

ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHBISHOP OF KINGSTON  
CHANCERY OFFICE

**DECREE RE THE TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF KINGSTON**

Given the fact that I ascertained a year ago that there existed a stable group of persons in the Archdiocese - mostly from various parishes in Kingston but also from Portland and Saint Mary - who manifested an attachment to the *Usus Antiquior*, or Extraordinary Form of the Mass and that by Decree I designated St. Anthony's Parish in Portland to be the home for this stable group of persons where the Mass could be celebrated in the Extraordinary form;

Given the fact that I appointed Msgr. Michael Palud, our Judicial Vicar and Provost of the Oratorian Fathers, to pastor this stable group and along with the other Oratorians to be of spiritual assistance to them;

Given the fact that in his new Motu Proprio, ***Traditionis Custodes*** which regulates the use of the Older Liturgy, Pope Francis reminds the Church quite rightly that each Bishop is a "guardian of the Tradition" (art. 1), the "***moderator, promoter and guardian of the whole liturgical life of the particular church entrusted to him***" (art. 2) and that the Bishop must regulate all celebrations of the liturgy in his diocese and be mindful of the unity of the Church;

Given the fact that I personally know the members of the Latin Mass Society of Jamaica, their fidelity to the Church and the teachings of Vatican II, their involvement in our Local Church;

Given the fact that I also recognize that their genuine piety is actually nourished by this older form of the celebration of Holy Mass, I hereby decree that, for pastoral reasons, the existing arrangements for the celebration of Holy Mass according to the 1962 Missal will remain in place, dispensing from the requirements of article 3 of the Motu Proprio "*ad cautelam*" (cf. Canon 87) as effectively this community is stable and is in its essence a quasi parish.

As per the requirements of the Motu Proprio: I also appoint Msgr. Michael Palud, C.O. as my delegate for all things concerning the *Usus Antiquior*, renewing his mandate as Pastor of this Community and giving his confreres the faculty to celebrate according to the Old Missal of 1962 for the necessity of this Community. Should other priests of the Archdiocese wish to celebrate the *Usus Antiquior*, let them address a request through my Delegate.

Along with the Holy Father, Pope Francis, united in Faith, Hope and Charity we pray for the unity of the Church in things Liturgical acknowledging his pastoral concern expressed in ***Traditionis Custodes***, while also remembering the wise words of Pope Benedict when he was in office, "*what earlier generations held as sacred remains sacred and great for us too, and it cannot be all of a sudden entirely forbidden and even considered harmful*". (Benedict XVI letter to Bishops July 7, 2007).

Given in Kingston on this Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> of July, 2021, Memorial of St. Martha, disciple of the Lord and taking effect immediately.

Most Rev. Kenneth D. Richards, DD,  
Archbishop of Kingston