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"Jesus Wept." John 11:35

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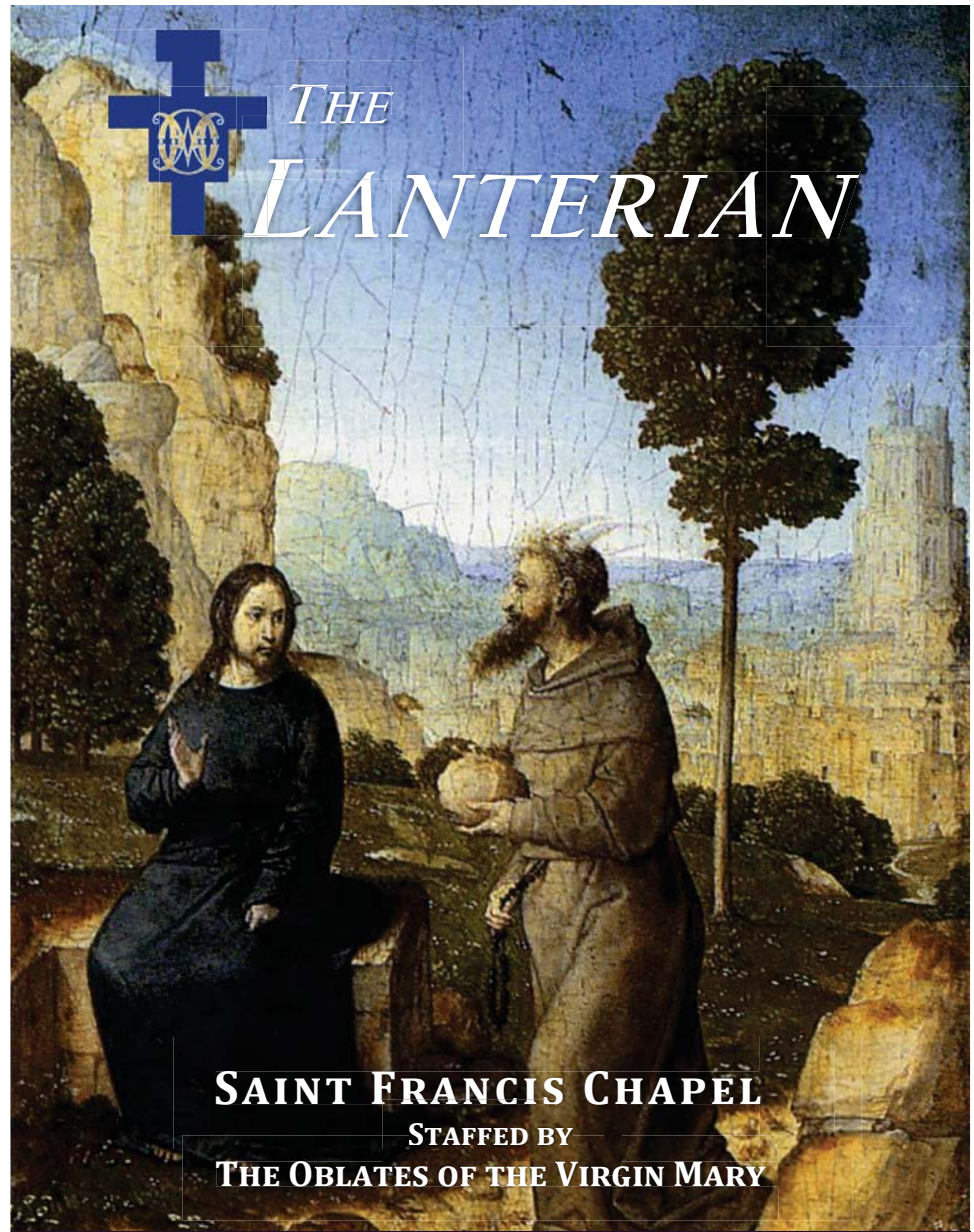


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**THE LANTIERIAN**

**SAINT FRANCIS CHAPEL**  
 STAFFED BY  
**THE OBLATES OF THE VIRGIN MARY**

*ENCOUNTER THE HEART OF CHRIST IN THE HEART OF BOSTON*

**FEBRUARY 26, 2023**  
**First Sunday of Lent**



## 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.



## Cover Art:

*The Temptation of Christ* (c.1500) - from the Polyptych of Isabella the Catholic. Juan de Flandes - National Gallery of Art, Washington

## 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



stfrancischapel

[omvusa/st-francis-chapel.org](http://omvusa/st-francis-chapel.org)



## Reflection by Fr. Michael Warren, OMV

“If you are the Son of God,” the temptation against Jesus in the desert is aimed at His identity and the freedom that comes from it. “If” indeed He is the Son of God, then, the devil implies, He is free to use power for Himself. We in the United States certainly celebrate and cherish our freedom. It is something we consider a basic human right, something so vital to life that there are men and women right now willing to surrender that very life to preserve freedom for others. Christ came to set us free, to make of us a people without fear. So it is imperative that we ask the question: What is freedom?

Freedom in this sense means “freedom from.” “Freedom from” is an attitude more of defiance than positive action. It means that we don’t do anything we don’t want to do, and that we can do anything we prefer, so long as we don’t harm anyone else. We could say that this kind of freedom is centered in “me” and what “I” want.

The freedom that Christ displays in the gospel is not a “freedom from” but a “freedom for.” Christ is free for righteousness, free for God. In Him we too are free to be good, and to live well. We are not free to do whatever we wish. True freedom is to love God as He should be loved, and our neighbor as ourselves. Loving is a serious business, and it is not easy. The greatest freedom is the one that allows the human person to love in a deep, mature and sacrificial way. Christ gives that. Lent is the season to deepen it.

To receive the freedom in Christ means living in the truth. It doesn’t mean I can simply act on impulse and do whatever seems to please me at any given moment. It means that I must first ask myself if what I propose to do is a truly good act. To know if something is truly a good act means I must know the truth, not what I feel is good, but what really is good. Only Christ knows that answer. That is why we must cling to Christ who reaches us through the Church and her sacraments.

True freedom does not mean the capacity to do whatever pleases us, but to have the inner strength to live and love according to the truth in every moment, no matter the consequences. To do that is beyond human strength. Lent isn’t just a time of discipline but a time to re-orient ourselves in the freedom of Jesus. Our true inheritance is not to be able to have anything our way, right away, but the life of Christ given us in baptism. All the treasures of Christ have been “deposited” in the heart of the Church. To partake in the treasures of the Church’s wisdom in Christ is to become free, free to live the beautiful life of the saints.

# Will You Be There?

## REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR THE 10TH NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

Join your Catholic brothers and sisters as we encounter the living Jesus Christ, experience profound renewal, and are sent out on mission for the life of the world. <https://www.eucharisticcongress.org/>

## EYES OPENED, Hearts on Fire

At the National Eucharistic Congress, the Church will draw into a deeper intimacy with our Eucharistic Lord, allowing our eyes to be opened and our hearts to be set on fire with his love.

The whole Congress will be an experience of prayer: a liturgical act offering the Catholic Church—those in attendance in Indianapolis as well as across the country—to the Father, through the Son, and in the Holy Spirit. This reconsecration will result in a massive outpouring of grace and renewed missionary sending as participants are moved to share the Eucharistic love of the Lord “for the life of the world” (John 6:51).

### MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

#### Sunday, Feb. 26

8:00 AM +David Luppi  
9:15 AM Elaine McGee-Goutreau  
10:30 AM Marta Gonzalez—thanks.  
11:45 AM +Michael Desesa  
1:15 PM +Misael Rendon  
4:00 PM Eileen Marie O’Toole McGrath & +Members of Flynn & O’Rourke Families  
5:30 PM Familia Gomez Castillo

#### Monday, Feb. 27

8:00 AM +Connie Tobon  
12:05 PM +Maria Jose Aguiar  
4:45 PM Jackie White, O.F.S.—healing

#### Tuesday, Feb. 28

8:00 AM Mr. & Mrs. Jason Allain  
12:05 PM +Peter Mortimer  
4:45 PM +John Morse

#### Wednesday, March 1

8:00 AM +Thomas Decrescenzo  
12:05 PM Paul Thu & Paul Huy  
4:45 PM +Frank Martinez

#### Thursday, March 2

8:00 AM Legion of Mary in Boston  
12:05 PM Jack & Jill Cummings—health  
4:45 PM Brandon Vega

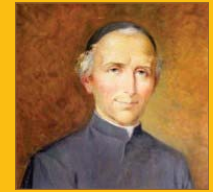
#### Friday, March 3

8:00 AM Peter McLaughlin  
12:05 PM +Gladys Marhefka  
4:45 PM Tim & Anne Murphy-Callahan

#### Saturday, March 4

9:00 AM Fr. Kazimierz Chwalek, MIC  
12:00 PM +Ercilia Nunez & +Leoncio Huanan  
4:00 PM Ruo Chen—Blessings  
5:30 PM +Esther Minior

### Prayer Before Mass

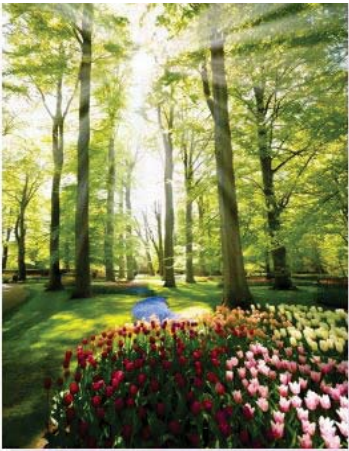


by Ven. Bruno Lanteri

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.



## Seeking Healing after Abortion?

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

### 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."*

### Spring 2023 Retreats

**Saturday, March 11  
Saturday, May 6  
9:00AM – 5:00 PM**



**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](mailto: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](mailto:help@projectrachelboston.com).

## Pope Francis Message for Lent

This year the Lord grants us, once again, a favourable time to prepare to celebrate with renewed hearts the great mystery of the death and resurrection of Jesus, the cornerstone of our personal and communal Christian life. We must continually return to this mystery in mind and heart, for it will continue to grow within us in the measure that we are open to its spiritual power and respond with freedom and generosity.

Christian joy flows from listening to, and accepting, the Good News of the death and resurrection of Jesus. This *kerygma* sums up the mystery of a love “so real, so true, so concrete, that it invites us to a relationship of openness and fruitful dialogue” (*Christus Vivit*, 117). Whoever believes this message rejects the lie that our life is ours to do with as we will. Rather, life is born of the love of God our Father, from his desire to grant us life in abundance (cf. *Jn* 10:10). If we listen instead to the tempting voice of the “father of lies” (*Jn* 8:44), we risk sinking into the abyss of absurdity, and experiencing hell here on earth, as all too many tragic events in the personal and collective human experience sadly bear witness.

It is good to contemplate more deeply the paschal mystery through which God’s mercy has been bestowed upon us. Indeed, the experience of mercy is only possible in a “face to face” relationship with the crucified and risen Lord “who loved me and gave himself for me” (*Gal* 2:20), in a heartfelt dialogue between friends. That is why prayer is so important in Lent. Even more than a duty, prayer is an expression of our need to respond to God’s love which always precedes and sustains us. Christians pray in the knowledge that, although unworthy, we are still loved. Prayer can take any number of different forms, but what truly matters in God’s eyes is that it penetrates deep within us and chips away at our hardness of heart, in order to convert us ever more fully to God and to his will.

In this favourable season, then, may we allow ourselves to be led like Israel into the desert (cf. *Hos* 2:14), so that we can at last hear our Spouse’s voice and allow it to resound ever more deeply within us. The more fully we are engaged with his word, the more we will experience the mercy he freely gives us. May we not let this time of grace pass in vain, in the foolish illusion that we can control the times and means of our conversion to him.

The fact that the Lord once again offers us a favourable time for our conversion should never be taken for granted. This new opportunity ought to awaken in us a sense of gratitude and stir us from our sloth. Despite the sometimes tragic presence of evil in our lives, and in the life of the Church and the world, this opportunity to change our course expresses God’s unwavering will not to interrupt his dialogue of salvation with us. In the crucified Jesus, who knew no sin, yet for our sake was made to be sin (cf. *2 Cor* 5:21), this saving will led the Father to burden his Son with the weight of our sins, thus, in the expression of Pope Benedict XVI, “turning of God against himself” (*Deus Caritas Est*, 12). For God also loves his enemies (cf. *Mt* 5:43-48).