



CHURCH OF SAINT MARY

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MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH CHURCH

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Dear Parish Family,

July 18, 2010

Congratulations to Daniel Francisco Lossio, who received the Sacrament of Baptism last Sunday. Please remember him in your prayers as he begins his Christian life; as well as his parents, Francisco and Sally; and godparents Lynn and Sasha Bonakdar. May God's grace pour out upon him so that he grows daily in Faith, Hope, and Love.

Please help spread the word that the daily Mass schedule has expanded. Especially in the case of those who work in Alma. The Wednesday noon Mass is a great opportunity to take a spiritual break during the lunch hour. At some point, I'd like to begin an hour (or more) of Eucharistic Adoration following the Wednesday noon Mass.

If you haven't gotten around to making your Catholic Services Appeal contribution for 2010 yet, now is the time to do so! The CSA provides many valuable services to our parishes and our Catholic school. It also provides support to seminarians, as well as many other programs. Please consider making a generous donation to this year's CSA.

Thank you for the warm welcome I have received, especially at the receptions last weekend. I am (mostly) settled in the parish house. If you are in the area during the week, please stop by for a visit and a cup of coffee (or tea, or cocoa, or water.)

My first weekend at St. Mary's, a mom showed me a large quantity of bat droppings on the pews in the middle of the church. It behooves us to at least eliminate the nooks and crannies where critters are coming in. If anyone can help, please let me know.

You may also have noticed the Rosaries, prayer cards, and CDs on the tables at the entrances of St. Mary's. These are complimentary (although donations won't be refused!) for your use. After listening to a CD, please pass it along or return it so someone else may share in the teaching.

Please continue to pray for our parishes and each other through the intercession of Saint Joseph and Our Lady! May God pour out His blessings upon you!

Fr. David

Word of the Week

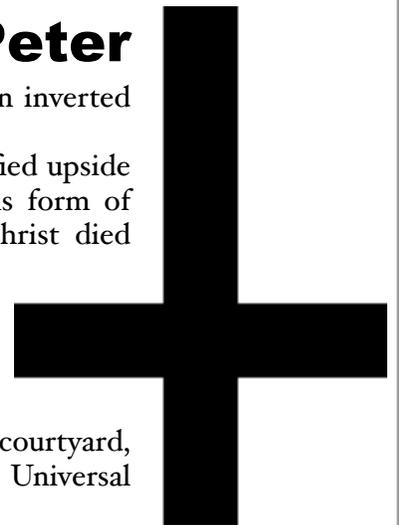
Cross of Saint Peter

The Cross of Saint Peter (also known as the Petrine Cross or Saint Peter's Cross) is an inverted Latin cross traditionally used as a Christian symbol.

The origin of this symbol comes from the tradition that Simon Peter was crucified upside down, as told by Origen of Alexandria. It is believed that Saint Peter requested this form of crucifixion as he felt he was unworthy to be crucified in the same manner that Christ died (*upright*). As such, we use this cross as a symbol of humility and unworthiness in comparison to Christ.

The Petrine Cross is not a symbol of the devil. However, an inverted Crucifix is very disrespectful. The distinction between the Cross of Peter and upturned Crucifix is sometimes obscured, leading to confusion about the acceptability of each symbol.

The crosses on the towers of St. Mary's Church as well as the cross in St. Mary's courtyard, are embellished (decorated) Petrine crosses, and symbolize our parish's unity with the Universal Church through the successor of Saint Peter, our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI.



The Mass: Facts & Figures

The Mass is made up of **TWO** major parts known as the Liturgy of the WORD and the Liturgy of the EUCHARIST.



Within the Mass, there are **THREE** main prayers which are prescribed for each day of the year. These are the Opening Prayer, the Prayer over the Gifts, and the Prayer after Communion.

The Opening Prayer occurs right before the people are seated for the readings from Sacred Scripture.

The Prayer over the Gifts occurs right after the prayer that begins, “Pray ... that our sacrifice may be acceptable ...”

The Prayer after Communion occurs after the people have received communion, and before the dismissal and blessing.



There are **FOUR** languages that may be used in the Mass:

1. The vernacular – in our case, usually *English*,
2. Hebrew – the word ‘*Alleluia*’ is Hebrew for “Praise God,”
3. Greek – “Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy,” may be prayed in Greek as “*Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison.*”
4. Latin – our “mother tongue” in the Latin (Roman) Rite of the Universal (Catholic) Church.



The prayers used for the Mass follow a special calendar consisting of certain parts common to all locations, as well as parts unique to particular locations. There are **FIVE** divisions of days for Liturgical celebrations:

1. Sundays,
2. Solemnities,
3. Feasts,
4. Memorials,
5. Weekdays.

On Sundays and Solemnities, the following are observed:

1. Singing (or recitation) of the Gloria (except on Sundays in Advent or Lent),
2. Two readings separated by a Psalm Response, and a Gospel reading,
3. The recitation (or singing) of the Creed.

Examples of Solemnities are: Christmas, Easter, Annunciation, Immaculate Conception, Assumption. Certain Solemnities are moved to the following Sunday in many dioceses, namely: Epiphany, Ascension, Corpus Christi.

The celebration of Christmas and Easter, because of they are the **TWO** greatest Solemnities in the Church continue for **EIGHT** days, known as an octave (*octo* is Latin for eight.)

On Feasts, the following are observed:

1. Singing (or recitation) of the Gloria,
2. One reading, followed by a Psalm Response, and a Gospel reading.

On Memorials and Weekdays, the following is observed:

1. One reading, followed by a Psalm Response, and a Gospel reading.

There are **TWO** kinds of Memorials: 1. Obligatory Memorials, 2. Optional Memorials.

Certain Weekdays have special status: Ash Wednesday, and the days of Holy Week have special precedence over other celebrations. The last **SEVEN** days of Advent (December 17 – 24), and all the weekdays of Lent have precedence over both kinds of memorials.



Since the Second Vatican Council, there have been **THREE** typical editions published of the prayers used at Mass.

1. First typical edition in 1969,
2. Second typical edition in 1975,
3. Third typical edition in 2002.

