

Our Lady of the Rosary Chapel

August 2, 2015
X SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST

Volume 3

Issue 31

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The Little Number of Those Who Are Saved (cont'd)

BY ST. LEONARD OF PORT MAURICE

The Goodness of God

Perhaps you do not yet believe the terrible truths I have just taught you. [About how few souls are saved.] But it is the most highly-considered theologians, the most illustrious Fathers who have spoken to you through me. So then, how can you resist reasons supported by so many examples and words of Scripture? If you still hesitate in spite of that, and if your mind is inclined to the opposite opinion, does that very consideration not suffice to make you tremble? Oh it shows that you do not care very much for your salvation! In this important matter, a sensible man is struck more strongly by the slightest doubt of the risk he runs than by the evidence of total ruin in other affairs in which the soul is not involved.

So what must we do, we who know that the greater number is going to be damned, and not only out of all Catholics? What must we do? Take the resolution to belong to the little number of those who are saved. You say: If Christ wanted to damn me, then why did He create me? Silence, rash tongue! God did not create anyone to damn him; but whoever is damned, is damned because he wants to be. Therefore, I will now strive to defend the goodness of my God and acquit it of all blame: that will be the subject of the second point.

First let us take these two undeniable truths as a basis: "God wants all men to be saved," "All are in need of the grace of God." Now, if I show you that God wants to save all men, and that for this purpose He gives all of them His

grace and all the other necessary means of obtaining that sublime end, you will be obliged to agree that whoever is damned must impute it to his own malice, and that if the greater number of Christians are damned, it is because they want to be. "Thy damnation comes from thee; thy help is only in Me."

God Desires All Men to be Saved

In a hundred places in Holy Scripture, God tells us that it is truly His desire to save all men. "Is it My will that a sinner should die, and not that he should be converted from his ways and live?... I live, saith the Lord God. I desire not the death of the sinner. Be converted and live." When someone wants something very much, it is said that he is dying with desire; it is a hyperbole. But God has wanted and still wants our salvation so much that He died of desire, and He suffered death to give us life. This will to save all men is therefore not an affected, superficial and apparent will in God; it is a real, effective, and beneficial will; for He provides us with all the means most proper for us to be saved. He does not give them to us so they will not obtain it; He gives them to us with a sincere will, with the intention that they may obtain their effect. And if they do not obtain it, He shows Himself afflicted and offended over it.

Far more, because God sees that we could not even make use of His grace without His help, He gives us other aids; and if they sometimes remain ineffective, it is our fault; for with these same aids, one may abuse them and be damned with them, and another may do right and be saved; he might even be saved with less powerful aids.

Saint Augustine exclaims, "If, therefore, some-



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HOLY MASS

Sundays: 7:00 & 10:00 am
Weekdays: 7:00 am

CONFESSIONS

Sundays
6:40—6:55 am
9:15—9:55 am

Weekdays
6:40—6:55 am
and by appointment

HOLY ROSARY

Sundays: 9:40 am
First Saturdays: 8:00 am

Father Rodriguez
will return on
Wednesday, August
5th! Please pray for
his safe return.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Friday is the
First Friday of August.

INVEST IN YOUR FUTURE!

To find out how, join us for a
free breakfast meeting after
the 10:00am Mass, Sunday,
August 16, 2015, downstairs
at Our Lady of the
Rosary Chapel.

Teenagers and older,
no children, please.

BRING A FRIEND!

Sign up on the bulletin board
downstairs so we know how
many people
to expect.

PAINTING THE CHAPEL

We have received an esti-
mate of \$9000 to paint the
outside of the Chapel. We
are looking for donations to
offset this expense. If you
can help, please contact Joe
Rotunda. Envelopes will be
handed out next week, and
the money won't be needed
until September.

Thank you .

FR. RODRIGUEZ will be
returning on Wed. Aug 5th in
the early morning. If anyone
is available to pick him up at
JFK, please contact Ron
McGuire,
203-673-5858

one turns aside from justice, he is carried by his free will, led by his concupiscence, deceived by his own persuasion." But for those who do not understand theology, here is what I have to say to them: God is so good that when He sees a sinner running to his ruin, He runs after him, calls him, entreats and accompanies him even to the gates of hell; what will He not do to convert him? He sends him good inspirations and holy thoughts, and if he does not profit from them, He becomes angry and indignant, He pursues him. Will He strike him? No. He beats at the air and forgives him. But the sinner is not converted yet. God sends him a mortal illness. It is certainly all over for him. No, brothers, God heals him; the sinner becomes obstinate in evil, and God in His mercy looks for another way; He gives him another year, and when that year is over, He grants him yet another.

But if the sinner still wants to cast himself into hell in spite of all that, what does God do? Does He abandon him? No. He takes him by the hand; and while he has one foot in hell and the other outside, He still preaches to him, He implored him not to abuse His graces. Now I ask you, if that man is damned, is it not true that he is damned against the Will of God and because he wants to be damned? Come and ask me now: If God wanted to damn me, then why did He create me?

You must know that the most ancient belief is the Law of God, and that we all bear it written in our hearts; that it can be learned without any teacher, and that it suffices to have the light of reason in order to know all the precepts of that Law. That is why even the barbarians hid when they committed sin, because they knew they were doing wrong; and they are damned for not having observed the natural law written in their heart: for had they observed it, God would have made a miracle rather than let them be damned; He would have sent them someone to teach them and would have given them other aids, of which they made themselves unworthy by not living in conformity with the inspirations of their own conscience, which never failed to warn them

of the good they should do and the evil they should avoid. So it is their conscience that accused them at the Tribunal of God, and it tells them constantly in hell, "Thy damnation comes from thee." They do not know what to answer and are obliged to confess that they are deserving of their fate. Now if these infidels have no excuse, will there be any for a Catholic who had so many sacraments, so many sermons, so many aids at his disposal? How will he dare to say, "If God was going to damn me, then why did He create me?" How will he dare to speak in this manner, when God gives him so many aids to be saved? So let us finish confounding him.

You who are suffering in the abyss, answer me! Are there any Catholics among you? "There certainly are!" How many? Let one of them come here! "That is impossible, they are too far down, and to have them come up would turn all of hell upside down, it would be easier to stop one of them as he is falling in." So then, I am speaking to you who live in the habit of mortal sin, in hatred, in the mire of the vice of impurity, and who are getting closer to hell each day. Stop, and tum around; it is Jesus who calls you and who, with His wounds, as with so many eloquent voices, cries to you, "My son, if you are damned, you have only yourself to blame: 'Thy damnation comes from thee.' Lift up your eyes and see all the graces with which I have enriched you to insure your eternal salvation. I could have had you born in a forest in Barbary; that is what I did to many others, but I had you born in the Catholic Faith; I had you raised by such a good father, such an excellent mother, with the purest instructions and teachings. If you are damned in spite of that, whose fault will it be? Your own, My son, your own: 'Thy damnation comes from thee.'

"I could have cast you into hell after the first mortal sin you committed, without waiting for the second: I did it to so many others, but I was patient with you, I waited for you for many long years. I am still waiting for you today in penance. If you are damned in spite of all that, whose fault is it? Your own, My son,

MASS SCHEDULE

SUNDAY August 2	X SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST	G	7:00 am 10:00 am	For the Superior's Intention Pro Populo
MONDAY August 3	Finding of the Body of St. Stephen, Protomartyr	R	7:00 am 7:00 pm	Allen Davis Requiem Mass
TUESDAY August 4	St. Dominic Guzman, C.	W	7:00 am	Sister Bernadette
WEDNESDAY August 5	Dedication of the Basilica of Our Lady of the Snow	W	7:00 am	Poor Souls
THURSDAY August 6	Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ SS Sixtus II P and Felicissimus and Agapitus, Mm.	W	7:00 am	Poor Souls
FRIDAY August 7	St. Cajetan, C. St. Donatus, BM.	W	7:00 am	Pro Scoietas R.I.P. Robert DiCecco R.I.P. FIRST FRIDAY
SATURDAY August 8	St. Cyriacus, Largus et Smaragdus, MM Vigil of St. Lawrence (Anticipated)	R	7:00 am	TBA
SUNDAY August 9	XI Sunday after Pentecost	G	7:00 am 10:00 am	TBA



MASS TIMES AT ST. MARY THE VIRGIN

1520 Delaware St, Paulsboro, New Jersey 08066

June 7,	5:00 pm	Fr. Rodriguez.
June 14,	9:30 am	Fr. Bachtiger.
June 21,	5:00 pm	Fr. Rodriguez.
June 28,	9:30 am	Fr. Bachtiger.

Mass may be cancelled in the event of inclement weather.
Call Mrs. Miriam Windfeld for any information: (856) 456 4232

Other Services:

7:00 p.m., Monday August 3rd. Requiem Mass for the Poor Souls in Purgatory followed by the Rosary & St. Joseph Litany.



NOTICE TO NEWCOMERS

Founded in 1973 in the wake of the disastrous Second Vatican Council, the mission of Our Lady of the Rosary Chapel is to maintain and restore as far as possible the traditional faith, values and liturgical practice of the Roman Catholic Church, and to provide a haven of sanctity where men and women of good will may grow in love for God and their neighbor.

Please don't hesitate to introduce yourself and ask questions. After Mass come to the Social Hall, and join us for coffee and refreshments.

We hope your visit with us is a pleasant one, and we look forward to seeing you again and welcoming you as a member of Our Lady of the Rosary.

We welcome Spanish-speaking guests, and confessions are heard in Spanish and English every Sunday and by appointment with the pastor.

your own: "Thy damnation comes from thee." You know how many have died before your very eyes and were damned: that was a warning for you. You know how many others I set back on the right path to give you the good example. Do you remember what that excellent confessor told you? I am the one who had him say it. Did he not enjoin you to change your life, to make a good confession? I am the One who inspired him. Remember that sermon that touched your heart? I am the One who led you there. And what has happened between you and Me in the secret of your heart, ...that you can never forget.

"Those interior inspirations, that clear knowledge, that constant remorse of conscience, would you dare to deny them? All of these were so many aids of My grace, because I wanted to save you. I refused to give them to many others, and I gave them to you because I loved you tenderly. My son, My son, if I spoke to them as tenderly as I am speaking to you today, how many others souls return to the right path! And you... you turn your back on Me. Listen to what I am going to tell you, for these are My last words: You have cost Me My blood; if you want to be damned in spite of the blood I shed for you, do not blame Me, you have only yourself to accuse; and throughout all eternity, do not forget that if you are damned in spite of Me, you are damned because you want to be damned: 'Thy damnation comes from thee.'

O my good Jesus, the very stones would split on hearing such sweet words, such tender expressions. Is there anyone here who wants to be damned, with so many graces and aids? If there is one, let him listen to me, and then let him resist if he can. Cast yourself at the feet of Jesus Christ and say to Him, with tearful eyes and contrite heart: "Lord, I confess that up until now I have not lived as a Chris-

tian. I am not worthy to be numbered among Thine elect... I recognize that I deserve to be damned; but Thy mercy is great and, full of confidence in Thy grace, I say to Thee that I want to save my soul, even if I have to sacrifice my fortune, my honor, my very life, as long as I am saved. If I have been unfaithful up to now, I repent, I deplore, I detest my infidelity, ask Thee humbly to forgive me for it. Forgive me, good Jesus, and strengthen me also, that I may be saved. I ask Thee not for wealth, honor or prosperity; I ask Thee for one thing only, to save my soul."

Conclusion

I want to send all of you away comforted today. What is the use of knowing whether few or many are saved? Saint Peter says to us. "Strive by good works EO make your election sure." When Saint Thomas Aquinas's sister asked him what he must do to go to heaven, he said, "You will be saved if you want to be." I say the same thing to you, and here is proof of my declaration. No one is damned unless he commits mortal sin: that is of faith. And no one commits mortal sin unless he wants to: that is an undeniable theological proposition. Therefore, no one goes to hell unless he wants to; the consequence is obvious. Does that not suffice to comfort you? Weep over past sins, make a good confession sin no more in the future, and you will all be saved. Why torment yourself so? For it is certain that you have to commit mortal sin to go to hell, and that to commit mortal sin you must want to, and that consequently no one goes to hell unless he wants to. That is not just an opinion, it is an undeniable and very comforting truth; may God give you to understand it, and may He bless you. Amen.

Excerpts from : St. Leonard of Port Maurice

VISIT US ON THE WEB

For up-to-date information, such as last-minute changes to the Mass schedule, special prayer requests, and other breaking news, refer to our website at:

www.rosarychapel.net