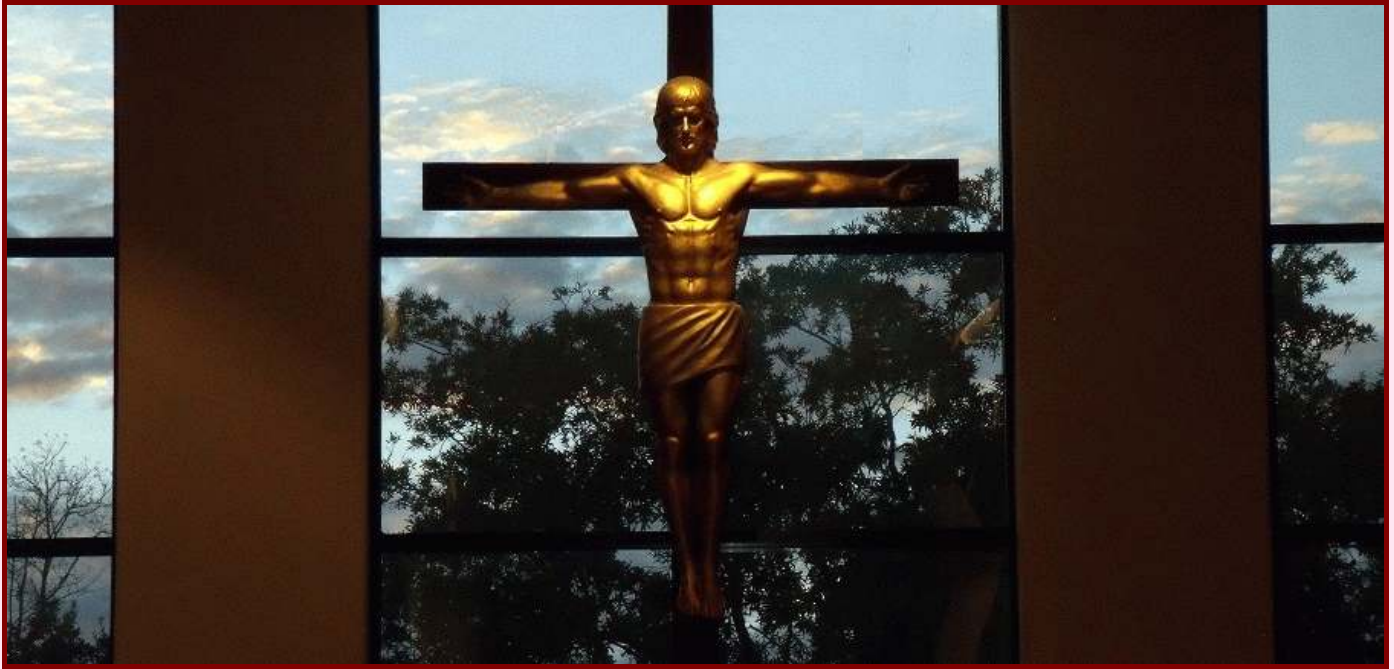


March 18, 2012

Fourth Sunday of Lent



CORPUS CHRISTI CATHOLIC CHURCH

6300 McKenna Drive, Mobile, Alabama 36608

Email: Church@CorpusChristiParish.com ! Website: www.CorpusChristiParish.com

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Parish Office: 342-1852 • Fax 342-6313
School Office: 342-5474, ext. 1 • Fax 380-0325
Rel. Ed. Office: 342-5474, ext. 7 • Fax 380-0325
Preschool Office: 342-2424 • Fax 343-3119
Youth Ministry: 342-1852 • Fax 342-6313

PASTORAL STAFF

Very Rev. James F. Zoghby, V.F., Pastor
Rev. John S. Boudreaux, Associate Pastor
Deacon Arthur W. Robbins, Deacon
Sr. Donna Cooper, R.S.M., Visitation Chaplain
Mrs. Judi B. Ankiewicz, Pastoral Assistant
Mrs. Joan T. McMullen, School Principal
Mrs. Linda M. Hawkins, Preschool Director
Mrs. Kathleen Q. Jester, Parish Catechetical Leader
Mrs. Colleen DeVoe, Youth Ministry Co-Director
Mrs. Brenda Martens, Youth Ministry Co-Director
Mr. Matthew F. Purvis, Music Director
Mr. Jay H. Henley, Gym Manager

TO REGISTER AS A MEMBER OF THE PARISH

Please fill out a Census Form. Census Forms are available in the church vestibule and parish office.

COMMUNITY CENTER RENTALS & SERVICES

For rental information and kitchen services, please call the parish office at 342-1852 or 342-1420.

SUNDAY MASSES

Vigil: 5:30 p.m. Saturday
Morning: 7:00, 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES

6:30 a.m.: Monday through Friday
8:15 a.m.: Monday through Saturday

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 5:00 p.m. and by request, particularly after the 6:30 & 8:15 a.m. weekday Masses.

BAPTISM, MARRIAGE, ANOINTING OF SICK

Please call the parish office (342-1852) or information and scheduling baptism, marriage, anointing of sick.

ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (R.C.I.A.)

Please see published schedule for specific dates and times, or call the parish office (342-1852).

SUNDAY SCHOOL (C.C.D.) Grades K-12, Sundays during school year, 10:05-10:55 a.m. in school bldgs.

SCHOOL, *SACS-accredited* for Grades K through 8. For info & registration, please call the school office.

PRESCHOOL, *State-licensed* for 6-week to 4-yr. olds. For info & registration, please call the preschool office

Lenten Mission

Beginning this weekend, March 17-18

Growing in God's Plan for Us

presented by



Fr. Stanley M. Deresienski, S.S.E.

Welcome! Fr. Stanley Deresienski, S.S.E.

"Fr. Stan" Deresienski — a member of the Society of St. Edmund and a certified Spiritual Director and member of Spiritual Directors International and a past Diplomate member of the American Psychotherapy Association — has given retreats in Canada, England and the U.S. He has served as the Director of the Edmundite Apostolate Center, Enders Island, in Mystic, Conn. and as the local superior of the Edmundite Community. Fr. Stan has also served as the Director of Vocations for the Edmundites. He has taught in the Graduate School of Xavier University in New Orleans, and is currently stationed in Selma, Ala., serving as the Director of Pastoral Care and Evangelization for the Edmundite Southern Missions.

Fr. Stan is speaking at all of our Masses this weekend, including our extra 5:30 p.m. Sunday Mass, and continuing with 3 evening talks at 7 p.m. (Sunday through Tuesday) and 3 morning talks at 9 a.m. (Monday through Wednesday). All talks will be held in the church.

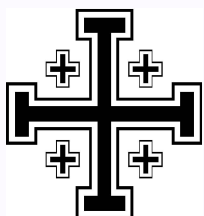
Tonight! Sunday at 7 p.m. will be the first evening talk.

Monday, March 19, talks will be at 9 a.m. and again at 7 p.m.

Tuesday, March 20, talks will be at 9 a.m. and again at 7 p.m.

Wednesday, March 21, will be the final morning talk at 9 a.m.

Discover how you can Improve your spiritual connection to God, create a greater openness to others, and increase your attentive gratefulness toward God. Get in touch with God's Wisdom. The wisdom and dynamics of Service and Healing as found in the Parable of the Good Samaritan. The wisdom and process of Forgiveness as found in the Parable of the Prodigal. The wisdom and dynamics of Holy Living as it is found in the Lord's Prayer.



R.C.I.A. and Continuing Education for Catholic and Non-Catholic Adults

Wednesdays, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., through April 4
Adult Education Room ! Corpus Christi Community Center

Questions? Please call 342-1852 to speak with one of the priests.

This Sunday, March 18 ! 3rd Sunday 5:30 p.m. Mass

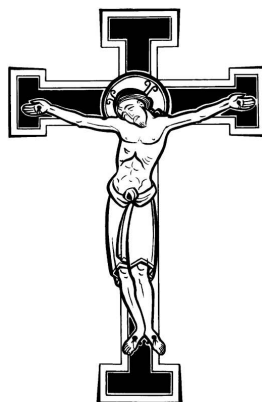
Remaining dates this school year for this extra Mass are: **April 15 and May 20**



Stations of the Cross & Mass

Lenten Fridays through March 30

6:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross
 7 p.m. Mass



Sacrament of Reconciliation

Wednesdays, 6-8 p.m.

Through April 4

"The light is on for you."

and

Communal Reconciliation Service

Monday, April 2, 7 p.m.

40 Days for Life

Through April 1

Please visit www.40daysforlife.com/mobile to sign up to pray and fast for an end to abortion. Also, Corpus Christi parishioners stand on Wednesdays during the 40 Days for Life from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the peaceful prayer vigil at the abortion site, Planned Parenthood, 717 Downtowner Loop W. (across from Chuck E. Cheese). For more information, please contact Fred Tiemann at 665-0327.

Bible Study Groups

Sundays, 8:45-10 a.m., School Conf. Rm. Ken Crowley, 423-6921.

Tuesdays, 1:30-3 p.m., Com. Ctr., Rm. 3. Judi Ankiewicz, 344-0321

Tuesdays, 7:00-8:30 p.m.: Com. Ctr., Conf. Rm. Dave Burchette, 367-6660

Thursdays, 9:00-10:45 a.m.: Women's Bible Study. Com. Ctr. Conf. Rm.

Penny Claiborne, 776-5850, or Joanne Donaghey, 554-6753.

Fish Fry Fridays

Through Mar. 30

5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Corpus Christi Community Center
 Banquet Hall



Adult Plate \$6. Child's Plate \$4.

Hungry Man's Plate \$8 (2 extra pieces of fish). To-Go Plate, \$7

Included in the plate price:

Fish, Coleslaw, Grits, French Fries or Baked Potato, Tea or Lemonade.

Additional food & beverage choices:

Cheese Pizza by the slice, \$1; Gumbo, \$2; Extra Side, \$1

Soda, \$1. Beer provided on donation basis.

Desserts, sold by various groups each Friday.

Help with VBS! — June 11-15

To volunteer, please email kjester@CorpusChristiParish.com.

High School Youth Ministry MOVIE NIGHT

Today, Sunday : 5:30 p.m. Mass, followed by Dinner & Movie to 8 p.m.
Corpus Christi Community Center
All are welcome. Bring a \$1 & a friend!

ATTENTION: HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS

How does what you see in the media affect your body image? Why is it important to take care of yourselves? Several students in the Physician Assistant graduate program at the University of South Alabama are doing a service-learning project speaking to high school girls about having a healthy body image and the importance of taking care of yourselves both physically and emotionally. Corpus Christi High School Youth Ministry is sponsoring this program on Sunday evening, March 25, from 6:30-8 p.m., in the community center. No advance sign-ups required, but an email to corpuschristihsyouth@yahoo.com will help plan for refreshments.

Wednesday Night Dinner

5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Banquet Hall

\$9.00 for Adults ! \$4.00 for Children (Age 12 & under)

Mar. 21 ~ Homemade Hamburger Steak w/Gravy/Smothered Porkchop, Sautéed Onions, Bell Peppers, Mushrooms, Mashed Potatoes, Seasoned Cabbage / Buttered Corn, Dinner Rolls, Asst. Pies. Kids Meal: Hamburger or Cheese Burger w/Lettuce/Tomatoes/Onions/Pickles, French Fries.

Must RSVP with your name & number in your party: 1. Return an RSVP Card, or 2. Call 342-1852 or 3. Email church@CorpusChristiParish.com

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Poor Box, Food, Clothing donations put in the designated places in the vestibule are distributed by the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

To obtain assistance, call 432-5173 and leave name & phone no.

Meetings: 1st & 3rd Wed., 7 p.m., Com. Ctr. Conf. Rm. (2nd Flr.)

Food Items Needed for the Pantry

Canned Fruits • Canned Meats • Cereals • Pasta Mixes • Juice

Please deposit items the St. Vincent de Paul Food Collection Box in the vestibule.

Men of St. Joseph

Tuesdays, 7 to 8 a.m. in the Family Room

All men are welcome to meet for prayer, reading the Gospel, and discussion.

Info: Jim Donaghey, ibd@orthomobile.com or www.MenOfStJoseph.com

Women of Mary

Wednesdays, 7-8 p.m., in the Family Room

All women are welcome to meet for prayer, reading the Gospel, and discussion.

Info: Sr. Deborah Kennedy, R.S.M., 316-3960.

Journey of Hope

For Separated & Divorced Catholics

Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Family Room

Info: Patrick Collins, 421-5421 or pcollins1@farmersagent.com.

You may also visit <http://divorcedcatholic.com/>

Widowed Persons' Support Group

For information call parishioner Glen Porter at 666-8977.

Come to the Corpus Christi Booster Club

Cash Bash

This coming Saturday, March 24

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Event begins at 7:00 p.m.

Chance to win up to \$10,000

Tickets are \$100 and include dinner & adult beverages.

Also: Silent Auction, which will include art by CCS students.

Ticket Info: Ellen Maxime, 379-1866 or ellenm@delaneyinc.net

SCHOOL NEWS

Local Field Day: Friday, March 30. School in session.

Sunday School

Classes: 10:05-10:55 a.m. Sunday School participants who are at the 9 a.m. Mass are dismissed with the final blessing.

Info: Kathleen Jester, SundaySchool@CorpusChristiParish.com.

Knights of Columbus

Meeting: 2nd Tues., Apr. 10, 7 p.m., Com. Ctr. Conf. Rm. (2nd Flr.)

Contact: Grand Knight, Bob Wheat, 490-9350.

AA — Alanon — OA — CODA

AA: Sun., 7 p.m., and Wed., 7 p.m., Cougar Den.

Alanon: Sun., 7 p.m., and Wed., 7 p.m., Arts & Sciences Bldg.

OA: Sat., 9 a.m., Arts & Sciences Bldg.

CODA: Tues., 6:45 p.m., Arts & Sciences Bldg.

Boy Scouts – Troop 29

Saturday, March 17: Court of Honor at 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 18: Troop Meeting at 5:00 p.m.

Fri.-Sun., March 23–25: Camporee at Camp Pushmataha.

Monday, March 26: Committee Meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Cub Scouts – Den Mtg: 6 p.m., Tues, Mar. 20. Pack Mtg: Tues,

Mar. 27, 6 p.m. in the Com. Ctr. Info or to join the Cub Scouts, contact Walter

Bracewell 633-2027 or Mike Martin 633-5218 or visit ccspack29.scoutlander.com.

From the Music Director: Permanent Openings Available:

Soprano	Alto	Baritone	Bass
1. Filled	1. Filled	1. Filled	1. Filled
2. Filled	2. Filled	2. OPEN	2. Filled
3. Filled	3. Filled	3. OPEN	3. Filled
4. OPEN	4. OPEN	4. OPEN	4. Filled

Sing with the Choir for Holy Week.

Extra singers needed.

March 28, 6:45 p.m. meet in church to practice the Palm Sunday procession; the choir rehearsal will begin at 7 p.m. in Room 4 (2nd Floor of the Community Center).

All choir rehearsals & warm-ups will be in Room 4 (2nd Floor of the Community Ctr)

April 1, 10 am Palm Sunday warm-up. April 2, 7 pm, rehearsal for Holy

Thursday. April 3, 7 pm, rehearsal for Good Friday. April 4, 7 pm, rehearsal for

Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday. April 5, 6 pm, Holy Thursday warm-up. April 6,

6:15 pm, Good Friday warm-up. April 7, 6 pm, Easter Vigil warm-up. April 8, 10

am, Easter Sunday warm-up. (April 11, no rehearsal. April 15, no choir at Mass).

Eagle Scout Project

Dear Corpus Christi Parishioners: I am Brandon Harrison, and I am a Life Scout currently working on earning the rank of Eagle Scout. For my Eagle Project I am resealing and restriping two parking lots here at Corpus Christi (the one across the street from the church and the other on Hillview Rd., behind the parish office/rectory). I am asking for any monetary donation you may be able to give. Any amount is acceptable and greatly appreciated. Donations are also tax-deductible. If writing a check, please make it payable to Troop 29, and mail it to: Brandon Harrison, 5289 Mossberg Dr. S., Theodore AL 36582. Thank you for considering of my request.

Rosary after 8:15 a.m. weekday Mass, Monday-Saturday.

Lost & Found: A rosary with red crystal beads in a black jewel box was left in the chapel in December or in the church vestibule. If found, please call the parish office (342-1852). Also, please notify the parish office if you have lost an item in the church; leave your name & phone number and a description of the item lost so that you may be contacted if the item is found. Thanks.

BAPTIZED IN CHRIST

Jacob Lee Patterson (son of Richard Lee Patterson & Bethany Ann Garner Patterson) + **Max Rath** (son of Guido Rath & Gabriela Cota Rath) + **Luke Andrew Yeoman** (son of Marc Andrew Yeoman & Jennifer Elaine Taylor Yeoman).

REST IN PEACE

Annie Mary Graveman Hacker (mother of Charlie Hacker)
Dorothy Adell Puckett (mother of Mina Hacker)

Flowers

The flowers before the altar this weekend have been placed in memory of
Anthony C. Reynolds
on the 10th anniversary of his death.
Given by Albert & Jan Reynolds.

Around the Archdiocese: McGill-Toolen Catholic

High's annual live & silent auction, Jacket Jubilation, Thurs., Mar. 29, 6:30 p.m. Sample food from some of Mobile's finest restaurants; shop for items from Mobile's premier shops & boutiques. An "Apple Package" – a MacBook Pro & an iPad – will be raffled, and an Imported Beer-Tasting Station will be provided by Gulf Distributing. Info: www.jacketjubilation.com, or the Development Office, 445-2911. All proceeds go to McGill-Toolen's Annual Fund with portions earmarked to purchase software to provide on-line enrollment & registration. **WNGL 1410 AM and Archangel Radio are looking for a part-time (20-25 hrs/wk) Production Assistant.** Duties include running audio board for "Live Hour" morning program, producing "Community Calendar" spots, programming our automated playback system, and more! If you are ready to use your God-given gifts to evangelize through Catholic radio, please submit your letter of interest and resumé to: office@archangelradio.com. **Friends of Catholic Cemetery** Annual Birthday Celebration, Wed., March 21, 6 p.m., St. Pius X Sarto Center. Anyone interested in preserving the historic Catholic Cemetery is invited to come for cake and learn about ongoing projects and future plans. Info: www.MobileArchdiocese/CatholicCemetery and on Facebook — Friends of Catholic Cemetery. **Christus Theological Institute presents** "Ignatian Perspectives for a Marital Spirituality" by Mrs. Deborah Madonia, Thurs., March 29, at 7 p.m., Byrne Memorial Hall, Spring Hill College campus. (Use Old Shell Rd. entrance). \$2 admission fee, or pick up a free ticket from Corpus Christi Parish office (342-1852).

Gulf Coast Vietnam Veteran's Salute

Saturday, March 31, 10 a.m. Parade — 11 a.m. Ceremony

Everyone is invited to participate in this Salute honoring Vietnam & Vietnam Era Veterans who live along the Gulf Coast. The event also offers many ways for Vietnam Veterans to enjoy connecting with their fellow Veterans

Honor Ride Parade: 10:00 a.m. All are encouraged to participate by lining Government Street in downtown Mobile. The Rolling Thunder Alabama Chapter 1 has invited Motorcyclists from North West Fla. South Miss. and South Ala. to parade down Government Street through the Bankhead Tunnel and on to Battleship Memorial Park. They will be escorting a caravan of "Honor Buses" transporting Vietnam & Vietnam Era Veterans from across the Gulf Coast to the event. Gold Star Mothers will also be in the parade.

Opening Ceremony: 11:00 a.m. After the Honor Ride Parade, all are invited to join the Vietnam Veterans and their families for the opening ceremony and special activities at Battleship Memorial Park. This free celebration will be held in the area just outside the museum. The Color Guard begins, followed by National Anthem, Pledge of Allegiance, Invocation, Special Speakers, and Benediction.

For further Info: <http://www.biloxi.va.gov/Vietnam.asp>

FIRST COLLECTION TODAY for tithing offerings.

SECOND COLLECTION TODAY for Catholic Relief Services.

BLACK & INDIAN MISSION COLLECTION FINAL: \$1,525.00

MAR. 11TH BUILDING FUND ONLINE & COLLECTION: \$1,286.00

MAR. 11TH TITHING ONLINE & COLLECTION: \$24,970.61

Thank You and God Bless You

for your tithes, contributions & bequests to Corpus Christi Church. To make a direct donation of stock, ask your stockbroker, or call Steve Setterstrom at Citigroup Global Mkts. at 470-1060.

Receive a detail listing of your contributions by mail, email or fax at any time:

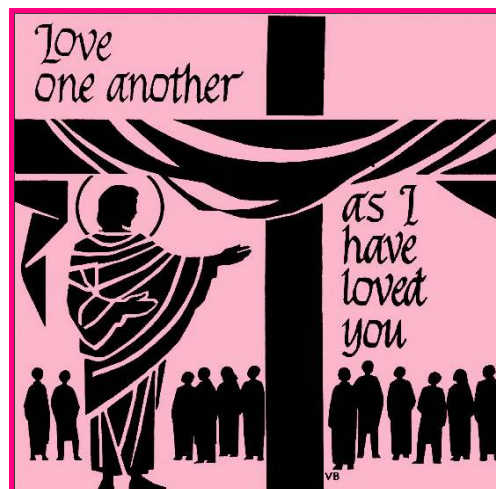
Call 342-1852 or email Church@CorpusChristiParish.com



Online Giving

With Online Giving you can either make a one-time contribution or set up a recurring automatic withdrawal from a checking or savings or credit card account. Go to www.CorpusChristiParish.com; click "Church"; then click the green Online Giving icon, and follow the instructions to contribute to the tithing or building fund or special collections.

For assistance, call 1-800-348-2886, ext 4, or parish office, 342-1852.



To most,
even good people,
God is a belief.
To the saints,
God is an embrace.

Francis Thompson

Consider that no one —
whether friend or brother, father
or mother, lover or spouse —
loves you more than your God.

St. Alphonsus Ligouri

Rediscover the joy of the faith,
the joy of being personally loved
by God, who gave his son Jesus
for our salvation. To believe
consists above all in entrusting
oneself to the God who knows
us and personally loves us.
Despite our weaknesses and our
sins, God loves us. **Benedict XVI**

Respect that Table in which we
all participate. After
participating in such a Table,
and communing such Food, why
take up arms against one
another? Not only arrows and
javelins cause wounds. Certain
words inflict more profound
wounds. A word pronounced
against your brother is poison
shot from your mouth. If your
neighbor harmed you, ask God
to show mercy to him. He is
your brother, a member of
Christ's body. He is called to
one same Table with you.

St. John Chrysostom (d. 407) *from a
sermon, "The Eucharist & Brotherhood"*

A Christian who has not learned
to see and love Christ in his
neighbor is not fully Christian.
We are our brothers' keepers;
we are bound to each other by
the bond of love. **Pope John Paul II**

The Heart of Christ

Lord,

you invite all who are burdened
to come to You.

Allow your healing hand to heal me.
Touch my soul with Your compassion
for others.

Touch my heart with Your courage and
infinite love for all.

Touch my mind with Your wisdom, that
my mouth may always proclaim
your praise.

Teach me to reach out to You in my
need, and help me to lead others
to You by my example.

Most loving Heart of Jesus, bring me
health in body and spirit that I
may serve You with all my strength.

Touch gently this life which you have
created, now and forever. Amen.

Godly Mercy

The saints remind us that God wants and expects us to have mercy on others. We are to build others up rather than tear them down. Maybe they need tough love, but that does not give us license to use the clenched fist of anger or the whip of revenge. Everyone has a claim on our mercy, strangers as well as loved ones. No one exists who does not need mercy. We are all weak, and the strength we do have can vanish in a blink.

There is a sense in which we need to have mercy on ourselves as well by not being too hard on ourselves for our failings. And we need to realize that we don't have mercy on others because we think we are better than they. That "mercy" is arrogance. Rather, we have mercy because we identify with others, we see how much we are alike. We see them as fellow pilgrims, as brothers and sisters.

As we treat others, so we will be treated. What a blessing it will be when we fall and need mercy if we have been merciful to others. For we can confidently look for God's mercy.

Fr. Bernard Schumacher, O.S.B.

Stop judging and you will not be judged. Stop condemning and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven.

Luke 6:37

How Did the *CATHOLIC* Church Get It's Name?

In the Acts of the Apostles, the followers of Jesus early became known as “Christians” (Acts 11:26). The name “Christian”, however, was never commonly applied to the Church herself. In the New Testament itself, the Church is simply called “the Church.” Originally, there was only ONE Church.

Very early in post-apostolic times, the Church did acquire a proper name in order to distinguish itself from rival bodies which by then were already beginning to form. The name that the Church acquired when it became necessary for it to have a proper name was the name by which it has been known ever since: The Catholic Church.

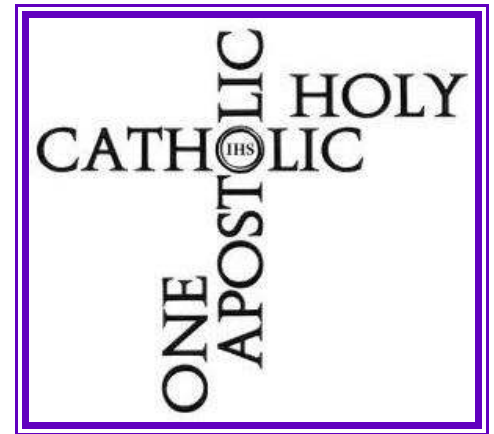
The name appears in Christian literature for the first time around the end of the first century A.D. Around the year 107 A.D., St. Ignatius of Antioch, a bishop in the Near East, was arrested, brought to Rome by armed guards and eventually martyred there in the arena. In a farewell letter which this early bishop and martyr wrote to his fellow Christians in Smyrna (today Izmir in modern Turkey), he made the first written mention in history of “the Catholic Church.” He wrote, “Where the bishop is present, there is the Catholic Church.” Thus, the second century of Christianity had scarcely begun when the name of the Catholic Church was already in use.

The term “catholic” simply means “universal,” and when it was used in those early days, it was referring to the Church that was already “everywhere,” as distinguished from various heretical splinter groups that had sprung up in opposition to the Catholic Church.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church in our own day has concisely summed up all the reasons why the name of the Church of Christ has been the Catholic Church: “The Church is catholic because she proclaims the fullness of the faith. She bears in herself and administers the totality of the means of salvation. She is sent out to all peoples. She speaks to all men. She encompasses all times. She is missionary of her very nature.”

By the time of the first ecumenical council of the Church, the Council of Nicaea (held at Nicaea in Asia Minor in the year 325 A.D.), the bishops of that council legislated in the name of “The Catholic Church.” It was that same council which formulated the Nicene Creed in which the term “catholic” was retained as one of the four marks of the true Church of Christ. “We believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.”

From *The Catholic Answer*, Our Sunday Visitor, Inc., 1996, via EWTN



It's important that we don't lose the splendor of the faith – that we remain believers, Christians, Catholics, in the sense that **Catholic** always means “**open to the world**”.... which means being tolerant and open, one to the other, in heartfelt brotherhood to everyone who belongs to our one Father and who are all loved by the one Lord. **Pope Benedict XVI**

James Joyce
in *Finnegan's Wake*
defined the Catholic Church as
“here comes everybody,”
giving a blunt yet poetic expression
to a Church with room for all.

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Media Blog

Why Is the Church Sometimes Referred to as The Roman Catholic Church?

The term Roman Catholic is not used by the Church itself. The Church refers to itself simply as “The Catholic Church.” *Roman* Catholic is a relatively modern term which caught on mostly in English-speaking countries.

The English-speaking bishops at the First Vatican Council in 1870 conducted a vigorous and successful campaign to insure that the term *Roman Catholic* was nowhere included in any of the Council’s official documents about the Church itself, and the term was not included.

Similarly, nowhere in the 16 documents of the Second Vatican Council will you find the term *Roman Catholic*. Pope Paul VI signed all the documents of the Second Vatican Council as: “I, Paul. Bishop of the Catholic Church.” Simply that — “the Catholic Church.”

Although the Diocese of Rome is central to the Catholic Church, this does not mean that the Roman

rite, or, as is sometimes called, the Latin rite, defines the Church as whole. That would mean neglecting the Maronite, Byzantine, Chaldean, and many other Eastern rites which are all very much part of the Catholic Church today as in the past.

So the proper name for the universal Church is not the *Roman* Catholic Church. Far from it. That term caught on mostly in English-speaking countries. It was promoted mostly by Anglicans who were supporters of the “branch theory” of the Church: namely, that the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church of the creed was supposed to consist of three major branches, the Anglican, the Orthodox and the so-called Roman Catholic. It was to avoid that kind of interpretation that the English-speaking bishops at Vatican I succeeded in steering the Church away from ever using the term officially itself: It too easily could be misunderstood. It could suggest that there are some other Catholic Churches around beside the Roman one.

From *The Catholic Answer*, Our Sunday Visitor, Inc., 1996, via EWTN

How Can A Saturday Evening Mass Count For Sunday Mass?

In the biblical notion of time, one day ends and another begins at sundown, rather than at 12 midnight. Thus, when evening falls on Saturday, according to the understanding of the Church, Sunday begins.

In Acts 20:7, we read: “On the first day of the week we met for the breaking of bread.” A footnote in The New Jerusalem Bible comments: “This Sunday meeting was held when the Lord’s Day began, i.e. on the Saturday evening, because in the Jewish fashion the day was reckoned as beginning at sunset.” In the early Church, evening Mass was the rule, not the exception.

It was long after the time of the early Church when Pope Paul V (1605-1621) forbade evening Masses. However, during World War II, Paul V’s directive was relaxed so that Catholic chaplains could minister more effectively to the troops. Then, in 1953, Pope Pius XII (1938-1958) allowed evening Masses to be celebrated on holy days of obligation and other special occasions. In 1955 Pope Pius XII restored the Easter Vigil Mass to the practice of the early Church so that the Easter Vigil Mass is again celebrated on Holy Saturday night as the first and principal Mass of Easter.

In the early Church,
evening Mass
was the rule,
not the exception.

In 1957, Pope Pius XII granted bishops the authority to allow evening Mass anytime. The 2nd Vatican Council continued to return to the practice of the early Church, and Pope Paul VI (1963-1978) broadened the bishops’ authority in 1963, so that they could approve the celebration of Mass at any hour of the day. In the 1983 revision of the Code of Canon Law (during the pontificate of Pope John Paul II), this permission was granted universally. “The obligation of assisting at Mass is satisfied whenever Mass is celebrated in a Catholic Rite either on a holy day itself or on the evening of the previous day.” (Canon Law #1248).