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Rev. Joseph R. Upton, Ph.D.
Administrator, Saint Alexander
Pastor, Saint Mary of the Bay



MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday at 9am
Saint Alexander
 Saturday Vigil at 4pm
 (Preceded by Confessions at 3pm)
Saint Mary of the Bay
 Sunday at 8am, 10:30am and 6pm
Saint Mary of the Bay
 Monday-Friday 8am
Saint Mary of the Bay
 Holy Days as Announced



TRUSTEES & AUDITORS

Nancy Urban, Trustee
 John Saviano, Trustee
 Patricia Dugan, Auditor
 John Flynn, Auditor

Padre's Ponderings

Dear Parishioners,

Today, we welcome a special guest to share with us information about some of the important work being done by the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Lexington, Kentucky. In an area marked by poverty and addiction, and prone to natural disasters, the needs are great. It is edifying to see the Church taking part in charitable efforts there and we are eager to do our part to help. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

There could be no better gospel reading on this weekend as we welcome our guest than that of Lazarus and Dives. Lazarus, the poor man who was in desperate need of help, was daily overlooked by the rich man. How their fortunes were reversed in the afterlife! The parable is a chilling reminder to us of our obligation as followers of Christ to recognize Him in the sick, the poor, the marginalized, the vulnerable and the helpless. Interestingly, at some point in our lives, whether we are very young, or very sick, or very old, we will experience helplessness. That very fact of our embodied existence—that at some point in our lives, each of us will experience the real need for help, care and protection—should remind us that none of us is an island. No human being can ever be entirely self-made or self-sufficient. And because of that, we have an obligation to not only see, but sometimes to seek out, those who are in need.

Who are the Lazaruses in our lives that we are simply stepping over, walking by or looking through as we go about our daily lives? It's true that the teaching of Christ is often a comfort to us in our struggles. But it is also (and some would say, more often) an uncomfortable challenge to self-assessment and awareness. For all the times we have depended upon the goodness of others to carry us in our sickness, our weakness, our vulnerability, our incapacity, how many times can others say they've been able to depend upon us?

Until next week,

F. Joe

☞ MASS INTENTIONS ☞

September 25, 2022

9am: Nancy Threadgill

Requested by Anonymous

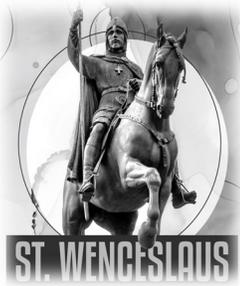
October 2, 2022

9am: Anthony F. Urban

45th Wedding Anniversary Remembrance

Requested by his loving wife, Nancy

☞ SAINT OF THE WEEK ☞



You may know St. Wenceslaus better than you think, he is in fact, the “Good King Wenceslas” from the Christmas carol penned in the 19th century.

He was born in 907 near Prague, the son of the Duke of Bohemia, raised and educated as a Christian by his paternal grandmother, Ludmila, who herself became a saint. The land of Bohemia at this time was a place in turmoil. Christianity had not yet taken hold and there were power struggles even within the noble family. When Saint Wenceslaus’ father died, his Christian grandmother became regent. However, his mother who may have been a pagan or at least held anti-Christian sentiments, upset at being overlooked, had Ludmilla killed. Wenceslaus, though young, eventually prevailed.

He ruled from 921-929, working at unification, he supported the Church building many churches, including the rotunda of Saint Vitus at Prague Castle. And like in the carol, he cared for sick, poor, widowed, and orphaned in his kingdom. To make peace with Germany, Wenceslaus recognized King Henry the Fowler as the successor of Charlemagne, which put Bohemia under King Henry. The peace was not a popular move with the non-Christian sects and nobles who wanted to remain outside of German rule.

Legend holds that his brother, Boleslaus the Cruel, led some anti-Christian movements. Whether Boleslaus plotted to murder Saint Wenceslaus, or they just had a disagreement that ended in his death, it is generally accepted that the saint was killed by Boleslaus or his men. His last words were to forgive his brother.

Saint Wenceslaus was immediately recognized as a martyr for the faith and sainted. The Holy Roman Emperor Otto, I posthumously gave him the title “king.” He is the first Czech saint and the patron saint of the Czech state.

☞ LIVING THE SCRIPTURES ☞

Today’s Readings:

Am 6:1a, 4-7/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 [1b]/

1 Tm 6:11-16/Lk 16:19-31

From today’s First Reading:

Therefore, now they shall be the first to go into exile, and their wanton revelry shall be done away with. (1 Kgs 19:7)

Consider: **The prophet Amos criticizes those living comfortable lives, oblivious to the social decay surrounding them. How do you respond to the pain and suffering of others?**

From today’s Second Reading:

I charge you before God, who gives life to all things, and before Christ Jesus, who gave testimony under Pontius Pilate for the noble confession, to keep the commandment without stain or reproach until the appearance of our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Tm 6:13-14)

Consider: **Paul urges Timothy to live his faith authentically in preparation for judgement day. In what ways do you practice an authentic faith life?**

From today’s Gospel:

“My child, remember that you received what was good during your lifetime while Lazarus likewise received what was bad; but now he is comforted here, whereas you are tormented.” (Lk 16:25)

Consider: **In the parable of the rich man and Lazarus, Jesus forewarns the Pharisees about the great reversal of the rich and poor in the afterlife. How do you imagine the Pharisees reacted to this parable?**

RECEIVE



“My child, remember that you received what was good during your lifetime while Lazarus likewise received what was bad.”

LUKE 16:25