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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

JANUARY 1, 2023
MOTHER OF GOD



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 January:

We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.



Cover Art:

The Theotokos. Icon. Public Domain

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

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SFChapel



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Reflection by Fr. James Doran, OMV

At the end of 8 days Jesus was circumcised and He formally received a name. Angels referred to Him as Christ the Lord. *The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord. Kyrios, or Lord, was an OT title for God. Mary pondered these things. And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. Treasured all these things...cherished all these...She pieced together all the parts of the mystery of Christ's birth.*

The glossary of the Catechism of the Catholic Church say MEDITATION *is an exercise and a form of prayer in which we try to understand God's revelation of the truths of the Faith and the purpose of the Christian life, and how it should be lived, in order to adhere and respond to what the Lord is asking.* Luke said he based his biography of Jesus on eyewitness testimonies. How did he know what Mary pondered? He probably spoke with her. Luke lived in Ephesus for three years, the very place where our Lady lived.

Now, since He was born of Mary, He can for the first-time smile on us with a human face and love us with a human heart. Mary gazed on His face. St. John Paul II said the Face of Christ belongs to Mary! He said praying the rosary was to gaze on the Face of Christ with Mary. St. Paul said Christ was born of a woman. She is not just the Mother of Christ but Mother of God because He was God from the moment of His conception. He did not *become* God afterwards, at His baptism as some heretics claimed. He did not all of a sudden become God at the Resurrection, as some said that He could not have been God at the crucifixion and death. He was divine His whole life, even as a fetus, an embryo. That is why Elizabeth said; *"Who am I that the Mother of my Lord should come to me?"* He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. She carried Him, and she bore Him. As they say in Latin languages; she brought Him into the light; from the darkness of the womb into the light of day.

Some Christians object to calling Mary Mother of God for fear of implying that she is superior to God or that she is divine. That is not what the Church teaches. She is not Mother of the Trinity, nor the Father, nor the Holy Spirit. She is Mother of the 2nd Person of the Holy Trinity, though He existed before her. She is His Mother because He became an embryo and was born of her. She is not just mother of His Body because she did not give birth to a body, but to a Person, a divine Person. Elizabeth called Mary, *Mother of the Lord.* *"Anytime the Church says something about Mary...it is to safeguard and protect some truth about Christ that is in danger of being distorted"*, says Dr. Pitre. Mary is called mother of God to defend the dogma that Jesus is True God and True Man. He did not become God after His baptism at the Jordan, as some said. He did not become divine at the Transfiguration or at the Resurrection, as others thought. Some heretics taught that He was God but never truly a man; that He only appeared to be human because they could not believe that God could be born or suffer or die. But Mary continues to Magnify the Lord.

Holy Mother of GOD, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.

Prayer for the New Year

All make the sign of the cross. The leader begins:

Let us praise the Lord of days and seasons and years, saying:
Glory to God in the highest!

R/. And peace to his people on earth!

Then the Scripture is read, Book of Genesis 1:14-19:

God said: "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky, to separate day from night. Let them mark the fixed times, the days and the years, and serve as luminaries in the dome of the sky, to shed light upon the earth." And so it happened: God made the two great lights, the greater one to govern the day, and the lesser one to govern the night; and he made the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky, to shed light upon the earth, to govern the day and the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. God saw how good it was. Evening came, and morning followed—the fourth day.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **R/.** Thanks be to God.

Let us now pray for God's blessing in the new year.

Remember us, O God;
from age to age be our comforter.
You have given us the wonder of time,
blessings in days and nights, seasons and years.
Bless your children at the turning of the year
and fill the months ahead with the bright hope
that is ours in the coming of Christ.
You are our God, living and reigning, forever and ever. **R/.** Amen.

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. **R/.** Amen.

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sunday, Jan. 1

8:00 AM Mr. & Mrs. Jason Allain

9:15 AM Jack & Jill Cummings

10:30 AM Employees, Boston Properties

11:45 AM +Thomas White

1:15 PM +Margarita Arboleda—10th
anniv.

4:00 PM +Thomas & +Carmella Angelucci

5:30 PM In Gratitude

Monday, Jan. 2

8:00 AM Holy Souls in Purgatory

12:05 PM Benjamin Ooi—birthday

4:45 PM +Barbara Vasconculos

Tuesday, Jan. 3

8:00 AM +Roberta Carrara

12:05 PM +Maria de Jesus Gomez

4:45 PM +Claude Savoie

Wednesday, Jan. 4

8:00 AM Ruo Chen

12:05 PM Marianna Nvellino—birthday

4:45 PM Sophie Feitelberg

Thursday, Jan. 5

8:00 AM For blessings

12:05 PM +Julia Savoie

4:45 PM +Colette Carbonneau

Friday, Jan. 6

8:00 AM +Salvatore Villelo

12:05 PM +Teresa Ippolito—birthday

4:45 PM +Connie Tobon

Saturday, Jan. 8

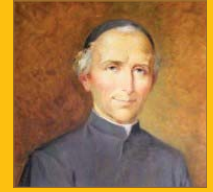
9:00 AM +Connie Tobon

12:00 PM +Dalia Novellino

4:00 PM +Leonardo Mejia

5:30 PM +Humberto Bustamante—10th

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.

Christmas and the Twelve Fruits of the Holy Spirit

Opening Prayer: Jesus, Our Treasure by Ven. Bruno Lanteri

O, Jesus, you descended in the fullness of time from the royal throne; O you who are most desired of all. You came from the height of heaven to visit us, and we are overwhelmed with joy, for as soon as the eternal Father had seen you born in our flesh, he made the angels proclaim peace and grace to all of good will. Freeing us from all misery, the Father gave us his kingdom and filled us with all your good. Make our hearts open and able to hold so great a treasure. Amen.

Day 8, Christmas Day: Fruit of the Spirit: Charity

Scripture: Colossians 3:14

And above all these [virtues] put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

Action for the Day: Whether opening gifts or eating dinner or visiting with family and friends, love should be the motivation for everything on this day. The First Noel was held in a cave. Whatever our circumstances we have received God's greatest gift: his Son. As God has given himself to us, give yourself to others today in the Spirit of Charity.

Day 9, St. Stephen's Day: Fruit of the Spirit: Generosity

Scripture: Acts of the Apostles 7:59

As they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit."

Action for the Day: St. Stephen's Day celebrates the first martyr after Christ's resurrection. St. Stephen was one of the original seven deacons of the Church, who were ordained by the Apostles to administer charity to the needy. Stephen proved to be a powerful witness for Christ in being ready to give without counting the cost. Today, continue the celebration of Christmas by being generous in your time and in your treasure. Many in the world think today is post-Christmas and are thinking of the gifts they may need to return. Help others today to know that, with the Spirit of God, the gifts keep coming.

Day 10, St. John the Apostle: Fruit of the Spirit: Chastity

Scripture: Psalm 51:10

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

Action for the Day: The greatest gift of Christmas is that God has made himself a sacrament; he has made himself visible in the humanity of his Son Jesus Christ. Jesus lived his life on earth with a vision of his Father. He has made himself visible in his humanity so that we might merit to also see as Jesus does, the pure Spirit and

essence of God, the beatific vision. The virtue of chastity makes you whole. Holistic healing is what we all wish for; to be clean in the whole of our humanity, body, soul, and spirit. This is what chastity attains. To have the potential to see God as he is, is the mark of the great dignity of a human person. Today keep your eyes fixed on the beautiful Christmas images of the season. Give to God the gift of seeking to see him throughout the day in the face of his Son. Let the manger, the angels, the star, the Holy Family lift your vision to heaven.

Day 11, The Holy Innocents: Fruit of the Spirit: Patience

Scripture: Romans 12:12

Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

Action for the Day: Few things test our love as children do. The helplessness of the child should inspire in us the greatest acts of selflessness, but so often it also exposes our own weaknesses and helplessness. Herod responded to the birth of Jesus not with humility but with envy and rage. He sought to exterminate that which exposed his own weaknesses. The death of the Holy Innocents at the hands of Herod and the fleeing of the Holy Family was a dark moment in an otherwise joyful time. Even in the midst of this season of divine goodness we can be tempted by darkness to lose the Spirit of Christmas. Patience is the virtue that maintains equanimity and poise in the midst of sadness. Call on the Holy Family to be with you today in managing any temptations to discouragement. Be patient with yourself and others in this hectic time.

Day 12, Fifth Day of Christmas: Fruit of the Spirit: Goodness

Scripture: Romans 12:21

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Action for the Day: Today, radiate the Spirit of goodness by secret giving.

Prayer to the Holy Mother of God

Rejoice, Virgin Birthgiver-of-God, Mary, Full of Grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb, for you have given birth to the Saviour of our souls. Amen.

It is right, in truth, to call you Blessed, Birthgiver of God, Ever-Blessed, Most Pure and the Mother of our God. More honourable than the cherubim and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, in virginity you gave birth to God the Word. True Birthgiver-of-God, we magnify you. Amen.

Beneath your tender mercy we flee, Birthgiver-of-God. Reject not our prayer in our trouble, but deliver us from harm, Only Pure and Blessed Lady. Amen.

Most Glorious Ever-Virgin Mary, Mother of Christ our God, receive our prayer and present it to your Son and our God, that, for your sake, He may save souls. Amen.