



## Our Lady of Sorrows

Traditional Catholic Mission Central Texas

### Upcoming Mass Details:

Date: To Be Announced

Location: The Austin Venue - 18619 Hamilton Pool Rd, Austin, TX 78738

### Contact information:

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Dear Faithful,

As so often happens, after finally completing all the major ceremonies after the death of Bp. Dolan, (Funeral, ordinations, and episcopal consecration), I soon found myself back on the road, headed to the northern missions, as well as to Milwaukee for the Feast of the Ascension and the weekend, which includes our May Crowning on Sunday. Finally, all the snow seems to be gone and the green has begun to come to life. On one hand, hitting the road so soon after so much activity has found me realizing how tired I really am. However, there is also something very refreshing to get back to something normal after so much drastic change.

Part of a return to "normal" will hopefully happen when I return home to St. Gertrude's...and that is getting a travel schedule put together for the upcoming months. Usually, we try to look two or three months out, so we can adequately plan for all the travel our missions require. However, with all that has transpired since Easter, we have had to plan a weekend at a time. This is certainly less than ideal and hopefully now, as the dust begins to settle, we can plan again.

In very positive news, one of the couples in my Grand Forks mission texted me the other day with the happy report of welcoming their first child. Mom and baby are doing well, and I will look forward to baptizing her the next time I head up to the mission. Babies are always a happy announcement, but a first baby of a young marriage carries an extra bit of joy with it. It is such a momentous change to a couple's lives... but a change which carries innumerable blessings with it.

Dealing with change can often provide trials. However, when change accompanies the following of God's Divine plan, the trials also harbor in many gifts from above. The Apostles had to accept the change of the departure of Our Lord at the Ascension and the trial of their new mission to preach the gospel, but the Holy Ghost came to them nine days later to give them great gifts. Parents lose their independence and much sleep with the arrival of baby, but the love which is magnified by his/her arrival outshines these trials and the raising of a faithful Christian child is part of parent's sanctification as well. For us at St. Gertrude's, the loss of Bp. Dolan has been a difficult change to embrace, and the new roles in life we embrace moving forward have their trials, but this change has come with the great blessings of new priests and a new bishop... and I know many more great things will come too, as we continue to follow God's Divine plan in this too.

In Christ,

Fr. McKenna





## *Pius XII Prayer to Our Queen*

Out of the depths of this valley of tears, through which suffering humanity painfully struggles, up from the billows of this sea, endlessly buffeted by the waves of suffering, we raise our eyes to thee, most beloved Mother Mary, to be comforted by the contemplation of thy glory and to hail thee as Queen of Heaven and earth, Queen and Mother of mankind.

With legitimate filial pride, we wish to exalt your queenship and to recognize it as due to the sovereign excellence of your entire being, O dearest one, truly Mother of Him Who is King by right, by inheritance and by conquest.

Reign, O Mother and Queen, by showing us the path of holiness, and by guiding and assisting us that we may never stray from it.

In the heights of heaven, you exercise your primacy over the choirs of angels, who acclaim you as their sovereign, and over the legions of saints who delight in beholding your radiant beauty. So, too, reign over the entire human race, above all by opening the path of faith to those who do not yet know your Divine Son.

Reign over the Church, which acknowledges and extols your gentle dominion, and has recourse to you as a safe refuge amid the calamities of our day.

Reign especially over that part of the Church which is persecuted and oppressed; give it strength to bear adversity, constancy never to yield under unjust compulsion, light to avoid falling into the snares of the enemy, firmness to resist overt attack, and at every moment unwavering faithfulness to your kingdom.

Reign over the minds of men, that they may seek only what is true; over their wills, that they may follow solely what is good; over their hearts, that they may love nothing but what you yourself love.

Reign over individuals and over families, as well as over societies and nations; over the assemblies of the powerful, the counsels of the wise, as over the simple aspirations of the humble.

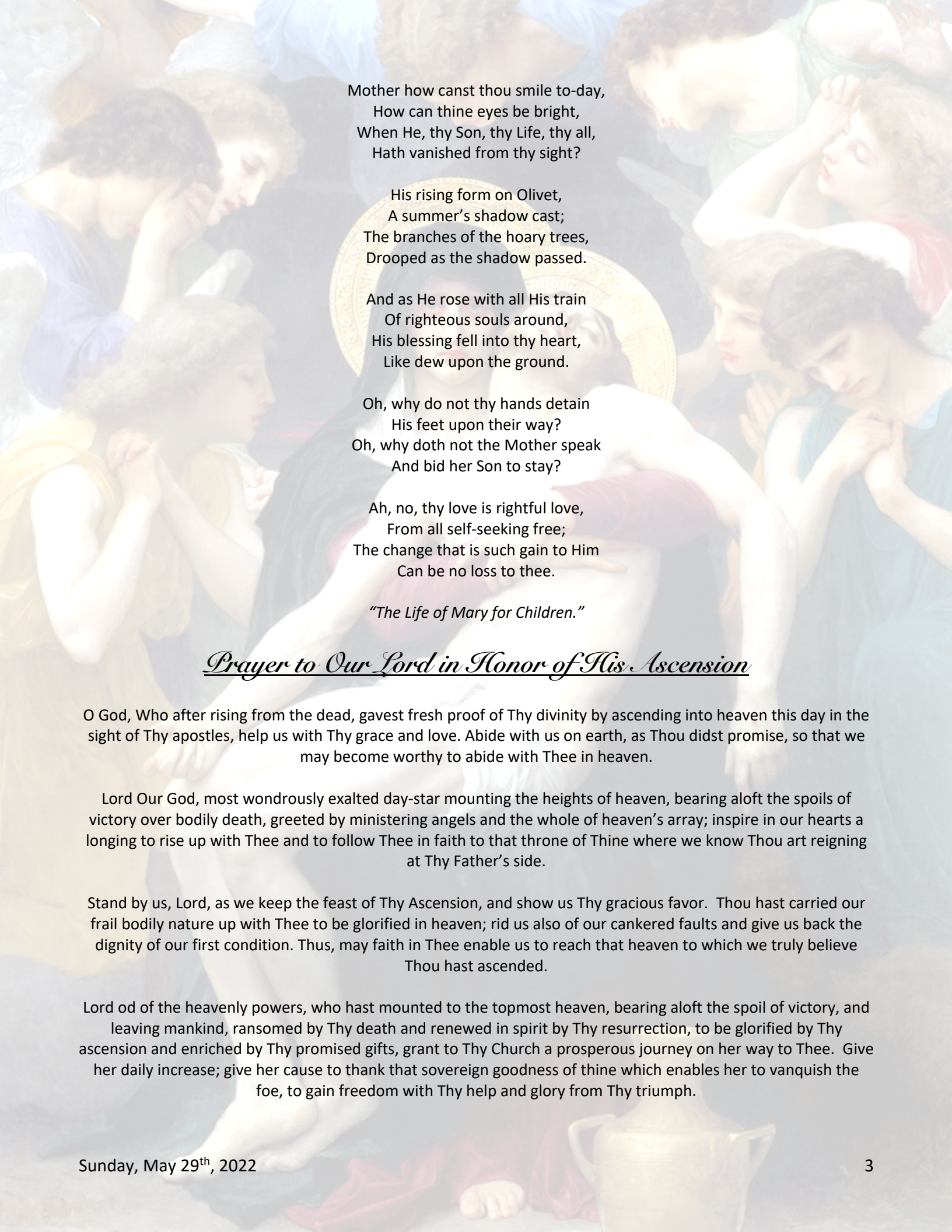
Reign in the streets and in the squares, in the cities and in the villages, in the valleys and the mountains, in the air, on land and on the sea; and hear the pious prayer of all those who recognize that yours is a reign of mercy, in which every petition is heard, every sorrow comforted, every misfortune relieved, every infirmity healed, and in which, at a gesture from your gentle hands, from death itself there arises smiling life.

Obtain for us that all we who now, in every corner of the world, acclaim and hail you Queen and Mistress, may one day in heaven enjoy the fullness of your kingdom in the vision of your Divine Son, Who with the Father and the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth for ever and ever. Amen.

## *Mary at the Ascension*

Why is thy face so lit with smiles,  
Mother of Jesus, why?  
And wherefore is thy beaming look,  
So fixed upon the sky?





Mother how canst thou smile to-day,  
How can thine eyes be bright,  
When He, thy Son, thy Life, thy all,  
Hath vanished from thy sight?

His rising form on Olivet,  
A summer's shadow cast;  
The branches of the hoary trees,  
Drooped as the shadow passed.

And as He rose with all His train  
Of righteous souls around,  
His blessing fell into thy heart,  
Like dew upon the ground.

Oh, why do not thy hands detain  
His feet upon their way?  
Oh, why doth not the Mother speak  
And bid her Son to stay?

Ah, no, thy love is rightful love,  
From all self-seeking free;  
The change that is such gain to Him  
Can be no loss to thee.

*"The Life of Mary for Children."*


### *Prayer to Our Lord in Honor of His Ascension*

O God, Who after rising from the dead, gavest fresh proof of Thy divinity by ascending into heaven this day in the sight of Thy apostles, help us with Thy grace and love. Abide with us on earth, as Thou didst promise, so that we may become worthy to abide with Thee in heaven.

Lord Our God, most wondrously exalted day-star mounting the heights of heaven, bearing aloft the spoils of victory over bodily death, greeted by ministering angels and the whole of heaven's array; inspire in our hearts a longing to rise up with Thee and to follow Thee in faith to that throne of Thine where we know Thou art reigning at Thy Father's side.

Stand by us, Lord, as we keep the feast of Thy Ascension, and show us Thy gracious favor. Thou hast carried our frail bodily nature up with Thee to be glorified in heaven; rid us also of our cankered faults and give us back the dignity of our first condition. Thus, may faith in Thee enable us to reach that heaven to which we truly believe Thou hast ascended.

Lord of the heavenly powers, who hast mounted to the topmost heaven, bearing aloft the spoil of victory, and leaving mankind, ransomed by Thy death and renewed in spirit by Thy resurrection, to be glorified by Thy ascension and enriched by Thy promised gifts, grant to Thy Church a prosperous journey on her way to Thee. Give her daily increase; give her cause to thank that sovereign goodness of thine which enables her to vanquish the foe, to gain freedom with Thy help and glory from Thy triumph.



Who can relate all Thy mighty deeds, Lord, or tell the full tale of Thy glories? Without leaving the heavens, Thou didst come down to earth; without forsaking the earth, Thou hast gone back to heaven. In every place Thou art wholly present, wholly admirable, not parted from the Father by Thy incarnation, nor snatched away from man by Thy ascension. Merciful God and Lord, give ear to the petition of Thy holy people, that on this day of Thy ascension, when glory is given Thee in high heaven, grace may be given us on earth.

O King of Glory, all that the prophets foretold is made plain and fulfilled in Thee. And now the gates of eternity swing back; Thou returnest to Thy Father's throne Thy Godhead is restored to the throne in never left, and the way to heaven is opened for mankind.

Give us grace to cast off the shackles of earthly delights, and to set our hearts upon that heaven whence our redemption came. We acknowledge Thy heavenly kingship; let our petition mount up to Thy royal presence-chamber and move Thee to heap Thy graces upon the living, Thy comfort upon the dead.

Christ, Our God, Who ascending into heaven hast withdrawn Thy bodily presence from Thy disciples, give us grace, though we cannot see Thee in the flesh, to love Thee in the spirit, and to await in faith Thy judgement day. Create in us a new heart and an upright mind; and may we who are now keeping the feast of Thy Ascension be found worthy to receive Thy promised gift of the Holy Ghost.

Lord and Savior, who at Thy ascent into heaven didst allow those present to behold Thy glorified humanity, and who didst promise to come in judgement in the same fashion as Thou didst go up, give us grace to keep this feast of Thy Ascension with heartfelt love and faith, and so to advance in holy living that we may not be abashed when we behold Thee coming to pass judgment on the world. Amen.