

SAINT FRANCIS EXCHANGE

The Newsletter and Bulletin of the Oratory of Saint Francis of Assisi

JULY 2015 – MONTH OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD

LETTER FROM THE MONSIGNOR

Then he saith to his disciples: The harvest indeed is great, but the labourers are few. Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he send forth labourers into his harvest.

– S. Matthew 9:37 – 38

TH**ERE** is a great need for us to foster vocations: perhaps more great than any time in recent history. However, we do not need great numbers: we need great souls! One holy vocation can do more good than ten-thousand weak or mediocre ones. Contrariwise, one weak, mediocre or evil vocation can undo the work of many zealous ones.

As a Catholic Bishop it is my duty and obligation to foster vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life, and who I must teach first are parents. Parents must understand that they need to be generous with their children, fostering a love of God and His Holy Church that is boundless. When children learn that God must always come first, even before self, than these children will be ripe for holy vocations. The Church needs vocations, now, to be about the work of the Father (cf. S. Luke 2:49). Grace filled souls, young and old alike, are needed to pray and to work for the Kingdom of Christ.

We find ourselves, beloved in Christ the King, in great need of missionaries: not for foreign and exotic lands, but rather, for our own lands that have forgotten Christ. In our own time and place God has been pushed aside for secularism and self-gratification. Could you imagine if men today truly loved neighbour as they love their own selves? The modernist disease of subjectivism and relativism is strangling the minds and souls of our young people. No wonder no can understand the need for wholesome (not physical) and holy intimacy, not with others and surely not with God. The great Belgian Carmelite spiritual writer, **Father Gabriel of S. Mary Magdalen**, tells us in his great opus **The Divine Intimacy** that: *“A soul which listens to self, which is preoccupied with its feelings, which indulges in useless thoughts or desires, scatters its forces. It is not completely under God’s sway.”*



Alas, how true are Father’s sage words, we have become lost to God. But there is a great remedy: prayer!

We must be men of prayer, we must all build and foster that intimate relationship with God. God and

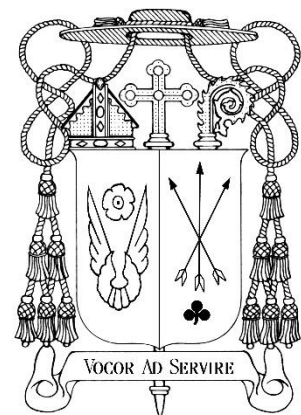
His grace are the only remedy for our ills. Without His grace and His supernatural virtues we are but clamouring noise makers (cf. 1st Corinthians 13:1).

I invite all who wish to serve God as missionaries in a weary world, who will boldly proclaim the Empire of the Lord, who will leave home, friends and family behind to follow the Master to seek me out. Fear nothing for God will provide! Whether your abilities will serve God at the Holy Altar, or in the field or behind the computer, you are wanted and needed by the Society of Christ the King. The path will indeed be difficult, but the reward great. No willing soul will be turned away, as long as you seek to serve and not be served.

As always, I am most grateful for your prayers and support. Be assured of my paternal benediction and prayers, especially at Holy Mass. I remain,

In Christ the King,

Monsignor ✠ Thomas JF Sebastian



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q: Traditional theology indicates that the blessed in Heaven are free from all pain and are surrounded with bliss and glory, they are inundated with never ending happiness: no negativity at all.

Modern devotional practices, and revelations from modern Saints, indicate that our Lord and Blessed Lady are in pain from the injustices of sinners, and that reparation must be made to their hearts. How do you reconcile these divergent points of view?

God Bless! A.C., Santa Monica, CA

A: Indeed, the blessed in heaven, because they are in the presence of God, cannot suffer or feel sorrow. For them to do so would demonstrate some sort deficiency in the perfection of God.

As for the saints, and even Our Lord, who have appeared in visions, most be understand as either *supernaturally present* (in the case of Our Lord and Our Lady by means of their perfected bodies) or *imaginatively* or *intellectually* present. In the latter case these spiritual visions are not part of the eyes physically "seeing" the saint, but rather, seen by way of the soul or the mind.

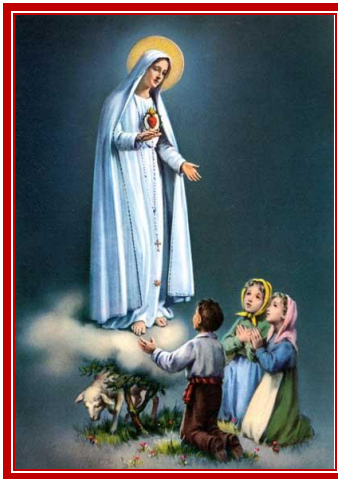
Now when it comes to the saints suffering in visions (think of Our Lady at La Salette or at Fatima), this suffering is not actual, rather, it is demonstrated for the consideration of individual to understand the result of human sin to souls. For example, Our Lord's Heart does not truly "suffer" physically, but His justice and Divine Majesty are offended by man's sin and indifference to the love and grace freely offered by God. These visions, which are private revelation and not

dogmatic), are meant to give us examples of how sin wounds us and will, ultimately, lead us to hell.

Because God loves us He continues to invite us to leave our lives of sin, repent and amend ourselves. If we heed the warnings of Our Lady and pray (especially her Rosary) and receive the Sacraments worthily, we will cease to offend God.



**Our Lady of La Salette:
Pray for us!**

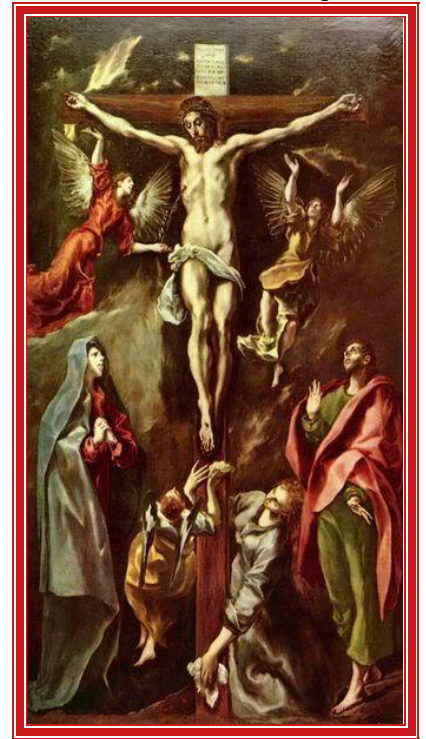


**Our Lady of Fatima:
Pray for us!**

If you have a question, please feel free to send them via mail or e-mail (info@stfrancisoratory.org).



Saint Francis Exchange



**Most Precious Blood Heart
of JESUS
(1st of July):
Have Mercy on us!**



PRAYER REQUESTS

YOUR continued prayers are requested for the sick, especially Mr. Alfred Smith, Mr. & Mrs. William Schiermeyer, and Mrs. Denise Huizenga. Please also remember in your prayers the souls of those who have died, especially Mr. Thomas Dean Smith†, and the Rev. Fr. Nicholas Gruner†. If you know of someone unable to attend Holy Mass due to sickness, please be sure to let one of the priests know so they can arrange for a sick call.



**FIRST FRIDAY
AND FIRST
SATURDAY**

OUR First Friday and First Saturday devotions will be on the 3rd and 4th of July. Holy Mass will be at 7:00 pm (Fri) and 8:00 am (Sat) with confessions heard before Holy Mass. Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament follows Holy Mass on Friday. This is a wonderful and most pious devotion, so please be sure to invite friends and family.

**SPECIAL HIGH
MASSES**



IN honour of the tenth anniversary of Father Anselm Marie Graves' Priestly Ordination and First Mass, Father will be offering Sung Masses here at the Oratory of S. Francis on the 2nd (Thursday), 3rd (Friday) and 4th (Saturday) of July. This corresponds perfectly with our normal First Friday and First Saturday devotions. Here is the schedule:

Thursday the 2nd of July:
Mass of the Visitation of the BVM (7:00 pm)
Friday the 3rd of July:
Votive Mass of the Sacred Heart (7:00 pm)
Saturday the 4th of July:
Votive Mass of the Immaculate Heart of the BVM (8:00 am)



The Imposition of Hands by the Bishop on the head of Father Graves (2 July 2005) during his Priestly Ordination.



The Solemn Consecration of Body of Christ at Father's First Solemn Mass (July 2005).



Father gives his first Holy Communion to his dearest mother, Doña Teresa (RIP).

LECTURE SERIES

IN order to build the faith and understanding of the faithful, the Monsignor will host a lecture on a particular teaching of the Holy Church on a monthly basis. The first of the series will be on the Sacred Scriptures, the Holy Bible, on the 16th of September 2015 at 7:00 pm.

Other future topics will include; Authority, Prayer, the Sacraments and the Holy Mass.



Young Master Caden Cortes Confirmed on the Solemnity of Pentecost (24 May 2015)



Young Master Derek Sherrill Confirmed on the Solemnity of Pentecost (24 May 2015)

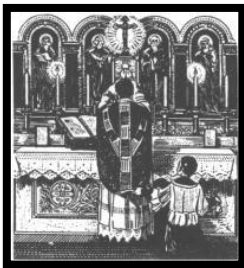


The newly Confirmed with the Monsignor Sebastian.

Mass Guild

Holy Mass is offered on the First Saturday of every month for all Friends and benefactors of SAINT FRANCIS ORATORY CHAPEL Your generous donation (one time *or* monthly) enables you to be remembered upon the Altars of the Society, where *only* the traditional Latin Mass is offered, as codified and canonized by His Holiness, Saint Pope Pius V, *perpetually* approved of.

We would like to remind those who send Mass requests to PLEASE include the name of the person and/or intention with your stipend. Mass Cards will be sent to concerned parties upon request. Thank you and God bless you!



Oratory Chapel of Saint Francis of Assisi

Traditional (*Latin*) Roman
Catholic Mass



Sunday Mass Time:
10:00 am – Parochial Mass
with Homily
Daily Mass Times:
Tues. through Friday 7:00 am
Saturdays 8:00 am
First Friday 7:00 pm
Confessions one half of an hour before Holy Mass

16826 Saticoy Street
Entrance and Parking around back
Van Nuys, CA 91406-2776
(818) 786-2540

e-mail:

info@stfrancisoratory.org

Be sure to visit our web site at:

www.stfrancisoratory.org



✿Saint Francis Chapel is staffed by the Priestly Society of Christ the King (SSCR); properly trained and ordained Roman Catholic Priests who are faithful to the teachings and disciplines of the Roman Catholic Church. Saint Francis is not affiliated with the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. Our Holy Fathers, the Popes, most especially Saint Pope Pius V in His infallible decree *Quo Primum*, have given their permission in perpetuity to offer the Traditional Latin Mass (*Missal of S. Pope Pius V* and rubrics of *S. Pope Pius X*).