

# SAINT FRANCIS EXCHANGE

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

JANUARY 2024 – CHRISTMASTIDE

## LETTER FROM THE MONSIGNOR

**D**ROP down dew, ye heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain the just: let the earth be opened and bud forth a Saviour.

– Isaias 45:8

**I**T is my fervent hope and prayer that all the faithful had a beautiful feast of the Nativity of the Lord, and now we prepare for the glorious feast of the Epiphany (6 January) which this year falls on the First Saturday of the month. It is always important to focus our seasonal joy on the entire reason of Our Lord's Incarnation and Nativity: for the salvation of souls. This is the work and function of the Holy Church: to offer Sacrifice (Holy Mass) and Praise (public worship) and assist souls in their salvation; which is man's *final end*, attaining heaven! In today's wicked world we must strive for greater sanctification and also be greater examples to others: prayers and sacrifices for others is most efficacious for souls and if we can help another get to heaven we will have a special friend praying for us! Our Lady of Fatima asked the little children to *Make sacrifices for sinners, and say often, especially while making a sacrifice: O Jesus, this is for love of Thee, for the conversion of sinners, and in reparation for offences committed against the Immaculate Heart of*

*Mary.* What a lovely request, from Our Lady, just like her Divine Son she desires the conversion and sanctification of souls... imagine – a world of saints!

When Our Lord came to us as one of us in order to save us, He did so with great humility and great purpose: *Who being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But emptied Himself, taking the form of a servant, being made in the likeness of men, and in habit found as a man. He humbled Himself, becoming obedient unto death, even to the death of the Cross* (Philippians 2:6–8).



This reminds us that our joyful celebration of the birth of Our Lord comes at a terrific price, for He was born to die as an oblation proffered to God in order that we might be redeemed, for *Christ Jesus came into this world to save sinners* (1 Timothy 1:15), *Who gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present wicked world, according to the will of God and our Father* (Galatians 1:4). Never forget this when you gaze upon an image of the Christ Child, so lovely, adored and protected by His parents, for soon He shall be mocked,

beaten, bruised, tortured and crucified by us for us! This perfect humility must be met with our most profound gratitude and emulated, heading Our Lord's words: *This is My commandment, that you love one another, as I have loved you. Greater love than this no man hath, that a man lay down his life for his friends* (S. John 15:12–13).

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:** Monsignor:

I noticed how few people came to Holy Mass the Sunday after Christmas and on the Feast of the Circumcision: how can people claim to be traditional and miss Holy Days? It is scandalous!

*Anonymous*

**A:** Well, I understand your concern but must advise you not to judge others too harshly; perhaps they were ill or out of town, there are many possibilities. But in general you are quite correct, not just here at S. Francis but at other Mass Centres there are those who do not take their obligation to attend Holy Mass every Sunday, which is also a Holy Day of Obligation. When one

misses Holy Mass, unless lawfully dispensed by their pastor *beforehand*, they are in mortal sin and must go to Sacramental Confession before receiving Holy Communion. No one has the ability to dispense themselves or miss Holy Mass for *any* reason, especially if one is not sick.

*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 Mr. Josph Moreaux, Mrs. Norma Hernandez, Miss Erica Chapman, Mr. Charles Edward McClusky, Mrs. Diane Powers, 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. *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 (be sure to select *donation* and not payment) or you can always be sent 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

1 January 2024 (Monday)  
*Feast of the Circumcision of the Lord*  
9 May 2024 (Thursday)  
*Feast of the Ascension of the Lord*  
15 August 2024 (Thursday)  
*Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary*  
1 November 2024 (Friday)  
*Feast of All Saints*

Saint Francis Exchange  
8 December 2023 (Sunday)  
*Feast of the Immaculate Conception*  
25 December 2024 (Wednesday)  
*Feast of the Nativity of the Lord*

## SUNDAYS OF JANUARY: THE CATHOLIC HAND MISSAL

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

7 January 2024:

### Holy Family Sunday:

Commemoration of *S. Francis Xavier, Confessor* at the Collect, Secret and Postcommunion.

14 January 2024:

### Second Sunday after the Epiphany:

Commemoration of *S. Hilary, Confessor Bishop* and *S. Fidelis, Confessor* at the Collect, Secret and Postcommunion.

21 January 2024:

### Third Sunday after the Epiphany:

Commemoration of *S. Agnes, Virgin Martyr* at the Collect, Secret and Postcommunion.

28 January 2024:

### Septuagesima Sunday:

Commemoration of *S. Peter Nolasco, Confessor* and *S. Agnes, Virgin Martyr* 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 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.



*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

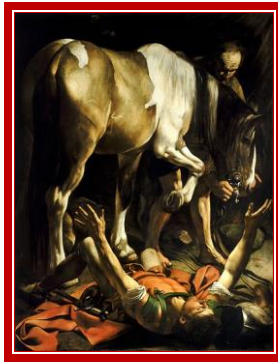
Van Nuys, CA 91409-8469



*S. Peter's Chair in Rome:*

*Pray for us!*

*18<sup>th</sup> of January*



*Conversion of S. Paul:*

*Pray for us!*

*25<sup>th</sup> of January*



☛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*).



Saint Francis Exchange

2024 LITURGICAL CALENDAR

We again recommend that ALL the faithful purchase their 2024 Liturgical Calendar directly from:

**The Roman Catholic Calendar**

2200 Smelter Avenue

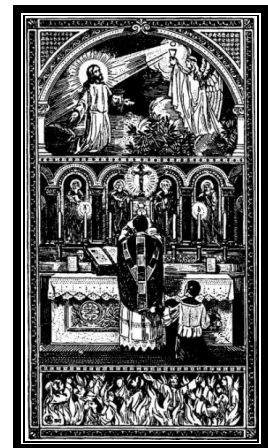
Black Eagle, MT 59414

(406) 452-9021

[https://www.ihm-](https://www.ihm-church.org/publications/church-calendar.html)

[church.org/publications/churc](https://www.ihm-church.org/publications/church-calendar.html)

[h-calendar.html](https://www.ihm-church.org/publications/church-calendar.html)



**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.

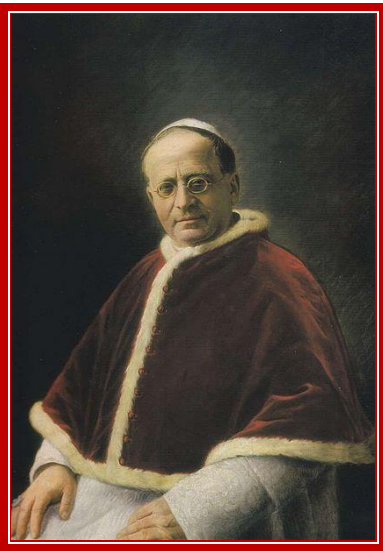
We would like to remind those who send Mass requests to PLEASE include the name of the person and/or intention with your stipend. Mass Cards will be sent to concerned parties upon request. Thank you and God bless you!

## RECOMMENDED WEBSITES:

[www.traditio.com](http://www.traditio.com)  
[www.traditioninaction.com](http://www.traditioninaction.com)  
[www.remnantnewspaper.com](http://www.remnantnewspaper.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.*

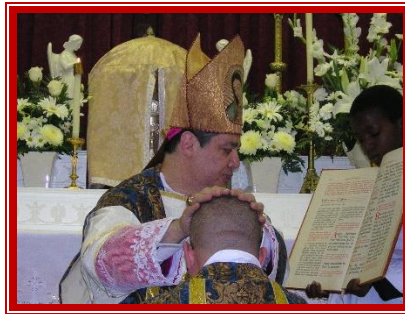
## PETER SPEAKS:



**T**HE promise of a Redeemer brightens the first page of the history of mankind, and the confident hope aroused by this promise softened the keen regret for a paradise which had been lost. It was this hope that accompanied the human race on its weary journey, until in the fullness of time the expected Saviour came to begin a new universal civilisation, the Christian civilisation, far superior even to that which up to this time had been

laboriously achieved by certain more privileged nations.

*(Divini Redemptoris, no. 1, 19 March 1937)*



## VOCATIONS

**D**O you know a young man who is willing to sacrifice all for the glory of Our Lord Jesus Christ and His Holy Priesthood? The Priestly Society of Christ the King (*Societas Sacerdotalis Christi Regis*) is looking for young men who wish to receive a fully traditional and proper formation for the **Catholic Priesthood**, if you are or know of someone who is willing to offer his life for the service and preservation of the Holy Catholic Church, and meet the requirements below, please forward them this information:

- ❖ At least 18 years of age
- ❖ High School graduate (some College studies are very helpful)

### Saint Francis Exchange

- ❖ At least of average intelligence
- ❖ Never Married
- ❖ Free from financial or familial obligations
- ❖ Able to pass a background check by Law Enforcement
- ❖ Free from any entanglements of the Modernist Vatican II sect

All serious candidates will be considered for acceptance to the *Christus Rex House of Priestly Formation*.