

~From the Administrator~

January 31, 2010

Dear Parish Family,

On Tuesday, Bishop Cistone offered Mass at 10:00am for our students and parishioners, followed by a reception in the cafeteria. After meeting the adults, the bishop went to every classroom and spoke briefly with each grade. He then answered questions from the students. The bishop was very impressed with the students' attentiveness and their enthusiasm (even though we ran a little into lunch time.) He also commented on the beauty of our church building and parish facilities.

In the old convent above the door that goes out toward the school, there is a stained glass window with a coat-of-arms on it. I've looked into the meanings of the symbols, and wanted to share my findings with you. The black and white shield and the cross which is behind the shield are always part of the Dominican Orders' coat-of-arms in some way. If you look closely at the cross, you'll see that the beams of the cross have a white half and a dark half. This is also a symbol of the Dominican Order - preaching the Cross of Christ in order to bring light into the darkness of the world. The star at the top of the shield is a symbol of St. Dominic. The branch on the left is a lily, which is a symbol of St. Joseph. Originally this was because our parish is in the St. Joseph province of the Dominican sisters. But now, rather providentially, it ties in with our patron, St. Joseph the Worker. The branch on the right is a palm branch, which symbolizes martyrdom. This represents our parish's first patroness, St. Philomena, who was martyred for her faith. The Rosary, which drapes over the arms of the cross and hangs under the shield, was first introduced by St. Dominic. The dog is from a little joke which comes from a play on words. In Latin, the Dominicans are called '*Dominicanes*.' If you split that word into two words (again working in Latin) you have '*Domini*' and '*canes*' - which means "the dogs of the Lord." The torch in the dog's mouth represents the "Light of the Gospel." The crown at the top of the cross, I think is a symbol of Our Lady, Queen of the Rosary. The scroll at the top contains the motto, '*Veritas*,' which is 'Truth.' That is the motto of the Dominicans, and can be a guide for us in following Jesus Christ, Who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.



Please continue praying for each other. See you at church! God bless you!

Fr. David

"When tempted, invoke your [Guardian] Angel. he is more eager to help you than you are to be helped! Ignore the devil and do not be afraid of him: He trembles and flees at the sight of your Guardian Angel."

— St. John Bosco (Feast day: January 31)

SAINTS & THEIR SYMBOLS

Agatha of Sicily	tongs or shears, veil, bells	John Chrysostom	bees, dove, pen
Agnes	lamb	John of God	alms, heart, Crown of Thorns
Ambrose	bees, beehive, dove, ox, pen	John the Baptist	lamb, head on a platter, animal skin
Andrew	transverse cross	John the Evangelist	eagle, chalice with a snake in it, kettle, book
Anne	(grandmother of Jesus) door, book,	Joseph	Child Jesus, lily, carpentry square
Anthony the Great	monk's habit, bell, pig	Juan Diego	tilma with image of Our Lady of Guadalupe
Anthony of Padua	Child Jesus, bread, book, lily	Jude the Apostle	sword, square rule, club, ship
Augustine of Hippo	dove, child, shell, pen, book	Justin Martyr	axe, sword
Barbara	tower, ciborium, cannon	Kateri Tekakwitha	turtle, lily
Bartholomew	knife	Kevin of Glendalough	blackbird
Benedict	broken cup, raven, bell, crosier, bush	Lawrence of Rome	cross, Gospel Book, gridiron, purse
Bernard of Clairvaux	pen, bees, instruments of the Passion	Leander of Seville	pen
Bernardino of Siena	tablet or sun inscribed with IHS, three mitres	Leonard of Noblac	lock, chain, manacles or fetters
Blaise	wax, taper (candle), iron comb	Liborius of Le Mans	pebbles, peacock
Bonaventure	communion, ciborium, cardinal's hat	Louis IX of France	Crown of Thorns, nails
Boniface	oak, axe, book, fox, fountain, raven, sword	Luke the Evangelist	ox, book, brush, palette
Bridget of Sweden	book, pilgrim's staff	Margaret the Virgin	dragon in chains
Brigid of Kildare	cow, crosier, Brigid's cross	Mark the Evangelist	winged lion, book
Catherine of Alexandria	wheel, a crown	Martha	holy water sprinkler, dragon
Catherine of Ricci	ring, crown, crucifix	Martin of Tours	goose
Catherine of Siena	stigmata, cross, ring, lily	Mary Magdalene	jar of ointment
Cecilia	organ	Matilda of Ringelheim	purse, alms
Charles Borromeo	cardinal's robes, communion	Matthew the Evangelist	winged man, purse, lance
Christopher	giant, torrent, tree, staff, carrying child Jesus	Maurus	scales, spade, crutch
Clare of Assisi	monstrance	Michael	scales, banner, sword, dragon
Clement	anchor, fish, Mariner's Cross	Monica	girdle, tears
Corbinian	saddled bear	Nicholas	three purses or balls, anchor, boat, child
Cosmas & Damian	a phial, box of ointment	Pantaleon	nailed hands
Cyriacus	deacon's vestments	Paraskevi	eyeballs on a plate
Daniel	lion	Patrick	cross, harp, snake, shamrock
Denis	head in hands	Paul the Apostle	sword, scroll, horse Long, pointed beard
David of Wales	harp	Peter	keys, boat, rooster, square white beard
Dorothy of Caesarea	flowers	Peter of Verona	bloodied head, or axe in head
Dominic	rosary, star	Petronilla	set of keys, dolphin
Dunstan	hammer, tongs	Philip the Apostle	column
Edmund the Martyr	quiver of arrows	Philip Neri	lily
Eligius	hammer, anvil, horseshoe; horse	Philomena	anchor
Elijah	cave	Quentin	broken wheel
Elisabeth of Hungary	alms, flowers, bread, the poor, pitcher	Quiteria	dog on a leash, carrying her head
Emilianus	monk on horseback	Raphael	fish
Elizabeth of Portugal	crown	Rita of Cascia	roses, roses and figs, crucifix, thorn
Eustace	stag (buck), bull, crucifix, horn, oven	Roch	angel, dog, bread
Francis of Assisi	wolf, birds, fish, skull, stigmata	Rose of Lima	Crown of Thorns, anchor, city, roses
Francis Xavier	crucifix, bell, vessel, crab with a cross	Sebastian	arrows, crown
Gabriel	is archangel, trumpet, armor, wings	Stephen	Stone(s)
Genesius	drama masks	Simon	crossed oars, saw
Genevieve	lit candle, bread, keys, herd, cattle	Teresa of Ávila	heart, arrow, book
George	dragon, knight in armor, on white horse	Teresa of the Andes	small cross, flowers
Gertrude of Nivelles	crown, tapir, lily, mouse	Theodore	crocodile
Giles	Benedictine habit, hind	Thérèse de Lisieux	roses entwining a crucifix
Gregory the Great	Papal Tiara, crosier, dove	Thomas Aquinas	monstrance, dove, ox
Helena	cross	Thomas the Apostle	lance, axe, square rule
Ignatius of Antioch	a bishop surrounded by lions or in chains	Thomas More	axe
Ignatius of Loyola	Eucharist, chasuble, book, cross.	Victor of Marseilles	windmill
Isidore of Seville	bees, pen, book	Vincent de Paul	children
James, son of Zebedee	pilgrim's staff, scallop shell, key, sword	Vincent Ferrer	pulpit, cardinal's hat, trumpet, captives
James, son of Alphaeus	square rule, halberd, club, saw	Vitus	cross, rooster, lion
Jerome	lion, cardinal clothing, cross, skull, books	Yrieix	Bishop's Mitre
Joan of Arc	shield, Cross of Lorraine	Zachary	an olive branch and a dove over him
Joanna	lamb	Zenobius of Florence	flowering tree; bringing a child back to life
John Berchmans	Rule of Saint Ignatius, cross, rosary	Zita	bag, keys