**NEWSLETTER 53** 

**JUNE 1994** 

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### FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Let me thank our members for their patience in waiting for the March issue of the Newsletter. As predicted, it was late — not merely due to the hazards of relocation but also due to the unexpected calamities to which this mortal flesh is subject. In brief: during March I suffered a mild case of congestive heart failure (and bleeding ulcers simultaneously), was in the hospital for some time (where I received the Sacrament of Extreme Unction for the first time in my life), and have since been convalescing at home. I am feeling better, and thank all of those who were so kind as to pray for me and even to offer Mass for me.

At present I anticipate that this issue will reach you on time, and I intend to remain on schedule

thereafter, Deo volente.

Dr. Denis Crouan, President of the APL (the French Association for the Latin Liturgy), has proposed the creation of an international federation for Latin Liturgy, to which the existing associations in France, Britain, the Netherlands, and the United States would all belong. I shall be corresponding with Dr. Crouan on this idea, which seems a promising one, and shall report on developments to you. It might be appropriate to propose an inaugural meeting of the federation in Cleveland next year, to coincide with our national convention.

Lastly, my sincere compliments go to Professor William Mahrt and the officers and members of our San Francisco chapter, who organized a very successful Gregorian Chant Workshop at St. Mary's Cathedral in San Francisco this April, followed immediately by a Pontifical Latin High Mass celebrated by Archbishop Quinn. A fuller report will be found elsewhere in this issue. May I suggest to our chapters that they should be thinking in terms of a major special event such as this at least once a year, to raise visibility, attract new members, and have a greater impact on the liturgical life of their respective dioceses. Till autumn, may our Lord bless you and our Lady keep you ever close to Her Immaculate Heart. Ora et labora.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENT**

Mr. Roger A. McCaffrey, Publisher and Editor in Chief of *The Latin Mass* magazine, and a member of the Latin Liturgy Association, has extended an offer to all LLA members. All who write to him and request it will be sent a free issue of the magazine for their consideration.

The address is:

The Latin Mass Magazine P.O.Box 255 Harrison, NY 10528

You should identify yourself as a member of the L.L.A.

#### ADDITIONS AND REVISIONS TO THE DIRECTORY OF LATIN MASSES

#### ALABAMA

#### Diocese of Birmingham

St. Mark Church Birmingham This Mass is no longer being offered.

Please add the following location to your Directory:

Our Lady of the Angels
Monastery
(Poor Clares of Perpetual
Adoration)
5817 Old Leeds Road
Birmingham AL 35210
Daily at 7 AM.
Hybrid
Rebroadcast on the
Eternal Word Television
Network later in the day.

#### **ARKANSAS**

Church of St. Peter the Fisherman Mountain Home The time of this Mass is now 4 PM.

#### **CALIFORNIA**

#### Diocese of Fresno

St. Francis Church Bakersfield This Mass is no longer being offered.

#### Diocese of Los Angeles

St. John Vianney Chapel Los Angeles This Mass is no longer being offered. San Fernando Rey
Mission
Mission Hills
This Mass continues to
be offered on the 1st
Sunday of the month,
but is no longer offered
on the 5th Sunday of the
month.

Retreat House Chapel Jeanne Jugan Residence San Pedro This Mass is no longer being offered.

Poor Clares Convent Chapel Santa Barbara This Mass is no longer being offered.

#### Diocese of San Francisco

Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption IIII Gough Street (at Geary) San Francisco CA 94109 Sundays at 9 AM. Hybrid Pontifical Latin High Mass four times a year. 1970 Missal. Celebrants include Most Rev. John R. Quinn (LLA), and Rev. Milton T. Walsh. For dates and times, contact Prof. William P. Mahrt, Chairman of the San Francisco chapter of the LLA, 415-493-7933.

#### Diocese of Stockton

Chapel of Central
Catholic High School
Modesto
This Mass is no longer
being offered.

Please add the following location to your Directory:

St. Michael's Church 5882 North Ashley Lane Stockton CA 95215 1st Sunday of the month at 3 PM 1962 Missal

#### COLORADO

Diocese of Colorado Springs

Please add the following location to your Directory:

St. Mary's Cathedral
22 West Klowa
Colorado Springs CO
80903-1484
1st Sunday of the month
at 7 AM
1962 Missal
Fr.RawleyMyers
Celebrant

#### FLORIDA

#### Archdiocese of Miami

St. Paul the Apostle Church Lighthouse Point This Mass is now celebrated on both the 1st and the 3rd Sundays of the month.

Gesu Church Miami This Mass is no longer being offered.

# Please add the following location to your Directory:

St. Brendan's Church 8725 S.W. 32nd Street Miami FL 33165 The Easter Vigil Mass here is a Hybrid Mass every year. Celebrant: Rev. Jose Nickse

#### Diocese of Palm Beach

Please add the following location to your Directory:

St. Edward's Church North County Road Palm Beach FL 33480 Sunday at 7 AM 1970 Missal

#### Diocese of St. Petersburg

St. Theresa's Church Spring Hill The time of this Mass is now 6:30 AM. ILLINOIS

#### Diocese of Rockford

Church of St. Mary of the Assumption McHenry This Mass is no longer being offered.

#### KANSAS

Archdiocese of Kansas City

Please add the following locations to your Directory:

St. Stanislaus Church Off Highway 24 Rossville KS 66533 Sunday at 8 AM 1962 Missal Rev. John Rizzo, F.S.S.P. celebrant St. Joseph Church
232 Shawmut Avenue (at
Van Buren)
Topeka KS 66609
Sunday at 12 Noon
1962 Missal
Rev. John Rizzo, F.S.S.P.
celebrant

#### Diocese of Wichita

St. Anthony's Church Wichita This Mass is now celebrated on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month only.

St. Mary's Cathedral Wichita This Mass is no longer being offered.

#### KENTUCKY

#### Archdiocese of Louisville

St. Martin of Tours Church Louisville The correct address of this church is: 639 South Shelby Street.

#### LOUISIANA

#### Diocese of Baton Rouge

St. Anthony of Padua Church Darrow This Mass is no longer being offered.

#### MASSACHUSETTS

#### Archdiocese of Boston

Holy Trinity Church Boston Celebrants include Rev. David Mullen (LLA).

#### MICHIGAN

#### Archdiocese of Detroit

Assumption Grotto
Church
Detroit
Our member Fr. Eduard
Perone is no longer
among the celebrants of
this Mass.

Old St. Mary's Church Detroit Father Nader has been succeeded as celebrant of this Mass by Fr. Norman Hannahs, C.S.Sp.

#### Diocese of Grand Rapids

Our Lady of Sorrows Church Grand Rapids This Mass is no longer being offered.

# Please add the following location to your Directory:

Sacred Heart Church 156 Valley Avenue S.W. Grand Rapids MI 49504 Sunday at 12:30 PM 1962 Missal

#### Diocese of Lansing

All Saints Church Flint The time of this Mass is now 5 PM

#### **NEBRASKA**

#### Diocese of Lincoln

Chapel of St. Elizabeth
Community Hospital
Lincoln
The time of the Sunday
Mass is now 11:30 AM;
in addition, Masses are
now offered on Tuesdays
and Saturdays at 9 AM.

Please add the following locations to your Directory:

St. Mary's Church
(the "Old Cathedral")
1420 K Street
Lincoln NE 68508
Monday and Wednesday
at
4 PM
Thursday and Friday at
5:15 PM
1962 Missal
Rev. Karl Pikus, F.S.S.P.
celebrant

St. Pius X Central High School 6000 A Street Lincoln NE 68510 One or two days per week during the school year (on week days). 1962 Missal Rev. Karl Pikus, F.S.S.P. celebrant

#### **NEW JERSEY**

#### Diocese of Paterson

Our Lady of Fatima Chapel Pequannock, NJ 07440 1962 Missal Details to follow.

#### **NEW MEXICO**

#### Archdiocese of Santa Fe

Please add the following location to your Directory:

San Ignacio Church 1300 Walter, N.E. Alburquerque, NM 87102 2nd Sunday of the month at 11:30 AM 1962 Missal

#### **NEW YORK**

#### Diocese of Albany

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church Hudson Falls The name of this church has been changed to: the Church of St. Mary and St. Paul.

#### OHIO

#### Archdiocese of Cincinnati

St. Monica's Church Cincinnati This Mass is no longer being offered.

Please add the following location to your Directory:

Sacred Heart Church 2733 Massachusetts Avenue Cincinnati OH 45225 Sunday at 1 PM 1962 Missal

#### Diocese of Cleveland

St. Mary's Church Akron The time of this Mass is now 1:30 PM.

#### Diocese of Youngstown

Queen of the Holy Rosary Chapel The times of the Masses at this location are: Sunday at 8 AM and 10 AM Weekdays at 9 AM

#### **AMORAJNO**

Archdiocese of Oklahoma City

Please add the following location to your Directory:

St. Michael Chapel 4717 McMillan Bethany OK 73008 Sunday at 6 PM 1962 Missal Rev. John Rizzo, F.S.S.P. celebrant

Archdiocesan Pastoral Center Oklahoma City The Latin Mass is now celebrated here every day.

#### Diocese of Tulsa

St. Ann Church Broken Arrow This Mass is no longer being offered.

#### PENNSYLVANIA

#### Diocese of Pittsburgh

St. Agnes Church
Pittsburgh
Masses are no longer
being celebrated at this
church; it has closed.

St. Boniface Church
Pittsburgh
The name of this church
has been changed to:
Holy Wisdom Church.
Masses here are
celebrated in Latin
according to the 1962
Missal by Rev. Eugene
Dougherty (LLA). Times
not yet ascertained.

## ADDITIONS AND REVISIONS TO THE DIRECTORY OF LATIN MASSES

#### Diocese of Scranton

St. Gregory's Academy
Elmhurst
The celebrants of the
Masses here are Frs.
Armand Devillers,
F.S.S.P., William Ashley,
F.S.S.P., and Carlos S.
Casavantes, F.S.S.P.
(LLA).

St. John the Baptist Church Scranton Masses here are celebrated according to the 1962 Missal.

#### **SOUTH DAKOTA**

#### Diocese of Sioux Falls

St. Mary's Church Salem The time of the Mass here is 11 AM.

#### WISCONSIN

#### Diocese of Green Bay

St. Joseph's Chapel Green Bay Fr. Bujarski (LLA) has retired and is no longer among the celebrants of this Mass.

#### Archdiocese of Milwaukee

St. Therese Church Kenosh The time of this Mass is now 7 AM (sung).

#### CANADA

#### **ALBERTA**

#### Diocese of Calgary

St. Anne Church This Mass is no longer being offered.

# Please add the following location to your Directory:

St. Elizabeth Church 819 13th Avenue S.W. Calgary 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at 8:30 AM 1962 Missal

#### BRITISH COLUMBIA

#### Diocese of Victoria

Queen of Peace Church This Mass is no longer being offered.

#### **ONTARIO**

#### Diocese of London

Chapel of Assumption High School Windsor The time of this Mass is now 11 AM.

#### FROM THE LOCAL CHAPTERS

#### LOUISIANA

Baton Rouge received a new bishop in November 1993: the Most Rev. Alfred C. Hughes, formerly auxiliary of Boston. Bishop Hughes has been so kind as to grant the local chapter's request that he celebrate the Latin Mass for the chapter and attend a reception in his honor presented by the chapter and host Parish. These events will occur on Sunday, July 10th (a full schedule of confirmations after the vacancy of the see prevents an earlier date) at St. Agnes Parish in Baton Rouge. The cooperation and support of Fr. John Spriggs, C.S.Sp., pastor of St. Agnes, is very deeply appreciated. The 1962 edition of the Roman Missal is to be used.

Members of the chapter were heartened to learn that the Most Rev. Jude Speyrer, Bishop of the Diocese of Lake Charles (LA), agreed to celebrate the Latin Mass in Immaculate Conception Cathedral in Lake Charles on Sunday, May 8th (Mother's Day). Again, the 1962 Missal was used.

Recently, Rev. Msgr. Irving A. DeBlanc, Pastor of Our Lady Queen of Heaven Parish in Lake Charles, celebrated the Latin Mass at St. Louis High School in that city at the request of the high school's Latin Club, and received a warm and interested reception from the students.

The frequency of the Latin Mass in the Lake Charles Diocese has recently increased (see Directory listing in March issue). and a further increase is understood to be under consideration.

#### CHICAGO

In our Newsletter No. 27 (December 1987) we announced that Cardinal Bernardin had promised to celebrate the Latin Mass upon the request of our Chicago chapter. After many delays, the Cardinal fulfilled his promise most magnificently on Sunday, September 19,1993, by celebrating a Solemn Pontifical Mass of Thanksgiving entirely in Latin at Saint John Cantius Parish on the Near North Side of Chicago. His concelebrants included the Chairman of the Chicago LLA chapter, Rev. C. Frank Phillips, C.R., as well as Rev. Richard P. Balazs, C.R., the provincial of the Congregation of the Resurrection. Many members of the Association were present for the occasion, including Rev. Msgr. Charles N. Meter and Rev. Msgr. Richard J. Schuler. In all, over 1200 persons attended this Mass, which was part of the 100th anniversary celebrations of the parish. (Our own Association's national convention in June was an earlier part of these celebrations.) The Mass sung was Schubert's Mass No. 3 in B-Flat. The Gradual was sung in the arrangement of Anton Bruckner, and Mozart's Te Deum Laudamus was sung following Holy Communion. The rest of the propers were sung in Gregorian chant.

We express our thanks to Cardinal Bernardin, and give full credit to Father Phillips for handling the complex arrangements for the occasion with such success.

A number of parishes in Chicago are making use of Latin in their liturgical life. On the North Side, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church has a weekly choral liturgy at which the members of the William Ferris Chorale present works by Mozart, Viadana, Flor Peeters, Gounod, Casciolini, Schubert, and Refice. Meanwhile, at Immaculate Conception Parish on the South Side (located at 88th Street and Commercial Avenue) the pastor and the director of music have decided to implement the decrees of the Council by training the congregation to sing in Latin those portions of the Mass which pertain to the people, and consequently are seeking copies of Pope Paul's Jubilate Dev. Any benefactor who may wish to assist the parish in this laudable endeavor should contract the LLA.

#### **CLEVELAND**

In a recent (January 1994) issue of the chapter newsletter, "Tolle et Lege," the chapter trumpets the news of the return of the Latin Mass to St. Stephen Church (see Directory listings in March issue), which is described as "a Gothic treasure with magnificent carving and adornment throughout...founded in 1869...on the National Register of Historic Places." This is the fourth regularly scheduled Latin Mass site in the diocese (two 1962, and two 1970).

The Newsletter reports the chapter's successful presentation of Solemn Latin Vespers for the First Sunday of Advent, November 30, 1993, and adds that over \$10,000 has been raised to refurbish the organ at Immaculate Conception Church (let us hope renovations are completed in time for the 1995 LLA national convention!).

There is much else in the issue. If your chapter is considering introducing a newsletter, you might do well to request a copy from the Chairman of the Cleveland Chapter as a sample. He is: Mr. James F. Pauer, P.O.Box 16517, Rocky River OH 44116-0517.

#### LOS ANGELES

The Los Angeles "Regina Angelorum" Chapter has resumed its regular schedule of monthly meetings, despite battering from earthquakes and other obstacles. The chapter held meetings on Sunday, November 28th, on Sunday, December 26th, and on Sunday, January 23rd, immediately after the Latin Mass celebrated at Santa Teresita Hospital chapel, 819 Buena Vista Street in Duarte (Mass is at noon on the fourth Sunday of the month). Celebrants have included Father Robert Bishop, C.M.F. (a celebrant gifted with a fine singing voice), and Monsignor Joseph Harris.

Members living in Southern California are urged to attend these Masses and meetings. I am uncertain whether the closure of certain portions of the freeways may require the use of new routes to the hospital; inquiries may be directed to the local chapter Chairman, Robert Kennedy, whose telephone number is 818-919-1686.

#### **PITTSBURGH**

The local chapter was the principal force behind the Latin Masses which were being celebrated at Saint Agnes Parish. (Interjection from the Chairman--I am forced to conclude that Saint Agnes must be doing all she can to aid the restoration of the Latin Mass--look at all the parishes dedicated to her name which have the Latin Mass: Baton Rouge, Pittsburgh, New York City, Saint Paul MN...) The diocese has relocated these Masses to Holy Wisdom Church (formerly Saint Boniface). At present over 350 persons attend the Latin Masses, of whom about 70 are dues-paying members of the LLA. The local officers set out to increase that figure to 500, and attained it on Easter Sunday.

A number of special events are planned. The have already occurred: First, a special Latin High Mass in honor of St. Agnes on her feast day, January 21st at 7:30 P.M. Another was a Day of Recollection held on April 16th under the sponsorship of the chapter and the direction Father Angelus Shaughnessy.

Persons living in, or visiting, the area may call 412-766-0650 for information on the Latin Mass in the area. Many local activists hope eventually to attain quasi-parochial status for the Latin Mass community--a hope which recent developments in Ottawa and Scranton have shown to be not necessarily beyond attainment. (See below.)

#### SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

The Choir of St. Ann Chapel at Stanford University, under the direction of Professor William Mahrt, Chairman of this chapter, continues to offer many special programs of liturgical music in addition to its regular Sunday service. Recent examples include:

On Christmas Eve and also on Christmas Day, 1993, Missa Puer Qui Natus Est Nobis, by Francisco Guerrero (1528-1599).

Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Missa Caca by Cristobal de Morales.

Epiphany of Our Lord, Mass for Four Voices by William Byrd.

Baptism of Our Lord, Guerrero's Mass repeated.

Candlemas (at 7 PM on Wednesday, February 2, 1994): Missa D'ung aultre amer by Josquin Des Prez (c1442-1521), along with blessing of candles and candlelight procession.

Ash Wednesday (at 7 PM on Wednesday, February 16, 1994): Gregorian chant Mass with Renaissance motets.

In addition, on the five Saturdays from February 27th through March 27th inclusive Professor Mahrt presented a series of intensive workshops in Berkeley devoted to Gregorian chant and polyphonic music. Persons seeking information about such workshops, about the activities of the St. Ann Choir and about the activities of the local LLA Chapter may contact Professor Mahrt at 415-493-7933. Those who attended the 1991 convention in Los Angeles will remember Professor Mahrt and his choir very warmly. In earlier issues of the Newsletter (#47, December 1992, p.7 and #48 March 1993, p.3) we took note of the workshop on Gregorian chant which Professor Mahrt conducted at St. Mary's Cathedral in San Francisco, followed by a Pontifical Latin Mass celebrated by Archbishop Quinn. I mention it again to draw attention to the fact that 70 persons attended the workshop and 1,500 (!!) attended the Mass. Through the kindness of our member Mr. Lyle Settle, organist at St. Joseph's Cathedral in San Jose, I have recently received a full report on this remarkable pair of events. If you are wondering how one plans, publicizes, and executes such an event successfully, I suggest you read Mr. Settle's report—there is much in it of benefit for the local LLA leadership. I will send a copy to anyone who sends me a stamped, self-addressed (large: it's 12 pages) envelope; 75 cents postage is needed.

The event was repeated with great success on April 9, 1994. Details will follow in next issue of the news letter.

#### **NEWSWORTHY ITEMS**

1. During 1993 bishops in three countries in the English-speaking world took an important step forward by granting quasi-parochial status to those Catholics within their dioceses who prefer to worship at the Latin Mass celebrated according to the 1962 Missal.

The first step was taken in February 1993: Archbishop Carroll of the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn established a quasi-parochial Latin Mass community under the direction of Father John Parsons,

with authorization to set up its own parish council and function as a parish.

This arrangement replaced one which had been in effect since 1988, under which Latin Masses of the Old Rite were celebrated every Sunday in the Chapel of Pope John XXIII on the campus of the Australian National University.

The new quasi-parish does not have its own church, but is generously permitted to use the facilities of St. Brigid's Parish in the suburb of Dickson. Mass there is at 11:30 AM on Sundays and 7:30 AM Monday through Fridays. Father Parsons hears confessions (using the old sacramentary) at another parish, St. Mary's in the suburb of Braddon, from 5 to 6 PM every Monday through Thursday (how many other parishes make the Sacrament of Penance so readily available?), and also conducts a weekly seminar on the new Catechism of the Catholic Church on Thursday nights--all this in addition to his duties as a hospital chaplain!

(Your Chairman cannot resist mentioning that I had the pleasure of knowing Father Parsons when he was still an undergraduate, immediately after his conversion to the Catholic faith. He was often a guest in the Edgeworth home before his departure to study at the English College (often called the Venerabile or the Beda after its patron) in Rome. My daughters were baptized at Pope John XXIII Chapel--entirely in

Latin, at Masses celebrated entirely in Latin, one by the university chaplains and the other by Bishop Patrick Daugherty. In those days the Latin Mass according to the revised Missal was being celebrated at St. Christopher's Cathedral in Canberra and also in the Edgeworth's home parish of Sts. Peter and Paul in the Woden Valley.)

The nest step took place in Canada. In September 1993 the Most Rev. Marcel Gervase, Archbishop of Ottawa, accorded quasi-parochial status to the Latin Mass community of his archdiocese under the patronage of St. Clement and gave them a centrally located church near the campus of the University of Ottawa. This is the parish which was once known as St. Pius X and subsequently renamed St. Sharbel when used by the Catholics of the Maronite Rite. The details of its services were published in the December, 1993 issue of the Newsletter.

Most recently, on September 29, 1993, the Most Rev. James C. Timlin (a member and vigorous supporter of the LLA) created a quasi-parochial structure within the diocese of Scranton which is known as "the Latin Mass Community of St. Michael the Archangel," and appointed Father Daniel W. Oppenheimer as Chaplain of the Community. It seems clear the community is intended by the bishop to function as a virtual parish. Scranton is, of course, the North American headquarters of the Society of St. Peter, and Father Oppenheimer is their earliest American ordinand.

These steps go beyond what Bishop Walter Sullivan authorized in the Diocese of Richmond, where two Tridentinist communities function with considerable autonomy but are canonically merely mission

churches of nearby parishes run by priess of the Benedictine Order.

Will this be the new direction for the Latin Mass movement? Quasi-parishes? And, if so, will the advantages of stability and continuity outweigh the negative consequences of removing those who love the Latin Mass from their home parishes? Ideally, it would seem that there should be a presence within every parish community working tirelessly for the return of the celebration of the Mass in Latin to that parish; on the other hand, it could be argued that after a quarter of a century of rejection and even abuse, many such persons are tired of the fray and may believe that it is time to shake the dust from their sandals.

As mentioned above, the Pittsburgh Latin Mass community see such a move as a desirable future development for them; but it is not yet known what final arrangements Bishop Wuerl will see fit to make.

2. Speaking of the priestly Fraternity of St. Peter, their apostolate has expanded to include four additional dioceses: Kansas City KS, Lincoln NE, Paterson NJ, and Youngstown OH. This brings them to a total of eight; they were already working in Little Rock AR, Scranton PA, Rapid City SD, and Dallas TX. In a recent newsletter (#23, Lent 1994) Father Devillers, the Regional Superior, writes: "A number of diocesan priests are seriously interested in joining us, and the Fraternity will be working in three additional dioceses by the end of this summer, for a total of eleven." The American seminarian whose ordination is scheduled for June 24th is Rev. Nathan Vail.

Among the priests who have recently joined the Fraternity is Father Carlos S. Casavantes, who has been a member of the Latin Liturgy Association since his days as a seminarian. Ordained by Pope John Paul II himself for the Diocese of El Paso, Father Casavantes labored in Ohio for a number of years before joining the Fraternity.

This is a much more rapid expansion in the US than even the most sanguine supporters of the Fraternity had predicted. In fact, at their foundation it was predicted by some that they would never be accepted by any North American diocese because of the founders' past association with Archbishop Lefebvre (before his excommunication).

Their principal sponsor in this country, Bishop Timlin, continues to offer his public support. In addition to creating a quasi-parochial structure for them (see above), he celebrated hass for them on Christmas Day at St. John the Baptist Church in Scranton, and is scheduled to observe the re-opening of the chapel in their boarding school, St. Gregory's Academy, by celebrating Mass there on March 12, 1994, the feast day of the school's patron.

- 3. The success of the Fraternity has been such that American Catholics are sometimes quite unaware that there is another society of priests which has been granted authority by the Holy Father to use exclusively the liturgical books in force in 1962. It is called the Institute of Christ the King, Sovereign Priest, and has its seminary near Florence. Unlike their counterparts, there is no Lefebvre connection. The founders were associates of the late Cardinal Siri, Archbishop of Genoa, a strong supporter of the Latin Mass and Catholic "traditionalism" in the broad sense, who was often a papabile but never a papa.
- 4. Big news! As reported fully in the Catholic media (e.g., *The Catholic Commentator*, newspaper of the Diocese of Baton Rouge), on November 17, 1993 the bishops of the United States took a number of steps in regard to liturgical translations which are positively encouraging to all those interested in accuracy and fidelity.

First, on the motion of Cardinal Mahony of Los Angeles, the bishops agreed that future translations of the liturgy must be approved not only by the Liturgy Committee (as in the past) but also by the Doctrine Committee. This is the first public acknowledgement by the bishops, to my knowledge, that inaccurate translations of the Mass or Divine Office have doctrinal implications. The Chairman of the Doctrine Committee is Bishop Hughes of Baton Rouge; more on his views below.

Next, on the motion of Cardinal Hickey of Washington DC, the pending business--part one of the newest ICEL translations of the Mass, on which that body has been laboring for ten years--was referred to those two committees for consideration. This was done over the objections of pro-ICEL bishops who called for an immediate vote.

Finally, the bishops voted on approving the so-called "Grail Psalter," a proposed "translation" of the Psalms which removed all references to gender (e.g. God as "He"). It was announced that the vote was inconclusive and that the absent bishops would be polled by mail. In the past, some bishops have criticized this process as overly open to manipulation by the USCC leadership; but when the votes were tallied a few weeks later, lo and behold, the Grail Psalter had been rejected! This was remarkable for two reasons: first, it was, to the best of my recollection, the first time that a mail ballot has failed to produce approval for a proposal generally favored by the dominant elements in the USCC; and second, supporters of the ungendered language had been so confident of victory that they had actually used the Grail Psalter for public prayer at the bishops' meeting itself, even though it had not yet been approved.

What does all this mean? It implies that the outcry raised for two decades by such Catholics as are generally found in the Latin Liturgy Association and similar groups has finally reached the ears of the bishops themselves. This is the first time that ICEL has taken it on the chin. In my opinion, it won't be the last.

Bishops Bruskewitz (Lincoln NE) and Myers (Peoria IL) were particularly frank in their criticisms of the ICEL proposals. In all, no less than sixteen bishops (including three members of the College of Cardinals) criticized either the substance of the ICEL proposals, or the process by which they had come before the bishops for a vote, or both.

Of particular interest were the comments of Bishop Hughes of Baton Rouge. According to the Catholic Commentator (November 24, 1993, page 6), Bishop Hughes specifically objected to four aspects of the ICEL proposals:

1. they undermined all emphasis on the transcendence of God;

 they chose to down play the posture of humility and submission on the part of the Church;

 they consistently mistranslated the forms of mereor as "be worthy," which inadequately reflects the Church's theology of grace; and

they consistently eliminated all references to the Church as "She" and as the

Spouse of Christ.

Bishop Hughes is quoted as saying: "The Church is referred to [by ICEL] as it. It seems to me that is not faithful to the Scriptures and undermines the invitation to a communion with God that is presented in the Scriptures."

All of these objections are soundly based.

Auxiliary Bishop Wilton Gregory of Chicago, who was completing his term as Chairman of the Liturgy Committee, received compliments from both sides for his scrupulous fairness in moderating the sometimes contentious debate on these proposals. Bishop Gregory has been succeeded as Chairman of the Liturgy Committee by Bishop Donald W. Trautman of Erie PA.

Let us keep our eye on this issue. Concern for accuracy and fidelity in translating the Mass ipso

facto affirms the primacy and importance of the Latin text of the Mass.

5. The bishops' debate did not go unnoticed by the Holy Father. In speaking to the bishops of the Western United States on Saturday, December 4, 1993, he observed: "In our prayer we must be careful to safeguard divine transcendence and to purify our hearts of false images. Our prayer must always reflect the Church's true faith. ...Not to teach this sublime truth or to teach anything less would be to fail in our responsibility to be true spiritual guides..." This part of the pope's remarks was headed "Translation must preserve doctrinal integrity of texts" in the December 15th issue of the English language edition of L'Osservatore Romano.

#### LAST MINUTE ITEMS

1. The officers of the Association note with sorrow the passing, on April 29, 1994, of our distinguished member Russell Kirk.

Dr. Kirk, the author of over fifty books, was one of America's leading intellectuals. He served as editor of <u>The University Bookman</u> and as a Senior Editor of <u>National Review</u>. He will probably be most widely remembered as the author of the modern classic, <u>The Conservative Mind</u>.

Dr.Kirk was known for his hospitality. Those who have spent even a single evening listening to him read ghost stories (of his own composition) beside the fire of his ancestral home, Piety Hill (rebuilt after a destructive conflagration), are not likely to forget the experience. He owned an entire second home a few doors from his residence, filled with nothing but the vast colection of books in which he researched his own works. More than one generation grew up to acknowledge him as "the Sage of Mecosta."

He was a convert to Catholicism on the threshold of his middle years, and never wavered in his devotion to the "beauty ever ancient, ever new"-- nor in his distaste for the modernizing faction, whom he often characterized as "the Church mice."

To his widow Annette, whose graciousness and zest for fun won many hearts, we extend our profound condolences. <u>In pace requiescat!</u>

2. As an addendum to the Latin Mass news from Louisiana (see p.5 above), one may mention a recent Mass in the Diocese of Lafayette, a Diocese which has been slow in affording opportunities to attend the Latin Mass. Recently Father Thomas Jacenh (pronounced "Jason") Mouton celebrated the Latin Mass according to the 1962 Missal at Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Church in Kaplan,

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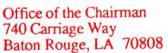
LA. We express our thanks to Father Mouton for this event, extend to him our good wishes for his new assignment at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish in the city of Lafayette, and will be interested to see whether the experiment will be repeated there. Lafayette is the seat of a fairly active group of sede-vacantists; a regular Latin Mass in that city might provide some welcome competition for them.

3. As we go to press, Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy is laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery. Those who watched her funeral Mass on CBS will have noted the singing of both the Panis Angelicus and the Schubert Ave Maria by opera diva Jessye Norman. In addition, one member reports hearing the Introit chanted in Latin at the opening of the Mass.

I recall that some Latin was also sung a few years ago at the funeral of Barbara Sigmund, the Mayor of Princeton NJ.

If "the people don't want Latin any more," as one is assured so often by professional bureaucrats of the Church, why is it requested so frequently for the final obsequies of many a Catholic?

4. We'll see you again in September. Until then, please pray for us, and please work for the extension of the Latin Mass!



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