



Our Lady of Mount Carmel St. Ann Parish

www.mtcarmel.ws

LORD'S DAY MASSES

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.
Sunday: 8:00, 10:00, and 11:30 a.m.

DAILY MASS

Monday through Friday 7:00 a.m.

HOLYDAY MASSES

Vigil: 7:00 p.m.
Holyday: 7:00 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday at 3:00 - 3:45 p.m. or by private appointment.

PASTORAL STAFF

Msgr. F. Stephen Pedone, Pastor
Rev. Jesus Martinez, Associate Pastor
Most Rev. George E. Rueger, in residence
Deacon Gerry Montiverdi, Part-time Liturgical Assistant.

PARISH OFFICES AND STAFF

Mailing Address: 28 Mulberry St., Worcester, MA 01605
Street Address: 24 Mulberry St., Worcester, MA 01605
Telephone: 508-797-4546
Office Hours are Monday-Friday from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Lisa Fenuccio, Administrative Assistant
Email: lisaolmc@gmail.com
Phyllis Lynch, Secretary
Mr. Francis Heffron, Head Custodian
Mr. Glenn MacGregor, Part-time Custodian
Mr. Walter Borek, Part-time Church Caretaker

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Parents and Godparents must attend the Baptismal instruction session before the Baptism is celebrated. These sessions take place on the First Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Center. Community baptisms are celebrated on the third Sunday of every month after the 11:30 a.m. Mass. Private baptisms may also be arranged by calling the parish office.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

To prepare for this lifelong commitment, couples must begin marriage preparation twelve months before the proposed wedding date, according to the diocesan policy.

FAITH FORMATION

The Religious Education Program offers instruction to children and young people from Grade One through the high school years. Children are prepared for the reception of First Reconciliation and then First Holy Communion and young people for the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation in high school, including those who attend Catholic schools. Rel. Ed. Office: 508-791-6139.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

This process of sharing faith stories and studying the Bible and the teachings of the Church is open to anyone who is in need of receiving any one or all of the Sacraments of Initiation. -Baptism, Holy Communion and Confirmation or to anyone who wishes to enter into full communion with the Roman Catholic Church.

FAITH FORMATION TEAM

Mrs. Joan D'Argenis D.R.E./Youth Director
Maria Sciannameo RCIA Director

LITURGICAL MUSIC MINISTRY

Mr. Scott Olson, Organist
Mr. Michael Garceau, Organist/Wedding Ministry

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Council meets on the third Tuesday of every month. The Council is committed to assisting the pastor in various liturgical celebrations and parochial and diocesan fundraisers and to pursuing its own charitable endeavors.

ORGANIZATIONS

Guild of Our Lady of Sorrows
Beato Angelo D'Acri Society
The Gene J. DeFeudis Italian Cultural Center
Mt. Carmel Golden Years Club

PRO-LIFE CONTACTS

Pro-Life Office, Mrs. Allison LeDoux: 508-929-4311
Respect Life Parish Representative: Louise Faiola: 508-756-1150
Visitation House: 508-798-0762
Problem Pregnancy: 888-310-7217

ILLNESS

Arrangements can be made to have Holy Communion brought those who are homebound due to illness, age, or impairment of any kind or to celebrate the Sacrament of Anointing and Reconciliation with them. Please notify the parish office with the necessary information.

PARISH REGISTRATION

To become a registered member of the parish, please call the office. One of the secretaries will gladly assist anyone and complete the registration over the phone or through the website.

REPORTING THE ABUSE OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

To report the abuse of a child or a teenager, please contact Mrs. Frances Nugent, Director of the Diocesan Office of Healing and Prevention at 508-791-7171. You may also call Gloria Caprioli, our parish coordinator for prevention and education, at 508-344-7718. Lastly, you may call Msgr. F. Pedone at 774-243-1154.

**WEEKEND COLLECTION
1/31/2015 & 2/1/2015**

4:00 PM Mass	\$1,151.00
8:00 AM Mass	\$656.00
10:00 AM Mass	\$1,551.00
11:30 AM Mass	\$952.00
Shared Envelopes	\$100.00
Total Mass Collections	<u>\$4,410.00</u>

Special Collections:

Weekend Envelopes –mailed in	\$911.00
Fuel	\$66.00
Initial Offering	\$35.00
Catholic University	\$5.00
Catholic Home Missions	\$498.00
Christmas	\$35.00
Capital Campaign	\$450.00
On-Line Giving	\$240.50
Candle Offering	\$152.00
Total	<u>\$2,392.50</u>

Restricted Funds	\$953.00
Unrestricted Funds	\$5,849.50
Total	<u>\$6,802.50</u>

The Finance Committee has determined that we need to collect \$9,400 each week to meet our current expenses. Thank you for your continued support of Our Lady of Mount Carmel-St. Ann parish.

Due to the recent snowstorm, the collection amounts for the weekend of February 7 and 8 were not available at the time the bulletin was transmitted for printing. Those amounts will appear in next weekends bulletin.

SEASON OF LENT

We begin the season of Lent with Ash Wednesday this week. Ashes will be imposed at services. The schedule for Ash Wednesday is as follows:

- 7:00 am - Mass
- 12:15 pm – Mass
- 3:00 pm – Service of the Word
- 7:00 pm – Mass

Confessions will be heard on Saturdays from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm and 3:00 pm to 3:45 pm and every Tuesday evening throughout Lent from 7:00 to 8:00 pm.

Looking for Catholic Programming ? **WCCA TV** , formerly Ch. 13 but now found on **Ch. 194** in Worcester, airs Diocese Specials every Tuesday at 8pm. Also streaming live online on Tuesdays at 8pm at wccatv.com .

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Parishioners,

This week we begin the holy season of Lent. The word 'Lent' originally meant springtime. Isn't it ironic that we begin Lent with more than 90 inches of snow on the ground and with Worcester designated as the city with the most snow in the entire United States, even Alaska!

Lent lies as the heart of our Catholic faith. Every year, on Ash Wednesday, our foreheads are marked with ashes, reminding us that we are dust and to dust we shall return. For the next 40 days we are led into the desert of our lives to look within ourselves, to face ourselves as sinners, ask for God's mercy and commit ourselves to turning closer to God.

"Lent," according to Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, "is like a long 'retreat' during which we can turn back into ourselves and listen to the voice of God, in order to defeat the temptations of the Evil One. It is a period of spiritual 'combat' which we must experience alongside Jesus, not with pride and presumption, but using the arms of faith: prayer, listening to the word of God, and penance. In this way we will be able to celebrate Easter in truth, ready to renew the promises of our baptism."

During this Lent, commit yourself to at least one additional practice: to attend daily Mass, to go to confession; to be an adorer of the Blessed Sacrament at Friday afternoons adoration, to attend the Stations of the Cross on Friday evenings, to attend the Parish Mission on March 16th, 17th and 18th, to pray the Rosary more often, among other spiritual and penitential practices.

May this season of Lent be a special time of grace for you and for our parish family!

Happy Lent!
Monsignor Pedone

**PARISH MISSION – MONDAY, TUESDAY,
WEDNESDAY – MARCH 16TH, 17TH AND 18TH
at 7:00 PM**

This year instead of having one preacher for the mission, three priests will lead us – Father Charles Monroe, pastor of Our Lady of the Angels, Father Steven LaBaire, pastor of Holy Family Parish, and Father Dennis O'Brien, pastor of Our Lady of the Lake in Leominster. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

Confirmation will be held on **Sunday, April 12** at St. Paul's Cathedral.



**MASS
INTENTIONS**

Saturday, February 14, 2015—4:00 p.m.

The People of the Parish

Sunday, February 15, 2015—8:00 a.m.

Anthony F. Ritacco, Sr. (17th Anniversary) by Family

Sunday, February 15, 2015—10:00 a.m.

Cafaro Vincenzo (First Anniversary) by son Antonio and Family

Michael J. Cariglia by Grace, Jean, Ann and Nancy

Sunday, February 15, 2015—11:30 a.m.

Ida Fraioli by Mary Ann and Carmelita Bello

Robert J. Pellegrino by daughter Marlene and Family

Monday, February 16, 2015—7:00 a.m.

The Sick of the Parish

Tuesday, February 17, 2015—7:00 a.m.

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Tomasetta by Mr. and Mrs. Michael Grandone

Wednesday, February 18, 2015

7:00 a.m. **Mass with ashes**

12:15 p.m. **Mass with ashes**

3:00 p.m. **Prayer Service with ashes**

7:00 p.m. **Mass with ashes**

Thursday, February 19, 2015—7:00 a.m.

Parishioners Intentions

Friday, February 20, 2015—7:00 a.m.

Richard E. Heffron (Birthday Remembrance) by Frank

Saturday, February 21, 2015—4:00 p.m.

The People of the Parish

**Mr. and Mrs. Chester and Marcia DiLeo—50th
Wedding Anniversary Renewal of Vows**

Sunday, February 22, 2015—8:00 p.m.

Michael DelloStritto (Birthday Remembrance) by wife Josie and Children

Sunday, February 22, 2015—10:00 a.m.

Francis Turo (Birthday and 6th Anniversary) by Rose and Family

Jeremiah “Jerry” Porcaro by Family

Sunday, February, February 22, 2015—11:30 a.m.

Felix Scricco, Jr. by Family



Please pray for the sick of our parish: Anna Perro, Francis Caffone, Susan Stomski, James Dionne, Donna Grasseschi, Lena Sbrogna, Michael Crossen, Lori Blackwell, Carmella Szklarz, Matteo Fiore, Matthew Hicks, Henry Penny, Patrick Loconto, Eleanor Lupisella, Butch Rano, Mary O'Connor, Christina Rovezzi, Christopher Collazo, Eleanor Gaudenzi, Eileen Biziewski, Patricia Naples, Paula & Arthur Mari, Beverly Sacco, Cornelius O'Connor, Ellen Biancheria, Ava Grace Mackenzie, Mary Grimaldi, Sim Simone and Earl Duncan, III. May the Lord give them strength, courage and healing.

WINTER WEATHER POLICY

In the issue of safety, we want to restate the policy for weekday Mass when the weather is threatening. On those weekdays when Worcester schools cancel or delay opening due to inclement weather, the 7:00 am Mass is also canceled.

NEW HYMNALS

The new Worship IV and Gather III hymnals have arrived and are on display at the entrances of the church. Please consider donating a set as a gift from or in memory of a loved one. We will have a special nameplate printed for this purpose, which will be affixed to the hymnals. The cost is \$40.00 for both hymnals, which must be purchased together. We will begin using the new hymnals on Ash Wednesday.

GUIDELINES FOR FAST AND ABSTINENCE

Lenten fast and abstinence regulations for the Diocese of Worcester are as follows:

Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics fourteen (14) years of age and older on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all the Fridays of Lent.

Fasting is to be observed by all Catholics who are eighteen (18) years of age but not yet fifty-nine (59) years of age on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Those who are bound to fast may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted. Catholics should not lightly excuse themselves from these prescribed Lenten penitential practices.

***Our Lady of Mount Carmel – St. Ann
Golden Years Club***

Program for the Month February 2015

February 17, 2015

9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. VNA “Keep Well Clinic” – Blood Pressure Etc.

10:00 A.M. Socializing
11:00 A.M. Breaking of the Piñata
12:00 NOON Lunch – Followed by Social.

February 24, 2015

10:00 A.M. Socializing
12:00 NOON Lunch – Followed by Social.

**REMINDER --- PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING
FOOD FOR THE POOR --- FOOD FOR OUR FOOD
BANK---DONATIONS FOR THE FOOD BANK HAVE
BEEN VERY LOW---IF MEMBERS DONATE ONE ITEM
EVERY TUESDAY FOR THE FOOD BANK IT WILL BE
VERY HELPFUL.**

**BEATO ANGELO D’ACRI ITALIAN WOMEN’S
CLUB – 77 YEARS STRONG!**

We are welcoming new members and past members to come join in the fellowship of belonging to the Beato Angelo D’Acri Italian Women’s Club. If you are of Italian decent or are “Italian thru marriage”, please drop in and check us out. We meet the first Monday of the following months: March, April, May, June, September, October, November and December at the American Legion Post #201- 326 Plantation St. Worcester. Meetings begin at 7:00 P.M. If you cannot make our first meeting, you are welcome to join us at any of our remaining meetings. The dues are \$20.00 for our calendar year. Some of the things you’ll experience are field trips, guest speakers, parade participation, community service projects, and delicious “coffee and” prepared by volunteering members. I look forward to seeing all the new faces and welcoming back our past members.

Jane Sabatalo Karantzoulidis- President

3-ON-3 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

I would like to put together a committee for a 3-on-3 basketball tournament on Tuesday, April 7. All I need is someone who knows what they are talking about, and teams. We will give out prizes. It would be ages 18 and up. Anything can change, but we need to start somewhere. If you are interested in helping or would like to form a team, please let me know. Obviously I am looking for ideas, what to charge, (I thought maybe \$100. or \$150.00 per team,) etc.

Joan

February 19 – Picnic without Ants – 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 a.m. Bring your picnic lunch, blanket, beach chairs and toys. This is a fun day for all ages

The Best of Broadway
Presented by *Jack Craig*
Music – With Class !

**Wednesday – February 25th – 6:30 PM
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Recreation Center**

Donation - \$5.00 From ‘Second Hand Rose’ (1921) through ‘Memory’ (1982), the songs in this program celebrate the high points of American musical theatre. Stand-out productions like ‘Showboat’, ‘South Pacific’, ‘My Fair Lady’, and ‘Hello Dolly’ are all included as well as unique hits from writers such as Noel Coward, Kurt Weill, and Irving Berlin. The program concentrates on the “golden age of musicals” by Rodgers and Hammerstein, Lerner and Loewe, and Stephen Sondheim – but, *all* of the 24 songs we will be singing are classics!

CCD 9th and 10th Grades will be presenting a Power Point Presentation on a variety of Religious Topics these presentations will be done using Paintings, Sculptors, and Books. The students will choose a particular work of art or book and explain the meaning behind the work of art or book. All parents, sponsors, friends and relatives are invited to join us on the evenings of **Monday, March 9th** (9th grade presentations) and **Tuesday, March 10th** (10th grade presentations) starting at 6:30 p.m. We are looking for donations of cookies and pastries

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE!

**NEW YORK SPRING DAY TRIP TO SEE THE
RADIO CITY SPRING SPECTACULAR**

Saturday, March 14 – Cost - \$110.00 per person includes bus and show. A new show inspired by the magic of New York in the spring. It’s a dazzling musical celebration about the energy, places, people, passion and promise that make this city spectacular. This extraordinary show features dynamic dance numbers performed by the Rockettes®, along with one of a kind puppetry and state of the art technology and takes audiences on a whirlwind adventure across New York City while telling an inspiring and hopeful narrative about three New Yorkers who change each other’s lives in unexpectedly wonderful ways. We have a certain number of tickets in the Prime seating section; all other tickets will be in the Orchestra section. Tickets will be assigned with first pay, best seats. All seats are good, but some are spectacular.

LENTEN SCHEDULE MT. CARMEL UNPLUGGED

1. Each week put in the bulletin – Lenten Journey idea for Lent, read a Bible verse: 1st week visit a family member that you have not visited for a while.
2. Children's Lenten Journey – Ash Wednesday, February 18 from 1:00 – 3:30 p.m. All children are invited to join starting at 1:00 p.m. for crafts, stories, music, Stations of the Cross and much more. We will begin at 1:00 p.m. and end at the church at the church where there will be a service and ashes will be distributed.
3. We would like to offer Eucharist Adoration every Friday during Lent, from 12:00 – 6:30 p.m. **We need volunteers.** If interested please see either Msgr. Pedone or call the office, so we can set up a schedule.
4. Stations of the Cross every Friday, starting on February 20th
5. Seven Last Words – Tuesday, March 31
6. Bus to visit churches on Holy Thursday – April 2
7. **Book Discussion: Tuesday, March 3**

Walking with Jesus: The Heart of Christian Life Paperback 'by Pope Francis Jesus is walking ahead of us. He is always before us. He goes ahead of us and leads the way. This is the source of our confidence and our joy: to be his disciples, to remain with him, to walk behind him, to follow him.' Pope Francis is acclaimed for the humble and simple faith that he has demonstrated in public and private. In this major new book he presents the heart of his approach to living as a Christian: following in the steps of Jesus. The book is divided into three parts: The Gospel of the Way, The Gifts of the Way, the Story of the Way. Francis has spoken and written widely on these themes during his first 18 months as Pope, and his thoughts are here collected for the first time, edited and abridged with full Vatican approval. Like his best-selling *The Church of Mercy*, this book is aimed at a broad readership of believers and non-believers, priests, religious, dedicated laypeople, and teachers.

Book Discussion: Tuesday, March 24 at 2:00 p.m. **Saint Padre Pio: In the Footsteps of Saint Francis by Michael J. Ruzala** In an age that smirks at the mention of miracles, sin, angels, and demons, St. Pio of Pietrelcina has emerged as a figure of immense popularity, attracting fascination, veneration, and also emulation. Padre Pio, who once wrote in a letter, "I am a mystery to myself," is certainly a mystery to all who know of him. To those who moved beyond mere credulity, he became an inspiration to embrace the fullness of faith. Perhaps that is why his shrine in outlying San Giovanni Rotondo, Italy, is second only to the Vatican itself in annual number of pilgrims and why Italian Catholics now report to praying more for St. Pio's intercession than for that of any other saint. This book is a concise introduction to Padre Pio's life, especially as compared to the example and journey of his spiritual father, St. Francis of Assisi. If St. Francis is said to be the most popular saint of all time, Franciscan Capuchin Padre Pio is perhaps the most popular saint of our times. Given that he passed only in 1968, it is remarkable to think that such a spiritual "superhero" could exist in our modern age. Through not spared from misfortune, he was spared those things that cloud us from perceiving the world in a truly spiritual way. Perhaps that is why Padre Pio offers us just the message we need to hear. If anyone is interested in joining us for these Book Discussion or would simply like to read the books. Let me know and I can order a book for you. The cost of the books *Walking with Jesus* and *the Saint Padre Pio: In the Footsteps of Saint Francis* are \$10.60 (includes tax) each.

8. **Mt. Carmel Unplugged** What are you doing for Lent? Consider added something religious to your life. This is an opportunity to get to know Jesus better, perhaps you can take a journey on a Friday evening joining us for the Stations of the Cross, maybe you can go to a Mass during the week, join a Bible Study class or read a new book. I hear every day, how busy our schedules are and we do not have the time to add anything to our lives. How about, taking something away, such as stress. We invite you to join us on **Saturday, March 21** from 2:00—4:00 p.m. to unplug. Unplug all your cell phones, I pads, iPods, computers, televisions, radios, ect. and try to relax. Take this time to focus on family and prayer, The family that prays together, stays together. If you are not able to join us this day, choose a day that works for you and your family, even if it is just for one hour

9. Parish Mission Week – March 16, March 17 and March 18

TAKE FIVE FOR FAITH

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2015
SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Pray for an outbreak of compassion

Before the latest Ebola outbreak, there was SARS, AIDS, plagues and epidemics of all sorts, and always, leprosy. In every age, people have been ostracized and worse simply because they carry a disease that is not well understood. Ignorance leads to fear, which in turn leads to discrimination and sometimes to measures that in hindsight are seen as unnecessarily harsh. Thankfully, Jesus modeled another way of interacting with those who suffer from a frightening ailment. Compassionate care is called for.

TODAY'S READINGS: Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46; 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1; Mark 1:40-45 (77). "A leper came to Jesus and kneeling down begged him and said, 'If you wish, you can make me clean.'"

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16
FEAST OF POLYCARP, BISHOP AND MARTYR

Deep faith

The *Martyrdom of Polycarp* is considered one of the earliest accounts of Christian martyrdom and is one of the very few genuine accounts from the actual age of the persecutions. Polycarp, born less than 50 years after Jesus' death, may have been one of the earliest believers, but he displayed a very mature faith. At the close of his life, as he faced martyrdom, he is recorded to have said, "Eighty and six years I have served Him, and He has done me no wrong. How then can I blaspheme my King and Savior? Bring forth what you will." Though you or I may not face the test of martyrdom, we face small tests of faith daily. How we respond reveals the depth of our own faith.

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 4:1-15, 25; Mark 8:11-13 (335). "Why does this generation seek a sign?"

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17
FEAST OF THE SEVEN HOLY FOUNDERS OF THE SERVITE ORDER, RELIGIOUS

Quiet down to listen up

Sometimes the burdens of the world seem so heavy and ugly that good souls feel the need to withdraw. The Desert Mothers and Fathers were such persons, and so were many others over the centuries who took the path of isolation. In 1240 seven Florentine nobles did just that, eventually forming the Servite Order. Most people are neither inclined nor prepared for such a radical step, let alone a lifestyle of it. But isn't it possible to withdraw regularly even in a single day, to disconnect from all those electronic wonders, not forever, but for a while? The voice of God is often small, a whispering sound. You need quiet to hear it.

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10; Mark 8:14-21 (336). "Do you have eyes and not see, ears and not hear?"

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18
ASH WEDNESDAY; DAY OF FAST AND ABSTINENCE

Traditions, traditions

The Lenten season is upon us, and with it, many traditions. For instance, though Lent is 40 days, echoing Jesus' 40 days in the desert, the actual number of days until Easter is 46. But the six Sundays, with the celebration of Eucharist echoing Resurrection, traditionally have been considered days on which fasting is not appropriate, so Lent runs Monday to Saturday (six days) for six weeks, and when you add the first four days, from Ash Wednesday to Saturday of this week, the total is 40 days from today to Holy Saturday. Traditions abound. Another example: The ashes used today were made from palm branches blessed last year on Palm Sunday. Cherish the traditions handed down to you.

TODAY'S READINGS: Joel 2:12-18; 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18 (219). "Take care not to perform righteous deeds in order that people may see them."

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19
THURSDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY

God willing

Choices are a blessing and a curse. You're lucky if you have plenty of options in life, but it's hard to know which ones to pick: Should I go to college? Should I get married? Is this the best job for my career? When should I retire? It's impossible to know what lies ahead, so it helps to let God take the lead. That doesn't mean being passive, but simply trusting in God's will. Relinquishing control to the One who loves you might be the best decision you ever make.

TODAY'S READINGS: Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Luke 9:22-25 (220). "What profit is there for one to gain the whole world yet lose or forfeit himself?"

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20
FRIDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY; DAY OF ABSTINENCE

Abstinence makes the heart grow fonder

Today, like all Fridays in Lent, is a day of abstinence, a day of eating simply and refraining from meat. This simple act can become rote, without much thought about *why*. It calls for intentionality: a clear, thoughtful, informed decision to abstain, but from what? Meat? Perhaps, but how about abstaining—in that same clear, thoughtful manner—from gossip, from rash judgments, from nagging, from teasing others? This personal choice to abstain is not merely about "building character." It is to build up the body of the church.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 58:1-9a; Matthew 9:14-15 (221). "Can the wedding guests mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them?"

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21
SATURDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY; FEAST OF PETER DAMIAN, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Your peer group needs a saint

Modern-day sainthood requires endless paperwork before the canonical seal of approval. Not so for 11th-century Peter Damian, who was never formally canonized. As bishop, he was a one-man revolution against "bad priests"—those who took money in return for absolving sins. The rich were always happy to pay for their crimes, and some clerics just as glad to grease the wheels of their patrons' salvation. For his learning, zeal, and integrity, Peter was named a Doctor of the church in 1828. Sidestep the paperwork: Be a saint in integrity of heart!

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 58:9b-14; Luke 5:27-32 (222). "I have not come to call the righteous to repentance but sinners."

End of Bulletin

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