

# SAINT FRANCIS EXCHANGE

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

DECEMBER 2024 – ADVENT

## LETTER FROM THE MONSIGNOR

**S**TIR up Thy power, we beseech Thee, O Lord, and come: that from the threatening dangers of our sins, by Thy protection we may deserve to be rescued, and be saved by Thy deliverance.

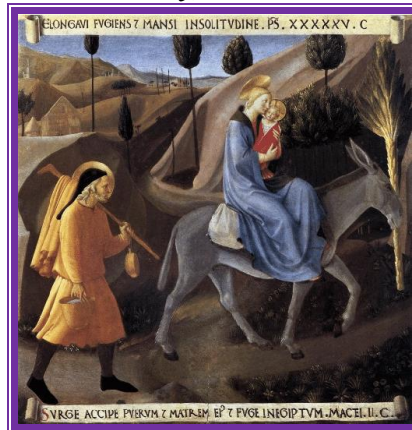
*Collect from the Mass of the First Sunday in Advent*

**O**UR need for a Saviour remains, and this is why we pray that our Lord Jesus Christ comes to us, at the Incarnation and Nativity as well as at the consummation of the world. The Prophet teaches us, *Therefore the Lord Himself shall give you a sign. Behold a virgin shall conceive, and bear a Son, and His Name shall be called Emmanuel* (Isaias 7:14), and he continues: *For a Child is born to us, and a Son is given to us, and the government is upon His shoulder: and His Name shall be called, Wonderful, Counsellor, God the Mighty, the Father of the world to come, the Prince of Peace. His Empire shall be multiplied, and there shall be no end of peace: He shall sit upon the throne of David, and upon His Kingdom; to establish it and strengthen it with judgment and with justice, from henceforth and forever: the zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this* (Isaias 9:6 – 7).

The Advent season is one of the most joyful of the entire Liturgical Year, this is because of the two-fold promise of Our Lord and God: this world shall receive a

Saviour and Redeemer (promise kept) and that He shall return at the consummation of this material world (promise to come).

The Advent season also reminds us to look at the world through the innocent eyes of a child, with great wonder and joy, remembering the admonition of the Saviour: *Amen I say to you, unless you be converted, and become as little children, you shall not enter into the Kingdom of heaven* (S. Matthew 18:3).



This command towards innocence includes the virtue of purity; we must, without exception, embrace Holy Purity, in body, mind and soul. When man lost his original innocence he took upon himself original sin, hence his need for a spiritual remedy: Our Lord and Redeemer Jesus Christ, Who teaches us: *Blessed are the clean of heart: for they shall see God* (S. Matthew 5:8).

This world is at odds with Holy Purity and wicked impurity is everywhere, most especially at our fingertips. Yet, wickedness cannot win, because goodness is greater: the goodness of God is glorious

and powerful, as the Psalmist prays: *Praise the Lord, for He is good: for His mercy endureth forever* (Psalm 135:1).

Lastly, we have entered into the season of Hope, and as we look forward to commemoration of Our Lord's Nativity let us not forget to look with *hope* for His glorious return, as the Apostle reminds us: *And that knowing the season; that it is now the hour for us to rise from sleep. For now our salvation is nearer than when we believed* (Romans 13:11)! We do not await in fear or horror, rather, we hold to the promise of Our Lord that we will be preserved by Him in the last days; *And unless those days had been shortened, no flesh should be saved: but for the sake of the elect those days shall be shortened* (S. Matthew 24:22). If we remain faithful and hold strong in the *hope* we will save our souls and be rewarded with eternity in the bliss of God's perfect presence.

May this season bring you and your families joy and *hope*, keep a faithful watch for the Saviour, and please pray for our little Chapel family every day during Holy Advent.

As always, 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:** My Lord:  
Civil Law removes the obligation of a debt through “bankruptcy”, even if at a later time one may be able to pay the debt back. Does this also satisfy the moral obligation to pay back a debt?

*Anonymous*

**A:** While a Civil Court can remove the *legal* obligation to pay back a *material debt* when the holder of the debt agrees, even in perpetuity, however, this does not fully remove the *moral obligation* to restore in justice what is lawfully owed *when possible*. This can also be done in other ways, *e.g.*: the person who holds a personal debt dies – this does not forgive the debt, rather, the borrower must still find a way to pay back either a relative or even donate to a charitable organisation in the name of he who was owed.

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

[info@stfrancisoratory.org](mailto:info@stfrancisoratory.org)

## PRAYER REQUESTS

**YOUR** continued prayers are requested for the sick, continued prayers are requested for the sick, especially Mrs. Norma Hernandez, Mr. Charles Edward McClusky, Mr. Paul Howard, Mr. John Owen, Mr. Jeff Michaels and Mrs. Maria Gomez. Please also remember in your prayers the souls of those who have died, especially Mr. Alessandro Garofalo II†. *If you know of someone unable to attend Holy*

*Mass due to sickness, please be sure to let the Monsignor know so he can arrange for a sick call.*



*Real Men Kneel at Holy Mass!*

## HOW TO DONATE AND SEND MASS STIPENDS

**D**ONATIONS and Mass Stipends can be sent on-line via **PayPal** and **Zelle** (be sure to select *donation* and not payment) or you can always send it to our Post Office Box:

St. Francis of Assisi  
PO Box 8469  
Van Nuys, CA 91409-8469

The normal stipend for a Mass Intention is \$20.00. Please be sure to include the person's name (w/Mr., Mrs. or Miss) and if they are living or deceased. Also, be sure to indicate if you wish a **Mass Card** to be sent to that person or their family.

Your continued support is appreciated and quite needed to continue our mission of offer the true and traditional Latin Mass of the Holy Catholic Church. The True Mass and Faith are ours to protect, defend and support!

## HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION FOR 2024

8 December 2023 (Sunday)  
*Feast of the Immaculate Conception*  
25 December 2024 (Wednesday)

Saint Francis Exchange  
*Feast of the Nativity of the Lord*

## SUNDAYS OF DECEMBER: THE CATHOLIC HAND MISSAL

In order to assist the faithful following Holy Mass with their hand missals here are the Sunday Masses for December:

**1 December 2024:**

**First Sunday in Advent:**

Commemoration of the *Blessed Virgin Mary* and *Against the Persecutors of the Church* at the Collect, Secret and Postcommunion.

**8 December 2024:**

**Immaculate Conception of the BVM:**

Commemoration of the *Second Sunday in Advent* at the Collect, Secret and Postcommunion.

**15 December 2024:**

**Third Sunday in Advent:**

Commemoration of the *Octave of the Immaculate Conception* at the Collect, Secret and Postcommunion.

**22 December 2024:**

**Fourth Sunday in Advent:**

Commemoration of the *Blessed Virgin Mary* and *Against the Persecutors of the Church* at the Collect, Secret and Postcommunion.

**29 December 2024:**

**Sunday within the Octave of Christmas:**

Commemoration of *S. Thomas of Canterbury* and the *Octave of the Nativity* at the Collect, Secret and Postcommunion.

**T**o correctly participate at Holy Mass one *silently* unites his prayers with those of the Church through pious and attentive meditation of the prayers and reading of Holy Mass.

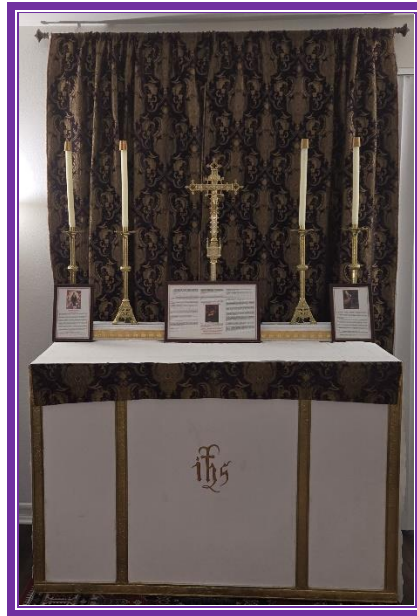
If you are unsure how to correctly set your hand missal

3  
 arrive early for Holy Mass and ask the Monsignor to assist you. It is also important to become familiar with the *Ordinary of the Mass*, those parts that never change, i.e.: Kyrie, Gloria, Creed, Sanctus, Benedictus, and the Agnus Dei. And of course the Canon of the Mass, and the *Propers of the Mass*, those which vary according to the feasts of the day, i.e., Introit, Collect(s)(after the Gloria or Dominus Vobiscum), Epistle, Gradual, Alleluia, Tract or Sequence, Gospel, Secret, Communion Verse and Post Communion. On many feasts or days there are *Commemorations* (additional prayers) at the Collect, Secret and Postcommunion. The careful attention to these prayers and readings will help one enter into a deeper spiritual relationship with the Holy Liturgy, the Saints and Mysteries of God.

*Our Lady of Guadalupe*



*12<sup>th</sup> of December:  
 Pray for us!*



*The Hiding Mass in Van Nuys*

**Sunday Mass Time:**

10:00 am

(818) 786-2540

e-mail: [info@stfrancisoratory.org](mailto:info@stfrancisoratory.org)

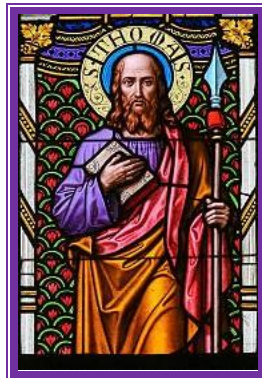
Be sure to visit our web site at:

[www.stfrancisoratory.org](http://www.stfrancisoratory.org)

**N.B.:** Our Mailing Address is:

Post Office Box 8469

Van Nuys, CA 91409-8469



*S. Thomas, Apostle*

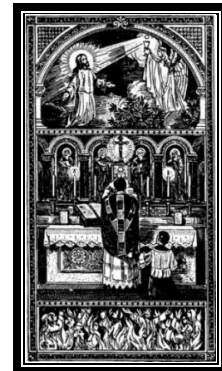
*21<sup>st</sup> of December:*

*Pray for us!*



**Saint Francis Exchange**

☛ **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**

**H**OLY 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.traditio.com](http://www.traditio.com)  
[www.traditioninaction.com](http://www.traditioninaction.com)  
[www.traditionalmass.org](http://www.traditionalmass.org)  
[www.novusordowatch.com](http://www.novusordowatch.com)

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

## PETER SPEAKS:



**Y**ET, though the copious redemption of Christ has abundantly forgiven us all offenses (*cf.* Colossians 2:13), nevertheless, because of that wondrous divine dispensation whereby those things that are wanting of the sufferings of Christ are to be filled up in our flesh for His body which is the Church (*cf.* Colossians 1:24), to the praises and satisfactions, “*which Christ in the name of sinners rendered unto God*” we can also add our praises and satisfactions, and indeed it behooves us so to do. But we must ever remember that the whole virtue of the expiation depends on the One Bloody Sacrifice of Christ, which

without intermission of time is renewed on our Altars in an unbloody manner.

(Pope Pius XI, *Miserentissimus Redemptor*, no.9, 8 May 1928)

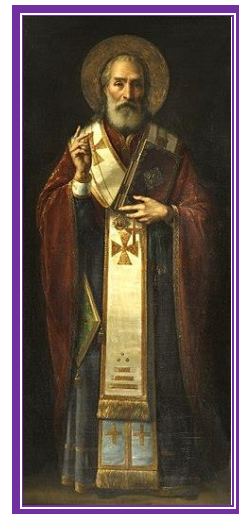


## ADVENT NOVENA PRAYER:

**H**AIL and blessed be the hour and moment, in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Blessed Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe, O my God, to hear our prayers and grant our desires, through the merits of our Savior Jesus Christ, and His Blessed Mother. Amen.



## Saint Francis Exchange PREVIOUS VISITS FROM SAINT NICHOLAS



*S. Nicholas  
6 December:  
Pray for us!*