

November 12, 2017 - 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

From the Pastor

St. Thomas Prayer After Mass, Part 3

St. Thomas Aquinas in the beautiful prayer of thanksgiving after Mass continues with the following: "May it be unto me.... a strong defense against the snares of all enemies, visible and invisible." We are in a battle for the salvation of our souls, and the better we are properly armed for the fight, the greater are the chances of success. St. Thomas points out that the enemies are both visible and invisible. We are not fighting against each other to try and win a spot in heaven, as if there are only a fixed number of seats available. Rather, the battleground is our soul, and there are three enemies that we must do battle against: the world, the devil and our own weak selves.

The world would include all the external influences on us from the people around us to the attraction of material things. The devil is, of course, a fallen angel that has not lost his powers as an angel and, therefore, he can be insidiously dangerous if we are not armed with spiritual weapons for the battle. In some ways, however, our own weak selves can be the most dangerous enemy since we carry within us a disorder that results from original sin and from our own personal sins, from which it is impossible to "run away" in a manner of speaking. To win these battles, we need the right armor. The best armor possible is worthily receiving Holy Communion regularly and frequently, since we are receiving the source of grace itself to strengthen and defend us.

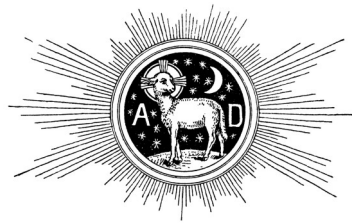
Holy Communion can bring about a change within us. St. Thomas has us ask when reciting this prayer that this Communion may be to me "a perfect quieting of all my evil impulses, both fleshly and ghostly". Along with receiving Communion to bring about this proper order within ourselves, we must also faithfully pray and ask for this grace. Further-more, we mortify ourselves so that we can keep the lower passions fully under the control of the intellect and will. Grace builds on nature, and thus Communion will help reinforce the efforts we make, which are already a grace from God.

Holy Communion additionally helps us "cleave to the one true God" now while we are fighting the battle, and it will be a pledge for our future destiny with Him. Through this sacrament, our Lord is with us to assist us so that we can be with Him for all eternity in heaven. Communion is already a union with our Savior as we hope to be united with Him in heaven.

Sincerely in Christ,



Rev. Charles Van Vliet, FSSP



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

Announcements

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, 7 p.m. every Thursday in the large meeting room, unless noted differently below

Altar Society, second Saturday of every month after the 7:30 a.m. Mass, in the small meeting room

Altar Server Practice, second Saturday of every month immediately following the 7:30 a.m. Mass. Open to all boys who have received First Communion.

Little Flowers Girls Club, second Saturday of every month in the large meeting room, 9 –10:30 a.m. Open to girls, ages 5-11.

Knights of Columbus. If any members of the parish are already members of the Knights and would like to establish a council in our parish, please let Fr. Van Vliet know so he can evaluate whether it is feasible at this time.

Changes to Mass Schedule: 1) Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 23, no evening Mass; instead, there will be a public Mass at 9 a.m. There will also be a 6:30 a.m. private Mass. 2) Saturday, Nov. 25, no 6:30 a.m. private Mass.

2018 FSSP Liturgical Calendars on Sale at the hall table, \$13 each, cash or check. Please make checks payable to Regina Caeli Parish and note "calendar" on the memo line.

Lecture Series Begins. First class will be Sunday, Nov. 19, after Vespers. "The Teachings of Martin Luther and Their Results in His Own Words", presented by Fr. Houck. Open to all.

TODAY, Second collection: FSSP Missions

Thurs., Nov. 16, 7 p.m., Ladies' Social at a private residence. Open to all women. RSVP Gayle Misner at gaylemisner@gmail.com.

Fri., Nov. 17, 7-9 p.m., Men's recollection. Open to all men.

Sat., Nov. 18, 3-5 p.m., Youth Group field trip to the National Museum of Funeral History. Contact Fr. Houck for more information. The field trip is in lieu of the meeting on Sunday, Nov. 19.

Sun., Nov. 19, after Vespers, first in a series of lectures: "The Teachings of Martin Luther and Their Results in His Own Words", presented by Fr. Houck. Open to all.

Mon., Nov. 20, 7 p.m., Troops of St. George meet in the building. Open to boys, ages 6 and older.

Thurs., Nov. 23, Thanksgiving Day. Mass times: 6:30 a.m. (private) and 9 a.m. (public). No evening Mass.

Sat., Nov. 25, no 6:30 a.m. private Mass

Sun., Nov. 26, no CCD. Classes will resume the following Sunday, Dec. 3.

Festival photos on the website. Check it out!

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Liturgical Calendar & Mass Intentions

November 12 – 18, 2017

Sun., 11/12, 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

7:30 a.m., Health of Anna Xuan Nguyen, requested by G. M. Tran

10:00 a.m., Pro Populo

5:30 p.m., Intentions for Joseph Clarke, requested by Brian and Diane Clarke

Mon., 11/13, St. Francis Xavier Cabrini

6:30 a.m., Intentions for Joseph Clarke, requested by Brian and Diane Clarke

Tues., 11/14, St. Josaphat

7:00 p.m., Intentions of Rev. Charles Van Vliet, requested by Thu Ha

Wed., 11/15, St. Albert the Great

6:30 a.m., Intentions of Rev. Joshua Houck, requested by Thu Ha

Thurs., 11/16, St. Gertrude the Great

7:00 p.m., Ordination Anniversary of Rev. Joshua Houck, requested by Thu Ha

Fri., 11/17, St. Gregory the Wonderworker

6:30 a.m., Maria Van Nguyen, by G. M. Tran

Sat., 11/18, Dedication of the Basilicas of Ss. Peter & Paul

7:30 a.m., Intentions for James LaRose, MD, requested by his family

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

First Saturday of each month, First Saturday devotion with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament follows 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

Altar Society

Contact: Juana Maria Olvera
altarsoc@reginacaeliparish.org

Youth Group

Contact: Rev. Joshua Houck

Contacts for 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.

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