



Our Lady of Sorrows

Traditional Catholic Mission Central Texas

Upcoming Mass Details:

To Be Announced for November 2026

Confession 4:30pm – Mass 5:30pm

Courtyard by Marriott Austin Dripping Springs – Meeting Room #2

1002 Rob Shelton Blvd, Dripping Springs, TX 78620

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Note From Father

Dear Faithful,

I continue my journey out to Seattle, so this note will be quite short. The journey has been a very pleasant one thus far, including stops at all of our northern missions along the way. The weather has been quite pleasant and the foliage just past peak, so still quite pretty. It was really beautiful to travel across the Rocky Mountains through Montana. It really all made me reflect on the early missionaries and how arduous their work must have been...The effort required to journey by foot or mule across the long distances and rough terrain, the dangers from the wild animals, potential sickness, or injury...and that was all just to get where they were going. As we know, the work with the Indians upon arrival was fraught with its own dangers and trials. Truly heroic men. While today our missionary work and travel looks quite different these days, the spirit of working for souls remains the same. On this Mission Sunday, please keep the success of the missions, the priests, and the increase priestly vocations in your prayers.

In Christ, *Fr. Stephen McKenna*

Set Your Missal

St Luke, with commemoration & Proper Last Gospel of Pentecost XXI.

Third collect for the Propagation of the Faith. Preface of the Apostles.

Prayer for Safe Travel

The following prayer is an adaptation of the itinerarium, the prayer said by clerics to invoke God's protection before beginning a journey. The faithful who are about to travel may use this form to pray for God's blessing on their journeys.

Along the ways of peace and prosperity may the almighty and merciful Lord lead us, and may the Angel Raphael accompany us on the journey. So may we in peace, health, and joy return unto our own.

Let us Pray:

O God, who didst lead the sons of Israel through the sea over a dry path, and didst reveal the way to the three Magi by the guidance of a star; vouchsafe to grant us a happy journey and a peaceful time, that accompanied by Thy angel we may safely reach our present destination, and come finally to the haven of eternal salvation.

O God, who didst lead Thy servant, Abraham, out of Ur of the Chaldeans, safeguarding him on all his wanderings-- guide us Thy servants, we implore Thee. Be Thou unto us support in battle, refuge in journeying, shade in the heat, covering in the rain and cold, a carriage in tiredness, protection in adversity, a staff in insecurity, a harbor in shipwreck; so that under Thy leadership we may successfully reach our destination, and finally return safe to our homes.

Give ear, we pray Thee, Lord, to our entreaties! And direct the steps of Thy servants on the paths of righteousness, that in all the vicissitudes of the journey and of life, we may have Thee as our constant protector.



Grant, O almighty God, that Thy children march forth on a successful journey; and heeding the exhortation of Blessed John, the Precursor, let them come safely to Him whom John foretold, Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen.

A Priest's Prayer to Our Lady

The Christian priest his glorious type may trace,
His functions study in thy life divine,
And blushing sigh for virtues like to thine.
What Holy Order to his soul should be
Was thy Conception's sanctity to thee;
A sacramental fount, a living well,
Whence all thy mighty stream of graces fell:
That purest love, which, in thy lowly womb,
Made Heaven's great Exile find a royal home-
That thrill of rapturous joy, when Jesus prest
His infant lips upon thy Virgin Breast-
That strength to bear thy more than martyr's sword,
And murmur still: "The handmaid of the Lord."
Then, Lady, look with pity upon one
Who bears the priestly image of thy Son;
By whose unworthy hands and trembling breath
The Victim-Priest renews His mystic death;
Whose functions bind him to thy highest care,
While conscience cries: "Presumptuous man beware!
O glorious Queen, thy lamp was kindled bright
In thy Conception; yet, through all the night,
Waiting the King of kings, thy prudent toil
Trimmed and replenished it with purest oil:
My priestly lamp burns dim; oh! Pray thy Spouse
Within my sluggish spirit to arouse
The grace the priestly character demands,
Pledged by the Pontiff's venerable hands.

Meditation on the Fifth Glorious Mystery

The Crowning of Mary as Queen of Heaven and Earth

Mary is also styled, 'Queen of the Patriarchs' because, it was through her, that they came to possess the object of their desires, the divine Redeemer, Who released them from Limbo and brought them to Heaven.

She is 'Queen of the Prophets' because, their prophecies were realised through her.

She is 'Queen of the Apostles' whom she assisted and encouraged after the departure of her divine Son.

She is the 'Queen of Martyrs' because, her maternal heart was pierced by a sword of sorrow.

She is 'Queen of the Confessors' because, nobody else was capable of so deep and lively a profession of the Faith.

She is 'Queen of Virgins' because, her virginal purity was crowned by the supreme dignity of Mother of God.

She is 'Queen, moreover, of all the Saints', for no other human creature could ever surpass, or even dream of the summit of holiness, to which she attained.

Above all, however, she is our Mother and our most powerful Queen.

She loves us because, we have been redeemed by the Blood of her Son, Jesus Christ and she desires to obtain God's favours for us and to take us under her maternal protection.

We, the children of Eve, in exile in the vale of tears, should turn to Mary with confidence and trust in her power to save us.

-Meditations with Antonio Cardinal Bacci

Sermon of St. Bonaventura on St. Raphael

Raphael is interpreted, "medicine of God." Note that Raphael heals us by bestowing three benefits to cure us of evil. Raphael the physician heals the illness of our souls by leading us to the bitterness of contrition. Therefore in the book of Tobias it is said, "When thou shalt enter thy house, anoint his eyes with gall." Tobias did so, his father's eyes were healed, and he saw. Why could Raphael not do this himself? Because an angel can not give contrition, he can merely point the way. The gall symbolizes the bitterness of contrition which heals the inner eye of the mind. As the psalm say, "Who heals the broken heart." The bitterness of contrition is the best eye salve. In the second chapter of Judges it is related that the angel ascended to the place of the weepers and said to the people, "I have led you out of the land of Egypt, I have done for you so many and such good things." All the people wept so that the place is called the place of the weepers. Dearly beloved, all day long the angels tell us of the blessings of God and recall them to our memories. Who created you? Who redeemed you? What have you done? Whom have you offended? If you consider these things you have no recourse but to weep.

In the second place, Raphael leads us out of the devil's bondage by recalling to our minds the passion of Christ. This is expressed figuratively in the sixth chapter of Tobias. Raphael says, "If thou wilt place a little piece of its heart upon the coals, the smoke thereof driveth away all kinds of devils." In the eighth chapter we read that Tobias did place the little piece of its heart upon the coals, and that Raphael bound the devil in the desert of upper Egypt. What does this mean? Could not Raphael have bound the devil if the heart had not been placed upon the coals? Did the heart of a fish give such great power to an Angel? Not at all. The heart of the fish in itself could do nothing; its significance lies in it as a mystical figure. Here we are to understand that there is today nothing which can free us from the slavery of the devil but the passion of Christ.

This proceeded from the depths of his heart, namely from His love. The heart is the warm fountain of all life. If therefore you place upon the coals, that is upon your kindled memory, the heart of Christ, that is the passion He underwent which sprang from the root of charity and font of all warm affection, the devil will be bound instantly. He can not harm you.

Thirdly, Raphael frees us from the wrath of God which we incur by sinning against God. He does this by inducing us to pray earnestly. This is what Raphael the Archangel told Tobias in the twelfth chapter, "When thou didst pray with tears, I offered thy prayer to the Lord." the angels themselves, so far as they are able, try to reconcile us with God. The devils are our accusers before God. The angels excuse us when they offer to God the prayers they have induced us to say devoutly. This we read in the eighth chapter of the Apocalypse, "The smoke of the incense ascended in the sight of God from the hands of the Angel." Those sweet fragrant spices are the prayers of the saints Would you appease God whom you have offended? Pray then with fervor. The angels offer your prayer to God in order to reconcile you with him. In like manner, it is related that when Christ was in agony in the garden, he prayed the more earnestly. An angel appeared and comforted Him. All this was done for our sake. Christ had no need to be comforted. Rather was it done to show that the Angels help those who pray earnestly, that they help them willingly, comfort them and offer their prayers to God.

-From the Roman Breviary