

Newsletter
June 14, 2010

Armata Bianca

The White Army

Director: Dr. Sheila Kuzmic
Editor: Mrs. Catherine Martineau

Dr. Sheila talked about Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament or Adoration. On Tuesdays at St. Pius X Church there is Adoration starting right after the 7:00am Mass until 6:00 pm. At the Immaculate Conception Church there is Perpetual Adoration where the Blessed Sacrament is exposed 24 hours a day, and every day except on Holy Thursday. So, there is always a Tabernacle you can go to, no excuses. Adoration of the exposed Blessed Sacrament allows us to pray directly in front of the Eucharistic Jesus..

Deacon Steve Dandeneau came to visit the Armata Bianca prayer group today. He is a transitional Deacon and hopes to be ordained as a Priest next June. Today, at St. Pius X Church, Deacon Steve brought Jesus out of the Tabernacle and placed Him in the Monstrance for all the children to pray to. We prayed a decade of the Holy Rosary (Glorious Mystery) and then Deacon Steve talked to the children about why he wants to become a Priest. Deacon Steve said that most of the children here at St. Pius X know about the Eucharist. Jesus Christ died for us on the cross so that we can receive Him in the Eucharist. We receive His body, His blood, His soul and His divinity when we go to communion during Holy Mass. Sometimes when we sin, we not only hurt the person we did something bad to, we hurt our parents too. Also, when we hurt someone, we actually hurt God too because God is everywhere. When we decide to hurt someone we hurt God at the same time, so we are hurting two people. Even the sins you did that nobody else knows about, you are still hurting God because God can hear you. We are all sinners. But Jesus died to save us from all sins, no matter how bad the sin is. From the day the first human being came about on Earth, to the last human being who will leave this life, Jesus has saved. Before Jesus died, at the Last Supper, Jesus took the bread and the wine and turned it into himself. He could do this because He was God. He has the power to do this, not only to save us from our sins here on Earth, but also so that we can live forever with Him in Heaven. But because of sin, we can't live forever. We needed something that would give us the ability to live forever. So Jesus took bread and wine and turned it into himself, and we need to realize that the Eucharist is very special because it gives us the ability to live forever. So, that is the heart of what a Priest is, to help people to live forever. A Priest turns the bread and the wine into Jesus or the Eucharist through the power of God during Holy Mass and without the Holy Mass, without Holy Priests, we will die, the world will end. The only reason that Priests hear confessions and forgive people's sins is so that they will be able to receive that bread and wine turned into the Eucharist. If you have done something seriously wrong, then you can not receive Jesus unless you go to confession and are truly sorry for your sins and will try to not do them again.



Deacon Steve Dandeneau

When Deacon Steve was younger, he didn't want to be an altar server because his parents were really religious. His parents said that he was going to be a Priest someday and he said no, I don't want to be an altar server because it wasn't cool. He didn't want to be a "dork" at church who sits up in the sanctuary, even though he didn't consider others that did that as dorks. He thought he would have to be really neatly dressed and couldn't run around and be the kid that he wanted to be. That was a big mistake on his part, to say no to being an altar server, because he didn't know what he was doing. God was calling him to do that and he said no way. When he was in High School he sort of wandered away from what Christians do and did his own thing. But after a while, deep down in his heart he realized that he shouldn't be doing those things. God, in the midst of all of that, was making him think about the Priesthood. At first he ignored that, which it isn't very good to ignore your friends because you hurt them when you do that. God is our best friend. It doesn't make us happy when we ignore God and do our own thing. Whether we think about it or not, He is always there. He always knows better than we do what is good for us.

Finally, when he got to college, he met some friends who used to pray a lot when they were kids, through middle school and high school; they were really close to God their whole lives. When he got to know them a little bit better, he was kind of confused that they were really holy people and even though he came from a good Catholic family, with very religious parents and he knew the faith, he wasn't holy. He was partying and doing things he wasn't supposed to do and he thought that it was strange that his friends didn't. He was confused by that and it made him think. After a while he noticed that his friends probably didn't sin half as much as he did, yet they seemed more successful and much happier. He thought that was weird and what is going on here!? He was eighteen years old when he joined the Knights of Columbus and started praying the Rosary. By giving me rosary beads they reminded me that I should pray besides attending Sunday Mass, and about this time my more religious friends told me they wanted to start a prayer meeting. Once we did that, I became more and more interested in theology and I struggled back and forth between the two types of life (living devoutly and living as a purely nominal Catholic) until October of our sophomore year. Deacon Steve realized that God has to be the most important part of your life and not just a small part of it. In the second year of college, he met another friend that was more religious than him. He told Deacon Steve about all of the lives of the Saints and the cool miracles. [One of the Armata Bianca children mentioned Our Lady of Fatima and Sister Lucia, then St. Bernadette with Our Lady of Lourdes, and also St. Paul who was blinded. Deacon Steve mentioned St. Padre Pio who died in 1968 and he could bilocate, he could read people's minds and he could talk to his Guardian Angel and had seen his Guardian Angel.] So after some time his friend told Deacon Steve that he should seriously consider becoming a Priest. Deacon Steve still wasn't sure yet. Then his friend asked him to go to daily Mass and Steve said, no I need to do this report for school. Then a couple of months later another friend came to him and asked him to come to daily Mass. The college that he was going to called St. Anselm College is a really beautiful, small Catholic College which was built on the grounds of a Monastery. There are different buildings there but it's run by Monks who teach some of the classes. So they have Mass every day, just like at St. Pius X Church. You can come here to Mass at St. Pius at 7:00am every day, except on Saturday it's at 8:00 am. Well, when his friend told him about daily Mass, Deacon Steve tried to excuse himself from that by saying that he didn't have any time for that. His friend said that he found when he took the time to go to Church; he has more time to do his homework. This made Deacon Steve think, that God created everything and God has all power. So if he took one half hour to go and pray, maybe God would help him write his report. So he went out with his religious friends and they had dinner together. He was told that he should go to confession, and then go to Mass but his report was due that day and thought he could just go to Mass the next day. So he did and when he was there, **because he did go to confession first and then go to communion, his soul was ready to receive the Eucharist. It was then that he noticed that he felt as innocent and pure as the Saints in Heaven. He thought, wow, this must be why all of these people go to Mass all of the time. Because it makes them feel like this.....like children. This was the powerful moment when God drew me once and for all into a life of devotion.** When I did what my friends suggested, **I received a very powerful feeling of spiritual consolation**, which provided me with the insight that this would bring the kind of fulfillment I had been seeking. If your soul is not really ready to receive the Eucharist, then you shouldn't receive it. But if you do go to confession then your soul is ready for the Eucharist. When that is the case then your soul is going to have the ability to live forever. It is important to pray every day of your life and as you go to Adoration, start praying even more until you are praying about an hour every day. Go to confession every couple of weeks and pray the Rosary every day. When he started to do all of those things, over the course of time, he studied more about God and more about the Catholic religion and he started to think about becoming a Priest. God led him to decide that what he wanted to do with his life was to give people that gift from God, that ability to be forgiven for all of their sins and that ability to live forever. Part of the Priest's job is to preach the Word of God so that people want to change and be forgiven of their sins and want to receive the Eucharist. So that is why he wants to become a Priest because he experienced all of these great and wonderful things by praying to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament like all of you here at Armata Bianca. When you feel forgiven of your sins you become a friend

of Jesus Christ. Most of you will grow up and get married and become parents. But some of you will become Priests or Nuns. You don't have to do it, but you should say "yes" because it is such an awesome gift from God to be able to pray for people and do all that a Priest or Nun does.

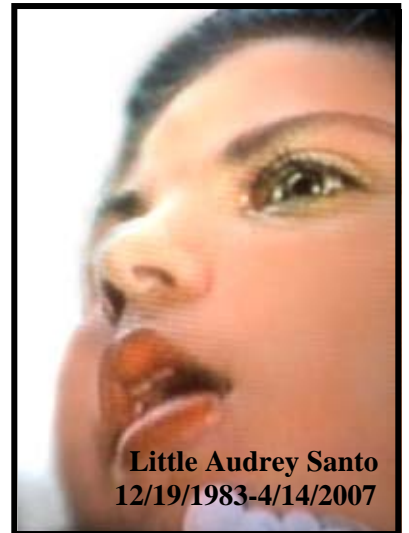
Next, Deacon Steve answered some questions from the children. One was about being an altar server and Deacon Steve said that if you decide to become an altar server don't give up half way. Try it for a year and then decide whether to continue or stop. It's just like if you signed up for a sports team and quit half way through the season. You wouldn't want to do that, you would want to try it until the season is over and then decide if you should continue or stop.

Deacon Steve blessed the Armata Bianca prayer group. Then he went up to the altar and brought Jesus from the Monstrance to the Tabernacle while we all knelt down and prayed silently. We thanked Deacon Steve for coming and sharing his story with us. Dr. Sheila told Deacon Steve that the Armata Bianca group would be praying continuously for him.

For the next school year, Dr. Sheila mentioned the possibility of Enthroning Jesus in a special place at our school. Jesus is already at the school but He wants to come in a very special way. When we talk about enthroning, we want to make Jesus, King of our homes, schools and even workplaces. The enthronement of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is a special dedication to the Heart of Jesus. That means that Jesus becomes the Ruler, He becomes the owner and He becomes the King of everything in our homes or schools including the people. We all come under the Lordship of Jesus. Before the Enthronement, we try to go to confession and get our souls cleaned up, then we forgive each other for any sins we have committed against the teachers or fellow students. Then we promise to say the Rosary every day and ask Our Lady, who was the first to receive Jesus in her womb, to come and prepare our hearts for the King. A Priest comes and does a special Mass to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and a special picture of Jesus is placed in the school permanently. Why would we do this? Jesus promises very special graces and blessings to the people who enshrine and enthrone Him. First and foremost, He promises peace and keeping everyone together. He also promises many other things too, to the teachers and Principal and all the children that are there. Every day we can make Jesus the King of our hearts. **If we can't get to church every day, we can always do A Spiritual Communion.** You can ask Jesus where ever you are, you can be on the school bus, in the back seat of your car on your way to school, you can wake up in the morning and say Jesus-I cannot receive You right now in Communion but I ask that You come spiritually into my heart and bring me every single grace so that I may love and worship You as best as I can today. There is no limit to a Spiritual Communion, you can do it one-thousand times a day. Padre Pio talked about Spiritual Communion. Every time you do that Jesus comes to you. As long as you are not in mortal sin, Jesus comes right into your heart.

Dr. Sheila next told us a little story about a little girl named Little Audrey Marie Santo who lived in Worcester, Massachusetts. She died about three years ago. When she was three years old, on a summer day on August 9, 1987, she accidently fell into the family swimming pool and drowned. Audrey recovered but was rushed to the hospital where she was overmedicated. The doctor prescribed too much Phenobarbital and Audrey lapsed into a semi-coma state for the rest of her life. Right from the beginning in the hospital, hundreds of people came to pray for Audrey; old friends, relatives and even strangers. Catholics and people from other faiths came and sent prayers, cards and gifts to Audrey. The hospital room was so inundated with people, media and phone calls they eventually put Audrey in a private room. For some reason God wanted Audrey to be known right from the beginning. After many, many months in the hospital, Audrey's mother took Audrey home. Instead of putting her into an institution, Audrey's mother Linda felt that she would receive better care being home with her family. So, four months after the accident, in November 1987, Audrey was brought home. Well, many interesting things began happening in Audrey's house. Dr. Sheila and her children have been to Audrey's house. Statues and pictures began weeping oil and some statues and pictures began exuding blood. As soon as visitors come, the oil begins. The oil represents healing. Audrey was also a victim soul and suffered for many things including the sin of abortion. **Bishop Daniel Reilly of Worcester Massachusetts allowed the Tabernacle to be placed in Little Audrey's room because he recognized that something very spiritual and mystical was happening there.**

Little Audrey couldn't move and she had to breath with a tube in her trachea. . She would spend her days, as we now know, praying. She chose to become a victim soul for Jesus to offer all of her suffering for others. When the Tabernacle was placed in her room, within a year, many Eucharistic miracles began occurring. On five different occasions Hosts have bled. About a year ago, the Bishops from the Vatican in Rome came to visit the Santos family because Little Audrey's case for canonization has been opened up.



Little Audrey Santo
12/19/1983-4/14/2007

(Little Audrey's web site is www.littleaudreysanto.org). There were many healings that happened at Little Audrey's house. Healings of cancer and multiple sclerosis happened, not because Audrey was healing them but because Jesus was worshipped and adored through her. **Dr. Sheila said that she learned a very important lesson from Audrey. She learned that the more you adore Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, the more you become like Him. The more you sit before Jesus and receive Him and talk to Him, you can't help but become like Him.** Little Audrey became like him in a suffering body way. She brought many souls to Heaven. So Little Audrey is a powerful little Saint. You can go and visit where Little Audrey lived and died. She died on the eve of Divine Mercy Sunday, April 14, 2007 at the age of twenty-four. You can go on Mondays and Thursdays to visit Little Audrey and pray. Her garage was turned into a Chapel where they pray and love Seminarians like Deacon Steve. Audrey loved Seminarians because she loved the Priesthood. Every time a Priest would walk into the room she couldn't talk but her heart rate would go up. You could see tears come down from her eyes because she had such a love for the Priesthood. She knew that the Priesthood meant Jesus. **Remember without the Priests we will not have Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. The only way that Jesus can come to us in body, blood, soul and divinity is through the Sacrament of the Priesthood.** Many visionaries came to visit Little Audrey including Father Rene' Laurentin who is the worlds renown famous Mariologist. Many people from all over the world used to come and see Little Audrey. For twenty-one years Little Audrey suffered for Jesus. Audrey's family flew Little Audrey to Medjugorje and the visionaries there said that Little Audrey gave her "fiat" to Our Lord. Our Lord said to her, Audrey you can either come home now to Heaven or you can stay and suffer for souls. Audrey chose to stay and suffer for souls because that is harder than to come home to Eternal Paradise. Jesus gave her the choice. Little Audrey's cause is now open for Sainthood and so if we pray to her, miracles can happen.

*Families that pray together,
stay together.*