



MASSES FOR THE WEEK  
July 25—July 31  
EACH MASS IS OFFERED FOR  
THE INTENTIONS OF EVERYONE  
PRESENT AND FOR THE FOLLOWING:

**SATURDAY, JULY 25**

- 4:00 p.m. Ree Alario; Barry Brechtel; Marlene Morris;  
Barbara Rush; Captain Houston E. Walker  
5:30 p.m. Audry Boyce; Dr. & Mrs. Patrick Casey;  
Sister Carmela Parisi; Sue Steel

**SUNDAY, JULY 26**

- 8:00 a.m. Members of St. Patrick's Church (Propopulo)  
9:30 a.m. Roberta W. Bruley; Jane O. Chatelain; Frank  
P. Formusa; Peter Grisaro; Robert Keyes;  
Norma McClellan; Carol Mallett; Carmelite  
Salassi; John H. Schroder, Jr.; Jerome J.  
Triche, Sr.  
11:00 a.m. Melba H. Adams; Joan Baradell; Nola  
Centola; Elizabeth B. DeBuys; Joseph  
Dellucky; Mrs. Grundmeyer; Sister Carmela  
Parisi; Virginia Valikonis; Captain Houston  
E. Walker

- 5:30 p.m. Audry Boyce; Evelyn P. Navarro; Leona  
O'Dwyer; Lynn M. Thornton; Mark A. Toups

**MONDAY, JULY 27**

- 11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List  
12:00 p.m. Audry Boyce; Leona O'Dwyer; Sister  
Carmela Parisi

**TUESDAY, JULY 28**

- 11:30 a.m. Sister Carmela Parisi; Barbara Rush  
12:00 p.m. Ed Godlewski; Leona O'Dwyer; Elisabeth  
Robert

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 29**

- 11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List  
12:00 p.m. **Audry Boyce**; Loretta Doussan; Stephen  
Losee; Sister Carmela Parisi

**THURSDAY, JULY 30**

- 11:30 a.m. Marina Hennessey; Sister Carmela Parisi  
12:00 p.m. Audry Boyce; Loretta Doussan; Joan Holub;  
Elisabeth Robert; Robert & Hazel Wells

**FRIDAY, JULY 31**

- 11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List  
12:00 p.m. Audry Boyce; Stephen Losee;  
Sister Carmela Parisi

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

*Eighth Sunday after Pentecost*

**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**

**COFFEE AND REFRESHMENTS**

After the Sunday morning Masses, the Claddaugh Group hosts coffee and pastries in the Monsignor Reynolds Hall, directly behind the rectory. Everyone is invited.

**FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR**

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

**SUNDAY OFFERING—July 19, 2009**

First Collection \$ 12,444

Second Collection\* \$ 2,029

\* Black and Indian Mission Collection

**ST. PATRICK'S WELCOMES BROTHER ALAN DRAIN, SC**

The second collection this weekend is for the African missions of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart. The Brothers through their representative, Brother Alan Drain, SC, are asking for your prayers and financial support. The Brothers of the Sacred Heart are religious educators who staff schools and other establishments in over thirty countries. Your contributions will especially benefit young men who are preparing to enter religious life, and needy students, in the African countries of Kenya, Lesotho, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Please be generous.

**FIRST SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 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.

**EUCHARISTIC PILGRIMAGE—OCTOBER 5-8, 2009**

Father Stanley Klores will lead a Eucharistic pilgrimage to Eternal Word Television Network and the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Culman Alabama, October 5-8, 2009. Space is limited on a *first-come* basis for this pilgrimage that features bus transportation; 3 nights accommodations in Culman; many meals; transfers between lodging, EWTN and Shrine; tickets for taping of a television show at EWTN and much more. Price \$475 per person, based on double occupancy. For additional information contact Van & Pat Stevens: (225) 928-8335 or Catholic Journeys: (504) 834-4951. Registration deadline: July 31, 2009.

**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS**

Through baptism we are called to continue the mission of the apostles to evangelize. If you know of anyone who is considering joining the Catholic Church, please speak to them about the RCIA process which will start Monday, September 14, 2009. Your interest and support may be all they need to make a decision. Interested parties can obtain information by contacting the director of the RCIA program: Robert Ramirez: (504)899-3048; e-mail: bramirez@bellsouth.net; or the rectory office.

**PASSIO DOMINI—DEDICATED TO PRAYING FOR PRIESTS**

Every Thursday evening at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Prompt Succor (Ursuline Academy campus).

8:00 p.m. Adoration and confessions; 9:00 p.m. Holy Mass

**PRAYER TO OUR LADY OF PROMPT SUCCOR**

Our Father in heaven, through the powerful intercession of  
Our Lady of Prompt Succor,  
Spare us from all harm during this hurricane season,  
And protect us and our homes from all disasters of nature.  
Our Lady of Prompt Succor, hasten to help us. Amen.

**PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL**

For the sick of our parish and those who have asked for our prayers especially: Tom Alexander; Del Barry; Patricia Berrigan; Brett Bradley; Barbara Brennan; Tony Clesi; Rene Crane; Carol Daigle; Tom Darcy; Ralph DeBlanc; Raymond DeBlanc; Elizabeth DeBuys; Al Duroncelet; Katherine Eagan; Melvin Ferlita, Sr.; Mimi Finley; John Fulcher; Marie Gattuso; Glenn & Christine Harper; Bob Held; Howard Henriques; Milton J. Hock, Jr.; Karen Ibraheim; Joan Kimball; Belinda Lazaro; Joseph; Stephen Losee; Michael McCarthy; Mary A. McKay; Buddy McInnis; Sally Ann Main; Lucille Ogden; Beverly Orillion; Karen Paprocki; J.Van Provosty; Tom Roach; Elisabeth Robert; Eleanor Smith; Joseph M. Sonne; Stephanie Summers; Alyssa Vingano

## SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### DO YOU KNOW WHO'S BEHIND YOUR NEWS?

The news media have incredible influence over how opinion is formed, and it's urgent for Catholics to understand how news is reported and who works behind the scenes, says Archbishop Charles Chaput.

The archbishop of Denver said this last week in an address he gave to Legatus, an organization that ministers to Catholic business leaders. His talk was titled "Catholics and the 'Fourth Estate,'" making reference to a term coined in revolutionary times. At that time in France, the three main pillars of society -- the clergy, the nobles and the common people -- were referred to as the three "estates" of French society.

In was in that context that the press was referred to as the "fourth estate," acknowledging the power and influence of the written word. "America's news media have enormous opinion-shaping power," Archbishop Chaput affirmed. "Therefore it's vital for Catholics to understand how the media work, and especially how they work on us."

"Most of what we know about the world comes from people we'll never meet and don't really understand," he explained. "We don't even think of them as individuals. Instead we usually talk about them in the collective -- as 'the media' or 'the press.'" Yet behind every Los Angeles Times editorial or Fox News broadcast are human beings with personal opinions and prejudices. These people select and frame the news. And when we read their newspaper articles or tune in their TV shows, we engage them in a kind of intellectual intimacy in the same way you're listening to me right now." Although he admits "this isn't necessarily a bad practice," one must be aware of who is behind the news.

"We usually know very little about the person who writes an unsigned editorial or the people who create the nightly news," the archbishop said. "And that's worth talking about. Here's why. In an information society, the people who shape our information control the public conversation." Calling the media and the techniques they employ a "kind of 'soft imperialism,'" the prelate noted that "like it or not, most of us define the 'news' by what receives the most attention from a handful of major media."

"The media's power to shape public thought is why it's so vital for the rest of us to understand their human element," Archbishop Chaput stated. "When we don't recognize the personal chemistry of the men and women who bring us our news -- their cultural and political views, their economic pressures, their social ambitions -- then we fail the media by holding them to too low a standard. We also -- and much more importantly -- fail ourselves by neglecting to think and act as intelligent citizens."

Archbishop Chaput spoke about how the Internet and 24-hour cable news networks have fundamentally changed not only the news cycle, which used to be marked by morning and evening editions of a newspaper, but also the way society consumes news. "For the past 50 years our culture has been shifting away from the printed word to visual communications, which are much more inclined to sensation and passive consumption," he said. "This has consequences. When a print culture dies, the ideas, institutions and even habits of public behavior built on that culture begin to weaken. "Visual and electronic media, today's dominant media, need a certain kind of content. They thrive on brevity, speed, change, urgency, variety and feelings. But thinking requires the opposite. Thinking takes time. It needs silence and the methodical skills of logic."

While acknowledging the benefits of having access to more information, Archbishop Chaput lamented the technology has

"undermined the intellectual discipline that we once had when our main tools of communication were books or print publications. This is not a good development. In fact, it's a very dangerous thing in a democracy, which is a form of government that demands intellectual and moral maturity from its citizens to survive."

While not urging people to throw away computers, cell phones and other devices associated with new technology, the archbishop called to mind that "material progress is never an unmixed blessing." "It gives, and it takes away," he explained. "And it always has unintended consequences, which means we need to be more -- not less -- vigilant about the way our news media form us, and how their influence shapes the content of our public life."

A second concern Archbishop Chaput put forth is that the media have lost their way in covering stories with "a right spirit." He explained by recalling that the press has an important role in America's public order: "The press is the only field besides religion explicitly singled out for protection by the First Amendment. Thomas Jefferson, writing during his presidency, put the importance of a free press this way: 'No experiment can be more interesting than that we are now trying, and which we trust will end in establishing the fact, that man may be governed by reason and truth. Our first object should therefore be, to leave open to him all the avenues to truth. The most effectual hitherto found, is the freedom of the press.'" The archbishop called Jefferson's words "striking, because their defense of a free press emphasizes that freedom is a means and not an end in itself. Notice what he defines as the purpose of press freedom: the reason and truth needed for self-government.

"But in our own time, the news establishment -- even when discussing serious issues -- often seems less interested in reason and truth than in what Christopher Lasch called 'ideological gestures;' in other words, sound bites and tribal slogans designed to shape our thought rather than encourage it."

"The news media, despite their claims of impartiality, and despite the good work they often do accomplish, are just as prone to prejudice, ignorance, bad craftsmanship and tribalism as any other profession," he said. "But unlike other professions, the press has constitutional protections. It also has real power in shaping how we think, what we think about and what we like, dislike and ignore.

"America's media, including its news media, are the greatest catechetical syndicate in history. And if that kind of power doesn't make us uneasy, it should at least make us alert."

*Zenit.*

It is possible that we might some day be challenged to save someone else's life at the risk of our own. It's possible, but not very likely. Yet we do find opportunities virtually every day to give of ourselves for others. This may involve having a smile for someone we don't really like, a word of encouragement to a member of the family who seems tired or out of sorts, a willingness to withhold our opinion for the sake of avoiding an argument, a conscious effort to listen with interest to someone we don't find very interesting. It can happen that an action of gentle consequence (a friendly greeting, a tiny favour, a thank-you note) can produce in others a good result out of all proportion to what we might have expected. These simple courtesies help others to feel wanted and appreciated. Social life thus becomes a reflection of God himself.

*Francis Fernandez*