



MASSSES FOR THE WEEK
January 31—February 6
EACH MASS IS OFFERED FOR
THE INTENTIONS OF EVERYONE
PRESENT AND FOR THE FOLLOWING:



The altar flowers for this weekend have been donated in memory of Lloyd C. Melancon .

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31

- 4:00 p.m. Ree Alario; Marie Amy; Robert Bolin; Evi Bourgeois; Wade Brupbacher; Mirle Clement; Katherine Eagan; Elizabeth H. Eberle; Bob Keyes; Marlene Morris; Barbara Rush; Barbara Schultz; Marian Wallis
- 5:30 p.m. Theresa M. Barry; Bill Endris; Jennifer Johnsrud; Dorothy Keeney; Leona O'Dwyer; Mr. & Mrs. Alton Schultz, Sr.; Eric Smith

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1

- 8:00 a.m. Members of St. Patrick's Church (Propopulo)
- 9:30 a.m. Richard Aufrecht; Bertha Bernard; Roberta W. Bruley; Francis Castjohn; Jane O. Chatelain; Jayne Hennessey; Capt. Peter F. Johnson; Bob Keyes; Mr. & Mrs. Harold Kinler; Norma McClellan; Dr. Alfred Ramirez, Jr.; John H. Schroder, Jr.; Virginia Swartz

- 11:00 a.m. Cynthia Hemelt; Stephen Luccioni; Beverly Orillion; Sara C. Romano; Barbara Rush; Elzey J. St. Pierre; Cap. Houston E. Walker
- 5:30 p.m. Katherine Eagan; Debbie Endris; Bob Keyes; Leona O'Dwyer;

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2

- 11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List
- 12:00 p.m. Katherine Eagan; Ann Kern; Bob Keyes; Stephen Luccioni; Leona O'Dwyer

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

- 11:30 a.m. Katherine Eagan; Barbara Rush
- 12:00 p.m. Alice Cohen; Ann Kern; Bob Keyes; Leona O'Dwyer; Elisabeth Robert

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

- 11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List
- 12:00 p.m. Jean Dominguez; Loretta Doussan; Katherine Eagan; Ann Kern; Bob Keyes; Stephen Losee

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5

- 11:30 a.m. Katherine Eagan; Barbara Rush
- 12:00 p.m. Loretta Doussan; Ann Kern; Bob Keyes; Elisabeth Robert

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6

- 11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List
- 12:00 p.m. Katherine Eagan; Ann Kern; Bob Keyes; Stephen Losee; Melanie Rivers

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

SPECIAL COLLECTION—FEBRUARY 7 & 8, 2009

Archdiocesan Catholic Charities

SUNDAY OFFERING—January 25, 2009

First Collection \$ 9,765

Second Collection* \$ 2,158

* Restoration and Maintenance

VOICE YOUR OPINION ON FREEDOM OF CHOICE ACT

The response to the postcard campaign against the Freedom Of Choice Act has been tremendous. So much so that St. Patrick's Church ran out of the postcards! More have been ordered and as soon as they arrive, ushers will be handing them out to parishioners after the Masses, or they can be found in the vestibule. President Obama made a promise to Planned Parenthood, "The first thing I'd do as President is sign the Freedom of Choice Act. That's the first thing I'd do." If signed into law it would eliminate every restriction on abortion nationwide. We cannot let our guard down and we must put forth every effort to voice our opinions in Washington, D.C. Along with the postcard campaign, everyone is urged to contact their senators (2) and representative (1) by email or telephone. There are listings in the vestibule with contact information for our elected officials. The time to fight FOCA is now!

THE PARKING FEE AT THE PREMIUM PARKING LOT, NEAR ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, HAS BEEN INCREASED TO \$2.00. THIS COURTESY FEE APPLIES ONLY TO THE SUNDAY MASSES.

FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Monday, February 2, 2009 is also known as Candlemas Day. Blessed candles will be available in the church. Please limit one box per family. A voluntary donation of \$5.00 per box is suggested.

ST. BLAISE—TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2009

Blessing of throats will take place at the Masses.

FIRST SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2009

Crusade for the Conversion of Greater New Orleans

9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration, Rosary, Confession, Novena and Holy Mass. All are invited.

PARISH POT LUCK DINNER—SATURDAY, FEB. 28, 2009

Everyone is invited to attend the pot luck dinner to be held in the rectory Saturday, February 28, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. Please bring your favorite pot luck "special" to share, and have a fun evening with friends and parishioners of St. Patrick's Church. For more information, please call the Rectory at 525-4413.

ACOLYTES FOR ST. PATRICK'S

The Parish has a continuing need for men of any age willing to serve as acolytes at the 11.00 Sunday Mass. Instruction and training will be provided in evening workshops. Please contact Robert Ramirez for further details: (504) 899-3048; email: bramirez@bellsouth.net

PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL

For the sick of our parish and those who have asked for our prayers especially: Tom Alexander; The Alpaugh Family; Del Barry; Patricia Berrigan; Brett Bradley; Father Joseph Cazenavette; Jack & Paula Coughlin; Rene Crane; Carol Daigle; Tom Darcy; Ralph DeBlanc; Raymond DeBlanc; Elizabeth DeBuys; Al Duroncelet; Katherine Eagan; 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; Beverly Orillion; 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

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

HAS AMERICA LOST ITS WAY?

Today, Catholic politicians and individual voters on both sides of the aisle have lost the sense of this fundamental principle that underlies every just and enduring society. Most especially, they have lost the sense of the inalienable right to life for the unborn child. Even without considering God in the equation, human life, for every human being, begins at the moment of conception. That is when human life begins. That is when your life began. And that is when Rep. Pelosi's life began. That is when Sen. Biden's life began. That is when Sen. Obama's life began and Sen. McCain's life began.

Sadly, the dignity of human life from the moment of conception is lost today. The truth nonetheless exists. Our forefathers recognized it but present day politicians and voters do not.

...When you take God out of the equation and life is lived as if he did not exist, the only thing left to pursue is materialism, because there is no life after death, there is no judgment. And so greed guides the hearts of men and women when we lose that basic essential understanding of the presence of God.

We see that abandonment of God's presence, too, in the area of human sexuality. Fifty percent of marriages end in divorce. Women are treated as sexual toys and objects. People proclaim a "good" in same sex unions, living promiscuously, and moving from one intimate relationship to the next.

Once we lose God in the pursuit of happiness, and once we lose the sense of the dignity of the human person and the God in whose image and likeness we are truly created, then we lose all sense of any moral compass or any moral standard. Without God, can there be any morality at all? Or is it set by the thinking of the day that can change from generation to generation, rooted in no truths that are valid for every person in every generation?

We as a nation stand at a crossroads. There is a fork in the road between the culture of life and the culture of death. The culture of death made great inroads with activist judges in the 1973 court that created a so-called right to abortion...

Judges, politicians and voters who went so far as to state that human life may be destroyed at the beginning are now attacking human life at its end by support for assisted suicide. The next step will be to deny healthcare for the elderly and handicapped because they are no more of any use to society. Once the right to life is no longer understood as a gift from God, but attributed to people by the state, the road to further atrocities against human life is a spiral downward quite rapidly.

A hundred years from now, this election will just be a moment in history. A hundred years from now all of us, or certainly most of us, will be dead. But I assure you, a hundred years from now, if we continue as a society on the course that we are on, embracing a culture of death, our society will no longer exist, because tyranny will have its way, as will atheism.

When there is no recognition of the primacy of God and human beings decide what is good and what is evil, anything can be justified. All we have to do is look at history and the atheism of China, the atheism of Russia, the atheism of Cambodia, and the atheism of Nazi Germany. Countries that embrace atheism reveal the truth -- that is, if we do not embrace, as our forefathers did, the laws of nature and nature's God, we will eventually collapse as a society.

*Bishop Samuel Aquila of Fargo, N.D.
Excerpt from homily*

NEVER INSIST ON YOUR OWN WAY

A few years ago I was given a list of secrets to a long life that was the philosophy of life of a Chinese Trappist priest in Taiwan, Father Nicolaus Kao...

His rule of life includes things like never eat too much, never drink too much, never smoke, never stop praying and never stop exercising. But the one that caught my attention and made me think was: "Never insist on your own way." There is an immense amount of human, practical wisdom in that principle. Subsequently I discovered, while reading St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians (13:5), that he says basically the same thing: "Love does not insist on its own way."

Because of our limitations and concern about self, because of self-will and stubbornness, most of us, beginning in childhood, tend to insist on our own way of doing things. We may do it without realizing that it irritates others, or we may do it precisely because it irritates others. The effects of such self-will are often conflicts with others that could easily be avoided. It is not easy for any two people to live together peacefully, because we are all different and have our own goals and priorities in life. If two people living together, whether married or not, both insist on doing trivial things their own way, there will be conflicts, anger, resentment, harsh words and sometimes even violence.

The point I want to make is that each of us should consider our daily activities to see if we can give way on various things that do not involve a matter of principle. I am not arguing for absolute tolerance of everything—such a position is immoral and spineless. When it comes to basic principles of truth regarding doctrine and morals, we must take a stand. Like the martyrs, we must be ready to shed our blood for the faith if we are put in a position where, to preserve our life, we must deny our faith.

Many people come into conflict with each other, or else cause silent resentment, because they insist on doing things their way. A few examples that occur to me are the following: critical comments about others, rude behavior, arranging furniture in a room, choosing colors of paint and rugs, whistling or singing that bothers others, driving a car in a way that irritates others, and so forth. There are hundreds of examples along this line that could be given.

The point is that, in order to get along with others and to live peacefully with them, it is better not to insist on one's own way of doing things and to do indifferent things the way others prefer to do them. This takes a certain amount of Christian self-denial, but the rewards are substantial.

Occasionally we hear stories of couples who divorce because the husband does not like the way his wife cooks his eggs or burns his toast. This may be extreme, but it is an example of a small thing that becomes a large thing because of self-will and the failure to give way.

As St. Paul says, true love does not insist on its own way. Nature requires us to do many things we would rather not do, for example, when we come down with a serious disease or suffer an accident because of a drunken driver. Some of those evils are unavoidable.

But there are many conflicts in human living that can be avoided by not insisting always on doing what is pleasing to oneself. Kindness and consideration in such dealings with others, whether friends or not, tends to make living with others more pleasant and peaceful. One result of peaceful living is to reduce stress—in today's world we can all use more of that. Living in peace and reducing stress tend to extend one's earthly life... our days will be happier and we may reach a ripe old age.

*Kenneth Baker, S.J.
Homiletic & Pastoral Review*