regarded the lowliness of his handmaid; for behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed;  
Because he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name:

And his mercy is from generation to generation, on those who fear him.  
He has shown might with his arm, he has scattered the proud in the conceit of their heart.

He has put down the mighty from their thrones, and has exalted the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has given help to Israel, his servant, mindful of his mercy.  
Even as he spoke to our fathers to Abraham and to his posterity forever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

### FIRST READING

The eternal Son of God having become man out of love for us, chose to be born in a lowly stable, rather than in the greatest palaces of kings. Being rich, He became poor for our sake to show us how greatly He loves poverty and humility. But the presence of the King of kings made this lowly shelter to be the most honorable and noble of royal palaces. Herein He was pleased to be adored by His virgin mother and father, by the poor shepherds, and by the wealthy wise men. As a man among men Christ came for all men, of all times, and all places; unless we say "there is no room," He will come into our home this Christmas night, and will make it a place of splendor, of love and of great joy.

**All answer:** Thanks be to God

**Mother:** The Word was made flesh, Alleluia.

**All:** And dwells among us, Alleluia.

### SECOND READING

#### From the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke:

At that time the shepherds were saying to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this event that has come to pass which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in the manger. And when they had seen, they understood what had been told them concerning this child. And all who heard marveled at the things told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept in mind all these words pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, even as it was spoken to them.

#### Each member of the family kisses the Gospel text.

### PRAYER

**Leader:** O Lord, hear my prayer.

**All:** And let my cry come unto Thee.

**Leader:** The Lord be with you.

**All:** And with you also.

**Leader:** O God, out of your love for us you sent your dearly beloved Son to become man. You willed that he be born in a humble stable in order to give us an example of humility. We pray you now to bless this crib, a representation of the scene of his birth; may it draw us closer to him. By imitating his humility may we become a worthy dwelling place for his rebirth, Jesus Christ, thy Son our Lord.

**All:** Amen.

**All sing:** "O Come All Ye Faithful" or "Silent Night."

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