

SAINT FRANCIS EXCHANGE

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

MARCH 2021 – HOLY LENT

LETTER FROM THE MONSIGNOR

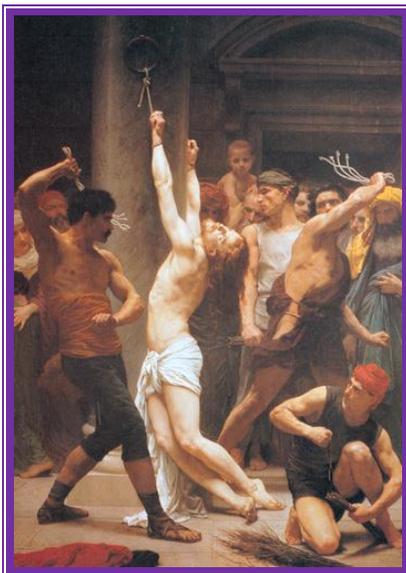
BUT THOU hast mercy upon all, because Thou canst do all things, and overlookest the sins of men for the sake of repentance. For Thou lovest all things that are, and hatest none of the things which Thou hast made: for Thou didst not appoint, or make anything hating it. And how could any thing endure, if Thou wouldst not? or be preserved, if not called by Thee. But Thou sparest all: because they are Thine, O Lord, Who lovest souls. – *Psalm 11:24 – 27*

THE mercy of God is from His great love, as the Beloved Disciple teaches us *God is charity* (cf. I S. John 4:8), and the Psalmist prays: *Give praise to the Lord, for He is good: for His mercy endureth for ever* (Psalm 117:1). The greatest way for us to repay God's mercy and love is to **repent** and **convert**; true repentance means we have sorrow for our sins and true conversion means we do not commit those sins again.

Only **authentic conversion and repentance gives back to God the love and honour he deserves, and demonstrates appropriate thanksgiving to God for our restoration to His grace: *A sacrifice to God is an afflicted spirit: a contrite and humbled heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise* (Psalm 50:18).**

During Holy Lent and Passiontide it is important to enter into season with a dedicated intention of repentance and conversion, and

the best way to do this is to meditate upon Our Lord's **Passion**. Praying the **Sorrowful Mysteries** of the **Holy Rosary** and the **Stations of the Cross** is wonderful way to keep in mind what Our Saviour accomplished for our redemption, and the reading of the Holy Gospels, most especially those sections that teach us of His Holy Passion, will bring much fruit to the converted soul.



What Our Lord endured during His Passion brings terror to all who contemplate it, and tears and grievous sorrow to those who love Him; do not shrink from such an image, because no well-meaning attempt to ameliorate His horrific suffering will deracinate sin from a hardened heart: no, only full cognisance and acceptance of what He suffered on account of His love for us will bring us to the horror of our filth and sin. Until any and all sin is repellent to us, dearest faithful, we have not truly converted. I am often

taken aback by the self-satisfied sinner who will say to me, and ultimately, to themselves, “well, it is just a *venial sin*”, an invidious trait that is akin to saying, “well, that thorn in His crown was just a small one.” If for the briefest moment we could feel the pain of what the seemingly most insignificant sin caused Our Blessed Lord, perhaps we would refrain from even the smallest *venial sin*. Please, O Lord, that we could: *Domine, ut sit!*

It is my hope and prayer that we all are converted to Christ this Lent, and never consent to sin again. Will you join in that prayer? Will you be converted? The converted heart has so much to be grateful for, so much to rejoice over, and heaven will share in that joy: *So I say to you, there shall be joy before the angels of God upon one sinner doing penance* (S. Luke 15:10)!

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: Dear Monsignor:
Is it valid to confess to a priest that was ordained by either a bishop that was himself not ordained in comport with *legal* ordination? I would not confess to one of these “priests” when I asked the date of his *Novus Ordo* ordination. I told him my concerns and would not confess to him, so I left the confessional. Was this proper or not?

L.M. Agoura Hills, CA

A: My good and dear soul: there are too many concerns about this situation: 1) *is his “ordination” in the NewRite valid?*

2) *is the “consecration” of this “bishop” who “ordained” him valid?*
3) *does he have the right intention to absolve you from your sins?*

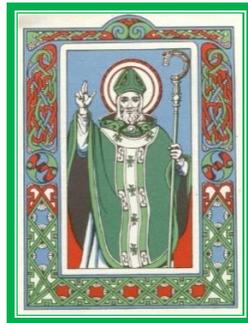
Every day we learn that some “priests” were never even Baptised, therefore they cannot be priests at all. We also have a defective NewRite for all ordinations that can be called into question; and lastly, even a valid priest who does not have the intention to *do what the Church does* is not able to absolve a penitent from their sins. If your NewPriest does not believe in sin and that “reconciliation” is just a method of making you feel better about yourself, he has no intention to absolve you or anyone else.

The Holy Church teaches that a *doubtful sacrament is no sacrament...* my only advice is to stay away from the *Novus Ordo* or those in league with that non-Catholic “church.”

*If you have a question, please feel free to e-mail:
info@stfrancisoratory.org*



*S. Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church (19th of March):
Pray for us!*



*S. Patrick (17th of March):
Pray for us!*

BTW - FYI:

*S. Patrick did not drink green beer.
S. Valentine did not send chocolates to his “girlfriends” or wear a diaper.
S. Nicholas, Bishop did not give away trinkets on the birthday of the Lord Jesus Christ.
S. Patrick, Bishop and Missionary, did forbid strong drink and rioting and called people to conversion!
S. Valentine, Priest and Martyr, did assist the poor in obtaining true and Sacramental Marriages and championed Holy Purity for all states of life!
S. Nicholas, Holy Bishop, raised murdered children from the dead, aided the poor and widows, defended the Nature of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and the unique role and dignity of the Blessed Virgin Mary!*

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PRAYER REQUESTS

YOUR prayers are requested for the sick, especially Mrs. Diane Powers, Mr. McCanna Anthony Sinise, Mr. Paul Howard, Miss Rhonda Roeszler, Mr. John Owen, and Mrs. Maria Gomez. Please also remember in your prayers the souls of those who have died, especially Mr. Ronald Beeley†, Mr. Eugene G. Sullenberger†, Father Anthony Cekada†, Mr. Frank Calderon† and Mr. Alfred J. Smith†. *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.*



HOW TO DONATE AND SEND MASS STIPENDS

WE have had some recent inquiries on-line about how to donate or send Mass stipends. You can always send your donation to our Post Office Box:

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

You can also donate on line with the PayPal link on our webpage:



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 2021

13 May 2021 (Thursday)

Feast of the Ascension of the Lord

15 August 2021 (Sunday)

Feast of the Assumption of the BVM

1 November 2021 (Monday)

All Saints Day

8 December 2021 (Wednesday)

Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the BVM

25 December 2021 (Saturday)

Feast of the Nativity of the Lord

EMBER DAYS OF LENT

PLEASE remember that we observe the **Ember Days of Lent**: Wednesday the 24th, Friday the 26th and Saturday the 27th of **February**. The Holy Church devotes these days to prayer, penance and sacrifice. On these three days the faithful are bound, under pain of mortal sin, to abstain from meat.

The current Laws of Fast and Abstinence (for the United States) are absolutely binding (unless lawfully excused or

dispensed) for *all* the faithful. All baptized Catholics, seven years of age or older, are bound to **abstain**. The two types of abstinence are **complete** and **partial**. *Complete abstinence* forbids the eating of meat, and soup or gravy made with or from meat is required all Fridays throughout the year, *Partial Abstinence*, which permits meat, and soup or gravy made from meat, to be eaten *only* at the main meal, is required on Ember Wednesday and Ember Saturday.

The laws of **Fasting** are for all baptized Catholics, from ages 21 through 59, inclusive. On the days of fast only one full meal is allowed (with meat, except on Friday) with two smaller *meatless* meals, which together do not equal one full meal. The eating of food or snacks between meals is forbidden; however the drinking of liquids, including milk and juice, are allowed.

For reasons of health one may seek the reduction or even dispensation from the fast from the Monsignor; one should never simply dispense one's self from these obligations; and should one be lawfully dispensed from these obligations, he should strive to find another type of *approved* penance that can be satisfactory to Almighty God.

SUNDAYS OF MARCH: 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 March 2021:

Third Sunday in Lent:

Commemoration of *S. Thomas Aquinas* at the Collect, Secret and Postcommunion.

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14 March 2021:

Fourth Sunday in Lent:

Commemoration of the *Suffrage of the Saints* and for the *Living and the Dead* at the Collect, Secret and Postcommunion.

21 March 2021:

Passion Sunday in Lent:

Commemoration of *S. Benedict* at the Collect, Secret and Postcommunion.

28 March 2021:

Palm Sunday:

No Commemorations.

To 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 Ireland



The Hiding Mass in Van Nuys

Sunday Mass Time:

*(please call or email for current
Mass time and location)*

(818) 786-2540

e-mail: info@stfrancisoratory.org

Be sure to visit our web site at:

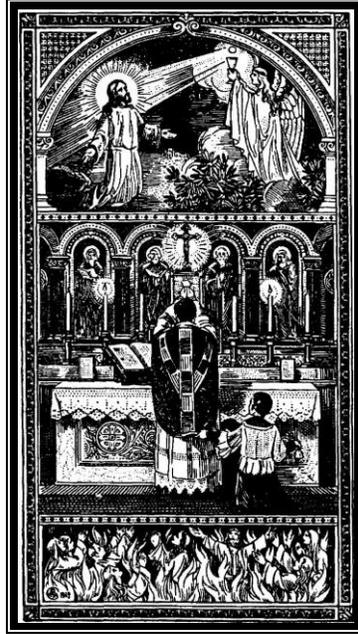
www.stfrancisoratory.org

N.B. : Our Mailing Address is:
Post Office Box 8469
Van Nuys, CA 91409-8469



☼ 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!

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RECOMMENDED WEBSITES:

www.traditio.com

www.traditioninaction.com

www.remnantnewspaper.com

www.traditionalmass.org

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