

Weekly Bulletin

November 8 to November 15, 2008

Learning from buildings

The Church's liturgical cycle observes annually the Feast of the Dedication of Saint John Lateran. This year it falls on a Sunday, and like All Souls Day last week, it preempts the normal Sunday readings and prayers. It's good that these special feasts occur on Sunday so that we can all meditate on their meaning.

Who is Saint John Lateran and why is the dedication of this church so important? First, there is no "Saint John Lateran" on the list of saints! "Lateran" probably refers to the family whose land was used to build the church. It is more like a nickname as the church is actually dedicated to Christ the Savior along with both Saint John the Baptist and Saint John the Evangelist. This church is significant because it was built by the Emperor Constantine following the legalization of Christianity in 315 A.D. and is designated as the cathedral of Rome. Most people think that Saint Peter's Basilica is the Pope's cathedral but that is not the case!

As the cathedral of Rome, Saint John Lateran is the "mother church" for that diocese and symbolizes the Pope's role as shepherd of the Christian community located there. Since the Pope is the universal shepherd and not just bishop of Rome, Saint John Lateran also takes on importance as a spiritual home for Christians throughout the world. The role of any cathedral is to serve as a sign of unity of Christians gathered together under the leadership of our shepherd. Those local shepherds are to ensure that we remain in union with the Pope as successor of Saint Peter, the Vicar of Christ. That is why we always mention the names of both the bishop and Pope in the Eucharistic Prayer—professing our communion with them and through them with the universal Church.

A recent poll asked background questions before posing the big question about which political candidates people supported. Catholics were asked how much influence the teaching of the Pope and bishops had on forming their consciences in general. Eighteen percent said a strong influence... which means that a whopping eighty-two percent admitted that the voice of our shepherds didn't mean that much to them in questions of right and wrong. My question then becomes, if the sheep don't follow the shepherd



St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church

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CLERGY

- † Fr. Joseph Johnson,
Pastor
- † Fr. James Adams,
Associate Pastor
- † Fr. Andrew Cozzens,
Associate Pastor
- † Dc. Va Thai Lo
- † Dc. Nao Kao Yang

SCHEDULES

Masses:

Saturday 5:00 PM
Sunday 9:00 AM

Confession:

Sunday 8:00AM-8:45AM

Eucharistic Adoration:

Friday 7:00PM-8:00PM

Religious Education:

Sunday 10:30AM-
12:00PM

1st Sat. of Month:

- Mass at 8:30AM
- Altar & Rosary Society
Meeting

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 11/8

5:00 PM Randy Sommers

Sunday 11/9

9:00 AM People of the Parish

Saturday 11/15

5:00 PM Noreen Waters

Sunday 11/16

9:00 AM People of the Parish

GOSPEL READING AT MASS

Saturday 11/8 (Vigil)

John 2: 13-22

Sunday 11/9

John 2: 13-22

Monday 11/10

Luke 17: 1-6

Tuesday 11/11

Luke 17: 7-10

Wednesday 11/12

Luke 17: 11-19

Thursday 11/13

Luke 17: 20-25

Friday 11/14

Luke 17: 26-37

Saturday 11/15 (AM)

Luke 18: 1-8

Saturday

ConfessionSaturday Confession will be at the **Cathedral of Saint Paul** from 3:30PM-5:00PM

Lus ceeb toom

Vim tsis muaj tus teb xov tooj hauv peb lub Tsev teev Ntuj lawm, mas yog nej hu tuaj, tus yuav teb xov tooj yog tus khiav hauj lwm nyob pem lub niam Tsev teev Ntuj (Cathedral). Tso nej npe thiab xov tooj, Txiv Plig mam li hu rov rau nej.

are they still part of the flock? It is providential that today’s feast reminds us of the importance of unity in the Church—not just lip service, but authentic union of belief and action in following the Gospel of Jesus Christ as handed down to us by the apostles and their successors.

Father Joseph

Adult Faith Formation

The new adult faith formation classes have started. The classes are held from 10:30 to Noon each Sunday. We are using Jeff Cavins Scripture Study as the text. All adults are invited to join.

Hmong New Year Celebration

Planning has begun for the Hmong New Year celebration. Details will follow shortly.