



MASSSES FOR THE WEEK
January 17—January 23
EACH MASS IS OFFERED FOR
THE INTENTIONS OF EVERYONE
PRESENT AND FOR THE FOLLOWING:

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17

- 4:00 p.m. Robert Bolin; Evi Bourgeois; Mirle Clement;
Marlene Morris; Barbara Rush
5:30 p.m. Edith Boyle; Abraham van Heel;
Leona O'Dwyer

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18

- 8:00 a.m. Members of St. Patrick's Church (Propopulo)
9:30 a.m. Gale Armand; Richard Aufrecht; Roberta W.
Bruley; Jane O. Chatelain; Abraham van
Heel; Jayne Hennessey; Capt. Peter F.
Johnson; Bob Keyes; Mr. & Mrs. Harold
Kinler; Mr. & Mrs. Elton T. Mackie; Norma
McClellan; Dr. Alfred E. Ramires; John H.
Schroder, Jr.
11:00 a.m. Mary J. Drndak; Victoria Gutierrez; Ernest J.
Lapeze, Sr.; Bernadette Ragan; Barbara
Rush
5:30 p.m. Edith Boyle; Leona O'Dwyer; Frank &
Lorraine Von Hoven

MONDAY, JANUARY 19

- 11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List
12:00 p.m. The Alpaugh Family; Edith Boyle; Leona
O'Dwyer; Abraham Van Heel

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20

- 11:30 a.m. The Alpaugh Family; Barbara Rush;
Matthew J. Theriot
12:00 p.m. Edith Boyle; Abraham van Heel; Leona
O'Dwyer; Elisabeth Robert; U.S. President &
Congress

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21

- 11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List
12:00 p.m. Edith Boyle; Loretta Doussan; Abraham van
Heel; Stephen Losee;

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22

- 11:30 a.m. Barbara Rush; Bob Keyes
12:00 p.m. Loretta Doussan; Abraham van Heel;
Elisabeth Robert; Conchetta C. Salvaggio

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23

- 11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List
12:00 p.m. Tracy L. Cooper; Abraham van Heel;
Stephen Losee

GREGORIAN LATIN MASS—Sunday at 9:30 a.m.
Second Sunday after Epiphany
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, 3:00pm—5:00pm

COFFEE AND DOUGHNUTS

In Reynolds Hall, after the Sunday morning Masses.

SUNDAY OFFERING—January 11, 2009

First Collection \$ 15,049
Second Collection* \$ 1,681

* Restoration and Maintenance

“We shall not weary, we shall not rest, until every unborn child is protected in law and welcomed in life. We shall not weary, we shall not rest, until all the elderly who have run life's course are protected against despair and abandonment, protected by the rule of law and the bonds of love. We shall not weary, we shall not rest, until every young woman is given the help she needs to recognize the problem of pregnancy as the gift of life. We shall not weary, we shall not rest, as we stand guard at the entrance gates and the exit gates of life, and at every step along way of life, bearing witness in word and deed to the dignity of the human person—of every human person. “

Father Richard John Neuhaus

VOICE YOUR OPINION ON FREEDOM OF CHOICE ACT

The new government administration has threatened to void all existing laws limiting abortion through the Freedom of Choice Act (FOCA). With support of our nation's bishops, the Archdiocese of New Orleans is promoting a postcard campaign for local individuals to express their opinion regarding FOCA to their **two** U.S. Senators: Senator Mary Landrieu and Senator David Vitter and their **one** U.S. Representative: **(1st District)** The Honorable Steve Scalise; **(2nd District)** The Honorable Joseph Quang Cao; **(3rd District)** The Honorable Charlie Melancon; **(6th District)** The Honorable Bill Cassidy

FOCA information and postcard strips, 3 postcards for mailing, will be available from St Patrick's Church January 24/25, 2009. Complete the postcard with your message; name; address; and a 27-cent postage stamp for mailing. Let your voice be heard on this important matter.

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 24, 2009 at 9:00a.m.** Prayers will offered for the babies who are scheduled to be killed, their mothers and fathers, and the conversion of our country. Everyone is invited!

MEET, GREET, HAVE FUN...

Everyone is invited to the rectory on Saturday, January 24, 2009 at 6:30 pm to enjoy a friendly gathering with members and friends of St. Patrick's Church. Please bring your favorite snacking cheese to share; crackers and refreshments will be furnished. For more information, please call the rectory at 525-4413.

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; Tristan Anderton; The Alpaugh Family; Del Barry; Patricia Berrigan; Brett Bradley; Jack & Paula Coughlin; Rene Crane; Carol Daigle; Tom Darcy; Ralph DeBlanc; Raymond DeBlanc; Elizabeth DeBuys; Al Duroncelet; Mimi Finley; James A. Fitzmorris; John Fulcher; Bob Keyes; Joan Kimball; Joseph; Stephen Losee; Michael McCarthy; Buddy McInnis; Sally Ann Main; Mary O'Brien; Lucille Ogden; Karen Paprocki; J.Van Provosty; Hugh Ramsey; Tom Roach; Elisabeth Robert; Adele Silva; Mary Silva; Joseph M. Sonne; Stephanie Summers; Salvador Trentacoste; Turkington Family; Alyssa Vingan

SECURITY PROVIDED AT ALL EVENING SERVICES

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

CATHOLIC PRO-LIFE POLITICS

With the election of Barack Obama, Jan. 20 will witness the installation of the most pro-abortion president in U.S. history. It has been widely noted that his inauguration comes, significantly, the day after Martin Luther King Jr. Day, commemorating the civil rights leader who marched on Washington. But less noted is the fact that two days after his inauguration we will see the anniversary of abortion's legalization and the enormous annual March for Life in Washington.

Obama's position on abortion and life issues has been clearly articulated and consists of support for partial-birth abortion, the repeal of any restrictions on abortion and full funding of embryo-killing research. All of these positions stand in stark contrast with those of the Catholic Church, which continues to stand as a tireless defender of life from conception to natural death. Unfortunately, one would be hard-pressed to ascertain the Church's stance from the manner in which Catholics voted.

More than 50% of Catholics cast their ballots for a candidate who holds views which are antithetical to the Church's position.

...These public statements by Church officials have been met with the usual resistance from pro-abortion forces who have argued that the Church needs to stay out of politics. They argue that by publicly admonishing Catholic politicians or lobbying the incoming Obama administration, the Catholic Church is overstepping its bounds and inserting itself as a political force. Progressive organizations that promote the separation of church and state argue that the Church has no business telling people how to vote, much less telling politicians how to act.

The irony here is that many of these same progressives have been quick to blame past Catholic leaders for not publicly telling politicians how to act.

Catholic leaders such as Pope Pius XII have been vilified for supposedly not inserting themselves into the politics of the day... Similar arguments have been made about how the Church did not do enough to end slavery. However, when it comes to the free and easy killing of innocent human lives in abortion, the Church is told to keep its mouth shut.

Not only is it told to keep its mouth shut, but it is called oppressive and controlling if it seeks to admonish Catholic politicians who actively support abortion.

Action, in this instance, involves political action, and despite claims to the contrary by critics of the Church, political action by Catholics in no way violates the separation of church and state... The idea that politics and religion should never mix would only work if politics did not have a moral and ethical dimension.

...The Freedom of Choice Act (FOCA), which Obama has promised to sign into law as one of his first acts in office, is an example of a political issue with grave moral consequences. This act would strip any and all regulations that are currently in place regarding abortion, and it would lead to the government subsidizing and promoting abortion with our tax dollars. By all accounts, this act will increase significantly the number of abortions in America.

Critics who charge that Catholics, particularly Catholic bishops, violate the separation of church and state by public support of the pro-life movement have been so blinded by their ideology that they fail to see the bigotry inherent in such statements.

...It is ironic, then, that those who would erroneously limit the Church's legitimate voice in the public square are the very ones running roughshod over the Constitution. In addition to maintaining that the state would not support religion, the framers of the Constitution also declared that the state would not prevent

the free exercise of religion among its citizens.

This religious freedom is being compromised in the name of "tolerance." For example, in New Mexico, a photographer was fined for refusing to photograph a homosexual commitment service. Nationwide, pharmacists have been sued for not prescribing the morning-after pill, and the eHarmony dating website, which is run by evangelical Christians, was forced into starting a site for homosexuals by the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights.

FOCA is problematic in this regard; also, it would threaten doctors and nurses whose personal religious convictions do not permit them to cooperate in performing abortions. Under FOCA, they could be forced to cooperate or face the loss of their licenses. In case after case, the freedom to act according to one's religious convictions is being trampled upon by a dogmatic progressive mindset that demands we all think and act alike.

Now more than ever, Catholics need to be engaged in the public debate. Now more than ever Catholics need to be engaged in the issues of the day. We do so not to necessarily advance the agenda of any particular candidate or party, but to advance the agenda of the Kingdom. First and foremost, this involves standing up for life, but in today's climate, it also involves standing up for religious freedom — something that we can no longer take for granted in this country.

Daniel Kuebler, Ph.D.

Daniel Kuebler, Ph.D., is an assistant professor of biology at Franciscan University of Steubenville, Ohio.

FATHER RICHARD JOHN NEUHAUS 1936-2009

Father Richard John Neuhaus, was the most important Catholic and Christian theologian and writer in America during the second half of the 20th century. He was president of the Institute on Religion and Public Life, and the editor-in-chief of First Things. Father Neuhaus was named one of the "25 Most Influential Evangelicals in America" by Time Magazine.

"When I come before the judgment throne, I will plead the promise of God in the shed blood of Jesus Christ. I will not plead any work that I have done, although I will thank God that he has enabled me to do some good. I will plead no merits other than the merits of Christ, knowing that the merits of Mary and the saints are all from him; and for their company, their example, and their prayers throughout my earthly life I will give everlasting thanks. I will not plead that I had faith, for sometimes I was unsure of my faith, and in any event that would be to turn faith into a meritorious work of my own. I will not plead that I held the correct understanding of "justification by faith alone," although I will thank God that he led me to know ever more fully the great truth that much misunderstanding formulation was intended to protect. Whatever little growth in holiness I have experienced, whatever strength I have received from the company of the saints, whatever understanding I have attained of God and his ways - these and all other gifts received I will bring gratefully to the throne. But in seeking entry to that heavenly kingdom, I will...look to Christ and Christ alone."

Richard John Neuhaus. Death on a Friday Afternoon