

Our Lady of the Rosary Chapel

SEPTEMBER 27, 2015
XVIII SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST

Volume 3

Issue 39

XVIII SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

The Love of God

by St. Alphonsus de Liguori
(continued)

Second point:

What we ought to do in order to love God with our whole heart.

6. St. Teresa used to say, that in calling a soul to his love, God bestows upon her an exceeding great favor. Since, then, God calls us all to His love, let us thank and love Him with our whole heart. Because He loves us intensely, He wishes to be tenderly loved by us. "When", says St. Bernard, "God loves, He desires nothing else than to be loved; for He loves only that He may be loved." -serm. lxiii, in Cant. It was to inflame us with His divine love, that the Eternal Word descended from Heaven. So He himself has declared; adding, that He only desires to see His fire lighted up in our hearts. "I am come to cast fire on the Earth, and what will I but that it be kindled?" - Luke, xii. 49. Let us now see what means we ought to adopt in order to love God.

7. In the first place, we ought to guard against every sin, whether mortal or venial. "If", says Jesus Christ, "any one love Me, he will keep My word" -John, xiv. 23. The first mark of love, is to endeavor not to give the smallest displeasure to the beloved. How can he be said to love God with his whole heart, who is not afraid to commit deliberate venial offenses against God? St. Teresa used to say to her spiritual children: "From deliberate sin, however small, may God deliver you". But some will say: Venial sin is a small evil. It is a small evil to displease a God, Who is so good, and Who loves us so tenderly?

8. In the second place, to love God with the whole heart, it is necessary to have a great desire to love Him. Holy desires are the wings with which we fly to

God; for, as St. Lawrence Justinian says, a good desire gives us strength to go forward, and lightens the labor of walking in the way of God... According to the spiritual masters, he that does not advance in the way of the Lord, goes back; but on the other hand, God cheerfully gives Himself to those who seek after Him. "The Lord is good to the soul that seeketh Him" - Lamén., iii, 25. He fills with His own good things all who desire Him through love. "He hath filled the hungry with good things" -Luke, i. 53.

9. In the third place, it is necessary to resolve courageously to arrive at the perfect love of God. Some persons desire to belong entirely to God, but do not resolve to adopt the means. It is of them the Wise Man says, "desires kill the soul" - Prov., xxi. 25. I would wish, they say, to become a saint; but still, with all their desires, they never advance a single step. St. Teresa used to say, that "of these irresolute souls the Devil is never afraid". Because, if they do not resolve sincerely to give themselves to God without reserve, they shall always continue in the same imperfections. But, on the other hand, the saint says, that God wishes only from us a true resolution to become saints; He Himself will do the rest. If, then, we wish to love God with our whole heart, we must resolve to do without reserve what is most pleasing to Him, and to begin at once to put our hands to the work. "Whatsoever thy hand is able to do, do it earnestly"- Eccl., ix, 10. What you can do today, do not put off till tomorrow; do it as soon as possible. A certain nun in the convent of Torri degli Specchi, in Rome, led a tepid life; but being called by God, in a retreat, to His perfect love, she resolved to correspond immediately to the divine call, and said to her director, with sincere resolution: Father, I wish to become a saint, and, to become one immediately. And from that moment, with the aid of God's



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HOLY MASS

Sundays: 7:00 & 10:00 am
Weekdays: 8:00 am

CONFESSIONS

Sundays
6:40—6:55 am
9:15—9:55 am

Weekdays
7:40—7:55 am
and by appointment

HOLY ROSARY

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

Today the Second Collection will be used to complete the \$9000. for painting. Last Sunday we received \$110 plus \$520. more during the week. This will be the last painting collection. Thank you again for your generosity.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FROM Fr. Rodriguez:

I have Mass intentions until October 10th, and I am preparing a list for Bishop Morello also. We really appreciate your generosity in the Mass stipends. Thank you very much .

Annual O.R.C.M.

Meeting.

The annual meeting will be held today at noon in the basement of the Chapel. All O. R. C. M. members are urged to attend.

Processions:

Gentleman, Boys and Girls sign up for both processions (Rosary Sunday and Christ the king), please. Thank you.

Web Cam Help:

We need someone to help us set up a Web Cam in the Chapel to stream the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass on the Internet.

Please contact Ron McGuire,
203-673-5858

grace, she lived and died a saint. We must, then, resolve to acquire the perfect love of God, and must immediately adopt the means of becoming saints.

10. The first means is, to detach the heart from all creatures, and to banish from the soul every affection which is not for God. The first question which the ancient fathers of the desert put to every one who sought admission into their society, was, Do you bring an empty heart, that the Holy Ghost may be able to fill it? If the world be not expelled from the heart, God cannot enter it. St. Teresa used to say: "Detach the heart from creatures; seek God, and you shall find Him". St. Augustine writes, that the Romans worshiped thirty thousand gods; but, among gods the Roman Senate refused to admit Jesus Christ. Because, said they, He is a proud God, who requires that He alone should be adored. This they had reason to say; for our God wishes to possess our whole souls. He is, as St. Jerome says, a jealous God... And therefore He will have no rival in the affections of our heart. Hence, the Spouse in the Canticles is called "an enclosed garden" - Cant., iv. 12. The soul, then, that wishes to belong entirely to God, must be shut against all love which is not for God.

11. Hence the Divine Spouse is said to be wounded by one of the eyes of His spouse. "Thou hast wounded my heart, my sister, my spouse; thou has wounded my heart with one of thy eyes" - Cant., iv. 9. One of her eyes signifies, that in all her thoughts and actions, the only end of the spouse is to please God: whole, in their devout exercises, worldlings propose to themselves different objects,- sometimes their own interest, sometimes to please their friends, and sometimes to please themselves. But the saints seek only to please God, to Whom they turn, and say, "What have I in Heaven? and, besides Thee, what do I desire upon Earth?... Thou art the God of my heart, and the God that is my portion forever" -Ps., lxxii. 25, 26. We should do the same, if we wish to be saints. If, says, St. Chrysostom, we do some things pleasing to God, what else but His pleasure do we seek?... lib. II, de Compunct Cord. What greater reward can a creature obtain than to please its Crea-

tor? Hence, in all we desire or do, we should seek nothing but God. A certain solitary, called Zeno, walking through the desert, absorbed in thought, met the Emperor Macedonius going to hunt. The emperor asked him what he was doing. In answer the solitary said: You go in quest of animals, and I seek God alone. St. Francis de Sales used to say, that the pure love of God consumes all that is not God.

12. Moreover, to love God with our whole heart, it is necessary to love Him without reserve. Hence we must love Him with a preference. We must prefer Him before every other good, and must be resolved to lose a thousand lives, rather than forfeit His friendship. We must say with St. Paul: "Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,... nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God" -Rom., viii. 38,39. We must love Him with a love of benevolence, desiring to see Him loved by all; and therefore, if we love God, we should seek as much as possible to kindle in others the fire of His love, or, at least, should pray for the conversion of all who do not love Him. We must love Him with a love of sorrow, regretting every offense offered to Him more than every evil which we could suffer. We must love Him with a love of conformity to the divine will. The principal office of love is to unite the wills of the lovers, and to make the soul say: "Lord, what wilt Thou have me do?" -Acts, ix.6. Lord, tell me what Thou dost wish from me; I desire to do it. I wish for nothing; I wish only what Thou willest. Hence, we ought frequently to offer ourselves to God without reserve, that He may do with us, and with all we have, whatever He pleases. We must love God with a love of patience. That is that strong love by which true lovers are known. "Love is as strong as death" -Cant.,viii. 6. "There is nothing too difficult" says St. Augustine, "to be conquered by the fire of love" -lib. de Mor. Eccl.,c. xxii. For, in doing what we love, labor is not felt, or, if it be felt, the very labor is loved... St. Vincent of Paul used to say, that love is measured by the desire of the soul to suffer to be humbled

MASS SCHEDULE

SUNDAY September 27	XVIII Sunday After Pentecost	G	7:00 am 10:00 am	For the Superior's Intention Mass pro Populo.
MONDAY September 28	St. Wenceslaus, Duke, M.	R	8:00am 7:00 pm	Special Intention <u>Requiem Mass and</u> <u>Holy Rosary for Poor Souls</u>
TUESDAY September 29	Dedication of Basilica of St. Michael	W	8:00 am	Maria Smichtt, R.I.P.
WEDNESDAY September 30	St. Jerome, CD	W	8:00 am	Sal Fama
THURSDAY October 1	St. Remigius, BpC	W	8:00am	Michael Dolan, R.I.P.
FRIDAY October 2	FIRST FRIDAY Holy Guardian Angels	W	8:00 am	Eileen Bousquet, R.I.P.
SATURDAY October 3	FIRST SATURDAY St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, V	W	7:00 am.	Luis, Juliana and Philomena Nesci
SUNDAY October 4	Rosary Sunday XIX Sunday after Pentecost.	W	7:00 am 10:00 am	Superior's Intentions. Missa pro Populo



MASS TIMES AT ST. MARY THE VIRGIN

1520 Delaware St, Paulsboro, New Jersey 08066

September 27	5:00 pm.	Fr. Rodriguez
October 4	9:30am.	Fr. Bachtinger
October 11	5:00 pm.	Fr. Rodriguez
October 18	9:30 am.	Fr. Bachtinger

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

Other Services: Monday evening, Sept. 27th, we will have a Requiem Mass and Holy Rosary for the Poor Souls in Purgatory at 7:00 pm.



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.

in order to please God. Let God be pleased, though it should cost us the loss of our life and of all things. To gain all, it is necessary to leave all. All for all, said Thomas a Kempis. The reason we do not become saints is, as St. Teresa says, because, as we do not give God all our affections, so He does not give us His perfect love. We must then say with the spouse in the Canticles: "My beloved to me, and I to him" - Cant., ii, 16. My beloved has given himself entirely to me: it is just that I give myself without reserve to him. St. John Chrysostom says, that when a soul has given herself entirely to God, she no longer cares for ignominies and sufferings; she loses the desire of all things; and not finding repose in any creature, she is always in search of her beloved; her sole concern is to find her beloved.

13. To obtain and to preserve divine love, three things are necessary: meditation, communion, and prayer. First, meditation is necessary. He who thinks but little on God, loves Him but little. "In my meditation," says David, "a fire shall flame out" - Ps., xxxviii, 4. Meditation, and particularly meditation on the passion of Jesus Christ, is the blessed furnace in which the love of God is kindled and fanned. "He brought me into the wine cellar; he set in order charity in me" - Cant., ii, 4. The souls that are introduced into this Heavenly cellar, by a single glance of Jesus Christ crucified and dying for the love of us, are wounded and inebriated with holy love. For St. Paul says,

that Jesus Christ died for us all, that each of us may live only to love Him. "And Christ died for all, that they also may not now live to themselves, but unto Him who died for them," - II. Cor., v, 15. The communion is another holy furnace, in which we are inflamed with divine love. "The Holy Eucharist," says St. Chrysostom, "is a fire which inflames us, that, like lions breathing fire, we may retire from the holy table being made terrible to the Devil" - hom. xli., ad Pop. Above all, prayer (the prayer of petition) is necessary. It is by means of prayer that God dispenses all His favors, but particularly the great gift of divine love. To make us ask for this love, meditation is a great help. With our meditation we shall ask little or nothing from God. We must, then, always, every day, and several times in the day, ask God to give us the grace to love Him with our whole heart. St. Gregory says, that God wished to be compelled and importuned by our petitions, to bestow upon us His graces. "God wishes to be entreated - to be compelled; He wished in a certain manner to be overcome by importunity". Let us, then, continually ask of Jesus Christ His holy love; and let us ask His divine mother Mary, who is the treasurer of all His graces, to obtain it for us. Thesauraria gratiarum (Idiota). She is called by St. Bernadine, the dispensatrix of God's graces. "All graces, are dispensed through her hands". It is through her intercession that we must obtain the great gift of divine love.

**IMPORTANT: Those who need Confirmation or conditional Confirmation, please see Mr. Vincent Ferro, and start your Catechism.
Fr. Rodriguez.**

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