

**MASSES FOR THE WEEK**

January 19—January 25

EACH MASS IS OFFERED FOR

THE INTENTIONS OF EVERYONE

PRESENT AND FOR THE FOLLOWING:

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19

4:00 p.m. Ree Alario; Klara Dokos; Marlene Morris

5:30 p.m. Leona O'Dwyer; Barbara Rush

SUNDAY, JANUARY 20

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

9:30 a.m. Michael K. Abboud; Roberta W. Bruley;

John J. Clesi; Tim Dauterive; Doris M.

Fernandez; Bryan Foley; Charles Gegg;

Joseph & Louisa Grisaro; Stephanie Maria

Grisaro; Wilbur & Mae Hollier; Reverend

Stanley Klores; Norma McClellan; Laura M.

Messina; Peter F. & Rose C. Messina; Simon

G. Messina; Marc Molyneux, Jr.; Anna R.

Persich; Frank Pistocchi; John H. Schroder,

Jr.; Ann-Marie Wingerter; Corinne

Wingerter; Michael Wingerter

11:00 a.m. Camden Boatright; Eric G. Hansen; Cynthia

Hemelt; Beverly Hogan; John A. Hogan;

Beverly Orillion; Anna R. Persich; Roy A.

Robichaux, Sr.; Matthew J. Theriot

5:30 p.m. James W. Rhoads; Barbara Rush

MONDAY, JANUARY 21

11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List

12:00 p.m. Klara Dokos; Leona O'Dwyer; Barbara Rush

TUESDAY, JANUARY 22

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

12:00 p.m. Klara Dokos; August W. Endris III;

Elisabeth F. Robert

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23

11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List

12:00 p.m. Tracy Lynn Cooper; Tommy Fayard; Stephen

A. Losee; Della Springman; Jon Springman;

Milton Springman

THURSDAY, JANUARY 24

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

12:00 p.m. Klara Dokos; Elisabeth F. Robert

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25

11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List

12:00 p.m. Klara Dokos; Stephen A. Losee

*Mass request envelopes can be found in the vestibule.***TRIDENTINE LATIN MASS—Sunday at 9:30 a.m.***Septuagesima***Solemn High Mass**—First Sunday of the month.**Benediction**—Third Sunday after the 9:30 a.m. Mass.**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT AND BENECTION**—Every Sunday, 3:00pm—5:00pm**COFFEE AND DOUGHNUTS**

In Reynolds Hall, behind the rectory; after the Sunday morning Masses.

FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR

To honor a loved one by donating flowers for the altar please call Jessie at 525-4413.

SUNDAY OFFERING—January 13, 2008

First Collection \$ 7,562

Second Collection* \$ 2,297

* Restoration and Maintenance

IN MEMORY OF 2008—PROOF

A final "proof" of the listing can be found in the back of the church. Please take a listing and check for correct spelling, etc. of your request. If a correction is needed please contact the rectory office before **Friday, January 25, 2008**. Corrections cannot be made once the listing has been sent to the printer.

CLARION HERALD MAILING

Many parishioners have inquired about not receiving direct home mailing of the Clarion Herald. The Archdiocese has not resumed the direct home mailing of its newspaper but copies are sent to the church and placed in the vestibule for the taking. Also, the latest edition of the Clarion Herald along with many of the back issues, going back to 2005, can be read on line at: www.catholic.org/clarionherald/

SAINT PATRICK'S RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE

Saint Patrick's Respect Life Committee, led by Father Klores, will pray a rosary in front of Louisiana's largest abortion facility, on the corner of Ridgelake Drive and 20th St. in Metairie, **Saturday, January 26, 2008 at 9:00a.m.** Prayers will be offered for the babies who are scheduled to be killed, their mothers, and the conversion of our country. Everyone is invited!

A MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKENDFebruary 29-March 2, 2008; June 20-22, 2008; December 5-7, 2008

Married Couples - Looking for a Valentine Day Gift? How about a special weekend just for the two of you? A Marriage Encounter Weekend will renew your romance, strengthen your marriage and family! Upcoming Weekends at the Holiday Inn, Slidell, LA Registration is limited. For more information or to register, call (toll free) 1-888-469-3735.

ABBEY YOUTH FESTIVAL—SATURDAY, MARCH 8, 2008

St. Joseph's Abbey; 75376 River Road; St. Benedict, LA

The festival presents top Catholic speakers, great Christian music and the opportunity to participate in the sacraments of reconciliation and Holy Eucharist. The main celebrant for the 11:15 AM Mass is Archbishop Alfred Hughes, homilist will be newly ordained, Father Michael Alello. The day closes with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

For more information: 504.849.2574 ; FAX: 504.849.2574

www.abbeyyouthfest.com**TO BECOME A REGISTERED PARISHIONER OF ST. PATRICK'S PARISH**

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

PREPARATION FOR BAPTISM

To schedule a baptism at St. Patrick's Church, please contact the rectory office at least six (6) weeks in advance of the desired date of baptism. Telephone: (504) 525-4413.

PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL

For the sick of our parish and those who have asked for our prayers especially: Tom Alexander; Brett Bradley; Sara Cashio; Tony Clesi; Rene Crane; Ralph DeBlanc; Raymond DeBlanc; Ann Clair Duplechin; Rose Fee; Dr. James Hammann Reverend Stan Klores; Lolita Lannan; Stephen Losee; James Martello; Betty McArthur; Lucille Ogden; Stephanie Summers; Hugh Ramsey; Tom Roach; Elisabeth Robert; Diane Sikes; Adele Silva, Mary Silva; Turkington Family

SECURITY PROVIDED AT ALL EVENING SERVICES

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

CATHOLIC IDENTITY IN THE AMERICAN PUBLIC ARENA

When we speak about a nation's culture, we mean the entire fabric of its common life, from art and music to sports and schools. But since this is an election year, I want to apply the idea of Catholic witness specifically to our public life as citizens. Here are ten simple points to remember as we move toward November...

1. George Orwell said that one of the biggest dangers for modern democratic life is dishonest political language. Dishonest language leads to dishonest politics—which then leads to bad public policy and bad law. So we need to speak and act in a spirit of truth.

2. *Catholic* is a word that has real meaning. We don't control or invent that meaning as individuals. We inherit it from the gospel and the experience of the Church over the centuries. We can choose to be something else, but if we choose to call ourselves *Catholic*, then that word has consequences for what we believe and how we act. We can't truthfully claim to be Catholic and then act as though we're not.

3. Being a Catholic is a bit like being married. We have a relationship with the Church and with Jesus Christ that's similar to being a spouse. If a man says he loves his wife, his wife will want to see the evidence in his love and fidelity. The same applies to our relationship with God. If we say we're Catholic, we need to show that by our love for the Church and our fidelity to what she teaches and believes. Otherwise we're just fooling ourselves, because God certainly won't be fooled.

4. The Church is not a political organism. She has no interest in partisanship because getting power or running governments is not what she's about, and the more closely she identifies herself with any single party, the fewer people she can effectively reach.

5. Scripture and Catholic teaching, however, do have public consequences because they guide us in how we should act in relation to one another. Loving God requires that we also love the people He created, which means we need to treat them with justice, charity, and mercy. Being a Catholic involves solidarity with other people. The Catholic faith has implications for social justice—and that means it also has cultural, economic and political implications. The Catholic faith is never primarily about politics; but Catholic social action, including political action, is a natural byproduct of the Church's moral message. We can't call ourselves Catholic, and then simply stand by while immigrants get mistreated, or the poor get robbed, or unborn children get killed. The Catholic faith is always personal but never private. If our faith is real, then it will bear fruit in our public decisions and behaviors, including our political choices.

6. Each of us needs to follow our own conscience. But conscience doesn't emerge from a vacuum. It's not a matter of personal opinion or preference. If our conscience has the habit of telling us what we want to hear on difficult issues, then it's probably badly formed. A healthy conscience is the voice of God's truth in our hearts, and it should usually make us uncomfortable, because none of us is yet a saint. The way we get a healthy conscience is by submitting it and shaping it to God's will; and the way we find God's will is by conforming our lives to the counsel and guidance of the Church that Jesus left us. If we find ourselves disagreeing as Catholics with the teaching of the Church on a serious matter, it's probably not the Church that's wrong. The problem is much more likely with us.

7. But how do we make good political choices when so many different issues are so important and complex? The first principle

of Christian social thought is: Don't deliberately kill the innocent, and don't collude in allowing somebody else to do it. The right to life is the foundation of every other human right. The reason the abortion issue is so foundational is not because Catholics love little babies—although we certainly do—but because revoking the personhood of unborn children makes every other definition of personhood and human rights politically contingent.

8. So can a Catholic in good conscience vote for a pro-choice candidate? The answer is: I can't, and I won't. But I do know some serious Catholics—people whom I admire—who may. I think their reasoning is mistaken, but at least they sincerely struggle with the abortion issue, and it causes them real pain. And most important: They don't keep quiet about it; they don't give up; they keep lobbying their party and their representatives to change their pro-abortion views and protect the unborn. Catholics can vote for pro-choice candidates if they vote for them despite—not because of—their pro-choice views. And they also need a proportionate reason to justify it.

9. What is a proportionate reason when it comes to abortion? It's the kind of reason we will be able to explain, with a clean heart, to the victims of abortion when we meet them in the next life—which we certainly will. If we're confident that these victims will accept our motives, then we can proceed.

10. The heart of truly faithful citizenship is this: We're better citizens when we're more faithful Catholics. The more authentically Catholic we are in our lives, choices, actions and convictions, the more truly we will contribute to the moral and political life of our nation.

*Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap.
Archbishop of Denver*

From a January 11, 2008, presentation in New Orleans

LAW RESTORES MOTTO ON COINS

The national motto *In God We Trust* will move from the edge of new dollar coins honoring U.S. presidents to the front or back of the currency.

A provision in the \$555 billion domestic spending bill for 2008, which President Bush signed into law on Dec. 25, calls for the change to take place "as soon as is practicable." The change will occur in 2009.

The Mint began producing presidential one-dollar coins in 2007 honoring the first four presidents. The words *In God We Trust* were placed along the edge of the coins, as instructed by Congress. "It wasn't the Mint's decision to move the motto to the edge; it was according to law," said Greg Hernandez, a spokesman for the U. S. Mint. But critics complained about the placement and thought the words belonged on the front or back of the coins. "There have been people who either have e-mailed their comments to our website, called us or contacted their representatives," Hernandez said.

The dies have already been produced for the 2008 coins so those will still have the motto along the edge. But come 2009 the motto will be moved.

The motto first appeared on U.S. coins in 1864. *In God We Trust* was included on the back of dollar bills in 1957, a year after Congress declared those words as the country's motto.

Excerpt from The National Catholic Register