

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Masses and Intentions for the Week

Sunday, June 28

Green

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost, *II Class*

8:00 AM John Vincent Hogan +

11:30 AM Pro populo

Monday, June 29

Red

SS. Peter and Paul, Apostles, *I Class*

7:30 PM Tim Niggemeyer +

Veneration of the two great Apostles, Peter and Paul, finds its basis on the very foundations of the Church. They are the solid rock upon which the Church is built, for they were at the origin of her faith and will remain forever her protectors and guides. To them does Rome owe its true renown, for it was under God's providential guidance that they were led to make of the capital of the Roman empire, sanctified by their martyrdoms, the center of the Christian world, whence should radiate the teachings of the Gospel. St. Peter was martyred on a cross upside-down under Nero in 66 or 67 and buried on the hill of the Vatican. St. Paul was martyred on the Ostian way; Basilicas bearing their names stand over these sites.

Tuesday, June 30

Red

Commemoration of St. Paul, Apostle, *III Class*

12:10 PM Paul and Rudy Lapinski +

Wednesday, July 1

Red

Most Precious Blood of Our Lord, *I Class*

7:30 PM Sean and Mary McNally +

This feast was instituted by Bl. Pius IX in 1849, and by reminding us of the scene of Calvary and the blow from the lance which pierced our Lord's side, the liturgy of this feast is at pains to emphasize the meaning and tremendous significance of this fact in its relation to our salvation.

Thursday, July 2

White

Feria, *IV Class*

12:10 PM Michelle Boyle +

Friday, July 3 (First Friday)

Red

St. Irenaeus, Bishop/Martyr, *III Class*

12:10 PM Special Intention

7:30 PM Nicholas Scheetz (*Benediction follows.*)

Born in Asia Minor around 140, he succeeded the martyred bishop, St. Pothinus, to the diocese of Lyons in 177. He reigned 25 years until he met his martyrdom under a new persecution. At the time when the Gnostic sects threatened to undermine Christianity by a perversion of Christian thought and claiming to possess a sort of secret knowledge of divine revelation, St. Irenaeus vigorously denounced all heresies and safeguarded unity of belief by laying down the doctrinal tradition of the Church.

Saturday, July 4

White

Saturday of Our Lady, *IV Class*

11:00 AM David Henry Bresee +

Sunday, July 5

Green

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost, *II Class*

8:00 AM Therese Adamson

11:30 AM Pro Populo

First Friday and Saturday Reminder

This Friday and Saturday are the firsts of the month. Remember that an additional Mass is offered Friday evening at 7:30 followed by Benediction with the usual prayers of reparation to the Sacred Heart. Confession will now be available following both of the Masses.

Sacred Heart Enthronement of Families

A booklet will be made available within the next two weeks in regard to the tradition of the Sacred Heart Enthronement over families, explaining the devotion and also the preparation. It is very much hoped that many will take advantage of this as, like the consecration that we will do for the parish, many blessings and graces of protection are granted to those faithful to the devotion.

Sermons on Marriage and Family

The trilogy of sermons preached in May on marriage and family are available in the vestibule in booklet form. A donation of \$1 is asked per copy. These can make great stocking-stuffers or kindling depending upon the day.

High Masses During Summer

During July and August, High Masses will be scheduled for the second and fourth Sundays of the month (along with Assumption on August 15), with the usual potlucks following. Low Masses will be on the odd Sundays. The confession schedule will remain unchanged as demons do not take vacations.

Parish Registration

Registration forms are available in the vestibule for individuals or families wishing to register and make North American Martyrs their parish of affiliation.

Mass Intentions

Please note that Mass intentions are restricted to registered parishioners or families of North American Martyrs.

Contributions *May God reward your generosity.*

June 21 \$3223.91

Please Keep In Your Prayers:

Matthew Dole, Mark Bradford, Louis Leclizio, Anita Aylard, MaryLou Gamarra, Liz Rote, Damien Fogassy, Carolyn Barber, Christi Hockel, Stephanie Brusich, Mai-Trang Thi Huynh, James Bell, Nicholas Scheetz, Tim Niggemeyer +, Lorena Fristchy +, Michelle Boyle +, Charles Barber, Sr. +, Marga Montejo +, Michael D. Saguto +

Calendar of Events

June 28	Potluck
July 1	Feast of the Precious Blood
July 3/4	First Friday/First Saturday
July 31	Evening of Recollection

A Final Thought...

The kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent bear it away (Mt 11:12). Neither good resolutions nor good desires suffice to make a saint. These must be translated into action; but precisely in the accomplishment of this work, great difficulties are encountered, causing many to stop in discouragement or actually turn back from the way they have begun. These are weak souls who become frightened in the face of fatigue, effort, and struggle. They lack the virtue of fortitude, or at least, are deficient in it. This virtue enables us to face and bear whatever difficulty, whatever hardship or sacrifice we may encounter in the fulfillment of duty. Difficulties and sacrifices will never be wanting for, although *wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction...narrow is the gate and straight is the way that leads to life.* (Mt 7:13-14) Hence it would be an illusion to pretend that the way to sanctity is always easy and agreeable, as it would equally be an illusion to think that one could persevere in it without constantly practicing the virtue of fortitude. On the contrary, the greater the perfection to which a soul aspires, the stronger and more courageous it must be, because the difficulties it has to face will be greater.

When Jesus wished to praise John the Baptist, He said *What went you out into the desert to see? A reed shaken with the wind?* (Mt 11:7) No, John the Baptist was not a weak man who could be shaken by the wind of difficulties; his was the strength of one who, to uphold the law of God, did not fear to incur his king's displeasure and to courageously face martyrdom. Elsewhere, speaking of the victory over sin and the devil, Jesus praised the strong man: *When a strong man armed keeps his court, those things are in peace which he possesses.* (Lk 11:21) This is a picture of the soul that possesses the virtue of fortitude: it is well armed and cannot be frightened by any struggle, temptation, or other obstacle; rather, in the midst of all this, it remains in peaceful security because its strength comes from God Himself.

"His Majesty," writes St. Teresa of Avila, "desires and loves courageous souls if they have no confidence in themselves but walk in humility." Christian fortitude is neither rashness nor presumption because of one's own

strength; it is based on God and the great gifts He has lavished upon man. If man is nothing in himself, he is, however, great because of what God has done for him and given to him, and by reason of the exalted dignity God has conferred upon him. God provides man with divine strength precisely to cure him of the weakness of his nature, to strengthen his will, thereby making him capable of fulfilling all the duties inherent in his vocation. [...] If we are weak, it is not due to the insufficiency of the divine gifts, but to our own insufficiency - because we have not properly developed the gifts of nature and grace God has given us. And if we are strong, it is due, not to our own merits, but to the work God has done in us. The Christian is humble in his strength because he knows that it does not spring from him as its source, but from the gifts God has given him. He always lives in dependence upon God, both in the consideration of his nothingness and that of his greatness, both in his humility and in his strength. Behold why the Lord, loving courageous souls, wants them, nevertheless, to be humble and always distrustful of self; behold why the Holy Spirit says *Let thy heart take courage, and wait thou for the Lord.* (Ps 26:14)

Fr. Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalen, *Divine Intimacy*, ch. 286