



Our Lady of Sorrows

Traditional Catholic Mission Central Texas

Upcoming Mass Details:

Monday, August 2nd

Monday, August 30th

Mass – 6:00pm, Confession – 5:30pm

Vintage Villas Hotel & Events - Travis Room

4209 Eck Lane Austin Texas 78734

Contact information:

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Note From Father

Dear Faithful,

I am back here at St. Gertrude's after an eventful, yet quite successful mission trip. I was able to add the visit to El Paso, which had been canceled do to my flight problems, on to the end of the mission run...thus ensuring that I was able to get to all the places I had planned on.

Upon my return home, the weather has become quite beautiful here in the greater Cincinnati area, with high temperatures in the low 80's and plenty of glorious sun. I was hopeful that my luck would hold out for our boys' camp next week, so I eagerly looked at the forecast...nope. Well, in fairness, I shouldn't say that so definitively. Every year, my number one wish for boys' camp is that it doesn't rain and it looks like we will have sunny weather for all three days of the camp, *Deo Gratias!* However, the temperatures will tick up and it will be in the 90's each day...so lots of sunscreen and water will be necessary.

Boys' camp always seems to sneak up on me each year. When I set the dates for it, I always think that there is so much time before I have to worry about the camp. However, then one mission trip follows after another and before I know it the time is already here. Thankfully, I have a pretty tried and true system of success for the camp, which requires a minimal amount of preparation work, while still allowing all the boys to have a great time. I was worried about our meal preparations this year, as the generous mother who has done the shopping and food preparations in the past has had to bow out of doing so this year. However, it is on to the next generation. She gave all her notes and instructions to her daughters and they, along with a few of their friends from Girls' Sodality, which Fr. Lehotoranta runs, will take care of this task. It's always so encouraging to see the

young people of the parish step in to fill the rolls long held by others and begin their turn giving back to the work of the Church of God.

Lastly, for those who happened to listened to the radio show I recorded in Grand Forks (You can still listen to it by clicking here: [GFBS](#)), you will have noticed that we talked about how receiving the Covid jab is actually not allowed by the principals of Catholic Moral Theology, and thus sinful. Bp. Dolan also mentioned this in his sermon last Sunday. While I don't think that very many people in our missions were inclined to go get in line and get the shots, I do think that such a strong stance has taken some by surprise. Because of this, I put together a short little explanation and outline for the SGG bulletin and I include it here, below. I hope to provide more explanation and information on the matter, for those who want to understand it more, in the near future. However, in the short term, hopefully the information given in the note below will give confidence that our conclusion was not reached without diligent consideration.

In Christ,

Fr. McKenna

Sin of the Jab: A Brief Explanation

Much buzz has come about regarding Bp. Dolan's sermon last week, where he talked about how receiving the Covid shots would violate the moral law in a serious way, and thus be mortally sinful. Here is a very brief and simple explanation why the principles of Moral Theology would prohibit one from receiving the jab, which I wrote for the St. Gertrude's Bulletin and decided to include here.

The, so called, "vaccine" is not to be thought of as a thoroughly tested and proven mode of treatment. Instead, one must view it as an experimental trial of an untried technology for inoculation. As such, it must be treated under different parameters for determining allowability. To help you best understand, it is necessary to understand that experimental therapy is generally **NOT** allowed, though there are obviously circumstances where it is allowable. So, what must the circumstances be to be allowed? Here are a few:

- 1) The subject of the experimental therapy must be sick. It is forbidden to receive experimental treatment if a person is either, deemed incurable, or is healthy because they would incur all of the risk without the benefit. It is for this reason that even American Law prohibits the development of vaccines when affective therapeutics can be developed or obtained. It is also the reason that the government refused to fund research into hydroxychloroquine, ivermectin, or others, as a therapeutic would have prevented them from developing a much more lucrative and society controlling vaccine.
- 2) The necessity and good result to be obtained must be proportionate. If the risk is high of an experiment, the necessity for it must also be high, as well as the risk of the disease, itself. Since Covid-19 is only, for most, a flu and that the risk of death or prolonged harm is also similarly low, especially for people in generally good health, it would not be permissible to participate in an experimental trial for a vaccine which carries the risk of death, strokes, blood clots, infertility, and other serious risks to health. Such a risk only may be undertaken when "Less dangerous remedies have failed and the saving of his life hinges on the success of this venture." (McFadden, *Medical Ethics*)

- 3) The **sole** motive prompting one to participate in trial experiment **must be** for the desired good effect: in this case, immunity. Most people have contributing or dominating motivation of pressure from family, job, education, or “return to normal”.
- 4) Free and fully informed consent must be necessarily given for reception. The Geneva Convention outlines this must be free from “any element of force, fraud, deceit, duress, over-reaching, or other ulterior form of constraint or coercion.” This is nearly impossible, given the external pressure given today. Also, the Geneva convention states all potential risks to health must be provided. Again, this is not given unless asked for, and then the list is only partial, at best.

In Honor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel

“If there be any saint,” says a modern writer, “who yet lives on earth in his mission of love and kindness, who while joining the celestial choirs before the throne of God, yet uses his powerful intercession in lessening the woes of mankind—surely that one is Anthony.” Faithful to every tie of kindred and of friendship, and it must be noted that St. Anthony made friends wherever he went, for he had a perfect genius for friendship in its highest form; he was and is, the unfailing advocate of the poor and the oppressed. Indeed, the custom of giving donations of bread for the needy, or offerings of money to be spent in his name, particularly for the education of young men desirous of entering the Franciscan Order, has developed into a devotion peculiarly and absolutely his own. When, moreover, we really try to study and to understand, as far as we, with our limited views of exalted spirituality, can understand his lovely character, we see a singular fitness in this special form of honoring the “Eldest Son of our Seraphic Father” because it is practically impossible to imagine a more ideal priest than Fra Antonio.

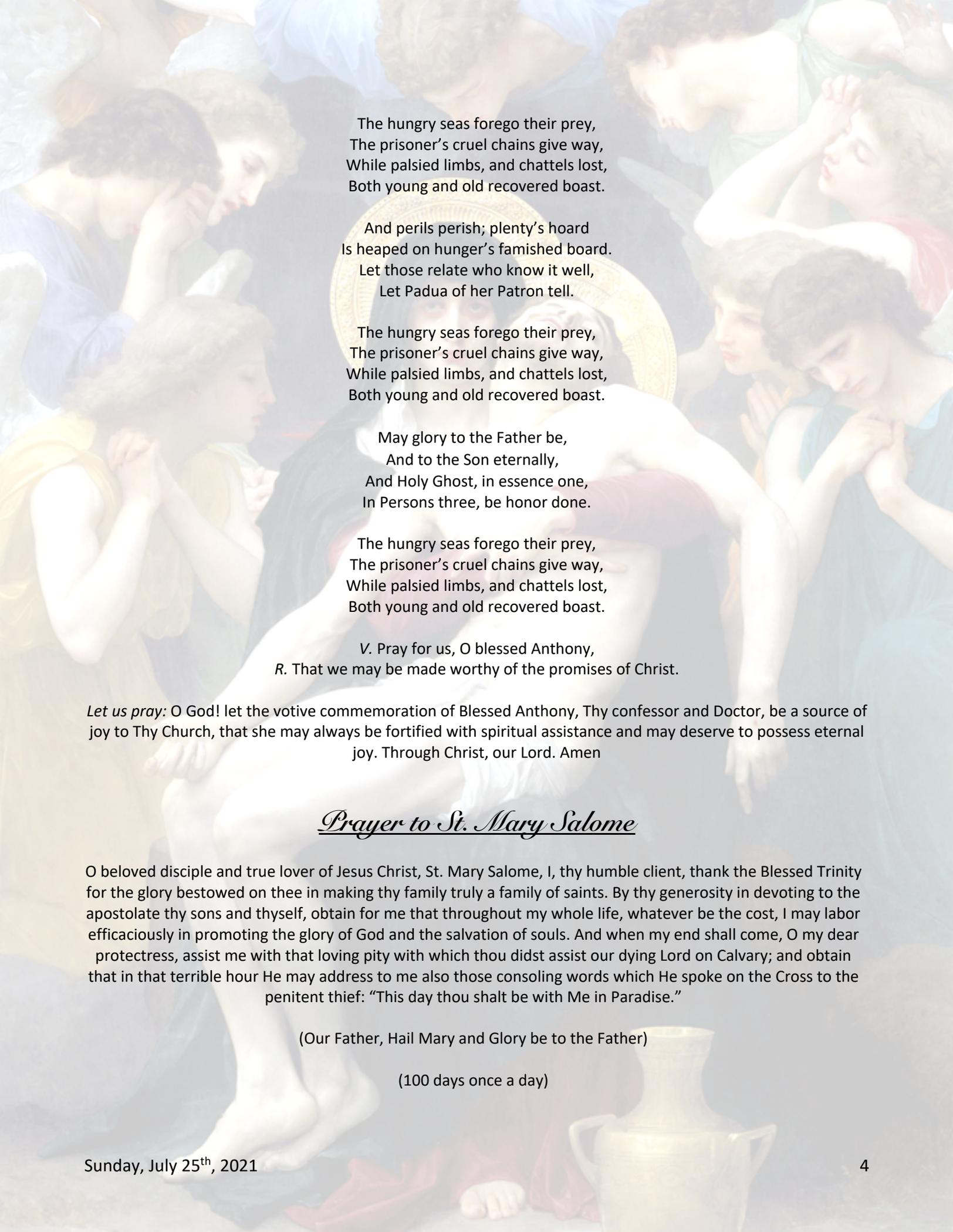
The custom has, in fact, become almost universal, and proves that the best means of obtaining favors from him is to help others. Who can say what showers of grace have fallen in ages past, and still will fall in the years to come, on those who generously deny themselves for this purpose? In the East Franciscan missionaries have made the name of Anthony venerated both among their Christian converts and even among the Mohammedans. We see this from Father Godfrey Schilling’s description of what occurred at Aleppo during the Armenian Massacre in the year 1895, when the fanatical Arabs made an attack upon St. Anthony’s College.

The Friars, realizing their imminent peril, for the furious rabble were on the point of destroying the entrance gate, recited with the boys, the Miraculous Responsory; i.e., the Si quaeris Miracula; almost at the same moment, a Mussulman of high standing appeared and spoke urgently to the crowd, telling them of the immense good the Franciscans were doing by educating the young Mohammedans as well as Christians. He reminded them that the Fathers gave alms also to poor Mussulmen and that, during the famine, they had distributed wheat to the needy followers of the Prophet.

At these words the rabble dispersed. St. Anthony had saved his faithful clients.

The Miraculous Responsory

If miracles thou fain wouldst see:
Lo! error, death, calamity,
The leprous stain, the demon flies,
From beds of pain the sick arise.



The hungry seas forego their prey,
The prisoner's cruel chains give way,
While palsied limbs, and chattels lost,
Both young and old recovered boast.

And perils perish; plenty's hoard
Is heaped on hunger's famished board.
Let those relate who know it well,
Let Padua of her Patron tell.

The hungry seas forego their prey,
The prisoner's cruel chains give way,
While palsied limbs, and chattels lost,
Both young and old recovered boast.

May glory to the Father be,
And to the Son eternally,
And Holy Ghost, in essence one,
In Persons three, be honor done.

The hungry seas forego their prey,
The prisoner's cruel chains give way,
While palsied limbs, and chattels lost,
Both young and old recovered boast.

V. Pray for us, O blessed Anthony,
R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray: O God! let the votive commemoration of Blessed Anthony, Thy confessor and Doctor, be a source of joy to Thy Church, that she may always be fortified with spiritual assistance and may deserve to possess eternal joy. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen

Prayer to St. Mary Salome

O beloved disciple and true lover of Jesus Christ, St. Mary Salome, I, thy humble client, thank the Blessed Trinity for the glory bestowed on thee in making thy family truly a family of saints. By thy generosity in devoting to the apostolate thy sons and thyself, obtain for me that throughout my whole life, whatever be the cost, I may labor efficaciously in promoting the glory of God and the salvation of souls. And when my end shall come, O my dear protectress, assist me with that loving pity with which thou didst assist our dying Lord on Calvary; and obtain that in that terrible hour He may address to me also those consoling words which He spoke on the Cross to the penitent thief: "This day thou shalt be with Me in Paradise."

(Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory be to the Father)

(100 days once a day)