

Our Lady of Sorrows, Mater Dolorosa, ora pro nobis!

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH SANCTUARY CANDLE In Memory Of LOIS L. WALK

COFFEE AND REFRESHMENTS

After the Sunday morning Masses, in the adjacent courtyard directly behind the rectory. Everyone is invited.

WEEKEND OFFERING—September 2, 2018 First Collection \$ 13.076

\$ 2,396 Second Collection* * Restoration and Maintenance

FROM ARCHBISHOP AYMOND—CONFESSIONS

"This year confessions will be available in all Catholic churches in the Archdiocese of New Orleans on Wednesday, September 12, 2018 from 5pm—6:30pm. Please consider taking advantage of this opportunity to invite the healing Christ into your heart with his promise

ST. PATRICK'S—SACARAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

confessions will be heard at St. Patrick's Church. The Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Patrick's Church is available before all Masses and by appointment.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS (RCIA)

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA), the program for adults who are thinking about entering the Catholic Church or completing the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist), will begin on Monday, Sept. 10, 2018 at 7 p.m.

If you or someone you know is interested in starting, please contact the rectory office by telephone: (504) 525-4413;

SOLEMN REQUIEM MASS SPONSORED BY PURGATORIAL SOCIETY—ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH

This Mass was formerly held at St. John the Baptist Church. The Solemn Requiem Mass will be offered for all the deceased members of St. Patrick's and St. John the Baptist Churches.

ORGAN CONCERT—SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2018

Please join us on Sunday, September 23rd for an organ concert here at St. Patrick's Church. The concert will begin at 3 pm and will feature a son of St. Patrick's, Simon Templet, in his first organ recital. Security will be provided and all are invited.

ANNUAL RED MASS—OCTOBER 1, 2018

The Saint Thomas More Catholic Lawyers Association, in conjunction with the Catholic Bishops of the State of Louisiana, announce the celebration of the 66th Annual Red Mass, invoking the Holy Spirit upon the bench and bar of the State, on Monday, October 1, 2018 at 9:30 AM at St. Louis Cathedral in New Orleans. The Most Reverend Gregory M. Aymond, Archbishop of New Orleans, will be the principal celebrant. Reverend Paul Scalia, a priest of the Diocese of Arlington and son of the late U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, will be the homilist. Members of the bench and bar of the State, as well as the public,

For the sick of our parish and those who have asked for our prayers especially: Stephen Bailey; G. Barbe; Elliana Belew; Karen O'Keefe Belew; Harold Berrigan; Grace Blanchard; D. Burt; Father Ronnie Calkins; Belle Cashio; Emily Cercena; Tony Clesi; Colleen Collet; Howard Comeaux; Alice Couget; M. deBlanc; Elias Ebrahim; Bob Elmwood; Margaret Fanning; Gregory Frabier; Stephani Frabier; Emily Gamundi; Mary R. Gates; Kathleen Gaudet; R. Gautraux; Audra Guilbeaux; Jerry Harris; Joyce Harris; Cy Hoormann; Emi Hunley; Earline Huster; Anna Jobes; Father Stanley Klores; Joyce Kurtich, Michael Lagarde; Donald G. Lambert; Sharon W. Lambert; Albert Leonhard; Daniel Mead; Maxwell Mears; Laura S. Melancon; Vickie Middleton; Steven V. Murthy & Family; Theresa Panko; Dr. A. Forrest Pendleton; Marcella Pierce; Eric C. Pitre; Thomas Plunkett; Chilton Porter; John Provensano; Mary Ramsey; Richards Family; Lee Rung; Pat Russo; Rev. Anthony Serio; E. Smith; Sylvia Talamp; S. Turkington; Charles Ventre; Amanda M. Waring; Albert Weidenbacher, Jr.

If you would like to receive future electronic communications, please send your email address to: stpatricksnola@gmail.com

BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Last month the Church basked in the rays of Our Lady's glorious Assumption into Heaven. Next month we renew our devotion to the Holy Rosary, and give thanks for the graces that this devotion has secured for us individually, and especially for the protection and flourishing of the Kingdom of God on earth which it has secured down the centuries. The Feast of the Most Holy Rosary on 7th October marks the definitive sea victory over the Turkish Fleet which threatened calamity and enslavement to western Christendom at the Battle of Lepanto on that date in 1571, a victory which Pope St Pius V attributed to the praying of the Rosary.

This month of September is also permeated with the sweet fragrance of the Blessed Virgin's presence throughout the month's liturgical calendar. On 8th September we celebrated the feast of Our Lady's Nativity, exactly nine months after Her Immaculate Conception on 8th December. St Peter Damian called the Blessed Virgin's birthday "the beginning of salvation and the origin of every feast," because it marked the arrival in this world of the Immaculate Ark of the Covenant from Whom the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity would take on the human flesh in which He would die for our sins and conquer death in His Resurrection.

The Feast of the Holy Name of Mary just four days later commemorates another great intervention of the Blessed Mother of God in worldly affairs, when Her intercession secured the victory of the Christian army under the Polish King John Sobieski over the Turks at the Siege of Vienna in 1683. In gratitude to the "Liberatrix of the west", Pope Innocent XI extended the feast of Her Holy Name to the Universal Church. In these days of anxiety and uncertainty when we see tensions escalating between states, internal disquiet within nations and grave threats to life and liberty, we do well to have constant recourse to Mary, Queen of Peace, Who on so many occasions has rescued Christendom from the brink of catastrophe, and Who has promised us that ultimately Her Immaculate Heart will prevail.

In the realm of personal prayer, St Philip Neri was one of those saints who encouraged devotion to the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary as a means of intimate and immediate access to Our Lord and Our Lady. One of his favorite prayers, which he used frequently and taught to his disciples to pray, was the beautifully simple formula "Holy Virgin Mary, Mother of God, pray to Jesus for me."

On 15th September, we join Our Lady at the foot of the Cross for the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows. No one participated in Our Lord's Passion like His Holy Mother, Who endured the torment of seeing the flesh that She had lovingly bathed and clothed during His infancy torn, beaten and pierced. No words could ever express the torment that must have racked that Mother's heart as She witnessed the incarnation of Divine Love scorned and tortured to death.

From the Cross Our Saviour entrusted all of us to the maternity of His Mother, when He told Her "Woman, behold thy son," and then said to His beloved disciple "Behold thy mother." And our Mother teaches us how to participate in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. She who freely cooperated in our salvation when She told the Angel Gabriel "Be it done unto me according to thy word" experienced in a terrible but meritorious manner the consequences of that 'fiat' in the desolation which She offered in union with Her Son on Calvary in an act of self-sacrificial love on behalf of sinners. Our Mother teaches us to offer all of our joys and all of our sorrows, all of our hopes and fears, everything we have and everything we are, with the bread and the wine during that part of the Holy Mass known as the Offertory, so that we might be mystically and truly united with His Death when the bread and wine are transformed into His Body and Blood at the Consecration. If, through mortal sin, we have cast off the white robe of Sanctifying Grace with which we were vested in Baptism, then She leads us by the hand to the embrace of God's mercy in the Sacrament of Penance, so that with our wedding garments cleansed and restored we may receive Her Son's Risen Body in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

We are never alone, then, at Mass. It is in fact before the Altar that we are closest, in this life, to our heavenly Mother. If we are unable to attend the Holy Sacrifice because of distance or decrepitude, or whatever restraint, ask Her to take us under Her mantle and lead us with Her to the foot of the Cross, and then unite ourselves spiritually with the Holy Sacrifice wherever it is offered at that moment across the globe. May Her intercession at the throne of Grace obtain peace for this world and, for Her children, protection and all blessings, as we pray constantly with our holy father St Philip "Holy Virgin Mary, Mother of God, pray to Jesus for me."

> Father Julian Large The London Oratory

THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS September 14

Early in the fourth century, Saint Helena, mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine, went to Jerusalem in search of the holy places of Christ's life. She razed the second-century Temple of Aphrodite, which tradition held was built over the Savior's tomb, and her son built the Basilica of the Holy Sepulcher on that spot. During the excavation, workers found three crosses. Legend has it that the one on which Jesus died was identified when its touch healed a dying woman.

The cross immediately became an object of veneration. At a Good Friday celebration in Jerusalem toward the end of the fourth century, according to an eyewitness, the wood was taken out of its silver container and placed on a table together with the inscription Pilate ordered placed above Jesus' head: Then "all the people pass through one by one; all of them bow down, touching the cross and the inscription, first with their foreheads, then with their eyes; and, after kissing the cross, they move on."

To this day, the Eastern Churches, Catholic and Orthodox alike, celebrate the Exaltation of the Holy Cross on the September anniversary of the basilica's dedication. The feast entered the Western calendar in the seventh century after Emperor Heraclius recovered the cross from the Persians, who had carried it off in 614, 15 years earlier. According to the story, the emperor intended to carry the cross back into Jerusalem himself, but was unable to move forward until he took off his imperial garb and became a barefoot pilgrim.

Franciscan Media