

Dec. 11, 2016 - Third Sunday of Advent

From the Pastor

Series on the Mass, Part 50

The Canon: The Consecration of the Chalice. "For this is the chalice of my Blood" – these are the essential words of the consecration of the chalice. To these are joined: "of the new and eternal Testament." This New and Eternal Testament was established on Calvary between God and all men by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This New Testament replaces the Old Testament between God and Israel, which was established by Moses when he received the tablets of the Law on Mount Sinai. The Old Testament was good, but it was imperfect, and it prefigured the New Testament, which was to come.

We then use the words "Mystery of Faith". These words refer to the Eucharist, which is the great Mystery of our Faith and which summarizes and contains all the others. We have in it the Trinity, since where one person of the Holy Trinity acts, all three persons of the Holy Trinity are also present. The Incarnation is set before us, in that, it is through His becoming man that Christ makes Himself present on the altar to suffer and die for our Salvation. Our Redemption is present since the sacrifice of Calvary is made present once again. When our Lord announced this Mystery for the first time after the multiplication of the loaves, many of the disciples left Him, but the apostles remained faithful, even though they did not understand. St. Peter said: "Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life." (John 6:68) We will never fully understand the Mystery of the Eucharist, but our Faith in it is the mark of a Catholic.

Then come the words "which shall be shed for you and for many unto the remission of sins." On Calvary, our Lord shed His Blood for us so that our sins and those of all men may be forgiven. But it is up to each one of us to make this objective redemption that our Lord won for us our personal redemption. This is where many will not make the effort to be converted and live. Any sin can be forgiven because of the infinite graces and merits won for us by our Savior, but not everyone is going to humble himself and ask for that forgiveness; hence, the word "many" is used instead of "all".

Finally after the words of consecration, the priest says, as he genuflects: "As often as you shall do these things, you shall do them in memory of Me." It is because of this command that the Church celebrates daily the Sacrifice of the Mass for over two thousand years. This is also the passage as defined by the Council of Trent where our Lord establishes the sacrament of Holy Orders.

Sincerely in Christ,



Rev. Charles Van Vliet, FSSP

*Please stay current on your pledge commitment.
Pledges finance construction and retire interim bridge loans.
May God reward you!*

Letter from Cardinal DiNardo to the Faithful

Each year when we celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the Church hears echoes of Mary's words of hope for her children: "I am truly your Merciful Mother ... I will hear their weeping, their complaints, and heal all their sorrows, hardships and sufferings."

Our church, in particular our archdiocese, has always been an advocate for the needs and rights of immigrants in our country. As a mother, the Church continues to be compassionate and merciful in caring for all those who are placed on the fringes of society.

In recent weeks there has been a lot of anxiety and fears around our undocumented brothers and sisters. As your shepherd, I want to reassure you that the Church remains vigilant in listening to the cries of those who are struggling and, like our Lady of Guadalupe, is constant in her response to provide support so as to alleviate their hardships.

Announcements

2017 Boxed Envelope Sets are on the hall table for pick up. Please pick up your box and save the parish postage. Everyone who is registered as a box. If you do not have a boxed set, you are not registered with the parish. Registration forms are on the table. If you are registered and do not see a boxed set, please contact C.C. Grant or email office@reginacaeliparish.org.

FSSP 2017 Liturgical Calendar on sale at the table, \$13 each, cash or check payable to parish.

Cash/check donations for Christmas altar flowers are appreciated and can be made at the table.

Today: Sun., Dec. 11, two celebrations in honor of Our Lady:

- ~ Second collection: Retirement Fund for Religious
- ~ Today is the last class of CCD for 2016. CCD resumes January 8.
- ~ CCD children will lead faithful in singing "Immaculate Mary" at the end of the 9:30 Mass. There will be a cake reception in honor of the Immaculate Conception after Mass and before CCD.
- ~ Reception after CCD in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Please stay and enjoy some traditional Mexican treats.

Mon., Dec. 12, Our Lady of Guadalupe. USCCB has designated this day as a day of prayer for refugees and migrants.

Christmas Masses will be Midnight Mass, 7:30 a.m. Low Mass, 9:30 a.m. High Mass, 5:30 p.m. Low Mass. The Mass schedule for the Christmas season will be posted in the bulletin and online when finalized.

Please step up! The more we do; the more we can do!

Cost savings allow more spending on parish projects and needed expansion.

Our janitorial costs will run over \$10,000 a year. If families and individuals can help clean on Sundays after CCD or during the week, savings can be applied to desired projects and activities. Please sign up at the table if you can assist.

Collection Counts. If you are available to count collections after any of the Sunday Masses, please contact Michael Charba at office@reginacaeliparish.org.

Saturday workdays. Work under the direction of Fr. Van Vliet continues, including finishing fencing of the property. Hours are generally 10-4 p.m., but you can come the times that work best for you. You can also come during the week. Please contact Michael Charba at office@reginacaeliparish.org to learn more.

Dec. 11, 2016 - Third Sunday of Advent Sunday

Regina Caeli Parish

The Priestly Fraternity of St Peter
Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

Liturgical Calendar & Mass Intentions

Dec. 11-Dec. 18, 2016

Sun., 12/11, Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday)

7:30 a.m., RIP Joseph Holman White; requested by Betty Lee White

9:30 a.m., Pro Populo

Mon., 12/12, Our Lady of Guadalupe

6:30 a.m., RIP Elaine Richardson; by Gretchen Richardson

Tues., 12/13, St. Lucy

7:00 p.m., Rev. Charles Van Vliet; requested by Josie Rodriguez

Wed., 12/14, Ember Wednesday of Advent

6:30 a.m., RIP John Dudas, Jr.; by Joan Carson

Thurs., 12/15, Feria of Advent

7:00 p.m., Rev. Charles Van Vliet; by a friend

Fri., 12/16, Ember Friday of Advent

6:30 a.m., RIP Esther Wilson; by Gretchen Richardson

Sat., 12/17, Ember Saturday of Advent

7:30 a.m., RIP John Dudas, Sr., by Joan Carson

Sun., 12/18, Fourth Sunday of Advent

7:30 a.m., Pro Populo

9:30 a.m., RIP Josephine Dudas; by Joan Carson

First Friday of each month, there is an additional public Mass at 7:00 p.m., followed by First Friday devotions.

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. Planned absence of a priest will be posted in the bulletin whenever possible.

Directory

Parish Office office@reginacaeliparish.org
Open: Mon. & Fri., 8-4 p.m.

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

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

Website reginacaeliparish.org

Parish Organizations

Contact in person or email

Men's Schola

Practice Thursday 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

Regina Caeli Moms

Contact: Jennifer McDonald
reginacaelimoms@reginacaeliparish.org

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.



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

Address: 8121 Breen Rd., Houston, Texas 77064

website: reginacaeliparish.org
email: office@reginacaeliparish.org



Mass and Confession Schedule

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| Sundays | 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m. (High) |
| 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 |