

# Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 21, 2018

## Calendar

Saturday, January 20th

4:00pm Vigil Vincent Boudreaux Sr, Vincent Boudreaux Jr, and Theresa Trosclair

Sunday, January 21st

Ecumenical Sunday

8:00am Mass All parishioners

10:30am Mass Dr Horace Baltz, Valerie Gerarve, Joy Nalty Hodges, Joselyn Pechon, Mary Waguespack, William "Bill" J. Ward, and the Ward Family

Monday, January 22nd

Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

6:30am Mass Edwin Sullivan, Jr

Tuesday, January 23rd

St Marianne Cope, virgin

St Vincent, deacon and martyr

6:30am Mass Intentions of Trevor Huster

4:45pm Eucharistic Adoration

6:00pm Mass Patricia Mitchell

Wednesday, January 24th

St Francis de Sales, bishop and doctor of the Church

6:30am Mass Robert Boh

6:00pm Rosary (@ Our Lady of Good Counsel)

Thursday, January 25th

The Conversion of St Paul, apostle (pictured)

6:30am Mass The Rev. Michael Joseph Vinh Nguyen

7:00am Eucharistic Adoration

Friday, January 26th

SS Timothy and Titus, bishops

6:30am Mass Dr A.J. Rode Horst

9:00 am School Mass

Saturday, January 27th

St Angela Merici, virgin and foundress

10:00am Rosary (@ Church of St Henry)



The Sanctuary Light in the church will burn this week for the repose of the soul of William Allen.

The Sanctuary Light in the chapel will burn this week for the Intentions of the Pope.



## Mass Setting

The Mass setting for Ordinary Time is the Gregorian *Missa jubilate Deo*, which is found on the Pew Cards.



## Banns of Matrimony

Stephanie Catherine Strecker & Gregory Stewart Zirkle

Margaret Anne Johnson & Eric O'Neil Seefe

Witne Scales & Gabriel Perkins

## Lay-ministers Schedule for January 28th

4:00 pm

Lector: Judith Simon

Eucharistic Ministers: Becky Brocato, André Mouledoux, and Eleanor Mouledoux

8:00 am

Lector: J.C. Paciera

Eucharistic Ministers: Dana D'Anzi, Daniel LeBlanc, and Linda Tufton

10:30 am

Lector: Richard Cooper

Eucharistic Ministers: Deacon Richard Eason, Kenneth Moran, Jane Nalty, Bob Vaughn, and Sandra Westfall

## Sharing Our Faith, Securing Our Future Restoration Miscellany

by Dianne Caverly

**Pardon the mess!** Our custodians are doing their best to keep up with the dust created by the interior restoration, however, it is hard to catch everything. You may, of course, sit in any pew that is not restricted by caution-tape, but please know that the pews closest to the scaffolding may have more dust than we can efficiently remove.



Our Restoration has prompted people to look for and send us **St Stephen's memorabilia**—some from the very early days of the parish. Here is a raffle ticket from 1873 that was surely used to raise the funds for construction of our beloved church!

**Fans, floors, paint colors, project schedule...** What do you want to know about the restoration? If you have a question about our project, it is likely that someone else also wants an answer to the same question. Please send any questions to [dcaverly@archdiocese-no.org](mailto:dcaverly@archdiocese-no.org). Answers will be posted in the Bulletin two weeks after receipt.

Keep those pledge payments coming! If you have any question regarding your pledge or donations to the Campaign or to the parish, please contact me in the rectory office. **Remember that every dollar that we collect early on reduces the overall interest cost on the project.**

Collection Report	January 7th	July 1st-Jan 7th
Total Collections	\$7,596.00	\$190,439.00
Budget	<u>\$7,097.31</u>	<u>\$191,297.52</u>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>\$498.69</b>	<b>(\$858.52)</b>
<b>Second Collections/Miscellaneous Donations</b>		
Restoration Fund		\$10,293.71

## The Monthly Prayer-Request for Priests

### January

- 1<sup>st</sup> The Rev. Benjamin Sanchez\*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> The Rev. Emile G. "Buddy" Noel III
- 3<sup>rd</sup> The Rev. Quentin Moody
- 4<sup>th</sup> The Rev. Msgr. Lanaux J. Rareshide
- 5<sup>th</sup> The Rev. David K. Texada
- 6<sup>th</sup> The Rev. Horace L. Brignac, Jr.\*
- 7<sup>th</sup> The Rev. Ephrem Arcement\*
- 8<sup>th</sup> **His Holiness Pope-Emeritus Benedict XVI**
- 9<sup>th</sup> **His Holiness Pope Francis**
- 10<sup>th</sup> The Rev. Vincent H. Phan\*
- 11<sup>th</sup> The Rev. Gregory Ross, OCD
- 12<sup>th</sup> The Rev. Patrick Collum
- 13<sup>th</sup> The Most Rev. Dominic Carmon, SVD
- 14<sup>th</sup> The Rev. David Ducote\*
- 15<sup>th</sup> The Rev. Colm John Cahill\*
- 16<sup>th</sup> Seminarian Robert Frank
- 17<sup>th</sup> The Very Rev. Walter J. Austin, VF\*
- 18<sup>th</sup> The Rev. Garrett O'Brien
- 19<sup>th</sup> The Rev. Thomas E. Chambers, CSC†
- 20<sup>th</sup> The Rev. Stephen Dardis\*
- 21<sup>st</sup> The Rev. Kenneth Allen
- 22<sup>nd</sup> The Rev. James Nguyen Bach
- 23<sup>rd</sup> The Rev. Michael J. Mitchell\*
- 24<sup>th</sup> The Rev. Michael Roberson
- 25<sup>th</sup> The Rev. Paul J. Shaughnessy, SJ
- 26<sup>th</sup> The Rev. Patrick Carr
- 27<sup>th</sup> The Rev. Joseph Man Tran
- 28<sup>th</sup> The Rev. Randy Roux
- 29<sup>th</sup> The Rev. Gerard Laporte, CSsR
- 30<sup>th</sup> The Rev. Thomas Stehlik, CM
- 31<sup>st</sup> The Rev. Alberto Natar Villosillo\*

\* birthday

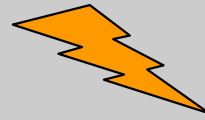
† deceased

*Courtesy of The APRP Apostolate*



# *Lightning Apologetics*

by Phillip Bellini, DRE



## Apologetics 101

Greetings in Christ! This is more of a personal note than an apologetics article. I want to share something with you that I experienced about two weeks ago in the hopes that it might help you in the same situation. These are just some observations and some possible solutions offered at the end.

When I was at a PJ's Coffee shop, I just happen to overhear a conversation. I was not trying to eavesdrop but was one of those situations where one could not but hear them as they were speaking right at the next table. These two ladies were speaking with one another. They were talking about Faith issues. One was an Evangelical Protestant lady as she was very zealous and literate in her conversation and often quoted the Scriptures. She was very enthusiastic about her congregation. She was bragging about the congregations youth minister and how wonderful he was. She spoke of his wife and how she was pregnant and how everyone just loved her. She was giving a full endorsement of her congregation. She spoke glowingly of all the Bible study in her church and many of the ministries and was trying to get this Catholic lady involved in one of those ministries. If this lady was selling insurance she would be fantastic at it! You'd want to buy insurance from her.

The Catholic lady was buying what she was saying. She liked what she heard and she wanted to be part of it. She realized as a Catholic that she (sadly) was not equipped to know who God is, nor was she able to comment on any of Sacred Scripture. This lady didn't have the skills the Protestant lady had, but she was hungry for them, and here was a lady who had a way to feed her.

The conversation then switched over to the Evangelical lady. She mentioned that she had gone to a Catholic Church once and was told she could not receive Holy Communion. She said no one explained to her why should could not receive Holy Communion. She became embarrassed and felt bad. They did tell her she could cross her arms and go up to receive a blessing. She then stated that she felt uncomfortable because she felt they were all brothers and sisters in Christ, so why discriminate on who could receive or not receive.

So, here we have a person who is very excited about her Protestant and Evangelical congregation! She was zealous! It made me think, how many of us are excited about our local Catholic parish? Would you be willing to sit down at a coffee table for thirty-forty minutes boasting and bragging about how awesome your parish is? Could you talk about the sacredness of the Mass or an inspiring homily? How many of us would be zealous about our parish? Could we point out the great ministries and bible studies in our parish? Can you see where I am going with this?

So we also have a Catholic lady in this situation who wants to grow and learn and has met another woman who could show her how to do that. Sometimes we Catholics need to be like that Protestant lady, NOT in her theology, but in her zeal and enthusiasm and willingness to teach people the Catholic faith and to show people After all, Christ Himself founded our Church! We have the fullness of truth! We should be on fire for the Faith!

A few things come to mind about all this. When it comes to the Holy Eucharist and our Catholic Mass, if we have someone with us who is not Catholic and is attending Mass with us, we need to explain the Mass and Eucharist and be willing to explain why they cannot receive Holy Communion, yet encourage them at the same time to be blessed and to look at the parishes apostolates and that they are welcome to look into those apostolates or events going on in the parish.

Think about it. We Catholics are profound. We have a deep theology. We have a deep end in our pool so to speak but we don't often have a shallow end of the pool for people to join us. Sometimes we might take people to the high dive and just say "jump in." There needs to be a shallow end of the pool where people can inquire. Yes, we do have RCIA, but how many even know what that means? Do non-Catholics know what that it means Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults? I would say very few. What does RCIA mean to those who don't know diddly about the Catholic faith? Nothing. We do need to be more welcoming with people desiring to know more because we are supposed to go out "into the whole world and teach everything that I have commanded you." We should not be losing people like this dear Catholic lady who wants to go deep, but finds it outside the Catholic Church. Since it was a private conversation, I did not want to say much and get into a debate in front of this poor lady, so I handed the Catholic lady my parish business card and just offered to help her with any questions she may have about the Church at any time. I handed the other lady my card and kindly said that if she ever wanted to discover the truths of the Catholic faith, I would be at her disposal. Nothing more. No argument, no Scriptural verse ping-pong game.

This is why I am beginning this year a program called "Why?" It will be an introductory course (only three weeks of looking into Why God? Why Christ? Why the Church?) Each class only forty-five minutes long. It will truly be an introductory class. If you have anyone who has questions on the Church, wants to know more, or just wants to inquire, stay tuned. It begins next month. Contact me if you are interested. [pbellini@arch-no.org](mailto:pbellini@arch-no.org). God bless you, and let's be on fire for the love of God and His Church!

## Pray for the Sick

Ron Behler, Dean Brooks, Ray & Zetta Burkart, Gary Callahan, Roxanne Candebat, Robert Carboni, Juan Cochran, Zelda Finney, Mary Gremillion, Jolleen Jackson, Dick Lanning, Cheryl Ledbetter, James Leung, Leddie Lopez, Louise B. Martin, Delia Martínez, June Morest, Frankie Rodríguez, Sophie Rodríguez, Frederick Henry Taylor, and Alvin Thymes.

## Pray for the Dead

The Reverend Father Thomas E. Chambers CSC, Armando Medina, Patricia Mitchell, Gertrude Petit, Bonnie Reames, Juan Carlos San Miguel, Edwin Sullivan Jr, Theresa Trosclair, William Ward, and Sister M. Ramona Wolcenski OSF.

## Pray for Our Armed-services

LT John Tortorich and LT Kate Tortorich.



## News

The Extraordinary Form of the Mass of the Roman Rite, the “Tridentine” (Latin) Mass, will be offered again at St Stephen Church on Sunday, May 27th (Trinity Sunday), at 12:30 pm.

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We will have a Second Collection next weekend, for Catholic Schools.

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This Tuesday, January 23rd, at 6:30 pm, at Archbishop Chapelle High School, Matt Fradd will present a look at the way pornography is harmful, and will offer practical advice for parents.

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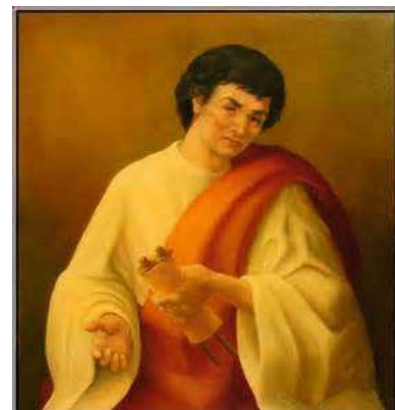
A message from Dianne Caverly: “Lord, Teach Me To Pray’ is a three-part prayer series based on Ignatian spirituality. Part I, ‘Praying Christian Virtues,’ helps deepen prayer life and suggests what to do for dryness and obstacles in prayer. Small groups meet with two trained facilitators for one-two hours per week to pray and faith-share. Part I for women begins Tuesday, January 23rd, at 10:30 am, at the Church of St Henry. Part I for men begins Tuesday, January 30th, at 6:45 pm, in the Rectory Chapel. Call me, @ 227-3794, for information or to register.”

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A Mass “for God’s special children” will be offered at St Francis Xavier Church, 444 Metairie Road, on Sunday, February 4th, at 2:00 pm. Please contact Joy Zainey, @ 834-5865, for details.

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From February 16th through 18th, the Archdiocese of New Orleans Retreat Center, in Metairie, will present “Sharpening Our Vision in Lent,” conducted by the Reverend Joseph S. Palermo, Jr. For information, please telephone 887-1420.



St Titus.