



MASSES FOR THE WEEK
February 10—February 16
EACH MASS IS OFFERED FOR
THE INTENTIONS OF EVERYONE
PRESENT AND FOR THE FOLLOWING:

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10

4:00 p.m. Alba "Ree" Alario; Helen McCarthy; Helen McCormick; Marlene Morris

5:30 p.m. Theresa M. Barry; James R. Cresson; Jonathan McCall

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11

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

9:30 a.m. Roberta Wynne Bruley; Jane O'Brien Chatelain; John Coogan; Charles Gegg; Howard Henriques; Joe Tonsmeire; Mr. & Mrs. Mike Tessitore; Dorothy Watlington

11:00 a.m. Camden Boatright; Thomas Ashton Newbig, Jr.; Roy A. Robichaux, Sr.; Dr. & Mrs. Charles Taggart

5:30 p.m. Sanctification of Priests

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12

11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List

12:00 p.m. Eula Estay; Joseph Maselli, III

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

11:30 a.m. Souls in Purgatory

12:00 p.m. Helen McCarthy

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List

12:00 p.m. The Glen Brupbacher Family; Anna Hernandez Ellis; Stephen Andrew Loses; Carol Ragas

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15

11:30 a.m. Alice Cohen; Stephen Luccioni

12:00 p.m. Joed Loustaunau Stutts

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16

11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List

12:00 p.m. Maselli Families; Cyril Tallon

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

Sexagesima Sunday

Solemn High Mass—First Sunday of the month.

Benediction—Third Sunday after the 9:30 a.m. Mass.

CARNIVAL SEASON CANCELLATIONS

Sunday, February 11 and 18, 2007

Adoration and Benediction.

Saturday, February 17, 2007

Cenacle of Our Loving Mother at St. John the Baptist Church.

Sunday, February 18, 2007

Coffee and doughnuts after the morning Masses.

STAY INFORMED...

Log on to St. Patrick's website: www.oldstpatricks.org

COFFEE AND DOUGHNUTS

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

SUNDAY OFFERING—February 3, 2007

First Collection \$ 8,342

Second Collection* \$ 2,922

* Catholic Charities

SPECIAL LENTEN SERIES—MARCH 4, 11 AND 18, 2007

A special Lenten series will be presented between the 9:30a.m. and 11:00a.m. Sunday Masses; March 4, 11, and 18, 2007 by Dr. James Jacobs, Professor of Philosophy at Notre Dame Seminary. The theme will be *Foundation of the Spiritual Life, A Transcendental Meditation.*

TENEBRAE

A Service of Darkness (a Meditation on the Passion and Death of Christ) by Hal Hopson will be presented by the Choir and Readers on the First Sunday of Lent, February 25, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. Security will be provided.

For more information: 525-4413.

EXHIBITION OF THE VATICAN MOSAIC STUDIO

Old Ursuline Convent; 1100 Chartres St., New Orleans

Through June 1, 2007; 9:00 A.M.—5 P.M.

Thirty-seven mosaic artworks from the Vatican Mosaic Studio, replications of prominent artwork, some dating back to the 16th Century. The Vatican Mosaic Studio was organized nearly 300 years ago to reproduce the deteriorating oil paintings of St. Peter's Basilica as intricate glass mosaics.

New Orleans is the only stop for the art tour, proceeds from the exhibition will support the restoration and preservation of the Old Ursuline Convent. For more information:

504-569-1401; 800-535-7786; www.vaticanmosaics.com.

The *Archdiocese of New Orleans, Coat of Arms* designed and crafted by the Vatican Mosaic Studio, a memorial gift in honor of John H. Schroder, Jr., can be seen above the lectern here at St. Patrick's Church.

ARE YOU A REGISTERED PARISHIONER?

A registered parishioner of St. Patrick's Parish must have:

- ◆ An Archdiocese of New Orleans registration card on file with the rectory office.
- ◆ And should be receiving contribution envelopes.

Please call the rectory office at 525-4413 if you would like to become an active member of St. Patrick's Parish.

THE MASS IS THE GREATEST FORM OF CHRISTIAN CHARITY

To schedule a Mass, please fill out the Mass Form 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; J. Frank Armstrong; Harold Berrigan, Jr.; Michael Brassett; Lillian Capozzi; Margie Case; Michelle Catalanatto; Tony Clesi; Jim Clynch; Celestine Cook; John Copes; Jackie Dabdoub; Grace Daigle; Ralph DeBlanc; Raymond DeBlanc; Regina Dillon; The Dunlap Family; Joseph Ebberman; Donald Faust, Jr.; Mildred Flynn; Anette Folse; Joseph French; John G. Fulcher; Kelly Granier; Charles Gegg; Frank Hemelt; Marie Herty; Marilyn Kitto; Zivana Kovacevich; Brenda Lawson; Carrie LeBoef; Albert Leonhard; Betty Leonard; Alton Lewis; Glenda Liuzza; Stephen Andrew Losee; Dorothy Luquet; Reverend Val A. McInnes, O.P.; Irene Mackenroth; Carol Mallette; Eric McDonald; Colin McInnis; Joseph Morales; Gerald L. Moran, Jr.; Madeleine Nicoladis; Suzanne Nogues; Lucille Ogden; Beverly Orillion; Robert Plaskas; J. Van Provosty; Hugh Ramsey; Tom Roach; Charlene Taranto; Ashley Turkington; Eleanor Mary Wells

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

NATURAL INSTITUTION AND SACRAMENT

Matrimony is unique among the sacraments in that it is a natural institution raised to the sacramental level. This alone tells us how valuable and important marriage must be in God's design. What are its essential characteristics?

First, marriage is a natural union of opposite sexes, one man and one woman. This union surpasses any other kind of union, including unnatural unions which ape marriage without possessing its essential qualities.

Second, marriage is a permanent union, dissolvable only by the death of either spouse. Because of its contractual character, many cultures allow the public authority to dissolve the marriage contract, but this necessarily creates an unfortunate tension, for by its very nature marriage is permanent, as is clearly reflected in the vows.

Third, marriage is an exclusive union. It both demands and depends upon the fidelity of the spouses to each other alone. It is opposed to every kind of casual sharing or group distribution of spousal privileges.

Fourth, the permanence and exclusivity of marriage are guaranteed by a formal contract. As such, the character of marriage is both higher and deeper than any informal and temporary arrangement, such as mere "living together" or concubinage.

That Our Lord valued these characteristics of marriage so much as to sacramentalize them is only the first sign to Christians of marriage's supreme importance. Throughout both the Old and New Testaments, we find marriage alluded to in connection with the deepest mysteries of life and being. This begins at the story of Creation, when the Man was found to be incomplete, in need of a partner. And so, with the creation of the Woman, they became two in one flesh...

For Christ and his followers, marriage was a total commitment, a permanent self-giving, even before Christ elevated it. St. Matthew and St. Mark both quote Our Lord on this very point: "So they are no longer two but one. What therefore God has joined together, let no man put asunder." (Mt 19:6; Mk 10:8) In St. Luke's account, we see that Our Lord was more forceful still: "Every one who divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery, and he who marries a woman divorced from her husband commits adultery." (16:18)

How important it is for Christians to recapture the vitality of this commitment! This permanent, exclusive self-giving in marriage is not only the foundation of the social order and the key to the sanctification of the vast majority of all human persons; it is also the school of commitment that makes every other vocation possible. By far the greatest number of priestly and religious vocations come from good and stable families founded on a bond between husband and wife which mirrors the bond between Christ and His Church. Similarly, every other human commitment, every unbroken act of the will to sacrifice and serve, is strengthened in the school of marriage and family.

It is with very good reason that St. Paul stated point blank: "To the married I give charge, not I but the Lord, that the wife should not separate from her husband (but if she does, let her remain single or else be reconciled to her husband)—and that the husband should not divorce his wife." (1 Cor

7:10) This bond of commitment is so critical to everything human and divine that we cannot possibly be surprised at Christ's own choice of the wedding feast at Cana to enter into his "hour", that hour which would lead him to redeem his bride on the Cross (cf. Jn 2:4).

The evils of the world are symbolized by the great harlot of the book of Revelation (cf. chapters 17 and 19). Included in this enormous image of rampant prostitution are all the distractions, impurities and sins which render the soul incapable of that self-giving to another, that disciplined support and protection, that pure commitment to good which lie at the heart of marriage.

In our time, so deeply afflicted by the same evils, marriage has indeed become the forgotten vocation. It has been replaced by an anemic substitute, a relationship of convenience, a sham. In restoring marriage, we would do a great and wonderful thing, but not just for its own sake. For if we wish to honor, enrich and increase all of God's callings, we must begin by making marriage what it is supposed to be.

*Dr. Jeffrey A. Mirus
Trinity Communications*

MASS AND RECTORY OFFICE SCHEDULE FEBRUARY 10—FEBRUARY 21

Saturday, Feb. 10 4:00p.m. and 5:30p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 11 8:00a.m.; 9:30a.m.; 11:00a.m. &
5:30p.m.

Adoration and Benediction—canceled

Saturday, Feb. 17 4:00p.m. and 5:30p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 18 8:00a.m.; 9:30a.m. and 11:00a.m.

Church closes after the 11:00a.m. Mass

Monday, Feb. 19 11:30a.m. and 12:00p.m.
Rectory office closed.

Tuesday, Feb. 20 Church and rectory office closed.

ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE FEBRUARY 21, 2007

Masses—11:00a.m.; 11:45a.m.; 12:30p.m. and 5:00p.m.

Distribution of Ashes—At all Masses

Confessions—Before the Masses

LENTEN SCHEDULE

Way of the Cross—Every Friday after the 12:00p.m. Mass

Confessions—Before the Masses