

Our Lady of Sorrows

Traditional Catholic Mission Central Texas

Upcoming Mass Details:

Date/Time

Sunday, November 6, 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,

We had a beautiful turnout for the Final Fatima Rosary procession here at St. Gertrude's, with 135 people coming to bear candles and beads and to pray for peace. It was really an impressive sight to see so many little glowing lamps following in a line along the street. The evening was autumnal in its temperature and beautiful overall, despite a couple little short-lived sprinkles of rain.

Today, we need peace more than we ever have. Never have I seen tensions ramped up to the point where nuclear war is talked about in a manner which is no longer somewhat abstract. Some of you remember ducking under your desks for air raid drills. This was before my time, although I do remember certain places in my town being marked as bomb cellars in the event of nuclear attack. Yet now, the manufactured war between Ukraine (See NATO) and Russia has reached a boiling point and the powers that be in the NWO think it might just be an option on the table. Horrible! Yet it is exactly what Our Lady warned at Fatima: "Russia would spread her errors". And this is not saying that Our Lady is waving a blue and yellow flag...no, it is a realization that the error being spread, and the error being supported by all sides of the conflict, is communism. And it is to Our Lady of Fatima we must turn and via the means of the Holy Rosary that we must petition for peace.

Next weekend, we have another great opportunity to storm heaven for our needs. It is our annual Forty Hours devotion here at St. Gertrude the Great. I plan to be here for the opening ceremony of Forty Hours before heading up to St. Hugh's in Milwaukee on Saturday. But before that, I am down in Dallas this weekend at St. Anthony's mission.

Fr. Lehtoranta and the Sodality of Charity had their Fall Festival last weekend. He has about 35 girls who are members of this sodality now and they regularly do works to help for various occasions at church. They also get together monthly for some fun too! Their festival was a great success, with ring toss, bobbing for apples, and even a homemade dunk tank. Fun was had by all and they were able to raise almost a thousand dollars for their little group

Bp. McGuire and I returned from last weekend's trip to Massachusetts, which was a great success, pastorally speaking, and a large number (34) were confirmed.

Zeal for Souls in the Letters of St. Therese of Lisieux

I desire one thing only when I am in Carmel, and that is to suffer for Jesus always.... When I realize that one will love the good God better for all eternity, because of suffering borne with joy—and, by suffering, one can save souls. Ah! Pauline, if, at the moment of my death, I should have a soul to offer to Jesus, how happy I should be! There should be a soul snatched from the fire of hell and blessing God for all eternity."

So wrote St. Therese of the Child Jesus during March 1888, the month before that I which she entered the Carmel at Lisieux. She was then only a little more than fifteen years of age, but already she gives evidence that her heart is aflame with that zeal for souls which is such a prominent characteristic of her sanctity. The spirit of Carmel had but to deepen and develop it.

Four or five months later the young postulant wrote to her sister Céline comforting her during the dark days of their father's illness: "(Jesus) is not far off, He is here, close, looking at us, begging us to offer Him this grief, this agony.... He needs it for souls."

On January 10 of the following year, Therese took the habit. During the retreat before her clothing, she wrote three notes to Sister Agnes of Jesus—her "little mother," Pauline. In one of them she expresses vehemently her yearning to save the souls of sinners: "My sole desire is to do the will of Jesus always, to dry the tears that sinners cause Him to shed.... Oh! I want Jesus to have no pain on the day of my espousals, I wish I could convert all the sinners on earth and bring all the souls in purgatory to heaven! The Lamb of Jesus will laugh to see such a wish from the small grain of sand!... I know that it is foolishness, but still I wish that it could be so, that Jesus might not have a single tear to shed. Pray that the grain of sand may become an ATOM, which only the eyes of Jesus can see."

Still in the same year, 1889, when their father had to be placed in a Caen mental home, she could write to Céline: "Let us offer up our sufferings to save souls, poor souls!... They have fewer graces than we, yet all the Blood of a God has been shed to save them.... Jesus has chosen to make their salvation depend on a sigh of our heart... What a mystery is there!... If a sign can save a soul, what cannot sufferings like ours do?... Let us refuse Jesus nothing!" Three weeks later she continues the same theme: "The song of suffering in union with His sufferings is what most delights His Heart.... Jesus burns with love for us—look at His adorable Face!... Look at His glazed and sunken eyes!... Look at His wounds!... Look Jesus in the face!... There you will see how He loves us."

- Francis J. Ripley

Act of Reparation

O kind and merciful Savior, from my heart I earnestly desire to return Thee love for love. My greatest sorrow is that Thou art not loved by men, and, in particular, that my own heart is so cold, so selfish, so ungrateful. Keenly aware of my own weakness and poverty, I trust that Thy own grace will enable me to offer Thee an act of pure love. And I wish to offer Thee this act of love in reparation for the coldness and neglect that are shown to Thee in the sacrament of Thy love by Thy creatures. O Jesus, my supreme good, I love Thee, not for the sake of the reward which Thou hast promised to those who love Thee, but purely for Thyself. I love Thee above all things that can be loved, above all pleasures, and above myself and all that is not Thee, promising in the presence of heaven and earth that I will live and die purely and simply in Thy holy love, and that if to love Thee thus I must endure persecution and suffering I am completely satisfied, and I will ever say with Saint Paul: Nothing "will be able to separate us from the love of God." O Jesus, supreme master of all hearts, I love Thee, I adore Thee, I praise Thee, I thank Thee, because I am now all Thine own. Rule over me, and transform my soul into the likeness of Thyself, so that it may bless and glorify Thee forever in the abode of the saints.

-St. Margaret Mary Alacoque

Act of Adoration of the Sacred Heart

Jesus Christ, my Lord and my God, Whom I believe to be really present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar, receive this most profound act of adoration to supply for the desire I have to adore Thee unceasingly, and in thanksgiving for the sentiments of love which Thy sacred Heart has for me in this sacrament. I cannot better acknowledge them than by offering Thee all the acts of adoration, resignation, patience, and love which this same Heart has made during its mortal life, and which it makes still and which it shall make eternally in heaven, in order that through it I may love Thee, praise Thee, and adore Thee worthily as much as it is possible for me. I unite myself to this divine offering which Thou dost make to Thy divine Father, and I consecrate to Thee my whole being, praying Thee to destroy in me all sin and not to permit that I should be separated from Thee eternally. Amen.

-St. Margaret Mary Alacoque

Prayer to St. Ursula and Companions

O Glorious St. Ursula! Blessed Martyr of Jesus Christ! who didst despise the riches and dignities of this world for the love of God, and wert so happy as to lay down even thy life for His sake, take me under thy powerful protection--shield me by thy prayers from the dangers of the world, and teach me by thy example how to triumph over its temptations. I am not worthy to lay down my life for Him who died for me; yet, as I know that I may have many temptations, to suffer from the world and my own corrupt inclinations, I have recourse to thee with confidence, to implore, through thy intercession, the strength to resist and overcome them all; and to remember, on all occasions, that the life of a Christian, if not laid down for Christ by martyrdom, should at least be sacrificed to His glory by penance and self-denial. Thou art, O great Saint! my special Patroness, therefore I humbly recommend to thee all my undertakings, and beg of thee, as thou wert so particularly gifted by God with the power of persuading others to the practice of virtue, to obtain for me the grace to love and the duties of a Christian, and to endeavor by good example to engage others in the service of God. O glorious Martyr! whose death was an act of the most perfect charity, be thou my protectress in my last moments, and intercede for me now, that I may prepare for them by the fervent practice of those solid virtues, which alone will furnish ground for confidence in the mercy of God on the bed of death.

Our Lady of the Rosary

O Lady of the Rosary, today
Thy clients all beseech thee, hear their prayer,
And beg the Christ who raging storms did quell,
Bid warring nations cease their bloody fray;
His power and thine we honor, we declare,
O thou All-Fair, thou Joy of Israel.
-Francis A. Gaffney, O.P.

Set Your Missal

Pentecost XIX, second collect of St. Hedwig, third of Our Lady and All the Saints. Trinity Preface.