



THE
LANTERIAN

SAINT FRANCIS CHAPEL
STAFFED BY
THE OBLATES OF THE VIRGIN MARY

ENCOUNTER THE HEART OF CHRIST IN THE HEART OF BOSTON

JULY 24, 2022

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY

CHAPEL STAFF:

Fr. Isaac Abu, OMV
Fr. James Doran, OMV
Fr. Michael Warren, OMV

Sundays:

Fr. James Walther, OMV
Fr. Sean Morris, OMV

Pastoral Associate:

Isabelle Maria, CFP, CKA

Music: Steven Angelucci -
Director,
Saul Garcia, Cesar Garcia,
Stacey Ibe

Cleaning of Chapel

Environment: Nubia Viasus

The Pope's Prayer Intention for July:

We pray for the elderly, who represent the roots and memory of a people; may their experience and wisdom help young people to look towards the future with hope and responsibility.



Cover Art:

Abraham the Patriarch. Painting by Lorenzo Monaco (1370). Metropolitan Museum of Art.

SCHEDULE

Sunday Masses:

Saturday Vigil 4:00PM,
5:30 PM, (en español)

Sun. 8 AM, 9:15AM, 10:30AM, 11:45AM,
1:15 PM (en español), 4:00PM, 5:30PM

Weekday Masses:

Mon.—Fri. 8:00AM, 12:05PM, 4:45PM
Saturday 9:00AM, 12PM

Confessions:

Mon.—Fri. 11:15 -11:50AM, 12:45-4:15PM
Saturday 9:30 - 11:45 AM, 12:45-3:30PM

Devotions:

Tuesday after Mass: Our Lady
Wednesday after Mass: St. Joseph
Thursday after Mass: St. Jude

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

Mon.—Fri. 8:30-11:50AM, 12:30-4:30PM;
Sat. 9:30-11:30AM, 12:30-3:30PM;
Sunday 2:30-3:30PM

Gift Shop Hours:

Monday—Friday 10:00AM - 5:30PM*;
Saturday 9:30AM - 6:30PM*;
Sunday 8:45AM - 6:30PM*
(*Closed during Masses)

CONTACT US

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SFChapel



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Reflection by Fr. Isaac Abu, OMV

It was Alphonsus de Liguori that said: "He who prays receives the most." The importance of prayer cannot be overemphasized. Just as the fish needs water for its well-being, so the Christian needs prayer for her physical and spiritual activities. Our attention today has been drawn to why we need to pray unceasingly.

In the First Reading, Abraham in his kindness and humanity, confirmed the importance of prayer by his intercession for others. This event reminds us that God is so patient and merciful. Besides, events can turn around for good when there is a willingness to stand in the gap for others. There is always a need for intercession, such as for holy souls who are yet to be thoroughly cleansed, individuals in need of direction in life, the need for tolerance and understanding at home to safeguard the God-given peace in families; and for those in leadership, to be able to take decisions in the interest of the common good, and so on.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church includes this teaching on intercessory prayer: "Intercession is a prayer of petition which leads us to pray as Jesus did. He is the one intercessor with the Father on behalf of all men, especially sinners. He is "able for all time to save those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them" (CCC 2634).

Naturally, the human being is prone to seeking immediate results, and when our request seems not forthcoming, there is the tendency to stop praying. Today's gospel therefore, is a reminder that our prayer must be persistent. Not having the right image about God is also a contributing factor to lack of persistence. Hopefully, the following facts about God will help to energize our persistence in prayer: God answers Prayers made in accordance with his will. He is faithful to his promises. His timing is different from ours, and He has our overall good at heart.

The Teaching of Jesus concerning the midnight visitor who persevered in his request for bread is an excellent way to go about prayer. Robert C. Tannehill further described the purpose of this teaching and what it hopes to achieve thus: "These verses appear to be addressed to people who are fearful, because they see themselves as unworthy, or passively resigned because they believe that nothing can change.... many requests made to humans are not answered positively, and the same seems to be true of requests to God" (Robert C. Tannehill "Luke" 1996).

The example of St. Monica's persistent prayer for St. Augustine her son is a demonstration that nothing should make us stop praying. St. Escriva gave this candid advice: "Persevere even when your efforts seem sterile. Prayer is always fruitful" (Jose Escriva The Way 101).

Let us always have filial trust in God who has assured us that our seeking, knocking, and searching will not be in vain. May He deepen our faith, so as to understand that even His silence speaks volume.



NATIONAL Eucharistic Revival

Revival's in the Air

AN EXCITING JOURNEY AHEAD

Our world is hurting. We all need healing, yet many of us are separated from the very source of our strength. Jesus Christ invites us to return to the source and summit of our faith—his Real Presence in the Holy Eucharist.

Go Deeper!

ENCOUNTER THE REALITY OF OUR EUCHARISTIC LORD

The Revival is a grassroots movement of Catholics, each responding to the gift of the Eucharist in their own way. This page is home to free educational and inspirational content to help you learn more about the reality of Jesus in the Eucharist and fall more deeply in love with him. We will expand this section as more resources become available.

Explore Eucharistic Teaching

Learn what the Church teaches about this precious gift and why it is pivotal to your spiritual journey. Browse our free library of videos on the Eucharist for information and inspiration!

Learn How to Embrace the Gift of the Eucharist

Bishop Andrew Cozzens presents the incredible reality of the Real Presence, unpacks "The Mystery of the Eucharist in the Life of the Church" as published by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, and invites you to respond to this radical gift. Discover practical ways you can spread a love for the Eucharist in your community!

[Learn more at usccb.org](http://usccb.org)

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sunday, July 24

8:00 AM Ary-Lex Auguste
9:15 AM Nancie Auguste
10:30 AM Chantale Auguste & sisters
11:45 AM Aris & Naomi Blemur
1:15 PM +Margaret Hayes
4:00 PM Altagrace & Marie Denise Fabien
5:30 PM +Rosalee B. McCullough

Monday, July 25

8:00 AM Marie & Roseland Estimable
12:05 PM Harley Auguste
4:45 PM Talia Novellino

Tuesday, July 26

8:00 AM +Anna Centofanti
12:05 PM Hendricks Delva
4:45 PM Mr. & Mrs. Jason Allain

Wednesday, July 27

8:00 AM +Tom Cunniffe
12:05 PM +Gerald Warren—1st Anniv.
4:45 PM Raoul Desir

Thursday, July 28

8:00 AM Max Indiana Auguste
12:05 PM +Rosemond Auguste
4:45 PM +Salange & Netta Blemur

Friday, July 29

8:00 AM Frances Haar—health
12:05 PM +Josea Maya Castro
4:45 PM Poor Souls in Purgatory

Saturday, July 30

9:00 AM +Irene & +Geffrey Paul
12:00 PM +Luigi Della Peruta—birthday
4:00 PM Callahan & Murphy Families
5:30 PM +Dalia Novellino

Prayer Before Mass



by Ven. Bruno Lanteri

My God, I offer you this holy sacrifice to proclaim, honor and glorify your infinite greatness, and in recognition of the supreme dominion which, as the first principle and last end, you have above all created things. I give you this homage for all those who still do not know you or do not want to recognize you.

I offer this too in thanksgiving for the benefits that I and all the world have received and will receive from your infinite goodness; in satisfaction for my sins and those of the whole world; to implore the graces that are necessary for my eternal salvation and for all mankind. Oh, my God, I offer to you the merits of Jesus Christ; grant me at this Holy Mass a profound adoration of him.

My God, my Creator, I implore you to grant me the grace of final perseverance. I know by faith that I do not deserve it, nor can I deserve it, but your Divine Son deserves it for me with all his virtues and with all the wounds he shows you in his Most Holy Body, on behalf of my wounded love. Amen.



World Day
for Grandparents
and the Elderly
2022

From Pope Francis:

In old age they will still bear fruit" (*Ps* 92:15). These words of the Psalmist are glad tidings, a true "gospel" that we can pro-

claim to all on this second World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. They run counter to what the world thinks about this stage of life, but also to the attitude of grim resignation shown by some of us elderly people, who harbour few expectations for the future.

Many people are afraid of old age. They consider it a sort of disease with which any contact is best avoided. The elderly, they think, are none of their concern and should be set apart, perhaps in homes or places where they can be cared for, lest we have to deal with their problems. This is the mindset of the "throw-away culture", which leads us to think that we are somehow different from the poor and vulnerable in our midst, untouched by their frailties and separated from "them" and their troubles. The Scriptures see things differently. A long life – so the Bible teaches – is a blessing, and the elderly are not outcasts to be shunned but living signs of the goodness of God who bestows life in abundance. Blessed is the house where an older person lives! Blessed is the family that honours the elderly!

Old age is not a time of life easily understood even by those of us who are already experiencing it. Even though it eventually comes with the passage of time, no one prepares us for old age, and at times it seems to take us by surprise. The more developed societies expend large sums on this stage of life without really helping people to understand and appreciate it; they offer healthcare plans to the elderly but not plans for living this age to the full. This makes it hard to look to the future and discern what direction to take. On the one hand, we are tempted to ward off old age by hiding our wrinkles and pretending to be forever young, while on the other, we imagine that the only thing we can do is bide our time, thinking glumly that we cannot "still bring forth fruit".

Retirement and grown children make many of the things that used to occupy our time and energy no longer so pressing. The recognition that our strength is ebbing or the onset of sickness can undermine our certainties. The fast pace of the world – with which we struggle to keep up – seems to leave us no alternative but to implicitly accept the idea that we are useless. We can resonate with the heartfelt prayer of the Psalmist: "Do not cast me off in the time of old age; forsake me not when my strength is spent" (71:9).

Yet that same psalm – which meditates on how the Lord has been present at every stage of our lives – urges us to persevere in hope. Along with old

age and white hairs, God continues to give us the gift of life and to keep us from being overcome by evil. If we trust in him, we will find the strength to praise him still (cf. vv. 14-20). We will come to see that growing old is more than the natural decline of the body or the inevitable passage of time, but the gift of a long life. Aging is not a condemnation, but a blessing!

For this reason, we ought to take care of ourselves and remain active in our later years. This is also true from a spiritual standpoint: we ought to cultivate our interior life through the assiduous reading of the word of God, daily prayer, reception of the sacraments and participation in the liturgy. In addition to our relationship with God, we should also cultivate our relationships with others: first of all by showing affectionate concern for our families, our children and grandchildren, but also for the poor and those who suffer, by drawing near to them with practical assistance and our prayers. These things will help us not to feel like mere bystanders, sitting on our porches or looking out from our windows, as life goes on all around us. Instead, we should learn to discern everywhere the presence of the Lord. Like "green olive trees in the house of God" (cf. *Ps* 52:10), we can become a blessing for those who live next to us.

Dear grandparents, dear elderly persons, we are called to be artisans of the *revolution of tenderness* in our world! Let us do so by learning to make ever more frequent and better use of the most valuable instrument at our disposal and, indeed, the one best suited to our age: prayer. "Let us too become, as it were, poets of prayer: let us develop a taste for finding our own words, let us once again take up those taught by the word of God". Our trustful prayer can do a great deal: it can accompany the cry of pain of those who suffer, and it can help change hearts. We can be "the enduring 'chorus' of a great spiritual sanctuary, where prayers of supplication and songs of praise sustain the community that toils and struggles in the field of life".

The World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly is an opportunity to proclaim once more, with joy, that the Church wants to celebrate together with all those whom the Lord – in the words of the Bible – has "filled with days". Let us celebrate it together! I ask you to make this Day known in your parishes and communities; to seek out those elderly persons who feel most alone, at home or in residences where they live. Let us make sure that no one feels alone on this day. Expecting a visit can transform those days when we think we have nothing to look forward to; from an initial encounter, a new friendship can emerge. Visiting the elderly who live alone is a work of mercy in our time!

To all of you, and to your loved ones, I send my blessing and the assurance of my closeness and affection. And I ask you, please, not to forget to pray for me!