

ADORATION OF THE CROSS

Paul Turner

One of the most impressive parts of the Good Friday liturgy is when the faithful come forward to show their respect for the cross of Christ. For years, this has been called an act of veneration, but the revised English translation now calls it adoration.

"Adoration" is a word we reserve for God. Catholics do not adore the Virgin Mary. We do not adore saints. We do not adore statues. We offer degrees of veneration to show our respect for the saints who dwell with God and the images that invite us to imitate their lives.

However, the cross holds a special place of honor on Good Friday. It is an image of the wood on which the limbs of Christ were stretched and on which his precious blood was spilled. The original cross, therefore, was the instrument of our salvation, and, according to St. Thomas Aquinas, it is "worshipped with the same adoration as Christ" (*Summa Theologica* III, q.25, a.4).

The practice of kissing the cross on Good Friday dates back to the fourth century, when the faithful in Jerusalem had in their possession what they believed to be the true cross of Christ. Not every church has the true cross, of course. But as Amalarius wrote in the ninth century, "the power of the holy cross is not absent in those crosses that were made in the likeness of the Lord's cross" (Hermanus A.P. Schmidt, *Hebdomada Sancta* [Rome: Herder], 626).

The faithful may adore the cross on Good Friday in any way they choose: with a kiss, a bow, a genuflection, or standing in silence, with or without their shoes. On leaving the church on Good Friday, it is appropriate to genuflect in the direction of the cross.



*This bulletin insert originally appeared in Ministry & Liturgy magazine, a pastoral planning resource used by the worship leaders in your community as an aid for better liturgy. Copyright © 2012 Resource Publications, Inc. 160 E. Virginia St., #290, San Jose, CA 95112. (408) 286-8505. Paul Turner, pastor of St. Munchin Parish in Cameron, MO, holds a doctorate degree in sacramental theology from Sant Anselmo University in Rome.*



April/May 2012



CHAPEL OF SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

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Edmundite Campus Ministry Events

"Believe in the Gift of God and live the Truth"

MASSES

Sunday

11:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.  
*no 7 p.m. Mass on April 8  
due to Easter Break*

Holy Day of Obligation

Ascension of our Lord  
Thursday, May 17; 11:30 a.m.

Mondays

4:30 p.m.

Tuesday-Friday

11:30 a.m.



MORNING PRAYER

Monday-Friday  
7:40 a.m.

MASS IN SPANISH

Monday, April 16 7:30 p.m.

RECONCILIATION

Sundays, April 1 and 22  
Offered after each Mass  
*or by appointment any time*

**Rice Bowls** will be collected beginning on Sunday, April 1st.

**Rosary for Peace:** Mondays at 5:00 p.m. Back Altar space of the Chapel.

**Eucharistic Adoration:** Please join us for some quiet time before the Blessed Sacrament on Tuesdays, 8:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Back Altar space of the Chapel. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered each evening.

**Taize Prayer at St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral, Burlington:** Please join us for this time of meditative music, Scripture and silent reflection as we pray for peace, Christian unity, and reconciliation. A van will be available leaving Saint Michael's Alliot rotunda at 6:15 p.m. and we plan on returning by 8:15 p.m. Please email Anna Lester (alester@smcvt.edu) to reserve a space on the van.

## Edmundite Campus Ministry Events *(Continued)*

**May 9th: Cookie Snack Break:** To help ease the burden of exam week for students, Edmundite Campus Ministry will be serving refreshments from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. in the Alliot Lobby. Everyone is welcome!

**“Totus Tuus” Summer Program June 25th-29th – SAVE THE DATE!** This June 25th-29th, join Chittenden County’s other parish families at St. John Vianney Parish Center for the 3rd annual Diocesan “Totus Tuus” Summer Catechetical Program for students entering grades 1-8! “Totus Tuus” means “Totally Yours” and was the motto of Blessed John Paul II who encouraged a new evangelization of youth. The program seeks to share the Gospel and promote the Catholic faith among young people with a focus on Christian witness, the Eucharist, and a high-energy approach. A team of 4 college-aged young women and seminarians will lead this engaging week of summer fun. Totus Tuus meets daily from 9 am -3 pm and costs \$50 per child or \$75 per family – scholarships may also be available. Last year’s group had a great week and we are looking forward to welcoming familiar faces and meeting new folks as well! Sign-ups will begin in the next couple weeks – look for more info soon. Questions? Contact St. John Vianney DRE Lauren Patterson at 864-4166 x204 or TTatSJV@aol.com.

### Faculty & Staff Programs

**Pontigny Society: April 2nd:** Our final discussion on the text: *Putting on the Heart of Christ: How the Spiritual Exercises Invite Us to a Virtuous Life* by Fr. Gerald Fagin, SJ which takes a fresh look at the Spiritual Exercises through the lens of virtue ethics. **Noon in the Upper Room of the Chapel.** Please R.S.V.P. to Anna Lester at 654.2897 or alester@smcvt.edu.

### TRIDUUM LITURGIES

**Holy Thursday**

April 5th, 7:00 p.m.

Chapel of Saint Michael the Archangel

**Good Friday**

April 6th, 7:00 p.m.

Holy Family Church, Essex Junction

**Easter Vigil**

April 7th, 7:00 p.m.

St. Lawrence Church, Essex Junction

**Easter Sunday**

April 8th, 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Chapel of Saint Michael the Archangel  
(no 7 p.m. Mass)

## Retreat Opportunities

### BUSY STUDENT RETREAT

An individualized program that complements your spiritual journey and fits into your “planner.” Every day during the week, you schedule a half hour of one-on-one direction with a spiritual companion, and then choose from other spiritual activities including daily Eucharist, Reconciliation and evening reflections with the group. Sunday, April 29th (following the 7:00 p.m. Mass); Upper Room of Chapel. The retreat ends May 1st. Please register by April 20th. Applications will be available in the brochure rack outside the



**COTS Walk:** Sunday, May 6th; 2:00 p.m. at Battery Park, Burlington. If you are interested in raising money and walking to support the work of COTS (Committee on Temporary Shelter), stop by the MOVE office to pick up a walker’s packet.



**Spring International Market:** Friday, April 20th; 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Saturday, April 21st, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., and Sunday, April 22nd, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Alliot Lobby. Crafts, jewelry, artwork, clothes, and more on sale. All proceeds benefit the International MOVE Extended Service trips to Dominican Republic and India.

**Kolkata 5K Fun Run:** Sunday, April 22nd. More info to be announced. Come run and raise support for our Kolkata service trip!

**MOVE Appreciation BBQ:** Tuesday, May 1st, 4:30-6:30 p.m. International Commons. All who have been involved in MOVE this year are welcome!



**VITA** is a group of students who are committed to ministering to other students through practicing our faith and leading many of the liturgical, retreat, and service programs. Student-led programs include:

**Link:** A large group that meets weekly and combines discussion, meditation, music and more to help bridge the gap between our college and faith lives. Everyone is welcome to join us! **Wednesdays, April 4th, 11th and 18th,** 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Upper Room of the Chapel.

**Connections:** Come join us for weekly small faith-based discussion with an emphasis on Scripture and reflections on your faith life in college. **Thursdays, April 12th, 19th and 26th** in Alliot 125 (Anna Lester’s office) from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

**Dessert & the Divine:** Enjoy food and fellowship with other Christians! We will have our first gathering on **Wednesday, April 25th** at 8:00 p.m. in the Upper Room of the Chapel. Contact Anna Lester for more information at 654.2897.

**Student Scholarship Available: Five Days of Gregorian Chant & Liturgical Music:** St. Edmund’s Retreat, June 10-15, 2012: Let come study Gregorian modes, neumes, etc. plus the chant in English and Chant’s role in Liturgy. We will enjoy a practical, worshiping approval to a singing Church. The five days will give an in-depth study of the New Missal: music in English & Latin for a singing Church; Dr. William Tortolano. Contact St. Edmund’s Retreat, PO Box 399, Mystic, CT 05355 (860) 536.0565 for more information. admin@entersisland.com;