



A newsletter from
ST. MARY'S ABBEY

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April 2018

1. Easter Sunday (Abbot Richard)

⊕ Mass, 11:00 a.m.

8. 2nd Sunday of Easter (Fr. Michael)

9. Annunciation of the Lord, solemnity

11. St. Stanislaus, *memorial*

13. 2nd Friday Confessions, 3-5 p.m.

15. III Sunday of Easter (Fr. Hilary)

⊕ Oblate Meeting, Vincent House

21. St. Anselm, *memorial*

22. IV Sunday of Easter (Fr. Edward Seton)

⊕ Blessing of the west wing

25. St. Mark, *feast*

29. V Sunday of Easter (Abbot Elias)

This calendar follows the *Order of Worship* as approved by the Congregation for Divine Worship on 22 June 1972 in Rome for the American Cassinese Congregation of Benedictine Monasteries.

LECTIO DIVINA: The following is the schema of Sunday readings for the month. Please consider them as a prayerful preparation for the Sunday:

- ⊕ **April 1:** Acts 10:34a 37-43; Col. 3:1-4; John 20:1-9.
- ⊕ **April 8:** Acts 4:32-35; 1 John 5:1-6; John 20:19-31.
- ⊕ **April 15:** Acts 3:13-15; 1 John 2:1-5a; Luke 24:35-48.
- ⊕ **April 22:** Acts 4:8-12; 1 John 3:1-2; John 10:11-18.
- ⊕ **April 29:** Acts 9:26-31; 1 John 3:18-24; John 15:1-8.

OBLATES: The Oblates of St. Benedict will meet on 15 April 2018. As usual the meeting takes place in Vincent House following Sunday Mass. New members and inquirers are welcome to attend. For information, call Father Hilary at (973) 538-3235 [ext. 2019] or e-mail him.

SECOND FRIDAY: The Sacrament of Penance is available Friday, April 13th, with Exposition and Adoration, at 3:00 p.m.

BLOOD DRIVE: Donate blood on April 12th! If you're 16 years or older, in good health, and weigh more than 110 lbs. you are eligible! The Blood Drive Services require that 16 year olds must have parental consent. Delbarton requests parental consent for 17 and 18 year olds. The blood drive is 8 a.m.–4 p.m. in the Lynch Athletic Center. Contact the school nurse [Barbara Pereyra](mailto:Barbara.Pereyra@delbarton.edu) or (973) 538-3231, ext. 3080.

APRIL SAINT: This month's saint is remembered (mostly by Dominicans) on the last day of April. St. Pius V is noted for his implementation of the reforms of the Council of Trent.

Antonio Ghislieri was born to peasants on January 17, 1504, in Bosco. At 14, Antonio entered the Order of Preachers, taking the name Michele. He was ordained in 1528 after theological studies in Bologna. Following ordination, Friar Michele spent 16 years as a lecturer in Pavia, and was soon appointed inquisitor in Como and Bergamo. Thus began a lifetime of weeding out heresy and promoting Catholic orthodoxy. Soon, after moving up the church ladder as an agent of orthodoxy, Michele was named cardinal-priest in 1557.

Despite his reputation as a strict adherent to the faith, Cardinal Ghislieri was also considered earnest, ascetic and faithful to the evangelical counsels of the Dominican Order. He made it his sole aim to promote the reforms of the Council of Trent, concluded in 1563. All his efforts were rooted in his spirituality and strict asceticism. Upon his election as pope, January 8, 1566, Pius V reduced the size of the papal court and created an atmosphere of strict standards of living. His sought to reform the city of Rome, rift with immorality and laxity.



While nepotism was still commonplace, and Pius V was even pressured into appointing his grand-nephew, Dominican friar Michele Bonelli, a cardinal, the saint nonetheless battled the abuse and offered limited support to his relatives holding church office. He also banned

additional investing of church lands or the alienation of property belonging to the Papal States.

St. Pius V also insisted, for the good, that clergy reside within their diocese; and he sought to reform religious orders. He created cardinals who were likeminded, with whom he would carefully appoint bishops. Following the decrees of Trent, Pius V published a catechism, a new *Breviary* and the *Roman Missal*. Even the Vulgate, the Latin translation of the Bible, was given a fresh look. Dispensations and indulgences were also greatly reduced. He endeavored to make regular visits to the Roman basilicas, promoted visitations to parishes, and dispatched emissaries to visit the Papal States and Naples. Pius V even began to implement the reforms of Trent in the Congo, Goa and Mexico.

St. Pius V was indeed committed to eradicating Protestantism, Jansenism and heresies, and wasn't always a friend to the Jewish people. And he lacked political savvy in his international dealings. His excommunication, for example, of Elizabeth I only made matters worse for English Catholics, and antagonized France and Spain. His alliance with Philip II of Spain and Venice helped defeat the Turks. He was a single-minded pope concerned with heresies and reform, and the implementation of Trent, yet seen by many as intolerant.

Yet, his undisputed holiness is evident in his monastic austerity, personal piety, and kindness to the poor and infirm. St. Pius V died on May 1, 1572, after 6 eventful years as pope. Following his entombment in the Vatican, the pope's relics were transferred in 1588 to the Blessed Sacrament Chapel of the Basilica of St. Mary Major, in Rome. He was beatified in 1672, and canonized in 1712. Blessed

John Henry Newman said of St. Pius V: *[He] melted with divine love...Yet such energy and vigor as his were necessary for the times. He was a soldier of Christ in a time of insurrection and rebellion, when in a spiritual sense, martial law was proclaimed.*

OFFERING: During March, the Sunday congregation offered \$5,250. Thank you for your kindness and generosity!

WEBSITE: Please visit the Abbey website: www.saintmarysabbey.org for this newsletter and up-to-date information. You can also visit the school website for news and events: www.delbarton.org.

Retreat Center News

In April, the Retreat Center welcomes the following overnight retreat groups:

- ⊕ Delbarton Campus Ministry Sophomores
- ⊕ Matt Talbot Group #68
- ⊕ St. Peter's Prep Road to Emmaus Retreat
- ⊕ Matt Talbot Group # 87

Ongoing Offerings:

- ⊕ Spiritual Direction: In the busyness of our everyday lives, it is often difficult to recognize the sacred story of our relationship with God. In our increasingly secular world, it is difficult even to talk about our faith with someone, much less discuss our struggles with it. Spiritual Direction is the opportunity to have such conversations on a regular basis with someone who is committed to our spiritual growth.
- ⊕ Personal Retreats: The retreat center also welcomes men and women of all faiths for Private or Directed Retreats.
- ⊕ Walk-Ins Welcome: The guestmaster, Fr. Joseph, welcomes visitors for spiritual direction or the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Wednesdays, 1-3 p.m.

For more information about these groups, scheduling or registration, contact Paul Cocco at 973-538-3235, ext. 2100, or pick up a flyer in the Abbey Church.

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