



Our Lady of Sorrows Church
September 9, 2018

From the Pastor's Desk

My Dear People:

Joan Durand showed me the following article on her cell phone, which she got off the internet. I think, in light of the present clerical sexual scandal, we need to be reminded of the indescribable good the Catholic Church has done.

Below is an excerpt from an article by a non-Catholic, a Jewish businessman in Cleveland, Ohio named Sam Miller.

"Why would newspapers carry on a vendetta on one of the most important institutions that we have today in the United States, namely the Catholic Church?"

Do you know - the Catholic Church educates 2.6 million students every day at the cost to that Church of 10 billion dollars, and a savings on the other hand to the American taxpayer of 18 billion dollars. The graduates go on to graduate studies at the rate of 92%.

The Church has 230 colleges and universities in the U.S., with an enrollment of 700,000 students.

The Catholic Church has a non-profit hospital system of 637 hospitals, which account for hospital treatment of 1 out of every 5 people - not just Catholics - in the United States today.

But the press is vindictive and trying to totally denigrate, in every way, the Catholic Church in this country. They have blamed the disease of pedophilia on the Catholic Church, which is as irresponsible as blaming adultery on the institution of marriage.

Let me give you some figures that Catholics should know and remember. For example, 12% of the 300 Protestant clergy surveyed admitted to sexual intercourse with a parishioner; 38% acknowledged other inappropriate sexual contact in a study by the

United Methodist Church; 41.8% of clergy women reported unwanted sexual behavior; 17% of laywomen have been sexually harassed. Meanwhile, 1.7% of the Catholic clergy has been found guilty of pedophilia, while 10% of Protestant ministers have been found guilty of pedophilia. This is not a Catholic problem.

A study of American priests showed that most are happy in the priesthood and find it even better than they had expected, and that most, if given the choice, would choose to be priests again in face of all this obnoxious PR the Church has been receiving.

The Catholic Church is bleeding from self-inflicted wounds. The agony that Catholics have felt and suffered is not necessarily the fault of the Church. You have been hurt by a small number of wayward priests who have probably been totally weeded out by now and a number of bishops who failed to act.

Walk with your shoulders high and your head higher. Be a proud member of the most important non-governmental agency in the United States.

Be proud to speak up for your faith with pride and reverence and learn what your Church does for all other religions.

Be proud that you're a Catholic."

Comment: The enormous good in the Catholic faith still does not justify the comparatively small strain of evil that has worked its way into the hierarchy. At this point in time, we need more people like Mr. Sam Miller, a devout Jew and businessman from Cleveland, Ohio, who is willing to remind others of the great good in the Catholic Church.

Perhaps the publicity given to this scandal comes not so much from anti-Catholicism, but from the fact the rest of the world expects perfection from Catholic clergymen. When it is not there, it is considered "news."

Church authority has sworn itself to zero tolerance. Ordination does not take away the free will from a man. We would like to think that it does, but it simply does not!

Personal Note: Review boards that are, and will be, set up to judge the sanctions for priests and bishops should be predominately, if not totally, compromised of devout, intelligent Catholic laymen. Bishops who were never directly involved, but indirectly, should be judged on the individual basis. Bishops who had a practice of simply changing priest assignments should be told by Rome to resign.

A bishop with one disciplinary mistake might be judged less harshly according to circumstances and the extent to which a bishop has actively pursued zero tolerance in his diocese.

The secular media does not advertise this scandal any more than the Catholic media, itself, along with regrets, apologies, remorse and extreme resolutions.

Before we condemn the whole Church hierarchy, we need to recognize that it is a very small fraction of guilty clergy, compared to the huge fraction of dedicated clergy. We need to pray for all priests, especially those who most need God's help.

With prayers and blessings,
Father Muller

P.S. Someone has been impersonating me on email. Please know that I do not send emails or texts, and if you receive anything from me it is a scam. Please contact the Church Office if you receive one of these messages.



Vivian Bonamy, Vita D'Amico,
Mary Ann Huie, Melanie
Gilchrist, Charlie Kai
Wadsworth, Fr. John
Robinson, Margie Cole



Monday, Sept. 10	Special Intention Annie Diergo Jody Griener
Tuesday, Sept. 11	Special Intention Janice Stephens Adams Lena Carruba
Wednesday, Sept. 12	Special Intention Ruth Covington Special Intention
Thursday, Sept. 13	Sp. Int. Frank & Vita D'Amico Annie Diergo Josephine Sicola
Friday, Sept. 14	Special Intention Joseph Schilleci Annie Diergo
Saturday, Sept. 15	Anthony Ross/Roy McCord Douglas Smith
Sunday, Sept. 16	Sp. Int. Rosemary Savage & Sam People of the Parish Sp. Int. the Fleming Family Pedro Barrenechea

CHAPEL OF OUR SAVIOR

The Chapel needs permanent Committed Adorers for:

Tuesday at 7 PM (With Partner)

Thursday at 11 PM (Need Committed Adorer)

Friday at 9 AM (Need Committed Adorer)

Friday at 11 AM (With a Partner)

Friday at 11 PM (Need Committed Adorer)

Sunday at 1 PM (Need Committed Adorer)

Our goal is to have at least 2 people on each hour. These are the hours needed, but do select an hour that best fits your schedule.

Please call Mary Claire Brouillette at 871-2909 or Trudy Carpri at 643-0248.

Everyone is invited to attend Adult

Education on Sunday, Sept. 16. Our speaker will be John Elson. His topic is *The Life of St. Manuel Gonzalez Garcia*. The gathering begins in the **Family Life Center** at 9:45 a.m. with fellowship and light refreshments and the class begins at 10 a.m. Childcare is available in the nursery.

Our Lady of Sorrows Feast

Saturday, September 15

*Music meditation
at 4:30 p.m.*

*Benediction and Meditation on
the Seven Sorrows
at 4:45 p.m.*

Mass at 5 p.m.

*A dinner will immediately
follow in the Parish Hall at
6:00 p.m.*

**Everyone is welcome!
Join us on this
special day!**

Our Lady of Fatima invites you to please join us for our first meeting of the year on Thursday, September 13, at 10:45 a.m. We will meet in the FLC Sodality Room. We know how to have fun, so come and see for yourselves.



The Knights of Columbus will be holding a Blood Drive next Sunday, September 16, in the Parish Hall

from 8 a.m. – 1 p.m. They will be cooking a hot breakfast for all donors and their families. The American Red Cross continues to face shortages of the most needed blood types. We hope to see you there.

What's Going on in Youth Ministry?

Youth Group Parent Meeting Sept. 10th at 6:30 p.m. in the Assembly Hall. All parents are strongly encouraged to attend and learn where their involvement is greatly needed in allowing our youth ministry program to succeed.

Life Teen High School

Sept. 9: Faith Formation at 10 a.m. in the youth room studying apologetics. Life Night at 7 p.m. Dinner followed by Eucharistic Adoration.

Sept 12: "Summit" Scripture study! A co-ed Bible study every Wednesday from 7-8:30p. Dinner included.

March for Life registration is now open! Join OLS as we stand up for life in Washington D.C. The trip will be Jan. 16-20, and the cost is \$150.

Edge Middle School

Sept. 9: "Battle Cry" – Join us for and Edge Night on Jesus' Public Ministry where we will learn more about His Proclamation of the Kingdom and His call of the Apostles. We will be challenged to recognize the kingdom of God present with us today and to respond in faith just as the apostles did.

Wed. Sept. 12: Blaze Bible Study for 7-8th grade girls: Our six week Bible Study, "Discovering My Purpose," starts next week! If you are interested please email Carol at mseyouthminister@ourladyofsorrows.com. Meet in the FLC Library at 7 p.m. Pizza dinner will be served!

Children's Liturgy of the Word begins Sunday, September 23, at the 8:30 a.m. Mass. All children in grades K-6, including those in the Parish School of Religion and those attending Our Lady of Sorrows School, are invited to attend these liturgies, which have been especially prepared for them. We will gather in the main sanctuary for the

Introductory Rites and be dismissed from there to process together to the Parish Hall. Older siblings and members of the family are welcome to celebrate the Lord's Word with us.

There are a number of ministries available to the children within Children's Liturgy of the Word, including Cantors, Lectors, and Actors & Actresses for special homilies. All interested children are encouraged to participate in these ministries and to sign up with Greg Harber following the 8:30 a.m. Sunday masses, or parents may contact me via email: gharber@mindspring.com.

For more information call Greg Harber, 205-807-8055.

S.T.E.P. - Systematic Training for Effective Parenting is a course for parents and others who want their relationship with children to be more satisfying. In an atmosphere of mutual support, you learn communication skills, positive discipline techniques, ways to build self-esteem and more. Over three million parents have improved their family life with STEP. STEP will be offered on Sundays from 10-11 a.m. in the Sodality Room beginning Sept. 23 through November 11, with no class on Oct. 14. STEP is being offered through the PSR office and Jane O'Brien will be the moderator. For questions and to register, call the PSR office (871-1431) or Jane O'Brien (937-4099). Space is limited to no more than 24. Both parents should attend, single parents may bring someone with them who helps with the children.

Dear wonderful Ladies,
Bible Study begins September 11. Jesus wants a personal relationship with each one of us. He loves us so much, He died to save us from our sins. He rose from the dead and defeated the enemy and gave us life everlasting in heaven with Him. St. Jerome said if you want to know Jesus, you have to know His Word. His Word is very powerful and helps us in all of life's problems and joys.

We have a wonderful, loving, happy, joyful group, and we welcome anyone, no matter their age or Bible knowledge. We begin Sept. 18, but you can join any time. Call Mary Ann at 908-2728 and leave a message with your name and number. Hope to see you there so we can share our love and joy with you.

The Padre Pio Prayer Group will meet on Saturday, September 22, at 10 a.m. Our prayers will be led by our new Associate Pastor, Fr. Frankline. This month we are celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Padre Pio's death and entrance into Heaven! We will have a pot-luck lunch after Mass in the Parish Hall. Please come and bring a dish to share! Last names beginning with A-J: Meat or Main Dish, K-T: Side Dish or Salad/Veggie, and U-Z: Rolls, Dessert or Fruit. We hope you can join us this month. Padre Pio...Pray for us! For more information contact Angela Kolar at 991-9554.



LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING AT OLS SCHOOL!

*We are growing our children in
knowledge and faith...look how they
experience the difference.*

OLS School Sweatshirts are for sale on our website at olsschool.com. Go to the **PTO** tab and select **Spirit Store**. Sizes range from Youth x-small to Adult x-large. This sale is only once a year, so don't miss this opportunity! **Deadline for orders is September 17th!**

Toy Bowl Volleyball practices are underway for the 3rd through 8th grade OLS girl and boy teams. Regular season games are September 8 through - October 13; tournament/finals are October 15-20.

We are **collecting Boxtops** to help support school improvements & programs, and you can help! Please consider clipping Boxtops and sending them to Boxtop Coordinator at 414 Kenilworth Drive Homewood, Alabama 35209. Thank you in advance for your help!!

Visit olsschool.com.

CATHEDRAL OF SAINT PAUL • BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA
SUNG HIGH MASS (EXTRAORDINARY FORM)

Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

FRIDAY • SEPTEMBER 14, 2018 • 6:30PM

Celebrant: Rev. Bryan Jerabek • Cathedral Choir: Byrd "Mass à 5"

– THE MASS WILL BE OFFERED FOR HEALING AND PURIFICATION IN THE CHURCH –



FOLLOWED BY AN ALL-NIGHT
ADORATION VIGIL IN REPARATION

9/14 • 8:30PM – UNTIL – 9/15 • 8:30AM

Concluding with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

– REV. JAMES HEDDERMAN WILL LEAD PRAYERS THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT –
PLEASE COME TO PRAY ANY TIME AND FOR AS LONG AS YOU LIKE

Saturday Mass (Ordinary Form) • 8:30AM • Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows

– THE MASS WILL BE OFFERED FOR THE HEALING OF VICTIMS OF SEXUAL PREDATION –