

# **Our Lady of Sorrows**

Traditional Catholic Mission Central Texas

## **Upcoming Mass Details:**

Sunday, December 7, 2025 Sunday, January 4, 2026 Confession 4:30pm – Mass 5:30pm Courtyard by Marriott Austin Dripping Springs – Meeting Room #2 1002 Rob Shelton Blvd, Dripping Springs, TX 78620

#### **Contact information:**

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#### **Announcements**

- Thursday is Thanksgiving and I wish you all a Blessed Holiday. The Friday abstinence is traditionally dispensed the day after Thanksgiving; thus meat may be eaten.
- The Christmas Novena with the "Hail and Blessed..." prayer begins on the feast of St. Andrew, which is Monday, December 1st this year.

## **Note From Father**

#### Dear Faithful,

On Tuesday this past week, the priests (minus Fr. Simpson who is ticking away the miles in the northern missions) all went out for a nice dinner together to celebrate the priestly anniversaries of Bp. McGuire and Fr. Lehtoranta. Because their actual anniversary day, St. Gertrude's feast day, fell upon a Sunday this year, we deferred this little festive meal a couple of days...but it worked out well as it was a relatively quiet day for us.

The Oblates Sisters have moved into their new (temporary) home. A nice house in the neighborhood across the street from St. Gertrude's came up for rent and we were able to acquire it. Eventually we plan to build here on the property, but this will take time...so, for the time being, they are our near neighbors. The sisters really enjoyed the fact they were able to walk to church the other morning.

Bp. McGuire has departed south of the border this weekend to do Confirmations in Tijuana and Mexicali, Mexico. These two chapels belong to Fr. Arnoldo Villegas.

On Thursday, we have the holiday of Thanksgiving. While it isn't a liturgical feast day, it is certainly a day which we can spiritualize by giving thanks to the Good God for all the blessings and answered prayers which we have been recipients of. There three ends of prayer: Adoration, Petition, and Thanksgiving. Prayers of adoration are the prayers which we owe to God because He is God and deserving of our acts of love and the uniting of our hearts, minds and souls with. Prayers of petition are when we turn to heaven to ask for that which we need or desire. As "every best gift and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of Lights." (James 1-17), we come to our Father with full confidence...and following from this, we owe Him our prayers of gratitude for the care which has been given to our souls. We have the True Faith, true Sacrament, we are given graces to sanctify us, strength to carry our crosses, every hair on our heads has been counted...and so much more to be grateful for. Deo Gratias!

In Christ, Fr. Stephen McKenna

### Set Your Missal

## **Te Deum**

(Poem by John Henry Dryden)

Thee, Sovereign God, our grateful accents praise; We own thee Lord, and bless thy wondrous ways; To thee, Eternal Father, earth's whole frame With loudest trumpets sounds immortal fame. Lord God of Hosts! for thee the heavenly powers, With sounding anthems, fill the vaulted towers. Thy Cherubims thee Holy, Holy, Holy, cry; Thrice Holy, all the Seraphims reply, And thrice returning echoes endless songs supply. Both heaven and earth thy majesty display; They owe their beauty to thy glorious ray. Thy praises fill the loud apostles' quire: The train of prophets in the song conspire. Legions of martyrs in the chorus shine, And vocal blood with vocal music join.[24] By these thy church, inspired by heavenly art, Around the world maintains a second part, And tunes her sweetest notes, O God, to thee, The Father of unbounded majesty; The Son, adored co-partner of thy seat, And equal everlasting Paraclete. Thou King of Glory, Christ, of the Most High, Thou co-eternal filial Deity; Thou who, to save the world's impending doom, Vouchsafst to dwell within a virgin's womb; Old tyrant Death disarmed, before thee flew The bolts of heaven, and back the foldings drew, To give access, and make thy faithful way; From God's right hand thy filial beams display. Thou art to judge the living and the dead; Then spare those souls for whom thy veins have bled. O take us up amongst thy bless'd above, To share with them thy everlasting love. Preserve, O Lord! thy people, and enhance Thy blessing on thine own inheritance. For ever raise their hearts, and rule their ways, Each day we bless thee, and proclaim thy praise; No age shall fail to celebrate thy name, No hour neglect thy everlasting fame. Preserve our souls, O Lord, this day from ill; Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy still: As we have hoped, do thou reward our pain; We've hoped in thee--let not our hope be vain.

## Prayer to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal

O Immaculate Virgin Mary, Mother of Our Lord Jesus, and our Mother! Filled with the most lively confidence in thy all-powerful and never failing intercession, manifested so often through the Miraculous Medal, I, thy loving and trustful child, implore you to obtain for me the favors I earnestly implore you to obtain for me the favors which I earnestly ask, if they be beneficial to my immortal soul and the souls for whom I pray

(Mention your requests)

Thou knowest, Mary, how often my soul has been the sanctuary of thy Son who abhors evil. Obtain for me, then, a deep hatred of sin and grant that purity of heart which will unite me to God alone, so that my every thought, word, and deed may tend to His greater glory. Obtain for me also the spirit of prayer and self-denial, that I may recover by penance what I have lost by sin, and at last reach that blessed home where thou art the Queen of Angels and of men. Amen

Virgin Mother of God, Mary Immaculate, I dedicate and consecrate myself to thee under the title of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal. May this Medal be a sure sign of thine affection for me and a constant reminder of my duties toward thee. While wearing it, may I ever be blessed by thy loving protection and preserved in the grace of thy Son.

Most Powerful Virgin, Mother of our Savior, keep me close to thee every moment of my life. Obtain for me, thy child, the grace of a happy death, so that, in union with thee, I may enjoy the bliss of heaven forever.

Amen.

O Lord God Almighty, who hast willed that all things should be given to us through the Immaculate Mother of Thy Son: grant that under the protection of this mighty Mother, we may escape all the dangers of these our times, and in the end may come to life everlasting. Through the same Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee. Amen

## Confitebor Tibi (Psalm 137)

(A psalm of Thanksgiving)

I will praise thee, O Lord, with my whole heart: for thou hast heard the words of my mouth. I will sing praise to thee in the sight of the angels: I will worship towards thy holy temple, and I will give glory to thy name. For thy mercy, and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy holy name above all. In what day soever I shall call upon thee, hear me: thou shall multiply strength in my soul. May all the kings of the earth give glory to thee: for they have heard all the words of thy mouth. And let them sing in the ways of the Lord: for great is the glory of the Lord.

For the Lord is high, and looketh on the low: and the high he knoweth afar off. If I shall walk in the midst of tribulation, thou wilt quicken me: and thou hast stretched forth thy hand against the wrath of my enemies: and thy right hand hath saved me. The Lord will repay for me: thy mercy, O Lord, endureth for ever: O despise not the work of thy hands.