



The July 1-2 bulletin had the following note in it.

Let's Dress Up for Mass as We Worship the King

Mass is the un-bloody re-presentation of Jesus offering Himself to the Father for our salvation. Let's dress up for this Banquet of the King of Kings. Please avoid wearing shorts or other inappropriate clothing. Please offer up your inconvenience to the Lord in reparation of sins for yourself and others.

This little article accomplished its mission. It got many people thinking and talking. So let's continue the conversation now that people have reflected.

Some men came to me and thanked me for the reminder. Others were very angry. Saints-in-the-making, our goal is to help each other get into heaven and to give God our best—**continuous improvement**. My goal was to get us to think about another way we could give ourselves more completely to God. Our goal should be to think about God and what He wants, and not hold too tightly to our opinions.

What does God's word say anyway? **Psalm 96:9** states: "Worship the Lord in holy attire; tremble before Him, all the earth." Also, **Psalm 29:2 states:** "Ascribe to the Lord the glory of His name; worship the Lord in holy attire."

When I was in college, I did not dress up for Mass. I wore jeans and a T-shirt. Later I realized that Mass was important—the love of God for His people—so I began to wear khaki pants and a collared shirt.

Here are some of the comments that we hear:

(1) "At least they are coming to Mass." Yes, I agree with you. Now can we improve on that? Or, will we always say "at least." Will we be stuck at minimalism? Will we give God the minimum?

(2) "There are bigger issues out there than to talk about this." True. God wants our hearts first, but dressing nicely for Mass is an issue that we can easily tackle and it reflects our hearts. In the midst of all the chaos in the world (hurricanes, earthquakes, starvation, North Korea, etc.), we can still get dressed up for Almighty God at Mass. It does not take any longer to dress nicely. We can do both at the same time—work on the big and small issues.

Mother Teresa used to say, "Do small things with great love." God wants our whole heart; He wants to be Lord over every aspect of our lives—jobs, money, food, entertainment, dress, etc. If we say, "Lord, I will give You everything *except* ___," then we know what our weakness is. These situations give a chance to grow in virtues, such as patience, humility, obedience, love of God, sacrifice, faithfulness, etc.

We dress up for weddings between two creatures. Can we dress up for our Creator? Are creatures more important than our Creator?

We dressed in our "Sunday best" for our First Holy Communion. Let's return somewhat to our childhood innocence, zeal, and excitement for our Lord.

(3) "The men were shamed at Mass, or made to feel guilty." Why? All I did was ask them if they would dress up. I even said that some of my favorite parishioners were wearing shorts at Mass, so that people would not feel guilty. No matter how I would have said it, people would have been upset. I said it to the whole congregation, because there are those who do not read the bulletin. The truth sets us free, not emotions. Remember that men came and thanked me.

(4) "Don't judge people by what they wear." I'm not. I'm simply encouraging people to dress up for the King. Watch out for this kind of statement: "Don't judge...."—it can contain a judgment itself. One judges the messenger as a "judge."

If your mother told you to get to school on time, she probably is not judging you. If someone encourages you to dress up for the King, he/she probably is not judging you.

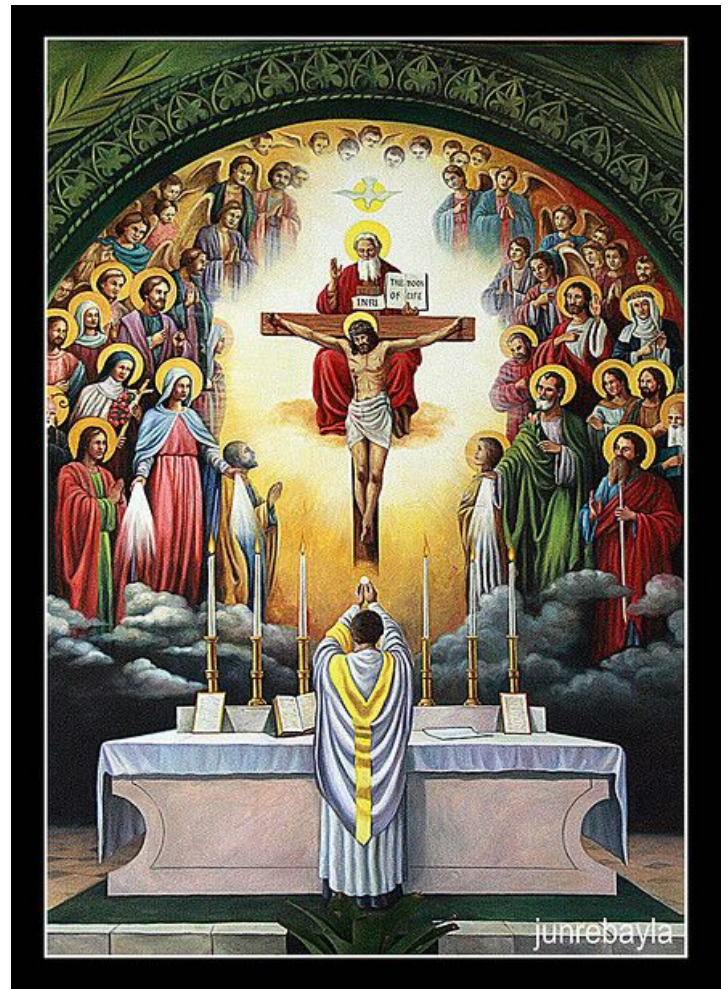
When Melania Trump went to see the pope in Rome, she was given a dress code. She humbly wore a veil, even though she did not have to. She did not Tweet everyone that she was being judged.

I know there are situations where people are coming from camping or from a sports event and that there was no time to change. I used to wear a sweat suit to Mass when I was coaching volleyball on Sundays.

But for most of us, we could dress up for the King of Kings. I went to the Rockies game on Sunday, September 3. I wore shorts and a T-shirt because it is an outdoor, recreational, casual event. The Mass is neither recreational nor casual. It is a thanksgiving for what God has done for us. It is an extremely important Event. Clothes say something about what we think, what we value.

Remember that we are tempted by three things: the world, the flesh, and the devil. Most of the world is against the Catholic Church, so it does not think we should dress up. The flesh is weak; it wants pleasure and comfort. The devil does not want us to dress up.

Think about the following parable. Fr. Ambrose showed up to Mass in shorts and a T-shirt. People were really surprised. Five minutes before Mass, Harold, a faith-filled parishioner, came into the sacristy and said, “Father, why aren’t you dressed up in your black clothes, and where is your alb and chasuble?” Father Ambrose replied, “God is just happy that I showed up. It doesn’t matter what I wear.” Harold then said, “No, Father, you are a priest and you have an important role in the Mass, our greatest and highest prayer. If you don’t dress the way you are supposed to, all these visitors won’t think you are a priest, and we won’t think Mass is very important. Some people might even begin to lose their faith in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, or think that the Catholic Church is no different than other churches.” Father Ambrose said, “I never thought about all of that. I have my black clothes in my car. I will go get them and change.” After getting dressed in his priestly garb, Father called Harold into the sacristy and said, “Harold, all of us are of equal dignity. I am no better than you. You told me that I had an important or special role to fulfill at Mass and that I should dress up for it. I just want to tell you that you and the rest of the congregation also are important and that you have a special role to fulfill at Mass. You lift up some of the same prayers to Almighty God as you assist me at Mass. Will you help me to let people know how important they are to God? Will you help me to encourage them to dress up for Mass so that they can sense their dignity in a deeper way in the presence of God and His heavenly court—with all the majesty and splendor of all the angels and saints?” Harold said, “I will, Father, but it will be hard because people don’t like change.” Father replied, “I know, but we will pray and tell the good news to one person at a time.”



Quick Apologetics (Defending Your Faith)—Salvation

There are some Christians who live by the motto: “Once saved, always saved.” Is this motto true? If I accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior 10 years ago, am I still saved? After all, John 10:28 says: “No one can take my sheep out of my hand.” We need to know the whole Bible before giving answers too quickly. Let’s think about this. First, all of us have a free will, and we can choose to accept or reject Jesus each day. (Hopefully, we will accept Him every minute of every day.) Second, we know that faith is a free gift from God, and we can lose it if we are not careful. Paul states in 1 Timothy 1:18-19: “This charge I commit to you, Timothy, my son, in accordance with the prophetic utterances which pointed to you, that inspired by them you may wage the good warfare, holding faith and a good conscience. By rejecting conscience, certain persons have made shipwreck of their faith.”

Our Church (headed by Jesus) teaches that our eternal destiny depends on the state of our soul at the time of our death. Did we love God and our neighbor? Was Jesus our best friend? The bottom line is that we need to persevere in our faith every day; we are not saved once and then we get slothful about our faith. We work with the Lord every day, relying on His graces. Matthew 24:13 states: “But he who endures to the end will be saved.”

Gems of Wisdom from the *Diary* of Saint Faustina

1023. + Today, I received some oranges. When the sister had left, I thought to myself, “Should I eat the oranges instead of doing penance and mortifying myself during Holy Lent? After all, I am feeling a bit better.” Then I heard a voice in my soul: **My daughter, you please Me more by eating the oranges out of obedience and love of Me than by fasting and mortifying yourself of your own will. A soul that loves Me very much must, ought to live by My will. I know your heart, and I know that it will not be satisfied by anything but My love alone.**

Consecration of Our Parish to Our Lady of Fatima

Our Archbishop has asked that every parish be consecrated with him on Friday evening, **October 13.**

Our Lady of the Snow, 7 – 9 p.m.

-7 - 8 p.m. Rosary and livestream Fr. Ryan’s talk from the Cathedral.

-8 p.m. Mass; 8:45 p.m. consecration prayer with the Archbishop.

Angelology: Some Tradition

According to St. Clement, St. Gregory the Great, and Origin, every country, every city, every town and village, and even every family has a special Guardian Angel. As St. Francis Xavier preached in various towns, he invoked the Guardian Angel of every country and town. Then he would ask these Angels to protect the new congregations he had won over to the Faith with God’s grace.

It is also a common belief that every altar, church, parish, diocese, and religious institution has its own Guardian Angel. Each church has a special Guardian Angel to protect it and each priest gets an extra Angel.

In paragraph 630 of the *Diary* of St. Faustina, God sent an angel to travel with St. Faustina on a train to a convent. She wrote: “I constantly saw him beside me when I was riding on the train. I saw an angel standing on every church we passed, but surrounded by a light which was paler than the spirit who was accompanying me on the journey, and each of these spirits who were guarding the churches bowed his head to the spirit who was near me.

“When I entered the convent gate at Warsaw, the spirit disappeared. I thanked God for His goodness, that He gives us angels for companions. Oh, how little people reflect on the fact that they always have beside them such a guest, and at the same time a witness to everything! Remember, sinners, that you likewise have a witness to all your deeds.”

Angelology: Some Duties of the Guardian Angels

1. They preserve us from many unknown dangers to soul and body.
2. They defend us against the temptations of evil spirits.

3. They inspire us with holy thoughts and prompt us to deeds of virtue in serving God.
4. They warn us of spiritual dangers and admonish us when we have sinned.
5. They unite with us in prayer and offer our prayers to God.
6. They defend us at the hour of death against the last attacks of evil spirits.
7. They console the souls suffering in Purgatory and lead them to Heaven when their faults have been fully expiated.

St. Peter Church on Sunday, October 1

You will have a Communion Service with Deacon Jim at 10 a.m. instead of a regular Mass.

Calendar of Events

- Oct 7 (Sat).** First Saturday Mass at OLS, 9:30 a.m.
- Oct 13 (Fri).** Archdiocese consecration to OL of Fatima
- Nov 1 (Wed).** All Saints Day—Holy Day of Obligation
- Nov 2 (Thu).** All Souls Day. Begin Novena.

Mass Collections, September 16 – 17

St. Anne	\$ 2536
St. Bernard	1138
Our Lady of the Snow	1799
St. Peter	950
St. Ignatius	416
Total	\$ 6839

Vocations Prayer Calendar

Please pray for our seminarians every day.

Sat--Luis Mendez & Michael Tran

Sun--Red Braz and Christopher Considine

Mon--Juan Hernandez & Josh Meier

Tue--Men and women applying for formation

Wed--St. John Vianney Seminary staff

Thu--*Redemptoris Mater* Seminary staff

Fri--Men and women applying for formation

Mass Intentions and Schedule for StA, StB, and OLS

KEY: StA = St. Anne; StB = St. Bernard;

OLS = Our Lady of the Snow

-Sat, Sep 23, StA, 5 p.m., Bernie McGinn

-Sun, Sep 24, StB, 7 a.m., Parishioners and visitors

-Sun, Sep 24, OLS, 9:30 a.m., Steve and Lisa Gatschet

Weekday Masses

-Mon, Sep 25, StA, 8:30 a.m., Neil and Danita McGinn

-Tue, Sep 26, OLS, 7:30 a.m., Gerald and Janet Hraban

-Wed, Sep 27, StB, 8:30 a.m., Gonzales Team

-**Thu, Sep 28, OLS, 8:30 a.m., Anita Ferman**

-**Fri, Sep 29, OLS, 8:30 a.m., David and Judy Culbertson**

Mass Intentions and Schedule for StP and StI

KEY: StP = St. Peter; StI = St. Ignatius (Walden)

-Sun, Sep 24, StP, 10 a.m., Norman Carpenter

-Sun, Sep 24, StI, 1 p.m., Parishioners and visitors