THE NR LANTERIAN

SAINT FRANCIS CHAPEL Staffed by The Oblates of the Virgin Mary

ENCOUNTER THE HEART OF CHRIST IN THE HEART OF BOSTON

FEBRUARY 27, 2022 EIGHTH SUNDAY

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: Saul Garcia, Cesar Garcia, Ngozi Ibe

Cleaning of Chapel Environment: Nubia Viasus

The Pope's Prayer Intention for March:

We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action.



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

<u>Weekday Masses:</u> Mon.—Fri. 8:00AM, 12:05PM, 4:45PM Saturday 9:00AM, 12PM

<u>Confessions:</u> 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

<u>Gift Shop Hours:</u> **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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Reflection by Fr. Isaac Abu, OMV

One of the things that struck me while having a workshop on Servant Leadership was the description of the human being as a work-in-progress. Since the Fall of Man, blaming others for one's faults has always been an issue. "Have you eaten from the tree of which I had forbidden you to eat? The man replied, 'The woman whom you put here with me—she gave me fruit from the tree, so I ate it.'" (Gen. 3:11-12). This inability to take responsibility by looking inward is never helpful and hinders human fruitfulness.

In today's gospel, which concludes the Sermon on the Plain, Our Lord draws our attention to the need to look inward to remove the log in our eyes to be able to help others remove the speck in theirs. This is a call to action and an invitation to self-awareness. The necessary action our Lord is asking us to take will receive a favorable response if there is that awareness, in the first place, that the log exists in our eyes. The following logs may be present in our eyes: pride, lust, glutton, lack of charity, deceitfulness, lax conscience, materialistic tendencies, relativism, self-sufficiency, worshipping the work of our hands instead of worshipping God who gave it, obstinacy in sin, playing God openly or in a subtle manner etc. In life, we make progress easily when there is the awareness of and the readiness to work on our personal defects. The Teacher par excellence is inviting us to get purified so that we may help others. He is asking us to work on ourselves so that we arrive at what Matthew Kelly called "the best version of ourselves" in order to become what our Provincial, Fr. Jim Walther, called "the best reflection of Christ". Eventually we will become another copy of Christ

We achieve success in any human endeavor where there is a feasible plan. Therefore, I wish to propose a plan that can help to achieve the Lord's desire for us this week., taking into cognizance the help inherent in the holy and grace-filled season of Lent starting in a few days. In recent times, we hear many bizarre things. For instance, someone who wasn't exercising blamed an eatery for his obesity. It will not be surprising to hear another person who doesn't floss and brush her teeth regularly blaming the ice cream or cookies for her tooth decay. This inability to own our responsibilities sometimes occurs in physical and spiritual realms.

Ours is also a noisy generation; even in sacred spaces, maintaining silence is a challenge sometimes. Cardinal Robert Sarah, in his The Power of Silence Against the Dictatorship of Noise, says: ``Great things are achieved in silence." Silence creates an atmosphere for interior recollection and growth. In reality, silence can sometimes be scary. The awareness of the log in the eye and its removal requires silence. The Prophet Hosea says: "I will allure her now; I will lead her into the wilderness and speak persuasively to her" (Hos. 2:16) The Lord needs you and me, his beloved, to come with him to the silent place for a crucial discussion on log identification and removal. And he is begging, please don't say no.

Finally, we all owe each other a duty in our journey to heaven, our final destination. To render the necessary help therefore, we must first ensure our sanctification by identifying and removing the log in our eyes in order to see clearly the speck in the eyes of others. For you cannot give what you don't have. Our Lord is asking us to help ourselves first, so that we may be empowered to help our neighbor.

Cover Art:

The Tree of Life. Detail of an embroidered frontal in St Giles' Cathedral, Edinburgh. Photo by Lawrence Lew, O.P. Flickr



Join Our Pilgrim Group! Contact info below

SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 2022 8:30 A.M. TO 6:00 P.M. **TSONGAS CENTER AT UMASS LOWELL**



TICKETS: Before March 31, 2022: \$39 After April 1, 2022: \$49 *Boxed lunch available at extra cost



CARDINAL SEÁN O'MALLEY

ROBERT BARRON

BISHOP DANIEL **FLORES** For more information, visit JesusIsHereBoston.org



Schedule of Events:

7:30 AM Doors open. Exhibitors available 8:30 AM Welcome, Music, Celebration of Mass 10:15 AM Break & Exhibition visits 10:45 AM Session 1: Deacon Harold Burke-Silvers & Bishop Daniel Flores 12:15 PM Lunch and Exhibition visits 1:30 PM Session 2: Bishop Robert Barron 2:30 PM Break and Exhibition visits 3:00 PM Session 3: Jackie and Bobby Angel 4:00 PM Eucharistic Congress Procession 6:00 PM Conclusion

To join the Pilgrimage Group from the Chapel, please contact us at sfc.pru@gmail.com

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sunday, Feb. 27

8:00 AM Lauren Gilkenson, Mother to be 9:15 AM Anis Blemur **10:30 AM** Healing for the Mallegni Family 11:45 AM Peter Mortimer 1:15 PM + Jose Paiva 4:00 PM Fr. Charles Udeh, CMF 5:30 PM +Edgar & +Odilla Castillo

Monday, Feb. 28

8:00 AM Mr. & Mrs. Jason Allain 12:05 PM + Marie Barry 4:45 PM Healing for the Pantazis Family

Tuesday, March 1

8:00 AM Mr. & Mrs. Jason Allain 12:05 PM Holy Souls in Purgatory 4:45 PM Healing for Mary Glazer

Wednesday, March 2 Ash Wednesday

8:00 AM + Fr. Joseph Doran, SDB **11:00 AM** +David Wenzel **12:05 PM** Healing for Alberto Perez **1:00 PM** Healing for Robert 4:00 PM +Loretta A. LaPierre 5:10 PM +Bernard Marion—birthday 6:30 PM +Lorraine McGovern

Thursday, March 3

8:00 AM Matthew Nieto & Perez Zanabria 12:05 PM +Barbara Ostrom 4:45 PM +Pat Maher

Friday, March 4

8:00 AM Fr. Kazimierz Chwalek. MIC 12:05 PM Meredith Allain—birthdav 4:45 PM +Lady Christiana Chinyere Okoye

Saturday, March 5

9:00 AM Souls in Purgatory 12:00 PM +Ercilia Nunez 4:00 PM Sr. Maria Angela, PDDM 5:30 PM +Amado de Jesus Sepulveda

Praver Before Mass



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.

The Season of Lent from the US Bishops' Conference

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence.

- For members of the Latin Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal.
- The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards.

If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily his Resurrection.

Lent has had a different history than Advent among us. Beginning with the powerful lesson of Ash Wednesday, it has retained its ancient appeal to the penitential spirit of our people. It has also acquired elements of popular piety which we bishops would wish to encourage.

Accordingly, while appealing for greater development of the understanding of the Lenten liturgy, as that of Advent, we hope that the observance of Lent as the principal season of penance in the Christian year will be intensified. This is the more desirable because of new insights into the central place in Christian faith of those Easter mysteries for the understanding and enjoyment of which Lent is the ancient penitential preparation.

Wherefore, we ask, urgently and prayerfully, that we, as people of God, make of the entire Lenten Season a period of special penitential observance. Following the instructions of the Holy See, we declare that the obligation both to fast and to abstain from meat, an obligation observed under a more strict formality by our fathers in the faith, still binds on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. No Catholic

Christian will lightly excuse himself from so hallowed an obligation on the Wednesday which solemnly opens the Lenten season and on that Friday called "Good" because on that day Christ suffered in the flesh and died for our sins.

In keeping with the letter and spirit of Pope Paul's Constitution *Poenitemini*, we preserved for our dioceses the tradition of abstinence from meat on each of the Fridays of Lent, confident that no Catholic Christian will lightly hold himself excused from this penitential practice.

For all other weekdays of Lent, we strongly recommend participation in daily Mass and a self-imposed observance of fasting. In the light of grave human needs which weigh on the Christian conscience in all seasons, we urge, particularly during Lent, generosity to local, national, and world programs of sharing of all things needed to translate our duty to penance into a means of implementing the right of the poor to their part in our abundance. We also recommend spiritual studies, beginning with the Scriptures as well as the traditional Lenten Devotions (sermons, Stations of the Cross, and the rosary), and all the self-denial summed up in the Christian concept of "mortification."

Let us witness to our love and imitation of Christ, by special solicitude for the sick, the poor, the underprivileged, the imprisoned,the bedridden, the discouraged, the stranger, the lonely, and persons of other color, nationalities, or backgrounds than our own. A catalogue of not merely suggested but required good works under these headings is provided by Our Blessed Lord Himself in His description of the Last Judgment (Mt 25:34-40). This salutary word of the Lord is necessary for all the year, but should be heeded with double care during Lent.

During the Lenten season, certain feasts occur which the liturgy or local custom traditionally exempts from the Lenten spirit of penance. The observance of these will continue to be set by local diocesan regulations; in these and like canonical questions which may arise in connection with these pastoral instructions, reference should be made to article VII of *Poenitemini* and the usual norms.