

SAINT FRANCIS EXCHANGE

The Newsletter and Bulletin of the Oratory of Saint Francis of Assisi

APRIL 2016 – EASTERTIDE

LETTER FROM THE MONSIGNOR

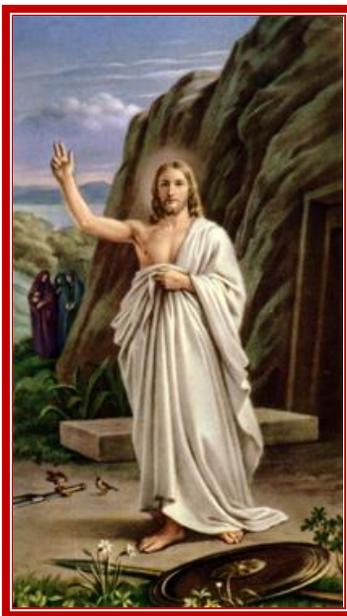
AND the angel answering, said to the women: Fear not you; for I know that you seek JESUS who was crucified. He is not here, for he is risen, as he said. Come, and see the place where the Lord was laid. And going quickly, tell ye his disciples that he is risen: and behold he will go before you into Galilee; there you shall see him. Lo, I have foretold it to you.

– S. Matthew 28:5 – 7

HE is Risen, Alleluia! As He said! Alleluia! Christ our Risen Lord and King always keeps His promises; most especially the promise of His most glorious resurrection from the dead. His resurrection is not only the fulfilment of His promise for Himself, but for us all: we too, if we believe and are baptized, shall rise gloriously with Him on the last day. S. Paul reminds us: *that all we, who are baptized in CHRIST JESUS, are baptized in His death? For we are buried together with Him by baptism into death; that as Christ is risen from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we also may walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of His*

death, we shall be also in the likeness of His resurrection (Romans 6:3 – 5).

By *dying* to sin and *living* in the grace of Christ we becoming *partakers* of that same glorious resurrection. Not just *spiritually* but *actually*. Too many people today believe that the resurrection is “spiritual” and that there will not be a physical resurrection of our bodies. This of course is error (and heresy). Again, S. Paul teaching to the Romans: *And if the Spirit of Him that raised up JESUS from the dead, dwell in you; He that raised up JESUS CHRIST from the dead, shall quicken also your mortal bodies, because of His Spirit that dwelleth in you* (Romans 8:11).



The Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the ancients and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and the third day rise again. (S. Luke 9:22)

In a society such as ours, that places such emphasis on the physical, I am surprised

that even (so-called) “believers” do not understand that the resurrection will be physical – we say it in every Creed of the Church: *Et exspecto resurrectionem mortuorum. Et vitam venturi saeculi. Amen.*

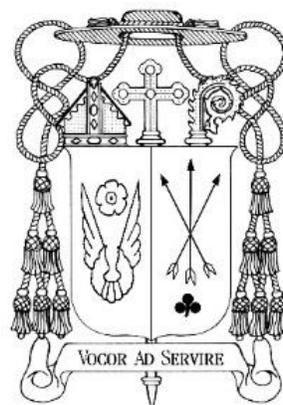
The bodily resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ fulfils all of His promises to us; overcoming the death of sin, which gains for us eternal life in that same Lord! Once more, our dearest S. Paul: *Behold, I tell you a mystery. We shall all indeed rise again: but we shall not all be changed. In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall rise again incorruptible: and we shall be changed* (I Corinthians 15:51 – 52).

We must cling to this truth, we must believe in this promise.

As always, I am most grateful for your prayers and support. Be assured of my paternal benediction and prayers, especially at Holy Mass. I remain,

In Christ the suffering King,

Monsignor ✠ Thomas JF Sebastian



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q: There is something that I have never been able to understand about Purgatory: If I understand correctly, Purgatory has two purposes, to purify the soul of impurities so she may enter Heaven (as nothing impure can enter Heaven), and to endure the temporal punishment still due from her sins on earth. If a soul obtains a plenary indulgence at the time of death, and no temporal punishment needs to be served, then the soul can enter Heaven directly. But what about the impurities that need to be purified so the soul can enter Heaven? The impurities do not go away with the plenary indulgence. Does the soul still need to go to Purgatory to have her impurities purified? Or does God purify the soul with a word from Him?

If I understand correctly, which I certainly may not, it seems as if we have a cloudy view of what Purgatory is for and how it works. I certainly have a cloudy view of it. I would appreciate anything that you could tell me to clear up this matter. In Heaven we will have the true answers.

In Christ, AC, Santa Monica, CA.

A: This is a very good question, that, alas, too many people over complicate. When one passes from this world he either dies in a state of grace (free from mortal sin) or in a

state of sin. Those who die in sin are **condemned to hell** (their Particular Judgment) and their soul goes straight there. Those who die in a state of grace have saved their souls and **go to heaven**. Now, let's spend a few moments explaining this:

1) They may be in a state of grace because they **HAVE NOT** committed a mortal sin since their last *Sacramental Confession*;

2) They may have attained **Perfect Contrition** at the moment of death, which means they have a true and complete sorrow for their sins committed and even though they have not been able to make a *Sacramental Confession*, God forgives their actual committed sin.

Here is where the **Mercy** and **Justice** of God comes in:

1) Purgatory is a state where the soul, which has died in grace, can "pay back" what is still owed to God's justice; this is especially the case for one who dies in **Perfection Contrition** and has yet to repay (do penance) God's justice.

2) Purgatory is also for those souls that have received **Sacramental Absolution** in *Confession*, but still owe God's justice for those confessed sins that have been forgiven.

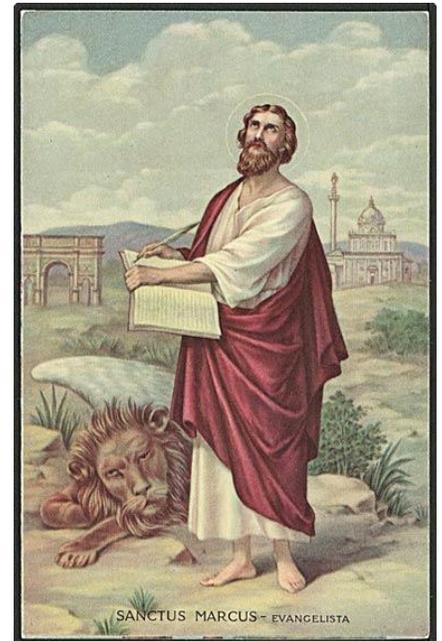
Finally, an **Indulgence** can be either partial or plenary (full/complete): a **PARTIAL** indulgence removes some of the time that an individual still "owes" God's justice; whereas a **PLENARY** indulgence means that individual at the moment they have gained the plenary indulgence would enter straight into heaven. Now if one sins after receiving a

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plenary indulgence they may gain another indulgence (partial or plenary) to work off that new "debt."

I hope that simplifies this for you.

If you have a question, please feel free to send them via mail or e-mail (info@stfrancisoratory.org).



Saint Mark, Evangelist
(25th April):
Pray for us!



PRAYER REQUESTS

YOUR continued prayers are requested for the sick, especially Mr. Emil Ferrar, Mr. Alfredo (Freddy) Cortes, Mr. Alfred Smith, Mr. & Mrs. William Schiermeyer, Mrs. Denise Huizenga, Mr. John Owen, and Mrs. Maria Gomez. Please also remember in your prayers the souls of those who have died, especially Mr. Bernard Tanglao†, Mr. Ben Pijuan†, and Miss Kristie Tysdal†. If you know of someone unable to attend Holy Mass due to sickness please be sure to let one of the priests know so they can arrange for a sick call.



FIRST FRIDAY AND FIRST SATURDAY

OUR First Friday and First Saturday devotions will be on the 1st and 2nd of April. First Friday Mass is at 8:00 a.m., followed by Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament; First Saturday will be at 8:00 a.m., followed by the Devotions to the Immaculate Heart.

EASTER IMAGES



The Altar Servers and Clergy after the Solemn Mass of Easter.



The guest choir with the Monsignor after the Solemn Mass of Easter.



The guest choir under the direction of Mr. Gabriel R. Pazos.

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It was very nice to have Mr. Joshua Higginbotham (L) join us: he is a candidate for the Benedictines of Christ the King (Arlington, Texas, Fr. Anselm Marie, OSB, Prior). Here he is with our own seminarian, Mr. Edward A. Rojas, sscr (R).

MASS GUILD

Holy Mass is offered on the First Saturday of every month for all Friends and benefactors of **SAINT FRANCIS ORATORY CHAPEL**. Your generous donation (one time *or* monthly) enables you to be remembered upon the Altars of the Society, where *only* the traditional Latin Mass is offered, as codified and canonized by His Holiness, Saint Pope Pius V, *perpetually* approved of.

We would like to remind those who send Mass requests to PLEASE include the name of the person and/or intention with your stipend. Mass Cards will be sent to concerned parties upon request. Thank you and God bless you!



Sunday Mass Time:

10:00 am – Parochial Mass
with Homily

Daily Mass Times:

Tuesday through Saturday
8:00 am

First Friday 7:00 pm

Confessions one half of an hour before Holy Mass

16826 Saticoy Street

Entrance and Parking around back

Van Nuys, CA 91406-2776

(818) 786-2540

e-mail:

info@stfrancisoratory.org

Be sure to visit our web site at:

www.stfrancisoratory.org



✿ Saint Francis Chapel is staffed by the Priestly Society of Christ the King (SSCR); properly trained and ordained Roman Catholic Priests who are faithful to the teachings and disciplines of the Roman Catholic Church. Saint Francis is not affiliated with the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. Our Holy Fathers, the Popes, most especially Saint Pope Pius V in His infallible decree *Quo Primum*, have given their permission in perpetuity to offer the Traditional Latin Mass (*Missal of S. Pope Pius V* and rubrics of *S. Pope Pius X*).

