



*Assumption Grotto
Parish - 1832 -*

ASSUMPTION GROTTA NEWS

ASSUMPTION GROTTA CHURCH

October 11, 2020



*Our Lady of Lourdes
Shrine - 1881 -*

A Vicarious Descant

The end of St. Paul's Epistle to the Philippians speaks of his trusting acceptance of all things, saying, "I can do all things in him who strengthens me." Last week in the Ordinary Form of the Roman Rite we heard, "Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing what you have learned and received and heard and seen in me. Then the God of peace will be with you" (Phil 4:6-9). This week's Epistle immediately follows last week's with excerpts up to the end of the Epistle.

St. Paul thanks the Philippians for their gift of money sent through Epaphroditus. But he is more thankful, not on his account of having benefited from their generosity, but for the spiritual benefit the Philippians received from God for their generosity. St. Paul said he can do fine with nothing, but he welcomes their assistance because it ultimately profits them eternally, not just the recipients temporally.

It is not just good and right, but also a precept of the Church that Catholics provide for the material needs of not only their parish, but also the poor. Among the more obvious ways this is done is through the

Sunday Collection, other special collections, St. Vincent Helpers and the many worthy individual charities and personal opportunities that we are made aware of.

But frequently the greater and more urgent need of those around us is not material, but spiritual. And of those in spiritual need, those who are unaware or indifferent to their need are the most desperate of all. Our Lord has said, What value is it should a man gain the whole world, but forfeit his soul? (Mark 8:36).

When we are invited to a wedding celebration, we change our clothes and prepare ourselves for the celebration. The very clothes we wear is a reflection of our respect for those who invite us. How we respond to our Sunday Obligation is a real response to the invitation to the banquet of Christ the bridegroom. It is not only proper and decorous to dress properly for this spiritual banquet, but it is a visible aspect of our worship. We must dress properly for Holy Mass—even weekday or Saturday evening Masses. While it is laudable to stop first at Mass at the beginning of a busy work day, it is more laudable to have taken the time to be presentable, which means not dressing in fashions commonly found in our highly secular, suggestive and shabby culture.

But the outward appearance is the simpler part. What is much more difficult is the preparation of the soul to be in the presence of the great King. That is much harder because it is not just about putting on nice clothes, it's about changing

our lives—putting on the new man (Eph 4:23).

It is easy to point out what must be done for a person who isn't following the Precepts of the Church—attending Holy Mass every Sunday and Holy Day, regular Confession, receiving Holy Communion regularly and so on. But for those who already live a life in Christ, who are faithful to the teachings of the Church—for them, it is actually harder to continue to discern what it is that they must do further to conform themselves to Christ in an even greater way. That is the path of perfection and it is a narrow path. That's the path that the saints chose to follow.

But between these two extremes of those who do not fulfill the commandments of the Church and those who do, lie those who believe themselves to be adequately Catholic and see no need for any serious change in their lives. For them, it is often only by prayer and a careful examination of conscience that they can realize that while they have been invited to the banquet through baptism and might consider themselves numbered among the faithful, they have yet to put on the proper wedding garment. They have, in other words, not yet put on the new man.

Before Constantine, Christians had an important role in Roman society. They provided popular entertainment, warmth and light for the pagans by being thrown to lions, put in furnaces, or hung up on the circus walls and used as living torches.

Today, Catholics and Christians still play an important role in society. Our faith still serves as entertainment for the pagans. I

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, - October 12, 2020

7:30 a.m.— Antonio Agostinelli (D)

Tuesday, - October 13, 2020

7:30 a.m.— Edward & Germaine Toporek (D)

Wednesday, - October 14, 2020

7:30 a.m.— Alan Carp (D)

Thursday, - October 15, 2020

7:30 a.m.— Grace Perrone (D)

Friday, - October 16, 2020

7:30 a.m.— Sarah Addis (L)

Saturday, - October 17, 2020

7:30 a.m.— Faithful Departed in the Grotto Cemetery

4:00 p.m.— Special Intention

Sunday, - October 18, 2020

6:30 a.m.— Special Intention; 9:30 a.m.— People of the Parish; 12:00 p.m.—Special Intention

“Do not forget that when the Lord calls, he also provides the necessary strength and grace to answer his call.” - St. John Paul II

“If God sends you many sufferings, it is a sign that He has great plans for you and certainly wants to make you a saint.” - St. Ignatius Loyola

“My whole strength lies in prayer and sacrifice, these are my invincible arms; they can move hearts far better than words, I know it by experience.” — St. Therese of Lisieux

“Oh Mother! May we, like you, rejoice to be with Him and to hold Him” -St. Josemaria Escriva

Mass Servers

Saturday, October 17, 2020

4:00 p.m. D. Bastuba, J. Praet, J. Cline

Sunday, October 18, 2020

6:30 a.m. R. Jacek, M. Pomeroy.

9:30 a.m. K. Garavaglia, A. Santine, M. Grado, J. Prevo, D. Grado, C. Bueche

12:00 p.m. M. Chambers, A. & M. Arrigoni, A. & W. Remske, G. Welsing, J. & D. Berch

Readings for the week of October 11, 2020

Sunday: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [6cd]/Phil 4:12-14, 19-20/Mt 22:1-14 or 22:1-10

Monday: Gal 4:22-24, 26-27, 31—5:1/Ps 113:1b-2, 3-4, 5a and 6-7 [cf. 2]/Lk 11:29-32

Tuesday: Gal 5:1-6/Ps 119:41, 43, 44, 45, 47, 48 [41a]/Lk 11:37-41

Wednesday: Gal 5:18-25/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [cf. Jn 8:12]/Lk 11:42-46

Thursday: Eph 1:1-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6 [2a]/Lk 11:47-54

Friday: Eph 1:11-14/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 12-13 [12]/Lk 12:1-7

Saturday: Eph 1:15-23/Ps 8:2-3ab, 4-5, 6-7 [7]/Lk 12:8-12

Next Sunday: Is 45:1, 4-6/Ps 96:1, 3, 4-5, 7-8, 9-10 [7b]/1 Thes 1:1-5b/Mt 22:15-21

Baptism

Isaac Gabriel Quinn

October 10, 2020

“Just as a man cannot live in the flesh unless he is born in the flesh, even so a man cannot have the spiritual life of grace unless he is born again spiritually. This regeneration is effected by Baptism:” “Unless a man is born again of water and the Holy Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God” (Jn 3:5) - St. Thomas Aquinas

ASSUMPTION (GROTTO) PARISH

13770 Gratiot Avenue

Detroit, MI 48205

Pastor: Rev. Fr. Eduard Perrone

Associate: Rev. Fr. John Bustamante

Deacon Rev. Mr. James Wilder

RECTORY BUSINESS HOURS

Monday-Saturday 9:00am-5:00pm

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Rectory 313-372-0762, FAX 372-2064

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Parish Council President

Anna Graziosi 313-423-6972

Organist Ray Long 313-372-0762

Email: grottomusic@ameritech.net

SUNDAY MASSES: Saturdays at 4:00; Sundays at 6:30, 9:30 (Tridentine), & Noon

HOLY DAY MASSES: 6:30, 9:30 (Tridentine), Noon & evening at 7:00 p.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES: Monday-Saturday 7:30 a.m. (all Tridentine).

CONFESSIONS: Saturday 2:30-3:30, Sunday 9:00 & 11:30 a.m.

BAPTISMS: Every Saturday after the 4:00 p.m. Mass or Sunday after the Noon Mass. Arrange at the Rectory Office.

BLESSING FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS: After the Noon Mass on the first Sunday of the month.

REGISTRATION: Visit the Rectory or call for a form to be sent out to you.

“So your strength is failing you? Why don’t you tell your Mother about it? Mother! Call her with a loud voice. She is listening to you; she sees you in danger, perhaps, and she-your holy mother Mary-offers you, along with the grace of her Son, the refuge of her arms, the tenderness of her embrace...and you will find yourself with added strength for the new battle”. -St. Josemaria Escriva

“If God gives you the burden, God will give you the strength” -St. Josemaria Escriva

A Vicarious Descant (continued)

refer to most of what the mainstream media has to offer. Or Broadway. Or art institutes. Or school textbooks. Or politicians. Instead of throwing Christians to the lions in the Colosseum, we are shredded by (anti-)social media, canceled by the power of the mob, and our values, freedom and presence curtailed in the public square. Christian purity and morality are being outlawed by judicial activism before our very eyes and the moral foundations of human life are relentlessly attacked through a political and judicial process that seems to only destroy what is good, true and beautiful.

St. Peter tells us in his first Letter chapter 2: “Be subject for the Lord’s sake to every human institution...Live as free men, yet without using your freedom as a pretext for evil (that’s the difference, by the way, between freedom and license); but live as servants of God.” The Catechism tells us in paragraph 2240, “Submission to authority and co-responsibility for the common good make it morally obligatory to pay taxes, to exercise the right to vote, and to defend one’s country.”

There is a passage from St. Paul’s Second Letter to the Corinthians that is usually read at every funeral vigil. While the graces of the funeral liturgy benefit the deceased and the living, the message of the Epistle is solely for the benefit of those present. That passage is this: “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive recompense, according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil” (2 Cor 5:10).

In Matthew chapter 12, verses 36-37 Jesus says, “I tell you, on the day of judgment people will render an account for every careless word they speak. By your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned” (Mt 12:36-37). If our words will require such an accounting, how much more so our actions?

The gospel passage of the wedding garment is yet one more example of why no Christian should consider themselves “once saved, always saved.” We might be given that garment at our baptism, but we are not forced to wear it. That garment is put on freely and without any coercion. It is a daily choice that we make. To put on that wedding garment of today’s Gospel is to be seen. It is to be noticed. It is to be heard. And each and every one of us, as Catholics, has an obligation to wear that garment always and to keep it unstained.

We also have an obligation to help others recognize the inestimable value of their wedding garment. Remember that passage from St. Paul that I quoted to you a few minutes ago—the passage that is read at funeral vigils? The very next verse of St. Paul explains our obligations when he says, “Therefore, since we know the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we are clearly apparent to God, and I hope we are also apparent to your consciousness (i.e. conscience)” (2 Cor 5:11).

May our consciences be well-formed and may the Lord find us clad in our wedding garment at the eternal banquet in heaven. The needs of many Catholics and Americans in this country are not simply material needs, but more importantly spiritual needs. They live in spiritual poverty—deprived of the light of Christ through the Sacraments. They do not understand what being Catholic means. Help them in their poverty.

We read in St. Peter’s First Epistle, “Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is right? But even if you do suffer for righteousness’ sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, but in your hearts reverence Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to make a defense to any one who calls you to account for the hope that is in you, yet do it with gentleness and reverence; and keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are abused, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. For it is

better to suffer for doing right, if that should be God’s will, than for doing wrong” (1 Peter 3:13-17).

“Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing what you have learned and received and heard and seen in me. Then the God of peace will be with you” (Phil 4:6-8).

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Election Prayer Lord Jesus Christ, You told us to give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and to God what belongs to God. Enlighten the minds of our people in America. May we choose a President of the United States, and other government officials, according to Your Divine Will. Give our citizens the courage to choose leaders of our nation who respect the sanctity of unborn human life, the sanctity of marriage, the sanctity of marital relations, the sanctity of the family, and the sanctity of the aging. Grant us the wisdom to give You, what belongs to You, our God. If we do this, as a nation, we are confident You will give us an abundance of Your blessings through our elected leaders. Amen.



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~ Father Perrone

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Te Deum Laudamus!
A Blog by a Grotto Parishioner
DIANE M. KORZENIEWSKI
Photos from liturgical events at Grotto; select topics in Catholicism; useful links
<http://te-deum.blogspot.com>



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