



MASSES FOR THE WEEK  
 August 15—August 21  
 EACH MASS IS OFFERED FOR  
 THE INTENTIONS OF EVERYONE  
 PRESENT AND FOR THE FOLLOWING:

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 15**

- 12:00 p.m. The Ciravolo Family; Kathleen V. Gaudet; James J. Kern
- 4:00 p.m. Ree Alario; Paul J. Johnson; Theresa H. Johnson; Marlene Morris; Barbara Rush; George Schmitt; Captain Houston E. Walker
- 5:30 p.m. Theresa M. Barry; Pam Espat; Leona O'Dwyer

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 16**

- 8:00 a.m. Members of St. Patrick's Church (Propopulo)
- 9:30 a.m. Roberta W. Bruley; Jane O. Chatelain; Tim Coulon; Kathlen V. Gaudet; Norma McClellan; Johnie Phillips; Freddie Robinson; Carmelite Salassi; John H. Schroder, Jr.; Jerome J. Triche, Sr.; Geraldine P. Vocke
- 11:00 a.m. Elizabeth B. DeBuys; Maurice D. Galatas; Mrs. Grundmeyer; John W. Ormond; Barbara Rush; Captain Houston E. Walker; Souls in Purgatory
- 5:30 p.m. Pam Espat; Leona O'Dwyer; Lynn M. Thornton; Paul G. Schexnauldre

**MONDAY, AUGUST 17**

- 11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List
- 12:00 p.m. Pam Espat; Leona O'Dwyer

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 18**

- 11:30 a.m. Lester Mitts; Barbara Rush
- 12:00 p.m. Pam Espat; Leona O'Dwyer; Elisabeth Robert

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19**

- 11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List
- 12:00 p.m. Pam Espat; Stephen Losee; Leona O'Dwyer

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 20**

- 11:30 a.m. Barbara Rush
- 12:00 p.m. Loretta Doussan; Elisabeth Robert

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 21**

- 11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List
- 12:00 p.m. Loretta Doussan; Stephen Losee; Celina Nuss; Barbara Rush

*Mass envelopes can be found in the vestibule.*

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

**SUNDAY OFFERING—August 9, 2009**

First Collection \$ 14,138

Second Collection\* \$ 1,448

\* Maintenance and Restoration

**ARCHBISHOP GREGORY AYMOND'S MASS BROADCAST**

WLAE Channel 32 will broadcast Archbishop Gregory Aymond's Installation Mass LIVE at 2 pm on Thursday, August 20, 2009. Coverage will begin at 1:30 pm with a special in-depth interview with Archbishop Aymond and Jason Angelette, host of WLAE's Issues & Faith. The Installation Mass will be rebroadcast at 10 pm on WLAE following a special episode of Issues & Faith at 7:30 pm.

Attendance at the Mass is by invitation only. Over 60 cardinals and bishops from around the country are expected in New Orleans for the celebration along with many local leaders.

**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 Ridgeline Drive and 20<sup>th</sup> Street in Metairie, **Saturday, August 22, 2009 at 9:00a.m.** Prayers will be offered for the babies who are scheduled to be killed, their mothers and fathers, and the conversion of our country. Everyone is 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. The pilgrimage 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. Reservations are made on a *first-come* basis for the price of \$475 per person, based on double occupancy. For additional information contact Van & Pat Stevens: (225) 928-8335, or Catholic Journeys: (504) 834-4951.

**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.

**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; Pierre Stouse; Stephanie Summers; Alyssa Vingan

## TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE “COMPLETELY BEYOND” SCIENTIFIC EXPLANATION

Researcher and physicist Dr. Aldo Orozco told participants at the International Marian Congress on Our Lady of Guadalupe that there is no scientific explanation for the 478 years of high quality-preservation of the Tilma or for the miracles that have occurred to ensure its preservation. The cloak of St. Juan Diego on which Our Lady of Guadalupe “is completely beyond any scientific explanation.”

“All the cloths similar to the Tilma that have been placed in the salty and humid environment around the Basilica have lasted no more than ten years,” he explained. One painting of the miraculous image, created in 1789, was on display in a church near the basilica where the Tilma was placed. “This painting was made with the best techniques of its time, the copy was beautiful and made with a fabric very similar to that of the Tilma. Also, the image was protected with a glass since it was first placed there.”

However, eight years later, the copy of the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe was thrown away because the colors were fading and threads were breaking. In contrast, Orozco said, “the original Tilma was exposed for approximately 116 years without any kind of protection, receiving all the infrared and ultraviolet radiation from the tens of thousands of candles near it and exposed to the humid and salty air around the temple.”

Dr. Orozco then discussed the Tilma’s fabric. He noted that “one of the most bizarre characteristics of the cloth is that the back side is rough and coarse, but the front side is ‘as soft as the most pure silk, as noted by painters and scientists in 1666, and confirmed one century later in 1751 by the Mexican painter, Miguel Cabrera.”

Following an analysis of some of the fibers in 1946, it was

concluded that the fibers came from the Agave plant, however, noted Dr. Orozco, the researchers couldn’t figure out which of the 175 Agave species the Tilma was made from. Years later, in 1975, “the famous Mexican researcher Ernesto Sodi Pallares said that the species of the agave was Agave popotule Zacc,” Orozco explained, “but we don’t know how he reached this conclusion.”

Before concluding his presentation, Dr. Orozco made mention of two miracles associated with the Tilma. The first occurred in 1785 when a worker accidentally spilled a 50 percent nitric acid solvent on the right side of the cloth. “Besides any natural explanation, the acid has not destroyed the fabric of the cloth, indeed it has not even destroyed the colored parts of the image,” Orozco said.

The second miracle was the explosion of a bomb near the Tilma in 1921. Dr. Orozco recalled that the explosion broke the marble floor and widows 150 meters from the explosion, but “unexpectedly, neither the Tilma nor the normal glass that protected the Tilma was damaged or broken.” The only damage near it was a brass crucifix that was twisted by the blast.

He continued, “There are no explanations why the shockwave that broke windows 150 meters afar did not destroy the normal glass that protected the image. Some people said that the Son by means of the brass crucifix protected the image of His Mother. The real fact is that we don’t have a natural explanation for this event.”

“Our Lady visited Mexico 478 years ago, but she remains there to give Her Love, Her Mercy and Her Care to anyone who needs it, and to bring Her Son, Jesus Christ to everyone who receives Him.”

*EWTN*

### BISHOPS DRAW THE LINE ON HEALTH-CARE REFORM

As members of Congress head home for their August recess, we now have a better picture of where everyone stands on health care reform. While the U.S. bishops support genuine health care reform, there is a clear line in the sand between our bishops and some congressional leaders.

On July 17, Bishop William Murphy, Chairman of the bishops’ Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development, wrote to Congress saying: “The USCCB looks forward to working with you to reform health care successfully in a manner that offers accessible, affordable and quality health care that protects and respects the life and dignity of all people from conception until natural death.” Then Bishop Murphy drew a line, declaring that “no health care reform plan should compel us or others to pay for the destruction of human life, whether through government funding or mandatory coverage of abortion.”

Some seemed surprised at this, since abortion was not specifically mentioned in draft health care bills until recently. Those with longer memories may recall that the Medicaid statute doesn’t mention abortion either, but it was funding 300,000 abortions a year in the 1970s until we put a stop to that with the Hyde amendment. In any case, numerous amendments to keep abortion out of health care reform have been defeated in committee, and it is now apparent that some leaders have every intention of threatening the health care reform process by forcing Americans to accept abortion mandates and/or fund unlimited abortion in their health coverage.

Cardinal Justin Rigali, Chairman of the U.S. Catholic bishops’ Committee on Pro-Life Activities, followed up with a July 29 letter to the House Energy and Commerce Committee, declaring that “much-needed reform must not become a vehicle for promoting an ‘abortion rights’ agenda or reversing longstanding current policies against federal abortion mandates and funding.”

The Cardinal urged Committee members to preserve longstanding federal policies that prevent government promotion of abortion and respect conscience rights.

But Bishop Murphy and Cardinal Rigali are not the only ones drawing lines. Millions upon millions of American Catholics are with them. Earlier this year, dioceses across the country broke all previous records by ordering more than 34 million postcards so their parishioners could urge Congress to “retain laws against federal funding and promotion of abortion.” Now that members of Congress are heading home, they need to be reminded of this message at the local level, in the context of health care reform.

As Congress takes its vacation, various proposals have been left behind. These proposals need to be examined to see how well they provide accessible, affordable and quality health care and how they impact immigrants and the poor. But one thing is certain. The bills approved so far by House and Senate committees include mandated abortion coverage and abortion funding, and that is a line we can never cross.

Now is the time to take action. Contact congressional members through e-mail, phone calls or FAX letters. E-mails can be sent by visiting [www.usccb.org/prolife](http://www.usccb.org/prolife) and clicking on the Health Care Reform Action Alert. You can also call the U.S. Capitol switchboard at 202-224-3121, attend town hall meetings in your local district, or call the local offices of your representative and senators. Full contact info can be found on Members’ web sites at [www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov) and [www.senate.gov](http://www.senate.gov).

The message is simple: “Support genuine health care reform that respects the life and dignity of all. A fair and just health care reform bill must exclude mandated coverage for abortion, and uphold longstanding laws that restrict abortion funding and protect conscience rights.”

*Tom Grenchik*