

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF AUSTIN

St. Mary's Catholic Church

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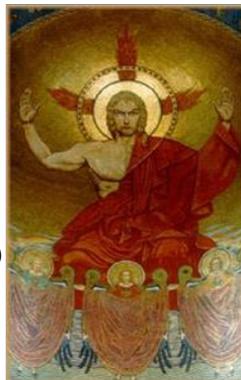
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Bulletin for November 28 – December 6, 2015



THE
SANCTUARY LIGHT
IS OFFERED
IN LOVING MEMORY OF
+GEORGE & RONALD
KUBELKA

LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS

Saturday, November 28

1830 Hrs +Kronenberger, Zabawa, Woychessin & Kubiak Families

Sunday, November 29 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

0730 Hrs Intentions of Kenneth & Dori Johnson

0930 Hrs Missa pro Populo

Monday, November 30 at 0730 Hrs

+Herman Yezak

Tuesday, December 1 at 1830 Hrs

+Agnes Bashinski

Wednesday, December 2 at 1830 Hrs

+Florine & Willie Bartkowiak (RE Mass)

Thursday, December 3 at 0730 Hrs

+Arch Demny

Friday, December 4 at 0730 Hrs

St. Mary's Rosary Society

Friday, December 4 at 1000 Hrs

+Joe & Josephine Wachel (Nursing Home)

Saturday, December 5 at 1730 Hrs

Holy Hour & Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday, December 5 at 1830 Hrs

+Joe & Mary Tomczeszyn, Cecilia & Elizabeth

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday, December 6 at 0730 Hrs

+Adam Schubrych

Sunday, December 6 at 0930 Hrs

Missa pro Populo



MINISTERS FOR DECEMBER 5 & 6

Eucharistic Ministers:

Saturday: 1830 Hrs Kie Bill Czajkowski
Sunday: 0730 Hrs James Czajkowski
0930 Hrs Gail Lott

Altar Servers:

Saturday: 1830 Hrs Brook Gaspard, Bailee Gaspard, Colin Snider
Sunday: 0730 Hrs Zoey Pruitt, Zana Pruitt, Melissa Ponce
0930 Hrs Cody Conner, Kelly Conner, Dally Swick

Lector/Commentators:

Saturday: 1830 Hrs Dori Johnson & Shelby Johnson
Sunday: 0730 Hrs Marilyn Brown & Margaret Smith
0930 Hrs Bette Bell & Callie Andreski

Ushers for December:

Saturday: 1830 PM Ronald & Colton Johnson, Gary & Matthew Johnson
Sunday: 0730 AM Kenneth & Philip Johnson, Patsy Rekieta, Ernest Mushinski
0930 AM Donald Johnson, Gerald Yezak, John Ray, Jerry Hadley

Money Counters for December: Marilyn Wilganowski, Jackie Corley, Robert Rekieta

Grotto Upkeep for December: Helen Talley



PARISH SUPPORT:



Church: \$2,413.00

Campaign for Human Development: \$600.00

Church Memorial: In Memory of +Frances (Wasik) Jادلowski by Theresa (Okonski) & Steve Peck Family \$20.00.

The Family that prays together stays together."



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- THIRD DEGREE KC MEETING: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1 AT 7 PM IN THE KC HALL.
- RE CLASS: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2.
- CYM BINGO: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6 FROM 2-6 PM AT THE CENTER.

Let us pray for the Sick & their Families:

Judy Anandel, Connie Andreason, Marnie Andreski, Agnes Bashinski, Natalie Bashinski, Brian Bielamowicz, Randy Bowers, Barbara Keating Bridgford, Amber Carter, Susan Cernosek, Idolidia Cordovev, Myrna Davenport, Hellen Ditta, James & Denice Doss, Nora Galik, Anita Graye, Cheryl & Rene Haidusek, Lillian Hardee, Zill Harlan, Maury Heers, Debbie Hermis, Rameria Eda Gonzales Hernandez, Margaret Johnson, Willie Kempenski, Marie Kott, Carl Lott, Betty Maduzia, Paige McCrary, Dorothy Moore, Leonard Mushinski, Richard & Arvela Polka, Bill & Bess Ray, Robbie Swick, Robert Rekieta, Shawn Rogers, Daisy Schubrych, Marilyn Snider, Marie Suttle, Louis Swick Jr., Clara Tinsley, George Wachel, Patricia Walsh, Pisha Weatherly, Brycel Welch, Susie Wilganowski, Barbie Williams, Betty Yezak and All the Sick.

ON PRIESTHOOD AND MARRIAGE

When John Paul II started writing his spiritual testament, it was first of all influenced by what he read in the spiritual testament of Paul VI. So when he wrote: *"I also trust that He will never allow me - through some attitude of mine: words, deeds or omissions - to betray my obligations in this holy Petrine See,"* I believe he is not only following the steps of Paul VI, but he really considered to uphold the teachings of the Church that has lasted the time and space since Christ declared to Peter: Jesus said to him in reply, *"Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father. And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven"* (Mt. 16:11b-14). With this, the Christ not only taught the Apostles of the necessity of the Petrine See but also handed them the grave responsibility it entails.

The Catholic Church has always been under surveillance of the world's prying eyes; but has always put the words of Jesus into action: *"Behold, I am sending you like sheep in the midst of wolves; so be shrewd as serpents and simple as doves. (Mt. 10:16).* The Church is not new to scandals, even within and among its own; but as the Lord promised: *"And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age"* (Mt. 28:13), the Church believes. Despite the many "wolves" trying to "make changes" in the Church "for the sake of equality and freedom," the Church perseveres and goes on toward the Kingdom where only God is Ruler – merciful yet just and whose love is everlasting.

For the sake of equality and freedom, critics say that the Church ought to ordain women to the Priesthood. Nowhere in the Scripture is it ever mentioned of women in the Order. Not even among the Levites but Aaron and his sons. Jesus and his apostles were always accompanied by women and yet, if there was anyone who had a claim to the priesthood, that could only have been Mary: the woman who conceived and carried Jesus, the High Priest, in her womb; the woman whom Jesus grew up with in wisdom and age and favor before God and man; the woman who anticipated the ministry of Jesus at Cana; the woman who stood by the cross as Jesus suffered; the woman entrusted by Jesus - not to another woman – but to another man, to his beloved disciple: to be his guide, his mentor to know the mind of Jesus, and most of all to be his mother. But Mary, who always kept things such as these in her heart, remained behind the scene: following the pace of the Apostles, helping them, guiding them, enlightening them, and even perhaps "mothering them." The priesthood is limited to men not to discriminate against women; but because women already are given the best and greatest gift there is for them: motherhood!

If a "scarcity of priests" exists as reason behind this issue, just take a look on the world statistics. In the US, there is a priest for every fourteen hundred Catholics (1:1,400). Try to compare that to the Philippines, where the ratio is 1:8,000. As its immediate effect, the decline is not due to scarcity in quantity but in quality as seen with the scandals that rocked the Church, even more so in the US. And let us be honest, in this kind of society we live in, it is already difficult to focus during Mass when you don't like the male priest – would you really be focused if there were another woman up on the altar? Look at Mary Magdalene – when the Apostles did not believe her words about the Risen Christ – she could very well have claimed the priesthood – but instead she followed the command of Jesus: *"Do not be afraid. Go, tell my brothers to go to Galilee and there they will see me."*

The other issue on priesthood is that there would be more priests if the Church allowed them to be married. Talk about double jeopardy! The Church would become a business center for the married priest's "family" and "extended relatives" unless he finds himself a second job. Just how much money would a family of four normally spend in a month: utilities, insurance, food, clothing, gas, school and office supplies, house furnishings, and the list goes on and on. The question is: how would you like your priest to spend your Church contribution more to and for his family than the parish? How would you like your priest to suddenly interrupt or cancel the Mass because he has to attend to his sick child or take the child to his games, and so on and so forth?

The priesthood had been instituted by the Lord Jesus with his people in mind: undivided attention and care, like a sheep to his flock. He himself could very well have been married but did he marry? Even Peter left his own family to follow Jesus every step of the way: to give his life and feed His lambs.

If your son comes home one day with another man and says: "This is my...?" What would your reaction be? Or how would he even present the idea of forming a family with another man. Matrimony/Marriage is the union between a man and a woman that takes its beginning – yes – in the beginning: Adam and Eve! God said: *It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a **suitable** partner for him.*" And who did he make? Eve! A woman! For this Adam said: *"This one, at last, is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called 'woman,' for out of 'her man' this one has been taken." That is why a man leaves his father and mother and clings to his wife, and the two of them become one body.*" God blessed them and told them to be fertile and multiply. How would two men or two women be fertile and multiply? The nature of marriage is designed by God for the procreation of humankind, not just companionship, not just partnership, not even friendship – but for the continuous creation of man and woman.

This is why the Church has always upheld the truth of the teachings of Christ who did not die on the cross just to see his Church vilified. That is what and why John Paul II upheld in the 26 years of his life's offering as the head of the Church. That is why we have to pray that the new Pope will uphold the same truths and teachings of Jesus through the Church.

Let us read this passage from [Acts 5:34-42](#)



A Pharisee in the Sanhedrin named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law, respected by all the people, stood up, ordered the Apostles to be put outside for a short time, and said to the Sanhedrin, "Fellow children of Israel, be careful what you are about to do to these men.

Some time ago, Theudas appeared, claiming to be someone important, and about four hundred men joined him, but he was killed, and all those who were loyal to him were disbanded and came to nothing. After him came Judas the Galilean at the time of the census. He also drew people after him, but he too perished and all who were loyal to him were scattered.

So now I tell you, have nothing to do with these men, and let them go. For if this endeavor or this activity is of human origin, it will destroy itself. But if it comes from God, you will not be able to destroy them; you may even find yourselves fighting against God."

If ever the Church happen to allow priestly ordination to women...

If ever the Church happen to allow priests to be married...

If ever the Church happen to allow marriage between two men or two women...

Then the Church would cease to be a divine endeavor and will destroy itself.

This is why John Paul II prayed to God in his testament that he *also trusts that God never allow him - through some attitude of his: words, deeds or omissions - to betray his obligations in this holy Petrine See.* But as we all believe that this Church is God's work on earth, let the Church take its due course. Since *"not even the gates of hell would prevail against it"* as Jesus promised, no one would ever be able to destroy it and may even find themselves fighting against God. How do you think you would win? *"And if you live like there is no God, you'd better be right!"*