

SAINT FRANCIS EXCHANGE

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

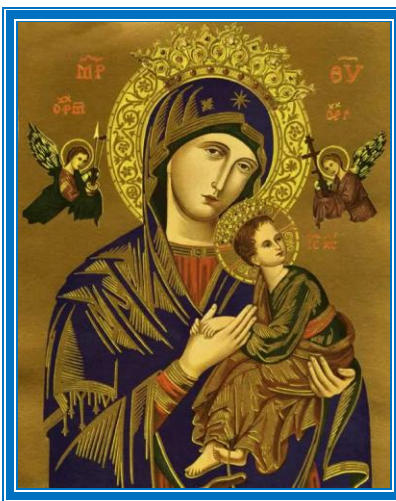
MAY 2023 – MONTH OF OUR LADY

LETTER FROM THE MONSIGNOR

BEHOLD at thy feet, O Mother of Perpetual Help, a wretched sinner who has recourse to thee and confides in thee. O Mother of mercy, have pity on me. I hear thee called by all the refuge and the hope of sinners: be then, my refuge and my hope. Assist me, for the love of Jesus Christ; stretch forth thy hand to a miserable fallen creature who recommends himself to thee, and who devotes himself to thy service forever. – Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help

ANY and all who have ever met me know of my devotion to **Our Mother of Perpetual Help**. I wear a silver medal of Our Blessed Lady under this title that was given to me by my grandfather at my First Holy Communion, for over fifty years she has remained around my neck and in my heart. My own vocation has been dedicated to her and the promulgation of her as **Our Mother of Perpetual Help**. There are many devotions in honour of Our Blessed Lady, but for me none more sublime than under this title. The miraculous icon, that still resides in the Roman Church of S. Matthew, is said to have been painted by S. Luke the Evangelist; whether factual or simply pious legend this image has given hope and comfort to millions of supplicant Catholics for close to two thousand years. The story it tells is simple and encouraging: one day in a garden two angels appears to

the Christ Child with the instruments of His Passion, and He climbed into the lap of His mother for comfort, as any child would. As He came to her His sandal was loosed, which harkens to the words of the Baptist when speaking of Our Lord: *the latchet of Whose shoe I am not worthy to loose* (S. John 1:27). Our Lady, however, is more than worthy to assist her Son, in fact she was created for it! When I pray before this image of Our Lady I often add dictum, *in gremio Matris sedet Sapientia Patris!*



When I was young and there was turmoil in the home of my parents I would jump on my bicycle and ride back to my parish school (S. Genevieve's in Van Nuys), go into the church and kneel in front of the mosaic of Our Lady of Perpetual Help and pour my heart to her, and through my tears, anger or fear, she would penetrate my heart and soul with the greatest comfort: I have never doubted her maternal love for me, I have never doubted her care and protection of me. In one of those many times as a boy that

I came to her I composed this little prayer to her:

I come to thee, empty handed, often empty hearted, and thou giveth, thou always giveth. I see in thy eyes, blue as the sky, wide as the sea, so sad for me and never for thyself. Thou looketh through me, seeing all good, all bad, never judging: thou prayeth for me. Mother when I had none, ear to my sorrows that thou let weigh upon thy own Immaculate and Sorrowful Heart; thou hast never refused my burden. Mater Dei, ora pro nobis, nunc et in hora mortis nostræ. Amen.

Please pray to Our **Mother of Perpetual Help** for our young Seminarian: the devil does not want another holy priest, and he will only persevere with all of our prayers for him.

Lastly, I will continue to ask for your assistance: we must work hard for a permanent home for our Chapel, which means we need your prayers and sacrifices. We need to raise close to \$100,000.00 that will serve as a down payment for a property and then we will need your commitment to assist monthly to sustain that property. If you can assist in this goal, *one time or monthly*, we will be grateful and can promise that God will surely bless you. We are grateful for the generous gift we received last month for this purpose.

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: Your Lordship:
As someone who is new to tradition there are so many things I thought I knew about my Faith, but now (thanks to you) I have learned that there is so much that I do not really understand or that I have been misled about, which makes me very angry. How did God allow such deceit and heresy to take root in the Church, and how can I find peace about it?

Sincerely,
Anonymous

A: The Holy Church is the Immaculate Bride of Christ; and because she is indefectible she is *unable* to teach error. Therefore, just like the Great Schism of the east or the Protestant deformation, those who have taught error and heresy have separated themselves from the Holy Church. Just as sin entered into the world, it was with God's knowledge (because God is All Knowing) but not with His consent or desire, but rather, allowed because of man's gift of free will. All errors and heresy fall into the same category; the infidelity of those who worshiped the Golden Calf (*cf.* Exodus 32), and now the apparent triumph of Modernism in the Church; but with all these occasions God has raised up great and Holy Patriarchs to uphold the Faith, and today will be no different. We must also remember that these saintly Patriarchs were always "condemned" by the so-called "Official Church" and

then later raised to the dignity of the Altar as a canonised saint. Take heart that God will do the same in the situation we find ourselves today: this is where the Theological Virtues of *Faith, Hope* and *Charity* have great efficacy. Pray, stay strong and confident in the promises of Our Lord, knowing that even the *gates of hell* shall not prevail against His Church (*cf.* S. Matthew 16:18). Keep learning more and more about the faith of the Holy Catholic Church, *outside of which there is no salvation!*

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

PRAYER REQUESTS

YOUR prayers are requested for the sick, especially for Miss Alyssa Smith, Miss Erica Chapman, Mr. Charles E. McClusky, Mrs. Diane Powers, Mr. Paul Howard, Mr. Jeff Michaels and Mrs. Maria Gomez. Please also remember in your prayers the souls of those who have died, especially Mr. Vern Fenimore†, Mr. Chris Hundt† and Mrs. Angela Calderon†. *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.*



Real Men Kneel at Holy Mass!

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HOW TO DONATE AND SEND MASS STIPENDS

DONATIONS 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 2023

18 May 2023 (Thursday)
Feast of the Ascension of the Lord
15 August 2023 (Tuesday)
Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
1 November 2023 (Wednesday)
Feast of All Saints
8 December 2023 (Friday)
Feast of the Immaculate Conception
25 December 2023 (Monday)
Feast of the Nativity of the Lord



*Our Lady of the Rosary:
Pray for us!*

**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 March:

7 May 2023:

Fourth Sunday after Easter:

Commemoration *S. Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr* at the Collect, Secret and Postcommunion.

14 May 2023:

Fifth Sunday after Easter:

Commemoration *S. Boniface, Martyr* at the Collect, Secret and Postcommunion.

21 May 2023:

Sunday after the Ascension:

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

28 May 2023:

Pentecost 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.



**ASCENSION
THURSDAY:
HOLY DAY OF
OBLIGATION**

THE 18th of May is the feast of the Ascension, a **Holy Day of Obligation**: The faithful *must* attend Holy Mass under pain of mortal sin and avoid *unnecessary* servile work (if one has to work you must

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ask for a dispensation from the Monsignor). Holy Mass will be offered at 7:00 pm that evening.



The Hiding Mass in Van Nuys

Sunday Mass Time:

10:00 am

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

(818) 786-2540

e-mail: info@stfrancisoratory.org

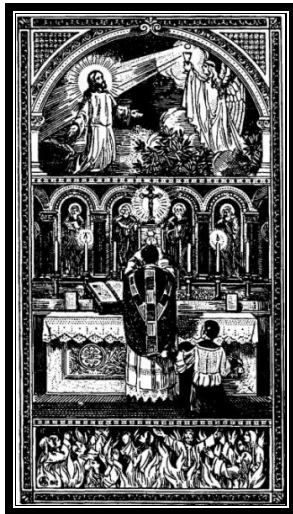
Be sure to visit our web site at:
www.stfrancisoratory.org

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

4 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!

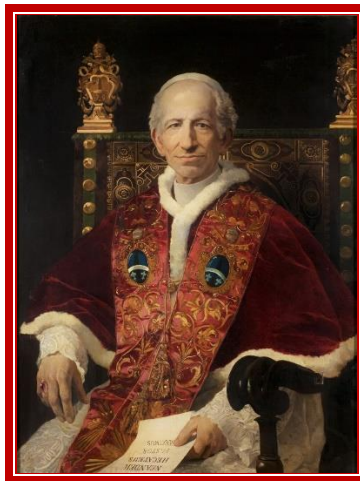
RECOMMENDED WEBSITES:

www.traditio.com
www.traditioninaction.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.

PETER SPEAKS:



AND SO, in Mary, God has given us the most zealous guardian of Christian unity. There are, of course, more ways than one to win her protection by prayer, but as for Us, We think that the best and most effective way to her favour lies in the Rosary.

(*Adiutricem*, no.24, 5 September 1895, Pope Leo XIII)



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FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION:

Why Your Sede-Vacantist Priest May be Praying for Francis Anyway...

THE clause that concerns this consideration in the Canon of the Mass states:

We therefore, humbly pray and beseech Thee, most merciful Father, through Jesus Christ; Thy Son, our Lord, that Thou wouldst vouchsafe to accept and bless these ✠ gifts, these ✠ presents, these ✠ holy unspotted Sacrifices, which in the first place we offer Thee for Thy holy Catholic Church to which vouchsafe to grant peace, as also to preserve, unite, and govern it throughout the world, together with Thy servant our Pope, and our Bishop, and all *orthodox* believers and professors of the Catholic and Apostolic Faith.

Now in this very strict sense *orthodox* (ὀρθόδοξος) means right or correct “believers”, so, if your Priest is **not** naming Francis-Bergoglio in the Canon of the Mass he is not sinning because he has rightly concluded that no heretic can be the head of the Catholic Church because heretics *are not members* (right believers) of the Catholic Church. However, if by some unfathomable reason Francis-Bergoglio really is the Pope, then your Priest has still prayed him as he (Francis-Bergoglio) would be numbered among the *orthodox believers and professors of the Catholic and Apostolic Faith...*

