

Pope Francis' In-Flight Press Conference on Return From Sweden

"When Jesus prayed for us all at the Last Supper, He asked for all one thing of the Father: not to take us out of the world but to defend us from the world, from worldliness"

Rome, November 2, 2016, Zenith.org

During his in-flight press conference following his visit to Sweden, Pope Francis spoke on Tuesday about a range of topics including welcoming refugees, female priests, relations with the charismatic movements, his talks with Venezuela's President, secularization, his upcoming journeys abroad and human trafficking.

In his traditional press conference with journalists travelling with him on the plane back to Rome, Pope Francis was asked first what is his message to those European countries who fear the arrival of refugees and for Sweden, traditionally a country that has been more welcoming to refugees and migrants than many others, but which of late, has started to close its borders. Stressing that we cannot close our hearts to refugees, in his reply the Pope praised Sweden's example of hospitality towards refugees. At the same time he said it was very important for any country accepting refugees or migrants to make sure that they also take steps to ensure they are properly integrated into their host nations, saying this is a process that takes time. He went on to warn that a country can pay a political price if they take in more refugees than they can integrate properly. In this context, he warned against the formation of ghettos for refugee or migrant communities, saying this was a "dangerous" development that should be avoided.

Asked next how realistic it would be to foresee women priests in the Catholic Church in the coming decades, and if not, why not, Pope Francis said "the last word on this issue was clear" and had been given by Saint John Paul II and "this stands." At the same time, he stressed that the Church itself is feminine and Mary is more important than the Apostles in terms of the theology and mysticism of the Church on the day of the Pentecost. The Church, he explained, has its Petrine dimension and its Marian dimension and said it could not exist with this female dimension.

Turning next to the Church's relations with the Charismatic Renewal movement and Evangelical Christians, the Pope was asked for his thoughts ahead of a major event in Rome in 2017 to mark the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the former. In his reply he spoke about initiatives taken by him to strengthen and improve relations with the Charismatic Church and the Waldensian Church, both as Pope and when he was Archbishop of Buenos Aires. The Pope also revealed that whereas at first he forbade the Jesuits in Argentina to have anything to do with the Charismatic gatherings, he now believed "the opposite" as long as they were "done well."

The request for the Vatican to mediate in the crisis in Venezuela between President Nicholas Maduro and the opposition was another question put to the Pope who confirmed in his reply that the Holy See had been asked to mediate in the ongoing dispute in that country and stressed that dialogue is the only way out of this crisis.

Asked next about the phenomenon of secularization, especially in France and whether it is inevitable, Pope Francis said he believed that this arises when the faith becomes lukewarm and noted that secularization is very strong in many cultures. He also warned about the effects of spiritual worldliness, saying when it enters into the Church this is "the worst thing" that can happen to it.

The final question put to the Pope was about the scourge of human trafficking which was the subject of a recent conference held by the Santa Marta Group in the Vatican. In his reply, Pope Francis spoke about how moved he was when he saw at first hand the suffering of those who were the victims of human trafficking whilst he was living in Buenos Aires but also praised the work done by many volunteer groups in Italy to combat this scourge. Speaking about his plans for overseas journeys next year, the Pope said that it was "almost certain" he would be going to India and Bangladesh but there were no firm plans yet.

St. Gerard Catholic Church



640 Edrie St. NE
Aiken, SC 29801
803 649-3203

The Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time November 6, 2016

Mission Statement

Called to be a People for Others

Vision Statement

*Anchored by faith hope and love in Jesus Christ,
we strive to be active disciples, serving each
other and all God's people by welcoming and
embracing the enriching diversity of our community of faith.*

Father Emmanuel Andinam: Administrator

*After him, they tortured the third, who
on being asked for his tongue promptly
thrust it out and boldly held out his
hands, courageously saying, 'Heaven
gave me these limbs; for the sake of his
laws I have no concern for them; from
him I hope to receive them again.' The
king and his attendants were
astounded at the young man's courage
and his utter indifference to suffering.
When this one was dead they subjected
the fourth to the same torments and
tortures. When he neared his end he
cried, 'Ours is the better choice, to
meet death at men's hands, yet relying
on God's promise that we shall be
raised.'*

2 Maccabees 7:10-14

SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading:

2 Maccabees 7:1-2,9-14(156C)

Responsorial:

Psalms 17:1,5-6,8,15

Second Reading:

Thessalonians 2:16-3:5

Gospel:

Luke 20:27-38

Today's Missal

Lectionary Readings for the week of November 6, 2016

Monday: Titus 1:1-9;

Luke 17:1-6

Tuesday: Titus 2:1-8,11-14;

Luke 17:7-10

Wednesday: Ezekiel 47:1-2,8-9,12;

1 Corinthians 3:9c-11,16-17; John 2:13-22

Thursday: Philemon 7-20;

Luke 17:20-25

Friday: 2 John 4-9;

Luke 17:26-37

Saturday: 3 John 5-8;

Luke 18:1-8

Mass Times: Weekdays Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 8:15 AM,

First Friday Benediction after Mass

Weekend Saturday 4:00 PM, Sunday 7:00 AM and 11:00 AM

Confessions: after weekday Masses and by Appointment

Office Hours: 9:00 AM till 3:00 PM Tuesday - Thursday

Bible Study: Fridays 10:00 AM, **CCD:** Sundays 10:00 AM,

RCIA: 9 AM Thursdays

Baptisms, Confirmations, Marriages and Funerals: By Appointment, Contact the office.

Contact Us: Phone 803 649-3203, E-Mail stgerardscatholi@atlanticbbn.net

Facebook @stgerardaiken, **Emergency number for Father 803 341-5933**



Pray for our sick:
 Judy Riley
 Marge Glauser
 Leonard Saunders
 Shirley Paige
 William and Jackie Cobbs
 Woody Alexander
 Lena Mickens
 Rosa Johnson
 Brenda and Ike
 Ligon
 Joe Fulmer
 Chuck Simkin

Saints help give us direction on the path of discipleship. They inspire us to give freely and gratefully of our time, abilities, and resources.



Pastoral Council:
 Wayman Johnson,
 Chairman
 Payson Borst
 Jacqueline Brown
 Fredrick Cadek
 Nancy Durden
 Marge Glauser
 Joan Hesik
 Janet Menefee
 Gregory Wright

Mass Intentions
 4:00 PM Mass is said for the soul Carmine DeMeo:
 Form M. Pedley, 7:00 AM & 11:00 AM Masses are said for your own personal intentions,

Finance Council:
 Robert Erikson,
 Chairman
 Leon Gagnon and
 Anna Marie Key,
 Auditors
 Lisa Solenberger,
 Secretary
 Art Wagner

Weekend Offering
 October 29-30, 2016

Collection	\$2,051.00
Needed	\$2,612.00
Short	\$561.00
Attendance	169

The Gathering Hymn 481 H
Come, You Thankful People, Come
The Offertory Hymn is 602 H
Blest Are They
The Communion Hymn is CHOIR
To Praise You
Our Song of Praise is 27 M
Now Thank We All Our God



Stewardship a way of life



Lay Ministers

Saturday November 12 4:00 PM Vigil Mass Lector: Tami Schaeffer E E Ministers: Jerry Schaeffer	Sunday November 13 7:00 AM Mass Mary Kay L'Esperance Gerard L'Esperance	Sunday November 13 11:00 AM Mass Richardean Paige Marge Glauser
Saturday November 19 4:00 PM Vigil Mass Lector: Joan Hesik E E Ministers: Mary Rose/Joe Dennis	Sunday November 20 7:00 AM Mass Denise Gelinis Roger Gelinis	Sunday November 20 11:00 AM Mass Paula Thurston Jeanette Coleman
Refreshments November 6 Shirley Paige/Anna Marie Key	Refreshments November 13 Richardean Paige/Marilu Alarcon	Refreshments November 20 Matt Fitzpatrick/?



The Legion of Mary schedule is flexible. If you want to know if they are meeting at 1:30 on any Friday call the office on Thursday and we can tell you. Please continue to pray the Rosary.

Cindi Howe of Aiken won the quilt drawing,
Mrs. Arthur of The Valley won the food basket.
Second Collection this week For: Church in Africa



Perpetual Novena in honor of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Tuesdays at the 8:15 Mass
We will have a joint Parish/Finance Council Meeting on November 8 at 6:30 PM and Fall Festival follow-up.

Fall Festival total as of 11/3/16 is \$5,385.45, We still have some outstanding silent auction bids and donations



Choir Practice will be held on the following Tuesdays November 15, 29 and December 6 & 13. Time 6:00 PM till 7:15 PM. (Note: November the 8th Practice was canceled).

Feed the Valley Weekend, Thank you and bless your gifts of food.

Volunteer Corner:

Thank you to all who set up, cleaned up and worked the booths at the Fall Festival. And also to all that supported monetarily.

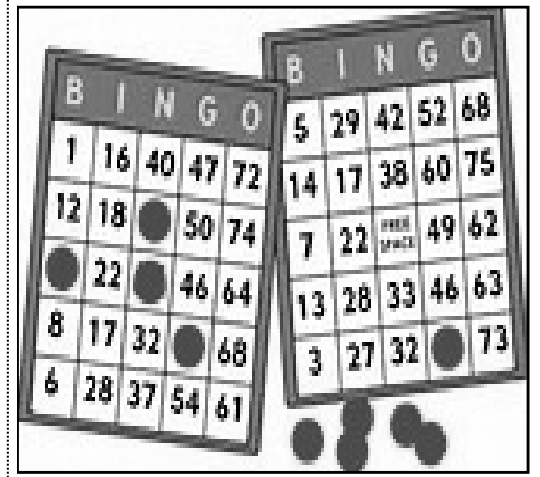
The Holy Door

Sunday, November 20, join the Faithful of the Aiken Deanery for the closing ceremonies of the **Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy**. There will be a Mass at 5:00pm in St. Mary's church followed by a candlelight Eucharistic Procession in honor of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King. Everyone will have a final opportunity to walk through the Holy Door and receive the plenary indulgence for the Year of Mercy. The night will end with Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament. For more information, call St. Mary's, Aiken, parish office at 803.649.4777; or email at parishoffice@stmarys-aiken.org; or visit the website: www.stmarys-aiken.org. Everyone is invited! (St. Mary's church: 138 Fairfield St. SE, Aiken, SC)

Last Saturday at The Fall festival several Parishioners had suggestions about how to streamline and make the event better and more prosperous. I would invite those individuals to join us in the planning of the next Festival. That event is scheduled for 10/16/17. Notice of planning meetings will appear in the bulletin. Thank you.

BINGO

Columbus Club Hall Every Monday at 7:10 PM till 9:00 PM 5 Cards \$ 10.00 Each Additional Card \$2.00



15 Regular Games \$20 Payout
1 Coverall Jackpot \$150 Payout

If you attend St. Gerard on a regular basis and feel welcome, Why not consider becoming a member. We would love to have you. Feel free to talk to a member or call the office 649-3203. Registration forms are in the the church hall lobby.

In Harms' Way: Please remember in your prayers our Nation and loved ones of our parishioners currently serving in harms' way: James Ligon, Robert McHugh and James Rossini. Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. I ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

Hospital Visits: If you or a loved one is in Aiken Regional Hospital (ARMC) please let St Gerards know. Remember - ARMC does not inform us of Catholic patients, even if you register as a Catholic; it is up to the patient or family to do so. You can: ask the ARMC Chaplain to call the Catholic church, ask your nurse to inform the Catholic church (name & room number), call-St.Gerard at 649-3203 and leave a message or email St Gerard at: stgerardscatholi@atlanticbnn.net.