

## **Intentions for the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass**

### **Saturday, July 3, XIV Sunday in Ordinary Time (Vigil)**

5:00 pm Maurice Bowra

### **Sunday, July 4, XIV Sunday in Ordinary Time**

9:00 am For the Unborn & Their Parents

12:00 pm Deceased Members of the Persico & Salitsky Families

### **Monday, July 5, weekday in Ordinary Time**

12:00 pm Patrick Weadock

### **Tuesday, July 6, St. Maria Goretti**

12:00 pm Jeffrey Sarfin

### **Wednesday, July 7, weekday in Ordinary Time**

12:00 pm John O'Connell (19th Anniversary)

### **Thursday, July 8, weekday in Ordinary Time**

12:00 pm Nicholas Kraljic

### **Friday, July 9, weekday in Ordinary Time**

12:00 pm Sr. Leticia de San José

### **Saturday, July 10, XV Sunday in Ordinary Time (Vigil)**

5:00 pm Anne & Fred Roys

### **Sunday, July 11, XV Sunday in Ordinary Time**

9:00 am Catherine Nagle

12:00 pm Sr. Leticia de San José

## **Attendance and Collections**

Bulletins for late June and early July have been printed in advance. Attendance and collections will appear for those Sundays in late July. Our second collection next Sunday is for the Restoration Fund. 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.

## **St. Maria Goretti**

Maria Goretti was born a poor peasant child in Italy in 1890, the third of six children. When she was nine, her family's situation grew even worse, when her father died of malaria. Maria's mother dutifully took her husband's place in the fields, while little Maria took her mother's role in caring for her siblings. The family was able to survive by working the fields of a Count, a job they shared with a man named Giovanni Serenelli and his teenager son Alessandro. Through all the difficulties, Maria did her best. When neighbors or kindly merchants would give Maria a treat, she would take it home to share with her brothers and sisters. Cheerful and intelligent, Maria was also beautiful.

In June 1902, 20-year-old Alessandro Serenelli began ordering 11-year-old Maria to perform various difficult chores, none of which could be completed to his satisfaction, and she was often reduced to tears. Alessandro also began making advances on Maria. She rebuffed them all, but, unfortunately, said nothing to her mother, for fear of causing trouble.

On July 5, 1902, Alessandro ordered Maria to mend one of his shirts. As Maria sat mending, caring for her little sister Theresa, Alessandro burst in and motioned Maria into a bedroom. As usual, she refused, but this time, he grabbed her, pulled her into the bedroom, and closed the door. He demanded that she submit to him, but she told him that it would be a sin. Enraged, Alessandro stabbed her 14 times in her heart, lungs, and intestines, and then fled to his bedroom, where he pretended to be asleep.

When little Theresa woke up and began to cry, the family discovered Maria lying on the floor. She survived for 20 hours in the hospital, undergoing surgery without anesthesia. Asked if she forgave her murderer, she replied, "Yes, for the love of Jesus I forgive him...and I want him to be with me in Paradise." She died on July 6.

Unrepentant, Alessandro was convicted, and sentenced to 30 years in prison. In his eighth year of imprisonment, he had a vision of Maria. He saw a garden where a young girl, dressed in white, was gathering lilies. She smiled, and came near him, and encouraged him to accept an armful of the lilies. As he accepted them, each lily transformed into a still white flame. Maria then disappeared.

Alessandro's conversion was complete. When he was released from prison after serving 27 years, his first act was to travel to Maria's mother to beg her

forgiveness. He then found job as a gardener in a Capuchin monastery, a job he held for the rest of his life.

Along with 30 other witnesses, Alessandro testified as to Maria's sanctity during her Cause of Beatification. In 1950, she was canonized in a ceremony attended by a quarter million people, including her mother, the first mother ever to see her child canonized.

As the Oxford Dictionary of Saints observes, the canonization of Maria Goretti also honors the innumerable other courageous men, women, and children who "preferred death to dishonour."

### **Prayer for the Nation**

Heavenly Father, You are the real foundation of nations, raising them up to serve and care for the people dwelling in their boundaries. I thank You for making me a citizen of this land of freedom and unlimited opportunity—which are the result of its Christian base. Send forth your Spirit to this country and make it a source of wisdom and strength, order and integrity throughout the world. Amen.

### **Prayer for Civil Authority**

Lord Jesus Christ, King of the universe, look with mercy on those who rule over us. Grant to our President and his administration the grace to know and do your will. Let them serve all their subjects in truth and righteousness. Inspire our Congressmen with the courage to make laws for the good of all rather than the few. Give our Judges your Spirit of wisdom and understanding that they may discern the truth and impartially administer the law. And let all the people pitch in to make our way of government continue to work. Amen.

### **Prayer for Our President**

O Jesus, in Your Holy Name, I lift up our president to you. I know that our leader's heart is in Your Hand, so I ask You to guide the head of our nation in the way You would have him go. Lord, I pray that You would surround our president with wise counsel—men and women of moral integrity who place Your agenda and the good of this great nation above their own and whose motives are for that which is right. I pray that You would give our leader discernment, understanding, and knowledge so that our country may know stability internally and abroad. I give You thanks for our president according to Your Word, and thank You for working in and through his leadership so that we might lead peaceable lives in godliness and honesty. Amen.

### **For Our Legislators**

Dear Heavenly Father, I come to You in the mighty name of Jesus, thanking You and praising You for our great nation. I thank You for the plan You gave to our forefathers by which to govern our nation and for the division of powers so that our destiny does not rest in the

hands of one person. In praying for those in authority, I therefore lift up our Congress and Senate to You. I pray that by Your Holy Power, our legislative bodies would make laws that are just. Father, I ask You to give them wisdom to make decisions that would strengthen and prosper our nation. I desire that they would make right decisions concerning the politics, the social welfare, and the economics of our country. I pray that they will be motivated by Your Hand and not their own personal concerns. Amen.

### **For our Supreme Court Justices**

O Lord, I bring our Supreme Court Justices before You. Knowing that they are appointed by men, I pray that You will influence the selection of each new replacement. Guide them to choose people who will judge morally in every matter brought before them. As our Justices make their decisions, I pray that their decrees are in accord with Your Will, not that of man. Help them set a standard of justice and balance for the judicial office at large, not only on a national level, but for every adjudicator in our nation. Amen.

### **Act of Consecration for the U.S.**

Most Holy Trinity: Our Father in heaven, Who chose Mary as the fairest of Your daughters; Holy Spirit, Who chose Mary as Your spouse; God the Son, Who chose Mary as Your mother; in union with Mary, we adore Your majesty and acknowledge Your supreme eternal dominion and authority. Most Holy Trinity, we put the United States of America into the hands of Mary Immaculate in order that she may present the country to You. Through her we wish to thank You for the great resources of this land and for the freedom which has been its heritage. Through the intercession of Mary, have mercy on the Catholic Church in America. Grant us peace. Have mercy on our President and all the officers of our government. Grant us a fruitful economy born of justice and charity. Have mercy on capital and industry and labor. Protect the family life of the nation. Guard the innocence of our children. Grant the precious gift of many religious vocations. Through the intercession of our Mother Mary, have mercy on the sick, the poor, the tempted, sinners --on all who are in need. Mary, Immaculate Virgin, Our Mother, Patroness of our land, we praise you and honor you and give ourselves to you. Protect us from every harm. Pray for us, that acting always according to you will and the Will of your Divine Son, Jesus, we may live and die pleasing to God. Amen.

*Happy Independence  
Day!*