



LATIN LITURGY ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER 61

JUNE 1996

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FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Our last issue drew attention to Cardinal O'Connor's stated intention to celebrate the Mass in Latin in St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City.

True to his word, the Mass was celebrated -- very appropriately -- on the patronal feast of the cathedral, St. Patrick's Day, Sunday the 17th of March. The cathedral was packed with worshipers.

At this Mass His Eminence delivered a homily which marks a milestone in the progress of the Latin Mass movement in the United States. The full text of the sermon was reprinted in the March 21st edition of *Catholic New York*.

In his remarks, His Eminence essentially presented the same case for the Latin Mass which the Latin Liturgy Association has been propounding for over twenty years. The cardinal set forth six good and valid reasons for the celebration of the Latin Mass. They are the following.

(1.) Those who grew up with the Latin Mass miss it, and should have the opportunity to hear it again. For such persons, the Mass is like an old friend, and re-encountering it brings joy to the heart.

(2.) For those too young to remember the Latin Mass, such Masses provide a valuable and beneficial educational experience.

(3.) "Periodically we have to remind ourselves of the heritage, the tradition of our Church." His Eminence described this need as "very important." Certainly no understatement!

(4.) The unchanging significance of the Latin words provide a valuable safeguard for the transmission of the doctrines of the Church. The Mass, is, after all, a primary means of catechesis.

(5.) Having the Latin Mass in all countries is a powerful symbol of the unity of the Church.

(6.) The Latin Mass better conveys a sense of the solemn and the sacred, especially since it can and should be accompanied by "the beautiful haunting melodies of Gregorian music" as well as "gorgeous polyphony."

Needless to say, his analysis is right on all points. In addition, several of his comments are so incisive that they merit being quoted verbatim here:

"Deep beneath the surface, I think that imprudent, often foolish and irrelevant changes were made **in the Mass itself** [emphasis added] and in the surroundings of the Mass." (Wow!)

"We need a restoration of emphasis on the Eucharist. For a while there was almost a game of hide-and-seek going on, 'Where can you hide the tabernacle so nobody can find it?' That all had its impact." His closing words: "Above all, however, I will continue to emphasize the beauty, the meaning, the mystery, the dignity of this most marvelous gift of God, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, in whatever language it is celebrated."

The current edition of the Roman Missal ("Pope Paul's Mass") was used on this occasion. In combination with the subsequent Solemn High Pontifical Mass celebrated at St. Patrick's Cathedral on May 12 in the Tridentine form, and with the increasing frequency with which the Latin Mass in both forms is being celebrated by the members of the hierarchy (for both of these matters, see below under "Noteworthy Items"), a sea change in the attitude of the U.S. hierarchy toward Latin worship is made evident.

Keep praying and keep working; it's starting to take hold.

ADDITIONS AND REVISIONS TO THE LISTING OF LATIN MASSES

ARIZONA

Diocese of Tucson

Please add the following location to your Directory:

Santa Cruz Church
1220 South 6th Avenue
Tucson AZ 85702
Sun at 1:30 PM
1962

Celebrant: Fr. Richard J. Rego

DELAWARE

Diocese of Wilmington

Holy Cross Church
Dover DE
The celebrant of this Mass is now Fr. Thomas Hanley (pastor).

FLORIDA

Diocese of St. Petersburg

St. Scholastica Church
Lecanto FL
The type of this Mass is 1970.

GEORGIA

Diocese of Atlanta

In addition to the Sunday Masses at St. Joseph's Maronite Church, Mass is celebrated at 9 AM seven days a week at the rectory chapel in Alpharetta GA.

ILLINOIS

Diocese of Rockford

Please add the following two locations to your Directory:

St. Anthony's Church
1010 Ferguson Street
Rockford IL 61102
Mon through Sat at 6:45 AM
1962
Celebrant: Fr. Brian A. T. Bovee

Corpus Christi Monastery
(Poor Clares)

2111 South Main Street
Rockford IL 61102
Sun at 10 AM
1962
Celebrant: Fr. Brian A. T. Bovee

IOWA

Diocese of Davenport

Please add the following location to your Directory:
St. Boniface Church
2500 N. Pershing Boulevard
Clinton IA 52732
Sun at 12:15 PM
1962
Celebrant: Fr. Charles Shepler

Archdiocese of Dubuque

Please add the following location to your Directory:
Basilica of St. Francis Xavier
104 Third Street SW
Dyersville IA 52040
Sun at 12 Noon
1962
Celebrants: Frs. Edward C. Petty (LLA, pastor) and Gabriel C. Anderson.

KANSAS

Archdiocese of Kansas City

Our Lady of Compassion School
Maple Hill KS
The type of this Mass is 1962.

LOUISIANA

Diocese of Lake Charles

Holy Trinity Mission Church
Holly Beach LA
Mass is no longer said here on the 2nd Sun of the month during Lent, but *is* celebrated on the 5th Sun of November and the 3rd and 4th Sun of December (if during Advent).

Chapel of St. Patrick Hospital
Lake Charles LA
During repairs to the hospital, this Mass has been temporarily moved to Christ the King Chapel.
Benediction follows Mass on the 1st Sun of the month.

MICHIGAN

Diocese of Grand Rapids

Sts. Peter and Paul Church
Grand Rapids MI
2nd Sun at 6 PM (Gregorian chant)
The Saturday Mass is no longer celebrated here.

Diocese of Jackson

Sacred Heart Chapel
Jackson MI
The type of this Mass is 1962.

NEW JERSEY

Archdiocese of Newark

Sacred Heart Cathedral
Newark NJ
This Mass is no longer being celebrated.

Please add the following location to your Directory:
St. Anthony of Padua Church
330 Sixth Street
Jersey City NJ 07302
Sun at 12 Noon
1970
Celebrants: Frs. Rudolf Zubik (administrator) and Stanley Kostrzomb

NEW YORK

Diocese of Buffalo

St. Anthony of Padua Church
Buffalo NY
The time of the Sunday Mass is now 9 AM.
Most Holy Days at 7 PM.

Archdiocese of New York

Please add the following location to your Directory:
Our Lady of Solace Church
731 Morris Park Avenue
Bronx NY 10462
1st Fri at 7:30 PM
1962

Diocese of Rockville Centre

St. Pius X Residence Chapel
Uniondale NY
The type of this Mass is 1962.

OHIO

Diocese of Cleveland

St. Mary's Church
Akron OH
The type of this Mass is 1962.

Diocese of Columbus

St. Francis of Assisi Church
Columbus OH
The celebrant of this Mass is Msgr. John Cody (pastor).

PENNSYLVANIA

Diocese of Scranton

Please add the following location to your Directory:
St. Michael's Church
1701 Jackson Street
Scranton PA 18504
Sun at 8 AM and (sung) 10:15 AM
Vespers and Benediction, Sun at 4 PM
Mass Mon and Wed at 7:45 AM
Fri at 6 PM
Sat at 9 AM
1962
Celebrant: Fr. Daniel M. Oppenheimer, F.S.S.P. (pastor)

St. Gregory's Priory
Scranton PA
Mass is celebrated here *only* on Tue and Thu at 7:45 AM, preceded by Lauds at 7 AM

St. John the Baptist Church
Scranton PA
This Mass is no longer being celebrated.

Holy Rosary Church
Wilkes-Barre PA
The time of this Mass is now 6 PM on Saturday (anticipated Sunday Mass).

TEXAS

Diocese of Austin

Please add the following location to your Directory:
St. Joseph Church
(in the Adoration Chapel)
600 East 26th Street
Bryan TX 77803
2nd Sun at 4 PM
1962
Celebrant: Fr. Gerald Steckler, S.J.

Diocese of Corpus Christi

Most Precious Blood Chapel
Corpus Christi TX
The time of the Saturday Mass is now 7 AM.
(Rest of schedule is unchanged.)

Diocese of Dallas

Chapel of the Carmelite sisters
Dallas TX
The type of this Mass is 1962.

WISCONSIN

Diocese of La Crosse

Please add the following location to your Directory:
Priory of the Immaculate Conception
Route 1, Box 160
Cashton WI 54619
1962
Celebrant: Fr. Timothy E. Svea
(Additional details when available.)

CANADA

QUEBEC

Archdiocese of Montreal

St. Patrick's Church
The address of this church is now: 460 Blvd. René-Lévesque Oueste.

Archdiocese of Sherbrooke

Please add the following location to your Directory:
Notre-Dame des Bois Church
Route 212
Notre-Dame des Bois, Quebec
Sun at 9:30 AM
1962

FROM THE LOCAL CHAPTERS

BATON ROUGE

The Baton Rouge chapter offers its congratulations to its member (and former Secretary) Dr. John Zmirak, who received his Ph.D. in English from Louisiana State University on May 17th. His dissertation was devoted to the works of novelist Walker Percy, whose last novel (*The Thanatos Syndrome*, published 1987) contained a powerful affirmation of the Latin Mass.

Dr. Zmirak is now teaching screen writing at Tulane University and editing the *South Baton Rouge Journal*.

CHICAGO

During Lent this year, on Friday, March 8th, Fr. Frank Phillips, C.R., chairman of the Chicago LLA chapter, reintroduced the venerable practice of having the congregation sing the *Stabat Mater* in Latin during the Stations of the Cross observed at St. John Cantius Parish in Chicago, of which he serves as pastor. The Vice Chairman of the chapter, Mr. Patrick Flaherty, held a practice session for an hour preceding the stations so that older parishioners might refresh their memories and younger ones obtain some practice.

In view of the poverty of the usual English translation of this magnificent hymn, Father's decision to familiarize his congregation with the original must be saluted.

Earlier this year, on January 14th, our member Fr. Charles V. Fanelli observed the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood at a special Mass celebrated at St. John Vianney Parish in Northlake IL, of which he has been pastor for over ten years. At this mass the Gloria, Credo, Sanctus, Pater Noster, and Agnus Dei were all sung or said in Latin. During Communion the choir sang the Mozart *Te Deum Laudamus*. And at the banquet which followed, many songs were sung, including the Schubert *Ave Maria*. Congratulations, Father: *ad multos annos!*

NEW YORK

One of the purposes of this Association is the promotion of greater familiarity with, and use of, Gregorian chant. The New York chapter made a significant contribution to this end on April 20th by sponsoring a Gregorian Chant Workshop held at Holy Family Church on Staten Island. Some forty persons attended the entire workshop, and by day's end the numbers had risen to sixty. Among the speakers was Mr. William Leininger, Vice Chairman of the L.L.A., who spoke on the spirituality of chant. The day concluded with a Latin High Mass celebrated by our member Fr. John Thenen.

In addition, the chapter made its presence felt at the conference on "Catholics and the Secular State," which was sponsored by Christifideles and held on May 11th at the Sheraton Meadowlands Hotel in New Jersey.

PITTSBURGH

On Palm Sunday, March 31st, the Passion according to St. Matthew was solemnly sung by three members of the Pittsburgh LLA chapter at the 11 AM Latin High Mass celebrated at St. Boniface Church in Pittsburgh. The celebrant of the Mass was Fr. Eugene Dougherty; the two deacons of the Passion were Frs. Smith and DeFour.

These same three priests sung the Passion according to St. John in Latin on Good Friday afternoon. Our younger members who have never hear the singing of the Passion in three voices in Latin may be assured that it is an experience like nothing else in this world.

ST. LOUIS

On April 22nd, the St. Louis LLA chapter held a joint meeting with the members of Credo. Credo is a local organization of Catholic laity in St. Louis, and is not to be confused with CREDO (all capitals), a national organization of priests. The Missouri group promotes retreats and sponsors a speakers series.

At this meeting the two groups decided to sponsor jointly a public lecture by the Chairman of the LLA in St. Louis on Sunday, September 22nd.

NOTEWORTHY ITEMS

1. In our last issue (p. 6 #2) we listed the dioceses which created "quasi-parishes" during 1995 for the benefit of Latin Mass goers. But we missed one. In Fall 1995 the Most Reverend Edward J. Slattery, Bishop of Tulsa, canonically erected the "Community of St. Peter." Its chaplain, Fr. James W. Jackson, F.S.S.P., writes that the community has "all the rights and privileges of a parish, but not yet established in a permanent place." Note the word "yet." Quasi-parishes will no doubt continue to be formed, but the future of the Latin Mass movement in this country has taken a significant step beyond such arrangements, as is shown in the following item.

2. On January 25, 1996, the Most Rev. James C. Timlin, Bishop of Scranton (and an Adviser of this Association), appointed Fr. Daniel W. Oppenheimer, F.S.S.P., as Pastor of St. Michael's Parish in Scranton PA.

The Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter has been established in the United States for several years, but this is the first time that one of its members has been appointed pastor of a "regular" parish. (In Canada, Fr. Charles Ryan, F.S.S.P., serves as Administrator of a regular parish, St. Clement's in Ottawa.) In consequence of this appointment, this parish has become the first "old rite" parish in the U.S. We predict that others will follow in due course.

The first Solemn High Latin Mass at St. Michael's was celebrated on the evening of February 2nd (which non-Catholic Pennsylvanians image is "Groundhog Day," but which is actually "Candlemas," the Feast of the Purification). The Mass was attended by the parishioners, as well as by the faculty and student body of Our Lady of Guadalupe Seminary in nearby Elmhurst. It was followed by an outdoor candlelight procession, even in the face of the ever-falling snow.

3. Also in last issue (p. 9 #26) we mentioned the Latin Mass which Archbishop Rigali is scheduled to celebrate at St. Agatha's Church in St. Louis MO this October. But we neglected to mention that earlier this year, his auxiliary, Most Rev. Paul A. Zipfel, also celebrated a Pontifical Latin High Mass

in the old rite at this same parish, which is blessed not only with good Latin liturgy but with excellent attendance (could there be some connection?) and ample episcopal attention.

4. In February Fr. Arnaud Devillers, F.S.S.P., the superior of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter in North America, paid a visit to Florida, during the course of which he had extended conversations with Most Rev. John C. Favalora, Archbishop of Miami, and with Most Rev. Norbert M. Dorsey, C.P., Bishop of Orlando. It is understood that he received a favorable reception in both instances.

Fr. Devillers celebrated the Latin Mass on four consecutive days at St. Joachim's Church in Miami, where his Mass was served by two members of the LLA, Mr. Thomas Howard and our Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Scott Calta.

Archbishop Favalora is an Episcopal Adviser of the LLA, and it is clear that his attention is moving in the direction of the Latin Mass. It is understood that he intends to preside over a celebration of the Latin Mass at St. Thomas University in the near future.

5. Speaking of new trends, one may mention the practice of conducting retreats and days of recollection in which the liturgical services are in Latin. This practice was pioneered by the New York chapter of the LLA.

I am aware of three such retreats this year. The first was given on February 17th by Fr. Vincent Sampietro, C.S.P., of St. Philip Neri Parish in Portland OR. (Our sources in Oregon say that the day of recollection will be repeated next year, at which time the recitation of the Rosary will also take place in Latin.)

The second -- actually a pair of retreats, one for women on March 20-21, one for men on March 23-24 -- took place in the Diocese of Belleville IL under the direction of Fr. Richard Rego (a priest of the Diocese of Tucson). Bishop Wilton Gregory of Belleville, who is the former chairman of the Bishops' Committee on the Liturgy, gladly gave permission for the old form of the Mass to be celebrated each day.

And the third took place on May 3-5 under the direction of Fr. Joseph Koterski, S.J., at St. Mary's Villa in Sloatsburg NY (Rockland County). Cardinal O'Connor gladly gave permission for the Masses. Fr. Koterski is a noted scholar who is a member of the Philosophy Department at Fordham University.

6. The Latin Mass returned to the Archdiocese of Dubuque on Sunday, February 26th, when our member Fr. Edward C. Petty offered the Holy Sacrifice at the Basilica of St. Francis Xavier in Dyersville IA (where he is pastor). Over one thousand people were in attendance, vigorously joining their responses in Latin to those of the servers. As a closing hymn the congregation sang the Salve Regina.

Consent for this new weekly Latin Mass was given by the new archbishop, Most Rev. Jerome G. Hanus, O.S.B., who is also the chairman-elect of the Bishops' Committee on the Liturgy. Significant?

7. Another breakthrough: on March 7th the Most Rev. Raymond L. Burke, Bishop of La Crosse WI, canonically erected the Institute of Christ the King, Sovereign Priest, within his diocese. The Institute is a young order whose members celebrate the Mass exclusively according to the Missal of 1962. Although the group has several American members, this is the first foundation in the U.S. (Another followed in short order: see item #11 below.) Appointed as Superior of the Institute for the U.S. is Fr. Timothy E. Svea, who is a native of Wisconsin. (Please note: Fr. Svea is a confirmed speaker at the 1997 LLA Convention in St. Paul MN.)

8. Weddings solemnized in Latin have also become more common. For example, on Saturday, March 16th, Miss Joanne Sadler and Mr. Roger Lawrence Butler were wed at a Hybrid Latin Mass (canon entirely in Latin) celebrated at the high altar of St. Mary's Church (site of a local Marian shrine) in Barnesville MD by Fr. Kevin Cusick of the Archdiocese of Washington.

9. The choir of St. Ann's Chapel at Stanford University continues its fine series of Latin liturgies. During Holy Week this year the chapel featured the chanting of the Passion in Latin on Palm Sunday and Good Friday, the traditional Tenebrae service (now rare), and motets by Morales, Victoria, Byrd, Tallis, Ciconia, Dufay, and Lassus. The week concluded

with the singing of Palestrina's Missa Laudate Dominum on Easter Sunday.

10. On Wednesday, April 3, the Gregorian Chant Choir of Spain gave an impressive performance at the Grand Opera House in Wilmington DE. Selections include a mixture of some of the most familiar chant melodies (e.g. the Salve Regina and the Regina Coeli Laetare) with others familiar only to the expert in chant, some of which were accompanied by discants copied from 13th and 14th century manuscripts.

The choir is under the direction of Professor Ismael Fernandez de la Cuesta. Attendance was good (even Senator Biden was there!), providing further evidence of the wide interest in Gregorian chant on the part of the general community.

11. Following the lead of his confrere Bishop Burke, the Most Rev. Thomas G. Doran, Bishop of Rockford IL, has established the Institute of Christ the King, Sovereign Priest, in his diocese. (See #7 above.) The Institute has assigned Fr. Brian A. T. Bovee to work in this diocese.

Fr. Bovee's apostolate was inaugurated with a special Mass celebrated in Rockford on April 21st.

Bishop Doran presided and gave the homily. The celebrant was Fr. Bovee, and his colleague Fr. Svea served as Master of Ceremonies.

It is understood that the Institute may be installed in a third American diocese in the near future. Please pray for it.

12. An encouraging development from Atlanta: recently the Most Rev. John F. Donoghue, Archbishop of Atlanta (and an Adviser of this Association), organized the Latin Mass goers of his archdiocese as the "Community of St. Francis de Sales," and appointed Fr. Mark Fischer, F.S.S.P., as the community's chaplain.

More significantly, he has granted permission for the community to build its own church! If the project is successful, Atlanta, like Scranton, will have a church at which the liturgy is entirely in Latin. Hopes are high, and negotiations (as reported in the Spring 1996 issue of *The Latin Mass* magazine) are underway with Professor Duncan Stroik of Notre Dame University, an expert in classical and ecclesiastical architecture, to design the new building.

Contributions may be sent to: St. Francis de Sales Building Fund, c/o Fr. Mark Fischer, F.S.S.P., 3400 Old Alabama Road, Alpharetta GA 30202.

13. As this issue goes to press, all eyes are once again on St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City where, on May 12th, His Eminence Alfons Cardinal Stickler is to celebrate a Solemn High Pontifical Latin Mass according to the old edition of the Roman Missal. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first time that the Tridentine form will have been used at the high altar of St. Patrick's since 1970.

It is definite that Cardinal O'Connor will preside over the Eucharist and will express a formal welcome to Cardinal Stickler. Evidently many

notable Catholics plan to attend, including His Eminence Ignatius Cardinal Kung (who says his private daily Mass according to the old form), Mother Angelica, Michael Davis (President of Una Voce International), possibly Fr. Joseph Fessio, S.J. (head of Ignatius Press), possibly Prof. Robert George of Princeton. Details in our next issue.

14. Lastly, your prayers are requested for the health of our member Fr. Canice Crawford, T.O.R., of Pittsburgh who is now recovering in Arizona after heart surgery.

NEWS FROM OVERSEAS

1. Before his appointment as pastor (see above), Fr. Daniel Oppenheimer embarked upon an extended journey through Australasia in which he made contact with hundreds of supporters of the Latin Mass and discussed their hopes for the future.

He spent some four weeks in Australia, where he took part in the annual pilgrimage from Ballarat to Bendigo (see last issue, p. 10 #6). This was followed by ten days in Singapore and eight days in New Zealand.

2. The struggle of the Association Pro Liturgia to obtain some form of recognition from the French hierarchy continues. (See last issue, p. 10 #7.) On February 3rd, Archbishop Brand of Strasbourg at last answered their letter. In his reply he indicated that he had certain doubts and reservations about their intentions. Of course the Association wrote back immediately, asking to be informed of the precise nature of these doubts; no reply to date. So far, the prospect is not encouraging.

3. The International Federation of Gregorian Chant held a meeting in Marseilles on April 27-28th. We have no further details.

4. For the last two issues, this Newsletter has been publishing a list of Latin Mass sites in France for the benefit of our Europe-bound members. A kindly Franco-American member has written to point out that in some cases the information presented is outdated; he has generously provided us with an up-to-date list of particulars.

And so in this issue we publish the additions and corrections to the last two lists. More to follow in subsequent issues.

The Paris listings (issue 59, p. 12) are correct as given.

Chapel of Notre-Dame des Armées
4 Impasse des Gendarmes
Versailles 78000

Sunday schedule is unchanged: Masses at 8:15, 9:15, 10:30 (High), 12 Noon, and 5 PM. Vespers at 6 PM.

Same schedule on Holy Days.

Weekdays: Mass at 7:25, 8:15 AM and 5 PM.

Celebrants: Frs. Coiffet and Loiseau.

If you wish to go to confession (in French), telephone 39 02 70 26 during the hours of 9 AM to 12 Noon on Mon, Tue, Thu, or Fri.

St. Martin de Bréthencourt
Ablis
Celebrant is Fr. Journu.

Church of St. Louis
42 Route de Versailles
Port Marly 78560

Sun and Holy Days at 10 AM (chanted) and 11:45 AM; Vespers at 5:30 PM

Mon, Wed, Thu at 9:15 AM

Wed and Fri at 6:30 PM

Celebrant: Fr. Audin

Church of St. Germain du Grand Chesnay
Le Chesnay

Sun and Holy Days at 10:15 and 11:45 AM

Mon, Tue, Fri, and Sat at 8:45 AM

Wed and Thu at 6:30 PM

1st Friday: Mass at 8:30 PM followed by adoration until 11 PM

Celebrant: Fr. le Pivain

FROM THE PRESS

1. Earlier this year the Most Rev. John R. Quinn completed his service as Archbishop of San Francisco and was succeeded by the Most Rev. William J. Levada, formerly Archbishop of Portland OR. The appointment had been announced months earlier, and gave rise to considerable speculation in the secular press.

For example, the San Francisco *Examiner* in its issue of August 17, 1995, offered the following comment: "Quinn's successor is also known to be a stickler for tradition, particularly in language, and is one of about a dozen U.S. bishops challenging proposed changes in the translation of the Catholic liturgy, particularly in the area of inclusive language." (There are more than a dozen, of course).

Archbishop Quinn is an episcopal Adviser of this Association and a promoter of the Latin Mass (which he sometimes celebrated personally at his cathedral) -- but only in its newer form. While in Portland Archbishop Levada gave permission for the celebration of the old form in four parishes. Observers will be interested to see what changes in liturgical policy the new archbishop may see fit to foster in the City by the Bay.

2. The December 1995 issue of *Christian Order* magazine (published in Britain) featured an article by Dr. Alice von Hildebrand (formerly of the Philosophy Department at Hunter College in New York City) entitled "The Sacredness of Tradition." Dr. von Hildebrand has long been active in *Una Voce*.

The article discusses the cumulative effects of such changes as: little or no fast and abstinence; virtual abolition of kneeling for Holy Communion; introduction of Communion in the hand; and the introduction of female altar servers. She concludes that the distinction between "essential" and "secondary" in liturgical matters, though sound in principle, has in practice led to a condition in which all the "secondary" traditions are assumed to have *no* value whatsoever. And yet the cumulative effect of their reversal has been to decrease reverence for, and even belief in, the Eucharist itself.

3. The Winter 1995 issue of *Sacred Music* (Vol. 122 #4) contains the usual tasty gumbo of fact and opinion, including contributions by several LLA

members. Of particular note is a short but pithy piece by Dr. Kurt Poterack in which he notes that Thomas Merton was repelled by his visit to the Quakers due to the banality of their liturgy. He fears that any Merton of today would have a similar reaction to the banal vernacular liturgy found in most parishes. Among many other important purposes, the Mass serves as an "advertisement" to potential converts. What message does it now convey?

4. In the January 1996 issue of *Inside the Vatican* magazine, editor Robert Moynihan delivers himself of a well wrought opinion piece (p. 5) entitled "Bring Back the One-Year Cycle." He argues that the current three-year cycle of readings at Mass is confusing, obtrusive, and highly artificial.

He says that this change "was a well-meaning attempt to open up the riches of Scripture. But it mistakes the liturgical year for an academic class."

This is yet another step in the process whereby conservative Catholics, who used to content themselves with decrying "abuses", now step forward boldly and call for the outright repeal of some duly authorized, but misguided, liturgical changes.

5. In the Winter 1996 issue of the *Angelus* (Vol. 14 # 2), newsletter of the Regina Coeli Society of Wilmington DE, no less than three-quarters of a page is devoted to a lucid exposition of the nature and purpose of the Latin Liturgy Association. It's a wonderful synopsis. Our thanks go to the Regina Coeli Society and in particular to Mrs. Peggy Smith.

6. In early March, the New York *Observer* reported (quite unfavorably) upon presidential candidate Patrick J. Buchanan, summing him up as a "champion of the unborn, the orthodox, and perhaps *even* [emphasis added] the Latin Mass." And those are supposed to be his *bad* points!

7. In commenting (favorably) upon the formation of the new liturgical group "Adoremus" in the December issue of this Newsletter (issue 59, pp. 10-11 #m 14), some reservations were expressed about the degree to which the decrees of the second Vatican Council (of any council) really ought to be regarded as if dictated by the Holy Spirit to the Church.

These remarks on our part found favor in some quarters (for example, they are reproduced with apparent approval on p.9 of the Spring 1996 issue of *The Latin Mass* magazine), but not in all.

Our valued member Fr. Jerry J. Pokorsky, who is on the Board of Adoremus, composed a piece entitled "Mater Si, Magistra Si" (the title is a tip of the hat to the famous comment on *Pacem in Terris* made by one of the members of the L.L.A. National Council, William F. Buckley, Jr.) which was published in the March 1996 issue of the Adoremus Bulletin.

In the article Fr. Pokorsky labors valiantly to sustain a conclusion which is, in the view of this reader, ultimately untenable: that "the documents of Vatican II *are* [emphasis in original] ... an expression of the Church's teaching authority." Not so fast! In so far as they touch upon *doctrine* they are, but in so far as they make provisions for practical arrangements they are not and cannot be magisterial.

A rejoinder has been written and will appear in due course ... perhaps even in the pages of the Adoremus Bulletin, the address of which is: P.O. Box 5858, Arlington VA 22205.

8. On St. Patrick's Day, Sunday, March 17, 1996, the Syracuse *Herald American* published a full and nicely illustrated article (on pp. D1 & D6) by Melanie Gleaves-Hirsch which describes the Latin Masses now being celebrated in the Diocese of Syracuse. Bishop Joseph O'Keffe authorized four of them, and all are going strong under his successor, the Most Rev. James M. Moynihan.

Of particular interest is the fact that a group of Catholics in the diocese have petitioned Bishop Moynihan to set aside one church in the diocese at which *all* liturgical functions would be in Latin. The instigator of this request is none other than the ever vigorous Byron M. Smith, a long-time member of the LLA and a leader in *Una Voce*. Mr. Smith is well aware of the developments at St. Michael's Parish in Scranton and the prospective St. Francis de Sales Church in Atlanta mentioned earlier in this issue.

9. As mentioned in our last issue (no. 60 p. 12 #7), in a three-part article published in the first three issues of the Adoremus Bulletin last winter, Fr. Brian W. Harrison, O.S., issued a call for a liturgical reform which would not question the wisdom of any

part of Vatican Two's liturgical provisions but would implement them in a way completely different from the way in which they were actually implemented by Pope Paul VI-- an implementation which would, in many respects, be highly attractive to many members of this Association.

My, what a tempest his proposal has stirred up!

First, he was attacked (at points, a bit intemperately) in the pages of *The Remnant* (January 15th). Then an editorial in the Winter 1996 issue of *The Latin Mass* took an indirect swipe at the proposal.

Now the horns are well and truly locked. In the Spring 1996 issue of *The Latin Mass* one finds: (i) more editorial comments by Publisher/Editor Roger A. McCaffrey, (ii) a long and strong letter from Fr. Joseph Fessio, S.J., who may be regarded as the "godfather" of Adoremus, (iii) a sound reply to his critics by Fr. Harrison, and (iv) a precise critique of the Adoremus proposal by Mr. Chris Ferrara, President of the American Catholic Lawyers Association.

And that's not all! In its March 15th issue, *The Remnant* returned to the fray once more, publishing a long and detailed letter from Fr. Harrison in defense of his proposal, interspersed with rebuttal from Mr. Michael Davies and followed by a "scolding" of Fr. Harrison by Editor Michael J. Matt.

In the view of this observer, Fr. Harrison had been well ahead on points until his letter was published on March 15th. But in it there are two lapses. First, he concedes that "the present regime [*sic*] in Rome" will never implement his proposal, but perhaps a future pope will do so. However, in his original article he had criticized the full Tridentinists precisely on the ground that the present "regime" would never consent to a full return of the old form of the Mass. Is this a sound objection or is it not? The Tridentinists *also* hope that a future pope will see things their way; and no one can foresee what the situation in the Church will be in 2036, any more than anyone could have predicted the present situation from the vantage point of 1956.

Second, hewing firmly to his convictions, Fr. Harrison writes: "... their [i.e. the Council fathers'] non-infallible teachings (such as the changes to the 1962 Missal decreed in SC 50-58) must be

presumed [emphasis in original] to reflect the Holy Spirit's guidance and the will of Christ for His Church, and therefore sincerely assented to and acted upon." No theological foundation for this claim is presented; Davis cites the late Dietrich von Hildebrand to the contrary. And I would still like to know how a provision that (e.g.) the lectionary be revised can possibly be regarded as a "teaching" rather than a mere directive.

10. In addition to the other items in *The Latin Mass* magazine mentioned above, the Spring 1996 issue published (on pp. 29-33) an excellent paper by Professor David P. Kubiak, a member of the National Council of the L.L.A., which was originally delivered at the 1995 National Convention of this Association. The title is "Young Catholics and the Old Rite," and adds strength to the growing conviction that the interest in the Latin Mass on the part of younger Catholics is what is going to bring about a more widespread use of it.

11. And in the Spring 1996 issue of *Sursum Corda* magazine we find profiles of two Catholic heroes of our times: the saintly and evangelical Fr. Francis Butler, S.S.J. (now working in Montgomery AL), and Sister M. Wilhelmina, now organizing a new order of sisters as an auxiliary to the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter. The interest in, and commitment to, the Latin Mass on the part of both of these figures provides a great deal of encouragement to all of us.

12. In a story released in early April by the Catholic News Service, Archbishop Rembert G. Weakland of Milwaukee explained why he, although a specialist in Church music, does not promote the use of Gregorian chant in his archdiocese: "Chant is beautiful, but it was never intended to be the song of the people. I am upset when I see people celebrate the old liturgy for the sake of antiquarianism." Take heart! Archbishop Weakland is upset.

13. The New York *Times* devoted an article on Sunday, April 7th, to the Latin Masses now celebrated in New Jersey. The title was "Returning to the Latin Mass: An Ancient Rite Is New Again"; it was written by Abby Goodnough.

The focus of the piece was the return of the Latin Mass to St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Jersey City. Five Catholics, all of them youthful, approached one parish after another with their request for a Latin Mass until the priests of St.

Anthony consented. Since the reintroduction of the Latin Mass on March 31st (Palm Sunday), attendance has grown and a choir is in training.

The article ended with a quotation from one of the Mass goers, a Mr. Frank Folta: "For me there is more mystery, more dignity with the Latin. In Latin there is more expression, and my spirit feels more rich." Exactly.

14. On April 11th *Catholic New York* devoted an entire page to another of the people who are rebuilding the Church of God: Joyce Linton. Miss Linton, a graduate of Manhattanville College in Purchase NY, teaches Latin at the Manhattan Center for Science and Math (a public high school) on East 116th Street in the Bronx. By all accounts, she is a great success in the classroom.

But in addition, she sings at the Latin Masses celebrated every Saturday afternoon at St. Ann's Armenian Cathedral in lower Manhattan, and sometimes also at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, situated directly across the street from her school.

Moreover, she is a member of the New York Oratorio Society. In that capacity she will soon be singing in the performance of "The Passion of Martin Luther King" in Carnegie Hall. This work, by Nicholas Flagello, combines Latin texts from the Requiem Mass with English quotations from the writings of the slain civil rights leader.

Her comment on the Latin Mass: "When you attend this Mass, you are linked to people practically into the ancient world. That fits in for me with being part of the mystical body of Christ ... The fact that the Church has continuously used this language and legacy from the Romans connects everything."

15. Speaking of Adoremus, they performed a valuable service by reprinting chapter seven of James Hitchcock's neoclassic work, *The Recovery of the Sacred*, in the April issue of their Newsletter. The work, though not new, presents a searching analysis of "what went wrong" with the liturgical reform, and the reasons why such consequences could have been expected. The book is available from Ignatius Press (185 pp., \$11.95), 33 Oakland Ave., Harrison NY 10528.

16. Last, in April this Association began running ads in the Catholic media once again. My thanks to those whose donations have helped. If you would like to see us continue to advertise,

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Wanted: Two qualified volunteers to review James Hitchcock's *The Recovery of the Sacred* and a newly published biography of the late John Cardinal Krol.

MISCELLANY

1. Our members may wish to learn about the existence of St. Maximilian Kolbe Preparatory School, which is situated in Pequannock NJ and operates under the auspices of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter. It comprises grades one through eight.

In addition to the usual subjects, Latin is a part of the academic curriculum; in fact, a student here has been awarded the New Jersey Gold Medal for Latin.

Religious practices are a major part of the school day, since the students attend Mass (in Latin) every day and pray the Rosary (also in Latin) every day, thereby surpassing even the "golden days" of the Catholic parochial schools.

Another school operated by the Priestly Fraternity is Our Lady of Compassion School in Maple Hill KS. It comprises grades K through 12, and has a remarkably ambitious program of guest speakers of real value.

2. Last mention this month goes to actress Annette O'Toole. According to a Catholic News

Service release, she is fond of the Latin Mass and usually attends one whenever she is in Los Angeles working. (There is none near her home in rural Oregon.)

I wonder if she ever runs into Mel Gibson there? For him, too, this is the Mass of choice.

At present, Miss O'Toole is appearing in the television series "Nash Bridges"; she portrays the former wife of the title character, who is played by Don Johnson. Many viewers will remember her admirable portrayal of Rose Kennedy in the much watched TV mini-series "The Kennedys of Massachusetts." But I shall always remember her as Lana Lang, Superman's boyhood flame from Smallville.

Why does she love the Latin Mass? "It's how I grew up. It's something that's universal. Anywhere you went you could be connected. ...It was very hard for me to accept the change." Ah, we know, we know.

Till next time, *benedictione perpetua benedicat nos Pater aeternus.*



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