

From the Pastor

Series on the Mass, Part 27: The Offertory: Washing of the Hands, Part



The washing of the hands during the Offertory has a practical origin, but also a deeper spiritual signification. It takes place after the incensation of the altar since the hands of the priest could get black soot on them from the thurible or dust from the incense boat. In the early Church, the Offertory was also when the priest would receive various gifts from the faithful, such as food for the support of the clergy, and some of these things might dirty his hands. Since the priest's hands needs to be clean to touch the Body of Christ, the hands are washed at this point in the Offertory.

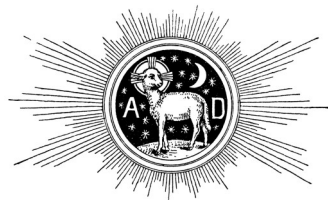
As the priest washes his hands, he recites part of Psalm 25, which speaks of the innocence that is needed to approach the altar. In our case, this innocence has to be acquired; only our Savior is perfectly innocent and can say: "Who among you could accuse me of sin?" (Jn 8:46). The recitation of the psalm reveals the deeper meaning behind the washing of the hands: that at the moment when the priest acts *in persona Christi* (the person of Christ), he has to purify his soul. In the *Imitation of Christ*, we read "Oh, how clean should be the hands, how pure the mouth, how holy the body and how undefiled the heart of a priest, into whom so often the Author of all purity enters." (*Imitation*, Bk 4; Chap 11; Para 6).

We must all strive after this purity if we are to receive communion frequently. Let us make the priest's washing of the hands an occasion for us to purify our souls with renewed contrition.

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Charles Van Vliet.

Rev. Charles Van Vliet, FSSP



Live Streaming of Daily Masses  Church Open, 7 a.m.-7p.m. daily
Confession Times. Mon.-Fri., 7:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m., Sat. 8:30 a.m. Also by appointment.

Announcements

UPDATED RULES! Religious Items to be Blessed are placed on the blessing table located next to the holy water dispenser near the baptismal font. **Place your name on every item to be blessed. Pick up your items within one week** of dropping them off and please verify your name is on every item you take. **Jugs of water will be blessed only** when water in the dispenser is replenished and blessed. Small water bottles may be filled from the holy water dispenser and will not be blessed. These rules are posted above the blessing table and on the website for easy referral. Learn how sacramentals work by reading Fr. Malain's short article, which can be found on the home page of the parish website.

Mass calendars are open. There is a limit on the number of Mass requests that will be accepted per family.

2020 DSF Campaign, 69% Funded. PARISH GOAL \$10,000. PLEDGED/GIFTED TO DATE \$6,855.

Each parish is required to meet its goal and a shortfall is paid from operating cash. Please mail in a completed pledge card or donate online at archgh.org/dsf. Thank you for participating in DSF.

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Everyone is excited about the construction but please, no going onto the site.

It's for your safety and that of the work crews!

And please do not chase the animals or go inside their pens.

Parish Safety & Observation Team. Volunteers are needed to assist our safety personnel by acting as additional eyes and ears. Open to registered male or female parishioners, at least 21 years or older. Ex-military or peace officer experience a plus. This team will act separately from our ushers.

Our Catholic Community: An Online Summer Program for children is on the parish website. Joining is free, but you must register.

May God reward you!

We are deeply moved by the continuing support of the faithful during this crisis. At the same time, we understand some may be impacted financially by the effects of the pandemic. As an all volunteer parish, our operating budget is as low as humanly possible, but there are inflexible expenses, such as utilities, that need to be paid and ongoing costs to build the Gatehouse. Please continue to make stewardship and capital campaign donations if you can. Donations may be made online or at the church.

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ParishSoft Online Giving is available for stewardship and capital campaign donations! Give online at the parish website using credit card or bank account. Gifts may be one-time or recurring, at your option. (PayPal is also available for the cap campaign.)

July 26, 2020, Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Please read Rules for Mass in Pastor's Letter to Faithful (link on home page of parish website).

The daily Mass is live streamed and a link posted on the home page of our parish website for viewing throughout the day.

Liturgical Calendar & Mass Intentions

July 26 - August 1, 2020

Sun., 7/26, Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

7:30 a.m., Jaqueline Perez

8:45 a.m., Private intention

10:00 a.m., (High), Pro Populo

1:00 p.m., Private intention

5:30 p.m., Joseph Huang Da Ng †

Mon., 7/27, St. Pantaleon

6:15 a.m., Joseph Huang Da Ng †

Tues., 7/28, Ss. Nazarius, Celsus, Victor I & Innocent I

* 6:15 a.m., Private intention

7:00 p.m., Joseph Huang Da Ng †

Wed., 7/29, St. Martha

6:15 a.m., Joseph Huang Da Ng †

* 9:00 a.m., Private intention

Thurs., 7/30, Ss. Abdon & Sennen

* 6:15 a.m., Private intention

7:00 p.m., Ludwina Hummel Tschosik †

Fri., 7/31, St. Ignatius Loyola

6:15 a.m., Joseph Huang Da Ng †

Sat., 8/1, St. Peter in Chains

* 6:15 a.m., Private Intention

7:30 a.m., Campaigne & Robichaux Family, followed by **First Saturday devotion**

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



Parish Organizations ACTIVITIES SUSPENDED

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, 9-11 a.m.
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, 10:15 a.m.
Text or call 832-744-4125.

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

frmalain@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 - *Please read Rules for Mass contained in the Pastor's Letter to Faithful. Link is on the home page of the parish website.*

Sundays	Temporary schedule provided on the back page of bulletin.
Mon., Wed., Fri.	6:15 a.m.
Tues., Thurs.	7:00 p.m.
Saturdays	7:30 a.m.

Adoration Wednesday, 6-8 p.m.

Confession Mon.-Fri., 7:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. Sat. 8:30 a.m.

Vespers **SUSPENDED**

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena

Wednesday, 6:40 p.m.