



Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church Las Vegas

6th Sunday Of Pentecost

July 2020

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Our Services HOLY MASSES
DAILY: Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m.
English

SATURDAY VIGIL:

4:30 p.m. English

SUNDAY: 9:30 a.m. English (**Live**)
& **11:30 AM** Arabic/Aramaic/English

1st Sunday : 4:30pm

Rosario y la Misa en Español

2nd Sunday: 4:30 pm

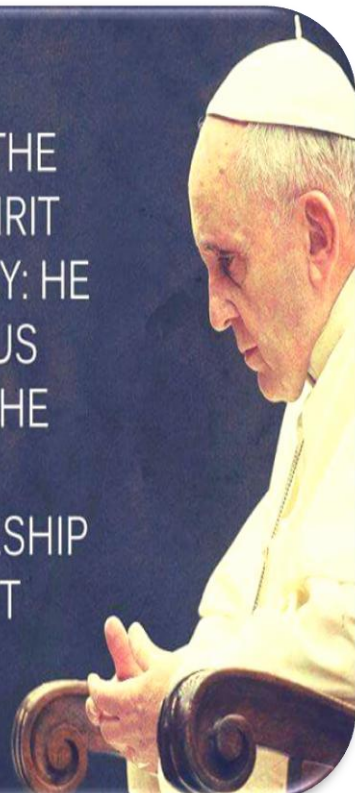
Tagalog Mass

1st SUNDAY 9:30 a.m. & 11:30am

Youth Mass

LET US
INVOKE THE
HOLY SPIRIT
EACH DAY: HE
GUIDES US
ALONG THE
PATH OF
DISCIPLESHIP
IN CHRIST

POPE FRANCIS



“But when you are arrested, do not worry about what you are to say for when the time comes, the words you need will be given to you; it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking in you.” (Matthew 10:19-20)

Jesus always inspires His disciples whom He knows will be facing persecutions. The word “Martyr” is associated to the word “witness”. We apply the word “martyr” to the witnesses of Jesus who lived their lives and suffered for the faith. Witnesses of Christ whose lives are consistent with the Gospel, become real witnesses and martyrs to Jesus. When they experience death in their lives the same sentiments of Jesus in His Passion, they are true witnesses.

LET US PRAY:

My great Teacher and Master, make me worthy to be Your witness. To be joyful at being persecuted for the glory of Your kingdom. Let the Spirit of Your Father guide us to the truth, for the salvation of all nations. Amen.

6th Sunday of Pentecost

READING:
Philippians 3:7-14
GOSPEL:
Matthew 10:1-7

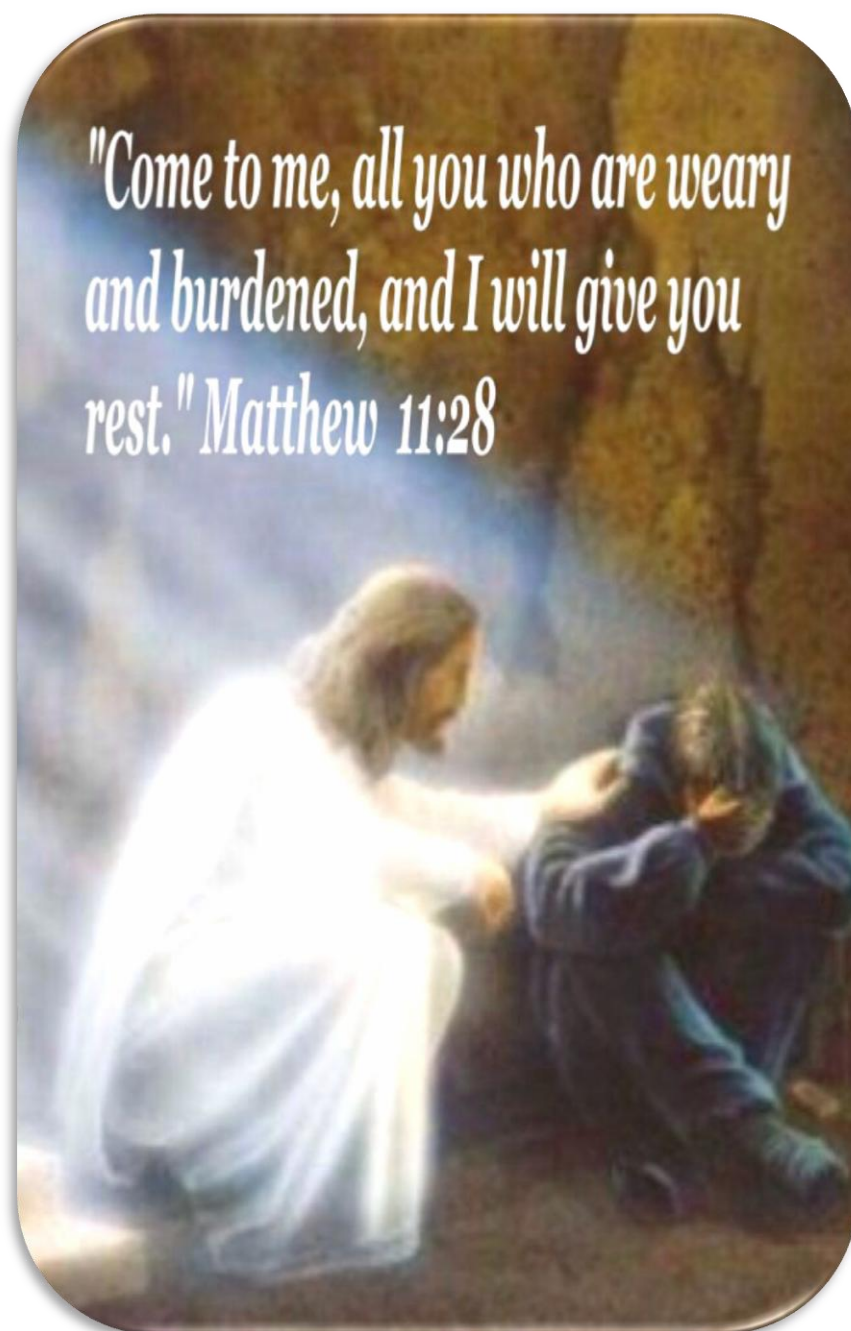


Today we are faced with the same problems as the disciples: persecution and inhuman policies and actions. But we have to obey God and not man. A true disciple and believer stands up against all inhuman policies and structures accepted by society. He gives his life to Jesus Christ, and tries to be a witness of the Good News. A true believer works towards justice, truth and liberation in line with the Gospel. He faces repression from society. It is Jesus Christ not society who recognizes and rewards His true followers.

Rev. Fr. Nadim Abou Zeid

COME TO ME!

How beautiful to hear, on this second Sunday of July, Jesus' invitation, “Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened . . .” No one can say that this invitation does not concern him or her. Bruised and wounded in the battles of life, especially in this “post Coronavirus devastation era,” we all appreciate Jesus' invitation to go to him. He is the divine Consoler and Healer who can nurse our wounds, heal our ailments, lighten our burdens, and strengthen us for the future tests of life. Jesus is ready to do that for us at any time, but he does it with a special efficacy through the sacraments of the Eucharist and of Penance. It is in the celebration of these Sacraments of his love that we experience the healing power and the consolation of his presence. Let us approach him with expectant hearts, therefore, as we begin this celebration of the Eucharist, as we acknowledge our sinfulness and present to him the needs and burdens of all the people dear to us.



"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28



Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles

Office of the Bishop

Prot. 72/01/20

June 16, 2020

Dear Monsignor/Father,

I hope that as many of us phase into some form of normal parish life, that you are well. It has been a difficult time and for some, continues to be so. You have my appreciation for all your efforts of keeping in touch with your people through electronic media, especially in live-streaming the Divine Liturgy and the Divine Office along with other devotions. I know all have been inspired by those efforts. This has given me the opportunity to reflect on the manner of celebrating the public worship of the Church.

I also wish to make observations regarding the proper public celebration of the Divine Liturgy including life-streaming and recorded. In 2014 our Patriarch, His Beatitude and Eminence Beshara Rai issued his third encyclical letter. It dealt with the Maronite Liturgy and its proper celebration. I encourage you to re-read it; it is source of great guidance and inspiration. I have attached a copy.

The Maronite Synod affirms "The Liturgy is the living treasure for the Maronite Church....It is the goal of all ecclesiastical activities dealing with the Mysteries and the missionary efforts of the Church's presence in the world." (Text 12, Par. 1). Therefore we are to prepare and celebrate it in the most appropriate and fitting way. The Liturgy is an essential component of our identity.

I would make note of the following:

1. The rubrics contained in the current authorized edition of our *qurbano* are not extensive nor detailed and thus, do not always indicate clear instructions. At times we are dependent on what we have always done in the past or even what is common practice here or in other parts of the world. Where the rubrics are clear and specific, we must follow them. Where they are not, we will be making efforts to clarify practice norms within the Eparchy.
2. In his Encyclical (No. 4) the Patriarch, states clearly the intimate connection between our identity and our public worship, especially the Divine Liturgy. It must always be celebrated in a manner that clearly expresses our Syriac and Antiochian roots and spirituality. While as "Eastern" Christians we share some aspects of other eastern

3. traditions; and while we have a positive and most often, cordial relation with western Christians, we must always remember that we are neither Latin nor Byzantine and any mixing of the liturgical practices of either must be avoided, even with respect to vestments and gestures. Our Syriac Antiochian Maronite Church has as part of her heritage all that is needed for the spiritual welfare of our faithful without the need of adding or deleting to our liturgical life.
4. As the Patriarch indicates in his encyclical *"The Liturgy... is full of symbols; that is because symbols point to other matters, more than the visible. The Liturgy makes use of symbols to lead it to the truth that is not seen and to enable those who are of one faith to connect with each other."* (No. 31). Therefore, the symbols that we use during public worship are important, whether visual images: icons, crosses, vestments, candles, etc. or symbols experienced through our other senses, for example the use of incense and music are of great importance and must be carefully used. The symbols associated with our liturgical life are not optional; they cannot be dispensed with during public worship.
5. Each person in the liturgical celebration has a role and each should be done by the proper person(s) in order to achieve a sense of harmony in our liturgy. Deacons should not take on a role assigned to a priest, nor should the lay faithful assume the role assigned to the deacon when he is present. The Patriarch describes it thus: *"...harmony must be achieved between all components and attendants: celebrant, concelebrants, deacons, lectors, cantors, altar servers and the prayerful community. Prayers are to be recited and readings proclaimed with clarity and reverence, faith and piety,"* (No. 43).
6. We must always remember that the word "liturgy" has at its roots the idea of "public work" as such involves all people. Public worship is just that: public and collective. Traditionally, the Maronite Liturgy (both the Divine Liturgy and the various offices of the day, for example, *ramsho* and *saftro*), involves the whole of the community present. It is not just the work of the priest and of the choir or cantor. The beauty of our liturgical tradition is its simplicity as it appeals to the heart and to the mind.
7. I would note the following specific instructions from our Patriarch:
 - a. The principal celebrant at each Divine Liturgy must be fully and properly vested. The Patriarch directs us in this: *"Out of respect for Christ, who is our Supreme Pontiff, we ask the celebrant priest at Mass, whether eparchial or religious, to undertake it in full Maronite priestly vestments, and, the concelebrant priests to wear the stole over the Jibbee when needed. It is prohibited to wear the stole over the clerical garb."* (No. 36)
 - b. Intercessions form an essential part of the Eucharistic Prayer, because it *"reminds"* the Church, with her pastors and her faithful, her living and her dead, of the spirit of communion after the *"memorial"* of the plan of salvation of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. When adding other intercessions during

special occasions, harmony is to be safeguarded throughout the totality of the Eucharistic Prayer. (No. 56)

As I noted above, we will continue to clarify and offer further directives for the proper celebration of various forms of public worship. However, at this time I ask that you incorporate these few observations and directives.

Again, thank you for all that you do to advance the mission of the Church and serve your people so faithfully.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



+A. Elias Zaidan

Bishop of the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles

Dear, Fhather Nadim Thank you so much for leting me do my first communion at saint sharbel. me and my family is so grateful. Thank you so much! Love: Sofia



Thank you



• **All Vulnerable People** with underlying health conditions **please stay home.**

• **Mandatory Mask or Bandana** inside Church at all time.



• Everyone **Hand Sanitize** upon entering.



• Sit **6 Ft Distance** from each other.



• **Cough or Sneeze** use a tissue or elbow.



• **No Collection Baskets** there are several boxes located inside the Church to drop your tithing.



• **No Peace Greeting** just nod your head.



• **Communion** will be given on your hand.



• **No Gathering** back of the church or outside or at the Gift Shop **during Mass** or **end of Mass**.

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

According to the traditions of the Carmelite order, on July 16, 1251, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to St. Simon Stock, a Carmelite. During the vision, she revealed to him the Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, popularly known as the "Brown Scapular." A century and a quarter later, the Carmelite order began to celebrate on this date the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

The Carmelites had long claimed that their order extended back to ancient times—indeed, that it was founded on Mount Carmel in Palestine by the prophets Elijah and Elisha. While others disputed this idea, Pope Honorius III, in approving the order in 1226, seemed to accept its antiquity. The celebration of the feast became wrapped up with this controversy, and, in 1609, after Robert Cardinal Bellarmine examined the origins of the feast, it was declared the patronal feast of the Carmelite order.

Prayer to Our Lady of Mount Carmel

O most beautiful Flower of Mount Carmel, fruitful vine,
splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God,
Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this my necessity.

O Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein
that you are my Mother.

O Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and earth,
I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart, to succor
me in this my necessity. There are none that can
withstand your power.

O show me herein that you are my Mother.

O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us that have recourse
to thee. Sweet Mother, I place this cause in your hands.

FEAST DAY: July 16



From then on, the celebration of the feast began to spread, with various popes approving the celebration in southern Italy, then Spain and her colonies, then Austria, Portugal and her colonies, and finally in the Papal States, before Benedict XIII placed the feast on the universal calendar of the Latin Church in 1726. It has since been adopted by some Eastern Rite Catholics as well.

The feast celebrates the devotion that the Blessed Virgin Mary has to those who are devoted to her, and who signal that devotion by wearing the Brown Scapular. According to tradition, those who wear the scapular faithfully and remain devoted to the Blessed Virgin until death will be granted the grace of final perseverance and be delivered from Purgatory early.

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD



A foretaste of the kingdom: From the day Peter confessed that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God, the Master "began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things. . . and be killed, and on the third day be raised." Peter scorns this prediction, nor do the others understand it any better than he.

In this context the mysterious episode of **Jesus' Transfiguration takes place on a high mountain**, before three witnesses chosen by himself: **Peter, James and John**. Jesus' face and clothes become dazzling with light, and Moses and Elijah appear, speaking "of his departure, which he was to accomplish at Jerusalem".

A cloud covers him and a voice from heaven says: **"This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!"**

For a moment Jesus discloses his divine glory, confirming Peter's confession. He also reveals that he will have to go by the way of the cross at Jerusalem in order to **"enter into his glory"**.

Moses and Elijah had seen God's glory on the Mountain; the Law and the Prophets had announced the Messiah's sufferings. Christ's Passion is the will of the Father: the Son acts as God's servant; the cloud indicates the presence of the Holy Spirit. **"The whole Trinity appeared: the Father in the voice; the Son in the man; the Spirit in the shining cloud."**

You were transfigured on the mountain, and your disciples, as much as they were capable of it, beheld your glory, O Christ our God, so that when they should see you crucified they would understand that **your Passion was voluntary**, and proclaim to the world that you truly are the splendor of the Father.

On the threshold of the public life: **the Baptism**; on the threshold of the Passover: **the Transfiguration**. Jesus' Baptism proclaimed "the mystery of the first regeneration", namely, our Baptism; the Transfiguration "is the sacrament of the second regeneration"; our own Resurrection. From now on we share in the Lord's Resurrection through the Spirit who acts in the sacraments of the Body of Christ.

The Transfiguration gives us a foretaste of Christ's glorious coming, when **He "will change our lowly body to be like His glorious body."** But it also recalls that "it is through many persecutions that we must enter the kingdom of God":

Peter did not yet understand this when he wanted to remain with Christ on the mountain. It has been reserved for you, Peter, but for after death. For now, Jesus says: **"Go down to toil on earth, to serve on earth, to be scorned and crucified on earth."**

SPIRIT DAILY*From 'The Best of the Spirit of Medjugorje':*

I felt prompted to send you the following story since tomorrow is St. Charbel's feast day. This story is from The Best of "The Spirit of Medjugorje" Volume II.

I'm Here Waiting For You Every Day**By Jane Monica Spurrier.**

In 1987, on my third trip to Medjugorje, I purchased a book about Modern Saints by Ann Ball, and therein was a story about St. Charbel. I loved him instantly and discovered, lo and behold, he was canonized on my birthday, October 9th. I lived in New York City at the time and my church was Notre Dame on the upper west side by Columbia University. Daily Mass was said in the grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes each day at 8 A.M. One particular Saturday I woke up late, and was so hungry I ate my oatmeal.....but didn't leave myself enough time to fast before Communion. I kept praying, "Oh Jesus, what miracle could allow me to receive You" since I knew I needed one hour of fast time. This kept on, and when the Consecration occurred I did not have the required one hour to receive. During this time a rather odd looking old man entered the side door. He was dressed like a monk but didn't look like our Franciscans, and I was rather annoyed by his appearance since I thought he was some psychotic New Yorker. After Mass ended, I stayed in the grotto to pray. I noticed to my right I could see into the Sacristy and there was the priest who just said Mass changing out of his vestments and the "odd" looking monk changing into vestments. The little monk was coming out to say Mass! We never have a second daily Mass, but this visitor was going to say one and this would give me the chance to receiving Our Lord! I was overjoyed. During the Mass the monk was praying in a language I didn't understand. It wasn't Latin, because I know Latin, but I couldn't decipher what language it was. After Mass I stayed in the grotto to praise Our Lord and thank Him some more for sending the stranger to say Mass. I was the only one there and during the Consecration the monk looked at me and his eyes said, "Do you want to receive?" I eagerly nodded back "Yes!" We both could understand each other without saying a word.

***St. Sharbel spent his last hours in his celebrating Mass until his death on Christmas Eve***

When Mass was over, I went in to thank the pastor (the first priest who said Mass and functioned as the altar server for the monk). I said, "Father, you don't know what a great miracle this was, that I got to receive Communion!" The monk smiled with a look of abundant joy, happiness and humor - the look of someone who laughs a lot and is very happy. The pastor didn't seem to get my point. The next day I went back again. I saw the pastor and couldn't stop telling him what a great miracle it was for me. Then I said to him, "Father, by the way, who was that priest?" "I don't know," he replied, "I never saw him before." I couldn't believe my ears! What priest would allow another one to say Mass without knowing who he was? Several months went by. I opened my book of Modern Saints again. I turned to St. Charbel and honestly, almost had a heart attack when I saw his picture. HE WAS THE MONK!!! He had appeared to say the Mass for me. Can you imagine? I later found out he has appeared numerous times since his death. I was glad I didn't know at the time who he was or I would have had a stroke. St. Charbel had a great devotion to Mass and the Blessed Sacrament. Anyway, I haven't seen him since, but I know there is a picture of him in Charlie's store in Medjugorje. I've asked those brothers to sell me the picture, but they declined because it was a gift given to them. I thought the miracle of St. Charbel was so awesome and then today a voice inside of me said, "But I'm there waiting for you in the Eucharist everyday, to show you how much I love you. I sent Charbel so he could carry Me to you.....that's how much I wanted to receive you too." Jesus waits for us every day in the Mass. He performed the greatest miracle on earth when He created the Eucharist. A small piece of bread, blessed, transformed into HIS presence, waiting for us. The graces we receive at Mass are incalculable. Don't miss this opportunity to meet Jesus in person... "The Lord bless you, and keep you! The Lord let His Face shine upon you, and be gracious to you! The Lord look upon you kindly and give you peace!" (Numbers 6:24-26)

June Klins

www.spiritofmedjugorje.org_

If You have received graces & miracles from God through St. Sharbel, write or contact us so we can share the graces you have received,

St. Sharbel Prayers, Novena Booklet,

& Healing oil

are available at

the St. Sharbel Grotto & Church Office.

Saint Sharbel Youth Ministry News

BORED AT MASS? THESE TIPS WILL HELP YOU MAKE THE MOST OF THE EUCHARIST

One of the most common refrains I hear from young people is 'Mass is boring. Homilies are boring. I don't know why I have to come Sunday after Sunday.' Some of my youth in the rear pews would be distracted on their phones during Mass. When I asked them once what they were doing, one of them retorted with a straight face that he was Instagramming pictures of Mass and tweeting quotes from my homily! Cheeky little fellow (lol) but he got me there.

I googled what advice other writers had to give for this problem. But I was met with advice that bordered more on the spiritual. Well, that's beautiful and brings out the spiritual and salvific meaning of the Eucharist. **Most young people I know sincerely want to participate in the Mass more meaningfully, they understand that the Eucharist is rich and meaningful but yet find it difficult to focus and concentrate.** Hence, I am tempted to mention some practical steps that one could undertake to get more absorbed into the Mass.

So what do I do?

7 practical steps to make the Mass more meaningful for you

1. Get me to the Church on time

Getting to the church at least 10 minutes before Mass makes a huge difference. It **gives your mind some time to dial down** from the fast-paced activities that you came from. Having all your general preoccupations at the back of your head quite often distracts heavily, and since the readings (Liturgy of the Word) happen close to the beginning, you are bound to lose out and pay less attention. Use the time before Mass to kneel and speak to God from your heart. Offer to him all your joys and the challenges that you are facing, and you will find God speaking to you during the Eucharist.

2. Mother Church wants YOU

I've had young people telling me that they feel more involved in the Eucharist when they play some role at Mass. There are a number of options available – choir, lectors, ushers, greeters, altar servers or church decoration. Becoming a member of one of these groups will focus your attention on what's happening and make you more attentive. Being a member of one of these groups has many other positive side effects as well for your personal life.

3. Pray Business Class

Avoid looking for a place in the last pews of the Church right at the back, especially when there is plenty of space up front. They say that the front pews receive more grace! Sitting up front will help you avoid distractions. **Why is it that everyone wants front row seats at a musical concert or at a game, but the last seats in Church?** More importantly, excuse yourself from your friends and peers and sit separately for the duration of Mass, especially if your friends tend to be a distraction. You can always rejoin them later. Your friends may tease you initially, but they will respect you eventually. Pray for your friends!

4. Come on out, you Bathroom Singers

Take the hymn book and sing along. Understand the words you are singing. Don't worry if you have no talent for singing; most people don't. The ones who do are usually in the choir. Can you imagine how bored you would be if you went to a concert and didn't know any of the songs? Exactly! Taking part in the proceedings, even if you don't get much out of it initially, goes a long way. Don't expect quick results.

5. A Tweeting Exercise

"Homilies are so boring!" How often have I heard that. Turns out, most times they are not; in fact they are usually pretty interesting and the priest has probably put in a lot of effort preparing it. **If you get bored during lectures in school or college or watching the evening news or scrolling through your Facebook feed, chances are that the problem is with you!** Give yourself an exercise. Listen to the homily and try to capture the essence of it in 140 characters or less. Then, after Mass, tweet it. It's harder than you think.

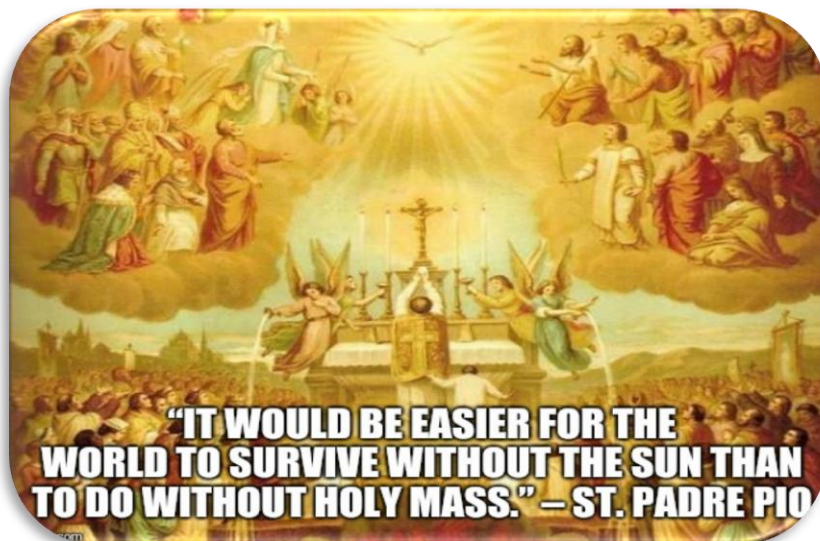
6. It's a 167-to-1

Remember that the Eucharist is Thanksgiving and if you are just a Sunday Church-goer, then you are giving God your full attention for 1 hour only or less. The rest of the 167 hours each week, God gives you as a gift and doesn't step in your way. Ask yourself how many good things you have received from the Lord. Isn't it right and just that we spend **one hour each week** worshipping the Creator with all our hearts?

7. A Perfect 7 – Mary

The final word belongs to Mary, Queen of heaven and earth and our Mother. **Ask Mary to intercede for you during Mass.** Pray to her for guidance and strength. She was always by Our Lord's side and she will remain by yours as well. No human being understands you better than Mary does.

Follow these 7 steps and you will slowly find the beauty of the Eucharist opening up before you. As with any other activity, this too will take time. Don't expect to be charged up on the first Sunday itself. All great tastes develop in time and with patience. You cannot make great music on the first day. Neither was Rome built in a day.





FILIPINO COMMUNITY NEWS



OUR HOLY FATHER FRANCIS NAMES PINOY PRIESTS TO MERCY MISSION

Two more Filipino Catholic priests have been named by Pope Francis as “missionaries of mercy”.

The pope called Fr. Prospero Tenorio and Fr. Nap Baltazar, both from the Malolos diocese, to be the signs of God’s mercy to people. The special mandate also calls the priests to make themselves available in bringing about the reconciliation of God through the ministry of Confession.

The appointments were made in the Vatican on March 30 but the priests received it only last week.

Fr. Tenorio is currently the rector of the National Shrine of the Divine Mercy in Bulacan’s Marilao town, and at the same time the national spiritual director of Divine Mercy-Philippines.

“All the more in order for us to transcend the mercy of God to the faithful, we really need to always think of mercy, speak of mercy and always do acts of mercy,” he said.

Fr. Baltazar, meanwhile, is the parish priest of Nuestra Senora de Lourdes in DRT, Bulacan.

He said that they will continue the formation and training of the Divine Mercy devotees as part of the New Evangelization.

“To be merciful is to be joyful. The mercy of God gives joy,” Fr. Baltazar said.

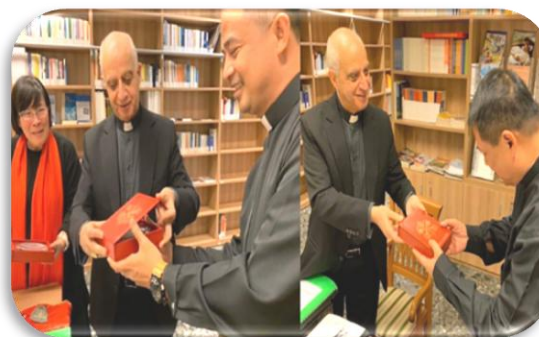
Tenorio and Baltazar are also the Secretary General and Assistant Secretary General of the World Apostolic Congress on Mercy in Asia.

The Archdiocese of Lingayen-Dagupan on June 24 announced that four of its priests also received the same papal mandate as missionaries of mercy.

Named to the new mission to spread the works of mercy are priests Allan Morris Abuan, Danille Chad Pecson, Matt Jason Molina, and Roy Joel Rosal.

Missionaries of mercy are authorized by the Vatican to give presentations, retreats, workshops, and hear Confessions with an emphasis on the scriptural, theological and pastoral dimensions of the mercy of Christ.

The other missionaries of mercy in the Philippines are Franciscan priests Andrew Litigio, Joe Litigio, Robert Manansala, Andres Rañoa, and Father Jose Lito Escote of the Antique diocese, and Father Darek Drzewiecki of the Congregation of the Marian Fathers in Davao.



Fr. Prospero Tenorio (right) and Fr. Nap Baltazar are welcomed by Archbishop Salvatore Fisichella, president of the Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelization, during an official visit to the Vatican on Dec. 2, 2019.

ORATIO IMPERATA FOR PEACE

*To be prayed from March 1 to March 28, 2015
Before the Post Communion Prayer in every Mass*

Lord of Peace, we come to You in our need
Create in us an awareness of the massive forces of violence and terrorism
that threaten our world today.

Grant us a sense of urgency to activate the forces of goodness, of justice,
of love and of peace in our communities.

Where there is armed conflict, let us stretch out our arms to our brothers and sisters.

Where there is abundance and luxury, let there be simple lifestyle and sharing.

Where there is poverty and misery, let there be dignified living and
constant striving for just structures.

Where there is selfish ambition, let there be humble service.

Where there is injustice, let there be humble atonement.

Where there is despair, let there be hope in the Good News.

Where there are wounds of division, let there be unity and wholeness.

Where there are lies and deceit, let your Truth set us all of us free.

Where there are thoughts of vengeance, let there be healing and forgiveness.

Help us to be committed to the Gospel of peace. In spite of our differences
in faith traditions and ethnic roots, teach us Your spirit of mercy and compassion.

For it is only in loving imitation of you, Lord of Peace, that we can discover the healing springs of life
that will bring about new birth to our earth a new era of peace and a new harmony among all
Forever and ever. Amen.



IT IS TIME TO STAND UP FOR OUR CHRISTIAN FAITH AND HERITAGE

As in some countries and states elections will be held this year I thought it important to repost this letter from 2016 that I wrote with the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Today as then it is extremely important we reflect on this and do nothing that would help evil through supporting in any way those who promote abortion, immorality and restrictions of religious freedoms. I encourage you to pass this on to as many people as you can.

God bless,

Alan Ames

Dear Friends,

From the many questions I get about the future of the Church I would like to answer them in this way and with a prophetic word of what lies ahead unless we act.

Over the past years the Church in western countries has been continuously attacked by governments, politicians and groups who desire that their will or way of life be accepted by Christians even when these are against church teaching.

The last years have been particularly difficult as one major government tries to force its will on the Church. This government has attacked the Church or Christian groups through the use of what are called equal rights but often are wrongs. It is done in various ways including through the targeting of Christian groups by the tax arm of the government to remove charitable exemptions etc. There are attempts to force the Church to accept such things as abortion in Catholic hospitals, paying for those in the Church employ to have contraception, same sex marriage, adoption of children by same sex couples, transgenders lifestyles and much more. Religious groups within the Church have had to fight legal battles just to try and keep to the faith and the teachings of the church (which is to love the person but to reject the sin).

Some of those in power try to take away religious freedom in the name of being progressive or politically correct; try to deny Christians the right to follow their faith and their conscience. This government appears to want to have a country that has little faith and can be manipulated easily to do its will. Already the consequences of this can be seen by the number of people who no longer go to church or believe in God. The numbers embracing satanism seems to be growing. Secularism reigns supreme in many lives and atheism is on the rise. While all around the morals of society collapse and people suffer from this. It is time now for Catholics and all Christians to stand up and say enough for if this is allowed to continue then disaster surely lies ahead.



Some Christians tell me that they will vote for some one who supports abortion at all stages of the pregnancy even late term and partial birth abortions. Do they not understand to do this is to support the killing of babies and that they become part of this terrible sin and will carry that responsibility with them to be confronted by The Lord on judgement day when He will ask them why they supported the killing of the innocent. Some have responded to me that both choices support abortion but one person to vote for says they are pro life and only support abortion when life of the mother is at risk or for some other very serious problem such as rape or incest. While both choices are not good a Christian must support the one that will save the most lives and will help reduce abortions which in time may influence the country to go further in reducing this terrible act of inhumanity. Catholics and all Christians who would vote for those who want to suppress the faith, to change the faith, to force Christians to accept sin and to be immoral are attacking the faith themselves. They become part of the forces that want to destroy Christianity, destroy the Church. We must support the ones who say they will protect Christianity and freedom of religion. The ones who understand what is happening to the Judeo/ Christian heritage we have and promise to defend that heritage.

If Christians do not now stand up for their faith and stand firmly in the truth of Christ by rejecting and not supporting those who attack the church, attack the faith, then it may be too late. If the situation we are in now is allowed to continue it will get only worse. In years to come the Catholic Church will have been assailed so much that it will be reduced to a shadow of what it is today. The people attending will drop as people will lose belief in God or will go to more 'progressive' churches who accept what the government and special interest groups in society say is right. Many will see no reason to go to church for they will see it as a place of bigots and extremists. Many will be drawn away from God and deeper into the darkness of the secular world. It may happen that a church springs up calling itself catholic but is truly not and some will be drawn to that.

If we Christians want the future to be a good one living in the truth of God we need to support our God and our faith. If we do not then be assured the world will get worse. Darkness will envelop your families and friends. Suffering will increase. Hatred will spread and the evil one will have his way in many lives taking many souls from God. A terrible thought and I pray this does not come to be.

This can be stopped but each one of us has to do what God calls us to; reject the worldly ways of immorality and sin and never support someone who shamelessly promotes these evil things.

I normally do not speak in this way but I have been shown how important it is that at this time people of faith stand firm and defend their faith by supporting those who will not attempt to change or destroy their faith. Encourage all you know to think deeply about the future they want. Do they want a Christian based one or one based on the falseness that is in the world? Help all make the right choice.

God bless,

Alan Ames

WEEKEND**HOLY MASS INTENTIONS****Saturday 4:30pm****July 4**

*Wedding Anniversary Elliot & Christine Chang
 +Anthony Apigo
 Thank you First Responders
 * America (Peace)

Sunday 9:30 am**July 5**

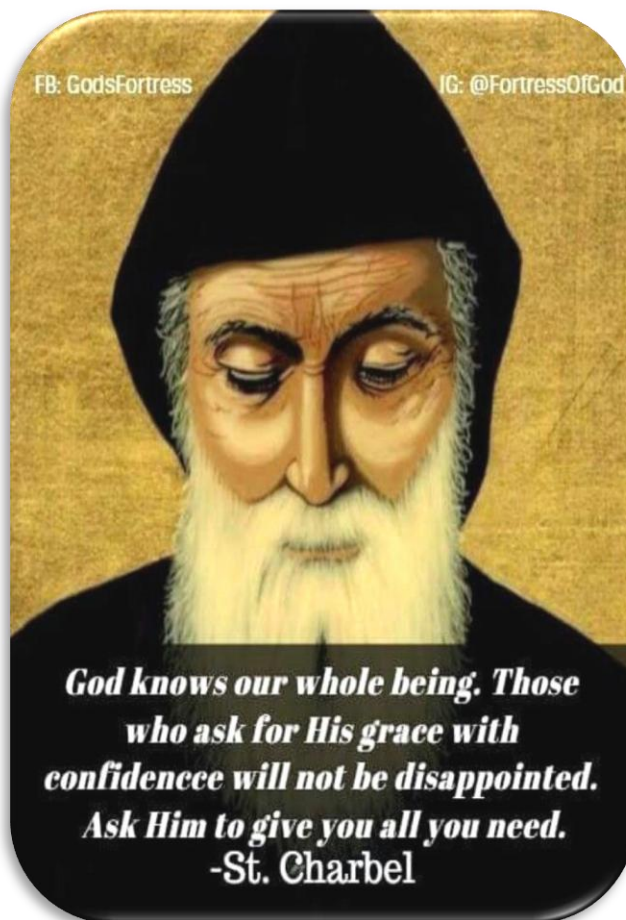
*Mary Camfield (85 yrs)
 *Melody Tanglao
 +Susie Bamberger

Sunday 11:30 am

Government Leaders
 of Lebanon

4:30 pm Misa en Español

Cura para COVID9



PRAY
FOR THE SICK

DAILY 8AM**MONDAY July 6**

Health & Safe Delivery
 Desi Hanache & Baby

TUESDAY July 7

Policeman, Fireman,
 Nurses & Doctors

WEDNESDAY July 8

Cure for Covid 19

THURSDAY July 9

Faithful Departed

FRIDAY July 10

Unborn Babies



The roses that Our Lady of Guadalupe sent as proof that the bishop requested were not from the region of Tepeyac Hill at all. They were dark pink damask roses from the Bishop's home town of Castile, Spain. Adding these beautiful roses to your garden is a way to honor Our Lady of Guadalupe all year round.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Pray for Us!

CatholicPilgrimageSites.com

El Grupo Guadalupano

de la Iglesia de San Charbel
 Te invita a que asistas a la Misa y El Rosario que se celebran el

primer domingo cada mes comenzado,

DIA: Domingo 5 de Julio**HORA: Rosario 4:30pm Misa**

DONDE: Iglesia Catolica de San Charbel

**10325 Rancho Destino Rd,
 Las Vegas, NV 89183**

Despues de la Misa te invitamos a que nos acompañes a una pequeña recepcion donde compartiremos: café, postres, y bocadillos con todos los asistentes.

Si tienes alguna duda communicate con:
 Oficina de la Iglesia 702-616-6902

