

The Son of God was born as a helpless child. Even as a Child He desired to suffer for us and to make reparation to the Eternal Father in Heaven for the sins of mankind. For this reason He had come, and He would not even wait until the time of His Passion and Death. As the King of Kings He suffered humiliation, hunger, thirst and was born in the squalor of a stable. Thus, He was persecuted and sorrowful even as a Child. Yet, as a Child Our Lord made reparation for the sins of children. As a Child, He knew we would approach Him with greater confidence and love. If God had appeared in all His Glory, men would have been fearful and would have fled from Him. Yet, who could be fearful of a little child?

Who could fail not to draw near to so lovable a Child? He was born as a child to show us how much He loves them especially. Woe to those who scandalize children through abuse or evil conduct or example. How terrible will be God's punishments for those who promoted abortion by word or deed! Each child is an image of Himself. By being born a little Child, He sanctified childhood and took children especially under His protection. Each is an image of Himself.

If we wish to imitate Jesus, we too must honor and love children and ensure that their souls are tended carefully. He was born a child that we too should become as little children in purity and innocence, in humility and obedience and in confidence and love.

Considerations Before Mass: During the Season of Advent we should ponder the following in order to assist at Mass and receive Communion worthily: First, Who is it that comes to you? A God of Infinite Majesty, Sanctity and Beauty. The God that created you and in Whose Hands and Power you are dependent for your existence no matter who you are. He is a Judge Who is always present, Who will judge you at the end of your life and Who will give you what you truly desired, eternal happiness or a miserable eternity spent in the abode of the damned. He is a Savior Who became Man for you, who suffered to repay the debt of your sins.

To Whom does God come: To you, a poor fallen creature, a being so far from His Infinite Being who is incapable of doing good on his own. To you, a shameless sinner, who rejects His Love, who ungratefully thrusts aside His Graces, who has broken so many promises made to Him, who has grieved Him so many times and renewed His Passion. Yet, He comes to you to save you from sin, punishment and the temptations of the devil. He unites Himself with you in a most wonderful and intimate manner through the Mass and the Sacraments. He wishes to fill you with the gifts of love, comfort, peace and joy, particularly during this blessed season when he appears as a beautiful and helpless child.

Pray for priests and other religious who are suffering in purgatory.

Mass Sunday
7:45 a.m.; 9:30; 11:00 and 5:30 p.m. (Five Wounds 9:15 a.m.)
Tuesday Mass: 10:00 a.m.
Friday Mass: 6:30 p.m.

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Miraculous Medal: During the night of 18 JUL 1830 St. Catherine Laboure awoke to the sound of a child calling her into her Parisian convent chapel whereupon the Blessed Virgin appeared to her and imparted the mission of establishing the Miraculous Medal to combat evil both in France and the world. On 27 NOV 1830 the Blessed Mother reappeared during evening meditation, displayed herself in an oval frame, upon a globe and wearing many rings of various colors, most of which shone rays of light over the globe. The medal contained the words, "O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee." There was a circle of 12 stars, the large letter "M", a cross, a Sacred Heart crowned with thorns, and an Immaculate Heart pierced with a sword on the medal. Some of the rings failed to shed light, and Our Lady explained these represented the graces for which people neglect or forget to request. The medal is one of the most popular, is widely sold in secular shops, but these days the meaning is largely forgotten. Yet, we can promote this devotion by wearing the medal, by giving it as a gift to unbelievers and praying they will accept God's message and convert as happened to the Jew, Alphonse Ratisbonne, in 1842 in Rome. The Mass is beautiful in its own right and has elements of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, including the preface. The Mass may be said 27 NOV as no feast day falls. Next day, 28 NOV, the Mass of St. Catherine Laboure may be said. Both Masses are found in Masses for Some Places in the *Missale Romanum*.



PerPetual help Weekly Newsletter

Month of the holy souls, —XXV (Last) sunday after Pentecost--22 nov 2009, vol. 2, no. 47



The Sunday Mass brings us to the end of the Church year of public worship. Hence, the general theme appropriately refers to the end of the world. In preparation for our final judgment, we beseech God to arouse *"our wills"* for *"divine service"* (**Prayer**), to be on our guard, awake and active, lest our faith sleep or be merely sentimental. The **Epistle**, therefore, begs us to be filled with a *"knowledge of God,"* to be *"fruitful in every good work,"* to recognize our duty and privilege to work with and for one another in true Christian community, which is the Communion of *"saints,"* all for the sake of Him Who shed *"His Blood."* Lest *"His Love"* fail to inspire us, the **Gospel** fills us with sentiments of holy fear, as we consider the destruction of the Jerusalem's of this world, the end of all time, and the beginning of eternity; as we consider further the necessity of fleeing to the *"mountains"* of God from the Judea of *"false Christs"* and false leaders, who sometimes are so clever as *"to deceive even the elect,"* enslaving, misleading, corrupting their minds, especially in the modern press, radio and television. Today, we may well implore God through our Sacrifice to turn *"our hearts"* to Him (**Secret**) and to heal through our Sacrament what *"is diseased in our hearts"* **Postcommunion**.

Last Sunday: Faithful totaled 152. Collection was \$1,403.00. Building Fund was \$992.00. Five Wounds attendance was 121. Collection was \$545.00. May the Blessed Mother of Perpetual Help and her Most Holy and Divine Son, Jesus, give you many blessings for your generosity.

Concert: Last week by Valley Chorale had only 25 in attendance. No charge was made for tickets, but donations were solicited to pay for the hall rental and benefit the building fund. This was the best musical presentation of the last 5 years, the main theme being My Fair Lady. Donations totaled \$502.00 thanks to one generous donation of \$350.00. Dinner followed, and much fellowship was renewed and developed.

Next Tuesday: Mass of St. John of the Cross C. D., at 10:00 a.m., followed by Devotions in honor of Our Mother of Perpetual Help then silent adoration until 11:15 a.m.

Thanksgiving Day: Mass at 8:00 a.m. by Fr. Ottonello.

Friday: No Mass this week. Regular schedule will resume next week.

Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary: Will take place 12 DEC, Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe by Fr. Moreau. The chapel will be dedicated Our Lady's Immaculate Heart in whose sign she will conquer the world and crush the head of Satan under her feet. Information sheets were made available last week for use of the faithful to prepare themselves for individual consecration to her Immaculate Heart. Give the Blessed Mother what she has requested to protect and bless the chapel, the faithful and their families, the Church. We need peace in the world and, since mankind is unable to do anything without Divine assistance, our prayers and individual consecration is the only way to make progress. Plan to participate and attend the special Mass on 12 DEC.

First Mass Today: Fr. Jason Apple will say Mass and give the special blessing of a new priest. Father will present his hands to be kissed by the faithful, and a plenary indulgence, under the usual conditions, may be gained. Father was ordained by Archbishop Raymond L. Burke in Florence, Italy 2 JUL 09. Pray for Father, especially today, that Our Lord and the Blessed Mother may protect and guide him in all things.

Prayer to the Divine Christ Child: Divine Child Jesus! May Thy sublime majesty fill me with holy fear. May Thy power strengthen me in my weakness. May Thy wisdom enlighten me in my ignorance. May Thy goodness heal me of my malice. May Thy mercy make me happy in my misery. May Thy innocence purify me from all stain of sin. May Thy purity destroy within me all sensuality. May Thy simplicity direct all my thoughts toward God alone. O spirit of the Holy Infant Jesus! Be thou my strength, my wisdom and my love! Be Thou my light, my life and my all! Teach me and convert me, lead me and direct me, now and for all eternity. Amen.

In preparation for Christmas Advent begins next Sunday. At this time it is good to reflect and to prepare for the great feast of Christmas. Pray and take every opportunity to attend Mass, daily if possible. Never miss a Communion. It may be your last!

This Week: Feast of St. Clement, III Pope, 99 to 102, 23 NOV, commemorated in the Canon of the Mass. St. Felicitas M. is commemorated in the Mass. Tuesday is feast of St. John of the Cross C. D., great lover of the Cross, whose mystical writings led Pope Pius XI to proclaim him a Doctor of the Church in 1926. The Martyr, St. Chrysogonus, commemorated in the Mass, is mentioned at the Canon of the Mass. The body of St. Catherine Virgin and Martyr, was found on Mount Sinai in the XV Century. As a young Christian lady, she rejected the advances of the Emperor Maximinus who convened an assembly of philosophers to refute her Christian ideas and convert her to paganism. Turning the tables with her learning, St. Catherine successful refuted their arguments whereupon she was martyred. It is said her body was taken from Alexandria, Egypt to Mt. Sinai by angels. St. Catherine is patroness of philosophers. Feast of St. Sylvester Abbot, 26 NOV, is Thanksgiving Day, established formally as a holiday by President Abraham Lincoln in 1863. A collect of the Most Holy Trinity traditionally is said in the Mass.

Prayer for the Armed Forces of the US: O God, Who by the grace of the Holy Ghost, hast poured the gifts of charity into the hearts of Thy faithful, grant unto Thy servants for whom we implore Thy clemency, health of soul and body that they may love Thee with all their might and with their entire affection, may fulfill whatever things are pleasing to Thee, through Jesus Christ, Our Lord, Amen.

