Blessed Sacrament Church

"I am the Living Bread come down from Heaven. If any man eats of this Bread, he shall live forever; and the Bread I will give, is My Flesh." John 6:51-52

"Whosoever shall eat this Bread, or drink this Chalice of the Lord unworthily, shall be guilty of the Body and Blood of the Lord.”

1 Corinthians 11:27

Perpetual Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament takes place in the side chapel twenty-four hours a day, every day. All are welcome to come and worship and adore our Eucharistic Lord.

“Could you not watch one hour with Me?” Matthew 26:40
**Mass Intentions**

**SATURDAY, JULY 16TH**
(Fr. Lisowski)
4:00 Geraldine and John Klima – by Zilch Family

**SUNDAY, JULY 17TH** – Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
(Deacon Ratté)
8:00 Eleanor Earley – by Pat & Bob Earley
10:30 Martin Leo & Frances B. Coyne

**MONDAY, JULY 18TH** – St. Camillus de Lellis
(Deacon Ratté)
9:00 Hilda DeJoy – by Family

**TUESDAY, JULY 19TH**
(Deacon DeCarlo)
9:00 Dr. & Mrs. Joseph Charron and Children – by Arthur W. Charron

**WED., JULY 20TH** – St. Apollinaris
(Deacon DeCarlo)
9:00 Christopher Mascavage (20th Anniversary) – by Mr. & Mrs. Michael Zraunig & Family

**THURS., JULY 21ST** – St. Lawrence of Brindisi
(Pope Francis)
9:00 Jonathan P. Provencal – by the Fritz Family

**FRIDAY, JULY 22ND** – St. Mary Magdalene
(Bishop Rozanski)
9:00 Special intention for Lennie Tilton – by Daughter

**SATURDAY, JULY 23RD** – St. Bridget
(Clergy in Purgatory)
4:00 Geraldine and John Klima – by Zilch Family

**SUNDAY, JULY 24TH** – Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
(Fr. Reardon)
8:00 Gertrude Scott – by Nancy Willis
10:30 Erlinda Molano – by Ed & Mary Lou Bueno

**REMINDER:**
- Please join with us in praying the Rosary before each daily Mass at 8:15 a.m., before the 4:00 p.m. Saturday Mass and 8:00 a.m. Sunday Mass.
- Confessions after each weekend Mass.
- The Chaplet of Divine Mercy will be recited Fridays at 3:00 p.m. in the Adoration Chapel. All are invited to come and pray with us.
- Blessed Sacrament has a Prayer Chain which is available for anyone. Simply contact Marie Boynton at 413-772-5858 or memeboynton@comcast with your petition.
- Sponsor Certificates - Many parishes require certificates of sponsorship for Godparents and Confirmation Sponsors. These will be issued only to those who are confirmed adult Catholics, registered in the parish, regular participants at Mass, validly married in the Church (if applicable) and providing for the religious education of their own children (if applicable).

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**Liturgical Roles**

**Weekend of July 23 and 24**

**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:**

**Saturday, July 23**

4:00 Deacon John Leary  Bill Randall
   Joanne Yestramski  Hannah Lively
   Winston Labelle  Brian Luippold
   Jason Semaski  Cynnie Erho
   Kerry Semaski

**Sunday, July 24**

8:00 Deacon John Leary  Kevin O’Neil, Jr.
   David Murphy  Lionel Martin
   Helen Shea Murphy  Jim Podlesney
   Kevin O’Neil  Lynne Podlesney
   Liza O’Neil

10:30 Deacon John Leary  Suzanne Hunter
   Donna Leary  Wayne Cottrill
   Deacon George Nolan  Annette Canuel
   Judy Lapointe  Mary Jane Bardwell
   Marie Boynton

**Poet’s Seat Nursing Home:**

Sun., July 24  Deacon George Nolan

**Lectors/Cantors**

Sat., July 23  4:00  Monica McCarthy / Jackie Jurewicz
Sun., July 24  8:00  Michael Motisi / Jane Winchester
              10:30  Mary Anne Duda / Sandra Pavoni

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**Mass Servers**

**Saturday, July 23**

4:00  Piper Day, Penley Day

**Sunday, July 24**

8:00  Alex Bacigalupo, James Staelens

10:30  Sean Pierce, Michael Pierce
**Grandparent’s Day**

Don’t miss this - Come Celebrate Grandparent’s Day! Saturday, July 23, 2016, 10 - 4 pm at The National Shrine of the Divine Mercy, Stockbridge, MA. Are you a praying grandparent who believes in the power of prayer on behalf of your grandchildren? “Come, the Lord is Calling YOU - listen to dynamic speakers, ask questions, celebrate holy Mass, enjoy your picnic lunch and discover the power of group prayer. Your life won’t be the same! Grandparents please bring your family and friends.

Questions: call Alicia Belanger 413-568-0123.

**Elms College Track and Field Fundraiser**

Elms College Track and Field fundraiser road race, Saturday, July 30th. Come support the new track and field team at Elms College and enjoy a lovely summer day! Prizes for the top three male and female runners! 3.5 miles, run or walk. $7 entry per participant (children under 12 are free). Registration begins at 9:15 a.m., race begins at 10:00 a.m. at the Northfield, Massachusetts town hall (69 Main Street, Northfield MA, 01360). For more information, please contact Sarah Kaczenski at kaczenskis@student.elms.edu.

**Pilgrimage to Canadian Shrines**

Sept. 26-30, 2016 - 5 days / 4 nights at $550 per person double occupancy / $750 single occupancy. Visiting the Shrines of Sanctuary de Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupre and St. Joachim Church (outside of Quebec City), Cathedral-Basilica of Notre-Dame de Quebec, Parlor Marie de the L’Incarcement and Church of the Sacred Heart of Mary (Old Quebec City), Notre-Dame-du-Cap (at Cap-de-la-Madeleine), St. Frederick’s church and tomb (Trois-Rivieres), St. Kateri Tekakwitha in Kahnawake (outside of Montreal), St. Joseph’s Oratory (Montreal) and Notre-Dame Basilica de Montreal (Montreal). Cost includes Coach with free parking and pick-up at the Thomas Charters parking lot at the Dillant-Hopkins Airport, 80 Airport Road, Keene, N.H. 03431, two full meals a day (breakfast & dinner), accommodations with private facilities, taxes, etc. and all shrine tours. A valid Passport or a Passport Card is required. Trip Spiritual Director: Fr. Charles Jan Di Mascala - Our Lady of Częstochowa Church. For info, and reservations contact: Susan Zimmerman: sue7mar@gmail.com or 603-352-2748 / or Mark Zuchowski: markzuchowski@hotmail.com or 603-499-8775.

**Rachel’s Vineyard Retreats**

Rachel’s Vineyard weekend retreats are a beautiful opportunity for any woman or man who has struggled with the emotional or spiritual pain of an abortion. Please call the toll-free national hotline 877-HOPE-4-ME or in the Diocese of Springfield call 413-452-0661. For more info, and retreat dates call one of the numbers above or visit the website at www.rachelsvineyard.org. Upcoming retreat dates in 2016 for the Diocese of Springfield are: July 22-24 and October 28-30.

**Diocesan Pilgrimage Day to mark Jubilee Year of Mercy**

Bishop Mitchell Rozanski invites all members of the Catholic community in western Massachusetts to a local Pilgrimage Day marking the Jubilee Year of Mercy. This very special and FREE EVENT will take place Saturday, September 10 starting at 10 a.m. on the scenic grounds of Camp Holy Cross in Goshen. The day will feature many spiritual activities including talks, Reconciliation, Chaplet of Divine Mercy, a celebratory concluding Mass with Bishop, as well as time to just enjoy the beautiful grounds. Children and young adults are most welcome and, weather permitting, swimming and boating activities will be available on the lake. Don’t miss out of this great faith filled opportunity! Again, this day is free! Bring a picnic lunch or hamburgers and hotdogs will be available at a nominal charge. To help organizers plan, those attending are asked to fill out a simple registration form. You can register and learn more about this day at www.diospringfield.org or call 413 452-0559 and leave your name, phone number and number of adults and children who will attend. Don’t miss out on this diocesan wide celebration of the Jubilee Year of Mercy – September 10th at Camp Holy Cross. Join us!

**Knights of Columbus Council #133**

Meetings 3rd Thursday, 7:00 p.m.

Fr. Casey Hall, Holy Trinity Church

We are looking for new members.

If interested, please contact Jason Semaski (413-626-3378) or Jay Dillon (413-773-3678).

**News of Our Shut-Ins**

If you know of any parishioner who is a shut-in or in the hospital or nursing home, please notify the rectory at 773-3311.
Part II

The previous article looked at the history of the brown scapular, its importance, and its nature as a sacramental of the Church. This article will look at some miraculous events associated with the brown scapular, what various Popes have said about it, and how our Lady promoted it at Fatima.

But first, it is important to realize that wearing the scapular doesn’t do away with the need to receive the sacraments, or to live a good Christian life, nor is it a “magic talisman” which will automatically work no matter what sins the wearer commits; rather, it is a sign of God’s mercy mediated by our Lady. There have been cases of people living sinful lives who have torn off their scapulars just before dying — so it is not something that can be abused. In fact, St. Margaret Mary Alacoque’s confessor and spiritual guide, St. Claude de la Colombière, who was strongly devoted to the brown scapular, said: “If a person wants to die in his sins, he will die in his sins, but he will not die wearing the brown scapular.”

Pope Pius XI, while encouraging the wearing of the scapular, also said, “. . . although it is very true that the Blessed Virgin loves all who love her, nevertheless those who wish to have the Blessed Mother as a helper in [the hour of] death, must in life merit such signal favor by abstaining from sin and laboring in her honor.”

In sum, if the brown scapular is worn in the right spirit and with the right intention, then we can be assured that our Lady will come to our aid at the hour of death.

The power of the brown scapular is shown by the fact that the perfectly intact scapular of St. Alphonsus Liguori was found incorrupt many years after his death, although his body and the priestly vestments in which he had been buried had turned to dust. His scapular is still preserved in Rome. Likewise, St. John Bosco was very devoted to Our Lady of Mount Carmel, and was buried wearing his brown scapular. It was later found to be in very good condition and is regarded as a relic.

There have been numerous miracles associated with the brown scapular. One of these occurred on a passenger ship en route from London to South Australia in 1845, and was highlighted in a report in the Carmelite Review in 1902, which stated that the ship involved, The King of the Ocean, had proceeded on its course with no difficulties until it reached a notoriously turbulent part of the Indian Ocean. There, with little warning, a storm severely damaged the ship’s sails and rigging. Tremendous waves enveloped the vessel, evoking cries of despair and pleas for mercy from those on board.

One of the passengers, a Protestant minister named James Fisher, with his wife, his two children, and other passengers, climbed to the deck from their quarters below and began to pray for help. The raging storm, nevertheless, continued to batter the helpless ship. Then a crew member, an Irish sailor named John McAuliffe, removed his scapular from his neck and, making the sign of the cross with it, cast it into the sea. After a short time the furious tempest was calmed. Then, a small wave splashed onto the boat and deposited the scapular almost at the feet of the sailor. The Protestant minister was the only one who noticed the entire incident and realized its significance.

Immediately he questioned the sailor about his little pieces of brown cloth and after a short explanation, the Rev. Mr. Fisher resolved to take the Virgin of Carmel for his patroness and to become a Catholic. When they had safely arrived at Sydney, Australia, Mr. Fisher and his family were received into the Church and became fervent Catholics.

More recently, the Popes have been at pains to emphasize the importance of the brown scapular. For example, Benedict XV, who was Pope during World War I, addressing seminarians in Rome said: “Let all of you have a common language and a common armor: The language, the sentences of the Gospel — the common armor, the brown scapular of the Virgin of Carmel which you ought to wear and which enjoys the singular privilege and protection after death.”
In 1951, Pope Pius XII wrote a letter to the Carmelite major superiors to celebrate the 700th anniversary of St. Simon Stock’s vision, saying: “There is no one who is not aware how greatly a love for the Blessed Virgin Mother of God contributes to the enlivening of the Catholic faith. . . . In the first rank of the most favored of these devotions that of the Holy Carmelite Scapular must be placed.”

Karol Wojtyla, the future Pope John Paul II, as a young factory worker in Poland, wore a brown scapular. When he was shot and operated on in 1981, he apparently told doctors not to remove the brown scapular he was wearing, such was his devotion to it. He also wrote, in 2001, that:

“. . . The most genuine form of devotion to the Blessed Virgin, expressed by the humble sign of the Scapular, is consecration to her Immaculate Heart. . . . The Scapular is essentially a ‘habit.’ Those who receive it are associated more or less closely with the Order of Carmel and dedicate themselves to the service of Our Lady for the good of the whole Church.

“Two truths are evoked by the sign of the Scapular: on the one hand, the constant protection of the Blessed Virgin, not only on life’s journey, but also at the moment of passing into the fullness of eternal glory; on the other, the awareness that devotion to her cannot be limited to prayers and tributes in her honor on certain occasions, but must become a ‘habit,’ that is, a permanent orientation of one’s own Christian conduct, woven of prayer and interior life, through frequent reception of the sacraments and the concrete practice of the spiritual and corporal works of mercy.”

So what the Pope said there backs up the point that the scapular is not a magic talisman, but that it should be worn as a sign of consecration to our Lady, and as part of a fully sacramental Christian life.

**The Children of Fatima**

The brown scapular also figures in the Fatima apparitions. While the crowd of 70,000 people was seeing the miracle of the sun on October 13, 1917, Jacinta, Francisco, and Lucia saw various apparitions involving St. Joseph and the Child Jesus, our Lady in a blue and white mantle and Our Lady of Dolors. Sr. Lucia describes how she saw this last apparition of our Lady holding a brown scapular, so we find the brown scapular intimately associated with Fatima. She later said: “The rosary and the scapular are inseparable,” and “all Catholics should wear the scapular as part of the Fatima message.”

Thus the Blessed Virgin herself, at Fatima, emphasized how important the brown scapular is, and this shows us its great value as a sign of consecration to her, and a pledge of eternal life.

(Donal Anthony Foley is the author of a number of books on Marian Apparitions, and maintains a related website at www.theotokos.org.uk)

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**The Scapular Is a Silent Prayer**

As Our Lord taught us to say the Our Father, Our Blessed Mother taught us the value of the scapular. When we use it as a prayer, Our Lady draws us to the Sacred Heart of Her Divine Son. It is good, therefore, to hold the scapular in the hand. A prayer offered while holding the Scapular is as perfect as a prayer can be. It is especially in time of temptation that we need the powerful intercession of God’s Mother. The evil spirit is utterly powerless when the wearer of a scapular faces temptation, calling upon the Holy Virgin in this silent devotion. “If you had recommended yourself to me, you would not have run into such danger,” was Our Lady’s gentle reproach to Blessed Alan de la Roche, one of her devoted servants.

www.sistersofcarmel.com