



Our Lady of Sorrows

Traditional Catholic Mission Central Texas

Upcoming Mass Details:

Sunday, January 16, 2022

Mass – 6:00pm, Confession – 5:30pm

Vintage Villas Hotel & Events

4209 Eck Lane Austin Texas 78734

Contact information:

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Note From Father

Dear Faithful,

I am finally off and running on the mission run after several delays due to sickness in the other priests at St. Gertrude's. They are all on the road to recover, thanks be to God, but these illnesses have left us a bit short handed now for several weeks. Hopefully this flu has run its course and we can move along.

I write this letter as I fly along at 40,000 ft. from Cincinnati to Dallas. It is the first leg of a journey which will ultimately see a temperature swing of about 80+ degrees, as I start in Texas with its 65-degree temperatures and then travel to North Dakota, where the temperature will plummet to -26 with a windchill around -45. Finally, I finish the long week of travel over in Milwaukee before returning home.

Before leaving today, I had the happy occasion of officiating a wedding at St. Gertrude the Great. It was another success story of our annual YAG (Young Adult Get-Together). This summertime meeting of young adults has resulted in quite a number of happy marriages and even more great friendships. This struck me as the two people getting married are from the People's Republic of Australia and Chicago, IL, who moved over the last year to come to St. Gertrudes to escape government tyranny and gain easy access to the sacraments. Yet despite being far from home, the church held a large number of attendees for the wedding. They were largely friends made from the YAG who had traveled to attend the happy occasion.

If you are a single young adult or know a young adult who is single and Traditional Catholic, we would love to see you come and join us this summer. You will certainly have lots of fun, gain new friends, and.... well, who knows what else?!

In Christ,

Fr. McKenna

****Calendars****

The calendars for 2022 have arrived at St. Gertrude's. If you would like to purchase a calendar, you can go to sggresources.org or call or email our office at St. Gertrude's.

Cana

"This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee."

Once when our eyes were clean as noon, our rooms
Filled with the joy of Cana's feast:
For Jesus came, and His disciples, and His Mother,
And after them the singers
And some men with violins.

Once when our minds were Galilees,
And clean as skies our faces,
Our simple rooms were charmed with sun.

Our thoughts went in and out in whiter coats than God's disciples',
In Cana's crowded rooms, at Cana's tables.

Nor did we seem to fear the wine would fail:
For ready, in a row, to fill with water and a miracle,
We saw our earthen vessels, waiting empty.
What wine those humble water jars foretell!

Wine for the ones who, bended to the dirty earth,
Have feared, since lovely Eden, the sun's fire,
Yet hardly mumble, in their dusty mouths, one prayer.

Wine for old Adam, digging in the briars!
- *Thomas Merton*



The Chair of Unity Octave

“In every age it has been the concern of the Roman Pontiffs, Our predecessors, and likewise it concerns Us very much, that Christians who have, unfortunately, withdrawn from the Catholic Religion should at length be recalled to us as to a forsaken Mother. For in the Unity of the Faith the foremost characteristic of the truth of the Church shines forth, and it is thus that the Apostle Paul exhorts the Ephesians to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, by proclaiming that there is one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism. (Ephes. 4:5) With a glad mind, therefore, We have heard that prayers have been proposed to be recited from the Feast of the Chair of the Blessed Peter at Rome to the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul, in order that this aim of Unity might be obtained from the Lord. We mercifully grant and bestow in the Lord a Plenary Indulgence and remission of their sins to each and all the faithful of Christ who from the eighteenth day of the month of January, the Festival of the Chair of Blessed Peter of Rome, until the twenty-fifth day of the same month, on which the Conversion of St. Paul is commemorated, shall recite once a day the prayers appointed.”

– *Pope Benedict XV*

Seven Easy Ways to Attract Converts

1. Speak with great reverence of God and of everything divine.
2. Know your Faith so well that you must speak about it.
3. Be curious to find out what others believe, so you may tell them what they should believe.
4. Prove all your arguments with texts from their Bible.
5. Show by your example that your most intimate private life is lived according to the teachings of the Church.
6. Have a tender devotion to the sick and poor.
7. Show deep gratitude for every kindness.

Prayer in Honor of St. Agnes

O Sweetest Lord Jesus Christ, source of all virtues, lover of virgins, most powerful conqueror of demons, most severe extirpator of vice! deign to cast Thine eyes upon my weakness, and through the intercession of Mary most blessed, Mother and Virgin, and of Thy beloved spouse St. Agnes, glorious virgin and martyr, grant me the aid of Thy heavenly grace, in order that I may learn to despise all earthly things, and to love what is heavenly; to oppose vice and to be proof against temptation; to walk firmly in the path of virtue, not to seek honors, to shun pleasures, to bewail my past offenses, to keep far from the occasions of evil, to keep free from bad habits, to seek the company of the good, and persevere in righteousness, so that, by the assistance of Thy grace, I may deserve the crown of eternal life, together with St. Agnes and all the saints, forever and ever, in Thy kingdom. Amen.

(Indulgence 100 days, Pius IX, 1854)

Prayer in Honor of the Holy Family

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)