

# First Sunday of Lent

22 February 2015

## Black History Notes... Reflections on the African Popes

According to the Liber Pontificalis, three popes—Pope St. Victor I (ca 186-198), Pope St. Miltiades (311- 314), and Pope St. Gelasius (492 – 496) – were Africans. The Liber Pontificalis is composed of a series of biographical entries, which record the dates and important facts for each pope. It is the oldest and most detailed chronicle dating from the Early Church. The Liber Pontificalis is dated from the sixth century. The records of names begin with St. Peter.

The African popes in question are said to have come from the North African area that is present-day Algeria, Mauretania, Numidia, and Tunisia. Historians name this area the Maghreb. Today it is mostly Muslim. The indigenous people of North Africa are Berbers, brown skinned as among the Tuaregs and Algerians.

Most historians today are of the opinion that Victor was a North African. He was the first Latin-speaking pope. He had to be persuaded to permit the Asian Churches of Syria to continue celebrating Easter on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of Nisan. Victor had desired to force the Asian churches to accept the Roman method calculating the celebration of Easter that is the first full moon on Sunday after the vernal equinox.

St. Miltiades (311-314) is the second pope identified as an African. The Liber Pontificalis names him as born in Africa. More recent scholars consider that Miltiades was probably from an African family in Rome. In fact, Miltiades was pope in Rome at the time of the victorious battle of the Milvin Bridge when Constantine the Great defected and killed Maxentius. With this victory, Constantine opened the way to the end of persecution of Christians. Miltiades is not recorded as making any intervention in drawing up the Edict of Milan that recognized the freedom of religion for all peoples.

Finally, St. Gelasius (492-496) is called an African in the Liber Pontificalis. In another document, Gelasius referred to himself as “born a Roman”. It is suggested that he was of African family origin. He is known especially for his strained relationship with the Byzantine emperor Anastasius in Constantinople. Gelasius I unequivocally proclaimed his authority as pope over that of the emperor.

*~Deacon Greg Patterson*

### **ATTENTION:** **Safeguard the Children**

No child under 18 years should be **LEFT ALONE** without adult supervision on Sundays during or after Mass. Parents should be aware of where their children are at all times. **ALL PARISH MINISTERS/ORGANIZATIONS** should also know where their child members under 18 years are at all times during their scheduled meetings/class. Ministry Leaders are responsible to stay with their child members under 18 years until parents or guardians pick them up after the meeting/class is over.

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday February 21

5:15 PM Soul of Barbara Samuels

### Sunday February 22

8:00 AM Intention of all Parishioners

10:00 AM Soul of George Hill

12:15 PM Intention of Marguerite Davis

### Wednesday February 25

8:00 AM Souls of Yvonne, Jackeline, Dilcia & Wilfred Morgan, Jr.

### Saturday February 28

5:15 PM Soul of Hayzetta Patterson

### Sunday March 1

8:00 AM Soul of Robert Lawrence

10:00 AM Intention of all Parishioners

12:15 PM Soul of Gloria Robottom

## Readings for the week

Sunday Gn 9:8-15, Ps 25:4-9, Mk 1:12-15

Monday Lv 19:1-18, Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday Is 55:10-11, Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday Jon 3:1-10, Lk 11:29-32

Thursday Est C:12-25, Mt 7:7-12

Friday Ez 18:21-28, Mt 5:20-26

Saturday Dt 26:16-19, Mt 5:43-48

Sunday Gn 22:1-18, Ps 116:10-19, Mk 9:2-10

## LENTEN EVENTS

Every Friday during Lent Transfiguration will have **Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** throughout the day starting at 9AM. It is important to remember that the Eucharist is the "*Real Presence*" of Jesus Christ. **Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament** will follow the 6:30 PM Stations of the Cross. Volunteers are needed at various times during the day for Adoration. Please see Deacon Mark for more information.

## FISH FRY & RAFFLE

**Every Friday during Lent from 5 to 10 PM.**

**Raffle 20 tickets \$40 book.**

**(2 tickets per sheet)**

**NO STUB IS NECESSARY TO WIN...**

**Your name, address and phone number is all needed to win.**

**Make check: The Knights of Peter Claver.**

**Thank you for your support.**

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize: \$1000.00**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: \$ 500.00**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: \$ 250.00**

## LADIES RETREAT

Ladies, its Retreat time! March 27 to 29, 2015 please take out some special time for you and the Lord at the Sacred Heart Retreat House in Alhambra. To register contact Evelyn Payne at 323.291.8325 or Sonya Robertson at 323.291.4846.

## VIRTUS RE-CERTIFICATION CLASS

at Transfiguration in the school.

**Saturday, March 7, 2015 from 10 to 11:30 AM.**

Recertification is required every four years.

This session is for people who have already taken the beginning 3-hour training.

## February 15, 2015 Weekly Collection

\$5,814.98 Tithe and Offering

238.00 Building Fund

55.00 "We Care"

## What are you giving up for Lent?

For Lenten reflection Bible Study will present "Chocolate for Lent", a 5 week journey based on the movie *Chocolat*. Each week in Lent we focus on a different theme using clips from the movie as examples. Week 1 begins Monday, February 23 with the theme, "Giving Up-Prelude to Change". All are invited at 7:00 PM in the hall.

## Easter Egg Hunt



On Easter Sunday, April 5, 2015 Transfiguration is hosting an **Easter Egg Hunt** for our children. Please bring candy and plastic eggs to the rectory office. Thank you for your cooperation.

## Petition of the Sick

Virgie Aguilar, LaVern Agnew, Brian Argusta, Joyce Barnett, Rose Ball, Veronica Bearce, Sister Juliet Berber, Glenda Brown, Andrei Briggs, Vivian Burgess, Barbara Butler, Brownie Cain, Sister Cecilia Calva, Alberto Casanova, Harry Charles, Katherine Clark, Edward Cousin, Beverly Colvin-Dorsey, Beryl Davidson, Nigel Dunn, Ethel Earley, Robert Evans, Connie Farlice, Dwight Fauria, Gwen Files, Teresa Franklin, Stacy Franklin, Marian Fussey, Sister Mary Michaeline Gahwolf, Judy Felton-Gardner, Mavis Gibbs, Refugio Godinez, Nancy Goosby, Jane Grover, Jacqueline Holman, Msgr. Robert Howard, Mattie Hilburn, Janie Jackson, Aaron Jittu, Robert Jordan, Walita Keyes, Irwin Lagarde, Jeanne LeBlanc, Barbara Lindsey, Connie Louie, Joe McZeal, Vylfred Manor, Sister Marianna, Mary Ann Mayer, Dorothy Okoye, Martina Peters, Daisy Pratt, Wiley R. Pugh, Andrea Raggette, Michelle Raines, Emma Rausch, Dottie Rodriguez, Lolita Rodriguez, Refugio Godinez, Dana Semien, Dudley Semien, Reanna Semien, George Simon, Sr., Lionel Smith, Sr., Darnell Stang, Barbara Starks, Michele Starks, Wilbur Starks, Alice Tenette, Leila Thomas, Stephanie Thompson, Emma Thornton, Iris Turner, and Patricia Williams.