



Archdiocesan Gay and Lesbian Outreach
CHICAGO

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

August 22, 2010

The Blaze

The Blaze

NOW ONLINE

WWW.AGLOCHICAGO.ORG



THE STRUGGLE

Asked to name a saint of our times, many of us would say “Mother Teresa.” Born in Albania, she began religious life as a sister in a teaching order, which sent her to a girls’ school in Calcutta, India. She was shocked to see the dismal poverty beyond the school grounds. In 1948 she responded with unquestioned faith to an inner calling: to leave the teaching order and serve the destitute in Calcutta’s slums. Very soon, other women joined Mother Teresa in her works of mercy, forming the Missionaries of Charity. Over the next fifty years Mother Teresa became a world-renowned symbol of compassion and winner of the Nobel Peace Prize. A book published after her death contains letters she wrote to friends, superiors, and confessors, and reveals that this small, energetic nun had spent long years in a spiritual desert. She had such deep longing for God, but felt no faith, love, or fervor. Her fame increased, but except for a brief few weeks in 1958, her faith did not return. She said her smile was a mask, as she struggled mightily to see any value in all of her labor: if there is no God, there can be no soul and Jesus is not the Christ. She had even stopped praying for a while because it seemed so meaningless. Mother Teresa apparently died with her doubts in 1997. Prominent atheists declared that the letters show that all religious faith is a sham. Those of us who struggle with faith are encouraged by her heroism. Like Saint John of the Cross, Saint Teresa of Ávila, and many others, she kept doing God’s will in spite of spiritual darkness. Her dying wish was that her letters be destroyed, but the Church decided to keep them. Perhaps now we know why.

LIVING STEWARDSHIP NOW

If anyone expresses doubt about faith and religious belief, don’t argue with them. Speak words of encouragement and pray for them.

REFLECTIONS *on the word*

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading—Brothers and sisters of every race and language will be brought to Jerusalem (*Isaiah 66:18-21*).

Psalms—Go out to all the world and tell the Good News (*Psalms 117*).

Second Reading—Be strong and endure your trials as the “discipline” of a loving God, for it will result in the peaceful fruit of righteousness (*Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13*).

Gospel—People from east and west, north and south, recline at table in the kingdom of God (*Luke 13:22-30*).

PROCLAIM GOD'S GLORY

A threefold message develops in today's readings. First, everyone is called to proclaim God's glory and receive salvation. Second, salvation is not for the unprepared. Like a loving parent, God gently corrects and disciplines those who have been called. Usually suffering is part of the formation process. We are to accept it as Jesus once accepted His cross.

Third, some people who imagine themselves saved are really not. The door of salvation has been closed in their faces despite their cries and pleas. On the other hand, some who are treated with contempt and disdain actually do have a place in God's kingdom.

We need to take these lessons to heart. Recall your initial excitement on hearing God's word. How has

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PRAYING *with the community*

PRAYER INTENTIONS

If you or someone you know in the community is ill or has lost a loved one, let us remember them in our prayers. Write your intentions in the prayer book located in the center of the church before Mass.



Prayers for the Sick

Ken S.	Tom M.	Anne F.
Matthew J.	John P.	Irene R.
Christopher C.	Rolando W.	Sister Anne

Prayers for the Deceased

†Rose B.	†Roy F.	†David H. ^{AN}
†Joe M.	†Christopher W.	†Turchan Family ^{AN}
		^{AN} Anniversaries



WE PRAY ESPECIALLY FOR FR. RICHARD VANDELDELDE ON THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF HIS PASSING. FR. RICHARD WAS AN AGLO CELEBRANT, SPIRITUAL ADVISOR AND FRIEND TO MANY IN OUR COMMUNITY. MAY HE REST IN THE PEACE OF GOD'S GRACE AND GLORY.

the Good News that once caught your fancy taken deeper root in your life? Look again at the crosses you have been given. How are others transformed when they see how you have accepted and grown from your sufferings?

Finally, are there some people whom you imagine are not invited to God's kingdom? Why do you think so? For a moment, imagine them on the inside and yourself on the outside. How might this be possible?

Always try your best to enter by the narrow door. **Come and proclaim God's glory!**

EXECUTIVE BOARD *elections*

On *Sunday, September 19th*, elections will be held for four of the eight positions of our Executive Board. The positions open for your consideration are **Co-Director, Secretary, Director of Spiritual Life, and Director of Social Life**.

Currently, no one has been nominated for the open Co-Director position.

If you would like to nominate yourself or another member, please complete a nomination form and return it before *Sunday, September 5th* (Labor Day weekend). Anyone who is a registered member as of August 20th is eligible to vote. You can become a member or update your membership by completing the membership form in *The Blaze*.

Questions? Please see Jim Lux, Election Chair.



TEMPTATION

The average number of times that people say “no” to temptation is about once, weakly.

—Anonymous

EUCCHARISTIC *celebration*

Today (08/22)

Fr. Dennis O'Neill
Ed G., Joe Q.
Mike L.
Tom A., Steve E.
Roman S., Bobby O.
Michael R., Jake S.
Jerry McEnany

Celebrant
Ushers
Cross Bearer
Acolytes
Lectors
Eucharistic Ministers
Announcements
Social Hour

Next Week (08/29)

Fr. James Barry
Nathan P., Joe Vitek
Ron H.
Bob M., Jerry S.
Steve Z., Kris J.
Greg Coloian, Phillip G.
Werner Ochoa

ACTIVITIES *with aglo*

SPIRITUAL LIFE DAY

Thank you to everyone who attend our summer series and our Day of Reflection retreat. We also wish to give a very special "thank you" to Fr. Angel Sierra for giving of his time, his talent and his treasure of wisdom this summer. We are most grateful.



Please watch The Blaze for our Spiritual Life programs this Fall. If you would like to become more involved in the planning of our programs, please consider joining the Spiritual Life Committee. Please see Director of Spiritual Life, Larry Cubalchini or email him at lcubalchini@aglochicago.org.

HEY GILLIGAN!

Join us on *September 4th* for a Saturday evening Navy Pier fireworks tour on Lake Michigan! While this won't be a three-hour tour with Gilligan and the Skipper, it is sure to be just as much fun. Tickets are only \$26. See Werner Ochoa tonight for details and sign-up! But hurrray—there are only 16 tickets left!



SOCIAL ON THE STEPS

Join us after Mass tonight for our summer social—friendship and cool beverages—on the steps of the church. Our after Mass social in Casey Hall will resume the after Labor Day on Sunday, Sept. 12th.



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

We will offer the sacrament of reconciliation again on Sunday, October 3rd at 6:15 pm in the Eden Chapel.

HELP BRING ABOUT AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE IN LAKEVIEW & UPTOWN

The Lakeview Action Coalition (LAC), along with graduate nursing students at DePaul University, is working to identify barriers to healthcare in the Lakeview and Uptown neighborhoods. This summer, LAC is distributing a survey and in the fall we will be conducting focus groups. If you are over 18-years-old, uninsured or under-insured, on Medicaid, Medicare, we want to hear from you! A link to the survey can be found at www.lakeviewaction.org. The survey will take approximately 10 minutes. Paper copies of the survey are also available at the back of the church tonight. This information will help create change in your community. Be a part of the solution! If you want to know more about this campaign, please contact Hannah at 773-549-1947 x387.

SING A NEW SONG!

The AGLO Choir will begin their next season on Sunday, September 19th. Start practicing in the shower now. The choir invites members from past seasons and anyone interested in singing at Mass for the first time. Practice will begin in Church at 5:30 pm on 9/19. Questions? See Jim Ward or Pat Brannon after Mass or email Dan Weitendorf. Remember, those who sing at Mass, pray twice!



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Facebook

THE LIVES *of the saints*

SAINT MONICA (332-387)

August 27



She had smiles for the neighbors, though her husband found her religion and the charity it inspired annoying. She made tearful prayers in private for a son, outwardly self-assured but, as his mother knew, inwardly restless, and whose girlfriend of a dozen years had borne his child out of wedlock. Though not the first or last such mother and son, Monica and Augustine are the Church's most famous, so we keep their feast days back to back, with Monica's, fittingly, first.

To Rome she followed Augustine, then to Milan, where years of prayer--and nagging--finally bore fruit in his conversion by Saint Ambrose. For six months, mother and son enjoyed the blessing of rediscovering each other. Just in time! On the way home to North Africa, Monica took sick and died near Rome. No child who has mourned a parent can read, unmoved, Augustine's tender account, in his Confessions, of Monica's last days. At this time of the year, when parents watch apprehensively as children leave for school, may Monica's perseverance and Augustine's long-prayed-for conversion ease anxiety and kindle hope..

STEWARDSHIP *of treasure*

DELIGHT IN THE HOUSE OF GOD

We rely on your generosity for operating expenses that average **\$1,000 per week**. Please make checks payable to AGLOChicago. Checks and envelopes addressed to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel must be given to our host parish for its programs and operation.



Offering for August:

8/01: \$980 8/8: \$834
8/15: \$801

Thank you for your generosity.

DID YOU KNOW:

- AGLOCHICAGO IS ENTIRELY SELF-SUPPORTING
- WE RECEIVE NO SUBSIDY FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE
- WE RECEIVE NO SUBSIDY FROM OUR HOST PARISH OF OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL
- YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS REMAIN WITH AGLOCHICAGO AND ARE CONTROLLED BY YOUR EXECUTIVE BOARD
- YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS ARE USED TO FUND OUR MINISTRY, AND THAT OUR LARGEST EXPENSE IS OUR WEEKLY SUNDAY LITURGY
- AGLOCHICAGO DOES SUPPORT NON-PROFIT CHARITIES IN OUR LOCAL NEIGHBORHOOD, THE GLBT COMMUNITY AND FELLOW CATHOLIC MISSIONS
- YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS ARE FULLY TAX DEDUCTIBLE



Aug. 23



Aug. 24



Aug. 27



Aug. 28

CALENDAR *reminders*

GET UP-TO-DATE EVENT AND ACTIVITY INFORMATION
ONLINE AT WWW.AGLOCHICAGO.ORG

SUNDAY, AUGUST 22

- » *Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time*
- Retreat - Day of Reflection 10:30am-6:30pm
- Mass - 7:00 pm
- Lemonade Social After Mass - Church Steps

SUNDAY, AUGUST 29

- » *Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time*
- Mass - 7:00 pm
- Lemonade Social After Mass - Church Steps

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

- Fireworks Cruise at Navy Pier

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

- » *Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time*
- Mass - 7:00 pm
- Lemonade Social After Mass - Church Steps

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

- » *Labor Day*



Archdiocesan Gay and Lesbian Outreach
CHICAGO

We, the members of the Archdiocesan Gay and Lesbian Outreach, as people of God, create a sense of community for those who wish to reconcile their sexual orientation with their faith; provide an accepting and affirming atmosphere in which to worship in the Catholic tradition; provide opportunities for integration of personal experience through spiritual growth; share our distinctive gifts with each other and the Church at large, and witness our Catholic faith to the gay and lesbian community.

AGLO Chicago is a supra-parochial organization begun in June 1988 to extend the Church's pastoral outreach to gay and lesbian Catholics throughout the Archdiocese.

AGLO LITURGY

Every Sunday at 7:00 pm at our host parish of Our Lady of Mount Carmel
708 West Belmont Avenue | Chicago, Illinois

AGLO OFFICE

711 West Belmont Avenue, #106
Chicago, Illinois 60657
773.525.3872 (For messages only - calls will be returned)
www.aglochicago.org | aglo@aglochicago.org

EXECUTIVE BOARD

- Reverend Pat Lee, *Archdiocesan Liaison*
- Greg Coloian, *Co-Director*
gcoloian@aglochicago.org
- Joseph Ferrallo, *Co-Director*
jferrallo@aglochicago.org
- Ted Wiecek, *Secretary*
twiecek@aglochicago.org
- Jerry McEnany, *Treasurer*
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- Dan Weitendorf, *Director of Liturgy*
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- Joe Vitek, *Director of Outreach*
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- Werner Ochoa, *Director of Social Life*
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- Larry Cubalchini, *Director of Spiritual Life*
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- Amy Rosenquist, *Director of Social Justice*
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MUSIC STAFF

- James Ward, *Director of Music*
- Pat Brannon, *Choir Master*

Find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/AGLOChicago

JOIN US *membership form*

Please tear off this page and place it in the collection basket, hand it to a member of the board after our weekly Mass, or mail it to our office at the address above.

ALL INFORMATION IS CONFIDENTIAL New Member Member Update Remove

Mr. Ms. First Middle Last
Title Rev. Dr. Name Initial Name
Other

Address _____ Apartment _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ May we send letters by mail? Yes/No

Telephone _____ May we call you at this number? Yes/No

Birthday: Month _____ Day _____ May we send you email? Yes/No

Email Address _____

Will you allow your full name to be published internally with *The Blaze*? Yes/No

Will you allow your full name to be published in external publications? Yes/No

How did you learn about AGLO Chicago? _____

Are you interested in participating in any of the following:

- Ministries Committee Social Committee Outreach Committee
- Women's Outreach Choir Faith Sharing Group
- Altar Server Cross Bearer Eucharistic Minister
- Lector/Commentator Greeter/Usher

Signature _____ Date _____

(Required to become a member of AGLOChicago)