



ENCOUNTER THE HEART OF CHRIST IN THE HEART OF BOSTON

SEPTEMBER 17, 2023 Twenty-fourth Sunday

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

CHAPEL STAFF:

Fr. Isaac Abu. OMV Fr. Victor Nwabueze, OMV Fr. Michael Warren, OMV Fr. John Wykes, OMV

Sundays:

Fr. James Walther, OMV Fr. Sean Morris, OMV

Music: Saul Garcia, Cesar Garcia, Stacey Ibe

Cleaning of Chapel Environment: Nubia Viasus

The Pope's Prayer Intention for September:

We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.



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. 8:30 -11:50AM, 12:30-4:40PM Saturday 9:30 - 11:45 AM, 12:30-3:30PM

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 - 4:30PM*; Saturday 9:30AM - 6:00PM*; Sunday 8:45AM - 6:00PM* (*Closed during Masses)

CONTACT US

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Cover Art: The Unforgiving Servant. Public Domain



Reflection by Pope Francis

In the parable in today's Gospel reading, that of the merciful King (cf. *Mt* 18:21-35), we find this plea twice: "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything" (vv. 26, 29). The first time it is pronounced by the servant who owes his master ten thousand talents, an enormous sum... The second time it is repeated by another servant of the same master.

The heart of the parable is the indulgence the master shows towards his servant with the bigger debt. The evangelist underlines that, "moved with compassion the master" — we should never forget this word of Jesus: "with compassion", Jesus always had compassion — "moved with compassion the master let him go and forgave him the loan" (v. 27). An enormous debt, therefore a huge remission! But that servant, immediately afterwards, shows himself to be pitiless towards his companion, who owed him a modest amount. He does not listen to him, he is extremely hostile against him and has him thrown in prison until his debt is paid back (cf. v. 30), that small debt. The master hears about this and, indignant, calls the wicked servant back and has him condemned (cf. vv. 32-34): "I forgave you a great deal and you are not capable of forgiving so little?".

In the parable we find two different attitudes: God's — represented by the king who forgives a lot, because God always forgives — and that of the man. In the divine attitude justice is pervaded with mercy, whereas the human attitude is limited to justice. Jesus exhorts us to open ourselves with courage to the strength of forgiveness, because in life not everything can be resolved with justice. We know this. There is a need for that merciful love, which is also at the basis of the Lord's answer to Peter's question, which precedes the parable. Peter's question goes like this: "Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him?" (v. 21). And Jesus replies, "I do not say to you, seven times but seventy times seven" (v. 22). In the symbolic language of the Bible this means that we are called to forgive alwavs.

How much suffering, how many wounds, how many wars could be avoided if forgiveness and mercy were the style of our life! Even in families, even in families. How many disunited families, who do not know how to forgive each other. How many brothers and sisters bear this resentment within. It is necessary to apply merciful love to all human relationships: between spouses, between parents and children, within our communities, in the Church and also in society and politics.

It is not easy to forgive because in moments of calm we say: "Yes, this person has done so many things to me but I have done many too. Better to forgive so as to be forgiven". But then resentment returns like a bothersome fly in the summer that keeps coming back. Forgiveness isn't something we do in a moment, it is something continuous, against that resentment, this hatred that keeps coming back. Let's think of our end and stop hating.

Today's parable helps us to grasp fully the meaning of that phrase we recite in the Lord's Prayer: "And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who *trespass against us*" (cf. *Mt* 6:12). These words contain a decisive truth. We cannot demand God's forgiveness for ourselves if we in turn do not grant forgiveness to our neighbour. It is a condition: think of your end, of God's forgiveness, and stop hating. Reject resentment, that bothersome fly that keeps coming back. If we do not strive to forgive and to love, we will not be forgiven and loved either. 6



Come to the Waters of Healing A Retreat for Post-Abortion Healina

"I had never heard about Project Rachel until I read the blurb in my parish bulletin. If it hadn't been there, I shudder to think where I would be now. It's not just a 'blurb', for me it was life changing.

The retreat was an experience I will take with me for the rest of my life. I received back the grace of God within me and felt a true sense of peace and selfforgiveness."

Fall 2023 Dates

Saturday, September 23 Saturday, November 11

9:00AM - 5:00 PM



A Project Rachel Retreat Participant

Sponsored by the Project Rachel Ministry - Archdiocese of Boston



Location is confidential. Pre-registration is required. Limited to 10 participants. For more information:

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

The Project Rachel ministry of the Archdiocese of Boston extends a special invitation to women suffering from the pain of a past abortion to attend a "Come to the Waters of Healing" one-day retreat. Upcoming dates are September 23 and November 11 from 9 AM to 5 PM. Locations are confidential. For more information, contact Project Rachel at 508.651.3100 or help@projectrachelboston.com.

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sunday, Sept. 17

8:00 AM +Martha Ann Bodiford 9:15 AM +Romelia, +Sergio Sr. & Jr. Norena 10:30 AM +Lucrecia De Infante 11:45 AM +Martha Ann Bediford 1:15 PM +Ana Cardona 4:00 PM Caroline Osterman—Sp. Intention 5:30 PM +Danny Cortes—month's mind

Monday, Sept. 18

8:00 AM Linda LeBlanc—health 12:05 PM +Sheila, +Tony & +Cecilia Byrne 4:45 PM Amparo Tobon—health

Tuesday, Sept. 19

8:00 AM Nicholas LaCava 12:05 PM +Anne Phelan 4:45 PM In honor of St. Raphael

Wednesday, Sept. 20

8:00 AM Cody Armstrong 12:05 PM +Jacqueline Joseph 4:45 PM +Rita Marion

Thursday, Sept. 21

8:00 AM +Marge Miguel 12:05 PM +Nannie Wezniak 4:45 PM +Tim and +Ann Murphy Callahan

Friday, Sept. 22

8:00 AM Clara McGuire—intentions 12:05 PM All Police Officers 4:45 PM +Joseph Timilty

Saturday, Sept. 23

9:00 AM Rev. Flavin Mucci, OFM
12:00 PM
4:00 PM +Richard Halloran
5:30 PM Doriela Acevedo de Gomez

Prayer Before Mass



by Ven. Bruno Lanter

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

Annual Missionary Appeal

The Society of St. Peter Apostle



As part of the annual Missionary Co-Operative Program, Father Steven Arinze will speak at our Chapel this weekend about The Society of St. Peter Apostle, one of the four Pontifical Mission Societies represented here in the Archdiocese of Boston. Father Steven will speak at all the Masses and share stories of his experiences of the mission Church, where seminaries are sometimes turning away young men who want to say "Yes!" to a call from God but cannot because of their own poverty and that of their diocese. They will help us build a spiritual connection to others whose daily lives may be very different from our own.

The Society of St. Peter Apostle is the official mission agency of the Catholic Church supporting seminarians with annual scholarships, support for their teachers, and help for the crumbling infrastructure of mission seminaries. Special envelopes will be available, or checks may be made payable to The Society of St. Peter Apostle. You can also donate online: www.propfaithboston.org/donations/

All proceeds from the appeal will enable the Society to support seminarians in over 1,100 mission territories worldwide.

May our hearts and minds be opened by the Holy Spirit to prayerfully support our brothers and sisters in the missions.

Efficacious Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

This novena prayer was recited every day by Padre Pio for all those who asked for prayers. The faithful are invited to recite it daily, so as to be spiritually united with the prayer of Padre Pio. **St. Pio's feast day is September 23**

I. O my Jesus, you have said: "Truly I say to you, ask and it will be given you, seek and you will find, knock and it will be opened to you." Behold I knock, I seek and ask for the grace of *[insert your intention.]* Our Father...Hail Mary...Glory be to the Father...Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.

II. O my Jesus, you have said: "Truly I say to you, if you ask any thing of the Father in my name, He will give it to you." Behold, in your name, I ask the Father for the grace of *[insert your intention.]* Our Father...Hail Mary...Glory be to the Father...Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.

III. O my Jesus, you have said: "Truly I say to you, heaven and earth will pass away but my words will not pass away." Encouraged by your infallible words I now ask for the grace of *[insert your intention.]* Our Father...Hail Mary...Glory be to the Father...Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.

O Sacred Heart of Jesus, for whom it is impossible not to have compassion on the afflicted, have pity on us miserable sinners and grant us the grace which we ask of you, through the Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary, your tender mother and ours.

Say the Hail, Holy Queen and add: St. Joseph, foster father of Jesus, pray for us.