

Ministers of the Liturgy November 7 & 8, 2015

Saturday - 4 P.M.

Intention: Charles McElwain, Marie O'Malley, Frank Duff and Deceased Members, Legion of Mary, Warren & Florence Duncan, Eve Vavrick (L), Joseph Segari, Rose Marie Greco Federico, Merle & Charles Dittmer, Patrick C. McKinney, Vincent Danna, Roy Phelps, Sr., George Spaulding, Special Intention (L), Joyce Sirgo, Hubert LaBorde, Marian Quigley, Flora Maria Be, Frank Anthony Federico
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:
J. Rodosta, L. Segari
Cantor: Trish Foti

Sunday - 9 A.M.

Intention: Parishioners
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:
M. Evola, P. Fleming, C. Frederick, L. Whitman
Song Leaders: Traditional Choir

Sunday - 11 A.M.

Intention: Tom & Carol Metcalf (L), Dianne Z. Harrison, Joseph Donald Bernard, Hilton Daigle Jr., Lucien & Mary Musco, Rita Burch, Gustave Hartdegen, Frank E. Golemi, Melvin Ducote, Kelvin Ducote, Margaret & Larry Pregeant, Lillian Kerner Sachitano, In Honor of St. Joseph Leah Iemmola Paternostro, Anthony Angello, Deacon Ronnie Rosato
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:
K. Robertson, R. Meece, J. Hutchinson, R. Oleksik
Song Leaders: Contemporary Choir

Sunday - 6 P.M.

Intention: Annette Junker
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:
B. David, M. Drawe
Cantor: Lauren Gisclair
Pianist: Beth Kettenring

Weekday Masses (11/9-13)

Monday	7:00 a.m.	Don Rowan, Sr.
	5:30 p.m.	Marie O'Malley
Tuesday	7:00 a.m.	Joseph & Thelma Conrad
Wednesday	7:00 a.m.	William (Chuck) Credo, Jr.
	8:20 a.m.	Hilton Daigle, Jr.
Thursday	7:00 a.m.	M/M Joseph F. Willis, Sr.
	5:30 p.m.	Carol Klotz (L)
Friday	7:00 a.m.	Stanley McMahon

Thanksgiving Day Mass

Fr. Cooper will celebrate a special Thanksgiving Day Mass on Thursday, November 26, at 9 am. Thanksgiving Day is a special time to remember the blessings we have received from God, so that we can be a more thankful people every day. The reasons for having grateful hearts make up a long litany: the gift of life itself, faith in a God who loves us and is very near to us, good health, loving family, caring friends, opportunities to serve, food on our tables, roofs over our heads. Yes, we have our times of doubt, our aches and pains, our family conflicts, and our economic struggles. But in spite of all these challenges, we are incredibly blessed! There will be no 7 am or 5:30 pm Mass on Thursday, November 26.

Fais Do Do

Woman's New Life Center is hosting a Fais Do Do fundraiser on Friday, Nov. 20, at *Messina's at the Terminal* at the New Orleans Lakefront Airport. The Patron Party is from 7-8 p.m., and the Fais Do Do is from 8-11 p.m. Woman's New Life Center's mission is to build a culture of life and uphold the dignity of the human person. For more information and to purchase tickets, please call 504-496-0212 or visit www.womansnewlife.com/faisdodo.

Adoration Chapel

Committed adorers are greatly needed. We have many times open throughout the week during the day and night. Please call Joy at 834-5525 for more information.

Extraordinary Minister of Communion

Nov. 14/15

4 p.m. R. Aucoin, C. Casente
9 a.m. K. Klapatch, R. Theriot, C. & R. Ayers
11 a.m. P. & R. Serio, C. & T. Pitre
6 p.m. D. Childers, D. Powers



Adoration Chapel Sanctuary
Light in memory of
Stuart and Gloria Fourroux



Altar Ladies

Week of November 8
J. LeBoeuf, J. Rojas, T. Gsell

Linens

Large - J. Zeringue Small - A. Delaup

Last Week's Collection

Envelopes	\$6,401.50
Loose	3,032.17
Repairs and Maintenance	2,073.00
Msgr. Richaud Endowment Fund	124.00
Totalling	\$11,648.67

Fr. Cooper's Corner

The Particular Exam

There's a huge difference between a general wish to grow in faith and holiness and a plan to cooperate with God's help and with God's grace to do so. A Plan of Life involves not just good desires but concrete practices to unite our life to God. It includes an inventory of where we are right now, clarity on where God wants us to be, a good strategy to get from where we are to where we ought to be, and the courage and resolve to follow that path. But as in many areas of life, we can't do everything at once. "He who would climb to a lofty height," St. Gregory the Great commented 1400 years ago, "must go by steps, not leaps."

One of the most important spiritual practices to help us take the steps toward the lofty height of holiness is the Particular Exam. Unlike the General Examination that reviews globally how we corresponded to God's presence and help throughout the day, the Particular Exam focuses on one particular good habit that needs to be developed or bad one that needs to be eliminated and then reviews several times a day how we're doing just on that score. The Particular Exam is a remedy against the experience St. Paul writes about so candidly, "I do not do the good I want, but I do the evil I do not want" (Rom 7:19).

The great spiritual writers from St. Ignatius of Loyola to the present day have made several suggestions about the Particular Exam to do it effectively. First, they have recommended having only one Particular Exam point at a given time, so that we can be totally focused on making progress in the shortest span of time. Second, they have advocated making a Particular Exam not toward a relatively minor matter but toward rooting out a predominant fault or acquiring an important virtue. Third, they've recommended persevering in this Particular Exam toward the finish line, examining ourselves several times a day on this point for as long as it takes to acquire or extirpate the habit. At the end, one's behavior in a particular area may not be perfect — old habits die hard! — but one will be changed much for the better. It might seem at first that working on one good spiritual resolution at a time in this concerted way is a slow way to make progress, but the saints have said that once one starts building momentum in this way, various other issues in the spiritual life become easier. "The person who is faithful in small matters," Jesus said, "is faithful also in great ones" (Lk 16:10). The gradual acquisition of self-mastery in one difficult arena can overflow into other parts of one's life.

When I was in college and began the practice of Particular Exams, I generally focused on eliminating bad habits: wasting time rather than studying, using inappropriate language, making fun of others or bragging. Eventually, however, I shifted toward the acquisition of good habits because I found that when with God's grace I made progress on these scores, there would be many positive side effects. Among the many ones that have helped me over the last couple of decades have been: awareness of God's presence at my side

at every moment; docile attentiveness and obedience to the Holy Spirit; constant cheerfulness because God dwells within me through grace; listening twice as much as I speak; recognizing and naming above all others' good qualities; seeing God in those I am serving, notwithstanding their defects; greeting the guardian angel of others so that I always maintain a supernatural vision toward them; seeing each person as a gift sent to me by God; starting my prayer off with praise and thanksgiving; venerating the crosses God gives me each day; uniting my work more consciously to St. Joseph; and doing first the thing that needs to be done rather than what I prefer to do. On some of these points, my friends might remark that at times I show no sign, for example, of constant cheerfulness or naming above all others' good qualities. But I can honestly say that compared to where I was and where I would have been without the Particular Exams, I see a continent traversed!

St. Ignatius recommends having a little book and keeping score of how one has done since the last review a few hours earlier. I've never found that type of accounting helpful, but the practice of examining oneself on one point over the previous few hours, renewing one's resolve, and praying for God's help, most find tremendously helpful. Over the years, I've rejoiced to see the happiness of those who come to see me for spiritual direction or Confession when they have set and made progress on their own Particular Exam points. The Particular Exam makes the ascent toward holiness more manageable and a lot less daunting. I'd urge you to take up this practice so that step by step you might with God's assistance ascend the lofty heights. (*Full article on frcooper.info*)

TEC Retreat

Applications to attend the next Teens Encounter Christ (TEC) retreat on November 21-23 are now available! TEC is a special experience with topics and an approach designed for older adolescents and young adults who have completed their second semester of their sophomore year of high school. It begins at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday and ends about 7 p.m. on Monday. TEC 126 applications are due November 13. Applications and more information can be found at www.tecneworleans.com.

Part-time Position Available

St. Benilde School is looking for a part-time custodian to work mornings at the school. If you would like more information, please contact Fellman Mire at 504-833-9894.

Important Reminder for School Families

To maintain the status of a registered, active and supporting school family of St. Benilde Parish, a contribution level has been set at \$520 per calendar year. This obligation must be met by December 31, 2015 to avoid paying the higher non-participating tuition rate for the 2016-17 school year.