



MASSES FOR THE WEEK
September 19—September 26
EACH MASS IS OFFERED FOR
THE INTENTIONS OF EVERYONE
PRESENT AND FOR THE FOLLOWING:

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

- 4:00 p.m. Ree Alario; Robert E. Fontenelle; Margaret Gerrets; Marie D. Hessler; Marlene Morris; Barbara Rush; Captain Houston E. Walker
- 5:30 p.m. John M. Callia; Rodney Louque; Leona O'Dwyer; Special Intention of Bradley Ramirez

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

- 8:00 a.m. Members of St. Patrick's Church (Propopulo)
- 9:30 a.m. Roberta W. Bruley; Jane O. Chatelain; Kelsey Favrot; Marie Gaudet; Delia Hernandez; Norma McClellan; Richard McCloskey; Alfred Ramirez, Jr.; John H. Schroder, Jr.; Jerome J. Triche, Sr.
- 11:00 a.m. John M. Callia; David Crochet; Mrs. Burnell Messina; Barbara Rush; Captain Houston E. Walker; Poor Souls
- 5:30 p.m. Leona O'Dwyer; Hilton & Mary Touns; Special Intention of Bradley Ramirez

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

- 11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List
- 12:00 p.m. Edward O'Dwyer; John W. O'Keefe, Jr.; Special Intention of Bradley Ramirez

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

- 11:30 a.m. Dr. & Nancy Minyard
- 12:00 p.m. Edward O'Dwyer; Elisabeth Robert; Conchetta C. Salvaggio; Special Intention of Bradley Ramirez

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

- 11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List
- 12:00 p.m. Stephen Losee; Special Intention of Bradley Ramirez

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

- 11:30 a.m. Dr. Wesley Fernandez; Dr. & Nancy Minyard
- 12:00 p.m. Loretta Dousan; Elisabeth Robert; Hazel & Robert Wells; Special Intention of Bradley Ramirez

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

- 11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List
- 12:00 p.m. Barry Brechtel; Loretta Doussan; Stephen Losee; Special Intention of Bradley Ramirez

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

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Solemn High Mass—First Sunday of the month.

Benediction—Third Sunday after the 9:30 a.m. 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.

SUNDAY OFFERING—September 13, 2009

First Collection \$ 7,729

Second Collection* \$ 1,920

* Maintenance and restoration

MASS OF THANKSGIVING & EVENING OF CELEBRATION

Saturday, September 19, 2009 at 5:30 p.m. St. Patrick's will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving to honor parishioners for their faithful service to God and His Church. It will be followed by our annual *Evening of Celebration*; cocktails and buffet dinner at the Renaissance Arts Hotel, 700 Tchoupitoulas St. String Ensemble Music will complement this event of art, friendship and dinner, and afford the opportunity to congratulate our honorees. Reservations for dinner will be accepted until September 14th. Parishioners have received information in the mail, but everyone is invited to attend. Please call the rectory for your reservation and donation information: (504) 525-4413.

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 Street in Metairie, **Saturday, September 26, 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!

INAUGURATION AND BLESSING OF NEW ORGAN

Sunday, September 27, at 3:00 p.m.

Father Stanley P. Klores will celebrate a Solemn High Mass in the Extraordinary Form of the Roman Rite to formally inaugurate and bless the new Patrick J. Murphy Organ. St. Patrick's Concert Choir will sing Antonin Dvorak's *Mass in D*, and will be accompanied by guest organist, Dr. James Hammann. A reception will follow in the rectory. Everyone is invited.

St. Patrick's Church continues to be committed to the preservation and presentation of the liturgical and sacred music that for many centuries has formed the rich musical tradition of the Church.

It is to this end that the second collection, at this special Mass, will be dedicated to the Music Program at St. Patrick's Church.

THIS WEEKEND'S SECOND COLLECTION—CCC

The second collection this weekend will be taken for The Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC). This collection funds programs that enrich the faith lives of Catholics in our parish and all over the world. Half of the funds collected stay in the archdiocese, the other half supports the wide range of projects carried out by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishop's Committee on Communications and grantee organizations. Please be generous.

COFFEE AND DOUGHNUTS

Hospitality and friendship in Reynolds Hall, after the Sunday morning Masses.

FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR

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

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; Randall Cashio; Tony Clesi; Colleen Collet; Rene Crane; Carol Daigle; Tom Darcy; Ralph DeBlanc; Raymond DeBlanc; Elizabeth DeBuys; Al Duroncelet; Katherine Eagan; Bryan Evans; Mimi Finley; John Fulcher; Marie Gattuso; Glenn & Christine Harper; Bob Held; Howard Henriques; Milton J. Hock, Jr.; Karen Ibraheim; Joyce Kelly; Joan Kimball; Belinda Lazaro; Joseph; Stephen Losee; Michael McCarthy; Mary A. McKay; Buddy McInnis; Sally Ann Main; Maudie Megeson; Lucille Ogden; Beverly Orillion; Karen Paprocki; J.Van Provosty; Tom Roach; Elisabeth Robert; Larry Schapiro; M. Schuss; Eleanor Smith; Joseph M. Sonne; Pierre Stouse; Stephanie Summers; Joy Trapani; Alyssa Vingan

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PRAY, HOPE AND DON'T WORRY

St. Padre Pio's Prescription for Eternal Health

During World War II, many Allied pilots failed to complete their missions over the Italian town of San Giovanni Rotondo. It seemed a Franciscan friar flying through the sky was staying their hands, preventing them from dropping their bombs. One aviator after the other testified to this otherworldly phenomenon, corroborating one another's incredible tale of supernatural intervention in the midst of battle.

The friar, of course, was Padre Pio of Pietrelcina — now St. Pio, whose feast the Church celebrates on Sept. 23. And the story, of course, is private revelation; Catholics are free to believe or disbelieve its veracity according to their own prudential judgment.

Either way, its widespread acceptance throughout the Church is itself testimony to the great love and respect many have for St. Pio.

Along with bilocation (being able to be in two places at once, including the sky), the humble friar's extraordinary spiritual gifts, it is said, included the ability to read souls. In the confessional, where he often spent upwards of 15 hours a day, he often told people their sins — accurately — before they had a chance to tell them for themselves.

And, most famously of all, for 50 years he bore the stigmata — the nail wounds of Christ — on his hands.

Although he spent nearly his entire 60 years of religious life at San Giovanni Rotondo, he became a household name around the world during his own lifetime. Before he died in 1968, and before John Paul II canonized him St. Pio of Pietrelcina in 2002, pilgrims came in droves to San Giovanni Rotondo.

"People felt they could really experience Christ through him," says Frank Rega, author of *Padre Pio and America* (Tan, 2009).

St. Pio's example and spiritual guidance are beams of light for individuals and families striving to live out the Catholic faith in a sin-darkened world. Of the Mass, he said: "It is easier for the earth to exist without the sun than without the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass!" To many who came to him with every manner of trouble, he said simply: "Pray, hope and don't worry."

"Look at all the people from all over the world he gathered around him! Why?" said Pope Paul VI in 1971. "Because he said Mass humbly, heard confessions from dawn to dusk and was — it is not easy to say it — one who bore the wounds of Our Lord. He was a man of prayer and suffering."

Despite his suffering, he was unfailingly compassionate and jovial. Rega (who is online at San PadrePio.com) points out that Padre Pio was kind and loving toward children and always gave them special blessings. "Many couples not able to have children asked for his prayers," he adds. "He would tell them, 'You will have a son in a year' or 'May you have eight children.' He believed in large families."

Father Andrew Apostoli of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal identifies one reason Padre Pio is a great saint and so important for families today: because his life reflects the character-forming influence of his own close-knit family.

"We can see in his life how the nurturing of faith plus the human qualities, the love and concern for one another, became very evident," says Father Apostoli. For instance, his mother taught each of her children to have a special devotion to their baptismal patron saint. Pio's was St. Francis.

Father Apostoli also finds in Padre Pio "a certain charm" to which many can be drawn, from grandparents to young children. The saint gave and continues to give spiritual and even physical assistance to families, including many healings, he adds.

"He had that concern, knowing the family is 'the first school and the first church,'" says Father Apostoli, "because that's where the children learn to pray, learn about God, and learn the things they need for the rest of their life, by words and example."

In everything, St. Pio constantly counseled people, by word and example, to "pray, hope and don't worry." Could there be a more fitting message for our time of stress and uncertainty — or a more effective means to spiritual growth? Father Apostoli thinks not.

"Once you make known your needs, fears, hopes, concerns, doubts and struggles to God in prayer, and have asked for his help," explains the Franciscan priest, "you have to now trust the Lord to listen because of his great compassion."

Padre Pio asked his spiritual charges to show the sincerity of their trust by working hard at not worrying. As Father Apostoli explains, "It's a big order. We tend to push the panic button, to look at the things that can go wrong. We worry like mad."

And worry may signal that we're trying to take control of matters that belong to God. "If I really believe God does love me and will truly take care of me, I should not worry," concludes Father Apostoli.

As St. Pio himself put it: "The Lord is a father, the most tender and best of fathers. He cannot fail to be moved when his children appeal to him."

*Joseph Pronechen
National Catholic Register*

CHRISTIAN MORALS FRAME THE WAY YOU THINK

People who take God seriously will not remain silent about their faith. They will often disagree about doctrine or policy, but they won't be quiet. They can't be. They'll act on what they believe, sometimes at the cost of their reputations and careers. Obviously the common good demands a respect for other people with different beliefs and a willingness to compromise whenever possible. But for Catholics, the common good can never mean muting themselves in public debate on foundational issues of faith or human dignity. Christian faith is always personal but never private. This is why any notion of tolerance that tries to reduce faith to a private idiosyncrasy, or a set of opinions that we can indulge at home but need to be quiet about in public, will always fail. . . .

Christian morals profoundly frame the way you think and live. . . . Christianity has so deeply shaped our environment that we take it for granted. Even people who have no faith at all live in a world largely created by the Christian faith. . . .

The United States is larger and more diverse than it was two hundred years ago. We face many new challenges. But unless we solve our problems in a way consistent with our founding beliefs and principles, we will become a very different nation. American identity as a nation is not built on ethnicity. It comes from a specific, religiously informed understanding of the world and human nature, and the convictions that derive from this understanding. This is where the effort to exclude religious faith from the discussion of public issues is so damaging and often so dishonest. . . .

Americans have always believed in *nonsectarian* public institutions. But the founders never intended a nation that privatizes religion and excludes it from involvement in public affairs. Nor did they create any such nation. The secularism proposed today for our public life is not religion-neutral. It is *antireligious*.

*Excerpt from Render Unto Caesar
Archbishop Charles J. Chaput, OFM, Cap.*