

ENCOUNTER THE HEART OF CHRIST IN THE HEART OF BOSTON



THE LANTERIAN



Pray for the Holy Father

SAINT FRANCIS CHAPEL

STAFFED BY

THE OBLATES OF THE VIRGIN MARY



PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING AN OFFERING TODAY.

St. Francis Chapel is open 365 days a year. It exists thanks to the generous support of countless visitors and regular attendees. Thank you for helping us continue this ministry which touches the lives of so many people every single day.

MARCH 2, 2025—EIGHTH SUNDAY

CHAPEL STAFF

Director:

Fr. Jeremy Paulin, OMV
jpaulin@omvusa.org

Fr. Andy Huhtanen, OMV
Fr. Victor Nwabueze, OMV

Sundays:

Fr. James Walther, OMV
Fr. Sean Morris, OMV
Fr. Craig MacMahon, OMV
Fr. Paul Kallal, OMV

Music:

Celine Wynn, Saul Garcia,
Cesar Garcia, Stacey Ibe

Cleaning of Chapel

Environment: Nubia Viasus

St. Francis Chapel, 800 Boylston St.,
Boston MA 02199 * (617) 437-7117
stfrancis@omvusa.org



[f](#) [X](#) SFChapel [@stfrancischapel](#)

SCHEDULE

Sunday Masses:

Saturday Vigil 4:00PM,
5:30 PM, (en español)

Sun. 8 AM, 9:15AM, 10:30AM, 11:45AM,
1:15 PM (en español), 4:00PM, 5:30PM

Weekday Masses:

Mon.—Fri. 8:00AM, 12:05PM, 4:45PM
Saturday 9:00AM, 12PM

Confessions:

Mon.—Fri. 8:40 -11:40AM, 12:40-4:25PM;
After 4:45PM Mass by request
Saturday 9:40 - 11:40 AM, 12:40-3:30PM
Sunday By request in-between Masses

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

Mon.—Fri. 8:30-11:50AM, 12:30-4:30PM
Saturday 9:30-11:30AM, 12:30-3:30PM

Gift Shop Hours:

Monday—Friday 11:00AM - 5:30PM*
Saturday 9:30AM - 6:30PM*
Sunday 8:30AM - 6:30PM*
(*Closed during Masses)

St Francis Chapel here in the Prudential Center has been staffed by the Oblates of the Virgin Mary (OMV) since 1983. It is truly a place of mercy and peace. People attend and visit from all over Boston, the USA and the world. They attend Holy Mass, Adore the Lord Jesus, light a candle and oftentimes take advantage of our OMV Charism of Mercy, "beginning again" in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Miracles occur in the confessional. In addition to this Chapel, the OMV serve at St Clement Eucharistic Shrine a few blocks from here, which is also our US Seminary, in Milton MA at our St. Joseph Retreat House as well as in Los Angeles, CA, Denver, CO, Alton, IL and Venice, FL. Additionally OMV priests and brothers minister in Italy, where we were founded in 1826, Austria, France, Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Nigeria, The Philippines and England. Learn more at OMVUSA.org.



Prayer Before Mass by Venerable Bruno Lanteri, Founder of the OMV

My God, I offer you this holy sacrifice to proclaim, honor and glorify your infinite greatness, and in recognition of the supreme dominion which, as the first principle and last end, you have above all created things. I give you this homage for all those who still do not know you or do not want to recognize you.

I offer this too in thanksgiving for the benefits that I and all the world have received and will receive from your infinite goodness; in satisfaction for my sins and those of the whole world; to implore the graces that are necessary for my eternal salvation and for all mankind. Oh, my God, I offer to you the merits of Jesus Christ; grant me at this Holy Mass a profound adoration of him.

My God, my Creator, I implore you to grant me the grace of final perseverance. I know by faith that I do not deserve it, nor can I deserve it, but your Divine Son deserves it for me with all his virtues and with all the wounds he shows you in his Most Holy Body, on behalf of my wounded love. Amen.

Welcome to the Chapel! Whether you are one of our daily or weekly faithful or visiting from the other side of the globe, or anywhere in between, thank you for joining us in prayer! We are blessed by you all! Many comment on the blessing of Christ's Sacramental presence and the love, mercy and peace they encounter in "The Chapel in the Mall." The Chapel has remained open here since 1969, entirely due to God's Providence working through your prayers, goodness, gratitude and generosity. The payment of our monthly rent, utilities and all expenses depends on Mass collections, (including the box by the door), online donations (including the QR codes), major gifts, candles, the kiosks in the vestibule, the gift shop (check it out!) and the Benefactors Memorial Tree in the vestibule. Thank you for your support of our ministry here. We are not able to serve here without you! Pray for us! God bless you!

St. Clement Young Adult Group AMICIZIA CRISTIANA

**Every Monday from 7-8:30 pm
St. Clement Eucharistic Shrine
1105 Boylston St, Boston**

Amicizia Cristiana (Christian Friendship) is a young adult initiative in collaboration with the Oblates of the Virgin Mary at Saint Clement Eucharistic Shrine. The name comes from the group that was so integral to the life of Venerable Bruno Lanteri, founder of the Oblates of the Virgin Mary.

Membership is limited to ages 20-29 to respect differences in practical life experience.

Reach out to stclementac@gmail.com with any questions or concerns.

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sunday, March 2, 2025

8:00 AM - Kathleen Mahoney
9:15 AM - Patricia McShane—health
10:30 AM - +Ursula Christopher
11:45 AM - Amalia Brown
1:15 PM - +Angel Tavares Gomez
4:00 PM - +Rev. Michael Roy
5:30 PM - +Anastasia Rodia & William Turbert

Monday, March 3

8:00 AM - Gao Mei—health
12:05 PM - Mary Ann Tocio
4:00 PM - +Barbara Kreinsen

Tuesday, March 4

8:00 AM - Fr. Cazmir Kwalchek, MIC
12:05 PM - +Margaret Doherty
4:45 PM - +Mary Foster-month's mind

Wednesday, Mar. 5 - Ash Wednesday

8:00 AM - +Florence & Jerry Dodd
11:00 AM - +Jane Galvin
12:05 PM - The Archdiocese of Boston
1:00 PM - Doug Tocio, Jr.
4:00 PM - Oblates of the Virgin Mary
Vocations
5:10 PM - +Capt. Jacob Ringering
7:00 PM - +Eudocia Avila—10 aniv.

Thursday, March 6

8:00 AM - Holy Souls in Purgatory
12:05 PM - Carrie Ann Butera
4:45 PM - Nguyen Kim

Friday, March 7

8:00 AM - +Sofia Hernandez Cano
12:05 PM - +Thomas DeCrescenzo
4:45 PM - Enzo Novellino

Saturday, March 8

9:00 AM - Souls in Purgatory
12:00 PM - Luis Javier Tobón —
birthday
4:00 PM - +Ricardo Balaga—anniv.
5:30 PM - Emilio Restrepo & Socorro Balvin

Reflection by Fr. Jeremy Paulin, OMV

The entire Church and much of the world is praying for Pope Francis in his hour of need. The Pope is the Vicar of Christ on earth, meaning that he is not only the Papa of Catholics, but of all the people on the face of the earth, who, whether or not aware of it, belong to God and are meant for Heaven through Christ. He represents Christ to the world. Even non-Christians feel and sense this, and are concerned for him and his health. What a mystery to ponder. We all belong to God and through the Catholic Church and his Vicar on earth, Christ speaks to us and loves us.



I saw St John Paul II Here in Boston in October 1979, and was blessed in 1985 to squeeze his shoulder at an audience in Rome. I was walking on air for three days. In July 2015, I was blessed to participate in a 75 minute audience with Pope Francis along with 31 other Oblates of the Virgin Mary. I'll never forget it. I somehow had the temerity to steal a selfie with his holiness (See photo). After he greeted us all individually with a handshake, among the gifts I remember from that joyous encounter were his first words to us: "My dear Oblates of the Virgin Mary (and he knew our community because of our presence in his diocese in Argentina, and the good work of our priests there), be men of mercy, be men of Mercy." He then proceeded to speak eloquently and urgently about the world's need for mercy and our particular role in sharing it. I'll never forget it. He asked if we had questions. There were a few. One OMV asked him what he should advise someone who wanted to grow in holiness. Pope Francis replied with a laugh! That seemed odd to me at first, but then he gently and happily said "You should first congratulate them on their humility in admitting that they aren't there yet." Beautiful!

My dear Brothers and Sisters, I'll admit, and I hope you can as well: "I am not there yet." Let's do all we can this Lent to be men and women of mercy, seeking and working on our conversion to holiness in Christ by walking closely with him to the Cross and Resurrection. And please take advantage of our weekly 40 hours plus of Confession availability here at the Chapel! God love you!

La Iglesia entera y gran parte del mundo está orando por el Papa Francisco en su hora de necesidad. El Papa es el Vicario de Cristo en la tierra, lo que significa que no es sólo el Papa de los católicos, sino de todas las personas sobre la faz de la tierra, que, conscientes o no, pertenecen a Dios y están destinadas al Cielo a través de Cristo. Él representa a Cristo ante el mundo. Incluso los no cristianos sienten y perciben esto y se preocupan por él y su salud. Qué misterio para reflexionar. Todos pertenecemos a Dios y a través de la Iglesia Católica y su Vicario en la tierra, Cristo nos habla y nos ama.

Vi a San Juan Pablo II aquí en Boston en octubre de 1979, y en 1985 tuve la bendición de apretarle el hombro en una audiencia en Roma. Estuve caminando en el aire durante tres días. En julio de 2015, tuve la suerte de participar en una audiencia de 75 minutos con el Papa Francisco junto con otros 31 Oblatos de la Virgen María. Nunca lo olvidaré. De alguna manera tuve la temeridad de robarme un selfie con su santidad (Ver foto). Después de saludarnos a todos individualmente con un apretón de manos, entre los regalos que recuerdo de ese gozoso encuentro estuvieron sus primeras palabras para nosotros: "Mis queridos Oblatos de la Virgen María (y él conocía nuestra comunidad por nuestra presencia en su diócesis en Argentina, y el buen trabajo de nuestros sacerdotes allí), sean hombres de misericordia, sean

Continúa en la página siguiente

The Pope's Prayer Intention for February:

For Families in Crisis

Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.

hombres de Misericordia". Luego procedió a hablar de manera elocuente y urgente sobre la necesidad de misericordia del mundo y nuestro papel particular en compartirla. Nunca lo olvidaré. Preguntó si teníamos preguntas. Hubo algunos. Un OMV le preguntó qué debía aconsejar a alguien que quisiera crecer en santidad. ¡El Papa Francisco respondió riéndose! Eso me pareció extraño al principio, pero luego, amable y alegremente, dijo: "Primero deberías felicitarlos por su humildad al admitir que aún no han llegado a ese punto". ¡Hermoso!

Mis queridos hermanos y hermanas, lo admito, y espero que ustedes también puedan hacerlo: "Aún no he llegado a ese punto". Hagamos todo lo que podamos en esta Cuaresma para ser hombres y mujeres de misericordia, buscando y trabajando en nuestra conversión a la santidad en Cristo, caminando cerca de él hasta la Cruz y la Resurrección. ¡Y aproveche nuestras más de 40 horas semanales de disponibilidad de Confesión aquí en la Capilla! ¡Dios te ama!

ST. FRANCIS CHAPEL
ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

March 5, 2025

The distribution of Ashes takes place within Mass

Mass Schedule:

8:00 AM

11:00 AM

12:05 PM

1:00 PM

4:00 PM

5:10 PM

7:00 PM (en español)

Confessions:

8:30 AM – 3:30 PM

or upon request if priest is available

Finding Inspiration This Lent:

Fr. Peter Grover's Lent 2025 Daily Reflections

"Like New Year's, we often make resolutions for our forty days of Lent, only to be broken after the first week. We then get discouraged and think that the season is a loss. We will have to wait a whole year to get it right. We wonder what Easter would look like if we had the perfect Lent. Too bad we never get that Easter. What if instead of the 'flawless Lent' with big sacrifices, you tried to be inspired each day? Inspiration motivates, energizes, and pushes us to excellence."
— Fr. Peter Grover, OMV

**Scan the code and
get the booklet**



St. Francis Chapel
JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE TO
GUADALUPE, MEXICO
September 10—16, 2025
If interested, email:
jpaulin@omvusa.org

OMV GALA Join Us for Our
Annual Gala!

BOSTON 2025



APRIL 26TH, 2025
BOSTON'S
SEAPORT HOTEL

Join the Oblates of the Virgin Mary in Boston for an evening of cocktails, dinner, an auction and fellowship to support OMV Seminarians!

The Annual Gala is a celebration of community and commitment, honoring those who are called to serve and sharing the joy and hope that connect us all.





Why Ashes?

BY FR. LARRY RICE

For centuries, Catholic Christians have marked the beginning of the season of Lent by receiving ash on their foreheads on Ash Wednesday. This tradition has its roots in the Old Testament, where wearing ashes was a common sign of repentance for sins, and a sign of one's humility before God. Since Lent is a season of penitential renewal through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, it's appropriate that this ancient sign marks the beginning of the season.

The ashes themselves are usually made by burning the palm fronds from the previous year's Palm Sunday. This symbolically connects the beginning of Lent with its end, connecting our change of heart with Christ's passion, death, and resurrection.

Ashes are usually distributed as part of the Mass on Ash Wednes-



day, often after the homily. As people approach the priest or other minister, he presses the ashes to their foreheads, and speaks one of two phrases: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return," or "Repent and believe in the Gospel."

In many places, Ash Wednesday services are among the most popular of the whole year—a day that's not even a Holy Day of Obligation. Cynics have suggest-

ed that this is because people "get" something, as they do on Palm Sunday. But there's nothing particularly appealing about getting smudged with ashes. Perhaps, the appeal is the expression through a physical sign of a desire for interior conversion.

The Gospel for Ash Wednesday is a reminder that the real purpose of the season of Lent isn't to make public demonstrations of piety—even the wearing of ashes—but to seek conversion of heart.

Fr. Larry Rice is the former vocations director for the Paulist Fathers.



Catholic Current

Copyright © 2019, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, DC. All rights reserved.
Image: CNS photo/Gregory A. Shemitz



Pray, fast, save a life
March 5—April 13

FIND A 40 DAYS FOR LIFE VIGIL

El Regalo de Dios del Perdón

Exhortación Pastoral sobre el Sacramento de la Penitencia y Reconciliación

Queridos Hermanos y Hermanas en Cristo:


“¡La paz esté con ustedes!” Con estas palabras el Señor Resucitado saludó a sus asustados Apóstoles en el Cenáculo el día de su Resurrección. Estaban confundidos, ansiosos y temerosos, muy parecido a como nos sentimos nosotros en algún momento de nuestras vidas. Cristo repitió estas palabras, “La paz esté con ustedes.” Pero entonces añadió, “Reciban el Espíritu Santo. A quienes ustedes perdonen los pecados, queden perdonados” (Jn 20:19-23).

¡Que regalo más maravilloso! El Señor Resucitado estaba proclamando que todo el sufrimiento que acababa de padecer había ocurrido para que los dones de la salvación y del perdón estuvieran disponibles a nosotros. Él quería que los Apóstoles recibieran estos dones, y que ellos se convirtieran para los demás en apóstoles de este perdón.

En el Sacramento de la Penitencia y la Reconciliación, también conocido como confesión, nos encontramos con el Señor que nos quiere ofrecer su perdón y su gracia para vivir una vida renovada en Él. Por medio de este sacramento, Él nos prepara para recibirlo en la Eucaristía limpios de pecado grave, con una fe viva, una esperanza intensa y un amor purificador. La Iglesia considera a la confesión tan importante, que requiere que cada católico se confiese por lo menos una vez al año.¹ La Iglesia también nos anima a practicar la confesión con frecuencia para poder crecer más cerca de Jesucristo y de su Cuerpo que es la Iglesia. Por la gracia del Espíritu Santo buscamos el perdón y el arrepentimiento, nos liberamos de

los hábitos del pecado, crecemos en una vida de virtud, y somos testigos de una conversión gozosa. Como las gracias que confiere este sacramento son muy similares al propósito de la Nueva Evangelización, el papa Benedicto XVI ha dicho que “La Nueva Evangelización . . . ¡comienza en el confesionario!”²

Si tienen alguna dificultad o duda, o sienten incertidumbre sobre cómo acercarse al Señor en este sacramento, los obispos y sacerdotes estamos deseosos de ayudarlo, y si desde hace tiempo no reciben este sacramento sanador, nosotros



“El padre repuso: ‘Hijo, tú siempre estás conmigo y todo lo mío es tuyo. Pero era necesario hacer fiesta y regocijarnos, porque este hermano tuyo estaba muerto y ha vuelto a la vida, estaba perdido y lo hemos encontrado’”. (Lc 15:31-32)

estamos preparados para acogerlos. Cristo nos ha designado para administrar el perdón en Su nombre, y durante toda nuestra vida también acudimos al sacramento, tanto como penitentes como ministros, y particularmente en este momento de gracia especial que es la Cuaresma. Queremos ofrecernos a ustedes como pecadores que hemos sido absueltos y que buscamos servir en el nombre del Señor.

Durante la Cuaresma —además de los diferentes servicios penitenciales en los cuales se llevan a cabo confesiones individuales— los obispos y sacerdotes estaremos disponibles con frecuencia para celebrar el sacramento de la penitencia de forma individual. Oramos para que por medio del Espíritu Santo, todos los católicos —sacerdotes y laicos— respondan al llamado de la Nueva Evangelización a encontrarnos con Cristo en el Sacramento de la Penitencia y la Reconciliación. Acudan al Señor y experimenten ¡la extraordinaria gracia de su perdón!

1 *Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica*, números 1457-1458.

2 Discurso del Santo Padre Benedicto XVI a los participantes en el Curso de la Penitenciaría Apostólica sobre el Fuero Interno, www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/speeches/2012/march/documents/hf_ben-xvi_spe_20120309_penitenzieria-apostolica_en.html.

FE
CULTO
TESTIMONIO



CAMINAR
CON CRISTO