

Most Precious Blood Church Bulletin

A Little Italy Newsletter

Sunday, May 17, 2009

St. Anthony Feast Opens Thursday!

May 21st is the Big Day!

Each year, the Feast Committee under the leadership of Mike Serrone spends many hours in preparation to put on a tremendous Street Festival, honoring their Patron, St. Anthony of Padua. It does take much time and effort to put on this Feast and during the Feast, Mike gets very little sleep because for all practical purposes, he spends night and day trying his best to make the Feast a successful one. They will celebrate the Feast itself with a Solemn Mass and Procession on May 31st. Try your best to visit and patronize the Feast and especially, try to attend the Solemn Mass and Procession on the last day of the Feast through the streets of Little Italy.

Ascension Thursday

This Thursday also marks the Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord. It is a Holy Day of Obligation

and thus binds every practicing Catholic to attend Mass. For us, we don't particular like the word "binds". Why? For the simple reason t hat it connotes the idea of obligation and force, and we as good Roman Catholics should never have to be put into that category of being forced to attend Mass. We should WANT to attend Mass on these Holydays to keep them HOLY!, not because we receive a command to do so. But anyway, try your best to get to Mass on this Thursday. If you foresee that it is difficult for you to attend on Thursday, we do have a Vigil Mass on Wednesday at 5:30 pm for you convenience. But on Thursday, the Masses will be at 8 am and once more at 12:00 noon. Rememberit is the Feast of the Ascension..

St. Cataldo

Today at 10:30 am we have a special Mass honoring St. Cataldo./ It is customary for this group of people each year to convene in our church and spend

a greater part of the day here to honor their favorite saint.

St. Anthony Novena

The St. Anthony Novena continues each Tuesday with services after the 8 am Mass as well as after the 12:10 and 7:30 Masses, which also feature a beautiful homily by Fr. Frank Hanudel of St. Anthony Shrine

Last year we celebrated Memorial Day fittingly with a beautiful outdoor Mass and a color guard from the U.S. Marines. This year, we have attempted a couple of times to contact the Marines once again, but we have been unsuccessful. We will attempt to do so once again on our return from our vacation, and advise you accordingly..with a special bulletin insert. And during this month, please remember in your prayers not only your own sick and deceased but especially those who died in Iraq and Afghanistan to safeguard OUR freedom.

War On Terror

The following was written by a housewife to a local newspaper:

Are we fighting a War on Terror or aren't We?

Was is or was it not started by Islamic Jihadists who brought it to our shores on Sept. 11, 2001, and have continually threatened to wipe us out again and again.?

Were people from all over the world not brutally murdered that day in downtown Manhattan, across the Potomac from the nation's capitol, as well as in a field in Pennsylvania?

Did nearly 3000 men, women and children die a horrible, burning, or crushing death that day, or didn't they?

And I'm supposed to care that a few Taliban were claiming to be tortured by a justice system of the nation they come from and are fighting against in a brutal insurgency?

Church on Sullivan St. Don't ignore the devotion for 13 weeks, and then on the last week, come to receive a souvenir gift at the time of the St. Anthony Feast on June 13th. Souvenirs are given ONLY to those who devotedly made the 13 Tuesdays.

Memorial Day Celebration

I'll start caring when Osama bin Laden turns himself in and repents for incinerating all those people on 9/11.

I'll care about the Koran when those fanatics in the Middle East start caring about the Holy Bible, the mere belief of which is a crime punishable by beheading in Afghanistan.

I'll care when these thugs tell the world that they are extremely sorry for hacking of Nick Berg's head while Berg screamed through his gurgling slashed throat!

I'll care when the cowardly so-called insurgents in Afghanistan come out and fight like men instead of disrespecting their own religion by hiding in Mosques.

I'll care when the media stops pretending that their freedom of speech on stories more important than the lives of soldiers on the ground or their families waiting at home to hear about them when something happens.

In the meantime, when I hear a story about a soldier roughing up an insurgent terrorist to obtain information, know this:

I don't care!

When I see a wounded terrorist get shot in the head. When he is told not to move because he might be booby-trapped, you can take it to the bank,

I don't care!

When I hear that a prisoner, who was issued a Koran and a prayer mat, and fed "special" food that is paid for by my tax dollars, is complaining

that his Holy Book is being mishandled. You can absolutely believe in your heart

I don't care!

And oh, by the way, sometimes, it's spelled Koran, and other times it is spelled Quran, Well, Jimmy Crack Corn, you guessed it,

I don't care!

And may I add, some people spend an entire lifetime wondering if they made a difference in the world! But Our Soldiers do not have that problem!

And one more last thought while we're at it: Only five defining forces have ever offered to die for YOU!

1. Jesus Christ

2. The American Soldier who is fighting for you to make and keep YOU FREE!

3. The Canadian Soldier who is fighting for the same purpose!

4. The British Soldier also on the front lines in a foreign country to make his people enjoy freedom!

5. And the Australian Soldier is along with them!

The first one died for your soul -the other four are willing to die for your freedom!