



Saint Dominic Catholic Community

*God's Call to Build:
Our Bridge To The Future
Dios Nos ha Llamado a Construir:
Nuestro Puente Hacia
El Futuro*

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston
Archbishop: Most Rev. Daniel Cardinal DiNardo
Auxiliary Bishop Most Rev. George A. Sheltz

8215 Reservoir Street, Houston, TX 77049-1728
281-458-2910 281-458-5703
Fax: 281-458- 7114
www.stdominichouston.org

Pastoral Staff

Pastor: Rev. Roger Estorque
froger@comcast.net
Deacon: Rev. Mr. Phil Wiles
Bookkeeper: Duc Manh Ho
Office Manager: Irma Galvan
igalvan@comcast.net

Zalvador Manzo
Ministerio Hispano

Office Assistants:

Eliseida Pineda
Maria Ramos
Claudia Ramirez
Ivonne Soto

Housekeeping

Beatriz Parra
Aurelia Perez

Pastoral Council

Chairman - Juan Hernandez
Secretary - Juanita Hernandez
Esmeralda Ramirez
Rogelio Mendez

Salvador & Maria Manzo

Finance Council

Hector Hernandez,
Deacon Phil Wiles,
Gale Lamanilao
Luis Rodriguez

Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday
8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Religious Education

DRE - Ana Martinez
Friday & Sunday PK - 5th
DRE - Rosana Gonzales
Youth & RCIA

Asst. - Irma Tello - Spanish
Asst. - Jocelyn Vera - English

From the first week of
September through the
last week of May



Mission Statement

We, the parish community of St. Dominic, Houston, TX, a multi-cultured community, joined together by faith in Jesus Christ and the Roman Catholic Church, commit ourselves to help each other grow in the understanding of our faith, celebrate this faith in Liturgy and live it out by using the gifts of each person in the service of others, especially those in need, so that in the end, we may become truly a community of faith: truly the people of God and be of service to all!

Worship Schedule

Weekend Masses:

Saturday -English 8:15 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.

Sunday - **English** 8:00 a.m. 11:15 a.m.

Español 9:30 a.m. -1:00 p.m.

Weekday Masses:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8:00 a.m. English

Wednesday 7:00 pm English

Liturgy of the Hours:

Morning Prayer: Sunday - Saturday 7:30 a.m.

Evening Prayer: Wednesday 6:30 p.m.

& Saturday 5:30 p.m.

Devotions: Rosary of the Virgin Mary:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 8:30 a.m.

Saturday 8:00 a.m.

Prayer Meeting: Spanish - Tuesday 7:00 p.m.

Novena to the Sacred Heart:

During the Friday morning Holy Mass

Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help:

After Wednesday Mass

Eucharistic Adoration: Weekly Holy Hour:

Thursday 8:30 -9:30 a.m.

First Friday -9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Reconciliation Sacrament:

Wednesday 6:00 - 6:45 pm Saturday-5:00-5:45 p.m.

Sacrament of Baptism

Parents & Sponsors please register one week in advance.

English Baptism Class: First Tuesday & Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

English Baptism Celebration:

Third Saturday of the month at 9:00 a.m.

Clase Pre Bautismal:

Primer Martes y Jueves del mes a las 7:00 p.m.

Bautismos Español:

Segundo Sábado del mes al las 9:00 a.m.

Sacrament of Marriage – Quinceañera Celebrations

Call the Parish office 6 months in advance to schedule appointment with priest.

Sacrament of the anointing of the sick

Please call the parish office to make arrangements for communion to be brought to your home or to the hospital.

Parish Registration

If you are new to the parish, please register at the office.

Monday –Friday 8:30 a.m. –3:30 p.m.

Pre -Baptismal Registration

Must register in the parish office,

Monday – Friday, 8:00 am –3:30 pm a week prior to the class.

Bring child's birth certificate; required to register

Sponsors if married must be married by the Catholic Church and marriage certificate required.

If single they must be at least 16, and bring copy of their Baptism, First Communion and Confirmation

Parents and godparents must attend two pre-baptismal classes held 1st Tuesday & Thursday of the month at 7:00 - 9:30 pm.

Donation for class is \$75.00

Baptism celebration 3rd Saturday of the month at 9:00 am

Child being baptized can not be older than 7 yrs. Old.

Children 7 years and older must be prepared through the parish Catechism Program. (Guidelines of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston)

Información Pre- Bautismal - Pase a la oficina parroquial Lunes –Viernes, 8:00 am – 3:30 pm una semana antes de la clase. Es requerido presentar la acta de nacimiento del niño/a quien van a bautizar.

Padrinos Si están casados

deben estar casados por la iglesia Católica es requerido presentar la acta de matrimonio.

Si son solteros deben tener por lo menos 16 años y presentar su acta de Bautizo, Primera Comunión y Confirmación.

Papas y Padrinos tienen que asistir a dos pláticas pre-bautismales el primer martes y jueves del mes de 7:00-9:30 pm. **Donación** para la platica: \$75.00

Bautismos el segundo Sábado del mes a las 9:00 am

Niños sin bautizar no deben ser mayores de 7 años de edad.

Niños deben recibir catecismo en el programa de la parroquia. (Guías de Arquidiócesis de Galveston-Houston)

Presentación de Tres Años

Cuarto domingo del mes durante la misa de 1:00 p.m.

Pasa a la oficina y presente acta de bautismo para registrase

Sacrament of Marriage: Register at least 6 months in advance; drop by the office and fill out form and be ready to meet the pastor; Pick up wedding information check-list.

Quinceañera Celebrations: The family must be registered in the parish for a period of three (3) months prior to the date of the first preparation session. The candidate should register for her/his Quince Años ceremony on or before her/his 14th birthday. The candidate must have been baptized in the Roman Catholic Church and must have received First Eucharist prior to the time of the ceremony. If the honoree has not received the Sacrament of Communion, she/he should be enrolled to prepare to receive the sacrament before the Quince Años ceremony. The candidate must attend and complete preparation sessions with the coordinator and must join our parish youth program. Pick up Quinceañera information check-list.

Pray For The Sick

Bobbie Anderson
Georgia Malonson
Glice Ligason
Mervin Auzenne
Joe Lozoya
Eola Corbello
Lynn Doane
Erica Taylor
Doreen Whitmeer
Elma Revelo
Gretchen King
Laura Rucka
Noito Valdehueva

Vitaliana Nisnisan
Jonathan Bomar
Ron Kocab
Harold Desvignes





From The Pastor



Dear Friends in St. Dominic

Today we continue to read from the Gospel according to Mark. For the past three Sundays, we have been hearing Mark's reports of conversations between Jesus and his disciples. Recall that in Mark's Gospel, Jesus uses these private moments to teach his disciples in greater detail about the Kingdom of God. The Pharisees approach Jesus to test him. They question Jesus about the lawfulness of divorce. Under specific conditions, divorce was an accepted practice among the Jewish people during the time of Jesus. It was regulated by the Law of Moses, as found in Deuteronomy 21:1-5. This law only permits that a husband may divorce his wife if he finds her to be indecent. This is the justification that the Pharisees reference when Jesus inquires about the commandment of Moses. In reply, Jesus quotes from the Book of Genesis and counters that God's original intention was that men and women would become one flesh in marriage. Jesus describes the teaching of Moses as a concession made to God's original intention because of human stubbornness.

In private, Jesus' disciples question him further about this teaching on divorce. It is to his disciples that Jesus lays out the implications of his teaching by explaining that remarriage after divorce is adultery. Jesus' teaching was more restrictive than the teaching of the Pharisees, which permitted remarriage. Jesus further distinguished his teaching from the cultural norms of his time by applying his words equally to men and women. Jewish culture permitted only that a husband may divorce his wife. Wives were not permitted to divorce their husband for any reason, including adultery.

At first glance, the final part of today's Gospel seems unconnected to the previous teaching about divorce. When read together, however, these passages present a strong picture of Jesus' emphasis on the importance of family. God intended for women and men to be joined together in marriage. Among the purposes of marriage is the raising of children. By welcoming children and fostering their relationship with God, parents and families bear witness to the Kingdom of God.

At the end of today's Gospel, the people were bringing their children to Jesus, and again Jesus' disciples show that they just don't get it. Recall that in the Gospel for each of the past two Sundays, Jesus has taught his disciples the value and importance of these "little ones" in the Kingdom of God. Yet in today's Gospel, the disciples try to prevent people from bringing their children to Jesus. Jesus reprimands his disciples and welcomes these children. Again Jesus offers these children as an example of the kind of complete trust and dependence upon God that ought to be the attitude of all believers.

October is the month of the Rosary. The Rosary helps us to pray to Jesus through Mary. When we pray the Rosary, we think about the special events, or mysteries in the lives of Jesus and Mary. The Rosary is made up of a string of beads and a crucifix. We hold the crucifix in our hands as we pray the sign of the cross. Then we pray the Apostles' Creed. Between the crucifix and the medal of Mary, there is a single bead, followed by a set of three beads and another single bead. We pray the Lord's Prayer as we hold the first single bead and a Hail Mary at each bead in the set of three that follows. Then we pray the Glory Be to the Father. On the next single bead we think about the first mystery and pray the Lord's Prayer. There are five sets of ten beads; each set is called a decade. We pray a Hail Mary on each bead of a decade as we reflect on a particular mystery in the lives of Jesus and Mary. The Glory Be to the Father is prayed at the end of each set. Between sets is a single bead on which we think about one of the mysteries and pray the Lord's Prayer. We end by holding the crucifix in our hands as we pray the Sign of the Cross.

Sincerely yours in Christ
Rev. Roger Estorque



Queridos Amigos en San Dominic,

Hoy seguimos leyendo del Evangelio según Marcos. Durante los últimos tres domingos, hemos estado escuchando los informes de Marcos sobre las conversaciones entre Jesús y sus discípulos. Recuerde que en el Evangelio de Marcos, Jesús usa estos momentos privados para enseñar a sus discípulos con mayor detalle sobre el Reino de Dios. Los fariseos se acercan a Jesús para probarlo. Cuestionan a Jesús sobre la legalidad del divorcio. Bajo condiciones específicas, el divorcio fue una práctica aceptada entre los judíos durante el tiempo de Jesús. Estaba regulado por la Ley de Moisés, tal como se encuentra en Deuteronomio 21: 1-5. Esta ley solo permite que un esposo pueda divorciarse de su esposa si la encuentra indecente. Esta es la justificación a la que se refieren los fariseos cuando Jesús pregunta acerca del mandamiento de Moisés. En respuesta, Jesús cita del libro de Génesis y contadores. La intención original de Dios era que los hombres y las mujeres se convirtieran en una sola carne en el matrimonio. Jesús describe la enseñanza de Moisés como una concesión hecha a la intención original de Dios debido a la obstinación humana.

En privado, los discípulos de Jesús le preguntan más sobre esta enseñanza sobre el divorcio. Es a sus discípulos que Jesús expone las implicaciones de su enseñanza al explicar que volver a casarse después del divorcio es un adulterio. La enseñanza de Jesús era más restrictiva que la enseñanza de los fariseos, que permitía el nuevo matrimonio. Jesús distinguió aún más su enseñanza de las normas culturales de su tiempo al aplicar sus palabras por igual a hombres y mujeres. La cultura judía permitía solo que un marido pudiera divorciarse de su esposa. A las esposas no se les permitía divorciarse de su esposo por ningún motivo, incluido el adulterio.

A primera vista, la parte final del Evangelio de hoy parece no estar relacionada con la enseñanza anterior sobre el divorcio. Sin embargo, cuando se leen juntos, estos pasajes presentan una imagen sólida del énfasis de Jesús en la importancia de la familia. Dios quería que las mujeres y los hombres se unieran en matrimonio. Entre los propósitos del matrimonio está la crianza de los hijos. Al dar la bienvenida a los niños y fomentar su relación con Dios, los padres y las familias dan testimonio del Reino de Dios.

Al final del Evangelio de hoy, la gente traía a sus hijos a Jesús, y nuevamente los discípulos de Jesús muestran que simplemente no lo entienden. Recuerde que en el Evangelio de cada uno de los últimos dos domingos, Jesús ha enseñado a sus discípulos el valor y la importancia de estos "pequeños" en el Reino de Dios. Sin embargo, en el Evangelio de hoy, los discípulos tratan de evitar que las personas lleven a sus hijos a Jesús. Jesús reprende a sus discípulos y da la bienvenida a estos niños. Una vez más, Jesús ofrece a estos niños como Ejemplo de la clase de completa confianza y dependencia de Dios que debe ser la actitud de todos los creyentes.

Octubre es el mes del Rosario. El Rosario nos ayuda a orar a Jesús a través de María. Cuando rezamos el Rosario, pensamos en los eventos especiales o misterios en las vidas de Jesús y María. El rosario está formado por una cadena de cuentas y un crucifijo. Tenemos el crucifijo en nuestras manos mientras rezamos la señal de la cruz. Entonces rezamos el Credo de los Apóstoles. Entre el crucifijo y la medalla de María, hay una cuenta única, seguida de un conjunto de tres cuentas y otra cuenta única. Rezamos la Oración del Señor mientras sostenemos la primera cuenta única y un Ave María en cada cuenta en el conjunto de tres que siguen. Entonces roguemos la Gloria al Padre. Sobre el siguiente cuenta única que pensamos en el primer misterio y oramos el Señor Oración. Hay cinco juegos de diez cuentas; Cada conjunto se llama una década. Oramos un Ave María en cada cuenta de una década mientras reflexionamos sobre un misterio particular en las vidas de Jesús y María. La Gloria al Padre se reza al final de cada serie. Entre conjuntos hay una sola cuenta en la que pensamos en uno de los misterios y rezamos la Oración del Señor. Terminamos sosteniendo el crucifijo en nuestras manos mientras rezamos la Señal de la Cruz.

¡Atentamente suyo en Cristo
Rev. Roger Estorque



Mass Intentions

Saturday	October 6th
	<i>St. Bruno; Blessed Marie-Rose Durocher</i>
8:00 am	† All Souls/Difuntos
6:00 pm	† Irene Sanchez/Clara & Gloria
Sunday	October 7th
8:00 am	† All Souls/Difuntos
9:30 am	† Jesus Parra/Familia Parra -Castro
	† Natividad Castro/Familia Parra-Castro
11:15 am	† All Souls/Difuntos
1:00 pm	† Ramona Garcia/David Trejo
	† Moises Anguiano Cruz./Fabiola Gonzalez
Monday	October 8th Columbus Day
8:00 am	† All Souls/Difuntos
Tuesday	October 9th
	<i>St. Denis and Companions; St. John Leonardi</i>
8:00 am	† All Souls/Difuntos
Wednesday	October 10th
7:00 pm	† All Souls/Difuntos
Thursday	October 11th St. John XXIII
8:00 am	† All Souls/Difuntos
7:00 pm	Asamblea de Oración
Friday	October 12th
8:00 am	† All Souls/Difuntos
Saturday	October 13th
8:00 am	† All Souls/Difuntos
6:00 pm	† All Souls/Difuntos



¡Felices los que
caminan por las
sendas del Señor



Monday	October 8th
Tuesday	October 9th
5:30 pm	Coro Voces de Jubilo/Mr. Puente
5:30 pm	Legion de Maria-Spanish
6:45 pm	RCIC, RCIT Niños y Jóvenes de RICA
7:00 pm	RCIA
6:50 pm	Nueva Vida
Wednesday	October 10th
6:45 pm	Pre-Confirmation & Confirmation
7:00 pm	Formación de Asamblea
Thursday	October 11th
5:30 pm	Legion of Mary-English
7:00 pm	Youth Group
Friday	October 12th
5:45 pm	1st Communion English & Spanish
5:45 pm	Formación de Padres de Doctrina
	OEC Parent Formation
Saturday	October 13th
9:00 am	Bautismos en Español
Sunday	October 14th
9:45 am	OEC Pre-K –8th English
11:30 am	Doctrina Pre-k-8 Español

Yearly Budget
\$332,500.00



Weekly Budget
\$6,694.23

9/30/2018	1st	2nd
6:00 pm	\$1,212.55	\$ 204.95
8:00 am	\$1,322.80	\$ 265.00
9:30 am	\$1,238.43	\$ 393.00
11:15 am	\$2,388.78	\$ 303.63
1:00 pm	\$1,280.30	\$ 320.28
Total	\$7,442.86	\$1,486.86

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Gal 1:6-12; Ps 111:1b-2, 7-9, 10c
October 8th	Gospel: Lk 10:25-37
Tuesday:	Gal 1:13-24; Ps 139:1b-3, 13-15
October 9th	Gospel: Lk 10:38-42
Wednesday:	Gal 2:1-2, 7-14; Ps 117:1bc, 2
October 10th	Gospel: Lk 11:1-4
Thursday:	Gal 3:1-5; Lk 1:69-75
October 11th	Gospel: Lk 11:5-13
Friday:	Gal 3:7-14; Ps 111:1b-6
October 12th	Gospel: Lk 11:15-26
Saturday:	Gal 3:22-29; Ps 105:2-7
October 13th	Gospel: Lk 11:27-28
Sunday:	Wis 7:7-11; Ps 90:12-17; Heb 4:12-13
October 14th	Gospel: Mk 10:17-30 [17-27]



2018 - GOAL \$34,000.00

Paid:	\$27,802.00
Pledged:	\$33,227.00
Participants:	212
Paid Under:	(\$ 6,198.00)
Pledge Under:	(\$ 773.00)

Eucharistic ADORATION 1st Friday

Holy Hour for Vocations:

on Thursdays: 8:30 a.m.- 9:30 a.m.

Next Full Day Adoration : November 2, 2018
8:30am–9:00 p.m. **Jesus asks us, “Can you not spend an hour with me?”** For further information, call Mrs. Gloria Casey @ 713-453-4968

ST. DOMINIC

PLEASE LET US KNOW... If you or a loved one are hospitalized and would like to be added to the prayer list, have a visit, homebound, and receive Holy Communion or the Sacrament of Anointing. Call the Parish office - 281-458-2910

INTENCIONES DE MISAS

Favor de pasar al la oficina por lo menos un semana antes de fecha de intención. No le de su intención a ultima hora al lector. El nombre de intención debe aparecer en el boletín. El boletín es enviado a impreza en lunes para edición del próximo domingo. La donación mínima por intención son \$5.00

MASS INTENTIONS

Please come by the office at least a week prior to date that you want intention mentioned. Please do not give name to lector last minute before intentions are mentioned. Names will appear in the bulletin. Bulletin is sent to press on
Monday of the week
before Sunday edition.
Minimum Donation per intention of \$5.00

LA ASAMBLEA DE ORACIÓN

Se reúne cada Jueves a las 7:00 pm en la iglesia. Venga a las alabanzas y charlas de diferentes predico-



SALONES

El Salón Centro de vida parroquial ya esta listo para alquilar para Bodas, Quinceañeras, Bautizos, Aniversarios, etc. Tenemos tres (3) salones; el grande tiene capacidad para 350 personas e los salones chicos, para 100 y 75 personas. Para mas información por favor, llamar a la oficina parroquial.

Hall Rental

The Parish Life Center is ready to rent for Weddings, Quinceañeras, Baptisms, Anniversaries, etc. We have three (3) halls; Parish Life Center has capacity for 350 people and small halls, for 100 and 75 people. For more information, please call the parish office

MINISTRIES & ORGANIZATIONS Leaders & Time

Altar Servers: Mercedes Flores -Spanish

Clem & Cecile Monta English 3rd Saturday 9:00 am.

E. M. of Holy Communion:- Mary LeBlanc -English

E. M. de Eucaristia: Uriel & Lucila Duran

Lectors English: Gale Lamanilao

Lectores Spanish: Rogelio Mendez

Liturgy English Music: Melner Calvo, Sundays 5 :00 pm

Liturgia Musica Espanol: Valentin Cobos, Jesus Puente, Elias Tello

Ushers/Greeters English:

Acomodadores Español: Salvador Guzman, Clementina Magallon

Offertory Collection Counters: Gloria Casey

Parish Pastoral Council- Juan Hernandez, 1st. Monday 6:00 pm

Parish Finance Council: Hector Hernandez quarterly & as necessary

Baptismal classes- English Melner Calvo, Alex Bozon, Clem Monta

Clases Pre -Bautismales Español Edith & Victor Leon, Hugo & Imelda Duron

Catholic Daughters: Mary Edmond 3rd Tuesday 6:30 pm

Family Ministry-Melner Calvo

Knights of Columbus: Robert Baccigalopi, 1st. Sunday 9: 30 am

Legion of Mary- Esmeralda Ramirez, Saturday 9:00 a.m. English

Legion de Maria -Angelita Gonzalez, Martes 7:00 p.m. Español

Facilities Maintenance: Daron Monteilh & Raymond Helfrich

Asamblea De Oración, Jesus & Ma. Dolores Velasquez Jueves 7:00 pm

MFCC St. Dominic: Gerardo y Esmeralda Marroquin

Hispanic Ministry Coordinator: Salvador Manzo

Parish Youth Ministry: Thursday 7:00 pm Rosana Gonzales,

Elda Briggs, Arlett Hernandez

Clase Pre-Nupcial : Jose y Silvia Cervantes

Pre-Nuptial Class: English Melner Calvo, Clem Monta, Alex Bozon

Nullity Sponsors: Clem Monta & Alex Bozon

Virtus Facilitator Español: Salvador Manzo

Virtus Facilitator English: Rosana Gonzales

Vocation: Denise Manzo

Evangelization: Salvador Manzo

Pro-Life Gabriel: Esmeralda Gallegos

Parents Faith Formation:

Rogelio Mendez-Spanish - Jocelyn Vera-English

Disaster Coordinator: Salvador Manzo, Raymond Helfrich, Juan Hernandez, Elda Briggs, Francisca Fortuno, Rosana Gonzalez



MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND PLAN TO ATTEND

50th anniversary of the establishment of
St. Dominic Parish
on January 19-20, 2019!

Theme:

Celebrating 50 years of God's faithfulness,
love and generosity, yesterday,
today and tomorrow!



Happy are you
who walk in
the Lord's ways

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading -- The man said, "This one is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called 'woman' " (Genesis 2:18-24).

Psalm -- May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives (Psalm 128).

Second Reading -- He who consecrates and those who are being consecrated all have one origin (Hebrews 2:9-11).

Gospel -- Whoever does not accept the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it (Mark 10:2-16 [2-12]).

LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura -- Dios crea una compañera Apropiaada para Adán: Eva (Génesis 2:18-24).

Salmo -- Que Dios nos bendiga todos los días de nuestra vida (Salmo 128 [127]).

Segunda lectura -- Cristo, el que consagra, y aquellos a quienes consagra tienen un mismo origen. (Hebreos 2:9-11).

Evangelio -- Lo que Dios ha unido, que ningún ser humano lo separe. Dejen que los niños vengan a mí. El reino de Dios pertenece a los que son como ellos (Marcos 10:2-16).

CASINO NIGHT

In the parish life center

November 9th, 2018

7:00 pm - 11:00 pm

\$20.00 per person - 25,000 chips

2 free drink tickets

Tables of

Craps, Roulette, Texas Hold-Em
and Black Jack

Fall Festival

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR

AND

PLAN TO ATTEND

PARISH FALL BAZAAR

ON OCTOBER 14, 2018

FROM 11:00 AM TO 7:00 PM

AT THE JIM FONTENO PARK BEHIND

THE COURT HOUSE

ALONG WALLISVILLE RD.

HOUSTON, TX

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When Jesus saw this he became indignant and said to them,
"Let the children come to me;
do not prevent them, for the kingdom of God
belongs to such as these. Mk 10:14



Twenty-seventh Sunday
in Ordinary Time
October 7, 2018

Let the children come to me;
do not prevent them, for the kingdom of
God belongs to such as these.

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— Mark 10:14

HE EMBRACED THEM AND BLESSED THEM

Today Jesus stresses how children embody the reign of God. They are trusting and loving and have hearts that are open to love. They are joyful when they are made aware of God's love for them, and are eager to return that love. This is the model Jesus holds out to us if we want to welcome the reign of God. We need to have open, loving hearts. We must drop our defenses, however we came by them, and welcome Christ's love for us with joy. This is impossible for us on our own. Only the grace of God will enable us to do this, but that grace is freely and generously given. We have only to accept it.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

One of our great treasures is the way the Church has frequently flourished under unfavorable conditions, like the grape ivy on the mantel that refuses to die no matter how infrequently you water it or open the drapes. Like the apartheid laws in South Africa in the last century, the penal laws of Ireland were aimed at depriving the majority population of basic human rights. The Protestant parliament of Ireland enacted laws limiting the practice of Catholicism. The goal was to force conversion from "popery" to the Church of Ireland, and additional laws took aim at Jews, non-Anglicans, and Quakers.

There were laws against intermarriage, laws against Catholics being lawyers (there was a one-hundred-pound fine), a law granting lifelong income to priests who became Protestant, and a ban on weapons. In fact, until 1793, a Catholic man had to recruit and pay a Protestant man to serve in the local militia in his place! As if family life is not complicated enough in any age, the sons of a deceased father could divide his land equally, unless one became Protestant. In that case all would go to him! When allowed, new Catholic churches had to be built of wood, not stone, be off a main road or city square, have no steeple or bell, and be called a "chapel." Catholic "Emancipation" was largely secured by 1829, but even up to the founding of the Irish State in the 1920s, some effects of the laws endured. No wonder that poor Irish immigrants to the United States frequently built gloriously beautiful churches as their first act on free soil!



Vigésimo Séptimo Domingo
del Tiempo Ordinario
7 de octubre de 2018

Dejen que los niños se acerquen a mí y
no se lo impidan, porque el Reino de
Dios es de los que son como ellos.

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— Marcos 10:14

LOS ABRAZÓ Y LOS BENDIJO

Hoy Jesús recalca que el Reino de Dios pertenece a los que son como los niños. Son confiados, tiernos y tienen el corazón abierto al amor. Se alegran cuando se dan cuenta del amor que Dios siente por ellos y están más que dispuestos a retribuir ese amor. Este es el modelo que Jesús nos presenta si queremos recibir el Reino de Dios. Debemos abrir el corazón y amar. Debemos bajar la guardia, sin importar por qué la hayamos montado, y recibir con alegría el amor que Cristo siente por nosotros. Es imposible que hagamos esto sin ayuda. Sólo la gracia de Dios nos permitirá hacerlo y esa gracia se nos concede generosamente y sin condiciones. Lo único que debemos hacer es aceptarla.

TRADICIONES DE NUESTRA FE

Un viejo chiste relata que una ancianita por más que se apresuraba a llegar al templo, siempre llegaba tarde al rosario. Un día decidió adelantarse para ver por qué duraba tan poco tiempo el rezo del rosario. A la hora establecida salió un ministro de la sacristía y velozmente recitó "Cruz, Bola, bolita, bolita, bolita, Bola . . .".

Esta es una exageración del hecho que muchos rezan el rosario como si fuera una serie de fórmulas que se repiten sin pensar. Esta devoción mariana debe meditarse con tranquilidad y en silencio. El enfoque del rezo del rosario son los misterios de la vida de Jesús. Los "Padrenuestros" y las "Ave Marías" nos ayudan a entrar en esa meditación en una forma mas profunda. Esas oraciones deben ayudarnos a penetrar el misterio de un acontecimiento gozoso, luminoso, doloroso, o glorioso de la vida de Jesucristo. Pero, una vez que estamos en presencia del misterio, debemos enfocarnos y contemplar a Dios. Esto no significa que el rosario no deba nunca rezarse en voz alta y en grupo. El rosario también tiene su dimensión comunitaria, pero ésta necesita fundarse en una verdadera meditación. En varias culturas latinoamericanas aún se canta el rosario. Ya sea a solas o en comunidad, rezado o cantado, el rosario es un tesoro de nuestra fe que nos puede facilitar la contemplación del salvador.

St. Dominic Catholic Church
Houston, TX

TWENTY - SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
October 7, 2018

CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

St. Dominic Catholic Community #197225
8215 Reservoir
Houston, TX 770049

PHONE

281-458-2910

CONTACT PERSON

Irma Galvan

Email Address igoalvan@comcast.net

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