



Our Lady of Sorrows

Traditional Catholic Mission Central Texas

Upcoming Mass Details:

Sunday, March 13, 2022 **Date Change**

Mass – 6:00pm, Confession – 5:30pm

Vintage Villas Hotel & Events

4209 Eck Lane Austin Texas 78734

Contact information:

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Dear Faithful,

Lent has begun. It comes late this year. Despite this, Lent always seems to come more quickly than I anticipate. One looks ahead and attempts to plan Lenten resolutions and devotions to make it a good and fruitful season, only to find it beginning before we know it.

Now the holy season of Lent has begun, I have been reminded of one of my favorite parts of the season... the liturgy. Every day of Lent has a proper Mass, each rich with their own rich meditations and relevant scripture. I can never recommend reading the Mass of the day during Lent enough.

I am in Milwaukee this weekend and head up to Northern Wisconsin Sunday night. A new baby has arrived up in Park Falls, so I will have the pleasure of baptizing the little guy. It is always good to see a mission grow.

Be sure to either watch our live webcast of the Sunday Masses this lent or at least listen to the Sunday sermons afterwards. Our deacons will be giving their first sermons this Lent, so it is quite an exciting beginning. I remember when I gave my first sermon as a deacon. It was on the feast of Christ the King (not the easiest place to begin). I have no idea what the sermon was about, but I certainly do know that I was quite nervous. Pray for these future priests as they begin this important part of their apostolate.

After a quick stop home, I return to the road Saturday, this time heading south to Texas, where the faithful will be stuck listening to me preach... not as exciting as a deacon preaching for the first time, but hey... you can always double up and listen to theirs when you head home!!

In Christ,

Fr. McKenna

N.B. Daylight Savings

Daylight Savings Time begins next Sunday. Be sure to turn your clocks forward one hour Saturday night

A Quiet Warfare

Christ was led by the Holy Ghost, immediately after His baptism, into the desert, to prepare, by fasting and prayer, for His public ministry, and to merit for us by His victory over the enemy of our salvation, force to conquer him also ourselves. By this conduct, He teaches all that were to be in future times called to His ministry, how they are to retire into solitude, in order to converse with God in prayer, and draw down the blessing of heaven upon themselves and their undertaking.

What treasures of grace might we expect, if, as often as we receive any of the sacraments, we were to retire within ourselves, and shut out, for a time, the world and its cares? Then should we come prepared to withstand temptation and should experience the divine assistance in every difficulty through life. The life of man is a warfare on earth. It was not given us, says St. Hilary, to spend it in indolence, but to wage a continual war against our spiritual enemies. In the greatest sanctity there are often the greatest and most incessant trials; for Satan wishes nothing so much as the fall of the saints. By these trials, we learn the strength we have received from above, we are preserved from self-complacency and pride in the gifts of heaven; we confirm the renunciation we made in baptism of the devil, and all his works and pomps; we become stronger, and better prepared for future attacks, and are feelingly convinced of the dignity to which we have been raised, and of which the enemy of souls endeavors all he can to deprive us. Both St. John the Baptist and our divine Master, by retiring into the wilderness for contemplation, prayer, fasting and suffering, have given a sanction and an example to those holy men called hermits, who have taken shelter in their sanctified retreats against the dangers of the world.

– Fr. George Leo Haydock (d. 1849)—English recusant priest, Douay scholar, and principle author and editor of the famous Bible commentary that bears his name

St. Thomas Aquinas

When the young Thomas declared his intention to become a Dominican friar, his family kidnapped him and locked him in their castle in southern Italy. When this failed to dissuade him, they relented and set him free to pursue his vocation. Thomas's initial studies gave no promise of his later eminence. While studying in Cologne he rarely spoke, thus earning the nickname "the Dumb Ox." Only his teacher, Albert the Great, recognized his abilities and predicted that the lowing of this "dumb ox" would eventually be heard around the world.

By the time he received his doctorate in Paris, Thomas was recognized as an unrivaled genius, and his services were in wide demand, both by the Dominicans and the papal court. In 1266 he began his masterpiece, the *Summa Theologiae*, a vastly ambitious exposition of the Catholic faith which he brilliantly adapted the philosophy of Aristotle in the service of Christian theology. The project was never completed. During Mass one day Thomas had a mysterious experience that caused him to hang up his writing instruments, never to resume. When asked about his silence, he replied, "All that I have written seems to me like so much straw compared to what I have seen and what has been revealed to me."

He died on March 7, 1274, at the age of forty-nine. He was canonized in 1323 and later declared a Doctor of the Church. In an encyclical of 1879 Pope Leo XII declared him the "prince and master of all Scholastic doctors."

"To one who has faith, no explanation is necessary. To one without faith, no explanation is possible."
– St. Thomas Aquinas

Prayer for the Communists

Let us build a wall of Christlike charity, against which the Communists may hurl themselves, not to find their death, but to find at last in the Hearts of Jesus and Mary, as in one Fountain of sweetness, that happiness for which they were created, and which they will never find elsewhere.

We fly to thy patronage, O Holy Mother of God. Do thou receive us, O our Mother and our Queen. Beg of thy Son, the Lover and Redeemer of souls, through the merits of the sufferings He endured on His adorable Face, to accomplish His designs of mercy for all poor sinners, and in particular, for the Communists; that all peoples may praise Him, and all generations call thee blessed. Thou art the channel of pardon, thou art the Mother Grace, thou art the hope of the world; hear us who cry to thee. Eternal Father, we offer Thee the Holy Face of Jesus for the intentions of Mary Immaculate.

Prayer for All Things Necessary to Salvation

O my God, I believe in Thee; do Thou strengthen my faith. All my hopes are in Thee; do Thou secure them. I love Thee with my whole heart; teach me to love Thee daily more and more. I am sorry that I have offended Thee; do Thou increase my sorrow.

I adore Thee as my first beginning, I aspire after Thee as my last end. I give Thee thanks as my constant benefactor. I call upon Thee as my sovereign protector.

Vouchsafe, O my God, to conduct me by Thy wisdom; to restrain me by Thy justice; to comfort me by Thy mercy; to defend me by Thy power.

To Thee I desire to consecrate all my thoughts, words, actions, and sufferings; that henceforward I may think only of Thee, speak of Thee and willingly refer all my actions to Thy greater glory; and suffer willingly whatever Thou shalt appoint.

Lord, I desire that in all things Thy will may be done, because it is Thy will, and in the manner that Thou willest.

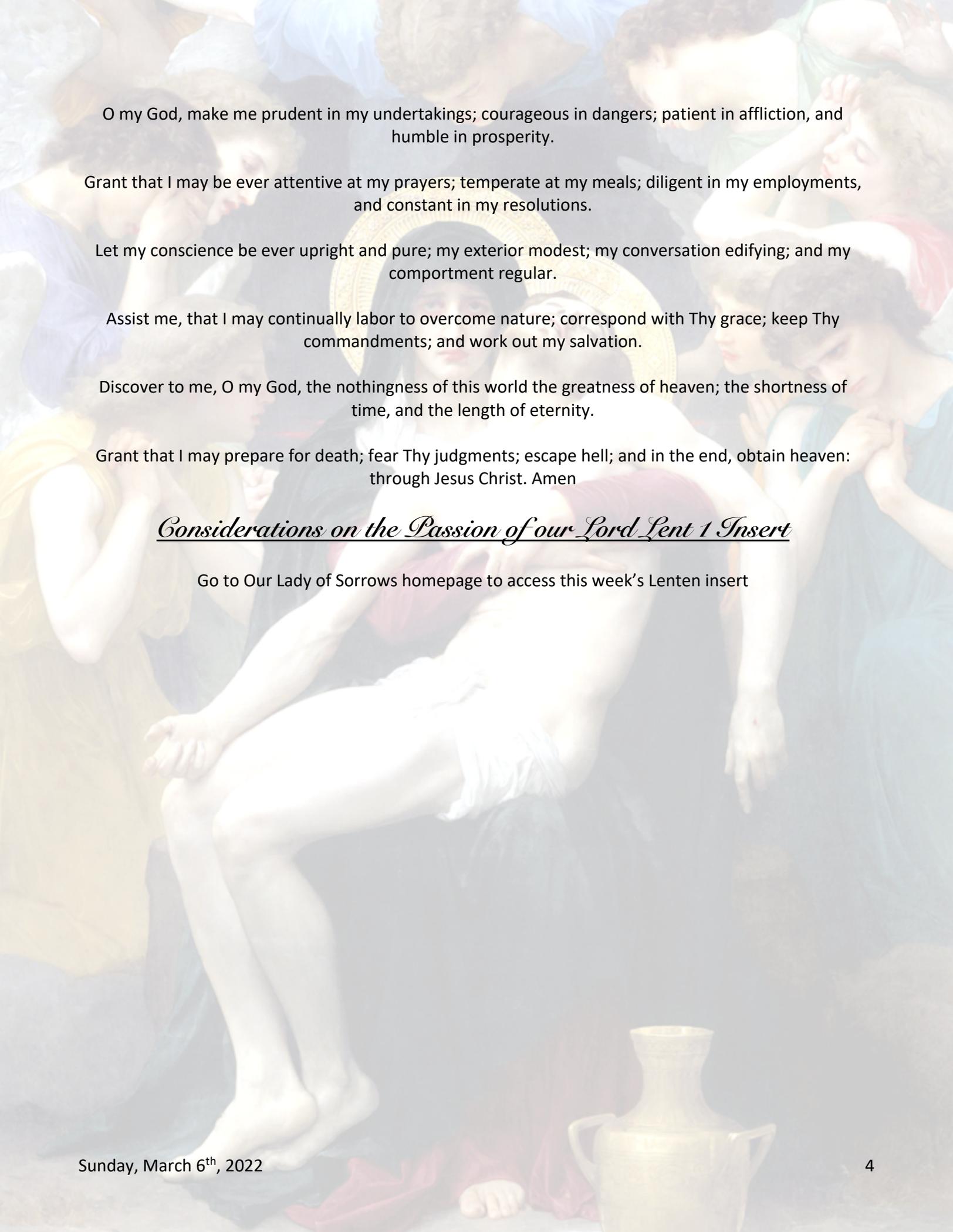
I beg of Thee to enlighten my understanding; to inflame my will; to purify my body, and to sanctify my soul.

Give me strength, O my God, to expiate my offences; to overcome my temptations; to subdue my passions; and to acquire the virtues proper for my state.

Fill my heart with tender affections for Thy goodness; a hatred of my faults; a love of my neighbor; and a contempt of the world.

Let me always remember to be submissive to my superiors, condescending to my inferiors, faithful to my friends, and charitable to my enemies.

Assist me to overcome sensuality by mortification; avarice by alms-deeds; anger by meekness; and tepidity by devotion.



O my God, make me prudent in my undertakings; courageous in dangers; patient in affliction, and humble in prosperity.

Grant that I may be ever attentive at my prayers; temperate at my meals; diligent in my employments, and constant in my resolutions.

Let my conscience be ever upright and pure; my exterior modest; my conversation edifying; and my comportment regular.

Assist me, that I may continually labor to overcome nature; correspond with Thy grace; keep Thy commandments; and work out my salvation.

Discover to me, O my God, the nothingness of this world the greatness of heaven; the shortness of time, and the length of eternity.

Grant that I may prepare for death; fear Thy judgments; escape hell; and in the end, obtain heaven: through Jesus Christ. Amen

Considerations on the Passion of our Lord Lent 1 Insert

Go to Our Lady of Sorrows homepage to access this week's Lenten insert