

*5th Sunday of Easter*  
*April 28th, 2024*



**Living Mass Intentions for the Week**

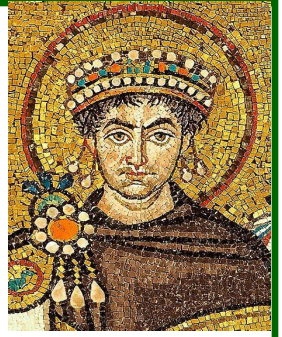
**OLPH: Geraldine Schauer, Joe & Shawn Myers,  
Joan Walker, Mike & Karen Henkel**

**SMA: Karen Bonnell, Celia Haub, Tim & Kathy Burkardt  
St. Patrick: Ed & Kathy McLaughlin, Joe & Marci Hebert**



## From the Gusset

For some reason, I like to look over the list of **the Most Valuable Player** for the different years of **sports history**. Now, I don't know anything about basketball, **hockey**, or tennis – but I'm a big fan of **baseball** and **football**; and I think it is **fascinating** to see, who was considered **the best ball player** that year. One of the **interesting parts** (to me), as **Dante** visits **the nine Heavenly spheres**, is to learn, who is **the greatest soul** in that realm of **Heaven**. So, yes, '*everywhere in Heaven is Paradise*,' everyone is **exceedingly happy** that they sit at the banquet table and are offered by God a portion of **the Flesh** of Jesus Christ, but each level of **Heaven**, has what I like to call – its own '*Poster Boy*' or the equivalent of an **MVP**! In the ninth sphere, **the moon** – this doesn't really apply, because the ninth sphere is for those who got into **Heaven** – shall we say, '*by the skin of their teeth*.' These souls didn't fulfill their **vows** to God – they didn't live **the vocation** God gave them to live, but lived **the vocation** they wanted to live. I like to call this the



**Frank Sinatra** Sphere of **Heaven** – these are souls, who did it "*their way*," instead of "God's way;" yet, through **the generous love** of God, the Almighty still allows them into **Glory**. In the sphere of **Mercury**, the souls desired **honor and fame** on **earth**, and this diminished their **love** affair with God. **The Emperor Justinian** is greatest here! And isn't that **interesting**, because **Justinian** wasn't even a **Christian**, but when God tested his **heart** with the whining of a poor widow, who had lost her son – **Justinian** passed the exam with **flying colors**! In the sphere of **Venus**, these souls struggled to **love rightly** on **earth**. They ultimately did **love** God with all their heart, mind, **soul**, and **strength**; but during their life on **earth** – they **loved** another person more than they **loved** God. The brightest star in this neck of the **Heavenly woods** is **Rahab**, the prostitute! Remember, **Rahab** shows up on **the family tree** of Jesus, but she is **the Canaanite woman**, who showed **hospitality** to **Joshua's spies**. She wasn't even from one of the Tribes of Israel, but she gave up her own **ancestral background** to throw in her lot with **the Chosen people**. In the sphere of the Sun, souls known for their **great wisdom** shine bright. St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Bonaventure, **St. Dominic**, and **St. Francis** are here, but **the Poster Boy** of this sphere is **King Solomon**. It is hard to live **the vocation** God wants us to live; instead of **the vocation** we think we might be better at. It is difficult to put **the good things** that this world has to offer us to the side and choose, instead, the things that will **glorify** God. There are so many people, who worthily compete for our **love**; and they make it hard on us to **love** God with every beat of our **heart**. **Wisdom** is ultimately to see God as **the greatest Good**, but we often settle for **knowledge** of **earthly things**. **Dante** has a curious list of **Heavenly MVP's** – definitely **not** people, who would have gotten our vote; but that is what is so **interesting** about **Dante's Heaven**. **Dante** leaves the door open for each one of us. You will become **a Saint** – your local **Catholic priest** will make sure of that, but you could become one of the **MVP's** of **Heaven**, because no one sees your **heart** as clearly as our Lord sees your **heart**! **Happy Easter!**



Yours on the Path Fr. Randy



## A SPECIAL HANDKERCHIEF

One of my **top 10 favorite lines** by a **Hollywood actor** was spoken by **Clark Gable** to the actress **Vivien Leigh** in the Classic: **Gone with the Wind**. It comes at the end of the movie – from the same scene as **the Iconic last line** of **Rhett Butler** in response to what should **Scarlet O’Hara** do with her life. **Scarlet** is crying and **Rhett** says, “**Here, take my handkerchief. Never at any crisis in your life have I known you to have a handkerchief.**” I have always



carried a **handkerchief** in my pocket ever since, I saw that **movie**. My Dad always carried a **handkerchief**, and at all **the crisis** in my life growing up, he would hand it to me to wipe my eyes when I **cried**, like the time, I popped out to second base at **the All-Star game** in the **Park District’s Minor League Baseball game**. My **Mom treasured** the **handkerchiefs** that **her Mom** always kept in her purse (perhaps they were special to my Mom for the same reason Dad’s **handkerchiefs** were special to me) – they became **meme wares** of **Granny**. A Saint name that has been by **tradition** in my family (most especially on my **Mother’s side**) is **St. Catherine**. On my recent **pilgrimage** to **Rome** (last **November**, when **the Missionary priest** was here), I was surprised to find that the tomb of **St. Catherine of Siena** was open. I went into **the**

**Dominican Church** of **St. Mary’s in Sopra Minerva** to obtain **the plenary indulgence** of visiting a **Dominican Church** during the Anniversary years of **St. Thomas Aquinas** — to find **pilgrims** praying on **the priest-side** of the main altar in **the Sanctuary**. The body of **St. Catherine** has been **entombed** under the main altar since her **death** in the **14th century**. In all of my four years of living in **Rome**, during my **seminary days** – I had never seen this, so I quickly got out my **handkerchief** and touched it to **the tomb** of **St. Catherine**; and in the process created **a third class relic**. What does this mean for **the Faithful** of **Sublette, West Brooklyn,** and **Maytown**? Only that our celebrations of **St. Catherine’s** Feast day (**April 29<sup>th</sup>**) and **All Saints’ Day** (**November 1<sup>st</sup>**) will be all **the richer** in God’s **grace**, because of the blessings **St. Catherine** will win for us when we **honor** her **devout life**.



**St. Catherine...pray for us!**

## *The Art and Architecture of our Catholic Churches*

How is it that the Catholic Church where one worships God  
—can be so influential on one's Faith!

Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the Cross. It read, “Jesus the Nazorean, the King of the Jews.” Now many of the Jews read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, Latin, and Greek. So, the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, “do not write, ‘The King of the Jews,’ but that He said, ‘I am the King of the Jews.’” Pilate answered, “What I have written, I have written.” — John 19: 19-22

The people, having **witnessed** many of Jesus’ **miracles**, wanted to make Him their **King**; and yet, at the end, the people objected to **Pilate’s** writing above **the Cross** – that Jesus was the people’s **King**. I’m so **glad**, that **Pilate** stuck to his **guns**, and would not recant what he had written. For we, **Catholics**, do claim Jesus as our **King**. You and I have been **witnessing** the Lord’s **miracles** in our life since the day we were **baptized**. Every Sunday, we watch our Lord work His **greatest miracle** – His **Passion**, death, **Resurrection**, and **Ascension** into glory in **the Eucharist** of **the Holy Mass**! In earlier times, only a **King** could pardon someone from their **sins** against **the government**. We even have a remnant in our law today, that **the Governor of the State** can commute a sentence. Every time we go to **Reconciliation**, we claim that Jesus is our **King**, and we ask Him for **forgiveness** of our **sins**; and we believe that we are **forgiven**, for who, but God alone can **forgive sins**?! The place where Jesus is crucified is very near **our city** – it is on our altar in our city of **Sublette**, on our altar in our city of **West Brooklyn**, and it is even in our city of **Maytown**. We see the inscription that **Pilate** wrote above our **Crucifixes**, and we agree with **Pilate** – Jesus is our **King**! **The Paschal Candle** for **Maytown’s Church of St. Patrick** for **the Year of Grace 2024** is named: **Christus Rex** – ‘Christ the **King**.’ The **artisans** have fine metal leafing on the wax reliefs to give our **Easter Candle** the look of a **Gothic** stained glass window. Robed as a **King** and wearing a royal crown, Jesus is centered in **green wax** on **the Candle**. Above Him is the intertwined **alpha** and **omega** – symbolizing that Jesus is **King** of all **mankind**, **King** eternal, **King** of all **Kings**, and **King** of all the ages! Below Christ the **King** is the **bas relief** of the **Victorious Agnus Dei** – ‘the Victorious Lamb of God’ – a lamb **slain**, but sporting **seven gold medals** – those same **seven sacraments** (Christ’s **miracles**) that you and I receive from our **King**, who is Christ the Lord. **Happy Easter!**





## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, April 27th

(+) Angelo & (+) Irma & (+) Dino Guidarini/ Mr. & Mrs. Robert Mixa  
4:00 pm, **OLPH** (+) Betty Henkel/ Family

5:30 pm, **SMA** (+) June Jones/ Mr. & Mrs. Mike Burkardt

### Sunday, April 28th 5th Sunday of Easter

8:00 am, **St. Patrick** (+) Lennard & (+) Marie Miles/ Mr. & Mrs. Ed Klein

10:30 am, **OLPH** Pro Populo/ Fr. Randy

(+) Theodore & (+) Annunziata Farioli/ Mr. & Mrs. Robert Mixa

### Monday, April 29th Feast of St. Catherine of Siena

Living Intention for William & Margaret Berger/ Judith Scroggins

### Tuesday, April 30th

7:30 am, **SMA** (+) Ed & (+) Mary Hamilton/ Mr. & Mrs. Howard McInnis

### Wednesday, May 1st St. Joseph the Worker

8:00 am, **OLPH** (+) Charles Kuebel/ Family

### Thursday, May 2nd

7:30 am, **SMA** (+) Sister Callista Ekwe & (+) Sister Petra Chukwudike/ DDL

8:30 am, **OLPH** (+) Ernest Painter/ Mr. & Mrs. Randy Faber

### Friday, May 3rd Feast of St. Philip & St. James

8:00 am, **St. Patrick** (+) Sylvia Montavon/ Judy Sharkey

### Saturday, May 4th

(+) Raymond Adams/ Mr. & Mrs. Howard McInnis

4:00 pm, **OLPH** (+) Carol Bonnell/ Mr. & Mrs. Mark Henkel

5:30 pm, **SMA** Pro Populo/ Fr. Randy

### Sunday, May 5th 6th Sunday of Easter

8:00 am, **St. Patrick** (+) Thomas Sharkey/ Mr. & Mrs. Scott Bickett &  
(+) Melvin Stewart/ Fr. Randy

10:30 am, **OLPH** (+) Carol Widolff & (+) Mike Widolff/ Janet Widolff

(+) Joseph Schauer & (+) Sister Frances Anna Hraback/ Mr. & Mrs. Robert Mixa

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