



MASSES FOR THE WEEK
January 23—January 29
EACH MASS IS OFFERED FOR
THE INTENTIONS OF EVERYONE
PRESENT AND FOR THE FOLLOWING:

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23

4:00 p.m. Ree Alario; Tracy L. Cooper; Marlene Morris; Barbara Rush; Eddie Staples; Houston E. Walker

5:30 p.m. Father Van Constant; Carlo Giacona; David James, Jr.; Leona O'Dwyer

SUNDAY, JANUARY 24

8:00 a.m. Members of St. Patrick's Church (Propopulo)

9:30 a.m. Roberta W. Bruley; Jane O. Chatelain; Claudia Darden; Mary Ducatel; Kelsey Favrot; Father Stanley Klores; Norma McClellan; John H. Schroder, Jr.; Jerome J. Triche, Sr.; Hilda Yacaucci

11:00 a.m. Patricia M. Bahan; Beverly Estes; Lindsey Jordan; Oliver Pivert, Jr.; Barbara Rush; Mary E. Skeen; Houston E. Walker

5:30 p.m. Steve & Katie Cosentino; Dean Dominguez; David James, Jr.; Leona O'Dwyer

MONDAY, JANUARY 25

11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List

12:00 p.m. David James, Jr.; Dr. & Nancy Minyard; Beverly Orillion; Oliver Pivert

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26

11:30 a.m. Parker & Rosalie Davis; Edward O'Dwyer; Lorraine

12:00 p.m. David James, Jr.; Beverly Orillion; Father Tim Pieris; Oliver Pivert, Jr.; Elisabeth Robert; Jerome J. Triche, Sr.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27

11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List

12:00 p.m. Cynthia Hemelt; David James, Jr.; Stephen Losee; Dr. & Nancy Minyard; Oliver Pivert; Mike & Mary Tessitore

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28

11:30 a.m. Emile & Frances Fritsch; Lloyd C. Melancon; Edward O'Dwyer

12:00 p.m. Loretta Dousan; Cynthia Hemelt; David James, Jr.; Oliver Pivert; Elisabeth Robert; Robert & Hazel Wells

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29

11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List

12:00 p.m. Loretta Doussan; Bruno & Ida Franceschina; Cynthia Hemelt; David James, Jr.; Stephen Losee

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

Third Sunday after Epiphany

Solemn High Mass—First Sunday of the month.

Benediction—Third Sunday after the 9:30 A.M. Mass.

Votive Candles at the Altar of the Blessed Virgin Mary
In Memory of Barry Brechtel



The Living Flame of the Sanctuary Light
In Memory of Joseph Maselli

COFFEE AND DOUGHNUTS

In Reynolds Hall after the Sunday morning Masses.

SUNDAY OFFERING—January 17, 2010

First Collection \$ 6,750

Second Collection* \$ 12,243

* Haitian Relief Fund

DIVINE MERCY CONFERENCE 2010

God's Mercy Endures Forever

Saturday, April 10, 2010

Cajundome Convention Center; Lafayette, LA

All are invited to attend the "Divine Mercy Conference 2010." Speakers include Marcus Grodi, Television Host and Founder/President of *Coming Home Network International*; along with: Reverend Hampton Davis, Pastor of Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, Lafayette; Reverend Michael Champagne, Community of Jesus Crucified; Immaculee Llibagiza, Rwandan genocide survivor and author; Dr. Bryan Thatcher, MD, Founder of Eucharistic Apostles of Divine Mercy; and Annie Karto, Catholic singer/songwriter.

To register please contact Mary Bergeron: 337-654-8682

online at mbergeron@centralregiononline.org

or visit: www.centralregiononline.org

SPECIAL MASS—SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2010

Special Needs Children and Their Families

Sunday, February 7, 2010 at 2:00 PM

St. Francis Xavier – 444 Metairie Road

Everyone is welcome!

Website: www.godsspecialchildren.org

Information: Contact Jay Zainey at 834-5865

SHARE YOUR TALENT WITH ST. PATRICK'S CHOIR

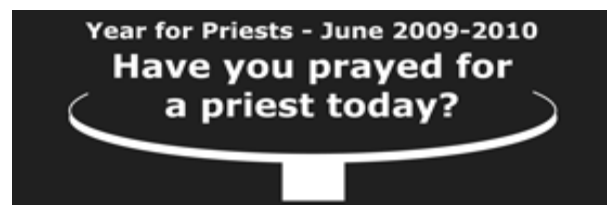
If you enjoy singing and would like to share your talent, join St. Patrick's choir by contacting Joseph Hoppe, Choir Director at 391-2918.

ACOLYTES FOR ST. PATRICK'S

Service in the liturgy can be a path to holiness for men sensing a call to support the Parish in a practical, active way. There is a continuing need for men of any age (or responsible older boys if accompanied by their fathers), especially at the 11.00 Sunday Mass. Instruction and training are provided. Please contact Robert Ramirez at (504) 899-3048; e-mail: bramirez@bellsouth.net.

PREPARATION FOR BAPTISM

To schedule a baptism at St. Patrick's Church, please contact the rectory office at least six (6) weeks in advance of the desired date of baptism: (504) 525-4413.

**PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL**

For the sick of our parish and those who have asked for our prayers especially: Randall Cashio; S. Michael Cashio, Jr.; Mary Ann Ciravolo; Tony Clesi; Colleen Collet; L Darcy; R.J. DeBlanc; R.F. DeBlanc; Al Duroncellet; Bryan Evans; Mimi Finley; John Fulcher; Marie Gattuso; A.P. Gaudet, Jr.; Bob Held; Howard Henriques; Milton J. Hock, Jr.; Karen Ibraheim; Joan Kimball; Belinda Lazaro; Stephen Losee; Mary A. McKay; Sally Ann Main; Maudie Megeson; Lucille Ogden; Beverly Orillion; Karen Paprocki; J. Van Provosty; Tom Roach; Elisabeth Robert; M. Schuss; Joseph M. Sonne; Pierre Stouse; Stephanie Summers

SECURITY PROVIDED AT ALL EVENING SERVICES

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PRAY FOR A HARVEST OF HOLY PRIESTS

No priest ever forgets his first day in the seminary. After all the discernment, he has left the job behind, the girlfriend behind, his own family and friends behind — all to journey down an unknown path, hoping and praying that he is doing God's will. My first day was just like this.

We had an excellent president, or rector as we call him, who summoned all the new recruits together for his annual opening conference of the academic year. You might think that he called us together to give us a bit of a pep talk, to tell us that we were bold for making this difficult decision to follow the Lord's call in a world that was distancing itself more and more from God. You might think that he complimented us and told us to pray hard for the strength to find God's purpose for our lives (ordination was never a given).

He did none of these things. Instead he said to us: "Gentlemen, if you're not prepared to make every sacrifice necessary to become holy priests, then get out."

The message was clear. The Church and world don't need greater numbers of priests necessarily. What's needed are holy priests. If we weren't willing to accept this, we needn't bother wasting our teachers' time or our own — or God's.

Some of the guys assembled that day were put off by this approach, but I wasn't. Actually, I was very impressed. Here was a man who wasn't concerned with playing the numbers game. He wasn't interested in merely producing more vocations or impressing his superiors with his flourishing seminary program. What he cared about was producing holy priests, even at this beginning stage of priestly formation.

He did this because he felt with all of his heart, as he told us so many times, that "the people of God deserve the best."

That was many years ago, but that phrase has always stuck with me. A good, holy, prayerful Catholic priest can do great and mighty things for God because the Holy Spirit will work through him. The people will truly be able to see God through him, which is what the Lord intended when he established the priesthood.

On the other side of that equation, an unholy, evil priest can make people lose their faith through his words and actions.

Scripture is very clear on this point. In the book of the prophet Jeremiah, the Lord says, "Woe to the shepherds who mislead and scatter the flock of the pasture ... but I will take care to punish your evil deeds" (Jeremiah 23:1-6).

This is a direct warning to all priests. If you mislead my people, says the Lord, you're going to pay. Jesus was moved to pity in the Gospel of Mark because the vast crowd was "like sheep without a shepherd" (Mark 6:30-34).

This is a crucial point to remember, because Pope Benedict XVI has declared this the Year for Priests. I suspect he is doing this not so much to celebrate the gift of the priesthood or the great priests we all know in our lives. There is plenty of time for that. Rather, it is the Year for Priests to pray for priests.

Benedict is imploring the people of God to pray for holy priests, men who are willing to make the sacrifices necessary to configure themselves to Christ the Good Shepherd. In his homily to open the Year for Priests, the Holy Father said that the faithful should "pray that the Lord inflame the heart of each and every priest ... because the greatest suffering in the Church is the sin of its priests."

Benedict rarely minces words, and he's not going to start when it comes to something as important as the sanctity of the clergy.

I personally would like to forget the scandals that broke not so

long ago. I'd like to forget them because I know in my heart, and in my experience, that the great majority of priests are good, devout, dedicated men — men who want nothing more than to serve God by serving the flock entrusted to them.

I'd like to forget the scandals because I know that the majority of the hideous acts we read about in the papers and heard about on television were committed by a relatively small group of sick, perverted, twisted men who should never have been ordained in the first place.

I'd like to forget the scandals — but I can't. I can't forget because I am reminded of them every time a little child rushes up to give me a hug after Mass, or whenever I visit a parish school. An uneasy feeling comes upon me at such times. In the back of my mind, always, is the question: Is someone looking at this scene and thinking something terrible? Are they seeing something that isn't there?

This is tragic. Most priests love children, present company included. In fact, for me, the biggest stumbling block on the way to ordination was the lingering question as to whether I would be happier with a wife and children.

But there is hope. There is hope because Christ rose from the dead — and promised the same for you and me, if we try to follow his will. Christ rose from the dead, and he is still married to his Catholic Church, 2,000 years and many sins later. We are not always faithful to his teaching, but he is always faithful to us.

There are two sides to the Church, of course: the human side and the divine side. The human side gets us into trouble. But no matter how unfaithful we can be, he is still married to his bride, the Church.

This is the Year for Priests, and the Pope wants us to pray for holy priests — not just for more priests. Like the rector of that seminary so many years ago, God doesn't play the numbers game. He wants his priests to be holy. Why? Because his people deserve the best.

*Father Salvatore DeStefano
National Catholic Register*

TURE LOVE WAITS—AND REWARDS

Engaged and dating couples who don't share an address until after exchanging wedding vows are doing their future marriage a major favor. A study published in the July edition of the *Journal of Family Psychology* showed that couples who wait have happier marriages, less conflict and lower divorce rates. Commenting on the study in suburban Chicago's *The Herald News*, a local Protestant leader said: "How wonderful it is to pass it along to your children that you loved each other and made the decision and commitment to get married before you lived together, that you wanted to share the rest of your lives together." His advice for couples thinking about a sinful arrangement to save money on household expenses: "Get a roommate."

*The Editors
National Catholic Register*

Regarding Haiti, in response to those who ask -- as we ourselves ask -- how the tragedy and loss of innocent life can be reconciled with the goodness of God, we draw on a phrase we found on the *First Things* website: "Some will say 'where is God in all of this?' The answer, of course, is that God is in the response."