

SAINT FRANCIS EXCHANGE

The Newsletter and Bulletin of the Oratory of Saint Francis of Assisi

APRIL 2017 – PASSIONTIDE AND EASTER

LETTER FROM THE MONSIGNOR

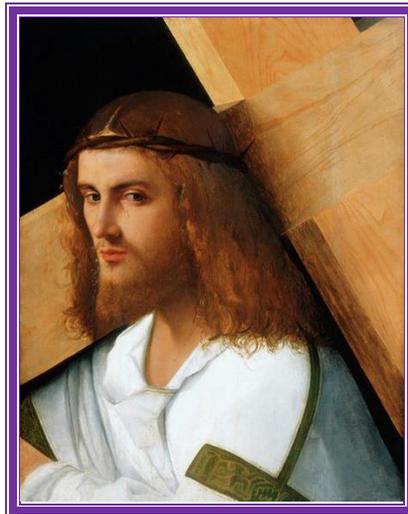
CHRISt being come an high Priest of the good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. – Hebrews 9:11

THE Sacrifice of Our Lord upon the Cross is the most perfect oblation ever offered to God, because it is the Sacrifice of God, to God, for God. Because this Sacrifice is of divine institution, we, the priests of the Holy Church, must always take care to perform our sacerdotal duties and actions with the greatest care, keeping in mind Whom we stand in place of, and which we do in commemoration of Him (cf. S. Luke 22.19).

Because Catholic Priests, faithful to the traditional doctrines, disciplines and rites of the Church, take this obligation seriously and reject the constant upheaval, reformation (actually deformation) and mutation of the things of God we are often accused of being “rigid” and “living in the past.” I can attest, speaking for myself, that I am *not only* rigid, I am unyielding! Also, if one lives in Christ he lives not “in the past,” because Christ is the same, *yesterday, today and forever more* (cf. Hebrews 13:8).

God cannot change, as change is against His nature. As an example, if God *could* change His mind, wouldn't He have

changed the means of our salvation by *easing* His Passion and Death? Could not our salvation have been wrought in an easier manner? Why was it brought about in such an horrific and barbaric manner? Why wouldn't God spare Himself such torture? Because God does not change, and does not amend or alter His promises to us (cf. Deuteronomy 7:9). The Saviour took on our sin and paid our debt, doing so with great love; not only love for us, but love for God, to Whom in justice the debt was owed.



Today we hear much about “justice” from NewRome and its agents: but only of “human justice” that is eschewed with a neo-political bent. The Christian, ever aware of the price paid for his sin-debt, must seek justice for God before all other considerations: *seek ye therefore first the Kingdom of God and His justice* (S. Matthew 6:33).

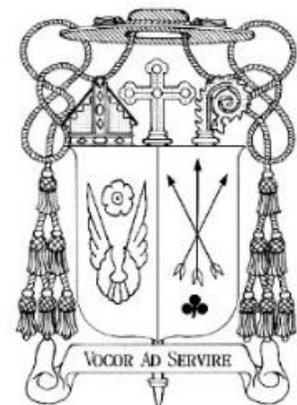
Fidelity to the *authentic* Catholic Faith, fidelity to the *authentic* Catholic Rites,

Ceremonies, Doctrines and Disciplines is our duty to the justice of God. This is why we are *traditional* – not due to preference or nostalgia. God will always be faithful to His promises to us, we, therefore, must take great care to be faithful to our promises to Him, most especially our Baptismal Promises. “Loyalty and Fidelity” to the new-religion of Vatican II and its “authority” is *not* being faithful to those promises: the approbation or permission to do what the Church *has always done* is not in the competency of these heretics. Just as the English Martyrs had the right *and the obligation* to obey God rather than men (cf. Acts 5:29), so too do we, the *real* Catholics, have the right and obligation to continue to do, act and believe what we have always done, acted and believed.

As always, I am most grateful for your prayers and support. Be assured of my paternal benediction and prayers, especially at Holy Mass. I remain,

In Christ the King,

Monsignor ✠ Thomas JF Sebastian



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q: When our Lady was born was she born carrying the cross given to her by God when she accepted God's will to have Jesus and to be His Mother? Or was it a lesser cross that increased to bigger one before Jesus' ministry? Did Saint Joseph carry his cross at birth or do we know by Holy Scripture/ Holy Tradition if God gave a bigger cross to him later in life?

In Christ, Anonymous, CA.

A: BECAUSE Our Lady was conceived without sin she inherited no debt nor requirement to suffer, that is, she had no "cross to bear." Because she has a perfect love of God she desires to share in God's suffering that is caused by sinners. Her acceptance of becoming the Mother of God accepts this suffering, even though she did not merit it. The suffering on earth of the Blessed Mother is her sharing in the "suffering" of God due to our sin.

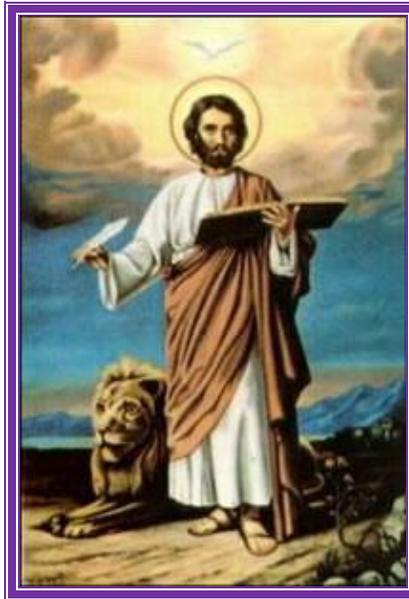
We do not know from scripture how much Blessed Joseph suffered, however, we do know that he was "troubled" (see S. Matthew 1:18 - 24). Blessed Joseph is called "just" in the scriptures and so we must assume that, like Our Lady, if he did suffer he did so on account of his perfect love of God. Therefore his suffering did not increase but remained constant and in proportion to his love of God.



Our Lady of Sorrows

If you have a question, please feel free to e-mail:

info@stfrancisoratory.org



**S. Mark, Evangelist
(25th of April):
Pray for us!**

PRAYER REQUESTS

YOUR continued prayers are requested for the sick, especially, Mr. Paul Howard, Miss Lizabeta Rubio, Mr. Frank Calderon, Mrs. Dorothy Smith,

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Mr. Joseph Bremmer, Mr. Alfred Smith, Mr. & Mrs. William Schiermeyer, Mrs. Denise Huizenga, Mr. John Owen, and Mrs. Maria Gomez. Please also remember in your prayers the souls of those who have died, especially for Mrs. Roberta Dalton†, Mr. David Damits†, Mr. Gino Dinnocente†, Sgt. Kenneth L. May, USMC (Ret.)†, and Mr. Alfredo "Freddy" Cortes†. *If you know of someone unable to attend Holy Mass due to sickness please be sure to let one of the priests know so they can arrange for a sick call.*



FIRST FRIDAY AND FIRST SATURDAY

OUR First Friday devotions will be on the 7th of APRIL, and our First Saturday devotions will be on the 1st of APRIL. First Friday Mass is at 7:00 p.m., followed by Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament; First Saturday will be at 8:00 a.m., followed by the Devotions to the Immaculate Heart.

The **HOLY LEAGUE** also meets at 6:45 pm on First Friday.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

PALM SUNDAY: Blessing and Procession of Palms – 9:30 am
Holy Mass – 10:00 am
HOLY THURSDAY: Mass of the Lord's Supper – 7:00 pm
Adoration – 9:00 pm
GOOD FRIDAY: Stations of the Cross – 12:00 pm
Mass of the Pre-Sanctified – 1:00 pm
HOLY SATURDAY: Vigil of Easter – 8:00 am
EASTER SUNDAY: Solemn High Mass – 10:00 am



FROM THE SICK CALL TO THE FUNERAL

*A Practical Guide for Catholics
Concerning Dignified and Proper
Care for Our Sick, Dying and Dead*

And making a gathering, he [Judas] sent twelve thousand drachms of silver to Jerusalem for sacrifice to be offered for the sins of the dead, thinking well and religiously concerning the resurrection, (for if he had not hoped that they that were slain should rise again, it would have seemed superfluous and vain to pray for the dead,) And because he considered that they who had fallen asleep with godliness, had great grace laid up for them. It is therefore a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead, that they may be loosed from sins.

2 Maccabees 12:43 - 46

As with almost every aspect of Catholic Life, the customs and laws that previously guided the faithful around the spiritual care of

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their sick loved ones have fallen into disuse or have been simply disregarded. The same can be said for the customs and laws concerning the death and burial of Catholics. I compile these sources for an easy and at hand reference to aid and prepare Catholics who are serious about their Faith and for the proper care of their loved ones.

THE SICK CALL

When a loved one is ill you should not wait until they are "near the end" to ask for a Sick Call; the simple inability to make it to Sunday Mass or a Holy Day is a reasonable cause. If one is going to be convalescing for an extended period of time a weekly or semi-monthly visit can also be arranged. When the Priest arrives at the home he should be greeted with a lit candle (and a small bell if possible) as he will be carrying the Blessed Sacrament with him. When he enters the family should kneel; he is then escorted to the room where the sick person is. On the table next to the bed there should be a Crucifix, two lighted candles, a glass of water and some cotton balls. The Priest will bless the room and begin the prayers for the sick person; if the person is conscious they should make Confession before Holy Communion. If the sick person is to receive the Sacrament of Extreme Unction (also called Anointing) the person's hands and feet should be easily accessible: the eyes, ears, nose, lips, hands and feet are anointed with the Oil of the Sick.

The family should be praying during the

administration of the Sacraments, either responding to Father's prayers, if no Server is in attendance, or reciting the Holy Rosary for the needs of the sick person.

After Father finishes and imparts his blessing upon the sick, and those in attendance, he should again be escorted to the front door with the still lit candle. It is customary to give the Priest a stipend for his travel and time.

If the sick person is in hospital or in hospice the family should try to take as much of the same care as possible: in an Emergency Room where the family may not be able to enter Father will be sure that all the Rites are observed, or at minimum what will suffice for a valid administration.

THE CARE OF THE DEAD

If the sick person has passed away the Priest should still be contacted as soon as possible and he will at least bless the body.

It is every Catholic's duty to prepare for their death: finding a Catholic Funeral Home is paramount, as is preparing as much beforehand to ease the burden of the family.

It is customary to have a public visitation of the deceased; however, if there has been damage to the body this may be dispensed with. There must still be public prayers on behalf of the deceased, either at the Funeral Home or the Church in the presence of the body. The custom of the public Rosary the evening before the Mass of Requiem is most

laudable. If possible the family should arrange for a Solemn Mass of Requiem, or at least a Sung Mass. The Priest will usually assist with the printing of programmes and instructions for those who will attend; announcements will be made before for non-Catholics. It is the traditional practice that Holy Communion is administered *before* Holy Mass rather than during.

Mourning attire should always be black, especially for the immediate family and Pall Bearers. The Requiem Mass is a formal occasion, and out of respect for God, the Holy Church, the deceased and their family, participants should be made aware of Catholic Funeral Customs, i.e.: formal attire, women in dresses and with heads covered, men in suits and ties, no vulgar or casual attire (or hats).

It is not the custom for eulogies for the deceased at a Catholic Funeral; if family and friends wish to speak about the deceased they should arrange to do so at the visitation or viewing the evening before, and never in the Church. Lastly, if music is to be played at the viewing it should be sober and reverent: no popular music will ever be used during the Funeral Mass.

A stipend for the Church should be given to Father the day of the Requiem Mass and Funeral, and if there are Altar Servers and musicians they must also be given stipends at the same time.

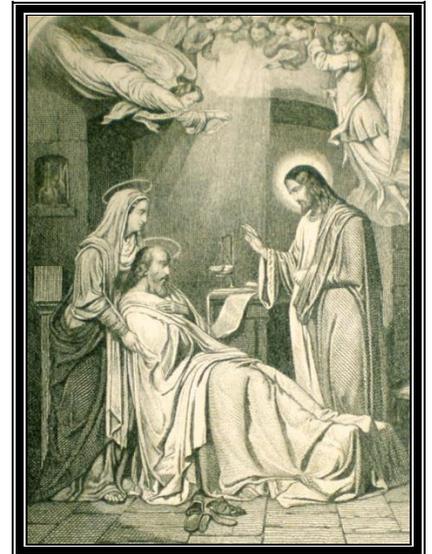
It is also a wonderful custom for the faithful to arrange for a Mass to be offered on the fortieth day after the

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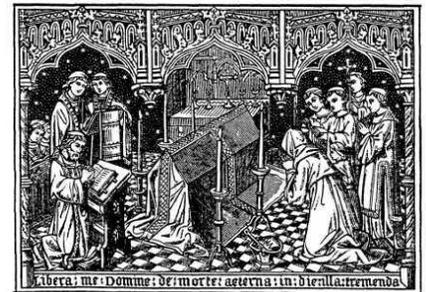
death or funeral; the Priest is then invited to bless the headstone of the deceased's grave.

Also remember that *cremation* is not a Catholic custom and should not be considered just because it is more economical.

If the faithful have any additional questions or considerations they should make an appointment with their Pastor *before* the need arises.



The Death of S. Joseph



If you have a Catholic topic that you are interested in learning more about, send your request to "info@stfrancisoratory.org"

MASS INTENTIONS FOR APRIL 2017

01 April 2017	<i>feria</i>	8:00 AM	Friends & Benefactors	
02 April 2017	PASSION SUNDAY	10:00 AM	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i>	
03 April 2017	<i>feria</i>	Private Mass	Private Intention	Anonymous
04 April 2017	S. Isadore	8:00 AM	Holy Souls†	Mr. Alan Cohen
05 April 2017	S. Vincent Ferrer	8:00 AM	Holy Souls†	Mr. Alan Cohen
06 April 2017	<i>feria</i>	8:00 AM	Holy Souls†	Mr. Alan Cohen
07 April 2017	SEVEN SORROWS OF THE BVM	7:00 PM	Holy Souls†	Mr. Alan Cohen
08 April 2017	<i>feria</i>	8:00 AM	Holy Souls†	Mr. Alan Cohen
09 April 2017	PALM SUNDAY	10:00 AM	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i>	
10 April 2017	Monday in Holy Week	Private Mass	Private Intention	Anonymous
11 April 2017	Tuesday in Holy Week	8:00 AM	Private Intention	Msgr. Sebastian
12 April 2017	SPY WEDNESDAY	8:00 AM	Private Intention	Msgr. Sebastian
13 April 2017	MAUNDY THURSDAY	7:00 PM	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i>	
14 April 2017	GOOD FRIDAY	Noon	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i>	
15 April 2017	HOLY SATURDAY	8:00 AM	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i>	
16 April 2017	EASTER SUNDAY	10:00 AM	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i>	
17 April 2017	EASTER MONDAY	Private Mass	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i>	
18 April 2017	EASTER TUESDAY	Private Mass	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i>	
19 April 2017	Easter Wednesday	Private Mass	Private Intention	Msgr. Sebastian
20 April 2017	Easter Thursday	8:00 AM	Private Intention	Msgr. Sebastian
21 April 2017	Easter Friday	8:00 AM	Private Intention	Msgr. Sebastian
22 April 2017	Easter Saturday	8:00 AM	Private Intention	Msgr. Sebastian
23 April 2017	LOWSUNDAY	10:00 AM	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i>	
24 April 2017	S. Fidelis of Sigmaringen	Private Mass	Private Intention	Msgr. Sebastian
25 April 2017	S. MARK	8:00 AM	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i>	
26 April 2017	Ss. Cletus & Macellinus, Pps	8:00 AM	Private Intention	Msgr. Sebastian
27 April 2017	S. Peter Canisius	8:00 AM	Private Intention	Msgr. Sebastian
28 April 2017	S. Paul of the Cross	8:00 AM	Holy Souls†	Mr. Alan Cohen
29 April 2017	S. Peter of Verona	8:00 AM	Holy Souls†	Mr. Alan Cohen
30 April 2017	Second Sunday after Easter	10:00 AM	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i>	



Sunday Mass Time:
10:00 am – Parochial Mass
with Homily

Daily Mass Times:
Tuesday through Saturday
8:00 am

First Friday 7:00 pm

Confessions one half of an hour before Holy Mass

16826 Saticoy Street

Entrance and Parking around back

Van Nuys, CA 91406-2776

(818) 786-2540

e-mail:

info@stfrancisoratory.org

Be sure to visit our web site at:

www.stfrancisoratory.org

✿ Saint Francis Chapel is staffed by the **Priestly Society of Christ the King (SSCR)**; properly trained and ordained Roman Catholic Priests who are faithful to the teachings and disciplines of the Roman Catholic Church. Saint Francis is not affiliated with the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. Our Holy Fathers, the Popes, most especially Saint Pope Pius V in His infallible decree *Quo Primum*, have given their permission in perpetuity to offer the Traditional Latin Mass (*Missal of S. Pope Pius V* and rubrics of *S. Pope Pius X*).

MASS GUILD

Holy Mass is offered on the First Saturday of every month for all Friends and benefactors of **SAINT FRANCIS ORATORY CHAPEL**. Your generous donation (one time *or* monthly) enables you to be remembered upon the Altars of the Society, where *only* the traditional Latin Mass is offered, as codified and canonized by His Holiness, Saint Pope Pius V, *perpetually* approved of.

We would like to remind those who send Mass requests to **PLEASE** include the name of the person and/or intention with your stipend. Mass Cards will be sent to concerned parties upon request. Thank you and God bless you!



RECOMMENDED WEBSITES:

www.traditioninaction.com
www.traditio.com
www.cfnews.org
www.remnantnewspaper.com

N.B.: Recommendation of a website is for information, and does not constitute association with or full agreement of opinions or positions.