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BONAVENT
TVRA

ST IGNATIUS
& ST LUKE'S
12 July 2020

ST. BONAVENTURE

Born Giovanni di Fidanza in Bagnoregio [north of Rome] in 1221, he was a student at the University of Paris at the same time as Thomas Aquinas. Inspired by one of his favorite professors he joined the Friars Minor [the Franciscans] in 1243, and took Bonaventure as his name in religion. He taught for years at the University in Paris, and then was chosen in 1257 as Minister General of the Franciscan Order. After an extremely fruitful life, he died on 15 July 1274 in Lyons.

His philosophic, theological, and devotional works are among the most significant writings in the Western Church; their beauty and breadth earned him the title of the Seraphic Doctor.

Here is a short excerpt from the beginning of his Holiness of Life, written to guide the Poor Clares in the spiritual path. It is profitable instruction for all.

[She] who longs to become perfect must begin with her own self...let her sift thoroughly all her weaknesses, habits, affections, actions, and sins. She must weigh everything carefully, and make a complete examination of past and present...

Negligence, passion, and malice are the three root causes of sin. When we realize that our sins and imperfections originate from one or other of these three causes, we enter on the way to an exact understanding of ourselves; but unless in our recollection of past offences we put our finger on the precise cause of each sin, we shall never reach the goal of perfect self-knowledge...

First, discover by reflection whether you are occasionally or habitually negligent. Recollect whether the control of your heart is slipshod and haphazard. Are you careless in the use of your time?... Examine yourself diligently on these three points, because it is of the utmost importance that you govern your affections, that you spend your time profitably, and that always and in every action you have a good and becoming object or end in view...

Take another look at yourself and ask whether your interior promptings tend towards pleasure, curiosity, or vanity.

There is an evident weakness for pleasures of sense when a religious looks eagerly for what is sweet, for instance, delicious dishes. A similar weakness prevails when she is anxious for what is soft and comforting: fine clothing, for example, or things gratifying to or soothing to the flesh, as, for example, luxuries. You may know for a certainty that the handmaid of the Lord is a victim of

inquisitiveness when she longs to fathom secrets, to gaze on pleasurable and beautiful objects, and to possess unusual and precious things. To seek the esteem and the good opinion of others, to look for the praise of men, and to be anxious for the honours in their gifts: the presence of any or all of these tendencies in a spouse of Christ shows a vain mind. ...

You will complete the examination and understand yourself thoroughly if you discover whether you nourish or have nourished within your breast the malice of anger, envy, or sloth....

Anger or irascibility is surely nourished in the heart when the thoughts, whisperings, spoken words, emotions, gestures, or features of a religious are tinged with even the slightest colouring of animosity or indignation against another. Envy holds sway in a man when he feels joyful at another's misfortune or is sad when better things come his neighbour's way. The envious man rejoices at another's troubles and is cast down when all goes well with him. Sloth cannot be mistaken. It is sloth that inclines the religious to lukewarmness, drowsiness, unpunctuality, laziness, negligence, remissness, dissoluteness, lack of devotion, sadness, or weariness. The spouse of God must have a holy horror of these things and avoid them as deadly poison. In them lurks the ruin of both soul and body....

Here is a piece of excellent and illuminating advice from St. Bernard: "If you are earnestly desirous of uprightness and perfection, examine continually and think well on your way of living. Notice how much you advance in virtue and how much you fall away. Examine your conduct and the sentiments that inspire you. Look and see how like to God you are, and how unlike! How near to God, and alas, how far away from Him!" (*S. Bernard, Meditations, Ch. v, 14*)...

To see personal defects aright a man must feel himself "humbled under the mighty hand of God." (*I Pet. v, 6*) ...You ought to learn this virtue from the example of the Son of God. "Learn from me," Jesus says, "because I am meek and humble of heart." (*Matt, xi, 29*) To excel in virtue and yet not to practise humility is simply to "carry dust before the wind," says St. Gregory (*S. Greg., I Homil. on the Gospel, vii, 4*) As "pride is the beginning of all sin," (*Eccl. x, 15*) so humility is the foundation of all virtue. Learn to be really humble and not, as the hypocrite, humble merely in appearance.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

All who are suffering or sick and all caregivers who minister to the sick: Joe Coleman, John Hogan, Deirdre McQuade, Danny Hart, Amy Howard, Mary Morehead and family, Curtis Bailey, Leondre Massey, Sister Constance Ward, George Cochran, Mark Anthony Turner, Rachel Fisher, Patricia Ransom, Jacqueline Chancio, Beverly A. Woods, Kerianna Prather, Victoria P.; M.M., R.M., K.M., C.M., C.A., E.D., E.G., W.B., J.M., H.G., and J.G.

Please call or email the office to add a name to the prayer list.

Before calling, please be sure you have spoken to the person [or a member of his family] about adding the name—we do not want to inadvertently disregard someone's desire for privacy.

Names of those who are sick or suffering will be kept on the list for one month; to keep a name on the list for longer, you must email the parish office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLEARING THE PLAYGROUND

Fr. Vidal would like some volunteers to clear out and spruce up the playground. We would also love to clear out the small garden that is right next to the playground, in hopes of getting a community garden started. Please email the office if you would like to help with this project. It would be great to have a place for the kids to play during parish events.

PEW PROJECT

We continue to work on stripping the beadboard in the interior of the church, usually one weekday each week. If you are interested in assisting in this work, send an email to the office, and we will let you know when our workdays are scheduled.

ST. COLUMBA SCHOOL

Interested in sending your children to St. Columba School? Enrollment is now open for the 2020-2021 school year, grades PreK - 8. For more information go to www.stcatholic.org, or call the school at 301-567-6212. To discover what we're all about please contact our enrollment director, Mrs. Lera Rickling, at 301-567-6212, ext.2 or ricklingl@stcatholic.org.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, 11 July

Anticipated Mass for Sunday

4:30 pm Lorraine LaValley + [Don and Diana Gritz]

Sunday, 12 July

The Fifth Sunday after Trinity

8 am Pro populo

9:30 am Lorraine LaValley + [Jane Slattery]

11 am Edward Guinivan and companions

Monday, 13 July

Henry, Confessor

9 am *no public mass*

Tuesday, 14 July

Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin

9 am James Guinivan

Wednesday, 15 July

Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

9 am Natalie Straley + [Fran Doyle]

Thursday, 16 July

Our Lady of Mount Carmel

9 am Lorraine LaValley + [Rosemary Collier]

Friday, 17 July

Feria

9 am Felicia Edoh + [month's mind]

Saturday, 18 July

Anticipated Mass for Sunday

4:30 pm Lorraine LaValley + [Fran Doyle]

Sunday, 19 July

The Sixth Sunday after Trinity

8 am Pro populo

9:30 am Doris Friend [Jane Slattery]

11 am Lorraine LaValley + [month's mind]

St. Ignatius Finance Council

Florian Hocke - *Co-Chair*

Jackie Chancio

Deacon Clark Glenn

Joseph Somerville

Clifford Woods

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historic
ST IGNATIUS
CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rev. John Vidal

Administrator, St. Ignatius
Pastor, St. Luke's

Joint Pastoral Council

Randy King - *Co-chair*

Joseph Chancio • Rosemary Collier

Fran Doyle • James Guinivan

Ada Okafor • Elizabeth Shivone

Connie Somerville

Patrick Delaney - *ex officio*

Susan White - *ex officio*

St. Luke's Finance Council

Patrick Delaney - *Co-chair*

Nicole Crawford • Mario Enzler

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Susan White - *ex officio*

Karen King - *ex officio*

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Saint Luké's at
IGNATIUS CHURCH