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 Teresa Madariaga | www.teresamadariaga.com | +1 914.636.7856
 teresa@teresamadariaga.com

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"Jesus Wept." John 11:35

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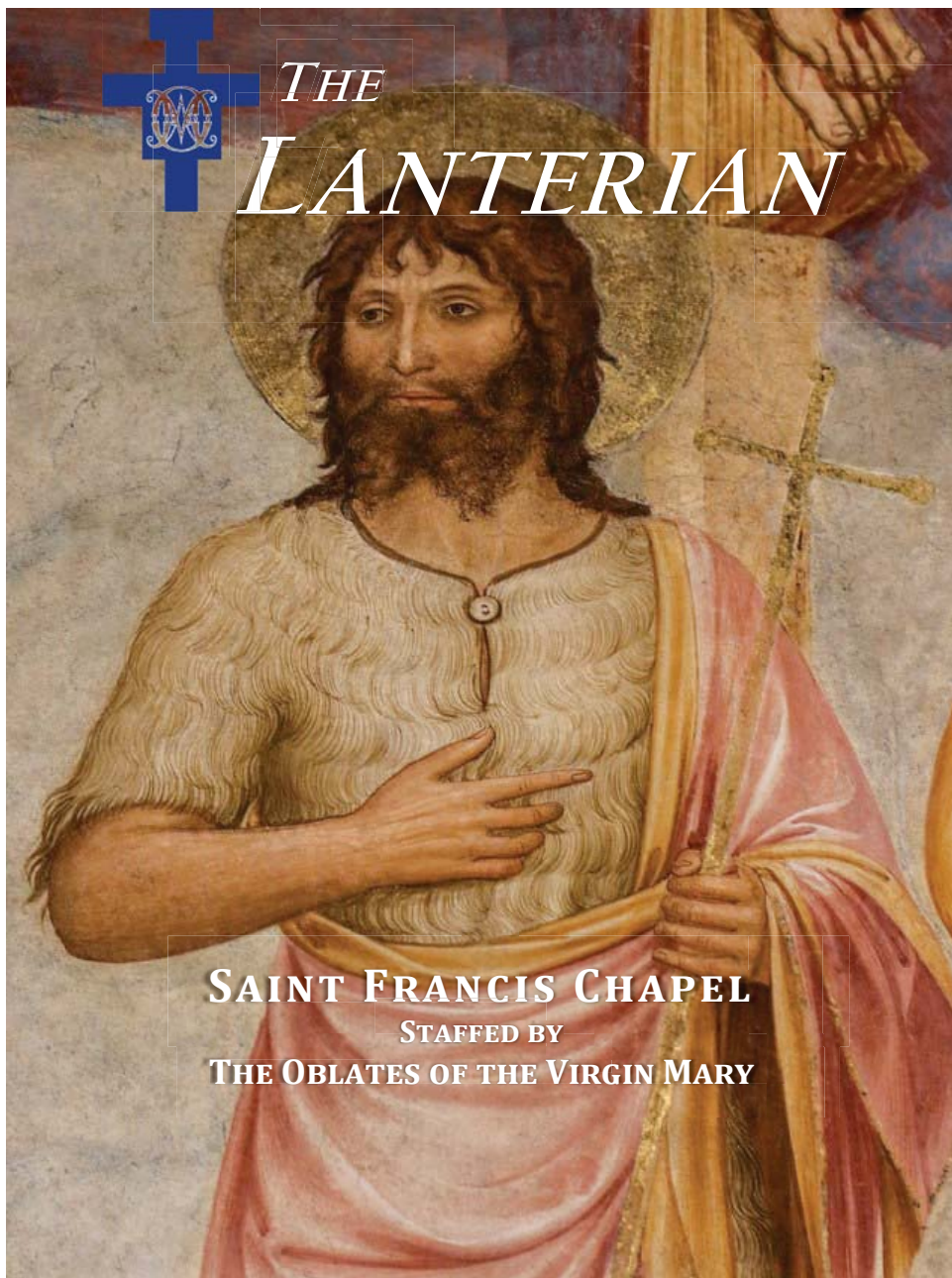
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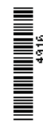


THE
LANTERIAN

SAINT FRANCIS CHAPEL
 STAFFED BY
THE OBLATES OF THE VIRGIN MARY

ENCOUNTER THE HEART OF CHRIST IN THE HEART OF BOSTON

DECEMBER 4, 2022
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



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: Steven Angelucci -
Director,
Saul Garcia, Cesar Garcia,
Stacey Ibe

Cleaning of Chapel

Environment: Nubia Viasus

The Pope's Prayer Intention for December:

We pray that volunteer non-profit organizations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.



Cover Art:

St. John the Baptist. Detail from a fresco by Blessed Fra Angelico, in the Chapter Room of the Dominican Convent of San Marco in Florence.

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 Masses)

CONTACT US

St. Francis Chapel
800 Boylston St., Boston MA 02199

617-437-7117
stfrancis@omvusa.org

  SFChapel  stfrancischapel

omvusa/st-francis-chapel.org



Reflection by Fr. Michael Warren, OMV

The hero in Dostoevsky's great novel *The Brothers Karamazov* is Alyosha. He is a pious Russian youth with an innocent heart, and has entered the local monastery with the sincerest desire to grow in faith, hope and love. In the monastery Alyosha is mentored by Fr. Zosima, a holy monk whose reputation for having special gifts of healing and soul-reading is wide-spread. Vast numbers of people seek out Fr. Zosima in hopes of encountering his deep spiritual gifts, much as the people sought out John the Baptist in his day.

To Alyosha, Fr. Zosima is the embodiment of wisdom and holiness. Later, after he dies, the holy monk is being prepared for burial. Fr. Zosima was supposed by the people to have been so holy, so a large number of them assemble about the monastery in anticipation of some great miracle that they are sure is to follow from his death. Instead of a miracle the body of the dead monk begins to rot, and the stench is ghastly. At the sign of decomposition the people, and even many of the other monks, begin to denounce Zosima as a spiritual fraud. For to them, a saint would surely generate some great sign of holiness at his death, and not just wither away like all material things. With the body in decomposition the assembly is convinced that Fr. Zosima was not the holy man they thought he was; that the spiritual teaching and example of asceticism and holy living he left them must surely be false.

What has actually been exposed is the corruption inside the hearts of those assembled. True holiness is not a spectacle, but the daily commitment to faith, hope and love in God. Fr. Zosima served the Lord and the Church faithfully till the end. The people were ultimately not interested in following his way of daily fidelity to Christ. They had an appetite for spectacle and easy miracles that make daily sacrifices unnecessary. In the end there is no love for Fr. Zosima, for his service to the people, or gratitude to God for raising up a holy monk in their midst; there is only the self-satisfaction of the people that the work of holiness, so often filled with patient toil, monotony and disappointment, is not worth the effort because Fr. Zosima returned to God the same way all do.

Many Pharisees and Sadducees came to John the Baptist in search of a spectacle. John admonishes them for seeking religious theater. They rely on reputation, on official-looking clothing, and on the titles priest, rabbi and "child of Abraham" to deliver them from any judgment. John instructs them in brusquely that these things will not save them, but only the daily work of fidelity to the covenant with God. John has no official clothing and no titles. The people see and hear in him fidelity to God.

OBLATES OF THE VIRGIN MARY



*An Advent and Christmas
Service of*

Lessons & Carols



Join us for an evening of joyful expectation to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ at Christmas through scripture, song and prayer.

This event is free and open to the public.

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11TH AT 5PM
ST. CLEMENT EUCHARISTIC SHRINE**

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sunday, Dec. 4

8:00 AM + Sheila M.
9:15 AM In honor of St. Martin de Porres
10:30 AM Peter Doran—health
11:45 AM +Josephine DeSesa
1:15 PM +Francisco Herrera
4:00 PM +Deceased members of Mahon Family
5:30 PM Patricia McShane—health

Monday, Dec. 5

8:00 AM +Rosa Aceto
12:05 PM Padovani & Raffo Families
4:45 PM Gratitude for St. Joseph & Mary

Tuesday, Dec. 6

8:00 AM +Mik Maciora
12:05 PM +Pablo Augusto Almora Campo
4:45 PM Gratitude for St. Joseph & Mary

Wednesday, Dec. 7

8:00 AM Yola Gank-Morginis
12:05 PM +Brian Dorgan
5:10 PM Gratitude for St. Joseph & Mary

Thursday, Dec. 8

8:00 AM Silvia Ooi & Family
11:00 AM +Patricia O'Brien
12:05 PM +Carla Tannozi
1:00 PM Gratitude for St. Joseph & Mary
4:00 PM Gratitude for St. Joseph & Mary
5:10 PM +David Scattergood
6:15 PM (esp) Priests of St. Francis Chapel

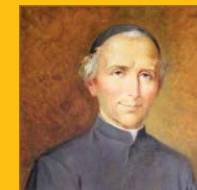
Friday, Dec. 9

8:00 AM In honor of St. Juan Diego
12:05 PM +Hollins Eno- birthday
4:45 PM Mr. & Mrs. Jason Allain

Saturday, Dec. 10

9:00 AM Joan Gilmour
12:00 PM Jack and Jill Cummings
4:00 PM +Ricardo Balaga
5:30 PM +Jose Paiva

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.

The Jesse Tree: Advent Tradition

Day 8: Scripture: John 1:15-17 **Theme:** Moses **Symbol:** Ten Commandments
John testified to him and cried out, saying, "This was he of whom I said, "The one who is coming after me ranks ahead of me because he existed before me." From his fullness we have all received, grace in place of grace, because while the law was given through Moses, grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

Reflection: In the summer of 1961 the Green Bay Packers reported to NFL training camp to begin the new football year. They had lost the previous year's championship game in the 4th quarter. They were eager now to progress to the next level. Legendary coach Vince Lombardi opened the camp by holding up a football and announcing, "Gentlemen, this is a football." His point was that the Packers would get to the next level by training hard on the fundamentals and taking no small thing for granted. They never lost a playoff game again under Lombardi. The commandments are our fundamentals. It is the base upon which the grace of Christ builds a champion of holiness. Where are you with the fundamentals?

Day 9: Scripture: Hebrews 11:30 **Theme:** Joshua **Symbol:** Wall of Jericho
By faith the walls of Jericho fell after being encircled for seven days.

Reflection: By faith the walls came down. One might think the armies of Israel led by the great warrior Joshua brought the walls of Jericho down. It was indeed listening to the word of God and trusting in it that led to the collapse of the walls. Joshua was a great leader because he first placed himself under God and became a servant of his word. Are you listening to the Word of God? Do you wish to be a servant of this word?

Day 10: Scripture: Joshua 2:15-21 **Theme:** Rahab **Symbol:** Scarlet Cord
Then she let them down through the window with a rope; for she lived in a house built into the city wall. "Go up into the hill country," she said, "that your pursuers may not come upon you. Hide there for three days, until they return; then you may go on your way." They answered her, "We are free of this oath that you made us take, unless, when we come into the land, you tie this scarlet cord in the window through which you are letting us down. Gather your father and mother, your brothers, and all your family into your house. Should any of them pass outside the doors of your house, their blood will be on their own heads, and we will be guiltless. But if anyone in your house is harmed, their blood will be on our heads. If, however, you betray our mission, we will be free of the oath you have made us take." "Let it be as you say," she replied, and sent them away. When they were gone, she tied the scarlet cord in the window.

Reflection: Rahab protected the Israelite spies because they were messengers of God. Is there a special place in your heart for those who are faithful to God? Do you see God's faithful as messengers?

Day 11: Scripture: Judges 13:3-5 **Theme:** Samson **Symbol:** Locks of Hair
An angel of the LORD appeared to the woman and said to her: Though you are barren and have had no children, you will conceive and bear a son. Now, then, be careful to drink no wine or beer and to eat nothing unclean, for you will conceive and bear a son. No razor shall touch his head, for the boy is to be a nazirite for God from the womb. It is he who will begin to save Israel from the power of the Philistines.

Reflection: Confirmation might be called the lost sacrament. It is usually associated with a graduation from a religious program. Really, it is a form of consecration and strengthening in the Holy Spirit for one to act in the priestly service of Christ. Like Samson the confirmed have been designated by God and outfitted to participate in his work of salvation for others. Have you reflected on your confirmation lately? Have you "exercised" your spiritual muscles in the service of the gospel?

Day 12: Scripture: Ruth 2:5-7 **Theme:** Ruth **Symbol:** Grain
Boaz asked the young man overseeing his harvesters, "Whose young woman is this?" The young man overseeing the harvesters answered, "She is the young Moabitess who came back with Naomi from the plateau of Moab. She said, 'I would like to gather the gleanings into sheaves after the harvesters.' Ever since she came this morning she has remained here until now, with scarcely a moment's rest."

Boaz then spoke to Ruth, "Listen, my daughter. Do not go to glean in anyone else's field; you are not to leave here. Stay here with my young women."

Reflection: Ruth earned her reputation among Boaz and the Israelites for her unyielding fidelity to Naomi, her mother-in-law. With the loss of Naomi's husband and both of her sons she faced the prospects of a dire life of loneliness and poverty. Ruth, despite being a foreigner to Israel, would not abandon Naomi. Is there anyone you know who walks alone waiting for the gift of someone's presence? Perhaps yours?

Day 13: Scripture: Isaiah 11:10 **Theme:** Jesse **Symbol:** A Root
On that day, the root of Jesse, set up as a signal for the peoples — Him the nations will seek out; his dwelling shall be glorious.

Reflection: From the marriage of Boaz and Ruth came Obed. From Obed came Jesse and from Jesse, David the king. From this root would spring Jesus the Messiah. Little seeds of fidelity to God's word planted in the heart produce a great harvest, sometimes many years and generations away. This is the mid-point of Advent. Are you still remaining faithful to little acts of fidelity to God in preparation for the great harvest of God's Son, the blossom from the root of Jesse?

Day 14: Scripture: Proverbs 4:5-9 **Theme:** David **Symbol:** A Crown
*Get wisdom, get understanding!
Do not forget or turn aside from the words of my mouth. Do not forsake her, and she will preserve you; love her, and she will safeguard you; The beginning of wisdom is: get wisdom; whatever else you get, get understanding. Exalt her, and she will exalt you; she will bring you honors if you embrace her; She will put on your head a graceful diadem; a glorious crown will she bestow on you.*

Reflection: David was the youngest and smallest of Jesse's seven sons; yet he was chosen by God to be king, because God looks into the heart where he could see David's trust in him. Wisdom, not power, is the crown the saint seeks. Are you seeking greater understanding of your faith this Advent? Are you growing in the wisdom of God?