

From the Administrator's Blotter:

I am thinking of the headlines. "13 Catholics and local priest were taken hostage by *Abu Sayyaf* in Marawi City, on the Philippine island of Mindanao." And then two days later: "6 people died, 30 were wounded, and 3 ISIS extremists were shot by police in a terror attack which happened on London bridge." Unbelievable!

So how does a Catholic – on Trinity Sunday – react to these headlines? I'm no expert in these matters, but I offer you my opinion as a Catholic priest for 47 years.

For some perspective on Catholic-Muslim relations, go back to the mid-60s. In public speeches, the popes were speaking positively about Islam, especially to the Catholic bishops of Africa, where millions of Catholics lived side by side with millions of Moslems. The popes promoted accommodation to Islam. In their optimism, the popes emphasized beliefs which were common to both: that God is One; that He is Creator; and that absolute obedience is owed to Him. (I am not aware that Islamic leaders ever responded in the same positive way toward Christianity. It was strictly a one-way street.)

In the 1990s, the focus shifted to Muslims in the Middle East. Think of the Gulf Wars of Kuwait and Iraq, destruction of the World Trade Center (September 11, 2001) in which 3,000 died and 6,000 were wounded, and the US pursuit of Al-Qaeda into Afghanistan. Benedict XVI signaled a different papal approach to Islam with his Regensburg address in (September 12, 2006). He never meant to be provocative. He simply cited the observation of a 14th century Byzantine emperor that *linked Islam and the Prophet Muhammad with violence*.

For me, in 2017, it is both truthful and prudent to recognize this link between Islam and violence in certain circumstances. Why? First, remember that Islam was founded 600 years after Christ; it is, in part, a negative reaction to Christian belief. Second, the Koran knows absolutely knowing of God as a Community of Interpersonal Love. Third, Islam considers Christian belief in the Holy Trinity blasphemous. Fourth, Islam offers only three alternatives for non-believers: conversion, added taxes, or death. Fifth, Islam considers the faith of Christians is an insult to God and deserving of death. r

On this Trinity Sunday, I embrace wholeheartedly the confession of my Catholic faith. I believe in One God in Three Persons. I believe that God is one and that His divine nature is a communion of interpersonal love: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. I also uphold the right of others to maintain beliefs different from mine. I respect their conscience, even if it is improperly, erroneously formed. I wish them well. History and common sense, however, suggest to me that it is better that I live at a distance from them, that I discourage intermarriage with them, and that I always be alert to the possibility of violence.

Fr. James Garcia



Our Archbishop has officially changed our Father John Chung to Star of the Sea Parish in San Francisco (Geary and 7th) July 1, 2017. The parish will be providing a farewell reception this Sunday, June 11th after the 11:30 AM Mass. We thank him sincerely for his three years of service at St. Elizabeth and wish him God's blessings.

On Saturday June 17th Devotion to the Two Hearts -1000 Hail Mary's and Divine Mercy will be recited after the 8:00 am Mass until 3:30 pm in the Rectory Chapel. Everyone is invited to attend. (Your attendance for any length of time will be welcome.)

2017 Archdiocesan Annual Appeal- our goal is \$48,470.00. To date our generous parishioners have pledged **\$25,338.00** leaving a balance of **\$23,132.00**.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday	June 12
8:00 am	† Ronald Vannucchi
5:30 pm	† Ancieta Gandeza
Tuesday	June 13
8:00 am	Souls in Purgatory
5:30 pm	† Ginette Mills
Wednesday	June 14
8:00 am	† Manuel Scerri
7:00 pm	† Andrea and Maria (L) Caraffi Gloria Family (L) Thanksgiving
Thursday	June 15
8:00 am	† Joseph Skropanich
5:30 pm	† Aurora Manansala
Friday	June 16
8:00 am	† Tessie, † Joseph and † Saviour Schembri
5:30 pm	
Saturday	June 17
8:00 am	† Leonard Grillo
4:30 pm	Fathers Living and Deceased
Sunday	June 18
7:30 am	Fathers Living and Deceased
9:30 am	Fathers Living and Deceased
11:30 am	Fathers Living and Deceased
5:00 pm	

† Denotes deceased – (L) Living

Sunday Collection June 4, 2017

Weekly Need:	\$ 5,000.00
Sunday Collection	\$ 5,076.00
Over/Under	\$ 76.00
Religious Education	\$ 922.00

If you make your offertory donation by check, without using parishioner envelopes, it would be most helpful if you placed your parishioner/envelope # in the "memo" section of the check.

This helps us input your donation to the offertory data system. **We will not be responsible for donations not credited due to missing envelope numbers (or not having a Sunday collection envelope.)**



TIME TO REGISTER YOUR CHILD /CHILDREN

St. Elizabeth Religious Education Program (CCD) is now accepting registration for grades K through 8 for the 2017-2018 school years. Registration forms are now available online at www.stelizabethsf.org. After completing the form, please bring it to the Parish Office at 449 Holyoke Street along with your registration fee of \$45. Registration forms are also available at the Parish office. Classes begin September 9th. Please apply today. Thank You!

Volunteers Needed:

Do you love the Lord? Are you willing to share His message? Do you believe you can make a difference? Our Parish Family Needs You! School of Religious Education (English & Spanish) needs teachers / teacher's aide for the 2017-2018 school years. If you have a love for your Catholic faith and children, please consider volunteering to be a teacher at our weekly Religious Education classes.

Classes are from the second week of September 2017 to the end of May 2018 from 9:00 am to 10:30 am (English) and 11:30 am to 1:00 pm (Spanish) every Saturday. Jesus needs you to share His love for His children! Our students need you. For more information, please call the Parish Office at (415) 468-0820, Tessie Alano at (415) 601-0310 (English) and Elisa Segura at 650-867-8423 (Spanish).

Religious Education Program

Registration information (English & Spanish) for 2017-2018 classes has been distributed to all families who were enrolled in the 2017-2018-year program. These families can register by mail using the mailed pre-printed forms or bring the forms into the office at 449 Holyoke Street, SF from 9:00 - 4:00pm Monday to Thursday beginning June 1st to fill out a registration form. You can download registration information and form at St. Elizabeth at our **Website:** www.stelizabethsf.org. Thank You!