



**MASSES FOR THE WEEK**  
 May 20—May 26  
 EACH MASS IS OFFERED FOR  
 THE INTENTIONS OF EVERYONE  
 PRESENT AND FOR THE FOLLOWING:

**SATURDAY, MAY 20**

4:00 p.m. Kevin William Bumgarner; Marlene Morris  
 5:30 p.m. Marta M. Garcia

**SUNDAY, MAY 21**

8:00 a.m. Members of St. Patrick's Church  
 (Propopulo)  
 9:30 a.m. Mrs. Linda Bordelon; Roberta W. Bruley;  
 Jane O'Brien Chatelain; Earl Ducote;  
 William Gandolini; Mary Gaudet; Cynthia  
 Hemelt; Merritt McMullen; John H.  
 Schroder, Jr.; Henry J. Schmitt  
 11:00 a.m. Russell Cuoco; John G. Fulcher; Cynthia  
 Hemelt; Lauren Lorbeck; Mary Morissette;  
 Beverly Orillion; Thais Witmeyer

5:30 p.m. Monsignor Terry Tekippe

**MONDAY, MAY 22**

11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List  
 12:00 p.m. Steve Enright; Doris Gunn; Joseph Maselli  
 III; Myles Morris; Conchetta Cammarata  
 Salvaggio; Kai H. Theriot

**TUESDAY, MAY 23**

11:30 a.m. Sanctification of Priests  
 12:00 p.m. Doris Gunn; Kai H. Theriot

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 24**

11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List  
 12:00 p.m. Father Van Constant; Doug Clapp; Stephen  
 Fayard; Doris Gunn; Ursula McKee;  
 Kai H. Theriot

**THURSDAY, MAY 25**

11:30 a.m. Holy Souls in Purgatory  
 12:00 p.m. Eula Estay; Doris Gunn; Nicolas R. Perkin;  
 Kai H. Theriot

**FRIDAY, MAY 26**

11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List  
 12:00 p.m. Father Larry Carell; Doris Gunn

**TRIDENTINE LATIN MASS—Sunday at 9:30 a.m.**  
*Fifth Sunday after Easter*  
**Solemn High Mass—**First Sunday of the month.  
**Benediction—**Third Sunday after the 9:30 a.m. Mass.

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT  
 AND BENEDICTION**

Every Sunday 3:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.

**CLADDAUGH POTLUCK & ART GALLERIES**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 3**

Join us in the rectory, Saturday, June 3, 2006 following the 5:30 pm Vigil Mass for our next potluck. Please bring a covered dish to share, as beverages will be provided. A brief meeting will follow. Afterwards, take a stroll to the Art Galleries in the Warehouse District and visit the latest exhibits by local and national artists.

**COFFEE AND DOUGHNUTS**

In Reynolds Hall, after the Sunday morning Masses.

**SUNDAY OFFERING—**May 14, 2006

First Collection \$ 10,121

Second Collection\* \$ 2,191

\* Restoration and Maintenance

**FATHER TIM PIERIS**

Father Tim Pieris thanks everyone who honored him with their presence at the celebration of his Diamond Jubilee at St. Patrick's Church on March 19, 2006. Since returning to Nashville from New Orleans, Father Tim has been hospitalized. At this time he is very weak but alert and responding to therapy. He is convalescing at Green hills Health and Rehab Center

3939 Hillsboro Circle  
 Nashville, TN 37215

He would enjoy hearing from his friends in the Greater New Orleans area either by mail or phone: 615-463-1955. Please keep Father Tim in your prayers.

**THE REVEREND PATRICK WATTIGNY**

The New Orleans Eucharistic Adoration Society has announced that the Reverend Patrick Wattigny, pastor of St. Benilde's Church in Metairie, will be the monthly celebrant of the First Friday, Tridentine Mass at St. Patrick's Church. Starting Friday, June 2, 2006, Father Wattigny will replace Father Denzil Perera who has served the society for over two decades. The First Friday Mass schedule remains the same.

**ST. PATRICK'S CHOIR—PENTECOST SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 2006**

St. Patrick's Choir, with soloists, chamber orchestra and organ, will perform Mozart's *Mass in D-minor (KV65)*, at the 9:30 a.m. Mass on Pentecost Sunday, June 4, 2006.

**"WHY MARRIAGE MATTERS"**

The Religious Coalition for Marriage (RCM) is an ad hoc, interfaith committee of America's religious leaders who share a common concern for the well-being of marriage in our nation. This unprecedented cooperation between the highest ranking leaders of many of America's largest religious communities is due to the importance of the issue. The U.S. Senate is scheduled to vote on the Marriage Protection Amendment on **June 6, 2006**. For more about the Marriage Protection Amendment, and the Religious Coalition for Marriage visit: [www.religiouscoalitionformarriage.org](http://www.religiouscoalitionformarriage.org). To contact your senators: [www.RCM.org](http://www.RCM.org)

**ST. PATRICK'S MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION**

To become a registered member of St. Patrick's Church new members, along with members of St. John the Baptist Church, are asked to submit an Archdiocese of New Orleans registration card (white) to the rectory office. The cards can be obtained by calling: 525-4413. Please indicate on the card if you are a member of St. John the Baptist.

**THE MASS IS THE GREATEST FORM OF CHRISTIAN CHARITY**

To schedule a Mass, please fill out the Mass Form (ivory-colored envelope) found in the vestibule of the church and deliver it to the rectory office, or place it in the collection basket.

**PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL**

For the sick of our parish and those who have asked for our prayers especially: Ree Alario; D. J. Ales; Patricia Berrigan; Michael Brasset; Margie Case; Michelle Catalanatto; Jim Clynych; Jackie Dabdoub; Grace Daigle; Ralph DeBlanc; Raymond DeBlanc; Regina Dillon; Joseph Ebberman; Donald Faust, Jr.; Anette Folse; Joseph French; John G. Fulcher; Catherine Gegenheimer; Frank Hemelt; Marie Herty; Henry Houin; Celeste Judell; Marilyn Kitto; Zivana Kovacevich; Albert Leonhard; Betty Leonard; Reverend Val A. McInnes, O.P.; Colin McInnis; Irene Mackenroth; Carol Mallette; James Martello, Sr.; Joseph Martello, Gerald L. Moran, Jr.; Lucille Ogden; Beverly Orillion; Reverend Tim Pieris; Robert Plaskas; Peter Robbins; Irene Taormina; Ashley Turkington; Frank Vonhoven

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## SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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### THE DA VINCI DECEPTION

#### Attacks Jesus Christ Himself

- While the Catholic Church (and various affiliated organizations, e.g., Opus Dei, the Knights Templar) could be seen as the main object of scorn and ridicule in *The Da Vinci Code*, the book's primary attack is ultimately not on the Church but on the person of Jesus Christ.
- The book claims that Jesus was not the divine Son of God; that He was married to Mary Magdalene and had children with her; and that, by order of the Roman Constantine, the Church "made" him divine at the Council of Nicea.
- In effect, *The Da Vinci Code* reduces Jesus to a mere "mortal prophet, a great and powerful man" (as the book puts it) who had a girlfriend. Of course, one cannot deny Christ's divinity and still end up with Christianity. The very person of Jesus—who He *is*—forms the very foundation of the Christian faith.
- Jesus Christ claimed to be divine; He proved His divinity through His miracles especially by His resurrection from the dead; He must be divine in order to redeem mankind. If, as *The Da Vinci Code* asserts, he was just a first-century bachelor with a girlfriend, the Christian faith is a sham.

#### Filled with Egregious Historical Errors

- There are so many basic "desktop reference" inaccuracies—i.e., facts that can easily be checked in an encyclopedia or on the Internet—in *The Da Vinci Code* that it is difficult to know where to begin.
- For example, Dan Brown consistently refers to Leonardo da Vinci as "Da Vinci" throughout the novel. Historians and art scholars refer to him as "Leonardo." "Da Vinci" simply refers to Leonardo's home town. This would be akin to referring to Jesus as "of Nazareth," St. Francis as "of Assisi," or Mother Teresa as "of Calcutta."
- He claims that the title of Leonardo's famous painting the *Mona Lisa* is an anagram for the gods Amon and Isis, but Leonardo da Vinci never called the painting by this name. He called it *La Gioconda*, a reference to its subject, the wife of wealthy Florentine businessman, Francesco da Giocondo. The painting only came to be known as the *Mona Lisa* hundreds of years after Leonardo's death. (*Mona* is common Italian contraction for *madonna*; Lisa was the name of Francesco da Giocondo's wife).
- Dan Brown refers to Silas, the book's assassin, as an Opus Dei monk, but Opus Dei is not a monastic order. It has no monks.
- He laughably refers to the Dead Sea Scrolls as some of the earliest Christian documents. They are, in fact, Jewish documents that make no reference to Jesus or Christianity whatsoever.
- *The Da Vinci Code* claims that the person sitting next to Jesus' right in Leonardo's painting *The Last Supper* is Mary Magdalene. This is the "code" behind the book's assertions, supposedly proof that Jesus was married to Mary Magdalene, among other absurd claims. Every reputable art historian, however, acknowledges that this figure is actually the apostle John.
- Throughout the work, Brown refers to "the Vatican" as the location of corrupt Church power. For example, according to Brown, it was "the Vatican" who ordered the suppression of women and the "sacred feminine" in the early centuries of the Church. This would be difficult to accomplish given that "the Vatican" (i.e., the Vatican hill in Rome, the site of present-day Vatican City) would not become the seat of Church power until the 12<sup>th</sup> century. In the early centuries of the Church, it simply did not exist.
- Brown claims that the early Church suppressed women and replaced worship of the "sacred feminine" with a "male God." This suppression of women is, of course, hard to square with the Church's obvious veneration of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the unique exaltation she enjoys above all the saints.

#### Dan Brown Utilizes Seriously Flawed Sources

- None of the most controversial claims made in *The Da Vinci Code* have any historical evidence to back them up. In fact, Dan Brown's primary sources have been highly criticized by historians for their wholly unsubstantiated (i.e., made up) claims regarding the history of Christianity.
- The authors of one of Brown's primary sources, the book *Holy Blood, Holy Grail*, have sued him for plagiarism.
- The absurd claim that the Holy Grail is actually Mary Magdalene (rather than, as the tradition Arthurian legend holds, the cup used by Christ at the Last Supper) is taken directly from *Holy Blood, Holy Grail*.
- Dan Brown has no advanced training in history, art, or theology. He is a former prep school English teacher who is a self-described New Ager, with an apparent dislike for traditional Christianity in general and the Catholic Church in particular.

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### CATHOLIC TEACHING ABOUT JESUS CHRIST BROUGHT BACK INTO FOCUS

Was Jesus really married to Mary Magdalene? Did the Catholic Church suppress various secret Gospels that "tell the real truth" about Jesus and the early Church? Did Deception and politics determine which books were included and excluded from the Bible?

... To help separate the Catholic truth from fiction, the Catholic Communication Campaign has produced *Jesus Decoded*, a new hour-long documentary that presents clear and accurate information about the person of Jesus, his disciples, and the formation of the books included in the official canon of the Bible.

Shot on location in Israel, Turkey, and Italy, and making use of an international group of scholars versed in art, history, and Scripture, *Jesus Decoded* offers a solid Catholic response to "Da Vinci Code believers," concentrating especially on the first three centuries of the development of the Church. The documentary will be distributed to NBC TV stations for broadcast the weekend of May20 and it will be available to purchase on DVD and video at the same time.

*United States Conference of Catholic Bishops  
Catholic Communication Campaign*