



MASSES FOR THE WEEK
 March 28—April 3
 EACH MASS IS OFFERED FOR
 THE INTENTIONS OF EVERYONE
 PRESENT AND FOR THE FOLLOWING:

SATURDAY, MARCH 28

- 4:00 p.m. Ree Alario; Philip C. Bouchon, Sr.; Barbara Brennan; Marlene Morris; Barbara Rush; Captain Houston E. Walker; Marian Wallis
- 5:30 p.m. Theresa M. Barry; Melvin Ferlita, Sr.; Jennifer Johnsrud; Leona O'Dwyer; R. Edward Ripley; Martha C. Schiaffino

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

- 8:00 a.m. Members of St. Patrick's Church (Propopulo)
- 9:30 a.m. Barbara Brennan; Roberta W. Bruley; Rosine Bruns; Jane O. Chatelain; Melvin Ferlita, Sr.; Norma McClellan; Sister Carmela Parisi, RSCJ; John H. Schroder, Jr.; Jerome Triche, Sr.; Gertrude Ursin
- 11:00 a.m. Cynthia Hemelt; Charles Kenney; Thomas G. Murphy; Beverly Orillion; Sara C. Romano; Barbara Rush; Bernadette Theriot; Captain Houston E. Walker.

- 5:30 p.m. Leona O'Dwyer; Edward Ripley; Mario Scramuzza, Jr.; Mark Toups

MONDAY, MARCH 30

- 11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List
- 12:00 p.m. Barbara Brennan; Leona O'Dwyer; Robert & Hazel Wells; Bryan Wolff

TUESDAY, MARCH 31

- 11:30 a.m. Dora Blizzard; Barbara Brennan; Barbara Rush; Raymond Spain
- 12:00 p.m. Leona O'Dwyer; Edward Ripley; Elisabeth Robert

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1

- 11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List
- 12:00 p.m. Loretta Doussan; Stephen Losee; Stephen Luccioni; Mary A. McKay; Jerome J. Triche, Sr.

THURSDAY, APRIL 2

- 11:30 a.m. Barbara Rush; Captain Houston E. Walker
- 12:00 p.m. Alice Cohen; Loretta Doussan; Elisabeth Robert

FRIDAY, APRIL 3

- 11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List
- 12:00 p.m. Jean Dominguez; Stephen Losee

GREGORIAN LATIN MASS—Sunday at 9:30 a.m.
Passion Sunday

Solemn High Mass—First Sunday of the month.
Benediction—Third Sunday after the 9:30 a.m. Mass.

FIRST SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 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.

COFFEE AND DOUGHNUTS

In Reynolds Hall, after the Sunday morning Masses.

SUNDAY OFFERING—March 22, 2009

First Collection \$ 8,145
 Second Collection* \$ 1,753

* Catholic Relief Services

Palm Sunday, April 5, 2009

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- 9:00 a.m. Prelude music; 9:30 a.m. Mass
- 11:00 a.m. Solemn Mass Procession. Procession by clergy and congregation will start from St. Patrick's private car parking alley.
- 5:30 p.m. Mass

SPECIAL LENTEN SERIES

The special Lenten series presented by Father John Payne concludes this Sunday between the 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Masses. The theme of the series is "St. Paul and the New Evangelization of John Paul II."

WILLWOODS COMMUNITY EIGHTH ANNUAL GALA

We welcome the members of the Willwoods Community to the 5:30 Vigil Mass this weekend. As always, we welcome Archbishop Alfred Hughes, who will be celebrating the Mass. The gala, honoring Deacon Paul and Jane Nalty, will benefit the ministries of Willwoods Community. For information: (504) 830-3700.

LENTEN PRAYERS OF THE CHURCHES EAST AND WEST

WESTERN CHRISTIAN PRAYER

Solemn Vespers for the Fifth Sunday of Lent
 St. Patrick's Church
 Sunday, March 29, 2009 at 6:30 p.m.
 Presider: Reverend Stanley Klores
 Reflection: The Very Reverend Anthony Stratis, Dean of the Greek Orthodox Cathedral of The Holy Trinity.

EASTERN CHRISTIAN PRAYER

Akathist Service to the Mother of God
 Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral
 Friday, April 3, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.
 Presider: His Eminence Metropolitan Alexios of Atlanta
 The ancient service of Lenten prayer in honor of the Theotokos, the Holy Mother of God, composed in the sixth century in Constantinople.

RECEPTION TO FOLLOW BOTH SERVICES

PALMS FOR PALM SUNDAY

Contributions of palms, to be blessed on Palm Sunday, may be dropped off in the alley between the church and rectory office starting Monday, March 30 between the hours of 9a.m.—1p.m.

EASTER FLOWER DONATION ENVELOPES

Envelopes are available in the vestibule for donations to purchase flowers that will be placed on the high altar at Easter. Please complete the envelope form and return it to the rectory, or place it in any collection basket, before the final date: **Monday, April 6, 2009**. All names will be printed in the Easter Sunday bulletin and the program for the Solemn High Mass of Easter.

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; Barbara Brennan; Tony Clesi; Jack & Paula Coughlin; Rene Crane; Carol Daigle; Tom Darcy; Ralph DeBlanc; Raymond DeBlanc; Elizabeth DeBuys; Al Duroncelet; Katherine Eagan; Melvin Ferlita, Sr.; Mimi Finley; John Fulcher; Joan Kimball; Joseph; Stephen Losee; Michael McCarthy; Mary A. McKay; Buddy McInnis; Sally Ann Main; Lucille Ogden; Beverly Orillion; Karen Paprocki; J. Van Provosty; Hugh Ramsey; Tom Roach; Elisabeth Robert; Joseph M. Sonne; Stephanie Summers; Salvador Trentacoste; Turkington Family; Alyssa Vingan

SECURITY PROVIDED AT ALL EVENING SERVICES

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

THE MOUNTING CAMPAIGN TO SILENCE THE POPE

The lords of the mass media are spouting their outrage at the Pope--again.

This time the Pontiff's alleged offense is his failure to believe that condoms provide the world's best hope against the AIDS epidemic. Pope Benedict dared to voice a few simple truths--that chastity is foolproof, and that people can control their own sexual behavior--and the guardians of secular wisdom are rending their garments and howling their outrage.

The Pope is simply wrong about the facts, dozens of headlines proclaim. The stories don't support those headlines, because of course the Pope is right about the facts. But the popular media no longer engage the argument. The object here is to shout down an opponent of conventional liberal ideology.

Respectable journalists do not intentionally publish inaccurate reports. So once editors proclaim that the Pope is wrong about the facts, it is only a short step to the decision that the Pope's arguments should not be given any publicity. Thus the voice of the Church would be stilled.

Already the public pressure is mounting against the Pope-- and by extension, against anyone else who proclaims the truth as the Church has always known it. A former prime minister of France announces that the Successor to Peter has "become a problem." AIDS activists label the Pontiff as an enemy of their cause, an

enemy of the people. That sort of rhetoric suggests more than disagreement; it suggests a campaign to punish someone for his public statements.

The chorus of outrage against the Pope has been swelling in recent weeks, and it's difficult to avoid the sense that this is becoming an orchestrated campaign. Arrogant editorial writers are writing about the Pope's "mistakes" in reaching out to traditionalists, naming a conservative Austrian priest to become a bishop, and now discouraging reliance on condoms to fight AIDS. A large and growing group of journalists seems determined to spread the word that the Pope is making grievous blunders, and to suppress any evidence to the contrary.

To make matters worse, some of the Pope's angriest critics claim to be Catholics, and draw their support from Catholic colleges and universities and/or Catholic religious orders. Waving the banners of their Church affiliations, they are working to still the voice of traditional Catholicism.

If ever there was a time to speak out in defense of the Church, and to support those who give voice to Catholic teaching, this is that time. If there was ever a time to pray for the Holy Father, this is it.

*Phil Lawler
Catholic Culture*

IS OBAMA WORTH A MASS?

The University of Notre Dame has officially and with much self satisfaction invited President Barack Obama to address its 2009 graduates and to receive an honorary law degree. Not to put too fine a point on it, this is a deliberate thumbing of the collective nose at the Roman Catholic Church to which Notre Dame purports to be faithful. Faithful? Tell it to Julian the Apostate.

That someone who procures or advocates abortion thereby excludes himself from communion with the Church has been clear doctrine all along, and increasingly bishops have found the courage to tell those Catholic politicians who are the great enablers of abortion legislation that they cannot receive Holy Communion. Is it any worse to celebrate such a politician as Barack Obama? So where does that put ND President Father Jenkins? He can hardly say Mass without receiving the body, blood, soul, and divinity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, so doubtless he will recuse himself and have someone else say the Mass. But to whom will he go? All his cohorts must come under the same cloud as he. Perhaps the pastor of the president's erstwhile church in Chicago will be invited to harangue the assembled graduates and parents and faculty -- those who can bring themselves to attend commencement this year. Why not?

Perhaps because, having been reminded of the sermons he heard over the years, Barack Obama distanced himself, as they say, from the fiery orator at whose feet he sat for decades. In this, whatever his motives, he has perhaps pointed a way for the Notre Dame administrators to redeem themselves. Perhaps they are unaware of Obama's record on abortion. Perhaps they have not been paying attention to what he has already done as president. On being reminded of all this, and mindful of the parlous position this puts them into vis-a-vis the Church if they thus celebrate the president, perhaps they will as publicly rescind their invitation as they have issued it? Don't count on it.

For one whose fifty-four year career as a member of the Notre Dame faculty is coming to an end this June, it is a bitter thing to reflect on the 2009 commencement speaker. It is of course convenient to have an excuse to absent oneself from the festivities. Listening to commencement addresses is the penalty that graduates must pay to receive their diplomas. One can count memorable commencement speeches on the cuticle of one finger.

They are ceremonial occasions that will be little remembered and less celebrated. One has groaned at previous selections, but the invitation to Barack Obama is far from being the usual effort of the university to get into warm contact with the power figures of the day. It is an unequivocal abandonment of any pretense at being a Catholic university. And it is in sad continuity with decades of waffling that have led with seeming inevitability to it.

No event was more crucial for Catholic universities than the infamous 1967 Land O'Lakes statement in which the assembled presidents of Catholic institutions declared their freedom from the supposedly baleful influence of Catholic orthodoxy. They would continue to call themselves Catholic, but the definition of the term was constantly under construction. And this by institutions whose task is decidedly not to define what Catholicism is. And now we have come to the point where the University of Notre Dame is publicly excluding itself from allegiance to and acceptance of one of the most fundamental of Christian moral truths, mentioned explicitly in the Didache and again and again over the centuries. Abortion is an essentially evil act, both from the viewpoint of natural morality and from the explicit teaching of the Church. There is no way in which an individual, a politician or an institution can finesse that fact.

By inviting Barack Obama as commencement speaker, Notre Dame is telling the nation that the teaching of the Catholic church on this fundamental matter can be ignored. Lip service may be paid to the teaching on abortion, but it is no impediment to upward mobility, to the truly vulgar lust to be welcomed into secular society, whether on the part of individuals or institutions.

Some years ago, Archbishop Michael Miller in his Vatican capacity as overseer of Catholic education, said in an address at Notre Dame that the Holy Father was considering prohibiting the use of "Catholic" by institutions whose behavior contradicts that use. By inviting Barack Obama to be the 2009 commencement speaker, Notre Dame has forfeited its right to call itself a Catholic university. It invites an official rebuke. May it come.

Ralph McInerney

Ralph McInerney is a writer of philosophy, fiction, and cultural criticism, who has taught at Notre Dame since 1955.