



Our Lady of Sorrows Mission

Mass Location:

Vintage Villas Hotel & Events - Travis Room
4209 Eck Lane Austin Texas 78734 Austin, TX

Mass Schedule:

Sunday, February 7th, 2021 Mass – 6:00pm, Confessions – 5:30pm

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Note From Father

Dear Faithful,

Well, it has been quite a week of travel, this past week. It started by flying down to St. Anthony's mission in Dallas on Sunday to offer an evening Mass, after having begun the day offering the 7:30 AM Mass at St. Gertrude's and hearing confessions for the 9:00 AM Mass. However, this travel plan worked out very well and there were no problems. Monday saw me fly up to Grand Forks, ND. From there, Tuesday I was in Minot, Wednesday was both Minot and Grand Forks, Thursday was Park Falls, WI, and finally I arrived here in Milwaukee on Friday evening for the weekend. It had been a while since I had driven all of those northern missions and I forgot how long some of the trips, especially the drive from Grand Fork to Park Falls, actually took. If you were wondering... quite a while. But, there is some true country up in those north woods and I enjoyed the trek.

After the Sunday Masses in Milwaukee, I return back home, where we will begin our annual clerical retreat, which will last from Monday through Friday. Please note that, during the retreat, I will not be available for normal business. However, I will check my messages occasionally, so if there is an emergency, please do leave a message for me. However, I do ask that during this week, people only try to contact me in case of emergency. It is quite important for us to be able to spiritually recharge our batteries and an important part of this is leaving work behind, so to speak.

This year's retreat will actually be held at St. Gertrude's, rather than down in Florida at the seminary. The seminary is quite low on rooms and if any of the priests had wanted to attend, we would have had to find alternative lodging. I have done this once before, and it worked, but was far from ideal. So, Bp. Dolan is giving a priest retreat in Ohio. Several other priests will

actually travel to join us and it will be nice to have a retreat just for priests and I won't mind sleeping in my own bed...although, I will miss walking in the warm Florida sun. Oh well...I own a coat.

In Christ,

Fr. McKenna

Article on the New Coronavirus Vaccine

I have written an article on the subject of the new coronavirus vaccine. I wrote this with research assistance by a parishioner who has a doctorate in molecular biology and biochemistry. Please read and share. You can access the article by clicking the link below.

<http://bit.ly/2Xo5Yiq>

From Sermon on St. Timothy from St. Augustine

Today we keep our annual celebration of the triumph of the blessed Martyr Timothy, and the church, while rejoicing in his glory places him before us, that we may follow in his footsteps. If we suffer with him, we shall be glorified with him. There are two things to be considered in this glorious combat; namely, the hard-hearted cruelty of the torturer, that we may detest it; the patience of the Martyr, that we may imitate it. Hear what the Psalmist says in reproof of wickedness: be not emulous of evildoers, for they shall shortly wither away as grass. But the Apostle teaches patience with the wicked in the words: Patience is necessary for you, that you may receive the promise.

(Roman Breviary)

Prayer for the Protection of St. Francis de Sales

O Great St. Francis, glorious apostle of Jesus Christ, seraph of the earth, who didst breathe but for the glory of God; perfect imitator of thy meek and humble Saviour, and devoted child of the holy Mother of God, deign to receive me among the number of thy special clients; be henceforth my advocate, my counselor, my friend, and my father. Thy prayers, even on earth, were the instruments of innumerable miracles of grace. Oh, vouchsafe to offer one for me, now that their efficacy is so greatly increased in heaven. May my entire conversion now add another to the already countless triumphs of thy charity. Teach me, like thee, to see God in my fellow-creatures; and for His sake to make myself all to all, weeping with them that weep, rejoicing with them that rejoice. May the example of thy wondrous meekness sink into my soul and excite my earnest, persevering efforts to imitate it. Strengthen me, by thy prayers, to pursue the difficult practice of interior mortification, without which I cannot hope to possess my soul in peace and patience. Oh, enkindle in my heart one spark of the heavenly fire of charity which

glowed in thine! Teach me, like thee, to seek and find my happiness in God, and to feel that it is good to live, to labor, and rejoice in Him alone. Shield me against the many perils which beset my path: watch over my immortal interests, and obtain that my soul may die the death of the just, and my last end be like unto thine. Amen.

Prayer of Petition to St. Agnes


O sweet Saint Agnes, I earnestly implore thy compassion and commend myself to thy prayers. O noble virgin, thou didst despise all earthly things and prefer the love of Christ to the glory of the world. Death was welcome to thee, and the holy angels were waiting for thy soul to convey it into the joys of Paradise, where, adorned with the martyr's palm, thou didst arrive at the nuptials of the heavenly Spouse. I too seek Him; deign to intercede for me that He may grant me health of mind and body, restrain the temptations of the devil, extinguish the desires of the flesh, give me time for true repentance and amendment of life, grant me the remission of all my sins, together with grace to make a good end and a happy death. Amen.

(Thomas A Kempis)

On the Virtue of Meekness, from Butler's Lives of the Saints

Meekness was the favorite virtue of St. Francis de Sales. He once was heard to say that he had spent three years in studying it in the school of Jesus Christ, and that his heart was still far from being satisfied with the progress he had made. If he who was meekness itself, imagined, nevertheless, that he possessed so little of it, what shall we say of those who, upon every trifling occasion, betray the bitterness of their hearts in angry words and impatient gestures. Francis was often tried in this matter, especially when the press of business and the crowds who thronged to him for relief in their various necessities, scarcely allowed him a moment to breathe. He has left us his thought upon this situation, which his extreme affability rendered of very frequent occurrence.

"God," says he, "makes use of such occasions to try whether our souls are sufficiently strengthened to bear every attack. I have myself been sometimes in this difficulty: but I made a covenant with my heart and with my tongue, in order to confine them within the bounds of duty... the man who possesses Christian meekness is affectionate and tender toward everyone; he is disposed to forgive and excuse the frailties of others; the goodness of his appears in a sweet affability that influences his words and actions, and presents every object to his view in the most charitable and pleasing light; he never allows himself to use a harsh phrase, much less any language that is haughty or rude, There is always a gentle serenity in his expression which distinguishes him from those violent characters who with looks full of fury, only know how to say no, or who, when they grant, do it with so bad a grace that they lose all the merit of the favor they confer."



St. John Bosco's Novena to Our Lady Help of Christians
Against the Enemies of God

To obtain a favor, St. Don Bosco generally advised a Novena to Our Lady Help of Christians. He had a singular devotion to the Hail Holy Queen and advised some work of charity as thanksgiving for graces obtained.

O Mary, powerful Virgin, thou art the mighty and glorious protector of holy Church; thou art the marvelous help of Christians; thou art terrible as an army in battle array; thou alone hast destroyed every heresy in the whole world. In the midst of our anguish, our struggles and our distress defend us from the power of the enemy and at the hour of our death receive our souls in paradise. Amen.

Here mention your Petitions

Say Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be to the Father, three times

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, our Life, our Sweetness, and our Hope. To Thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve. To Thee do we send up our sighs mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious Advocate, Thine Eyes of Mercy toward us, and after this our exile show unto us the Blessed Fruit of thy Womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary. Pray for us O Holy Mother of God. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.