

SAINT FRANCIS EXCHANGE

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

MAY 2024 – MONTH OF OUR LADY

LETTER FROM THE MONSIGNOR

AND it came to pass, that when Elizabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the infant leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost: And she cried out with a loud voice, and said: Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb. And whence is this to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold as soon as the voice of thy salutation sounded in my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed art thou that hast believed, because those things which shall be accomplished that we spoken to thee by the Lord. S. Luke 1:41 – 45

DEVOTION to the Mother of God (Θεοτοκος) confirmed in the Sacred Scriptures, the early Church Fathers and Apostolic Tradition: e.g.: The term was used by Origen (d. 254), Athanasius in 330, S. Gregory the Theologian in 370, S. John Chrysostom in 400 and Augustine many times in the fourth and fifth centuries. The Third Ecumenical Council of Ephesus (431) solemnly proclaimed that she was: *Mother of God, not that the nature of the Word or His divinity received the beginning of its existence from the Holy Virgin, but*

that, since the holy Body, animated by a rational soul, which the Word of God united to Himself according to the hypostasis, was born from her, the Word is said to be born according to the flesh.

Our Lady spends her rewarded heavenly bliss adoring her Lord and Saviour and doing good for us, and from the foot of the Throne of Divine Grace she pleads on our behalf, even though we do not deserve such a glorious advocate who prays *mercy, mercy, mercy*. How many times throughout human history has she stayed His from inflicting His rightful vengeance upon us wicked, ungrateful and unworthy creatures? She even pled for us as she stood beneath the horrific Cross of her tortured and murdered Son.



Because Our Lady has a heart, mind and soul that is not incumbered by sin she is able to love us as God loves us, perfectly. When one is filled with grace and perfect love there is no room for any anger

or reserve; we must strive to be like her and head the command of her glorious Son, *be you therefore perfect, as also your heavenly Father is perfect* (S. Matthew 5:48). What creature is more perfect and more like the Eternal Father than the Blessed Virgin Mary? None: not even the greatest of the Apostles or Doctors of the Church can compare in the consistent living in holiness than her. May we all imitate her as she imitates God!

As a brief update, some of you have already learned that the landlord of our house has decided *not* to renew our lease and so we have returned to my modest apartment for Holy Mass. We have not been left homeless, praise Our Good and Generous Lord. Some may see this as a setback, but we must look at it as a true blessing, as well as a confirmation that the evil one does not want the True Faith and the True Mass. Your prayers for a permanent home are still needed, and I am grateful for those continued 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 Excellency, are Protestant marriages valid, even when both have been baptized in their Protestant churches?

B.A

Kansas City, KS

A: Yes, *some* non-Catholic marriages are valid: they must *always* be individually investigated, as they may be a valid *natural Marriage*. Sacramental Theology teaches us that the *Minister of the Sacrament of Marriage* is the couple themselves, *Matrimonium facit consensus* (Marriage is contracted through the mutual, expressed consent), the Priest acts as the *witness* of the Church. For example, Catholics in countries that were deprived of clergy for years at a time could *validly* Baptise their children and enter into a Catholic Sacramental Marriage as long as the ceremonies were offered properly and with the *intention* to validly confect the Sacrament.

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

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 Mrs. Diane Powers-Lewis†. *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

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.

Saint Francis Exchange

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

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

5 May 2024:

Fifth Sunday after Easter:

Commemoration of *S. Pope Pius V* at the Collect, Secret and Postcommunion.

12 May 2024:

Sunday after the Ascension:

Commemoration of *S. Nereus & Companions* and *Within the Octave* at the Collect, Secret and Postcommunion.

19 May 2024:

Pentecost Sunday:

No Commemorations.

26 May 2024:

Trinity Sunday:

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

³**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.



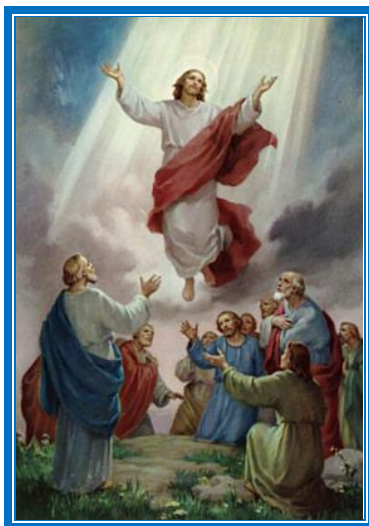
The Hiding Mass in Van Nuys

Sunday Mass Times:
08:00 am & 10:00 am

(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

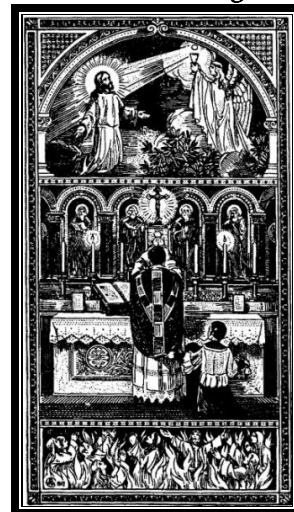


Ascension Thursday
9th of May



✿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*).

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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
- 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:



As time went on, it became more and more evident how deserving of love and honour was she whom God Himself was the first to love, and loved so much more than any other that, after elevating her high above all the rest of His creation and adorning her with His richest gifts, He made her His Mother. The many and splendid proofs of her bounty and beneficence toward us, which We remember with deep gratitude and which move Us to tears, still further encourage and strongly inflame Our filial reverence for her. Throughout the many dreadful events of every kind which the times have brought to pass, always

with her have We sought refuge, always to her have We lifted up pleading and confident eyes. And in all the hopes and fears, the joys and sorrows, that We confided to her, the thought was constantly before Us to ask her to assist Us at all times as Our gracious Mother and to obtain this greatest of favors: that We might be able, in return, to show her the heart of a most devoted son.

(Magna Dei Matris, no. 2, 8 September 1892)
Pope Leo XIII



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