

SAINT FRANCIS EXCHANGE

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

MAY 2021

LETTER FROM THE MONSIGNOR

In trial or difficulty I have recourse to Mother Mary, whose glance alone is enough to dissipate every fear. – St. Thérèse of Lisieux

MAY has been the month most associated with the Blessed Virgin Mary since the beginning of Christianity. The faithful of the Holy Church have sought her maternal protection since she was given to us from the Cross of Our Saviour: *behold thy Mother* (S. John 19:27).

Our Lady is *Mother of the Church*, and as a mother we seek her aid and comfort. Her great solicitude for us comes by her intercessory powers with God which she accomplishes with her own prayers before Him. Our Lady is not divine and therefore has no *power* of her own; all prayers to her by the faithful must always be directed to her with that intention. Our Lady is explicitly mentioned with the Apostles, who *were persevering with one mind in prayer with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus* (Acts 1:14). Even after the Resurrection her role in our salvation remains front and centre, and the Apostles, disciples and faithful followers (the *brethren of the Lord, ibid.*) of her Son revere her.

All true Christians who love Our Lord Jesus Christ have an immediate and authentic love for His mother;

she being the first and highest favoured creature who never failed in her fidelity to God: she is the example to us all that we too can live faithful and pleasing lives on earth if we, like her, cooperate with God's free grace.

What a wonderful God we have, Who gives us a Saviour and Redeemer by restoring humanity to His grace and friendship through the actions of Our Blessed Lady! While we can never experience the sublime joy of Our Lady in this life, we can, through her intercession, merits and example, rest in that great and holy joy by living a life as righteous and holy as possible.



Queen of Heaven rejoice: Alleluia!

Because Our Lady is a most perfect creature we must listen to and heed her most fervent request to us: *pray and repent! Prayer* brings us closer to God and builds grace, while *penance* shows a true *sorrow* for our sins causes us to amend our life and *overcome* our attachment to sin. Unless we repent, you and I, we will not save our souls and we will not be an example to others. It is our duty as Christians, like Our Lady, to

confirm our brethren (cf. S. Luke 22:32) once we ourselves are converted (ibid).

If we wish to honour Our Lady we must do as she requests: *Pray and Repent!* For in honouring her we honour God. S. Louis Marie de Montfort says: *We never give more honour to JESUS than when we honour His Mother, and we honour her simply and solely to honour Him all the more perfectly. We go to her only as a way leading to the goal we seek - JESUS, her Son.* And of her great power the saint continues: *Mary having cooperated in our redemption with so much glory to God and so much love for us, Our Lord ordained that no one shall obtain salvation except through her intercession.*

Your prayers, most especially to *Our Mother of Perpetual Help*, for our little apostolate have been quite efficacious. Slowly we are rebuilding a larger group of faithful, almost all new to Holy Tradition on account of the false NewChurch showing its *true agenda* set to destroy the True Faith and True Mass. With your continued prayers and support God's providence to provide us with a house here in Southern California will be realised.

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 have two questions for you:

- 1) If the Blessed Virgin Mary was immaculate and free from sin, did she have to suffer a mortal death? Was she still under the curse of the flesh?
- 2) How can we best explain her sleep and Dormition to Protestants?

As an aside; where is St. Joseph buried? Some traditions hold that his body ascended as well.

Thank you!

NB, Rancho Cucamonga, CA

A: The sublime mystery of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, definitively and infallibly proclaimed necessary to believe for salvation by the Venerable Pope Pius XII in his Apostolic Constitution *Munificentissimus Deus* (1 November 1950) (an Apostolic Constitution is the highest form of decree given to the Church by a Pope), is the completion of the promises of Our Lord JESUS CHRIST: *he that believeth in Me, although he be dead, yet shall he live* (S. John 11:25, cf. S. John 3:36, 6:35, 6:47). Our Lord gives us the tangible proof of His veracity when He promises us life eternal; of course predicated upon our *belief* and *response*. The Blessed Virgin Mary, His Mother, is assumed into the heavenly paradise, where she is united with the greatest of all joys, her Son and Saviour JESUS CHRIST!

There are some that will argue the necessity of the dogmatic fact of Our Lady's Assumption into Heaven, or even its veracity using the *questio diaboli: but this is not in the Bible!* This satanic query and lie attempts to confound and confuse the faithful and pious soul. Fear not, there is ample proof of this dogmatic fact in the Sacred Scriptures!

Proof upon proof has been given from the angelic salutation of S. Gabriel: *Ave gratia plena!* (S. Luke 1:28) FULL of grace, no room for sin! And this salutation is from an Archangel sent to Our Lady by God Himself. Grace and sin cannot coexist; they are mutually exclusive. And how could the Saviour take His human Flesh and Blood from corruption and sin? He could not, it would be incongruous! Since she was conceived in grace and a state of perfect sanctification, and remained therein, when her earthly life was deemed by God as complete and satisfactory, she fell asleep in the Lord. Her earthly death was not like, nor could it be like, the death that Adam, Eve, and yes, you and I suffer and will suffer. For death is a result of our sin: *Stipendia enim peccati, mors* (Romans 6:23). When we reflect upon the Book of the Apocalypse, written by the hand of the Apostle S. John under the inspiration of the Lord the Holy Ghost, we further learn: *And a great sign appeared in heaven: a Woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars* (Apocalypse 12:1 ff.). And from Solomon's Canticles: *Who is she that cometh*

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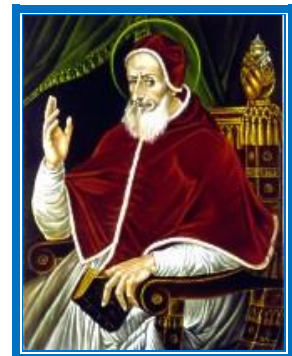
forth as the morning rising, fair as the moon, bright as the sun, terrible as an army set in array (Canticle of Canticles 6:9)? Our Lady, intimately associated with the Church, is triumphant in heaven, and is terrible to the devil and those who serve him.

As to your *aside*, there is much speculation (and that is all it can be) about S. Joseph's death. Because he was born under the curse of original sin his *assumption* is most improbable; even the Baptist, who was justified while in the womb (cf. S. Luke 1:44), died under the curse of original sin.



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

info@stfrancisoratory.org



*S. Pope Pius V (5th of May):
Pray for us!*

PRAYER REQUESTS

YOUR prayers are requested for the sick, especially Miss Teri Lewis, Mrs. Denise Huizenga, Miss Veronica Zignego, Mrs. Diane Powers, Mr. McCanna Anthony Sinise, Mr. Paul Howard, Mr. Jeff

³ Michaels and Mrs. Maria Gomez. Please also remember in your prayers the souls of those who have died, especially Mr. Gilbert Herr†. *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

DONATIONS and Mass Stipends can be sent on-line 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 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

SUNDAYS OF MAY: THE CATHOLIC HAND MISSAL

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

2 May 2021 :

Fourth Sunday after Easter :
 Commemoration of *S. Athanasius* at the Collect, Secret and Postcommunion.

9 May 2021 :

Fifth Sunday after Easter :
 Commemoration of *S. Gregory Nazianzen* at the Collect, Secret and Postcommunion.

13 May 2021 :

Ascension Thursday :
No Commemorations.

16 May 2021 :

Sunday after the Ascension :
 Commemoration of *S. Ubaldus* and the *Octave of the Ascension* at the Collect, Secret and Postcommunion.

23 May 2021 :

Pentecost Sunday :
No Commemorations.

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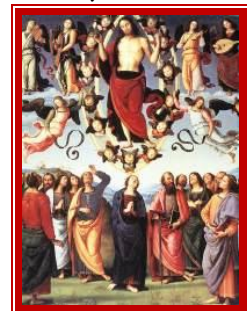
30 May 2021 :

Trinity Sunday:

Commemoration of *First Sunday after Pentecost* at the Collect, Secret and Postcommunion, and the Last Gospel.

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

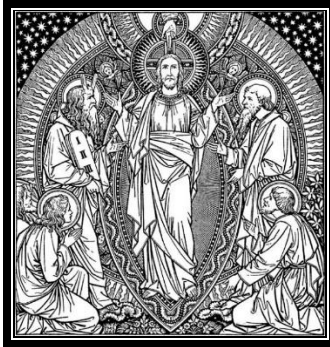
Be sure to visit our web site at:

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

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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

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.