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"Something Worth Crowing About"



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De Colores Brothers and Sisters,

I hope and pray that you and your loved ones are doing well during our time of quarantine. Please pray for the repose of the souls lost to the virus; for those who failed to receive the needed medical attention for their sickness; and for the families who grieve and couldn't be with their loved one at their passing. Let us implore our Lord for His mercy and compassion. Pray for all leaders to be guided by the Holy Spirit as they make decisions that affect us all.

I ask that you follow the guidelines put forth by our Governor, our Archbishop, and our National Secretariat. Our Governor is moving our state into phase one of lifting the quarantine.

Archbishop Rodi has put an indefinite hold on Mass and other related Church activities.

National has frozen all cursillo gatherings until May 16. Please do enjoy your small groups via Zoom, phone or other means of communication. It is important that we stay connected during a time when many of us feel isolated.

I look forward to when we can gather once again as a community at Church and at our Church functions. I truly miss, as I'm sure you do, partaking in Mass and receiving the Eucharist. This is a time to grow and deepen our faith through the study of the Bible, attending Mass online, prayer, meditation, fasting and reflection.

Remember our Blessed Mother Mary as the month of May is her month. Let me leave you with this Psalm "I have set the Lord continually before me; because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken" Psalm 16:8. Please remain patient and stay safe, for this will end.



God Bless, Rob Wilburn



A Word From Deacon Joe Mueller

RECLAIMING THE LORD'S DAY

On January 12th, St. Columba started the year with the theme "Reclaiming the Lord's Day". Who knew? Who knew 5 months ago we would be looking forward to a day to regain our day of worship? Yes, we do have "virtual" Mass, on-line and through social media. What is it we are missing?

Maybe you all feel the same as I. It is great to able to worship but it is not the same. Not being in the real Presence of our Lord Jesus and receiving His precious Body and Blood, well I can't think of anything thing as a substitute for it.

We all suffer in some form or fashion the effect the shutdown and restrictions imposed by the outbreak of the Coronavirus has had on our lives. However, there is hope. It is with Hope we believe this too shall pass. The virtue of hope enables us to trust in God's promise, especially His promise of Salvation. Hope keeps us from despairs and self-centeredness. Hope will sustain us through this stressful time to the day when we can return to public worship. To come together as a full community embracing the Holy Eucharist once again in our heart and soul.

Scheduled Cursillo Weekends

Cursillos are generally scheduled for a Men's Weekend and a Women's Weekend each fall at the Visitation Monastery in Mobile, and a Men's Weekend and Women's Weekend each spring at the Blessed Trinity Shrine Retreat in Holy Trinity (Fort Mitchell). We currently have the following weekends scheduled:

Fall Weekends 2020

Men's Weekend #146: Sept 17 – 20, Visitation Monastery, Mobile

Rector: Sam Hoover

Women's Weekend #147: Oct 8 – 11,

Visitation Monastery, Mobile

Rectora: Marie DeLong

Fall Cursillos teams now in discernment

The teams for the fall Cursillos are now in the discernment process and will be finalized soon. To be considered for the teams, you must have a team application for the fall Cursillos on file even if you filled out a team application for the spring Cursillos. This gives the rector and rectora a current list of potential team members with current contact information. Completing a team application is not a commitment; the commitment is when you are invited and agree to serve on the team.

https://form.jotform.us/70728335258158

Brothers and Sisters, Masses and Eucharist Distribution

On Thursday, April 30, the "Stay at Home" order of the State of Alabama ended. The people of the Archdiocese of Mobile have cooperated fully with this order out of concern for the health of neighbor.

Governor Ivey's new order does not permit religious congregations to worship but does allow gatherings of 10 people or fewer. In keeping with this, effective Tuesday, May 5, priests have permission to celebrate Mass when there is a maximum of 10 people present. Priests must be diligent to make certain attendance does not exceed 10. In addition, parish meetings may be held as long as no more than 10 people are present.

Effective Tuesday, May 5, priests may distribute the Eucharist in front of their churches at a time of their choosing. No religious service is to be conducted in conjunction with this. People may come and receive the Eucharist. They are to be asked to depart immediately. No priest is required to do this and no one is required to come to church to receive the Eucharist.

Requirements for celebration of Mass with 10 or fewer people

- 1) No one, clergy or laity, is to attend Mass if they feel sick.
- 2) A general dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass remains in effect.
- 3) Social spacing in churches will be required. Only every third pew may be used; the other two pews will need to be cordoned off
- 4) Care must be exercised that only 10 or fewer people attend the Mass.
- 5) People are to be asked to appropriately distance themselves within the pew.
- 6) A choir or musicians may be present but only if social distancing is maintained.
- 7) Liturgical ministers must also observe social distancing.
- 8) Offertory baskets may not be passed person to person.
- 9) The Sign of Peace may be retained but no physical contact is required.
- 10) Communicants are to keep social distancing when in the Communion line.
- 11) No kneeler or other shared surface may be used.
- 12) Communion is not to be distributed from the chalice.
- 13) Only the priest (s) may distribute Communion.
- 14) Priests are to sanitize their hands before distributing Holy Communion.
- 15) Only priest concelebrants may use intinction. Deacons may only receive the consecrated host.
- 16) I strongly urge and request that no one receives Holy Communion on the tongue. There are medical professionals who have determined this to be unsanitary. Out of respect and concern for the health of others, Please receive Holy Communion only on the hand
- 17) Although people may wear masks and gloves to Mass, Communion may not be distributed or received with gloves.
- 18) The priest is to take care that he does not touch the communicant. If his hands come in contact with a communicant, he is to re-sanitize his hands before continuing with distribution.
- 19) People should be asked to maintain social distancing when departing the church at the end of Mass.
- 20) Pews/common surfaces should be wiped between Masses.



Meet your Secretariat

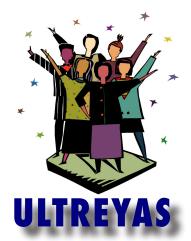


Meet Deacon Rick Risher

The Sectariat's Spiritual Director is a big man with a bigger heart, but he walks softly and loves deeply. Rick was born in Tokyo after his father's US Air Force career took him to Japan following Word War II. A self-described "military brat", Rick accompanied his family from assignment to assignment, from school to school, eventually graduating from high school in Niceville, Florida.

He went on to college at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg and intended to accept a commission in the Air Force to follow his dad's footsteps, but when his eyesight didn't make the grade for a career as a USAF pilot, he discovered that acceptance by the US Army would allow him to be a pilot—of helicopters. After 21 years flying "helis", Rick retired from the military but soon went back to work -this time on watercraft, working for Boyd's Marine in Dothan, Alabama. Meanwhile, God had been tugging at him, urging him to yet another "career" as a deacon in the church. He was ordained in 2002, and that same year was sponsored for the Cursillo by Harold Grant and Wayne Vanlandingham (it took two of them to get him there!).

Rick has been an active deacon at St. Columba Catholic Church in Dothan and a Cursillista ever since, and in 2017, he was asked to serve as the Spiritual Director of the Cursillo by the Secretariat.



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Brothers and Sisters,

Ultreyas, School of Leaders and Group Reunion are suspended/discontinued until May 16, 2020, at which time the situation will be reassessed. The only exception to this if you are grouping using Skype or a similar format on the computer. Please keep all those who are involved in this situation in our prayers

May is for Mary!,

I wanted to share this with you. You may have watched the re-consecration to Our Lady and saw the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Used this in my RE classes for many years around her feast day, Dec 12. I thought you may enjoy this explanation.

Be well, safe and blessed. Peace and JOY Theresa Gorman

The Miraculous Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe

9 Million Natives Converted—The Largest Conversion to Christianity in the History of Mankind

The more than 450 year-old Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe is more than simply a picture . . . it's a photograph from heaven!

It contains symbols, in a sense—hieroglyphics or a story in pictures—that reveal part of the message the Blessed Mother brought through Juan Diego to the Indians of Mexico and to all the people of the Americas. But the symbols had a special meaning to the Indians, who because of their culture could decipher the code in the Image.

SUN RAYS

The lady is standing in front of the sun indicating that she is greater than their Sun God, Huitzilopochtli. By the number of tiny skeletons found in the areas of the sun temple, historians estimate that more than 20,000 infants and many more adults were sacrificed each year to their Sun God.

2 MOON

The lady is standing on the Moon indicating that she is greater than the God of night, the Moon God.



3 MATERNITY BAND

The maternity band around the woman's waist was the sign of a pregnant woman, a mother who is about to give birth. It was a sign to the Indians that someone is yet to come.

4 THE BLACK CROSS

Displayed on a Gold Broach on her Neck was the same black cross as the one emblazoned on the ships' sails and banners of the Spaniards. This Cross was seen in a dream by the conquered King Montezuma who felt it was the symbol of his new rulers.

6 HER FACE

The Lady's face shows great compassion, and shows her with dark skin and dark hair like that of the Indians.

6 HANDS

The Lady's hands are joined in prayer and her head bowed in reverence to one greater than her.

7 DRESS & ROBE & KNEE

Its many golden leaves and floral designs match the topography of the Mexican land, which symbolizes the earth. Our Lady's left knee is bent, indicating she is coming forward to share with us God's many blessings.

8 MANTLE

Our Lady's mantle is turquoise with a blue green hue. The Stars represent the Sky and the Universe.

9 ANGEL

The winged Angel has his right hand on her mantle and his left hand on her dress, announcing that she has come to unite everyone on earth with Heaven. The baby God she is carrying is indicated by the 4 leaf flower below her maternity band on her waist.

1 EYES

In the 1950's, under a powerful magnifying glass, scientists discovered in the pupil of her right eye the features of a bearded man and 2 other figures. In 1979 José Aste Tonsmann of the Mexican Center of Guadalupan Studies, researched the image and "eyes." He magnified the iris of the Virgin's eyes 2,500 times and found imprinted on them a highly detailed picture of at least 13 people. He was able to identify all the people imprinted in the eyes, including an Indian family with several children, which he later discovered. Tonsmann believes it is a hidden message kept hidden until modern technology was able to discover it at a time when "The Family" is under serious attack in our modern world.



Written by an Australian Dentist after the attacks on 9/11, this is as true today as it was then,

To Kill an American

You probably missed this in the rush of news, but there was actually a report that someone in Pakistan had published in a newspaper, an offer of a reward to anyone who killed an American, any American.

So an Australian dentist wrote an editorial the following day to let everyone know what an American is . So they would know when they found one. (Good one, mate!!!!)

'An American is English, or French, or Italian, Irish, German, Spanish, Polish, Russian or Greek. An American may also be Canadian, Mexican, African, Indian, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Australian, Iranian, Asian, or Arab, or Pakistani or Afghan.

An American may also be a Comanche, Cherokee, Osage, Blackfoot, Navaho, Apache, Seminole or one of the many other tribes known as native Americans

An American is Christian , or he could be Jewish, or Buddhist, or Muslim. In fact, there are more Muslims in America than in Afghanistan . The only difference is that in America they are free to worship as each of them chooses.

An American is also free to believe in no religion.. For that he will answer only to God, not to the government, or to armed thugs claiming to speak for the government and for God.

An American lives in the most prosperous land in the history of the world.

The root of that prosperity can be found in the Declaration of Independence, which recognizes the God given right of each person to the pursuit of happiness.

An American is generous.. Americans have helped out just about every other nation in the world in their time of need, never asking a thing in return.

As of the morning of September 11, Americans had given more than any other nation to the poor in Afghanistan .

The national symbol of America, The Statue of Liberty, welcomes your tired and your poor, the wretched refuse of your teeming shores, the homeless, tempest tossed. These in fact are the people who built America

Some of them were working in the Twin Towers the morning of September 11, 2001 earning a better life for their families. It's been told that the World Trade Center victims were from at least 30 different countries, cultures, and first languages, including those that aided and abetted the terrorists.

So you can try to kill an American if you must. Hitler did. So did General Tojo , and Stalin , and Mao Tse-Tung, and other blood-thirsty tyrants in the world.. But, in doing so you would just be killing yourself . Because Americans are not a particular people from a particular place. They are the embodiment of the human spirit of freedom. Everyone who holds to that spirit, everywhere, is an American. May God Bless and Keep them under his wing. Thanks!