



MASSSES FOR THE WEEK
May 27—June 2
EACH MASS IS OFFERED FOR
THE INTENTIONS OF EVERYONE
PRESENT AND FOR THE FOLLOWING:

SATURDAY, MAY 27

4:00 p.m. Aimee Grabert; Nicholas Grabert; Vera Holloway; Helen Elizabeth McCormick; Marlene Morris; Msgr. John P. Reynolds; Mr. & Mrs. Angelo Rini, Sr.

5:30 p.m. Theresa M. Barry; Marta M. Garcia; Doris Gunn; The Reverend H. William Reed

SUNDAY, MAY 28

8:00 a.m. Members of St. Patrick's Church (Propopulo)

9:30 a.m. Roberta W. Bruley; Jane O'Brien Chatelain; William Gandolini; Mary Gaudet; Cynthia Hymelt; Henry J. Schmitt; John H. Schroder, Jr.

11:00 a.m. Anna B. Farman; Boris Gunn; Lauren Lorbeck; Britt & Chris Massei & Family; Thais Witmeyer

5:30 p.m. In Memory of Our Honored Dead

MONDAY, MAY 29

11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List

12:00 p.m. In Memory of Our Honored Dead;

Steve Enright; Doris Gunn;

Olga Grabert; Heinke Schmidt Trapp

TUESDAY, MAY 30

11:30 a.m. In Memory of Our Honored Dead

12:00 p.m. Faith Breaux; Doris Gunn; Maselli Family; Joan Pampinella

WEDNESDAY, MAY 31

11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List

12:00 p.m. Don Grabert; Doris Gunn;

Kathy McLafferty; Maringo Family;

Kai H. Theriot

THURSDAY, JUNE 1

11:30 a.m. In Memory of Our Honored Dead

12:00 p.m. Father Van Constant and his intentions

FRIDAY, JUNE 2

11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List

12:00 p.m. The Aeschliman Family; Eula Estay;

Father Van Constant and his intentions

TRIDENTINE LATIN MASS—Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

Sunday after Ascension

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.

FIRST FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 2006

7:00 p.m. Confessions

7:30 p.m. Latin Tridentine Mass

8:30 p.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

FIRST SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 2006**MORNING OF PRAYER—9:00 A.M.—12:00 P.M.**

Crusade for the Conversion of Greater New Orleans

Eucharistic Adoration, Rosary, Confession, Novena and Holy Mass All are invited.

SUNDAY OFFERING—May 21, 2006

First Collection \$ 7,545

Second Collection* \$ 2,458

* Restoration and Maintenance

FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 2006—A DAY OF PRAYER AND FASTING

As we begin the 2006 hurricane season the Bishops of the Province of Louisiana have declared Friday, June 2, 2006 as a Day of prayer and fasting so that Catholics all across the state will be in solidarity in beseeching God for protection of life and property during the coming hurricane season. Archbishop Alfred Hughes recommends following the prescribed penance for Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, to be modified or adapted as needed. The archbishop also asks that the following prayer, or a comparable prayer be recited at all weekend celebrations of the Eucharist from June 1-Nov. 30, 2006.

Through the intercession of Our Lady of Prompt Succor, may we be delivered from the suffering inflicted by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita and spared from further loss of life and property in this hurricane season. Amen.

COLLECTION FOR THE HOLY FATHER—PETER'S PENCE

The Peter's Pence Collection, to be taken June 3 and 4, 2006, helps the Holy Father provide emergency assistance to suffering people throughout the world. Contributions to the Peter's Pence Collection are given directly by the Holy Father to individuals who are suffering from immediate emergencies as a result of war, oppression, and natural disasters. Please be generous.

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.

VOCATION DISCERNMENT GATHERING—JUNE 11, 2006

The Archdiocese of New Orleans Vocation Office will host a Journey Support Group gathering, at St. Angela Merici Parish rectory, **Sunday, June 11, 2006** from 2:30pm—4:30pm. Journey is open to men, high school seniors, college age and older who are discerning the possibility of priesthood. Two priests will share their vocation story. The gathering will include prayer, reflection, a meal and is free of charge. For more information: 504-861-6298; or email: vocations@archdiocese-no.org

COFFEE AND DOUGHNUTS

The Claddaugh Group invites all for coffee and doughnuts in Reynolds Hall, after the Sunday morning Masses.

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—Mass request envelopes can be found in the vestibule.**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 Brassat; 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; Irene Taormina; Ashley Turkington; Frank Vonhoven

SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

THE JESUS CODE - UNRAVELLING THE SECRET

We all love to unearth hidden things, to crack some puzzle or code. We need only to look at the hoopla surrounding The Da Vinci Code to see how true this is. Like children, we all still believe there's a buried treasure somewhere, a secret wisdom, just waiting to be found.

Interestingly, Jesus speaks of just such a hidden secret. The gospels tell us he spoke in parables and that these were only understood by those who were inside a certain circle, but they remained riddles to everyone outside that circle.

That, of course, begs the question: What is the hidden secret and who is inside and who is outside the circle of understanding? In the message of Jesus, what's the secret to be discovered, the code be cracked?

Mark's gospel takes this up explicitly. His Jesus makes it very clear that there is a hidden, secret wisdom that needs to be grasped if one is to understand the deep design of things. What is it?

In caption, it's the cross of Christ and the wisdom that's contained within it. The hidden secret is that love is most truly revealed in the brokenness of Jesus on the cross. What's hidden in the cross of Christ is the code that we have to break open if we are to learn the deep secrets of life. The cross contains a wisdom, the wisdom of the crucified, which is a prism through which all else is to be viewed.

More specifically, what is this wisdom?

Unlike false, gnostic teachers who are forever playing games and giving the impression that learning the deep secrets is a question of luck, brilliant intelligence, or of becoming their disciples, Jesus tries everywhere to reveal the secret in public and in a language open to everyone. His whole life and mission are an attempt to lay open for everyone the deepest secret of all and to make that secret accessible to everyone, as accessible as the nearest water tap or the village well. Since Jesus, the deepest secret is an open secret. What is it?

One entry into it is through the words Jesus speaks to his uncomprehending disciples on the road to Emmaus. In trying to explain this secret, he asks them: "Wasn't it necessary?" Wasn't what necessary?

The secret is that there is a necessary connection between certain things: Isn't a certain prior suffering and humiliation always the condition for glory? Don't we all, like Cinderella, first have to sit in the ashes before the glass slipper will fit our

feet? Isn't sublimation always the means to the sublime? Isn't it precisely when we are vulnerable and unable to impress or overpower others that we are finally open to intimacy, love, and family? Aren't self-sacrifice and self-denial, in the end, the way real love manifests itself? Isn't the crucifixion of the private ego the route to empathy and community? Isn't the forgiveness of those who hurt us the final manifestation of human maturity?

And, most graphic of all, isn't the way Jesus died - innocent, trusting, unwilling out of love to protect himself against suffering, absorbing hatred and sin, understanding and forgiving those who were murdering him, refusing to resort to any kind of superior physical power to overwhelm his adversaries, refusing to give back in kind, and refusing to give himself over to bitterness and cynicism - the paragon of mature human love?

Love is the deepest mystery within the universe. It lies at the base of everything, the cosmic, the biological, the emotional, the psychological, the sexual, the spiritual. There is no level of reality where one doesn't see the relentless deep pull inside of all things towards a unity, community, fusion, and oneness beyond self. Love stirs all things, speaking to every element in the language it can understand. Deep inside of us, we know too that this alone can bring us home.

And there is an inner code, a certain DNA, within love itself. It too has inner secrets, an inner structure, and a code that needs to be cracked if we are to properly understand its dynamics. And we don't crack that code all at once, at a weekend retreat or at religious rally. We crack it slowly, painfully, with many setbacks, over the course of a lifetime.

But Jesus gave us the keys to crack it. They can be named: vulnerability, the refusal out of love to protect ourselves, self-sacrifice, putting others before ourselves, refusing to give back in kind when someone hurts us, a willingness to die for others, the refusal to give ourselves over to cynicism and bitterness when things beset us, continued trust in God and goodness even when things look the opposite, and especially forgiveness, having our hearts remain warm and hospitable, even when we have just cause for hatred.

These are the keys to the wisdom that Jesus revealed and the gospels tells that we are "inside" or "outside" the true circle of love, depending upon whether or not we grasp this wisdom.

Ron Rolheiser, OMI
President of the Oblate School of Theology

ARCHBISHOP URGES OPPOSITION TO "SHAMELESS WAVE" OF HATRED TOWARD JESUS AND THE CHURCH

Archbishop Hector Aguer of La Plata, Argentina, has exhorted Catholics to avoid laziness and to respond with "noble firmness" to the "dominant and shameless" wave of hatred against Jesus Christ and the Church which he says has spread across the world.

... "We are not talking about isolated incidents, but rather a series of simultaneous events that bear the "markings of a conspiracy". The Archbishop mentioned several examples of attacks on Christianity, such as a recent issue of *Rolling Stone* magazine in which a famous rapper appears wearing a crown of thorns; a short movie on Christmas in which Jesus and Santa Claus get into a fist fight; obscene cartoons about Jesus in a French newspaper, and the logo of a popular Swedish brand of jeans depicting a skull with an inverted cross.

"More than 200,000 pairs of the jeans have been sold and the designer has said his intention was to speak out against Christianity," the Archbishop stated.

Other examples cited included the "infamous fables of *The Da Vinci Code*, which will gain new strength with the upcoming release of the film," and the so-called Gospel of Judas, a Gnostic writing that was refuted by St. Iraneus in the year 180.... "To all this one can add the numerous profanations of the Sacred Scriptures, the blasphemies against the Most Holy Virgin and the growing, ubiquitous pressure to remove crosses and other Christian symbols from public places," the Archbishop added. He said the lack of response by Christians to the insults and attacks upon the Lord are even more surprising and are a "sad sign of how the faith has been weakened" in cultures that once were proud of their link to the Church of Christ. He exhorted Christians to "offer serene and cordial witness to the truth, which does not exclude when necessary a noble firmness in demanding that the sacred treasure of Catholicity be respected in accord with decency, justice and the law."