

From the Pastor

Series on the Mass, Part 88

The Final Blessing. The final blessing, as previously noted, used to be given only by the bishop or abbot during the procession from the altar to the sacristy after the ceremony. This is still done today during pontifical ceremonies. The bishop is the pastor of the flock, and so initially the blessing of the flock was given only by him. The more solemn form of blessing is still reserved to the bishop: "Sit nomen Domini benedictum..." (May the name of The Lord be blessed...). The bishop begins the blessing while facing the altar; when he turns to the faithful, he is handed his staff, which is his symbol of the pastor. He then makes the sign of the cross three times over the faithful. The blessing by the bishop at the altar began around the 10th c., and the simple priests began to imitate his blessing at the altar. This is why the blessing is still given after the dismissal.

Current practice is for the simple priest to give a blessing at the end of the Mass in a single sign of the cross. First the priest places his hands on the altar and kisses it; next, lifting his hands and forming a circle as he does so, he says: "May almighty God bless you"; finally, turning to the faithful, he continues: "the Father, and the Son and the Holy Ghost." The faithful respond: "Amen." This action of venerating the altar first is a sort of borrowing from Christ the benediction that is to be given to the faithful. The priest begins this blessing facing the altar that represents Christ, and the image of the crucifix there reminds us of the source of grace that we receive. The priest's hands extended to heaven forming the circle is an invocation for grace to descend upon us. It has always been the custom to kneel, if we are able to do so, to receive the blessing from the bishop or priest.

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Charles Van Vliet.

Rev. Charles Van Vliet, FSSP



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

MEN'S RECOLLECTION this Friday, Sept. 15, 7-9 p.m.

YOUTH GROUP & YOUNG ADULTS resumes every third Sunday, beginning Sept. 17

LITTLE FLOWERS GIRLS CLUB will meet every third Saturday, beginning Oct. 21

There will be Vespers after the 5:30 p.m. Mass.

Flood Relief/Assistance. Some families in our parish are hurting from the effects of the hurricane and many are asking how they can help. Your continued prayers are appreciated. If you would like to provide financial donations, please send checks to the parish earmarked FLOOD RELIEF. You may also donate via PayPal. Please see our website for more information.

In addition, there will be needs for volunteer labor, goods, etc. As these needs become clearer, Fr. Van Vliet will post requests for assistance on the home page of the website. Please check it frequently to see if you may be able to assist on these upcoming projects. May God reward you.

Weekend church hours. The church is open for private prayer on Fridays-Sundays as noted below. Please consider committing to one hour of prayer at least one day a month.

Fridays & Saturdays, 4-7 p.m. Sundays, Noon-5:30 p.m.

Saturday work days, 10-4 p.m. If you can spare time on Saturday to assist on parish projects and grounds maintenance, please come at any time during these hours.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena, 6:40 p.m. every Wednesday

Legion of Mary meeting, 7 p.m. every Thursday unless noted differently below

Altar Server Practice will be the third Saturday of every month, immediately following the 7:30 a.m. Mass. The first practice will be September 16. Open to all boys who have received First Communion.

Little Flowers Girls Club for ages 5-11 is being formed. The group will meet the third Saturday of every month from 9-10:30 a.m. in the large meeting room. Little Flowers teaches virtues through the lives of Mary and the saints, scripture and the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Girls earn badges for the virtues and skills they learn. If you would like to learn more or enroll your child, please contact Jennifer Wingate in person or email her at smwingate@sbcglobal.net.

TODAY:

~ CCD registration for ages 5-18 has been extended through today due to the hurricane.

~ Tamales (\$10/dozen), cinnamon rolls and jams for sale after the Sunday Masses. Proceeds to assist the FSSP build Casa Cristo Rey, a house of priestly formation, in Guadalajara.

Fri., Sept. 8, Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Masses will be at 6:30 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Sat., Sept. 9, Altar Society meeting after the 7:30 a.m. Mass

Sun., Sept. 10, CCD classes begin, 8:45 a.m. to approximately 9:35 a.m.

Fri., Sept. 15, Men's Recollection, 7-9 p.m. Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament, confession and spiritual conference; open to all men.

Sat., Sept. 16, Boys' altar server practice immediately following the 7:30 a.m. Mass

Sun., Sept. 17:

~ Youth Group meets in the large meeting room after the High Mass

~ Young Adults meet at the church, 6:30 p.m.

Mon., Sept. 18, Troops of St. George meeting, 7-8:30 p.m. at the church

September 3, 2017 - 13th Sunday after Pentecost

Liturgical Calendar & Mass Intentions

September 3– September 9, 2017

Sun., 9/3, 13th Sunday after Pentecost

7:30 a.m., RIP Ruth and Arrel Carrier; requested by Cindy Limes

10:00 a.m., Pro Populo

5:30 p.m., Desiree Arceneaux and Family; requested by a friend

Mon., 9/4, Votive Mass of Holy Trinity

6:30 a.m., Desiree Arceneaux and Family; requested by a friend

Tues., 9/5, St. Lawrence Justinian

7:00 p.m., Desiree Arceneaux and Family; requested by a friend

Wed., 9/6, Votive Mass of St. Joseph

6:30 a.m., Forgotten Souls in Purgatory; requested by Luz Maria Cardosa

Thurs., 9/7, Votive Mass of Jesus Christ the High Priest

7:00 p.m., Fr. Houck's First Ordination Anniversary and birthday; requested by the Nwachukwu Family

Fri., 9/8, Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

6:30 a.m., Perez Cena Family; requested by the Cena Family

7:00 p.m., Private intentions

Sat., 9/9, St. Peter Claver

7:30 a.m., Agnes Escobedo; by the Cena Family



First Friday of each month, there is an additional public Mass at 7:00 p.m., followed by First Friday devotions, which includes exposition and benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

First Saturday of each month, First Saturday devotions follow the 7:30 a.m. Mass.

Directory

Parish Office office@reginacaeliparish.org
Open: Mon. & Fri., 8:30-4 p.m.
Telephone: 832-328-0876
To confirm Mass requests or dates:
registrar@reginacaeliparish.org

Pastor Rev. Charles Van Vliet, FSSP
pastor@reginacaeliparish.org

Parochial Vicar Rev. Joshua Houck, FSSP
frjhouck@reginacaeliparish.org

Website reginacaeliparish.org

Parish Organizations

Men's Schola

Practice Wednesday nights, 7 p.m.
Contact: Mark Holt or Kyle Lartigue
schola@reginacaeliparish.org

Young Adult Group

Contact: Stephen Gann
youngadults@reginacaeliparish.org

Youth Group

Contact: Rev. Joshua Houck

Contacts for Altar Society and other groups

Please check the bulletin boards or go to the parish website and click on Groups/Ministries

Sacraments

Please check the parish website for more information.

Infant baptism—contact parish at least one month before due date.

Marriage—contact parish eight months before proposed date.

Private Mass Schedule

Mon., Wed. 7:00 p.m.
Tues., Thurs., Sat. 6:30 a.m.

You are welcome to attend private Masses, but they are subject to cancellation if a priest is not available. Advance notice of cancellations will be posted in the bulletin whenever possible.

Regina Caeli Parish

The Priestly Fraternity of St Peter
Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston



Pastor: Rev. Charles Van Vliet, FSSP
Parochial Vicar: Rev. Joshua Houck, FSSP

Address: 8121 Breen Rd., Houston, Texas 77064
Telephone: 832-328-0876
Website: reginacaeliparish.org
Email: office@reginacaeliparish.org

Mass and Confession Schedule

Sundays	7:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m. (High), 5:30 p.m.
Mon., Wed., Fri.	6:30 a.m.
Tues., Thurs.	7:00 p.m.
Saturdays	7:30 a.m.
Confession	30 minutes before each Mass; ends 5 minutes before Mass starts