

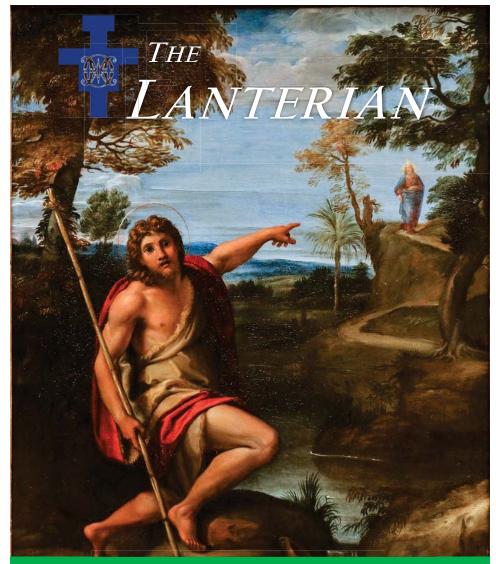
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SAINT FRANCIS CHAPEL Staffed by The Oblates of the Virgin Mary

ENCOUNTER THE HEART OF CHRIST IN THE HEART OF BOSTON

JANUARY 15, 2023 Second Sunday

For Advertising call 617-779-3771 Pilot Bulletins Saint Francis Chapel, Boston, MA 4916

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.



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 Masses)

CONTACT US

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Cover Art:

Behold the Lamb of God. Painting from the National Gallery of Art in Washington DC. Photo by Lawrence Lew, O.P. Flickr.



Reflection by Fr. Michael Warren, OMV

Howling and lamenting like the beast to which he has been near reduced, King Lear of Brittany drags his battered flesh onto the stage clutching the corpse of his loyal daughter Cordelia before the eyes of a stunned audience. Three daughters had King Lear - two of whom proved to be cruel and heartless, while the youngest, Cordelia, was cherubic. While the elder two betray him, Cordelia manifests true love and devotion. Yet, at the end of Shakespeare's Play, *King Lear*, all three daughters appear to meet the same deadly fate. While the elder sisters take advantage of their father the king the moment it becomes opportune to do so, Cordelia—even in suffering great injustice—continues to serve him and love him as a daughter. "O dear father, It is thy business that I go about" (Act 4, Scene 4).

Lear it seems would rather have the empty praises of his two elder daughters than the quiet yet faithful love of Cordelia. To Lear glory is not about the sharing of inner goodness and beauty, as it is for Cordelia; to him it is about looking good in the company of others. Lear will have to learn a great lesson throughout the play, that true power does not consist in receiving adulation but in having the courage to stay true to love to the end. The King wants to live the high life of a king without the responsibility of governing in service to his kingdom. He will begin like his elder daughters and end like his youngest daughter.

John the Baptist points to Jesus and proclaims Him to be the Lamb of God. Jesus is the one who does not utter empty praises to His Father, but will lay down His life in silent service to God at all costs. The words of the Psalm are the true sentiments of the heart of Christ, "Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will." Christ is the manifestation of the Father's glory not because he looks good in the sight of others—indeed He will come to resemble a slaughtered lamb—but because the beauty of His love and fidelity to the Father will last to the end. The Spirit of the Lord rests on Jesus, the same glorious Spirit that is given to all the baptized.

As in *King Lear* both the innocent and the guilty—Cordelia and her cruel sisters— face death of one form or another, but the spirit that they carry into that death is what distinguishes one from the other. Cordelia did not suffer the same fate as her evil sisters. While the elder sisters die in misery for their crimes, Cordelia died because her love for her father suffered no limit. The play leaves us with this question, does Cordeilia's true love make any difference in the end? Jesus confirms for us that faithful love does make a difference. The innocent are not swept away with the guilty, but swept up in love to the bosom of the Father. True love does not come to and end but is made glorious in the sight of the Lord. Be glorious for Christ!

The Lanteri Guild

The Venerable Bruno Lanteri Guild! We are a growing group of friends who help tell the story of Bruno Lanteri, founder of the Oblates of the Virgin Mary (OMV). The cause for the canonization of Venerable Bruno Lanteri is currently underway and it's our goal to see it completed. We also help promote vocations to the Oblates who continue to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ through the charism of Venerable Bruno.

Ven. Lanteri preached and wrote about the infinite Mercy of the Father manifested in Jesus Christ. But more than that, he lived it in his everyday life, as he taught the Oblates to do. Through Reconciliation and spiritual direction, he connected with people along their personal journey to knowing God's mercy. The Oblates are located all over the world, and their spirituality is grounded in the life and mission of this little-known North Piedmont priest of Italy.

"We can never hope too much. The one who hopes for everything, obtains everything." Ven. Bruno Lanteri

His canonization would spread his message of God's infinite mercy to even more people, accompanied by the hope, love and self-reflection that comes with knowing God on a personal level. Vocations to the Oblates would ensure this needed message of spiritual accompaniment and encouragement will continue.

If you are interested in joining with us for these special tasks, please do let us know and join the growing movement. *We need your talent!*

Contact at the Chapel: stfrancis@omvusa.org

Contact with the Guild: lanterians@omvusa.org

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

<u>Sunday, Jan. 15</u>

8:00 AM Louise Ippolito—birthday 9:15 AM Valerie Pimmel—good health and blessings in the new year 10:30 AM +Alissa Sperrazza 11:45 AM Michelle Pimmel 1:15 PM +Maria Del Carmin Garcia 4:00 PM +Geraldine Lane 5:30 PM +Alejandro Martinez

Monday, Jan. 16

8:00 AM +Rita Kopp 12:05 PM All Souls in Purgatory 4:45 PM Roya Mansouri

Tuesday, Jan. 17

8:00 AM Attuacta Flettery 12:05 PM Ben T.—healing 4:45 PM +Tim & +Anne Murphy-Callahan

<u>Wednesday, Jan. 18</u>

8:00 AM Attuacta Flettery 12:05 PM +John McColgan 4:45 PM +Mon. O'Shea

Thursday, Jan. 19

8:00 AM Alan F. & family—healing 12:05 PM +Rosemary Worthington 4:45 PM +Rosa Knodler

<u>Friday, Jan. 20</u>

8:00 AM Merecedes Musgrave 12:05 PM Elizabeth Velasquez 4:45 PM Silvia Munoz

<u>Saturday, Jan. 21</u>

9:00 AM O'Dwyer Family12:00 PM Emma Feitelberg4:00 PM +John E. Manning5:30 PM Familia Muneton Snachez

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. 2

St. Joseph Vaz—Patron Saint of Sri Lanka Feast Day: January 16

The great Apostle of Ceylon, St. Joseph Vaz was born in India in 1651 to devout Portuguese parents. He so excelled as a young student, impressing his parents and his teachers, that he was one of few young

men to enter the Jesuit college in Goa, India founded by St. Francis Xavier, the great Jesuit missionary priest. After getting degrees with the Jesuits he sought further studies in philosophy and theology with the Dominicans. At the age of 25 he was ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of Goa.

Despite his rather elite status and high education, Joseph immediately took to living a poor life, even walking about barefooted and gaining a reputation as a great preacher and very good confessor.

In 1681 Joseph was sent to bring peace to the Church in the Kanara region of

St. Joseph Vaz. A sela Dassanyake, 2014.

Western India. Factions had developed between two rival claimants to authority in the region. St. Joseph worked hard, with patience and humility to convince both sides to come to peace in Christ for the sake of the evangelical mission. He reminded both sides that local Hindus were being scandalized by the fighting between Catholic brethren. All the while he continued to gain in further good repute concerning his popular preaching and merciful and prudential confessing. He also built churches in the region, smaller prayer chapels and even the local cathedral. St. Joseph Vaz left the region in 1684. He brought a great peace and expanded the mission of Christ to many homes throughout Western India.

Beginning in 1687 St. Joseph would work in the area that would become most associated with him, Ceylon, which is modern day Sri Lanka. The Dutch had administered vast areas of the island as a colony since 1656. As strict Calvinists, the Dutch had mandated that religion across their territories on the island; thus, Catholicism had been outlawed. St. Joseph arrives with the desire to minister to the Catholics in hiding within the Dutch colony and to revive the Catholic Faith across the island and to bring the sacraments to Catholics who had not had the ministrations of any priest for years.

St. Joseph would travel across the Island disguised as a poor laborer searching for Catholics in need of the Holy Mass, confession and other sacraments. In areas not controlled by the Dutch, namely the Kingdom of Kandy, St. Joseph continued his work among the underserved Catholics and building chapels. Suspected to be a Portuguese spy, St. Joseph was arrested in 1692 by the King of Kandy. He took the time in prison to learn the language of the locals that he might be a more effective minister. He died in Kandy in 1711 after two decades as an effective missionary priest on the island. Today, St. Joseph Vaz is known as the Apostle and Patron Saint of Sri Lanka.

Prayer to St. Joseph Vaz

Our dear patron Saint Joseph Vaz: You were a person of great heart with a passionate zeal for Christ our Savior in your life as a preacher of the Word of God. Through your ardent efforts and spiritual gifts you brought people to Christ, changed the hearts of many, healed the sick, educated the disadvantaged, defended and aided the persecuted, comforted the afflicted, worked miracles in order to show the power of the name of Jesus. O God, through the intercession of Saint Joseph Vaz: Give us the discerning spirit and fruits of the Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, trustfulness, gentleness and selfcontrol. Increase our faith and enable us to grow in virtues of prudence, justice temperance and fortitude. Send us angels full of love and affection. Give us the strength to preserve Your creation, our common home and work for the sustainability of our planet. Grant us the wisdom to work in unity with people of all races and religions, and to do our part to remove social and economic inequalities, to assist the marginalized and abandoned, and to bring about peace and harmony. Make us generous disciples of Your Son to listen to the inner promptings and thus to work for faith, justice and peace. May Saint Joseph Vaz intercede for us in our life's journey to imitate our Master and Lord Jesus. May Saint Joseph Vaz be our inspiration and model in our earthly life to be part of the Reign of God. Amen.

