

## Intentions for the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

### Saturday, June 19, XII Sunday in Ordinary Time (Vigil)

5:00 pm Jean & Sal Calabro

### Sunday, June 20, XII Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am Edward, John & Kenneth McElduff

12:00 pm Father's Day Novena

### Monday, June 21, St. Aloysius Gonzaga

12:00 pm Father's Day Novena

### Tuesday, June 22, Ss. John Fisher & Thomas More

12:00 pm Father's Day Novena

### Wednesday, June 23, weekday in Ordinary Time

12:00 pm Father's Day Novena

### Thursday, June 24, Nativity of St. John the Baptist

12:00 pm Father's Day Novena

### Friday, June 25, weekday in Ordinary Time

12:00 pm Father's Day Novena

### Saturday, June 26, XIII Sunday in Ordinary Time (Vigil)

5:00 pm Father's Day Novena

### Sunday, June 27, XIII Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am Mary Reedy (12th Anniversary)

12:00 pm Father's Day Novena

## Attendance and Collections

Our attendance for Sunday, June 13, was 142. The regular collection was \$1309. Our second collection for the Restoration Fund was \$556. Our second collection for next Sunday, June 27, will be for the Black and Indian Missions. Thank you for your generosity.

## Please Pray for the Sick of Our Parish

Please pray for our sick parishioners: Patti Adcroft, Mary Barone, Mary Billings, Anne Cahill, Kara Jean Fleming, Margaret Flynn, Sister Eileen McCabe, Carol Mohler, Jacqueline O'Grady, Matthew John Ruiz, Fred Serafini. If you know of a parishioner who is sick, please contact the Rectory.

## Visit to the Sick, Homebound, or Hospitalized

If you or someone you know is sick, homebound, or hospitalized and would like a visit from a priest for Confession, Communion, or Anointing of the Sick, please call the Rectory.

## Father Baker in Late June and Early July

Father Joseph W. Baker, of Epiphany Church, will cover the weekend Masses in late June and early July. Father Phan will cover the weekday Masses. Monsignor Hull will be away during that time.

## A New Book by a NY Priest!

Father James Sheehan, a priest of the Archdiocese of New York and a university chaplain, living at St. Columba's on West 25th, has written a short, true story of his beloved NYC Firefighter-Father, who suffered from Alzheimer's, entitled *The Father Who Didn't Know My Name*. Please order a copy (\$14.95) from Coy Publishing, POB 1605, Yonkers, NY 10704-9998.

## Father's Day Novena of Masses

Guardian Angel will celebrate a Novena of Masses for Father's Day. The Novena begins today at the Noon Mass and continues through Monday, June 28. The Novena is celebrated for fathers, grandfathers, and all father figures. Please use an envelope in the back of the church to enroll your father in the Novena.

## Congratulations to Guardian Angel School's Graduates!

Congratulations to Guardian Angel School's Class of 2010! Prayers for happiness, success, and good things!

*Lino Junior Benavides*

*Brittany Malyra Chandler*

*Stanley Damis*

*Nicole Gaber*

*Andrae Christopher Gentles*

*Kira Marie Hall*

*Charlie Katehis*

*Chantel Keyes*

*Edward B. Lopata*

*Dasianique Briana Koll*

*Luciano Mejia III*

*Kayla Diana Lopez*

*Lawrence Dean Monge*

*Kassandra Nieves*

*Michael B. Montenegro-Oliva*

*Edona Oshlani*

*Joshua Anthony Morales*

*Rebecca Lynn Radzicki*

*Daniel J. Prado*

*Crystal Natasha Rosa*

*Aramis Elias Reeves*

*Kayla Maria Salcedo*

*Franklin Reyes*

*Kayla Ascención Velásquez*

*Damien Vidal Rosado*

*Franklyn Santana*

*Kyle Williams*

*Thomas Francis Williams*

## **Ss. John Fisher & Thomas More**

by Hugh Loughran

In Saint Peter's Basilica the solemn moment arrived in the ceremony of canonization when Pope Pius XI in the exercise of his office as teacher and head of the Universal Church made the solemn proclamation:

"In honor of the Undivided Trinity, for the exaltation of the Catholic Faith and the increase of the Christian religion, by the authority of Our Lord Jesus Christ, of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul, and our own, after mature deliberation and imploring the divine assistance, by the advice of our Venerable Brethren the Cardinals of the Holy Roman Church, the Patriarchs, Archbishops and Bishops present in the city, We decree and define as Saints, and inscribe in the Catalogue of the Saints, Blessed John Fisher and Thomas More, and that their memory shall be celebrated in the Universal Church on the anniversaries of their heavenly birth."

After the ceremony, the bells of all the churches in Rome rang out exultantly on that morning, May 19, 1935, in thanksgiving and praise for those being raised to the full honors of the altar. But the joyful, splendid, and long ceremony in Rome contrasted with Cardinal Fisher's and Sir Thomas More's quick and brutal passage out of this world in London 400 years earlier.

*St. John Fisher.* William Rastell, Sir Thomas More's nephew, witnessed the martyrdom of Cardinal Fisher. Saint John, in a strong and very loud voice, spoke to the large crowd: "Christian people, I am come hither to die for the faith of Christ's Catholic Church." He asked for their prayers, and prayed, "God save the king and the realm, and hold His holy hand over it, and send the king a good counsel." He knelt, said the Te Deum and some short prayers very devoutly, and laid his neck upon the block. His head was struck off on Tower Hill shortly after 10 a.m. on June 22, 1535.

His head was parboiled and set up on a pike on London Bridge as a warning to all of the consequences of treason. His body lay naked on the scaffold until 8 o'clock in the evening (some charitable onlookers in pity had covered his private parts with straw) when, at Henry VIII's command, the guards threw his body contemptuously into a hastily dug shallow grave near the wall of a nearby church, All Hallows Barking, afterwards to be re-interred in Saint Peter ad Vincula within the Tower.

Cardinal Fisher had been convicted under the Act of Treasons passed in November 1534. Anyone who maliciously denied in thought, word, or action any of Henry's titles-Parliament had named him Supreme Head of the Church in England two weeks before-was guilty of treason. Fisher, the only English bishop to do so, refused to swear to the Act of Supremacy. He had, in response to Henry's request for private counsel, explained the impossibility of the King's claim. When Richard Rich revealed this private counsel at the trial,

Cardinal Fisher stated he had not spoken maliciously. His judges in Westminster Hall on June 17, 1535, told him that to deny the title was to deny it maliciously, the word "maliciously" in the Act being of no consequence whatsoever.

*St. Thomas More.* For his refusing to swear to the Act of Supremacy, Sir Thomas was brought to trial in Westminster Hall on July 1, 1535 two weeks after Cardinal Fisher had been condemned. He defended himself perfectly, and demonstrated his command of the common law. He had spoken to no one, not even his family, about the Act of Supremacy; therefore, in law, he was not guilty of denying any title claimed by Henry. An intimidated jury, subjected to the perjury of Richard Rich, convicted More of treason.

His emaciated body like that of Saint John shocked the crowd at the scaffold. They had suffered utter destitution during their fifteen months in the Tower. From early manhood, they had disciplined their bodies through fasting and the wearing of a hairshirt; these penitential acts and the lifelong habit of prayer strengthened them against the rigors of the Tower. Saint Thomas was denied visits from his family. Visits from his daughter Margaret were allowed only after she had agreed to attempt him to convince him to accept the Act of Supremacy, as she and all his family had done. Several members of his family later recanted and suffered severely for their adherence to the faith of the Church.

For years after their execution, no biography was allowed to be published in England. At St. Thomas' execution, however, there was an observer in the crowd at the scaffold of whose minute and verbal accuracy we have abundant proof. He sent a newsletter to Paris, and in a few days, Saint Thomas' words from the scaffold rang through Europe.

"He spoke little before his execution. Only he asked that bystanders to pray for him in this world, and he would pray for them elsewhere. He then begged them earnestly to pray for the King, that it might please God to give him good counsel, protesting that he dies the King's good servant, but God's first." Sir Thomas was beheaded on Tower Hill shortly after 9 a.m., July 6, 1535. His head was stuck on a pole and placed on Tower Bridge.

By celebrating their sainthood in venerating and emulating them, we can hope to meet them and all the saints merrily in heaven-even though the bells of all the churches in Rome do not ring out for us. Their feast day is June 22.

In November 2000, the late Pope John Paul II proclaimed Saint Thomas More the patron saint of politicians for proclaiming the truth in season and out.

*Saint Thomas More, pray for us. Saint John Fisher, pray for us.*