





SAINT FRANCIS CHAPEL Staffed by The Oblates of the Virgin Mary

ENCOUNTER THE HEART OF CHRIST IN THE HEART OF BOSTON

52 1

FEBRUARY 19, 2023 Seventh Sunday

4916

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 February:

We pray that parishes, placing communion at the center, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.



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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Reflection by Fr. Isaac Abu, OMV

Difficult but Possible!

There is a story about Dr. Blanton, a famous psychiatrist, and his client who saw a Bible on his desk, narrated by Fr. Vima Dasan in his book, <u>His</u> <u>Word Lives</u>: "'Don't tell me that the great Dr. Blanton reads the Bible. ' He said, 'I not only read the Bible but meditate on it. It is the greatest textbook on human behavior ever written. If people followed its teachings, a lot of psychiatrists would close their offices and go fishing. '"

In continuation of the revolutionary teaching of Jesus Christ, the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus advises us today on the best way to handle unpleasantness, "those who treat us as things or commodities" (Joseph Donders). As every good Teacher will always demand the best from their students, Jesus, the Greatest Teacher, demanded a difficult but achievable state from us: Be perfect as your Heavenly Father is perfect. Aim at scoring one hundred percent. You may end up scoring eighty or seventy percent, and the other demand of loving enemies will be enhanced. The natural response to aggressive assault is retaliation, and the reaction to lovely treatment is friendship. But Jesus is asking us to swim against the tide of aggression, to stop a repetitive cycle of violence. Pray for your enemies because if we operate on the principle of an eye for an eye, "the whole world will end up blind," as M. Gandhi said. However, Joseph Donders noted that it is not an invitation to navive te because the love for the enemy (tough love sometimes) requires challenging the enemy in the view of salvation.

This teaching is very challenging; living a good Christian life is demanding. As we approach the Holy Season of Lent, let us utilize the golden opportunity of Prayer and Penance to enable us to continue on the right track in our pilgrimage to eternity.

Peace be with You.

Cover Art:

The Sermon on the Mount. Stained Glass by Hardman & Co. Tewkesbury Abbey, England. Photo by Walwyn. Flickr.



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

Sunday, Feb. 19

8:00 AM +Ann Markowski 9:15 AM +Sharon Penney Oster 10:30 AM +Allen J. Kirby 11:45 AM +Isidore & +Agatha Moshnin 1:15 PM +Luis Carlos Gil 4:00 PM +Abraham Sehabtu 5:30 PM +Ann Walsh

Monday, Feb. 20

8:00 AM +Robert Lewis Stevenson 12:05 PM +John J. O'Connor III—11th anniv. 4:45 PM +Ruth Rosso

Tuesday, Feb. 21

8:00 AM James & Amy Fos 12:05 PM Gilma Vega 4:45 PM Mary Tonelli & Dan Crimmins

Wednesday, Feb. 22 Ash Wednesday

8:00 AM Rory Pratt Family 11:00 AM 12:05 PM Souls in Purgatory 1:00 PM 4:00 PM +Joseph Timilty 5:10 PM 6:15 PM Espanol

Thursday, Feb. 23

8:00 AM John E. Cortez 12:05 PM +Peter & +Mary Tran 4:45 PM +Bernard Law

Friday, Feb. 24

8:00 AM Gleisser Cortez 12:05 PM Patricia Molony 4:45 PM +Paul Burke

Saturday, Feb. 25

9:00 AM O'Dwyer Family 12:00 PM +Cecilia, +Tony, +Sheila Byrne 4:00 PM +Dorothy Hadfield 5:30 PM +Carmen Consuelo Torres-Bustamante—4th 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. 2



Seeking Healing after Abortion?

Project Rachel Retreats offer hope, healing & reconciliation in a confidential setting...

Spring 2023 Retreats

Project Rachel

Saturday, March 11

Saturday, May 6

9:00AM - 5:00 PM

Comments from Recent Participants

"I came to see I wasn't letting God heal me."

"I'm so glad I went. I could be honest, accepted and feel forgiveness".

"Thank you ... I will be reflecting on this day for the rest of my life."

"The retreat was something I always wanted to do – to unburden the load with others, and connect with the priest."

Sponsored by the Project Rachel Ministry - Archdiocese of Boston

Location is confidential. Pre-registration is required. *Trust in the tender mercy of God!* For more information:

> Project Rachel at (508) 651-3100 or help@projectrachelboston.com

Project Rachel Post-Abortion Healing Retreats (March 11, May 6)

Are you – or someone you know – suffering from post-abortion pain? The Project Rachel ministry of the Archdiocese of Boston extends a special invitation to women experiencing regret from a past abortion to attend a Come to the Waters of Healing one-day retreat. Spring dates are March 11 and May 6. Locations are confidential. For more information on the retreats or other services, contact Project Rachel at 508.651.3100 or **help@projectrachelboston.com**.

Fasting and Abstinence During Lent

From the US Catholic Bishops

<u>Ash Wednesday and Good Friday</u> 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.

Members of the Eastern Catholic Churches are to observe the particular law of their own Church.

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 is a 40 day season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving that begins on Ash Wednesday and ends at sundown on Holy Thursday. It's a period of preparation to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection at Easter. During Lent, we seek the Lord in prayer by reading Sacred Scripture; we serve by giving alms; and we practice self-control through fasting. We are called not only to abstain from luxuries during Lent, but to a true inner conversion of heart as we seek to follow Christ's will more faithfully. We recall the waters of baptism in which we were also baptized into Christ's death, died to sin and evil, and began new life in Christ.

Many know of the tradition of abstaining from meat on Fridays during Lent, but we are also called to practice self-discipline and fast in other ways throughout the season. In addition, the giving of alms is one way to share God's gifts—not only through the distribution of money, but through the sharing of our time and talents. As St. John Chrysostom reminds us: "Not to enable the poor to share in our goods is to steal from them and deprive them of life. The goods we possess are not ours, but theirs." (Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 2446).

In Lent, the baptized are called to renew their baptismal commitment as others prepare to be baptized through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, a period of learning and discernment for individuals who have declared their desire to become Catholics.

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