



Mass Intentions

Sat., September 24
Eccl 11:9 — 12:8; Ps 90:3-6, 12-14, 17; Lk 9:43b-45
4 pm ... ☩ Charles Richard by Simone Richard

Sun., September 25 **XXVI Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Am 6:1a, 4-7; Ps 146:7-10; 1 Tm 6:11-16; Lk 16:19-31
7:30 am ... ☩ Constance Little by Nancy Healy
9:30 am ... ☩ Edward Bolton (3rd Anniv.) by Diane Bolton
5 pm ... Our Parish Family

Mon., September 26 **Saints Cosmas & Damian**
Jb 1:6-22; Ps 17:1bcd-3, 6-7; Lk 9:46-50
12 pm ... ☩ Kathleen McNamara Cunningham by the Norton and Nealon families

Tue., September 27 **Saint Vincent de Paul**
Jb 3:1-3, 11-17, 20-23; Ps 88:2-8; Lk 9:51-56
12 pm ... ☩ Vicki Wolf by Lillian LaRoche

Wed., September 28 **Sts Wenceslaus & Lawrence Ruiz**
Jb 9:1-12, 14-16; Ps 88:10bc-15; Lk 9:57-62
12 pm ... ☩ John Piazza (1st Anniv.) by Kerri Stanley

Thur., September 29 **Sts Michael, Gabriel, & Raphael**
Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a; Ps 138:1-5; Jn 1:47-51
8:30 am ... ☩ Sr. Dorothea Murphy by Eileen Smith

Fri., September 30 **Saint Jerome**
Jb 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5; Ps 139:1-3, 7-10, 13-14ab; Lk 10:13-16
6 pm ... Fr. Jerome by SRP Staff

Sat., October 1 **Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus**
Jb 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17; Ps 119:66, 71, 75, 91, 125, 130; Lk 10:17-24
4 pm ... ☩ Leo & ☩ Doris Moreau by their family

Sun., October 2 **XXVII Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Hb 1:2-3; 2:2-4; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; 2 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14; Lk 17:5-10
7:30 am ... ☩ Anne & ☩ David Foley by Connie Raymond
9:30 am ... ☩ Carolyn Barz by the Myers family
5 pm ... ☩ Dot Dery by Paul & Mary Dery

Weekly Collection

Weekend of September 18, 2016

Regular Offertory \$3,545.00
Make-Up Offertory 158.00
Loose Offertory 638.90
Online Parish Giving 265.00
Total \$4,606.90

Stewardship 103.00

2016 Annual Campaign
Catholic Charities
Our goal this year is \$26,000. Thank you to those who have supported Catholic Charities. To date, your gift has helped us raise **\$19,2035** towards our goal. **Let's raise the \$6,765 to reach our goal!** Envelopes are located at the back of the church. Thank you for supporting Catholic Charities New Hampshire. Please help us reach our goal!

DISMAS HOME
NEW HAMPSHIRE

Welcome and congratulations to the organizers and volunteers at Dismas House on Fourth Street. This past Tuesday and Wednesday, Sep. 20-21, the ribbon-cutting celebration and open house introduced the facility to the neighborhood. This facility will help women released from prison reintegrate into happy and productive lives in the community. Saint Raphael Parish will help our new neighbors in this process through several new initiatives. Watch the bulletin for

Knights of Columbus Blood Drive Mark your calendar for **Thursday, Sept. 29, 1-6 pm**, in the Parish Hall. The K of C will host a blood drive. Blood is in short supply. All donations greatly appreciated! Further details in the flyers located at the back of the

Routes / Roots of Faith Pilgrimage—Fall 2016 There is still time to join us! As we continue to celebrate the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy, we will embark on a one-day pilgrimage to visit the National Shrine of Divine Mercy and the Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge, MA. **We will depart from SRP at 7:30am on Sunday, Oct. 9, and return before 10pm that evening.** The \$139 fee includes admission to the Shrine, museum, and evening dinner. See the orange flyers at the back of the church for registration info. **We must have forms and deposit by Friday, Oct. 7.**

It's finally here! SRP has an App! Want to get up to date notifications from us on the events and happenings of the church? Now you can! Download our free app from your smart phone and we will be right there in your back pocket! Enter "Saint Raphael Parish" to find us in the app store.

Sanctuary candle The sanctuary candle burns this week for **Our Parish Family**.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sun., Sep. 25
9:15 am ... Religious Education—Parish Hall
9:30 am ... Altar Server Investiture at Mass

Mon., Sep. 26
6:30 pm ... Youth Ministry—Parish Hall
7 pm ... Food Pantry

Tue., September 27
12:30 pm ... Parish Nurse—Church Conf. Room

Thur., September 29
1—6 pm ... K of C Blood Drive, Parish Hall

Sun., October 2
9:15 am ... Religious Education—Parish Hall



SAVE THE DATES! Miracle of Divine Mercy mission week will take place Nov. 14—20. We have several events planned. Watch the bulletin and check our Facebook page for further details. Check the flyers located at the back of the church.

- Wedding Banns**
- I**
Michael McGeever & Alejandra Potter
- II**
Michael Courtney & Lindsey Gray

Saint Raphael Food Pantry On Monday, Sep. 19, the food pantry served **23** families and gave out **36** bags of groceries. We need Mac 'n Cheese and can always use brown paper bags!

Holy Cards available
Through the generosity of a parishioner, holy cards featuring Our Lady of Sorrows are available at the door of the church. Please leave the cards in the hymnals for continued



World's Benedictine abbots elect American new abbot primate

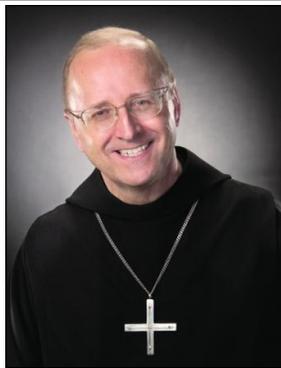
Earlier this month, the worldwide Benedictine order marked an important moment. During the **Congress of Abbots**, the leaders of our monasteries around the world elected a new “abbot primate” Sept. 10. He succeeds the retiring **Abbot Primate Notker Wolf, O.S.B.**, (photo below) who has served the order and the Church in that capacity for the past 16 years. For many people, the way we **Benedictines** organize and govern ourselves is a mystery. The election of a new abbot primate provides a good opportunity to discuss some of the reasons why the sons of Saint Benedict are sometimes called the most monarchical and most democratic groups in the Catholic world.

For Americans, the election of the abbot primate is a particular cause for joy because he is one of our own, **Abbot Gregory Polan, O.S.B.**, (top center photo) abbot of Conception Abbey in Conception, MO., where he has led the community there for nearly 20 years. He is the **fourth American to serve** in the top Benedictine position, and the second abbot from Conception to do so. We must like the “show me” attitude of Missouri!

Abbot Gregory is a native of Berwyn, IL, outside Chicago. He entered Conception in 1970, professing vows the following year. Ordained in 1977, he is a **scholar of Sacred Scripture and theology, and a musician**. He was president/rector of the abbey’s seminary for a decade, then elected abbot in 1996.

An abbot primate, ironically, has less direct authority over monks than, for example, **Abbot Mark A. Cooper, O.S.B.**, our abbot at Saint Anselm. The local abbot in a Benedictine house has direct authority over the work, prayer and other dimensions of life of each of his monks, as outlined in the *Holy Rule* of Saint Benedict and in canon law. His power, of course, is meant to be exercised in the spirit of the Lord Jesus in the gospels and be used for **the spiritual good of both the individual monk and the community**.

An abbot primate serves the whole Order of Saint Benedict within the **Benedictine Confederation** as the leading authority in a position of **honor, not direct jurisdiction**. The abbot primate ironically is the only canonical member of the **Badia Primaziale Sant’ Anselmo**, or the Primatial Abbey of Sant’ Anselmo) in Rome, although 140 monks teach, study and work there. Each of the other monks resident at Saint Anselm remains a monk of the monastery from which he comes. The abbot primate’s authority over monks at Sant’ Anselmo is limited by the time and

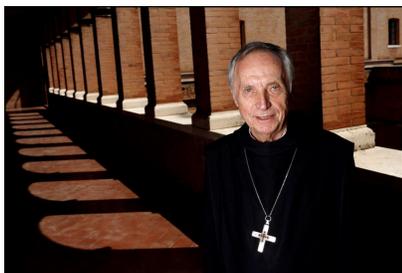


conditions the monk’s own abbot allows him in Rome. However, the abbot primate serves as the voice of Benedictines worldwide, **some 7,000 monks in 250 abbeys and priories**, to the Holy Father, Pope Francis, and, in turn, is his liaison

to his brother monks. The primate also oversees **the Benedictine seminary and university in Rome**.

Just as the solemnly professed monks of an abbey, those who have committed their lives to a particular community, are the ones who elect their abbot, so too the reigning abbots of the world are the ones who elect the abbot primate. The word “abbot,” derived from the Latin “**abbas**” for “**father**,” underlines the dual relationship a monastic superior has with his monks, spiritual father and chief authority within a monastery. Meanwhile, the word “primate” comes from the Latin “**primus**,” meaning “**first**,” as first in rank. But, as mentioned, the abbot primate has rank in honor rather than actual jurisdiction.

A cynic might say poor Abbot Gregory gave up real authority, settled contentment and considerable influence in the order at Conception for a job where he will have to **beg, persuade, cajole and entice** his brother abbots. “Wouldn’t you like to send one of your monks to Rome to teach theology, Father Abbot?” “How do your finances look, Father Abbot? Could you give a loan to a new, struggling monastery in Africa?” “Brothers, can you prepare an agenda for our meeting on Catholic life and monastic presence in China?” Someone with a healthier sense of the Church and her needs, however, might say Abbot Gregory has sacrificed settled contentment for the spiritual ideals Saint Benedict proposes.



When **Pope Leo XIII** created the office of abbot primate in 1884, monks around the world were a little suspicious. They could see the value of a **unifying presence and a common voice**, but no one wanted to give up the independence of each house. Monks prize their

votes and the independence of their individual houses even as they cherish their common life and witness in the Church. As a result the abbot primate has a **leadership task** very different and, one might argue, much more difficult than the top leaders of the

Franciscans, Dominicans, Jesuits and others, who maintain “generalates,” or top administrative and executive offices in Rome, where their superiors general also reside. While the master general of the Dominicans can send a friar around the world at the stroke of a pen, the abbot primate can only recommend to a local abbot that, say, Dom Daniel might make an important contribution someplace other than at home.

Part of the challenge lies in the fact that **monks vow “stability,”** a commitment to his particular community – its location, members, leadership, community, worship and work.

In between the abbot primate and the local abbot stands yet another figure, **the abbot president**. An abbot president is elected by his brother abbots in Benedictine “congregation.” Most of the order’s monasteries worldwide are organized into congregations that follow a particular tradition, often related to their experience in one nation or another. Saint Anselm belongs to the **American Cassinese Congregation**, which traces its descent from Saint Benedict’s own abbey of **Monte Cassino** in Italy. Monte Cassino sent monks to Germany who established houses in the 8th century, and more than a thousand years later, one of those monasteries, **Saint Michael’s Abbey in Metten in Bavaria**, sent the first monks to America in 1846. Abbot Primate Gregory’s is the **Swiss-American Congregation**. The **English, French and Annunciation** (originally from Belgium) are other congregations with houses in the U.S. Earlier this summer, our American Cassinese Congregation elected **Fr. Elias Lorenzo, O.S.B., of Saint Mary’s Abbey in New Jersey** as abbot president for a six-year term. He had served as “**procurator general**,” the liaison in Rome between the American Cassinese monasteries and the order and the central Church administration.

The Order of Saint Benedict, oldest of the religious orders, has moved far beyond the small, simple vision of Saint Benedict. Vast social, technological and political change sweeps around our world to make **adaptation** necessary and inevitable. That’s probably why back in the 6th century, Saint Benedict himself included the principle of adaptation and revision in his *Holy Rule*.

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