

November 26, 2017 - 24th Sunday after Pentecost

From the Pastor

The Last Sunday after Pentecost

The Gospel today speaks of the terrifying last days that will precede our Lord's return at the end of time. It is going to be a difficult time, but it is also going to be a time of grace, and so we must prepare ourselves for those days. We prepare for these days by faithfully practicing our Faith, virtues and charity. In other words, we must keep growing in holiness. Stocking up on food and building a bunker is not going to help in any way. No one can hide from our Lord when He comes, and so if we are wise, we will prepare with a sincere desire to purify ourselves and serve our Lord in our neighbor. We do not know when He will come. There are signs, but these can be difficult to interpret. Just think of those who lived through the Black Plague. They were convinced that the end of the world had come. Many died in those days, but the world continues even today.

We cannot know when the end of the world will come. We read in the Gospels of Ss. Matthew and Mark: "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only." (Matt 24:36 and Mark 13:32) St. Thomas says that the time of the future judgment is unknown, for this knowledge is most fittingly reserved to the Father Himself, since the end of the world and the day of judgment will be the result of the Divine Power alone, without any co-operation of a created cause, just as the world received its existence immediately from God. St. Thomas says that our Lord seems to assign this very reason when He said: "It is not for you to know the times or moments which the Father has put in His own Power", (Acts 1:7), which is to say which are reserved to His power alone.

We do not need specific knowledge of when Christ is going to come again, as there was in the prophecies concerning the first coming in the flesh. That day had to be clearly foretold in order for us to recognize that it is He who has come, for He came secretly and humbly. But the Second Coming will be open and manifest, such that there can be no error concerning the knowledge of His coming.

In today's gospel, Christ warns us of the false prophets, so that we will not be easily deceived, and then He uses a powerful simile to show us how manifest His coming will be. "For as the lightning in the East appears also in the West, so shall the coming of the Son of Man be" (Matt 24:27), and again: "and then shall appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven, and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn; and they shall see the Son of Man coming in the clouds of heaven with much power and majesty." (Matt 24:30)

The saints desired to live in the last days because they knew God's grace will also abound. Let us not live in fear of these times, rather, let us persevere at our good works and prayers so that we are truly ready for our Lord when He comes. If we treat each other as we would treat Christ Himself, then when He does come, our meeting with Him will be as dear friends meeting again.

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

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.

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.

Ushers needed at all the Masses. Please consider signing up to serve at the Mass you most commonly attend. Sign up sheet on the hall table.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING WEEKEND!

TODAY:

~ No CCD. CCD resumes Dec. 3.

~ Please pick up your boxed set of 2018 stewardship envelopes. If you registered with the parish and do not see a boxed set of envelopes in your name, please contact C.C. Grant or the parish office.

Mon., Dec. 4, Troops of St. George meeting, 7-8:30 p.m. Open to boys and youth, ages 6 and older.

Tues., Dec. 5, First Festival Committee, 6:30 p.m. in the large meeting room

Fri., Dec. 8, Holy day: Immaculate Conception. 6:30 a.m. Low Mass, 7 p.m. High Mass

Sat., Dec. 9:

~ Altar Society meeting after the 7:30 a.m. Mass in the small meeting room

~ Altar server practice immediately following the 7:30 a.m. Mass

~ Little Flowers meeting, 9 a.m. in the large meeting room

Special Tribute to Our Lady
Sunday, Dec. 10, after the 10 a.m. Mass
*CCD Children Lead Song in Honor of the
Immaculate Conception*
followed by
*Traditional Mexican Reception in Honor of
Our Lady of Guadalupe!*

Also a Little Flowers Ornament Sale!

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Liturgical Calendar & Mass Intentions

November 26 – December 2, 2017

Sun., 11/26, 24th Sunday after Pentecost

7:30 a.m., RIP Maria Nguyen, requested by Nhan Truong

10:00 a.m., Pro Populo

5:30 p.m., RIP Maria Nguyen, by Nhan Truong

Mon., 11/27, Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal

6:30 a.m., RIP Francis Truong, by Ron Truong

Tues., 11/28, Daily Mass of the Dead

7:00 p.m., RIP Francis Truong, by Ron Truong

Wed., 11/29, Daily Mass of the Dead

6:30 a.m., RIP Francis Truong, by Ron Truong

Thurs., 11/30, St. Andrew

7:00 p.m., Souls in Purgatory, by Ron Truong

Fri., 12/1, Votive Mass of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

6:30 a.m., Souls in Purgatory, by Ron Truong

7:00 p.m. followed by First Friday devotions, Stuart Edwards, requested by his mother

Sat., 12/2, Votive Mass of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, followed by First Saturday devotions

7:30 a.m., Scott Edwards, by his mother

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.

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.

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.



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