



St. Joan of Arc

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Served by the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement

PARISH STAFF

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Parish Manager (Ext. 1005)
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LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Altar Servers
Call the office

Eucharistic Ministers
Catrina Bova

Lectors:
Genia Vanderkruk
10:00AM Choir
Susan McElcheran
Rehearsal: Thursday 7:30 PM
12:00 Noon Choir
Michael Thibodeau

Greeters/Ushers: Call the office

CELEBRATIONS OF THE EUCHARIST

Monday - Saturday
5:30 PM

Sunday
10:00 AM
12:00 PM

CELEBRATION OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM
or by appointment.

BAPTISMS

Arrangements are made through the
Religious Education office. Couples
expecting a child are encouraged to
contact the office before the child is
born. Please contact Ext 1003, for
more information.

MARRIAGE

Please call Fr. Bob at least one year
prior to the planned wedding date.

Pastoral Visitation of the Sick:

To arrange for a visit
Call the office Ext 1007

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday
9:30 AM to 11:30 AM
1:00 PM to 4:00 PM
Closed Wednesday mornings

Wednesday afternoons
1:30 PM to 4:00 PM

Friday Closed

ORGANIZATIONS & ACTIVITIES

Catholic Women's League
See CWL Bulletin Board for Details

Children's Liturgy
10:00 AM Mass

Creation Care Ministry
2nd Tuesday of each month 7pm.

Development and Peace
www.devp.org
3rd Monday of the month 7:00 PM

Merrymakers
3rd Thursday of the month 12:00 PM

Knights of Columbus
1st Thursday of the Month

Parish Council
Every two months

St. Vincent de Paul Society
2nd Saturday of the Month 4:00 PM



MASS
INTENTIONS



Sunday, December 10

Is 40:1-5,9-11 Ps 85:8-13

2 Pt 3:8-14 Mk1:1-8

10:00 am John Hruskoci †

12:00 pm Ely Tan Scholten †

Monday, December 11

Is 35:1-10 Ps 85: 8-13 Lk 5: 17-26

5:30 pm *Forgiveness in the family*

Tuesday, December 12

Zech 2:10-13 Jth 13:18-20 Lk 1:39-47

5:30 pm *Int. of Elizabeth R*

Wednesday, December 13

Is 40:25-31 Ps 103: 1-10 Mt 11:28-30

5:30 pm *Int. of Elizabeth R*

Thursday, December 14

Is 41: 13-20 Ps 145: 1-13 Mt 11:11-15

5:30 pm *Thanksgiving*

Friday, December 15

Is 48: 17-19 Ps 1: 1-6 Mt 11: 16-19

5:30 pm Lil & Joe Zerebeski †

Saturday, December 16

Sir 48: 1-4, 9-11 Ps 80: 14-18

Mt 17: 10-13

5:30 pm *Int. of Anne Marie & Sebastien*



The Friar's Nook

To some extent, we are all seekers of God. We seek his face, enjoy his intimacy, share his task, sit at his table as children, but God can only be seen by the eyes of a clean heart that has known how to put him at the center of wanting, thinking and feeling; a heart capable of seeing and making God transparent, like that of Jesus. Someone has said that every person has a space within them about the size of God. That is why men of all times have felt the need to fill that inner place and it is not strange that they have dedicated themselves (and still today) to filling it with all kinds of rubble and various other materials. But in the end, if one is capable of a little silence and has the sincerity to listen to the inner echo, he discovers that this space is something in continuous expansion and always insatiable.

Many seekers of God throughout the history of humanity have desired to see his face. The face of God means the encounter with his person. Moses, taking advantage of his great trust in God, asked him: "Let me see your face" (Ex 33:18), and the psalmists will continue with this great desire, even with impatience: "My soul thirsts for God, for the living God." "When will I see the face of God?" But can you see the face of God? When we see something, we know it, we know how to position ourselves before it and even control it. That is why Adam wanted, after sin, for God not to see him and he hid. The psalmist wonders where he can flee to escape the gaze of God. If God always has us in his presence, the other way around is not the same. For God is "he who dwells in an unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can ever see." That is why God did not attend to the wishes of his great friend: "you will not be able to see my face, because man cannot see me and continue living" (Ex 33:20). Seeing the face of God, in Scripture, usually means entering the sanctuary. Other times it is synonymous with asking for help and it is also a way of saying that one is in good relations with God, that is, to see the face of God is to enjoy his intimacy, to share his task, to sit at his table, to be protected by him, to be heard...Jesus proclaims that "the pure in heart will see God", what does he mean by this?

When the Bible speaks of the heart, it is referring to the depths of the personality, where thoughts, intelligence, feelings, memories, projects, decisions emerge, the most intimate and secret of men. This is why the commandment that asks you to love the Lord your God with all your heart is so radical. The Jewish expression "clean in heart" or "pure in heart" means absolute obedience to God, putting Him at the center of human wanting, thinking, and feeling. The pure heart is not only the one that has good intentions, but also the one from which good acts come, the one that is clear about what its treasure is and where it is. Those who are pure in heart not only see God, but God is seen in them. God is in them. That is why everything we have said is illuminated especially by looking at Jesus Christ, and what he carried in his heart. When Jesus looked at men, he knew how to see in them the image of the Father that he had impressed on them on the day of creation. He was able to discover behind the Samaritan woman a woman thirsty for love; behind Nicodemus a restless and searching man;

behind the adulteress a woman in need of a word of forgiveness; behind the lepers, the deaf, the paralyzed, children of God who needed to be rescued from their marginalization and treated as the children they were; Behind some fishermen on the Lake of Galilee he knew how to see disciples...

What did Jesus carry in his heart? He carried the Father, whom he loved with all his heart and all his strength. He carried his Word and carried the pain of men, to whom he knew how to listen deeply and on whom he laid his hands to heal, feed, caress and bless. The Master has taught us to see God in men. Let us remember the parable of the final judgment: those who knew how to see God in the sick, the hungry, the imprisoned, the naked, are saved. These are the ones who have a clean heart, because they can see God. And these will be the ones who one day will see God face to face and will be like him. For this reason, let us prepare to meet him definitively, face to face, especially during this Advent.

+ **Bro. Alex**

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

The Sick: Aniela Kuncaitis, Antonia Bova, Celeste Cignarella, Guillermo Medina, Michelle Rodrigues, Rose Menecola, Rosanne K

The Deceased: Frank Grech, Brendan Clough, Mary Bonneau

FAIR TRADE WEEKEND - DEC. 16/17

Development and Peace is hosting our last **Fair Trade Weekend** for 2023 next weekend - **December 16/17**. These make wonderful Christmas gifts that give back to the world. We invite folks from the 12:00 Mass to come into the hall just before their Mass to make any purchases they want. See you there.

At UN Climate Summit Pope Francis makes heartfelt appeal to choose life - For health reasons Pope Francis cancelled his trip to the UN Climate Summit in Dubai so Cardinal Pietro Parolin delivered the Pope's speech (excerpt): "Sadly, I am unable to be present with you, as I had greatly desired. Even so, I am with you, because time is short. I am with you because now more than ever, the future of us all depends on the present that we now choose. I am with you because the destruction of the environment is an offence against God, a sin that is not only personal but also structural, one that greatly endangers all human beings, especially the most vulnerable in our midst.... I am with you to raise the question which we must answer now: Are we working for a culture of life or a culture of death? To all of you I make this heartfelt appeal: Let us choose life! Let us choose the future! May we be attentive to the cry of the earth, may we hear the plea of the poor, may we be sensitive to the hopes of the young and the dreams of children! We have a grave responsibility: to ensure that they not be denied their future."

10:00 am SUNDAY LITURGY

We continue to live stream the 10:00 am Mass on our website.

Future Dates to Remember

December 14

R.C.I.A.

December 16 & 17

D&P Fair Trade Sale

January 21, 2024

Deacon Alexander's Ordination to Priesthood in Graymoor.

Winter Welcome Table "Out of the cold"

We invite you to contribute to our donation drive by donating items such as toiletries (toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, feminine products, etc.), gently used warm winter jackets, gloves, scarves, and hats for our clients. You may drop off your items in the parish hall until December 17th. Thank you for your kindness and support, your donations can bring comfort and warmth to those in need.

Parish office Schedule

The parish offices will be closed from December 23, 2023 to Jan 2, 2024. Thank you!

Envelopes

Please reuse your 2023 offertory envelopes. If you need a new box, contact the parish office.

SAINTLY WISDOM

"Commitment is doing what you said you would do after the feeling you said it in has passed."

- *Saint Camillus de Lellis*

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