



A Thought
from
Father Mott

BORN IN STRAW POVERTY, by Bishop Robert Barron

"One of the best Christmas sermons I have ever read appeared some years ago in the pages Rolling Stone magazine. In the course of a wide-ranging interview, the Irish rocker Bono, leader of the group U2, spoke of his religious faith. Prompted to articulate why he embraces Christianity, Bono said, 'I believe that there is a logic that stands behind all things, and as a poet, I see the wonderful appropriateness that this awesome power would express itself as a baby born in straw poverty.' Any number of religious and philosophical systems would hold to the first part of Bono's statement. They would teach that an intelligent power is responsible for the order and intelligibility of the universe. What makes Christianity distinct is the puzzling and subversive assertion that this creative mind, this high metaphysical principle and first cause, looks like 'a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger. Mary and Joseph, two no-bodies in a dusty corner of the Roman Empire, made their way from the tiny hamlet of Nazareth to the little town of Bethlehem. They were too poor and unimportant to secure lodging, even in the pathetic travelers' hostel, and thus were compelled to take shelter in a cave, surrounded by animals. In that dirty and forgotten place, the baby who is God came into the world.

"Stated as bluntly and directly as that, the claim seems weird, doesn't it? It is meant to. For it expresses the poetic reversal that Bono invoked. The creator of the universe is not a cold and impersonal force. It is a love that makes itself vulnerable for the sake of the other. The logic that lies behind all things is an infant too weak to raise his own head. This poetic and theological illumination compels us to think differently about many things, but especially about the nature of power. The maker of the cosmos in its entirety is undoubtedly a supreme power, but now we know that authentic power is not a matter of domination and manipulation, but of nonviolence. Willing the good of the other (the classical definition of love) is moving with the deepest rhythms of creation and with the very

(Continued on page 2)

Mensaje
del
Padre Mott

NACIDO EN LA POBREZA DE PAJA por Mons. Robert Barron

"Uno de los mejores sermones de Navidad que he leído hace algunos años apareció en las páginas de la revista Rolling Stone. En el curso de una amplia entrevista, el rockero irlandés Bono, líder del grupo U2, habló de su fe religiosa. Le pidieron que articulara por qué él abraza el cristianismo, dijo: 'Creo que hay una lógica que está detrás de todas las cosas, y como poeta, veo la maravillosa oportunidad que este asombroso poder se expresa a sí mismo como un bebé nacido en la pobreza de paja.' Cualquier número de sistemas filosóficos y religiosos aceptarían la primera parte de la declaración de Bono. Enseñarían que un poder inteligente es responsable del orden y la inteligibilidad del universo. Lo que hace que el cristianismo sea distinto es la desconcertante y subversiva afirmación de que esta mente creativa, este gran principio metafísico y primera causa, parece en forma de "un niño envuelto en pañales y acostado en un pesebre." María y José, dos desconocidos por el mundo, en un rincón polvoriento del Imperio Romano, hicieron su camino desde la pequeña aldea de Nazaret a la pequeña ciudad de Belén. Eran demasiado pobres y poco importantes para asegurar el alojamiento, incluso en el patético Refugio de Viajeros, y así se vieron obligados a refugiarse en una cueva, rodeado de animales. En este sucio y olvidado lugar, el bebé que es Dios entró en el mundo.

"Declarado directamente como es, la reclamación parece raro, ¿no? Así tiene que ser para expresar la vuelta poética que Bono invocada. El creador del universo no es una fuerza impersonal y frío. Es un amor que se hace vulnerable para el bien de los demás. La lógica que está detrás de todas las cosas es un bebé demasiado débil para levantar su cabeza. Esta iluminación poética y teológica nos obliga a pensar de forma diferente acerca de muchas cosas, pero sobre todo acerca de la naturaleza del poder. El creador del cosmos en su totalidad es, sin duda, un poder supremo, pero ahora sabemos que el auténtico poder no es una cuestión de dominación y manipulación, sino de la paz. La buena voluntad de los demás (la definición clásica de amor) se está moviendo con los ritmos más profundos de la creación y la naturaleza de Dios. Y esta es precisamente la razón por la que puede transformar la sociedad. Si duda de mí, mire el reverendo Martin Luther King Jr y la refundación de la

(Continúa en la página 3)



(Continued from page 1)

nature of God. And this is precisely why it can transform society. If you doubt me, look at the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr’s remaking of American culture or Mahatma Gandhi’s revolution in India – both prompted and sustained by love, not violence.

“St. Augustine offered, in the 4th century, a pithy definition of sin: libido dominandi (the lust to dominate). Although it applies to any and all types of sin, Augustine’s characterization is particularly compelling in regard to the sins that have been on public display these last months and years. What we see in the abuse of children, in the exploitation of the weak, in human trafficking, in the cruelty to families of immigrants, and in the sexual harassment of women is, fundamentally, the libido dominandi, the twisted exercise of power.

“There is an extraordinary passage in the book of the prophet Isaiah in which the seer envisions the coming of God’s reign, which will put an end to suffering and injustice: ‘The Lord bares his holy arm for all the nations to see, to the furthest corners of the earth, he makes known his saving power’ (Is.52:10). The image is bold, even aggressive – God pulling up his sleeve and revealing his mighty arm. As the Anglican theologian N.T. Wright pointed out, the supreme irony of Christmas is that the holy arm of the Lord God is revealed as the tiny arm of a baby emerging from the crib in Bethlehem. The power that made the universe; is not the assertion of personal prerogatives; it is not pushing people around; it is not manipulating others for the aggrandizement of one’s ego; it is not preening self-display; it is not the lust to dominate. The logic that lies behind all things is a baby born in straw poverty. When we get that in our bones, we will understand the meaning of Christmas.”

(LA Times, Dec 25, 2017 A13)



Please include in your prayers this month our Augustinian seminarian, **Bro. Dominic Smith, O.S.A.**

Remembered your Parish or School in your WILL or TRUST?
For information, please contact the Planned Giving Office(213) 637-7504 / PlannedGiving@LA-Archdiocese.org



A COMMUNITY OF FAITH AND EXCELLENCE FOR STUDENTS 4 YEARS THROUGH 8TH GRADE

When we return to school tomorrow we launch into admissions season with Open House, school tours & applications. I ask for all of your prayers and efforts in spreading the good news of community and pride here at OMGC. We are a great school, but we need to increase our enrollment. Not too much to impact the small class size, but enough to create a larger community of volunteers, peer groups, and community efforts. Please consider an online review, or neighborhood chats about the good things happening at OMGC. We are looking forward to the future and all of our development efforts becoming fruitful. “Us” begins with YOU!

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28 BEGINS CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

- 10:00 a.m. — Family Mass
- 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. School Open House
- Book Fair (continues all week)
- KONA ICE! In the Morning Assembly Area

We ask you and your family, friends and neighbors with school age children to visit our school family and learn about the benefits of a great, faith-based education.

In Partnership,
 Ms. Essman, Principal
www.omgcschool.org

Spread joy

NOTICIAS EN ESPAÑOL



Acuérdese que es muy importante registrarse como miembro de la parroquia. Si usted vive entre los límites de la parroquia, se considera que es miembro pero necesita ser registrado y establecido como miembro por el mínimo de tres meses antes de que pueda: patrocinar un niño/a para recibir el Bautismo o la Comuni3n, bautizar su propio hijo/a, matricular un hijo/a en el programa de Confirmaci3n, o tener una boda en la iglesia de Nuestra Se1ora de Buen Consejo. Las formas de registro est1n disponibles en la p1gina del Internet de la parroquia, de la oficina de la parroquia o preg1ntele a uno de los sacerdotes.

<http://www.omogc.org/registration2016.pdf>

¿SABÍA USTED?

Avisos de retiro de productos

Los ni1os utilizan mucho equipo, desde juguetes y equipo deportivo hasta tecnolog1a. Para los padres de familia, esto significa mantener un ojo en los retiros de algunos productos. Los "recalls" o llamados de retiro de productos del mercado, alertan a los consumidores sobre una caracter1stica o un defecto que podr1a causar da1o, y ofrecen la oportunidad de corregir ese defecto, o enviar un nuevo producto. Los padres de familia pueden usar motores de b1squeda de productos y listas de verificaci3n en l1nea para mantener un ojo en los juguetes de sus hijos y tomar medidas si se emiten los retiros del mercado. Para obtener una copia del art1culo de VIRTUS © "Stay Up-to-Date on Product Recalls" (Mant1ngase al d1a sobre el retiro de productos del mercado), visite: <http://www.la-archdiocese.org/org/protecting/Pages/VIRTUS-Current-Online-Articles.aspx> o llame al (213) 637-7508.

Representante de la parroquia Nuestra Madre de Buen Consejo para la Protecci3n de los Ni1os: Edgar Landry, 323-664-2111, 132



cultura Americana o la revoluci3n de Mahatma Gandhi en la India - tanto impulsado y sostenido por el amor, y no la violencia.

"St. Agust1n ofreci3, en el siglo IV, una concisa definici3n del pecado: la libido dominandi (la lujuria a dominar). Aunque se aplica a cualquier y todos los tipos de pecado, la caracterizaci3n de San Agust1n es particularmente apremiante en cuanto a los pecados que han estado en exhibici3n al p1blico en estos 1ltimos meses y a1os. Lo que vemos en el abuso de los ni1os, en la explotaci3n de los d1biles, en el tr1fico de seres humanos, la crueldad a las familias de los inmigrantes, y en el acoso sexual de las mujeres es, fundamentalmente, la libido dominandi retorcido, el ejercicio del poder.

"Hay un extraordinario pasaje en el libro del profeta Isa1as, en el que el vidente contempla la venida del reino de Dios, que pondr1 fin al sufrimiento y la

injusticia: "El Se1or muestra su santo brazo para todas las naciones, a los lugares m1s rec3nditos de la tierra, 3l hace conocer su poder salv1fico" (Is.52:10). El imagen es bravo, incluso agresivo- Dios levanta la manga de su camisa y revela su poderoso brazo. Como el te3logo anglicano N.T. Wright se1al3, la suprema iron1a de Navidad es que el santo brazo de Jehov1 Dios se revela como el peque1o brazo de un beb3 saliendo de la cuna de Bel3n. La energ1a que hizo el universo; no es la afirmaci3n de prerrogativas personales; no se trata de empujar gente alrededor; no se trata de manipular a los dem1s para el engrandecimiento de su ego; no es la lujuria a dominar. La l3gica que existe detr1s de todas las cosas es un beb3 nacido en la pobreza de paja. Cuando conseguimos que eso este en nuestros huesos, podremos entender el significado de la Navidad."

(Los Angeles Times, Dec 25, 2017, A13).

Pledge



Online

Make all of your OMGC donations automatically: www.omogc.org

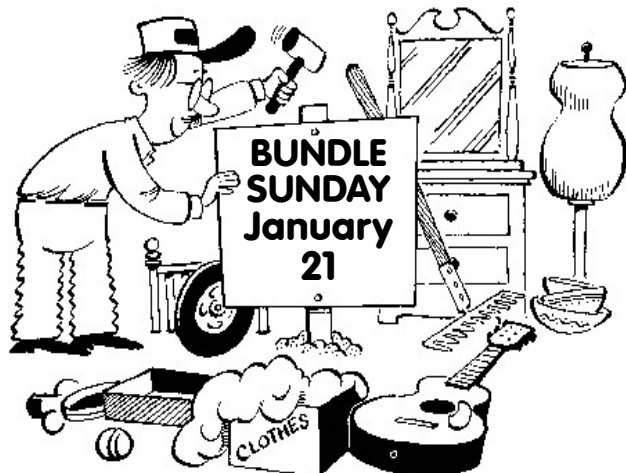
Quincea1era (15 a1os):

Susana Rivas:Monroy 323-664-2111, ext.133 y omgc.quince@gmail.com

Save the Date

Upcoming Events

OMGC



The St. Vincent de Paul Truck will be here collecting any reusable household donations



Father Gary Sanders OSA is leading a pilgrimage on a Danube River Cruise July 12- 20, 2018.

Daily mass will be celebrated on the riverboat, which includes tours in Austria, Germany, Hungary, and Slovakia (with additional 3-day pre-cruise and post-cruise trips available as options.)

For further information, go to the website: www.pilgrimages.com/frsanders or contact Fr. Gary for a flyer and further information.



CHOOSE LOVE : 01.20.18

Join Archbishop Gomez in downtown Los Angeles for the third annual OneLife LA, celebrating the beauty and dignity of every human life from conception to natural death. **Saturday, January 20, 2018.** The event will begin with a one-mile walk in downtown Los Angeles starting at El Pueblo at La Placita Olvera on Olvera Street at 12:00pm. and ends at Los Angeles State Historic Park, the main event location with the featured speakers, musicians, and food. The total distance is about one mile.

“Count me in for the Homeless Count!”

We need 100 people the night of THURSDAY, JANUARY 25th, to help count the homeless in the Los Feliz area. We will meet in the St. Augustine Center of OMGC at 8:00 PM for maps assignments and instructions. Teams of walkers and drivers will travel in pairs to cover a 3-4 block radius of the assigned area. No interaction, just visible head counts and approximate ages, if possible. This census will be conducted throughout the county of Los Angeles at the same time. The object is to obtain enough information to know what areas are the heaviest pockets and how to best serve the needs and get housing for these poor people forced onto the streets.

Can we count on you?

Sign up at the doors of the church in the coming weeks or call the parish office.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR WEEKLY SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH



December 30/31, 2017

<i>Envelopes</i>	\$ 2,808.00
<i>Electronic Funds</i>	\$ 7,010.50
<i>Loose</i>	\$ 3,473.00
TOTAL	\$ 13,291.50*

restricted donations not included in total one year ago \$ 9,805.00

<i>December 23/24, 2017</i>	\$ 5, 833.00*
<i>St. Vincent de Paul</i>	\$ 382.00
CHRISTMAS 2017	\$ 15,868.50
<i>(CHRISTMAS 2016)</i>	<i>\$ 16,522.00</i>



PARISHIONER NAMES WILL BE PUBLISHED FOR TWO WEEKS

Requests may be either phoned or emailed: omgcparrish@gmail.com

To request prayer for persons who are not immediate family members, please write the names in the Parish Book of Prayers and we will pray for these intentions for one week at a time. We include in the bulletin names of parishioners who are seriously ill to alert all of our parish family so that we may add these people to our daily prayer intentions. When a name is removed from the bulletin list, we do not stop praying for them, but we shorten the list for the most immediate critical needs.

PRAY FOR THESE RECENTLY DECEASED:



January 8th thru January 13th

Mon 1/8	8:00 - Florence Pasquini (d)
Tues 1/9	8:00 - Living & Deceased Benefactors of OSA
Wed 1/10	8:00 - Lady Of Perpetual Help (intention)
	5:30 - James Fadell (d)
Thur 1/11	8:00 - Special Intentions of St. Rita
Fri 1/12	8:00 - Deceased Members of OSA
Sat 1/13	8:00 - Myles & Giselle (wedding)



ADULT BIBLE STUDY

1st and 3rd Thursdays at 7 p.m. (mid September thru mid June) in the Plaza Community Room

R.C.I.A. (Adults wishing to become Catholic)

2nd & 4th Thursdays at 7 p.m. (mid September thru May) in the Plaza Community Room.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

2nd Friday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Parish Office Building

OMGC FIL-AM COMMUNITY

3rd Sunday of the month at 9:15 a.m. in the parish office building..

SERVANTS OF CHRIST COMMUNITY

Every Friday at 8 p.m. in the Plaza Community Room (Benediction and Mass at 7:45 p.m. on First Fridays).

CORNERSTONE RETREATS-MEN'S & WOMEN'S

Once a year.

OMGC WOMEN'S GROUP "Women of Heart"

2nd Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the parish office building.



FAITH SHARING GROUP

1st Sundays at 10:00 a.m. (Meets weekly during Advent and Lent) in the parish office building..

MEDITATION GROUP

3rd Sunday of the month after 8:00AM Mass. Contact: pdemeyer@mindspring.com for new time and location.



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY & MONTHLY HOMELESS LUNCH

2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. Hot Lunch served on the last Saturday of each month: volunteer at either 9:30 a.m. or 12 p.m. in the St. Augustine Center.



OMGC BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

As needed in the parish office building. All who have lost a loved one are invited to leave a message through the parish office, ext. 301.

HISPANIC MINISTRY

3Rd Monday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Plaza Community Room.

LATINO ROSARY GROUP

Fridays at 7:30 p.m. in the Children's Chapel (enter from Ambrose Ave.)



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA TROOP 20

Sundays at 5 p.m. (except outing weekends) in the St. Augustine Center.