

Q @ A Part 1 Answered by Legionary of Christ Father Edward McNamara, professor of liturgy and dean of theology at the Regina Apostolorum University.

Q: Does an ordained priest have the duty and responsibility to say Mass only on Sundays and on the days of obligation? What about the weekdays when he does not get an intention from faithful -- does he have any obligation or is it optional (Canon 904)?

A: There are two separate questions involved here. One involves a priest's obligation to say Mass, the other regards the rules for the distribution of stipends. Although many Catholics are unaware of it, strictly speaking, a priest has no obligation to say Mass at all.

With respect to Mass, the priest has the same obligation as every other Catholic to attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation.

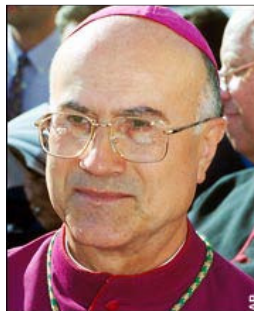
This fact does not make saying Mass a mere question of option or personal choice. Canon 904 of canon law, actually recommends priests to celebrate daily. To wit: "Remembering always that in the mystery of the Eucharistic sacrifice the work of redemption is exercised continually, priests are to celebrate frequently; indeed, daily celebration is recommended earnestly since, even if the faithful cannot be present, it is the act of Christ and the Church in which priests fulfill their principal function." Therefore the Church highly favors priests to celebrate daily, because the Mass is his greatest privilege and the highest thing he can do. Even if no one else is present and there is no specific intention, the Mass glorifies God, intercedes for the living and the dead, increases the Church's holiness and is the primary source of the priest's spiritual growth. Some priests do have a certain obligation to say Mass in virtue of their office as pastors. Some also acquire an obligation to say, or have said, a weekly Mass for the intention of the souls entrusted to their care. Once more, the obligation derives not from the priesthood itself but from the office for which they have been appointed and the obligations they freely assume on accepting this office. tbc



Prayer & Fasting for Peace

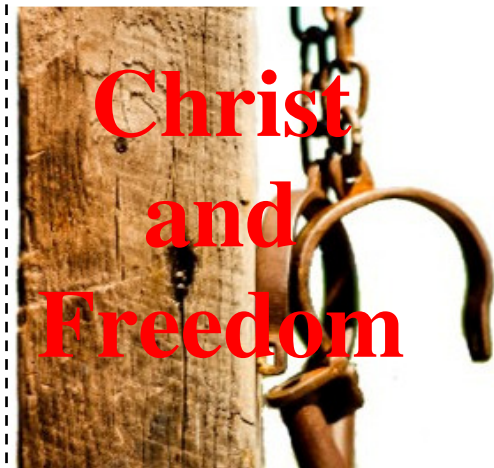
in Syria & in the World

Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, the outgoing Pope's secretary of state, has scheduled a special briefing for ambassadors accredited to the Holy See to speak with them about the importance of the Day of Prayer and Fasting for Syria, which the Pope has called for for Saturday of this weekend. (Zenit . org)



St Michael's Catholic Church

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Deepen your faith-find answers on
Tim Staples; Catholic Sacraments.
www.vocationcentre.org.au



8th Sept 2013 (C)

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

1ST READING: Wisdom 9:13-18

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

2ND READING: Philemon 9-10. 12-17

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia! Let your face shine on your servant, and teach me your laws. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Luke 14:25-33

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

Like a deer that longs for running streams, my soul longs for you, my God. My soul is thirsting for the living God.

WEEKEND MASS TIMES:

Sat. Vigil: 5pm

Sunday: 8am, 9:30am & 5pm

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES:

Mon, Tues & Thurs: 7:30am

Wed: 6pm

Fri: 9:15am

Sat: 9:15am (Sthn Cross Apts)

HOLY HOUR: Wed: 5pm

RECONCILIATION:

Wed: 5:15 – 5:45pm

Sat: 4:15 – 4:45pm

BAPTISMS:

Sundays 9:30am Mass

BAPTISMAL PROGRAMME &

WEDDINGS:

By appointment

ANOINTING MASS:

Quarterly: 1st weekend

1ST SAT OF EACH MONTH:

11am Mass in honour of Our Lady.

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAMME:

100% tax deductible. Please join by contacting parish office.

FAITH FORMATION:

Sundays 3:30pm (in presbytery)

OFFICE HOURS:

Mon, Wed & Fri 9am to 2:30pm

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sat Vigil: †John & Reg Archinal & Greg McShane **Mon 7:30am:** †Jack Gurney
Sun 8am: †Eileen Heaney **Tue 7:30am:** †Antonio Urbiztondo
Sun 9:30am: †Iem Lukito **Wed 6pm:** John Eves (sick)
Sun 5pm: Pro Populo **Thur 7:30am:** Thanksgiving

OUR SICK: Marie Busuttill, Pat Raby, Maria De Andrade, Mollie Burgess, Patricia Flannery, Alan Sargeant, Josephine Helback, Carmella Cicciani, Norma Cook, and Joy Williams, Mercia McGregor, Moira Butler and Domenico Cirillo...

Accommodation still available in Foley Gardens. Please call Fr. Jerzy on 93491292 or 0411125357 and you will be referred for further details to Mr. Robert O'Shea, the manager.

Happy Belated Birthdy to: Iris Smith (15/08)

Happy Birthdays to: Jeremy Unsworth & Jack Burgess (9th), Rose Pisani (10th)

CONGRATULATIONS to the following children who will be making their Sacrament of First Holy Communion this Sunday at the 11am Mass:

Samantha Barnes, Stella Beltowski, Saga Chandra, Jacob Choromanski, Noah Coughlin, Bronte Feltis, Luke Gerakiteys, James Kort, Patrick Ghazal, Brendan Ham, Dominic Kumar, Emily McDonald, Reece Mattioli, Sophia Morgan, Jacob Paquin, Hugo Pizzol, Gabriella Platt, Blake Reeve, Liam Ross, Molly Smith-Murdoch, Darren Tjioe, Agnes Tjokrosetio, Toby Unsworth, Taelyn Williamson, Patrick Youssef, Tevita Fotu, Connor Nelson, Natasha Nelson, Willaim Farquhar, Kaitlyn Farquhar and James Farquhar.

A BIG THANK YOU to Anne Slattery (Sacramental Teacher), Principal, REC, Parish School Staff, Catechists, Parents/Caregivers, Youth Music Ministry and all who helped make this Spiritual Journey with our children a time to remember.

Reminders:

1) Final Readers' Ministry workshop will be held on Mon. 16th Sept 7pm with Fr Anthony.

Parish School news: *Class Mass: Fri 13th Sept: Stage 1. * End of Term 3: Fri 20th Sept.

Position vacant: Fulltime Finance Manager for the Diocesan Development Fund of the Catholic Diocese of Parramatta based in Parramatta. To view full job description, visit www.parra.catholic.org.au and go to the employment section of the Diocese.

This weekend: Vigil: Volunteer (A) B Purdon, T Bell (R) S Kim, J Yong (C) G Guerrero (M)
8:00am: J Heaney (A) S Budavari, F De Andrade (R) P Chen, R Houghton (C) P Low (M)
9:30am: A Varghese (A) I Tjahjadi, D Tjahjadi (R) G Pullala (C) A Burton (M)
5:00pm: R Yang (A), Volunteers **Counters:** B Dunn, H Morris

Next weekend: Vigil: Volunteer (A) M Butler, V Hage (R) M Wong, G Chin (C) G Guerrero (M)
8:00am: J Heaney (A) A Brinck, J Rapusas (R) O Sarmiento, V Meyer (C) P Low (M)
9:30am: Volunteer E Widjaja, H Widjaja (R) S Pedisich (C) A Burton (M)
5:00pm: R Yang (A), Volunteers please **Counter:** J De Andrade

PRIESTS'
RETIREMENT
FOUNDATION

For those who
nurtured our faith



Last weekend we held our Appeal for the Priests' Retirement foundation.

On behalf of all Sydney Archdiocese priests, I'd like to say thank you for your warm support and help in looking after our retired priests.



Birthday of Mary, Mother of God: This Sun. 8th Sept. From 3pm, recitation of the Holy Rosary followed by Mass at 5pm. Evening supper in the church foyer after Mass. Please bring a plate to share.

St Michael's Feast Day celebrations

NEXT SUNDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER:

9am: Procession

9:30am: Thanksgiving Mass (with the Youth Music Ministry)

10:30am onwards: Celebrations in Parish Hall.

Magic & Variety show;

Sausage sizzle; Home-made cakes / slices with coffee / tea / cordial;

Celebration cake cutting.

WYD2016 Raffle draw. (Tickets still available: \$2 per ticket or 3 for \$5)

Archbishop Pietro Parolin's appointment ends the era of Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone. Parolin, a 58-year-old Italian who like Francis is known for his frugal lifestyle, is currently the Vatican's nuncio in Venezuela. The naming of a new secretary of state, who acts as the pope's prime minister and chief aide, is the most significant appointment by Francis since his election in March. Secretary sets the tone for the Vatican's central administration, known as the Curia, and is involved in everything from finances and the bishops to diplomatic relations with more than 170 countries. Parolin was the Vatican's deputy foreign minister for seven years until 2009, and has also served in Nigeria and Mexico.

