



MASSES FOR THE WEEK
December 1—December 7
EACH MASS IS OFFERED FOR
THE INTENTIONS OF EVERYONE
PRESENT AND FOR THE FOLLOWING:

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1

4:00 p.m. Ree Alario; Boudreaux-Leson-Terrebonne-Trapp Families; Marlene Morris; Father Anton Phan

5:30 p.m. Father Van Constant; Margaret F. Gottscho; Leona O'Dwyer; Barbara Rush

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2

8:00 a.m. Members of St. Patrick's Church (Propopulo)
9:30 a.m. Michael K. Abboud; Roberta W. Bruley; Jane O. Chatelain; John M. Coogan; Tim Dauterive; Bryan Foley; Reverend Monsignor L. Earl Gauthreaux; Charles Gegg; Joseph & Louisa Grisaro; Stephanie M. Grisaro; Wilbur & Mae Hollier; Craig Leibsle; Nellie J. Leone; Carol Mallett; Norma McClellan; Laura M. Messina; Peter & Rose Messina; Simon G. Messina; Ludger Miller; Frank Pistocchi; John H. Schroder, Jr.; Virginia Swartz; Carmen Waterson

11:00 a.m. Mrs. Barbara Derbes; Leona O'Dwyer; Barbara Rush

5:30 p.m. Reverend Stanley Klores; James W. Rhoads

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3

11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List

12:00 p.m. Mrs. Barbara Derbes; Leona O'Dwyer; Barbara Rush; Joed L. Stutts

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4

11:30 a.m. Father Stan Klores; Barbara Rush; Leona O'Dwyer

12:00 p.m. Father Stan Klores; Maselli Families

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5

11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List

12:00 p.m. Conchetta C. Salvaggio

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6

11:30 a.m. Barbara Rush

12:00 p.m. Cammarata-Guzzardi Families; Beulah Dupuy; Percy P. Dupuy, Jr.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7

11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List

12:00 p.m. Mary Guzzardi Cammarata

5:00 p.m. United States Military

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

First Sunday of Advent

Solemn High Mass—First Sunday of the month.

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

ADORATION— EVERY SUNDAY, 3:00PM –5:00P.M.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction

COFFEE AND DOUGHNUTS—REYNOLDS HALL

After the Sunday morning Masses

SUNDAY OFFERING

November 18, 2007

First Collection \$ 13,337

Second Collection* \$ 2,038

* Campaign for Human Development

November 25, 2007

First Collection \$ 9,231

Second Collection \$ 1,525

* Maintenance and Restoration



**SOLEMNITY OF
THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
DECEMBER 8, 2007**

Holy Day of Obligation— Mass Schedule

Vigil—Friday, December 7, 2007

5:00 p.m.

Solemnity—Saturday, December 8, 2007

11:00 a. m. and 12:00 p.m.

FIRST FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2007

7:00 p.m. Confessions

7:30 p.m. Latin Tridentine Mass

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

9:30 p.m. Benediction

CLADDAGH'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DECORATING PARTY

The Claddagh group joyfully invites all young adults to the annual Christmas decorating party this Saturday, December 1, 2007 in the rectory. The decorating of the Christmas tree and rectory will start around 5:00 p.m. followed by a deliciously catered dinner with refreshments. And the LSU game will be playing on the big screen! Please join us as we celebrate the coming Christmas season.

FATHER STAN KLORES ON PILGRIMAGE—DEC. 6-13, 2007

Father Stan Klores will be leading a pilgrimage of thanksgiving to the Shrine of the Holy Infant of Good Health and on to Mexico City for the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe; departing December 6, 2007 returning December 13, 2007. While on this special pilgrimage, Father Klores will be praying for all of St. Patrick's parishioners, their good health and particular intentions. Our prayers for a safe journey go with the group.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS—December 8 - 9, 2007

The average Catholic sister, brother, or order priest remains in active ministry until age 74. Today, 37,870 women and men religious are past age 70 and need our help with the current high cost of living and health care. Next weekend the second collection will be taken for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Please be generous.

IN MEMORY OF—2008 ENVELOPES

Names are now being accepted for the 2008 "In Memory Of" listing on the back of the Sunday Bulletin. Envelope forms, found in the vestibule of the church, should be completed and returned to the rectory office no later than **Friday, January 11, 2008.**

1. To ensure proper spelling, recording, etc., all requests **MUST** be made by completing the designated envelope form.
2. The rectory office will **NOT** be responsible for requests received without the completed envelope form.
3. The United States Postal Service is quite often heavily burdened with the amount of mail. Please do not rely on the USPS to deliver mailed envelopes before the final date **Friday, January 11, 2008.**
4. During these next **six weeks** completed envelopes can be deposited in any Mass collection basket or hand delivered to the rectory office.

The office staff appreciates your understanding and cooperation in assisting with this annual project.

PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL

For the sick of our parish and those who have asked for our prayers especially: Tom Alexander; Brett Bradley; Rene Crane; Ann Clair Duplechin; Rose Fee; Reverend Stan Klores; Lolita Lannan; Betty McArthur; Lucille Ogden; Stephanie Summers; Hugh Ramsey; Tom Roach; Diane Sikes; Mary Silva

SECURITY PROVIDED AT ALL EVENING SERVICES

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ETHICAL, SCIENTIFIC BREAKTHROUGHS SEEN IN NEW STEM-CELL STUDIES

Scientists, ethicists and church leaders hailed as a breakthrough two studies showing that human skin cells can be reprogrammed to work as effectively as embryonic stem cells, thus negating the need to destroy embryos in the name of science.

Separate studies from teams led by Shinya Yamanaka of Kyoto University in Japan and Junying Yu and James Thomson of the University of Wisconsin-Madison were published online Nov. 20 by the journals *Cell* and *Science*, respectively. "The methods outlined in these papers fully conform to what we have hoped to see for some time," said a statement from the National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia.

"Such strategies should continue to be pursued and strongly promoted, as they should help to steer the entire field of stem-cell research in a more explicitly ethical direction by circumventing the moral quagmire associated with destroying human embryos," it added.

By adding four genes to the skin cells, the scientists were able to create stem cells that genetically match the donor and have the ability to become any of the 220 types of cells in the human body.

"The induced cells do all the things embryonic stem cells do," Thomson, who isolated the first embryonic stem cells in 1998, said in a university news release. "It's going to completely change the field."

Cardinal Justin Rigali of Philadelphia, chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, welcomed the news, expressing gratitude "for scientists who took up the challenge of finding morally acceptable ways to pursue stem-cell research, and for government leaders who have encouraged and funded such avenues."

The new technology "avoids the many ethical land mines associated with embryonic stem-cell research: It does not clone or destroy human embryos, does not harm or exploit women for their eggs, and does not blur the line between human beings and other species through desperate efforts to make human embryos using animal eggs," he added.

The White House also praised the breakthrough Nov. 20, saying that President George W. Bush's June 2007 executive order expanding stem-cell research using "ethically responsible techniques" was "intended to accelerate precisely the kind of research being reported today."

"The president believes medical problems can be solved without compromising either the high aims of science or the sanctity of human life," said press secretary Dana Perino. "We will continue to encourage scientists to expand the frontiers of stem-cell research and continue to advance the understanding of human biology in an ethically responsible way."

*Nancy Frazier O'Brien
Catholic News Service*

FATHER JOSÉ LAVASTIDA BOOK SIGNING EVENT

Saturday, December 8, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

Notre Dame Seminary—Archbishop Schulte Auditorium

Father José Lavastida, President-Rector at Notre Dame Seminary, invites you to join him in a discussion of his newly published historical novel, *Better for One Man to Die*, based on the life and ministry of St. Anthony Marie Claret. The discussion will be followed by a book signing. Books will be available for purchase. For more details: 504-866-7426.

THE GOLDEN COMPASS

AGENDA UNMASKED

Philip Pullman's Agenda

... Make no mistake about it: Pullman's overarching goal is to indoctrinate children. He wants to seduce them into embracing atheism and rejecting Christianity. What is bothering him, among other things, is the innocence of childhood—he would like to crush it. He is convinced that "it's dangerous to believe that innocence is at its best when untouched by experience."

... Like so many other fanatical atheists, Pullman believes in a secular utopia—a "heaven on earth" - complete with all the trappings heaven affords, minus God.

Conclusion

We live in a time when radical secularists will stop at nothing to advance their agenda. It is one thing to be indifferent toward religion, quite another to unleash an anti-religion crusade. This is exactly what the new atheism is all about—a dogmatic plundering of religion, especially Christianity, done in the name of tolerance.

What makes Philip Pullman different from all the other militant atheists is his determination to proselytize children. Though the movie version of *The Golden Compass* promises to walk very carefully on the subject of religion, the fact remains that parents may be seduced into buying Pullman's books, thinking they are innocuous. They are anything but.

Our interest is to alert the public to Pullman's goal, and we feel confident that the more informed parents are, the more they will reject his message. There is little doubt that if a move were about to open that was based on a trilogy of children's books that were undeniably racist, anti-Semitic, anti-Muslim or anti-gay, there would be an uproar from the civil rights organizations that represent these communities. Moreover, it wouldn't matter a bit if the film version was mild in comparison to the book. What would matter is that kids were being taught a vile lesson in a back-door manner.

The time has come to draw a line in the sand. If this movie fails to meet the expectations of its producers, it will inexorably lead to a collapse of interest in Pullman's books. By any estimation, this would be an important marker in the culture war. It would also make for a very Merry Christmas.

*Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights
www.catholicleague.org*

ADVENT

For us, the outcome of Advent is not a surprise. We know going into Advent exactly what will happen at the end: Jesus Christ will be born. Nonetheless, Advent is not an exercise in pretending for four weeks that the incarnation never took place. Rather, Advent is an experience of *remembering* in the most profound sense. The Latin word for memory is "recordare" which means to re-hearten, to be given a heart again. Advent remembering does just that. The Advent journey of recalling all the mysteries that surround the nativity of the Lord serves as a thoughtful act of recollection by which we deepen our desire to live our own life. By the "memorial" of Advent we gain a new heart, a new way of looking at reality, a new focus for our life, a new conviction... and thereby a new hope.

Peter John Cameron, O.P.