



Our Lady of Sorrows

Traditional Catholic Mission Central Texas

Upcoming Mass Details:

Date/Time

Sunday, October 2, 2022 – Confession 5:30pm, Mass 6:00pm

Location:

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

Contact information:

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Dear Faithful,

The beautiful weather continues here in Ohio. Truly, this is my favorite time of year, weather wise. It just never seems to last long enough. However, as I sit in my office with the windows opened, I look ahead at the forecast, and it seems that the beautiful weather will continue for tomorrow's outdoor Rosary Procession for Rosary Sunday.

The Rosary is more than just a mere devotion, especially during these times. Instead, I think of the Rosary as being Heaven's chosen method of accessing a huge wellspring of graces every day. In fact, it seems that these days, when you speak to a person who converts to traditional Catholicism, they will all have different stories, but at a certain point, their journey will include that the person either started to pray the Rosary or became more devoted to Our Lady's Rosary. As Our Lady promised St. Dominic, "Devotion of My Rosary is a great sign of predestination."

Fr. Simpson has begun the trek down south to Texas for this Rosary Sunday. It has been quite a change for me to travel less and to work the young fathers, especially Fr. Simpson, into the travel schedule. However, it is great having the young blood able to help with the pavement pounding. They do a good job, and it frees me up to help Bp. McGuire in running St. Gertrude's and to keep up with the many administrative requirements of our international apostolate.

About six or seven years ago, my father retired from working as an electrician and he and my mother moved south to Fort Myers, FL. To quote my old man, "I never want to see a snow shovel again." Well, he doesn't have to worry about snow, but I don't think he knew what to expect when it comes to hurricanes. Yes, there have been a few which have hit New England over the years, but these are usually so greatly diminished that they don't pose too much of a serious threat. But the other day, he and my mother found themselves right in the direct path of Hurricane Ian, the largest and most powerful hurricane ever recorded to hit Florida. The eye came on shore pretty much exactly where they live. Thankfully, they made it through, both uninjured and with minimal damage taken to their condo. However, the devastation of the area is truly horrific. Keep the poor people who were less fortunate than my parents in this storm in your prayers. The death toll is steadily climbing and people's whole lives have been swept away.

In Christ,

Fr. McKenna



Power of the Rosary

Is it not sad that though many Catholics are daily saying the Hail Mary, many of them say it so badly? They repeat it hastily, not even thinking the words they are saying. They thus deprive God's Mother of the great joy they could so easily give her and deprive themselves of the wondrous graces that she wishes to give them.

One Hail Mary, well said, fills the heart of Our Lady with delight and obtains for us indescribably great graces. One Hail Mary, well said, gives us more graces than a great many badly said.

Fr. Suarez, the holy and learned Jesuit, declared when dying that he would willingly give all the many learned books he wrote, all his life's labors, for the merit of one Hail Mary. How well this great man understood the priceless value of this beautiful little prayer which is so little understood by many Catholics.

St. Bernard and all the saints say that it was never heard, at any time or in any place, that Mary refused to hear the prayers of her children on Earth. Oh, why don't we Catholics realize this most consoling truth? Why do we refuse the love and consolation that God's Sweet Mother is offering us? Lamentable is the ignorance which deprives us of such help and consolation.

St. Therese, Patroness of the Missions

Who has not heard of the Little Flower? The entire Catholic world knows of, and fondly gives, this sweet title to Sister Theresa of the Child Jesus. Little Theresa, another gentle name for this most amiable Saint, is the most prominent and popular of recent Saints. Her beatification by the Church in 1921, and canonization in 1923, following so soon after her death in 1897, give a brilliant testimony of her extraordinary holiness. It would seem that God hastened to proclaim her sanctity, performing many miracles in her favor, in order that mankind might as soon as possible, through her intercession, obtain heavenly graces and favors.

St. Theresa was born at Alencon in France, January 2, 1873. At the early age of 15, she began the life of a cloistered nun by entering the Carmelite Convent in Lisieux. In the convent, she led a life of absolute trust and surrender to God, advancing in saintliness by her simple and childlike attachment to Jesus. To love the Infant Jesus--to be His friend--to think of Him and do everything in His honor; to tear herself away from this world, and fly to heaven--to be eternally united with Him; to love her neighbors doing good to others with a childlike devotion--these were the outstanding characteristics of the Little Flower of Jesus. She died, esteemed as a Saint, on Sept. 30, 1897.

Our dear Little Saint took the world by storm and drew unto herself, clients from all walks of life. This Little Flower receives petitions in all forms and constantly pours down from heaven her promised "shower of roses." Saint Theresa, who spent her whole life without leaving her own corner of France, is Patroness of the Missions. Acquainted early with the work of the missions, she made them the object of her prayers and sacrifices. Manifestly are being fulfilled, her prophetic words of distinct assurance uttered: "I will spend my heaven doing good upon earth. I shall let fall from heaven a shower of roses. My work begins after death."



Prayer of Perseverance by St. Therese

Jesus, my Divine Spouse, “grant that my baptismal robe be never sullied. Take me rather than suffer me here below to stain my soul with the slightest willful fault. May I never seek, nor ever find but Thee alone! May all creatures be as nothing to me, and I nothing to them! May no earthly thing disturb my peace. Amen.

O Jesus, I only beg of Thee peace for my soul—for Thy peace, unending peace. Let me suffer even martyrdom for Thee, O Jesus. Give me martyrdom either of the body or of the soul, or even both at once!

Grant that I may fulfill my duties in all their perfection, though none concern themselves about me. Let me be trodden under foot, forgotten as a little grain of sand. I abandon myself to Thee, my Beloved, that Thou mayest ever perfectly accomplish Thy holy Will in me. Amen.

St. Francis' Prophecies of Great Schisms and Tribulations in the Church

A short time before the holy Father's death, he called together his Children and warned them of the coming troubles, saying: 'Act bravely, my Brethren; take courage, and trust in the Lord. The time is fast approaching in which there will be great trials and afflictions; perplexities and dissensions, both spiritual and temporal, will abound; the charity of many will grow cold, and the malice of the wicked will increase. The devils will have unusual power, the immaculate purity of our Order, and of others, will be so much obscured that there will be very few Christians who will obey the true Sovereign Pontiff and the Roman Church with loyal hearts and perfect charity. At the time of this tribulation a man, not canonically elected, will be raised to the Pontificate, who, by his cunning, will endeavour to draw many into error and death.

Then scandals will be multiplied, our Order will be divided, and many others will be entirely destroyed, because they will consent to error instead of opposing it. There will be such diversity of opinions and schisms among the people, the religious and the clergy, that, except those days were shortened, according to the words of the Gospel, even the elect would be led into error, were they not specially guided, amid such great confusion, by the immense mercy of God. Then our Rule and manner of life will be violently opposed by some, and terrible trials will come upon us. Those who are found faithful will receive the crown of life; but woe to those who, trusting solely in their Order, shall fall into tepidity, for they will not be able to support the temptations permitted for the proving of the elect.

Those who preserve their fervour and adhere to virtue with love and zeal for the truth, will suffer injuries and persecutions as rebels and schismatics; for their persecutors, urged on by the evil spirits, will say they are rendering a great service to God by destroying such pestilent men from the face of the earth. But the Lord will be the refuge of the afflicted, and will save all who trust in Him. And in order to be like their Head, these, the elect, will act with confidence, and by their death will purchase for themselves eternal life; choosing to obey God rather than man, they will fear nothing, and they will prefer to perish rather than consent to falsehood and perfidy. Some preachers will keep silence about the truth, and others will trample it under foot and deny it. Sanctity of life will be held in derision even by those who outwardly profess it, for in those days Our Lord Jesus Christ will send them not a true Pastor, but a destroyer.

Against Mortal Sin

My Brethren, let us above all things avoid mortal sin. Consider how foul and horrible a dead body appears, deprived of the spirit of life; and understand how much more foul and unclean is a soul without God, Who is its life, when it is plunged in mortal sin. If creatures have so much need of each other, how much more has the creature need of his Creator! Grace is further removed from sin than glory is from grace; for the distance is infinite between grace and sin, whereas death alone stands between grace in holy souls and glory. He, therefore, who sins mortally, withdraws from God and draws near to hell, between which and the sinner life only is interposed, and this is often extinguished by an unforeseen and instantaneous death. How many have we not seen retire to bed at night in perfect health, and the next day carried to their grave! Let us humbly beg of God to preserve holily in His grace those who are now refreshed with it, and mercifully to restore it to unhappy sinners. O most strong and loving God, how ready Thou art to pardon the penitent--how powerful and severe in punishing the obstinate!

Of the Love of our Enemies

Listen, my Brethren, to the message which the Most High sends you from heaven, by means of the least of His servants. Love all, both your neighbours and those from whom you suffer anything. The former are manifestly your friends, the latter are by no means your enemies. Those who love you, who serve you, who give you food and clothing, do good indeed to your bodies; but those who persecute you, who are angry with you, who injure you, do much more good to your souls. All men are therefore your friends, and no one is to be called an enemy; all are your benefactors, and no one does you harm. You have no enemy except yourselves. If therefore you desire to hate your enemies, begin by hating your body and your sensual appetite. If you wish to be avenged of your adversary, scourge your body, and bring it into subjection to the spirit. May God Who created you, and Christ Who redeemed you, be with you, and keep you from all adversity!

Set Your Missal

Low Masses:

Pentecost XVII, commemoration and Proper Last Gospel of the Holy Guardian Angels. Trinity Preface.

High Mass:

The Most Holy Rosary (Oct 7), second collect of Pentecost XVII, third of the Holy Guardian Angels. Proper Last Gospel of Pentecost XVII. Preface of the Blessed Virgin.