

NEWSLETTER

CXXI

ANNUNCIATION

From the President

Although the feast of the Annunciation, normally celebrated on March 25, has been transferred to Monday, April 9, 2018, our Newsletter editor and I agreed that we should stay with our March 25 publishing date for this issue.

Since our December issue, several priests who offered the Traditional Latin Mass have gone to their eternal reward and are remembered in this newsletter. We ask you to pray for the repose of their souls.

There is still much good being done in many places, which we are happy to highlight in this newsletter. The mainstream media is filled with plenty of discouraging and distressing news – we do not need to repeat such news here. Our goal is to provide support and encouragement to all of us who are engaged in the daily battle.

I am sure that many of you are already praying the Rosary every day, as our Lady has asked – either in Latin or a vernacular language. Raymond de Souza, at a recent talk that I attended, offered some guidance as one meditates on the Mysteries of the Rosary:

- The Joyful Mysteries help us to understand the sanctification of poverty
- The Sorrowful Mysteries help us to accept our cross
- The Glorious Mysteries help us to look beyond our earthly life and to desire eternal life

Memor et fidelis Regina Morris, President, Latin Liturgy Association

News from the Chapters

Chicago Chapter:

St. John Cantius Church Patrons of Sacred Music held their annual fundraiser banquet on 10 March, 2018. The menu was based on the 1953 coronation banquet of Queen Elizabeth II. A concert followed the banquet. The concert featured music of Ralph V. Williams and Healey Willan, including one piece in Latin, *Gloria Deo Per Immensa Saecula*. On Sunday, 27 May, 2018 a silent movie ("A Sailor Made Man") and fundraising raffle will take place to support the choirs and orchestras at St. John Cantius.

Cleveland Chapter:

The Office of *Tenebrae* will be prayed at 7:45 pm on Wednesday, March 28, 2018, at St. Stephen's Church in Cleveland. On Saturday, March 31, 2018, the Blessing of the Easter baskets will take place at 1:00 pm at Immaculate Conception Church in Cleveland.

Detroit Chapter:

WRCJ - 90.9 FM, the classical music station in Detroit, MI has increased its proportion of sacred polyphony in its programming. Old St. Mary's Church and other Detroit churches that offer classical repertoire are now regular advertisers on the station. It should be observed that the greater familiarity and appreciation the public has for this type of music, the more they are likely to venture into a church offering such repertoire as part of the worship experience.

Los Angeles Chapter:

The Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter will sponsor a Sacred Music Symposium in Alhambra 18-22 June 2018. Presenters

include Kevin Allen, Jeff Ostrowski, and Horst Buchholz. For more information go to - www.ccwatershed.org/symposium

Minneapolis-St. Paul Chapter:

The Twin Cities Chorale continues its programming of sung orchestral Masses during the Ordinary Form Latin Masses at St. Agnes Church in St. Paul, MN, at 10:00 am Sundays through the next three months. They will premiere the *Grosse Orgelmesse* by Joseph Haydn on April 22, 2018. Go to - www.catholicchorale.org for a complete list of orchestral Masses that will be presented.

Monterey Chapter:

Several talks from the recent Monterey Latin Mass Conference have been posted to youtube.com. The best way to find them is to go to youtube.com and type in the title of the video, as listed below, to locate the one you would like to listen to:

- "The Relationship Between Tradition and Liturgy" by Bishop Athanasius Schneider
- "Recovering the Ancient Liturgy in San Francisco" by Rev. Joseph Illo
- "The Coming Battle for *Humanae Vitae*" by Rev. Brian Harrison, O.S.

Pittsburgh Chapter

Thanks to Dr. Joseph Beierle for all the following information: A Traditional Latin High Mass in honor of Blessed Karl of Austria and luncheon will be held on Sunday, April 15, 2018, at St. Titus Church in Aliquippa, PA. The featured speaker will be Raymond de Souza. For more information go to - www.KnightsOfColumbusLatinMass.blogspot.com

The monthly Traditional Latin Masses at St. Titus Church will continue on May 20, 2018, and June 17, 2018. Rosary and confessions begin 30 minutes prior to the Mass at noon.

St. James Catholic Church (Society of St. Pius X) will sponsor a 25th anniversary pilgrimage to the Shrine of the North American Martyrs on September 8, 2018. Details will be forthcoming.

Father Reginald De Four, who had previously served the Pittsburgh Latin Mass community, was recalled to Trinidad in 1997. We have recently learned that Father De Four preached a retreat on the Latin Mass in Trinidad on June 4, 2017. This has resulted in a monthly Traditional Latin Mass being offered at the Sanctuary of the Holy Family in Port of Spain, Trinidad.

A Traditional Latin Mass at St. John XXIII quasi-parish was offered at 9:00 pm on December 24, 2017, for the Solemnity of the Nativity of Our Lord, Mass at Midnight. The choir sang the Ordinary from Victoria's *Missa O Magnum Mysterium*. The offertory motet was *O Nata Lux* by Andrea Angelini. The Communion motets were *O Magnum Mysterium* by Victoria and *Corde Natus ex Parentis*, using the *Divinum Mysterium* tune from the *Sanctus* trope of the 11th century.

You are asked to pray for the repose of the souls of two faithful priests who had long served the Pittsburgh Latin Mass community. Father James E. Reiter died January 23, 2018. He had been the acolyte for the very first Latin Mass in the Pittsburgh diocese upon its return on June 11, 1989, in the chapel of Duquesne University. Fr. Reiter also offered the Traditional rite Easter Vigil for the first time in recent memory in Pittsburgh in 1993. Father Angelus M. Shaughnessy AFM Cap, died March 2, 2018. On August 2, 1992, Fr. Shaughnessy offered his first Latin Mass at St. Agnes Church, which was the home of the Pittsburgh Latin Mass community at that time. From 2001 - 2007, Fr. Shaughnessy was stationed at EWTN in Birmingham, AL. He served as Minister General to the Franciscan Missionaries of the Eternal Word, and could be seen on EWTN. In 2007 Fr. Shaughnessy returned to Pittsburgh to serve as the National Executive Director of the Archconfraternity of Christian Mothers until the time of his death. *Requiescant in pace*.

St. Louis-Belleville Chapter

On January 1, 2018, a Traditional Latin Mass was offered by Msgr. Eugene Morris at Ste. Genevieve Church in Ste. Genevieve, MO to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the arrival of Bishop William DuBourg in Ste. Genevieve, on his way to St. Louis, to be installed as the first bishop of the newly created diocese of St. Louis.

The St. Louis Public Library is featuring a special exhibit, "Catholic Sisters: The Spirit of St. Louis" from March 3-April 28, 2018, at the Central Library. Exhibit hours are Mon.-Sat. 10 am - 6 pm. The exhibit is to honor 200 years of Catholic education in the St. Louis area.

Father Joseph E. Begue, C. M. entered eternal life on January 9, 2018, at the age of 94 years. Father Begue was a

lifetime LLA member, and offered the Traditional Latin Mass at St. Agatha Church for many years. He was also the director of the Vincentian Press in St. Louis. For over 50 years Father Begue managed a retail store where religious goods were purchased in bulk and sold them at modest prices to missionaries, religious orders, diocesan priests, parishes, and lay people. Several local LLA chapter members attended his funeral at St. Mary of the Barrens, in Perryville, MO

News from Members

LLA member, **Brian Pouliot**, is also the owner of Preserving Christian Publications, Inc. As such, Mr. Pouliot is happy to announce a new edition of the *Liber Usualis*. This reprinted edition is from 1963 with the 1962 rubrics in English (not Latin). They have maintained the original Gregorian notation for the chant. The new edition is sewn with a hardback cloth binding, reinforced at the hinges of the book. It also includes durable end sheets. Ribbon markers are included. The page edges are red to avoid those unsightly finger print marks that show up after a book has been used for a while. There is a supplement for the Mass of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, along with the Tract to be sung during Septuagesima/Lent and the extra Alleluia to be sung during the Easter season in place of the Gradual. This addition was made at the request of those who use this Mass as a votive Mass during the liturgical year—since these additions are not in the original *Liber Usualis*. They have also updated the table of movable feasts. The retail cost is \$76—well below comparable offerings by other publishers. There is even a 40% discount for bookstores or other bulk orders. Mr. Pouliot also reports on the brisk sale of the *Liber Brevior* (which we described in a previous LLA Newsletter). They have recently completed a third reprinting, so now have plenty of these books on hand. Call 315-942-6338 or go to www.pcpbooks.net for more information

LLA member, **Marion Morris**, visited Annunciation Catholic Church in Houston, TX, over the Christmas holidays. He reports that once again, the church hosted Solemn Vespers in the Extraordinary Form for both the feast of the Epiphany (on January 5, 2018) and the Holy Family (on January 7, 2018). Annunciation regularly offers the Mass in both the Extraordinary Form and the Ordinary Form (in both English and Latin).

New Memorial for Mary, Mother of the Church

The Congregation for Divine Worship recently announced the *Memoria Beatae Mariae Virginis Ecclesiae Matris*, to be celebrated on the Monday after Pentecost, beginning this year. It appears that the Latin texts will be the same as the Votive Mass #10b, of the same name, that appears in the current edition of the *Missale Romanum*. So, it is not something totally new—it is just an upgrading of a votive Mass to a Memorial. For a handy link to more information, see www.ccwatershed.org Click on Blog, and scroll to March 4, 2018, for a link to the specific Vatican documents.

Limited Permission Granted for pre-1955 Holy Week Liturgies

The February 18, 2018, bulletin of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church (FSSP) in Littleton, CO, announced that it has procured permission (indult) from the Pontifical Commission *Ecclesia Dei*, to offer the pre-1955 Holy Week liturgies. Further permission from the FSSP Superior was also required and obtained. This means that they will be using the 1953 *Missale Romanum* for Holy Week this year. The permission is granted for a three-year period (until 2020), when a report must be made to the Commission on the results of this permission.

According to various internet sites, several other FSSP churches have been granted similar permissions. However, President Morris could not locate any official document from the Pontifical Commission to corroborate these reports.

Request for Photos of Passiontide Veiling

<u>www.newliturgicalmovement.org</u> is requesting photos of veiling used at your church during Passiontide. Last year's photos included 115 photos from 50 different churches world-wide. Go to the above-mentioned website for details in how to submit your photos. It is efforts like this that we can use to convince reluctant parishes that other churches ARE doing this. The tradition has NOT been discontinued everywhere!

News from CMAA (Church Music Association of America)

Four different courses of study will be offered June 18-22, 2018, at Duchesne U., Pittsburg, PA:

- Chant Intensive
- Clear Creek Monastery's Laus in Ecclesia-Level 1
- Ward Method I, Ward Method II

Go to https://musicasacra.com for more information.

Early registration is open for the 28th annual Sacred Music Colloquium. This year it will be held on the campus of Loyola U. in Chicago, IL, June 25-30, 2018. Please go to https://musicasacra.com to register.

News from Institute of Christ the King, Sovereign Priest

The second Chant and Sacred Music Workshop will take place at St. Francis de Sales Oratory, in St. Louis, on April 20-22, 2018. Canon Wulfran Lebocq (from Ireland) and Mr. Nick Botkins will be the leaders of the workshop. For more information see www.institute-christ-king.org/news/415/92/Sacred-Music-Workshop-2018/ There will be two levels of instruction: one for general (basic) and one for choir directors (advanced).

On Thursday, August 2, 2018, also at St. Francis de Sales, the sacrament of Holy Orders, according to the traditional rite will be conferred by His Eminence Raymond Leo Cardinal Burke on several transitional deacons of the Institute. Their names have not yet been released, pending satisfactory completion of all seminary requirements. All friends and faithful are welcome to attend this solemn ceremony. The exact time is pending—but it will be in the morning, that day.

The Institute has compiled a new Latin-English pew missal containing the Mass Ordinary and *Kyriale*, for use at Mass. The missal is available for sale at \$10.00 each at churches served by the Institute.

News from the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter (FSSP)

The FSSP apostolate at All Saints in Minneapolis welcomed His Eminence Raymond Cardinal Burke to their parish on *Gaudete* Sunday, 2017. His Eminence offered a Pontifical Mass at the Throne. The local archdiocesan clergy and seminarians were also present for the occasion. The choir sang Palestrina's *Missa Papae Marcelli*.

The Mass schedule of the National Shrine of St. Alphonsus Liguori in Baltimore, MD (now under the auspices of the FSSP) has been announced. Sunday Latin Masses will be at 8:00 am and 11:00 am. During the week, there will be a Latin Mass at 12:10 pm on Mon., Wed., and Fri.; and a 7:00 am Latin Mass on Tues., Thurs., and Sat.

Three international pilgrimages will be offered by the FSSP in 2018:

- Ancient Greece and Ephesus (Apr 23-May 4, 2018)
- Poland/Czech Republic (Aug 13-27, 2018)
- Holy Land (Nov 25-Dec 10, 2018)

For those faithful who are already planning to participate in the annual Chartre Pilgrimage, an additional "Spiritual Highlights of France Tour" following the Chartre Pilgrimage will be offered, May 22-30, 2018. Contact Syversen Touring at 800-334-5425 for the Greece pilgrimage, and Orbis Catholicus at 800-675-9088 for the other destinations.

Fifth Annual Rome Life Forum

The Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas will be the setting for the 5th annual Rome Life Forum, May 17-18, 2018. The Rome March for Life will follow on Saturday, May 19, 2018. The theme this year is "The True Understanding of Conscience." Speakers include Raymond Leo Cardinal Burke and Bishop Athanasius Schneider. The forum will be conducted in English and Italian with simultaneous translation into both languages. For more information go to www.voiceofthefamily.com

News from the Jubilee Museum, Columbus, OH

The Jubilee Museum is celebrating their twentieth anniversary in 2018. Some of their achievements include a visit by his Eminence, Raymond Leo Cardinal Burke, in 2017; shipping a large container of liturgical objects to Nigeria for the new cathedral in Auchi; sending altars, stained glass, Stations of the Cross, and many other rescued liturgical items to churches who have requested these items to add beauty to their worship; serving a record number of over 5,000 visitors, including 1300 who viewed the Nativity Collection (which we featured in a previous LLA Newsletter); expanding the museum to 22 rooms plus a gift shop and an archive of over 500 boxes.

Since the beginning of 2018, the Jubilee Museum has inaugurated an intern program for college students and upperclassmen high school students, as well as adult drawing classes. A Facebook page has been established to give information about upcoming special events, which are planned for the remainder of the anniversary year. You may also contact the museum by email at info@jubileemuseum.org or by phone at 614-600-0054.

National Museum of Funeral History

Over the Christmas holidays, Chairman Morris had the unique experience of visiting the National Museum of Funeral History in Houston, TX. Their motto is, "Any day above ground is a good one," which seems more and more fitting for those of us closer to the end of our life, than its beginning. There were the expected collections of historical coffins and hearses and the history of embalming. There were fantasy coffins from Ghana, and an elaborate "Day of the Dead" display from Mexico.

But when the new permanent display of "Popes of the Vatican" came into view, amazement at the stunning details began. This one-of-a kind exhibit is a product of three years of intense collaboration between the Vatican and the Museum. There is an exact reproduction (down to the most minute details) of the coffin used in the funerals of three previous Popes. The Pope Mobile used by Pope John Paul II is there as well as a full-scale reproduction of his crypt. There are replicas of vestments worn by some of the Popes before him, that were made by one of the actual tailors who made such vestments.

If you are ever in the Houston area, this is a "not-to-be-missed" exhibit. For museum hours and directions, go to www.nmfh.org or call 281-876-3063.

Basilica of the Sacred Heart (Syracuse, NY) acquires "new" organ

The home of the Traditional Latin Mass in Syracuse, NY, is the beautiful Basilica of the Sacred Heart, also the mother church for the Polish-Americans in that city. The current music director, Francis Schultz, fondly recalls his days as an altar boy, at the church. Now, Schultz has arranged for the installation of an historic Ernest M. Skinner pipe organ (Opus 669) to replace an aging and "in-need-of-massive overhaul" 1910 Moller pipe organ. This ambitious project will gratefully accept financial donations to offset the estimated cost of over \$400,000. A new organ of comparable size would have cost the church over a million dollars. Besides being used at all the Masses (English, Polish, and Latin), the new organ will become the centerpiece of a planned Concert Series, working in cooperation with the Music Dept. at Syracuse University. To donate via PayPal, go to "E. M. Skinner Opus 669 Project" Facebook Page; or send by US Mail to Organ Fund, 927 Park Ave. Syracuse, NY 13204. On a personal note, Chairman Morris' mother sang in the Latin Mass choir at Sacred Heart, prior to Vatican II.

Extraordinary Faith TV Episodes on DVD

The first season of EWTN's "Extraordinary Faith" program (12 episodes) is finally available on DVD for \$25.00. Call 800-854-6316 or shop online at www.ewtnreligiouscatalogue.com

Oregon Sacred Liturgy Conference 2018

The sixth annual Oregon Sacred Liturgy Conference will be held at the Salem OR Convention Center and St. Joseph Catholic Church from Wed. June 27-Sat. June 30, 2018. The theme is "Transfiguration in the Eucharist." The conference will include twelve lectures and four Gregorian liturgies—using the Ordinary Form, Extraordinary Form, and the Dominican Rite. For more details see www.sacredliturgyconference.org

Catholic Family News Conference

The 2018 Catholic Family News Conference will take place Friday, April 6-Sunday, April 8, 2018 at the Hyatt, Deerfield, IL. The theme is "The Weapons of Our Warfare." The speakers will include, Matt Gaspers (new editor of CFN), Christopher Ferrara, Fr. Albert Kallio, O.P., Dr. Andrew Childs, Fr. Isaac Mary Relyea, Peter Kelly, Louis Tofari, Alexandra Reis, and Dr. Roberto de Mattei (President of the Lepanto Foundation from Italy). For more information call 1-800-474-8522. Register online at www.catholicfamilynews.org/conference

Internationaal Gregoriaans Festival van Watou (Belgium)

Once every three years, the city of Watou, Belgium hosts this international Gregorian festival. From May 4-13, 2018, you can enjoy up to 13 concerts, 12 liturgical celebrations, various listening sessions, and even a workshop. The 27 scholas and ensembles and 5 youth choirs have already committed to participate. They come from 15 countries, from Bogota, Colombia, to Sydney, Australia, to sing this timeless music, and music that derives from it. Go to www.festivalwatou.be for ticket information and other details.

Shelby County, OH, Civil War Living History Weekend 2018

The dates for the 2018 Living History Weekend in Sidney, OH, have been announced—Sept. 15-16, 2018. When this event was held in 2016, a Traditional Latin Mass was part of the weekend. Such a Mass added particular accuracy to the religious services as they were conducted "in the field" during the war. Details for this year's schedule will be forthcoming.

Internet Radio Station Broadcasts Chant and Polyphony 24-7

<u>www.sacredmusic.fm</u> offers continual streaming of Gregorian Chant and polyphony on Firefox web browser, as well as Android and iOS devices. For some reason it does not work on Google Chrome browser. This is a non-profit venture by the Mueller family in CT.

Review of www.findaparish.com

The J. S. Paluch Company, which is associated with World Library Publications, has created a free web resource to locate a Catholic parish by state, city, and zip code. In checking the local parishes in St. Louis that offer Latin Masses, the reviewer noted that all information was accurate. However, in the initial listing of the parishes, the language listed is always "English", unless ALL the Masses are offered in a different language. For example, St. Francis de Sales Oratory has "Latin" as its language in the primary listing. However, St. Mary of Victories, which offers a weekly Latin Mass in the Ordinary Form, as well as a Mass that is partly in Hungarian, is listed as "English" as its language, in the primary listing. So, unless the searcher already knows which churches offer Latin Masses, (in addition to any English Masses that might be offered), the searcher would have to click "More details" for every single listing, to uncover the additional languages offered.

St. Augustine Academy Press New Reprints

Several more traditional Catholic classics are now once again available in print, thanks to being reprinted by St. Augustine Academy Press. These include: <u>A Curriculum in Religion</u> (Highway to Heaven Series, grades 1-8); <u>The Easter Book</u> (by Father Weiser); <u>The Rhymed Life of St. Patrick</u> by K. Tynan; <u>Child's Rule of Life</u> and <u>Old Testament Rhymes</u> by Msgr. Robert H. Benson. For detailed descriptions and pricing, go to www.staugustineacademypress.com

Veils by Lily

After more than seven years of being online sales only, the first retail storefront for "Veils by Lily" is now open in Imperial, MO. Their mission is to bring back reverence for the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist through the wearing of the chapel veil in His Presence. Products include Starter Veils, Spanish and French mantillas in multiple colors, and even some limited edition handmade-to-order veils. Call 636-205-0101 for more information or go to www.veilsbylily.com

Exegetical Commentary on the Code of Canon Law Digital Edition Now Available

Midwest Theological Forum announces that the digital edition of this six-volume commentary is now available as eight digital e-books at \$19.00 each. Go to www.theologicalforum.org for more information.

Liturgia Horarum available for pre-order

Midwest Theological Forum announces that the six-volume set, hardcover edition of *Liturgia Horarum* is now available for the pre-order price of \$360.00 until March 26, 2018. The books will ship after April 1, 2018. This set follows the *Editio typical* (2000) and includes Memorials for Sts. John XXIII and John Paul II. Everything is in Latin. A sample page can be viewed online at www.theologicalforum.org The books are being printed in Italy, using 11 point Palatino font.

"Ad Orientem Dei Gloriam"

(excerpted from "The Wanderer", Jan. 18, 2018) by Fr. Kevin M. Cusick

The lack of *ad orientem* prayer in the Mass today has encouraged a damaging trend in which the altar for many has become in their minds a "stage" and the persons upon it "actors" in a play. This does not serve the reality of the liturgy in which God Himself has a role through Christ, who uses the priest as His instrument, to offer Himself as Priest, Altar and Victim of the Perfect Sacrifice.

At my own parish we have implemented daily Traditional Latin Mass, *ad orientem* worship at Vatican II Masses, and reception of the Eucharist at the altar rail.

Fr. Richard Heilman, pastor of St. Mary in Pine Bluff, WI, recently shared fruitful results of restoring elements of tradition in his own parish. After reintroducing *ad orientem*, "...Our parish has a sense that we are truly worshiping. The altar boys are more reverent and precise. People are coming early to pray the rosary. Many are staying afterward to offer prayers of thanksgiving. Virtually everyone began, in just the last year, really dressing up for Mass. It seems every Sunday another woman has decided to veil—at a *Novus Ordo*...Contributions are up 30% in one year."

Progressive Solemnity and the Dominican Liturgy

(excerpted from Sacred Music, Winter 2017 issue) by Fr. Innocent Smith, O.P.

[Editor's note: This article includes details concerning the Dominican Divine Office, which are not excerpted here.]

As we try to interpret and apply the concept [of progressive solemnity] today, we can gain much insight from a careful examination of...the medieval Dominican liturgy, developed by the Order of Preachers in the mid-thirteenth century. In the medieval Dominican liturgy, five ranks of liturgical feasts are observed: from highest to lowest, these are: *Totum Duplex, Duplex, Semiduplex, Simplex*, and *Trium Lectionum*. Seven cycles are provided for the Ordinary of the Mass based on the rank or class of the feast, ranging from a very simple setting for ferial days to an ornate setting for *Totum Duplex* feasts.

The development of the Mass cycle was a 13th century phenomenon in which the Dominicans (along with the Franciscans) took a leading role. In prior centuries, musical manuscripts had provided a selection of melodies for each part of the Mass without grouping the settings according to feast rank. Thus, the Dominican arrangement of Mass cycles was rather avantgarde, which helps us realize that the friars were self-conscious in their use of musical solemnity to articulate liturgical solemnity. [An example of the final line from the *Sanctus* in four different settings is shown.]...The higher ranked feasts are assigned more ornate melodies, with the differentiation being based both on the number of notes per syllable and the range of the melody.

Progressive solemnity based on genre is implicit in the more solemn melodies assigned for the Mass, where the gradual, alleluia, and offertory melodies are considerably more ornate than those of the introit and communion antiphons. The character of these proper chants of the Mass remains constant throughout the various seasons and feast ranks of the year: thus, Advent and Lent or lower ranked feasts are not given simpler proper chants, despite the simpler settings used on these occasions for the *Kyriale*. In fact, Lent is one of the most solemn seasons of the year when it comes to the proper chants, as the extremely ornate tract replaces the alleluia, and as distinct chants are given for each DAY of the season, rather than repeating the Sunday chants on the ferial days.

As we attempt to articulate the principle of progressive solemnity and apply this principle to contemporary celebrations of the liturgy, the Dominican liturgical and theological tradition can be of great assistance in offering a practical and pastorally sensitive approach of progressive solemnity.

Humility in the Sacred Liturgy

(excerpted from The Wanderer, Jan. 18, 2018 issue) by James Monti

One of the most serious and endemic problems in how the sacred liturgy is celebrated in many parishes in our own age is a conspicuous lack of humility. Certain contemporary hymns seem calculated to drum into the congregation how supposedly holy, gifted, lovable, and prophetic they are, with scarcely a word about how sinful they are.

A misunderstanding as to what "active participation" in the sacred liturgy truly means has in some cases turned the sanctuary into a sort of theatrical stage where parts are doled out in what seems like an "affirmative action" program to appease power-hungry laity who think the Church is "too clerical."

This is all far removed from what our Lord taught about divine worship in His parable of the Pharisee and the publican (Luke 18:9-14). Therein He made it abundantly clear the He has no use for prayers of self-congratulation. It is the worshiper who humbles himself and even abases himself before the Lord whose prayers will find favor before the throne of God.

In the sacred liturgy, humility is expressed not only in words, but in actions. We do this first and foremost by dropping to our knees before God. In kneeling we temporarily sacrifice our mobility and decrease ourselves to the height of mere children, acknowledging our littleness and weakness as creature utterly dependent upon God...There can be health concerns that can validly excuse a person from kneeling. But there are those who WON'T bend their knees to God for the thinnest of excuses.

So vital is humility to our life as Catholics, to our eternal salvation, that God has, in a sense, made a sacrament of it in the Sacrament of Penance. The sincere confession of one's sins is the ultimate expression of admission of who we really are in the sight of God. One hears those of other faiths speak of simply confessing their guilt interiorly to God. Such a confession requires from a man NO outward admission or acknowledgment of his guilt. But the sacrament of Confession that Christ has given to His Church requires from US a far greater act of humility—going outside of ourselves, to profess our guilt in detail verbally to Christ in the person of His priest.

In the eyes of God, we all leave a whole lot to be desired. No, God doesn't simply love us "just the way we are"; rather, He loves us DESPITE the way we are. If we will only have the humility to admit this, God in His love and mercy will help us change who we are for the better.

Sacred Language Can Lift Worshipers

(reprinted from St. Louis Review, Feb. 5-11, 2018 edition) by Father Brian Harrison OS, LLA member

Upon hearing about the Latin Mass, the first response often is a question: Isn't the use of Latin in Catholic worship outdated — something Vatican Council II wanted the modern Church to leave behind?

In fact, the Council's Constitution on the Liturgy decreed, "The use of the Latin language is to be preserved, ... but since the use of the vernacular ... may frequently be of great advantage to the people, a wider use may be made of it, especially in readings, directives, and in some prayers and chants" (Sacrosanctum Concilium, 36).

Some also might ask, "Why use Latin, which hardly anyone understands?"

First of all, we need to avoid an overly rationalistic approach here. For the heart as well as the mind is involved in worship. Studies in world religions reveal a widespread human tendency to use a mysterious 'sacred' language in religious ritual that helps lift worshipers' spirits above the level of commonplace, everyday discourse and closer to the inexpressible realities of the divine and supernatural.

Also, Latin is an integral part of our historic Catholic culture that we should nurture and be proud of. It takes us back to our roots: the Holy Family and the apostles were all born into the Roman Empire wherein this was the official language. Finally, Latin has always been an important unifying force in the worldwide Church — a common language of worship within the great ethnic diversity that constitutes her 'catholicity' (universality).

For a full decade now, beautiful and historic St. Mary of Victories Chapel has been offering Sunday Mass in a form that follows the above conciliar decree very closely. Using the latest Vatican edition of the Latin 'Ordinary Form' Missal (not the traditional or 'Tridentine' Latin Rite, also called the 'Extraordinary Form'), we use English for the Scripture readings, Prayers of the Faithful, one or two hymns, in chanting the Responsorial Psalm and for some brief directives. The rest of the Mass is in Latin (with English translations provided), including Gregorian chant, which the Council called a "great treasure" that should be given "pride of place" when pastorally appropriate (Sacrosanctum Concilium, 116).

Some Catholics, including younger folks born well after the Council, have remained (or become) deeply attached to the classical Roman Rite traditions. Indeed, a form of celebration that uses the earlier options — particularly in a lovely old church such as St. Mary of Victories (built in 1843) where the art and architecture provide a perfect setting for traditional style worship — is in line with a healthy liturgical pluralism that has deep roots in Church history.

We cordially invite you to visit St. Mary of Victories on Sunday, Feb. 11, at 9 am, to join in our Mass of thanksgiving on the tenth anniversary of our distinctive form of liturgy, which evokes the continuity between the old and new forms of the venerable Roman Rite.

Young Catholic Men Want Reverent Liturgy

(excerpted from www.thosecatholicmen.com posted March 15, 2018, by Cameron Murray)

I have not attended the Extraordinary Form of the Mass (what people call the Latin Mass), but I have participated in a Latin choral *Novus Ordo* (the "New Mass"), and it was the most reverent, beautiful, exhilarating, and all around holy Mass that I've been to. It gave me goose bumps and damn near brought me to tears many times from its sheer beauty...

Many of us, to be sure, were raised in what Bishop Barron calls 'beige Catholicism,' in churches that look like local civic buildings, and don't speak of the heavens or of the Savior of the world. We grew up in a watered-down, feel-good, be-nice Catholicism. I like to believe that we're coming out of that slowly...

I've heard the Church is "listening" to what young people want. I hope that's true. I think it's our job to advocate for reverent and traditional Masses, ones bursting at the seams with beauty and awe. I really don't know any young Catholics that are (a) serious about their faith and (b) not *for* more traditional and reverent liturgy. If anyone is really listening, hear this: we young Catholics really do want Holy Mass to *feel* more holy. In fact, I think it's safe to say we want it because we need it.

Retired Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein (Indianapolis)

Lifetime LLA member, Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein died Jan. 25, 2018, at the age of 79. He had lived at St. Meinrad Archabbey since his retirement in 2011. Under his leadership, enrollment in the archdiocese's Catholic schools increased 30%, reversing a 25-year decline. Twenty-six of those schools were awarded the Blue Ribbon Award for Excellence by the US Dept. of Education.

Latin Teacher Needed

St. Charles Borromeo Academy in Kansas City, MO, is that diocese's first school based on the "Classical Education Model." To that end, they are looking for a part-time Latin teacher for their middle school students. Call 816-436-1009 for more information. More details can also be found on the American Classical League's web site at www.aclclassics.org

Nationwide Mass Attendance

Unfortunately, not all the news is good. An article in <u>Catholic St. Louis</u>, February/March 2018 issue, cited these sobering statistics for US Mass attendance, compiled from multiple on-line sources. These percentages reflect the results of annual parish-reported "Mass counts," which actually count the attendance on a particular weekend. The percentage is the number attending divided by the number of registered Catholics in the parish, and then summarized for the diocese: Chicago 18%; Detroit 30%; Milwaukee 32%; New York 12%; Philadelphia 20%; Pittsburgh 24%; St. Louis 28.5%; and Trenton 18%. Summarizing all the data for the entire US yields a 29% average Mass count.

From the Editor

Mark Twain wrote in his autobiography: "There are three kinds of lies: lies, damned lies, and statistics." Please indulge me in a few more statistics related to the last article.

An April, 2009, Gallup polling article entitled "Churchgoing Among U.S. Catholics Slides to Tie Protestants" shows the decline in Mass attendance as part of a trend over the half-century from 1955 to 2005. If we look at responses by Catholics to the question - "Did you, yourself, happen to attend church or synagogue in the last seven days, or not?" - the peak of "yes" responses by Catholics was 74% in 1958. By 2005, it had fallen to 45%.

What happened? Pius XII died October 9, 1958, at the peak of "yes" responses. Vatican Council II opened October 11, 1962, and closed December 8, 1965. The transitional "Missal" of 1965 began the process of significant revision to the Traditional Latin Mass. *Humanae Vitae* was issued July 25, 1968. The *Novus Ordo* totally replaced the Traditional Latin Mass on the first Sunday of Advent in November of 1969. By 1975, Gallup reports that Mass attendance had fallen to 54% (or 20% in the first 17 years). By 2005, it had fallen to 45% (or 9% in the next 30 years). Clearly the steepest decline occurred in the '58 – '75 time-frame when these Church milestones occurred.

There is a Latin phrase – post hoc, propter hoc – or, "after this, (therefore) on account of this." It is a logical fallacy to claim that my indigestion this morning was caused by the spicy chili I had for dinner last night. It could be caused by the nightcap I had before bedtime. It could be that I am coming down with some ailment. It could be any of the above, some combination of the above, or none of them.

In relation to Mass attendance, if none of the Catholic events are related to the decline, we might well look outside the Church and ask: was there a similar decline in Protestant attendance at services during the 1955 – 2005 time-frame? No. In '55, Protestant "yes" responses were 42%, in '75 they were 40%, and in 2005 they were 45% (the "Tie" point of the article). It seems reasonable to conclude that what occurred within the Catholic Church during this time-frame is responsible for the decline in the US, not outside events.

One thing is certain: the Traditional Latin Mass was not responsible for the decline. It had already been marginalized by 1965 and misplaced in the refrigerator in 1969, only returning from the deep freeze and ludicrous restrictions in 2007. There is another Latin phrase – *res ipsa loquitur* – or, "the thing speaks for itself."

* * *

Since our Newsletter is only published quarterly, we sometimes miss events that are both announced and also take place in between issues of the Newsletter. If you have such a time-constrained event that you wish to announce, we ask you to "share" it directly to the **LLA Facebook Page**. Major upcoming events which are not time-constrained can be announced in summary form on the Home page of latinliturgy.com which receives thousands of visits each month.

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Bill Guelker 19755 Coventry Circle Marthasville, MO 63357

Orátio pro Missa Latíne Celebránda

O mundi Regnátor, qui te omni lingua hóminum angelorúmque laudári voluísti; tríbue, quæsumus, ut étiam in diébus nostris, sacrifícium dilécti Fílii tui immaculátum assídue lingua Romána in oratóriis gentis nostrae omniúmque permúltis tibi offerátur a pópulo ad te toto corde convérso: per Christum Dóminum nostrum. Amen.

Cum licéntia Ordinárii, Baton Rouge, LA August 8, 1994

Prayer for the Celebration of the Mass in Latin

O Sovereign of the world, who have willed that you be praised in every language of men and of angels; grant we beseech you, that now too in our days, the unblemished sacrifice of your beloved Son may be incessantly offered to you in the language of the Romans in many churches of our land and of every land by a people turned to you with all their heart. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE LATIN LITURGY ASSOCIATION

Founded in 1975 to promote the more frequent celebration of the Mass in the Latin language.

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LATIN LITURGY ASSOCIATION

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