

Most Precious Blood Church Bulletin

A Little Italy Newsletter

Sunday, July 19, 2009

Welcome Fr. Aris Villanueva

Mission Coop Speaker

We welcome Fr. Aris Villanueva to our Most Precious Blood Church as the representative of the Missionaries of Jesus Institute, assigned to us by the Propagation of the Faith for the Archdiocese of New York.

Fr. Villanueva will speak at all the Masses today on behalf of his Congregation in order to raise funds to help them carry on their work of evangelization and the spreading of the Word of God to the poor of the world.

We ask you to pay attention to every word he has to say to you and especially to respond with a most generous donation in the second collection of today's Mass which will be directed to the Missionaries of Jesus through our Propagation of the Faith Office.

Fr. Villanueva is presently working in the Missions of Peten Guatemala, and in particular, the Mission of San Marcos Evangelista, in Tierra Blanca.

Tiro A Segno Makes Donation

Tiro A Segno Foundation located at 77 McDougal Street on the West Side of New York has made a \$5,000.00 donation to the Building Fund of Most Precious Blood Church.

We wish to thank the Board of Directors for having considered our request for help and at the same time notify them that they will be remembered in our Masses and prayers as principle benefactors of our beloved Parish and Church of the Most Precious Blood.

Benefit Raffle

Our Building Fund Raffle is doing quite well. George and Joan Stone of Brooklyn New York have sold over a 1000 books for us, thus assuring us of the remaining tickets which will be sold as solid profits for the Church Building Fund. In other words, we are now in the black as far as that raffle goes - we paid the cost of printing the tickets and the prize money has already been put aside. We would like to thank Mr. and Mrs. George Stone for taking upon themselves this tremendous task of selling tickets week-end after week-end to our Mall Visitors and doing more than their part to ensure the continuation of Most Precious Blood in its pristine beautiful condition. They have a true Franciscan Spirit in being able to approach total strangers and "begging" for help on behalf of their adopted Parish. We struck gold in having them as our volunteers, and they are more than faithful in their weekly attendance..

And the same goes for the rest of our Mall workers who devote much of their week-ends in helping us sell our religious items on a week-to-week basis. We pray daily that our Lord will bless them first and foremost with good health so that they will be able to continue in this work. We realize that they are growing older daily, just as we are. But with our age, we also grow in strength and wisdom and grace of God and ask the Holy Spirit to give us the

perseverance to continue in this great work for God and His church.

Parish Sick & Deceased

Please remember to pray for the sick and deceased of your family and friends as well. In your Charity, remember to pray for the soul of Frank Calamita, a friend of of the Pastor and a great benefactor of our Parish who passed away on June 28, in London England, and was buried from our Church this past Monday morning. Frank spent most of his life working at CBS and Sony Entertainment Corp. May he rest in peace.

Jeopardy Question

On a particular segment of Jeopardy, the final question was "How many steps does the guard take during his walk across the tomb of the Unknown Soldier – All three contestants missed it.

How many steps does the Guard take during his walk across the tomb of the Unknown soldier and why?

He takes 21 steps. It alludes to the 21 gun salute, which is the highest honor given to any military or foreign dignitary.

And how long does he hesitate after his about face to begin his return walk, and why?

21 seconds for the same reason!

His gloves are wet! Why?

His gloves are moistened to prevent his losing his grip on the rifle he bears in his hand.

Does he carry his rifle on the same shoulder all the time and if not, why not?

He carries the rifle on the shoulder AWAY from the Tomb. After his march across the path, he executes an about face and moves the rifle to the outside shoulder.

How often are the guards changed?

Guards are changed every thirty minutes, twenty-four hours a day, three hundred and sixty-five days a year.

What are the physical traits of the guard limited to?

For a Marine to volunteer for guard duty, he must be between 5 feet, 10 inches tall and 6 feet 2 inches, and his waist size cannot exceed 30 inches. Other requirements of the Guard: He must commit to two years of his life to guard duty, live in a barracks UNDER the tomb and cannot drink any alcohol on or off duty for the rest of their lives. They cannot swear in public for the rest of their lives; and they cannot disgrace the uniform or the tomb in any way. After two years, the guard is given a wreath pin that is worn on their lapel that signifies they have served as Guard of the Tomb. There are only 400 men wearing the pin today.

The guard must obey these rules for the rest of the lives or give up the pin. Their shoes are made with very thick soles to keep the heat and cold from their feet. There are metal heel plates that extend to the top of the shoe in order to make the loud click as they come to a halt. There must be no wrinkles, folds or lint of any kind on their uniform. Guards dress for duty before a full-length mirror. The first six months of duty a guard may NOT talk to anyone, nor watch TV. All off-duty time is spent studying the 175 notable people laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery. A guard must memorize who they are and where they are interred. Among the notables are: President Taft; Joe E. Lewis (The boxer); and Medal of Honor winner, Audie Murphy (the most decorated soldier of WWII) of Hollywood fame. Every guard spend at least five hours a day getting his uniform ready for guard duty.

In 2003, as Hurricane Isabelle approached the city of Washington, our U.S. Senate took 2 days off with anticipation of the storm. It was reported that because of the dangers of the hurricane, the guards were given permission to suspend assignment. They respectfully declined the offer. Soaked to the skin, marching in pelting rain, they said that guarding the tomb was not just an assignment but the highest honor that could be afforded to a serviceperson.

In conclusion, we might add that the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier has been guarded

CONTINUOUSLY TWENTY-FOUR HOURS A DAY
AND SEVEN DAYS A WEEK SINCE 1930.

May God Bless them and keep them!
IN GOD WE TRUST

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