

SAINT FRANCIS EXCHANGE

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

SEPTEMBER 2019 THE MONTH OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS

LETTER FROM THE MONSIGNOR

CHILDREN, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is just. Honour thy father and thy mother, which is the first commandment with a promise: That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest be long lived upon earth. And you, fathers, provoke not your children to anger; but bring them up in the discipline and correction of the Lord. – Ephesians 6:1 – 4

THE Catholic Family is a precious commodity, for from it comes more catholic families, and the true jewel of the Church: vocations.

It is natural that parents are reluctant to give their children over to the Church. There is certain fear that they are “losing” them; a mother once said to me, “I would rather my son risk his life in war than waste it as a Priest.” Even the most devout Catholic parents don’t want their children to follow their vocations, somehow fearing it is anomalous, which in reality, it is. Family life is quite holy and natural, but to correspond to a vocation is *supernatural*, and therefore much more difficult (and more meritorious) to pursue.

Our Blessed Mother understands this which makes her a suitable patroness of

parents who have children with Priestly or Religious vocations.

When Our Lady, accompanied by Blessed Joseph, presented Our Lord in the Temple, Holy Simeon the Prophet said to her: **Behold this Child is set for the fall, and for the resurrection of many in Israel, and for a sign which shall be contradicted; And thy own soul a sword shall pierce, that, out of many hearts, thoughts may be revealed** (S. Luke 2:34 – 35). In the ancient Marian devotion of the *Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary* this is the First Sorrow.



Our Lady of Sorrows; pray for us!

Our Lady is a perfect example of offering *back to God* the precious lives of our children. It is the greatest act of acknowledging the generosity of God, Who tells us through the Holy Prophet Malachias: *Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in My House, and try Me in this, saith the Lord: if I open not unto you the flood-gates of heaven, and pour you out a blessing even to abundance* (Malachias 3:10).

In this case it is our children who become the tithe offering. My mother used to

tell me a story that when I was only a few months old I was *very* sick with the pneumonia (the beginning of my breathing issues) and she took me to the hospital chapel and offered me to God, through S. Joseph, if He would spare my life. As much as she wanted me to get married and have a family, she never impeded my vocation...she kept her promise, and God kept His.

Our Blessed Mother, *Our Lady of Sorrows*, gave her precious Son, Our Lord and King Jesus Christ, *back to God*, most especially when she stood beneath His Cross and shared in His offering.

Will the parents reading this follow her most holy example? I hope and pray so. The task of forming young men to become *Another Christ* is time consuming and costly (not just monetarily) and requires great generosity by all concerned, especially from Catholic parents. As much as we may give, we must remember that God gave first, and of His choicest: *For God so loved the world, as to give His only begotten Son; that whosoever believeth in Him, may not perish, but may have life everlasting* (S. John 3:16)

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: Are self-affirmations something traditional Catholics can use or is there something there that I don't see? I've seen this topic come up in many locations, but I always wondered whether if it was just another way of being dishonest with one's self because even in the midst of saying them your subconscious mind could just retort something akin, "No to no I'm not and I don't really believe it." I don't know if I'm bringing up anything teachable, but I figured that you might have some perspective on the matter.

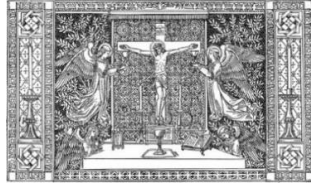
Thank you,
PJP, Tarzana, CA

A: This is a very timely question: The "Self Help" movement has taken hold of the hearts and minds of many people for well over a generation. There is nothing wrong with positive thinking, per se, however, the error comes in the assumption that any and all answers "come from within" and that there is no need for an external guiding force, i.e.: God. This grave error makes every man his own "god" by use of self-realisation, which of course must be rejected by any right believer. A properly ordered understanding is that we pray for God's special favour or healing and then cooperate with His grace. This makes us

cooperators of our healing and growth rather than "actualisers".

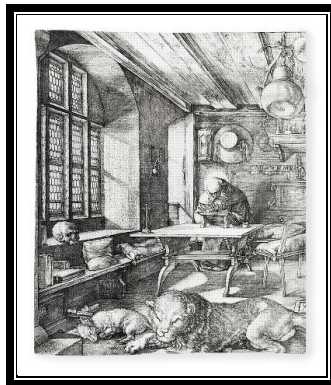
If you have a question, please feel free to e-mail:

info@stfrancisoratory.org



PRAYER REQUESTS

YOUR continued prayers are requested for the sick, especially Mrs. Mary Anne Fenimore, Mr. Frank Calderon. Miss Rhonda Roeszler, Mr. Alfred Smith, Mr. John Owen, 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 one of the priests know so they can arrange for a sick call.*



S. Jerome by Albrecht Dürer (1471-1528)

**S. JEROME:
PRAY FOR US!
30 SEPTEMBER**



CATECHISM FOR ALL

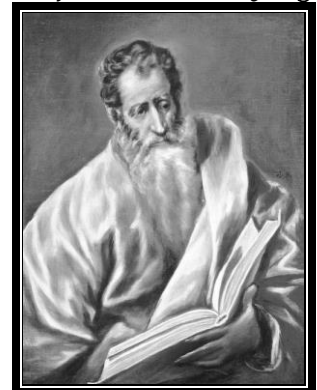
OUR monthly lecture for September will be on the Nature of Catholic Family Life; please submit your questions to:

info@stfrancisoratory.org



If you have not yet signed up for the lecture series you may do so at any time. If you are interested please send an email to:

info@stfrancisoratory.org



S. Matthew by El Greco (1541-1614)

**S. MATTHEW:
PRAY FOR US!
31 SEPTEMBER**

HOW TO DONATE AND SEND MASS STIPENDS

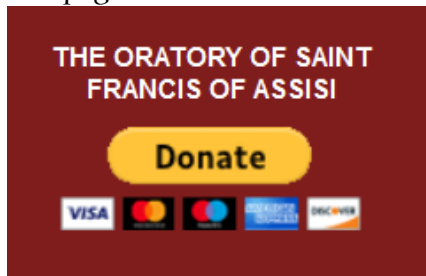
WE have had some recent inquiries on-line about how to donate or send Mass stipends. You can always send your donation to our Post Office Box:

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.

BTW: There are still several open dates in September for Masses.

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!

REMAINING HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION FOR 2019

All Saints Day:

1 November 2019 (Friday)

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary:

8 December 2019 (Sunday)

Christmas:

25 December 2019 (Saturday)

SUNDAYS OF SEPTEMBER: THE CATHOLIC HAND MISSAL

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

1 September 2019:

12th Sunday after Pentecost: commemoration of S. Giles then the Twelve Holy Brothers at the Collect, Secret and Postcommunion.

8 September 2019:

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary: commemoration of the 13th Sunday after Pentecost then S. Hadrian at the Collect, Secret and Postcommunion.

15 September 2019:

Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary: commemoration of the 14th Sunday after Pentecost then S. Nicomedes at the Collect, Secret and Postcommunion.

22 September 2019:

15th Sunday after Pentecost: commemoration of S. Thomas Villanova then S. Maurice & Companions at the Collect, Secret and Postcommunion.

29 September 2019:

Dedication of S. Michael the Archangel: commemoration of

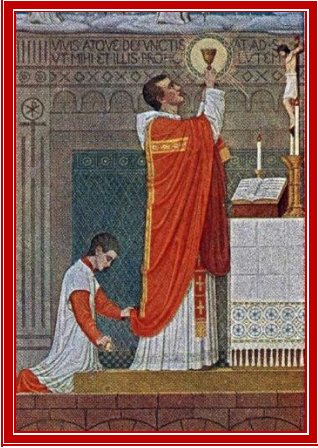
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16th Sunday after Pentecost at the Collect, Secret and Postcommunion.

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, 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.





Sunday Mass Time:

9:00 am – Parochial Mass
with Sermon

Confessions one half of an hour before Holy Mass

**Gates, Kingsley & Gates
Praiswater Mortuary**

located at

6909 Canoga Ave, Canoga
Park, CA 91303

(between Sherman Way and
Vanowen).

(818) 786-2540

e-mail: info@stfrancisoratory.org

Be sure to visit our web site at:

www.stfrancisoratory.org

**N.B.: Our new 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!



Saint Francis Exchange

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.