

Feb. 9, 2020, Septuagesima Sunday

From the Pastor

Series on the Mass, Part 17: Chants Between the Epistle and Gospel

The Gradual, Alleluia, Tract and Sequence are chants that are sung or read after the Epistle and before the Gospel. The Gradual received that name because it used to be sung on the steps (grades) leading up to the altar. Now it is sung by the schola cantorum from the nave or choir loft, depending on the layout of the church. This chant often takes up the theme of the Mass for the day in a more elaborate chant melody. It is meant to be a time of meditation after hearing the Epistle sung. During Pascal time, the Gradual is replaced by an Alleluia verse, so there would be two Alleluia verses in a row to bring out the joy of the Easter season.

After the Gradual, the Alleluia is sung. Alleluia signifies in Hebrew "praise God" and it is a refrain which frames the selected verse from a psalm. Here again, the verse of the psalm often takes up the theme of the Mass for that day. During penitential seasons, such as Lent or Ember Days, or at funeral Masses, the Alleluia is replaced by a Tract. The Tract is so called because it is composed of several verses of a psalm sung in one "tract" without an antiphon. These Alleluia verses and Tracts are set to very elaborate melodies that were written to enhance the words being sung.

On certain feast days or for particular Masses, there may be a chant that follows the Alleluia or Tract called the Sequence, a word that means "follows". Many Sequences were composed during the medieval period, but, in time, the Church curtailed its use. The Sequences, though beautiful, became too numerous and long and wound up detracting from the Mass instead of assisting in prayer. Around the time of the Council of Trent, the Church limited the number of Sequences to a few, such as *Victimae Paschali Laudes* at Easter, *Veni Sancte Spiritus* at Pentecost, and *Lauda Sion Salvatorem* at Corpus Christi. There is also the Sequence for Our Lady of Sorrows that we often use during the Stations of the Cross, the *Stabat Mater dolorosa*, and the sequence at the Requiem Mass, the *Dies Irae Dies Illa*. These Sequences are very beautiful texts with beautiful melodies and so our Holy Mother the Church has kept them for special days.

Sincerely in Christ,



Rev. Charles Van Vliet, FSSP

Total Consecration to Jesus through Mary on Mar. 25. Fri., Feb. 21 begins the 33-day preparatory exercise. New and renewing candidates should visit the Legion of Mary table for information. Those who consecrated on Dec. 8, 2019 can renew on the same day in 2020.

9th Annual Lenten Pilgrimage, Feb. 29. Sat., 9-3 p.m., in Port Arthur, Texas. See poster on bulletin board or visit our parish website to learn more.



Announcements

Church hours for private prayers. The church is open for private prayer as noted below.

Fridays & Saturdays, 4-7 p.m. Sundays, Noon-5:30 p.m.

Wednesdays, 6-8 p.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Bookstore kiosk, open Sundays between the morning Masses unless noted otherwise below.

Items to be Blessed are placed on the blessing table located next to the holy water container near the baptismal font. After the priest blesses the items, he will move them to the "Blessed" basket for pick up.

Low Gluten Hosts. If you require low gluten host, please see the instructions on the bulletin board.

Safe Environment Training, mandatory for those who work with children. More on our parish website.

Mass calendars are open. There is a limit on the number of Mass requests that will be accepted per family in the hopes of keeping the calendars open throughout the year. Thank you for your understanding.

2020 DSF Bring Your Greatest Gifts to the Lord. PARISH GOAL \$10,000.

DSF funds more than 60 programs that benefit the faithful in our area and every parish is expected to meet goal, Any shortfall in funding will be financed out of operating cash. Please complete and mail a pledge card or make a donation online at archgh.org/dsf. If Regina Caeli is not your home parish, you may still donate on our behalf by adding our name to the pledge card and listing the amount you want allocated to the parish. Thank you for participating in DSF. More on DSF can be found at archgh.org/dsf.

TODAY:

- ~ Youth Group meets in large room after the 10 a.m. Mass. Open to children, ages 13-18.
- ~ 12 noon, Lenten Choir meets in Epistle side room. Open to women and girls, ages 9 and older.
- ~ Old blessed palms accepted at the hall table. Palms will be burned for use on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 26.

Fri., Feb. 14, 7 p.m., Knights of Columbus meeting in large room.

Sat., Feb. 15:

- ~ **Parish Work Day,** starting 8 a.m. Fence maintenance and brush clearing. Wear protective clothing and bring water. Chain saws and tools helpful. Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP to Matt Anderson or email workcrew@reginacaeliparish.org.
- ~ 9-11 a.m., **First Altar Server Practice** with Fr. Malain.
- ~ 9-12 noon, Sewing Class in large room, sponsored by Altar Guild. Limited to 12 adults. Contact Deanna Sneed at deannasneed@yahoo.com for information.
- ~ 10-12 noon, Rosary Makers workshop in small room.

Sun., Feb. 16, Little Flowers/Summer Camp Bake Sale after the Masses.

Sat., Feb. 22, Chair of St. Peter the Apostle. Confraternity of St. Peter members may gain plenary indulgence. Learn more on the parish website.

Around the Parish, Under the Covered Area, and in the Building. Please be mindful of others and toss your trash in the large trash cans. We welcome fellowship and parish activities, but without a full-time janitorial service, each of us has to do our part to keep the parish clean. *Thank you for understanding and pitching in!*

Laws of Discipline for Fasting & Abstinence Now and 1962 accessible on the home page of parish.

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Liturgical Calendar & Mass Intentions

Feb. 9 - 15, 2020

Sun., 2/9, Septuagesima Sunday

7:30 a.m., Pro Populo

10:00 a.m., Josie Rodriguez on her 80th birthday

5:30 p.m., Bill Jamison †

Mon., 2/10, St. Scholastica

6:30 a.m., Confraternity of St. Peter

* 8:00 a.m., Private intention

Tues., 2/11, Our Lady of Lourdes

* 9:20 a.m., Private intention

7:00 p.m., Matthew Sullivan

Wed., 2/12, Seven Holy Servite Founders

6:30 a.m., Patricia Tigner †

* 9:30 a.m., **Cancelled**

Thurs., 2/13, Votive Mass of Jesus Christ the High Priest

* 6:30 a.m., Private Intention

7:00 p.m., Carol Hanson

Fri., 2/14, St. Valentine

6:30 a.m., Souls in Purgatory

Sat., 2/15, Saturday of Our Lady

* 6:30 a.m., Private Intention

7:30 a.m., Ruth and Arrel Carrier †

* Mass is subject to cancellation if a second priest is not available. Advance notice will be posted in the bulletin whenever possible.

First Friday of each month, there is an additional public Mass at 7:00 p.m., followed by First Friday devotion.

First Saturday of each month, the 7:30 a.m. Mass includes First Saturday devotion.



Parish Organizations

Altar Guild - Juana Maria Olvera

Meets second Saturday of month after 7:30 a.m. Mass
altarsoc@reginacaeliparish.org

Altar Servers - Wayo Dorsey

Training second & third Sat. of month after 7:30 a.m. Mass
altarserve@reginacaeliparish.org

CCD - Cheryl Hand; ccd@reginacaeliparish.org

Legion of Mary - Joseph Nwachukwu

Meets Mondays, 7 p.m.
nwachukwuju@yahoo.com

Little Flowers Girls' Group - Jennifer Wingate

Meets second Saturday of month, 9 a.m.

Men's Schola - Kyle Lartigue

Practice Thursdays, 7 p.m.
schola@reginacaeliparish.org

Pro-Life - Melody Reece, pro-life@reginacaeliparish.org

St. Philomena Toddler Group - Katherine Nwachukwu

Meets Wednesdays, 9:30-12 noon
st.philomenatoddlers@yahoo.com

Tower of David Study Group - Jennifer McDonald

Meets Tuesdays, 8:25 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Youth Group - Rev. Michael Malain

Meets second Sunday of month after 10 a.m. Mass

Welcoming Committee - Rae Bielakowski

welcome@reginacaeliparish.org

Work Crew - Matt Anderson

Saturday work projects at property
workcrew@reginacaeliparish.org

Contacts for other groups

Please check the bulletin boards or go to the parish website and click on Groups/Ministries

St. Joseph Hour for Holiness for men over 18 years struggling with sins against purity. Contact Fr. Van Vliet by email.

Sacraments - Please see parish website.

Infant baptism—contact parish at least one month before due date.

Marriage—contact parish eight months before proposed date.

Regina Caeli Parish

The Priestly Fraternity of St Peter
Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston



Pastor: Rev. Charles Van Vliet, FSSP

Parochial Vicar: Rev. Michael Malain, FSSP

pastor@reginacaeliparish.org

frm Alain@reginacaeliparish.org

8121 Breen Dr., Houston, Texas 77064

Telephone: 832-328-0876

Hours: Mon. & Fri., 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Website: reginacaeliparish.org

Email: office@reginacaeliparish.org

Mass Schedule

Sundays 7:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m. (High), 5:30 p.m.
Rosary 20 minutes before each Sunday Mass

Mon., Wed., Fri. 6:30 a.m.

Tues., Thurs. 7:00 p.m.

Saturdays 7:30 a.m.

Adoration Wednesday, 6-8 p.m.

Confession 30 minutes before each Mass; ends 5 minutes before Mass starts

Vespers Sundays after the 5:30 p.m. Mass

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena

Wednesday, 6:40 p.m.