

Our Lady of Fatima Bulletin

November 8-9, 2014

Father J.D. Zatalava, Pastor ¶ 2010 12th Avenue ¶ Altoona, PA 16601 ¶ 814-942-0371 ¶ www.ourladyoffatimaaltoona.com



Father Z observes that everybody has his favorite Church. This is his, The Basilica of Saint John Lateran, in Rome Italy. St. John Lateran is Christendom's earliest basilica. Ordered by Rome's first Christian Emperor, Constantine the Great, it became the Popes' own cathedral and official residence for the first millennium of Christian history.

Today, standing before the basilica's ponderous eighteenth- century facade, assailed by ear-splitting Roman traffic snarls on every side, we can hardly imagine this as the cradle of our religious heritage.

A visitor should glance upwards. Towering against the (usually) cobalt-blue Roman sky, a 7-meter high statue of Christ, flanked by saints and doctors of the Church, triumphantly displays the Cross of Redemption.

It was to Jesus the Savior that Constantine dedicated the original church, confirming Christ's superiority over the Capital's pagan gods and assuring the worldwide expansion of the Christian religion.

THE ROMAN EMPIRE BECOMES CHRISTIAN

Lord
Jesus
Christ
Son
Of
God
Have
Mercy
On
Me
A
Sinner

Mon. 11/10	<u>A Day of Prayer for Victims of Cancer</u>
Feast	Saint Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church
8:00 AM Mass	Phillip Petrunak, Birthday, <i>Family</i>
Tues. 11/11	<u>A Day of Prayer for Victims of Heart Diseases</u>
Feast	Saint Martin of Tours, Bishop
8:00 AM Mass	Crystal Cochran, <i>Bear and Patty McCloskey</i>
Wed. 11/12	<u>A Day of Prayer for Victims of Arthritis</u>
Feast	Saint Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr
8:00 AM Mass	Cecilia Hollern, <i>Jim Riley</i>
Thur. 11/13	<u>A Day of Prayer for Victims of Nervous Disorders</u>
Feast	Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin
8:00 AM Mass	Health of Pat Byrne, <i>Mary Siefert</i>
Fri. 11/14	<u>A Day of Prayer for Victims of Emotional Disorders</u>
Feast	Joseph Lutchko, Estate of Wife Mary
8:00 AM Mass	<u>A Day of Prayer for Victims of Diabetes</u>
Sat. 11/15	Thirty -Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Feast	Donald Cassarly, Birthday, <i>Paul and Adaline Cassarly</i>
4:30 PM Mass	<u>A Day of Prayer for Victims of Addictions</u>
Sun. 11/16	Thirty -Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Feast	Vince Farabaugh, <i>Family</i>
9:00 AM Mass	Tom Byrne, Birthday Ann 11/13, <i>Wife and Family</i>
11:00 AM Mass	Our Lady of Fatima Parish Family

Happy Birthday:

11/12 Marcella Ianniello

11/15 Mark Byrne

Wedding Anniversaries :

Practice for the Christmas Vigil Choir will occur on all Tuesdays beginning October 28th. Each rehearsal will be from 6:00 to 7:00 P.M. The Choir will be made up of volunteers from ages 9 to 99. Please join in and praise Our New Born King on December 24th!

*Our Lady of Fatima Pleaded That we
pray the Holy Rosary Daily
At O.L.F. before each Mass and privately
from 8:30am to 7:00pm*

MONEY MATTERS

(The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed, Sunday November 2, 2014)

166 people Celebrated Liturgy at O.L.F. contributing \$ 1,882.00 of which \$ 264.00 accounted for non-envelope contributions.

# Envelopes In Circulation	186	# Used	74	# Unused	112
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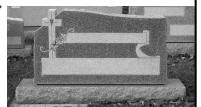


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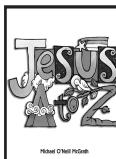


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With the ascent of Constantine as Emperor of Rome (306-337), the days of bloody Christian persecutions (see Inside the Vatican, January 1996) came to an end. Placed at first on an equal footing with paganism, Christianity soon became the official religion of the Roman Empire.

Constantine was the son of Constantius I, Roman Emperor of the West (305-6), and Helena, a woman of obscure origins, whose fervent conversion to Christianity, and legendary: finding of the True Cross, won her sainthood. After defeating his rival Maxentius, son of an earlier emperor Maximian (286-305), at the Milvian Bridge in Rome. t312), Constantine established himself as the undisputed ruler of the Western Empire.

The night before this battle, Constantine's earliest biographer Eusbesius tells us, the emperor saw a cross of light in the heavens and the words In Hoc Signo Vinces ("by this sign you shall conquer"). His soldiers went into battle bearing the Christian monogram on their shields, rather than the Roman eagle, and a standard of Christ's cross carried before them. From that time, as he won battle after battle and consolidated his rule over the empire in East and West (324), the Emperor claimed to be fighting in Jesus' name, as the champion of the Christian faith.

The Edict of Milan (313) secured Christians' freedom and legal recognition. By imperial edicts, Constantine restored Christians' property and strengthened the Church hierarchy (without giving too much offense to Rome's influential pagans!). He ordered basilicas built over the cellae memoriae marking St. Peter's, St. Paul's, and other martyrs' tombs. And he donated his personal property, received in dowry from his wife, for the first papal cathedral and residence in Christian history. So begins the story of St. John Lateran.

It was to Pope Melchiade (311-314) that Constantine gave the palace on Monte Celio, formerly property of the patrician Laterani family (hence the basilica's appellation "Lateran"), which his second wife Fausta (Maxentius' sister) had brought to the marriage. Soon after, the Emperor razed the adjoining imperial horse-guards barracks (allegedly the equites singulares had supported Maxentius against Constantine) and commissioned the construction of the world's first Christian basilica on that site.

Henceforth, the Lateran palace, known as the Patriarchate, was the Pope's official residence until the fifteenth century.

Many important historic events have taken place in St. John Lateran, including 5 Ecumenical Councils and many diocesan synods. In 1929 the Lateran Pacts, which established the territory and status of the State of Vatican City, were signed here between the Holy See and the Government of Italy.

The offices of the Cardinal Vicar of Rome now occupy the Lateran Palace. On July 27, 1992, a bomb explosion devastated the facade of the Rome Vicariate at St. John Lateran. The attack is widely assumed to have been the work of the Italian Mafia, a warning against Pope John Paul II's frequent anti-Mafia statements. Repairs were recently completed.

