

PROCESSIONAL HYMN:

Bring all ye dear bought nations, bring,
 your richest praises to your King.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 That spotless Lamb who more than due,
 paid for His and those sheep you,
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

That guiltless Son who bought your peace,
 and made his Father's anger cease.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Then life and death together fought,
 each to a strange extreme were brought,
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

I saw the tomb of my dear Lord, I saw
 Himself and Him adored.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 I saw the shroud and saw the sheet, that
 bound His head and wrapt His feet.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

I heard the angels witness bear, "Jesus is
 risen, He's not here. Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Go tell His followers they shall see, your
 Hope and theirs in Galilee."
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

We, Lord, with faithful heart and voice, on
 this Thy rising day rejoice.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 O Thou whose pow'r o'er came the grave,
 by grace and love us sinners save,
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

OFFERTORY HYMN:

Alleluia! sing to Jesus!
 His the scepter, his the throne.
 Alleluia! His the triumph, his the victory
 alone. Hark! the songs of peaceful Zion
 thunder like a mighty flood.
 Jesus out of every nation hath redeemed us
 by his blood.

Alleluia! not as orphans are
 we left in sorrow now;
 Alleluia! He is near us, faith believes,
 nor questions how;
 Though the cloud from sight received him
 when the forty days were o'er shall our
 hearts forget his promise, "I am with you
 evermore"?

Alleluia! bread of heaven,
 here on earth our food and stay!
 Alleluia! here the sinful flee
 to thee from day to day.
 Intercessor, Friend of sinners,
 earth's Redeemer, plead for me.
 Where the songs of all the sinless sweep
 across the crystal sea.

Alleluia! King eternal,
 thee the Lord of lords we own;
 Alleluia! born of Mary, earth thy footstool,
 heav'n thy throne.
 Thou within the veil hast entered,
 robed in flesh, our great High Priest.
 Thou on earth both Priest and Victim in the
 Eucharistic Feast.

COMMUNION HYMN:

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

On Sunday Mary Magdalene, with
 women of Jerusalem, brought spices
 they had prepared for Him, Alleluia.

An empty tomb was all they found, His
 shroud was folded on the ground, The
 sleeping guards heard not a sound,
 Alleluia!

They thought a thief had come in the
 night, But then they saw a shining light,
 And there, an angel dressed in white,
 Alleluia!

Be not afraid, the angel said "And mourn
 no more, rejoice instead, For Christ is
 risen from the dead,"
 Alleluia!

So seek Him not, you women three,
 Among the dead, for living is He,
 Your Lord has gone to Galilee, Alleluia!

They told apostles Peter and John,
 who for the tomb departed anon,
 and they too found the body gone,
 Alleluia!

They gathered with the other men,
 The risen Lord appeared to them,
 Said "Peace on earth and peace again"
 Alleluia!

But Thomas Twin was out of the room,
 He thought that Christ was still in the
 tomb, And so was filled with doubt and
 gloom, Alleluia!

For Thomas knew that Christ had died,
 He saw no hope, the others had lied,
 Until he saw His hands and side,
 Alleluia!

And blessed they who never saw
 And yet believe, and yet adore,
 For they shall live forever more,
 Alleluia!

O filii et filiae, Rex caelestis, Rex gloriae,
 morte surrexit hodie, Alleluia!

RECESSIONAL HYMN:

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering
 Son; endless is the victory, thou o'er
 death hast won; angels in bright
 raiment rolled the stone away, kept
 the folded grave clothes where thy
 body lay. Thine be the glory, risen
 conquering Son, Endless is the vict'ry,
 thou o'er death hast won.

Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the
 tomb; Lovingly he greets us, scatters
 fear and gloom; let the Church with
 gladness, hymns of triumph sing; for
 her Lord now liveth, death hath lost
 its sting. Thine be the glory, risen
 conquering Son, Endless is the vict'ry,
 thou o'er death hast won.

No more we doubt thee, glorious
 Prince of life; life is naught without
 thee; aid us in our strife; make us
 more than conquerors, through thy
 deathless love: bring us safe through
 Jordan to thy home above.

EUTHANASIA ACTIVISTS WANT NURSING HOMES TO STARVE DEMENTIA PATIENTS TO DEATH

LifeNews.com | WESLEY SMITH | APR 2, 2018 |

Assisted-suicide advocates are pushing an "aggressive advance directive" that would force nursing homes to starve dementia patients — even if they willingly eat — when they reach a specified stage of cognitive decline. NPR is on the story: Treading into ethically and legally uncertain territory, a New York end-of-life agency has approved a new document that lets people stipulate in advance that they don't want food or water if they develop severe dementia.

And, there's a penalty flag on the field. The organization pushing this is not "a New York end-of-life agency," terminology that could make the reader think it was an official government body. Rather, it is an assisted-suicide advocacy group. Hence, its aggressive instructions would not be legally binding, as mandatory starvation is not specifically authorized by New York law. Still, it is worth noting that nursing homes could face family pressure — even lawsuits — to prevent spoon feeding if a patient had signed the group's "aggressive advance directive:"

The document offers two options. One option is a request for "comfort feeding" — providing oral food and water if a patient appears to enjoy or allows it during the final stages of the disease. Another alternative would halt all assisted eating and drinking, even if a patient seems willing to accept it. Advance directives permit signers to decide ahead of time the kind of medical treatments they want or don't want if they become incompetent to make their own medical decisions. But spoon feeding is not a medical treatment! It is humane care, akin to keeping the patient warm and clean.

People should not have the power to force caregivers to starve them to death — any more than they should be able to order their future selves to be placed in front of an open window without a blanket during a blizzard so they die of hypothermia. And imagine if such an order ever became enforceable. How many good and kind caregivers would leave the field if they knew they could be forced to starve their patients — even if the patient begged for food — since the dementia sufferer would be deemed incompetent to make the request.

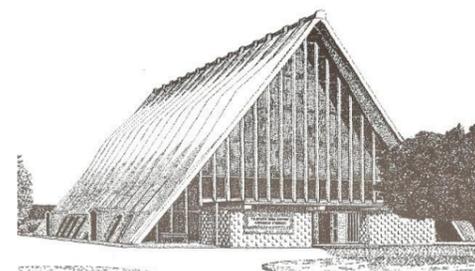
Then, the same people now pushing the "aggressive advance directive" would stomp and yell about how cruel it is to starve people to death. But instead of insisting on stopping the practice, they would say to give them the lethal jab and get it over with quickly. That wouldn't be a medical treatment either. The assisted-suicide movement pretends to want a limited license to end life. But that is a subterfuge. The actual goals are far more radical and sweeping. Those with eyes to see, let them see.

Wesley J. Smith, J.D., is a consultant to the Center for Bioethics and Culture and a bioethics attorney who blogs at Human Exceptionalism.

HOLY FAMILY PARISH

Divine Mercy Sunday (2nd Sunday in Easter)

8th April 2018

**First Reading. Acts 4:32-35;**

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common.

The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect.

None of their members was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed to any members who might be in need.

Responsorial Psalm. Psalm 117(118):2-4,15-18,22-24;

℟. Give thanks to the lord, for He is good, His love is everlasting.

Let the sons of Israel say: "His love has no end."

Let the sons of Aaron say: "His love has no end."

Let those who fear the Lord say: "His love has no end." *℟.*

The Lord's right hand has triumphed: his right hand raised me up.
 I shall not die I shall live and recount his deeds.
 I was punished, I was punished by the Lord, but not doomed to die. *℟.*

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone,
 This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes,
 This day was made by the Lord, we rejoice and are glad. *℟.*

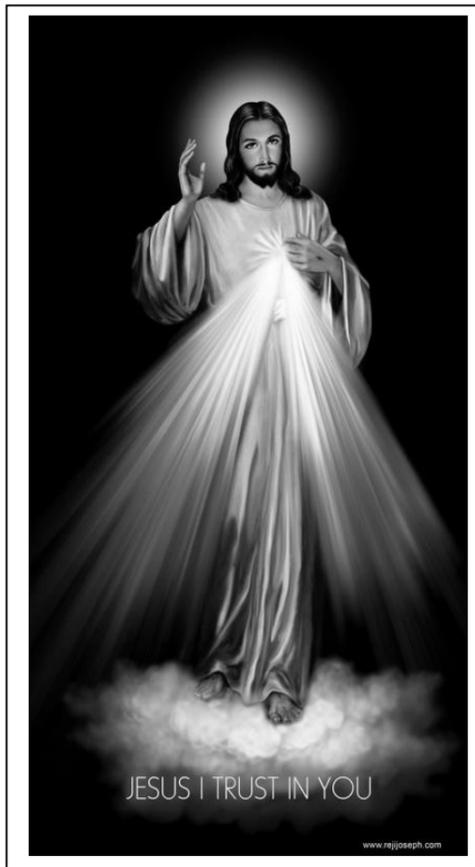
Second Reading. 1 John 5:1-6;

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God; and whoever loves the Father that begot him loves the child whom he begets. We can be sure that we love God's children if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us; this is what loving God is – keeping his commandments; and his commandments are not difficult, because anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world; this is the victory over the world – our faith.

Who can overcome the world? Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God: Jesus Christ who came by water and blood, not with water only, but with water and blood; with the Spirit as another witness – since the Spirit is the truth.

Gospel. John 20:19-31;

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you. 'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.' After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.' Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.



FRANCE'S 'MAXIMILIAN KOLBE' TRADED PLACES WITH FEMALE HOSTAGE IN ISLAMIC TERRORIST ATTACK

Wednesday, March 28, 2018 (LifeSiteNews)

France is under the shock of its most recent Islamic terrorist attack in a small supermarket near the beautifully preserved medieval town of Carcassonne in the Southwest, where Muslim immigrants of North African descent form an ever-increasing part of the population.

But this attack has been very different from the previous shootings and bombings. This time, the focus was on one of the victims who sacrificed his own life in order to allow the many customers and workers trapped in the little "Super U" of Trèbes to escape to freedom while he offered to take the place of a woman hostage held by the attacker.

She was able to go free; he would be viciously attacked, having his throat slit by the radical Muslim terrorist Radouane Ladkim who also shot him three times.

Arnaud Beltrame's subsequent death shocked and moved a nation: celebrated as a hero, he has become a symbol of courage but also of faith. Arnaud Beltrame La Gazette de la Manche. Arnaud Beltrame, 44, was a lieutenant-colonel in the French gendarmerie, a military corps responsible for security in the smaller towns and rural areas.

His career had been one of exceptional bravery and excellence: he had participated in special operations in Iraq, organized security for French nuclear sites and he was also one of the first French military to have joined the elite "GIGN" counter-terrorism and special protection unit.

He had recently taken a post as commanding officer of the gendarmerie in the Carcassonne area in order to join the woman he was to have married next June. Even more importantly, after having been brought up in a family that no longer practiced the Catholic faith, he had undergone a personal and profound conversion about 10 years ago, receiving Holy Communion for the first time and also the sacrament of confirmation.

He lived his Christian Faith

His sacrifice was immediately compared to that of Saint Maximilian Kolbe who offered to take the place of a young father in the Nazi extermination camp of Auschwitz during the Second World War in a roundup of prisoners condemned to die of thirst. The saint died in his stead.

Beltrame was savagely assaulted by Ladkim at 2 p.m. on Passion Friday. Father Jean-Baptiste of the nearby abbey of Lagrasse, which shelters the Catholic community of the Canons Regular of the Mother of God, was able to visit the soldier in hospital that same evening, where he lay, heavily wounded and unconscious but capable of receiving the last rites: the sacrament of Extreme Unction which sometimes brings healing to the ill, and always comfort and pardon to the dying.

Father Jean-Baptiste knew the man well: it was he who was preparing him and his fiancée Marielle, with whom he was already engaged in a civil marriage, for his religious wedding. Marielle was present; she answered the prayers for the dying led by the young priest in the traditional Latin form in which the Canons of Lagrasse celebrate the liturgy.

At the Father's request, a nurse fixed a Miraculous Medal to Beltrame's shoulder with tape: in secularized France where most young people have lost the sense of the faith of their fathers the ministering of the Catholic priest was welcomed with respect and helpfulness.

Beltrame died in the early hours of Saturday morning and the news spread like a wildfire. His heroic act had been that of a deeply faithful man, a man who gave his life to save the life of others. There could have been no starker contrast to the fanatical act of the radical Islamic terrorist who deliberately took the soldier's life, and who had already in his infernal orgy of killing for Allah fatally shot the driver of the car he had hijacked hours before, as well as an employee of the "Super U" and a client, and wounded 17 others.

To Father Jean-Baptiste, it was obvious that Beltrame had been driven not only by his sense of duty as a soldier, but also by the charity that is proper to the Christian faith. Ladkim, on the other hand, appeared as the worshipper of a lesser god, killing where Beltrame served life out of love.

Beltrame's fatal injury was characteristic of Islamic ritual killings: animals must be sacrificed by having their throat slashed and are then bled to death. Beltrame was slain like a dog – the impure animal and hated enemy of Islam – or like a lamb, that offers itself to the slaughterer's knife.

Islam is the rising religion in secularist France: the killing of a devout French Catholic believer in such a manner is acting as a wake-up call as to the realities and values of the two religions. But there is even more to this than meets the eye.

He saved a mother

He saved a mother Beltrame took the place of a female hostage, and certainly saved her life. Julie, 40, is married and has a young daughter, 2-and-a-half years old. She had recently lost her job as an engineer and had accepted a modest post as a cashier at her local supermarket. So, he saved a woman and a mother.

This is the order Christian civilization: "women and children first", where men are expected to protect and defend the most fragile, and especially those who carry the future by bearing children and nurturing them. In Islam, women are second-rate citizens, the objects of men's desire who must be hidden from public view.

It is Christianity that invented courtly love and gallantry. And gallantry means an attitude of courteous respect, but also bravery and valor. This goes very much against the grain of gender ideology.

But so does the whole story. The mother of Arnaud Beltrame, Nicolle Nicolice-Beltrame, made a point of speaking to the press about her deceased son. From the moment she heard on the radio that a lieutenant-colonel of the gendarmes had substituted himself for a hostage, she knew it was he.

Continued over page...

From a boy, he had wanted action, to be the best, to learn what could be learned to help the oppressed, she said. His father, grandfather, and great-grandfather had all served in the army.

And when he was small, Arnaud loved nothing better than to play with toy soldiers. No one thought of stopping him to avoid "gender stereotypes".

It was considered totally normal for him to join a military high school, and then military college and elite officer training where he graduated with the highest marks of his year. Virile courage is nurtured in the family, as his mother's poise and dignity amply demonstrated.

Her son, she said, loved his parents and his brothers, but he always put "the fatherland first, his family afterwards", freely accepting the risks of his perilous missions.

"Knowing how much he hated mediocrity, you want his gesture to help others", she said. "When people are attacked in the subway or on the train, if only people would get together to react and stopped being passive, things would probably be better."

Beltrame will receive a solemn homage from the nation in Paris on Wednesday in the courtyard of the Invalides. His mother approves: "I want it mostly because of the symbol it will bring: in France, we have decided not to take things lying down, we are not running away, we are trying to face the risks of the day, in France and elsewhere."

A lesson of courage, and a lesson of faith

Arnaud Beltrame had taken his conversion most seriously, going on a pilgrimage to the sanctuary of Saint Anne of Auray – the mother of the Virgin Mary – in Brittany in 2015 in order to find a good wife.

That led to his meeting with Marielle, a young and radiant veterinary surgeon with a "profound and discreet Catholic faith", said Father Jean-Baptiste in a statement.

She also has a history of generosity, having done volunteer work with handicapped young people and manning a hotline for people with addictions. She spent three years as a volunteer with the Franciscans of the Bronx. Nothing could be further from the image of women in Islam.

Their engagement took place in the Breton abbey of Timadeuc in 2016; they were civilly married that same year so that Arnaud could obtain a posting in the South of France. They had spent many hours with Father Jean-Baptiste whom they had met by chance while visiting the beautiful medieval abbey of Lagrasse, preparing their religious marriage, which they took most seriously.

Speaking to the French weekly "La Vie", Marielle said: "The funeral of my husband will take place during Holy Week, after his death on a Friday just before Palm Sunday, and this was not insignificant to my eyes. It is with a great deal of hope that I am waiting to celebrate the Easter Resurrection with him."

"Arnaud will never have children according to the order of the flesh. But his striking heroism will encourage many imitators, I am sure, who will be ready to give the gift of self for France and for its Christian joy", concluded Father Jean-Baptiste in his statement.

These words have been seen and shared thousands of times. They cannot but touch the heart of a whole people.

**NEXT SUNDAY:
15 April 2018**

3rd Sunday of Easter (Yr B)
*Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; 1 Jn 2:1-5;
Lk 24:35-48;*

LITURGY ROSTER

Readers: M. D'souza, M. Tagiilima
Prayers of the Faithful: S. Shaw
Offertory: L & S Ahio
Special Ministers: F. Ulugia

CHURCH CLEANING ROSTER

Molloy Family

SUNDAY CUP OF TEA ROSTER

School Holidays

FLOWER ARRANGING ROSTER

S. Molloy

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

8 Apr: Clare Sharkey, Johanna Verbieson
9 Apr: William Hennah, John Williams
10 Apr: Constance Wallen, Chris Johnson,
David Wallen
12 Apr: Phyllis Simcock, Argus Maitland,
Jero Mihaljevich

PARISH FINANCES

Parish	\$ 1,131.10
Priests	\$ 565.50
Total Cash	\$ 1,696.60



Pledge Envelopes – We still have envelopes in the Parish Office waiting for collection.

Donation Receipts: The receipts for donations will be available soon.

Wanting to donate: If you would like to donate to the Parish using the envelope system or through automatic payments. Please contact Ellen on 8346677 (Tues, Thurs, Fri from 10am till 2pm)

-----NOTICES FOR THE PARISH-----

Catechism Classes: Today is the last day for Catechism Classes this term. We will see you again on Sunday 6th May for Term 2.

Hall Reminder: If you have for any reason taken hand towels from the Hall, please return them. Thank you.

-----NOTICES FROM AROUND THE DIOCESE-----

Divine Mercy Sunday: 8th April 7:00pm St John Vianney Parish 317 Hillsborough Road, Hillsborough. There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Blessing of Images, Praise & Worship, Benediction, Holy Mass followed by Veneration of St Faustina's relic. Jesus told St Faustina "My Heart rejoices on this Feast Day" Please bring your divine mercy images & artefacts to be blessed. All Welcome.

Walk in the footsteps of Jesus Christ (A 12 day affordable Pilgrimage to Holy Land) with Father Carlo Carmelo Cruz „For more information, please contact *Ms. Mina Precilla, Telephone: (006103) 8372 5722 , Mobile: 0415 461 665 Email: deerpark@precillatravel.com.au, *Fr Carlo Cruz , Email:stjosephkaitaia@yahoo.com, Telephone: (09) 408 0289

ALONE AGAIN? Widowed, Separated or Divorced? The Beginning Experience is a non-profit organization with the motto "a weekend away for a lifetime of change". The retreat will help you work through your painful loss. From Friday evening 18-20 May 2018. Cost \$295 or early bird price of \$245 if paid by 14 April. Includes accommodation, meals and materials. Contact Carol on (022) 089 0458 or leave a message on (09) 360-3054. For further information visit www.beginningexperience.org.nz.