



## Our Lady of Sorrows

Traditional Catholic Mission Central Texas

### Upcoming Mass Details:

#### Date/Time/Location:

TBD January 2023 – Confession 5:30pm, Mass 6:00pm  
The Austin Venue - 18619 Hamilton Pool Rd, Austin, TX 78738

#### Contact information:

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### *Note From Father:*

Dear Faithful,

I have returned from my mission journey to our northern missions, where snow has fallen already and coated the ground with clean white snow. It didn't snow that much while I was up there, but the first layers had been laid upon the ground and the lakes have largely been iced over...a winter blanket which will remain for months to come.

In Park Falls, WI, which is in the middle of the North Woods, I was greeted by a wonderful annual gift for our St. Hugh of Lincoln Church...five beautiful wreaths of freshly cut pine boughs. I can't wait to see these hanging in the church at Christmas and the wonderful smell it will bring...but first, we must work our way through the Advent wreath.

While I didn't find St. Nicholas up in the frozen North, He did make visits to both St. Hugh and St. Gertrude's in between the Masses to visit with our children. He came in anticipation of his feast on Tuesday. I suspect he decided to come today to better allow everyone to come on Thursday for the Holy Day of the Immaculate Conception without being overwhelmed.

Fr. Simpson is making his way through the Texas missions this weekend before he heads north to Milwaukee for the Holy Day. I, in turn, am heading south to finally arrive home after a long trip. Between my sore sciatica and my sinus infection, I am truly ready to sleep in my own bed.

You have probably derived from the several mentions earlier in this note that Thursday is the feast of the Immaculate Conception and is a Holy Day of Obligation. Wednesday, the 7th is the vigil and thus a day of fast and complete abstinence. All seven and over are bound to the rules of complete abstinence on that day and all Catholics 21-59 inclusively are bound to fast.

In Christ,

Fr. McKenna



*Advent Novena Prayer*

Hail and blessed be the hour and the moment in which the Son of God was born of the Most Pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in piercing cold. At that hour, vouchsafe, O my God! to hear my prayer and grant my petitions through the merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ and of His Blessed Mother. Amen.  
(Traditionally said 15 times a day from St. Andrew's Day until Christmas.)

*In Praise of St. Nicholas*

With our hearts and songs in unison, let us exult on this festive solemnity of blessed Nicholas. When a babe in his cradle, he began to fast, and thus deserved, before weaned from the breast, the joys of heaven.

There was in his soul the most tender compassion, which prompted him to bestow continual benefits on those who suffered oppression.

He averted infamy from virgins by the gold he gave; and by the same he relieved their father's poverty. There is an unction, which thy merciful prayers must get us from the Lord. It is that unction which healed the wound of Magdalene's many sins.

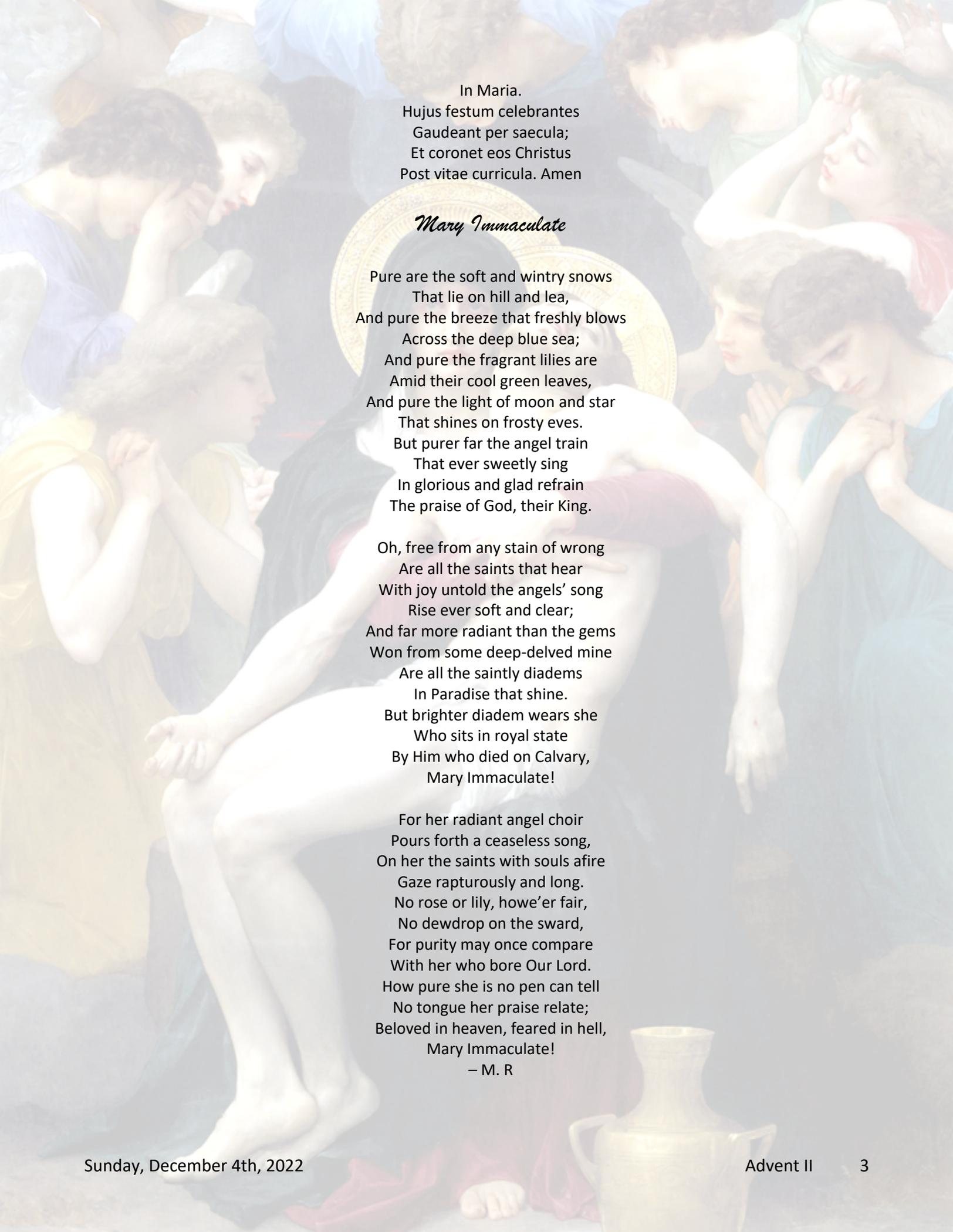
May they that keep this feast come to the eternal joys; and may Jesus crown them after this life is run.  
Amen.

A very medieval sequence by Adam of Saint-Victor, a classic of its genre, it influenced many other such texts. Our translation is unfortunately prose, but the Latin read aloud readily yields its rhythm:

Congaudentes exultemus  
Vocali concordia,  
Ad beati Nicolai  
Festiva solemnia.  
Qui in cunis adhuc jacens,  
Servando jejunia;  
A papillis coepit summa  
Promereri gaudia.

Erat in ejus animo  
Pietas eximia,  
Et oppressis impendebat  
Multa beneficia.  
Auro per eum virginum  
Tollitur infamia,  
Atque patris earumdem  
Levatur inopia.

Ipsam nobis unctionem  
Impetres a Domino,  
Prece pia:  
Quae sanavit laesionem  
Multorum peccaminum



In Maria.  
Hujus festum celebrantes  
Gaudeant per saecula;  
Et coronet eos Christus  
Post vitae curricula. Amen

### *Mary Immaculate*

Pure are the soft and wintry snows  
That lie on hill and lea,  
And pure the breeze that freshly blows  
Across the deep blue sea;  
And pure the fragrant lilies are  
Amid their cool green leaves,  
And pure the light of moon and star  
That shines on frosty eyes.  
But purer far the angel train  
That ever sweetly sing  
In glorious and glad refrain  
The praise of God, their King.

Oh, free from any stain of wrong  
Are all the saints that hear  
With joy untold the angels' song  
Rise ever soft and clear;  
And far more radiant than the gems  
Won from some deep-delved mine  
Are all the saintly diadems  
In Paradise that shine.  
But brighter diadem wears she  
Who sits in royal state  
By Him who died on Calvary,  
Mary Immaculate!

For her radiant angel choir  
Pours forth a ceaseless song,  
On her the saints with souls afire  
Gaze rapturously and long.  
No rose or lily, howe'er fair,  
No dewdrop on the sward,  
For purity may once compare  
With her who bore Our Lord.  
How pure she is no pen can tell  
No tongue her praise relate;  
Beloved in heaven, feared in hell,  
Mary Immaculate!

– M. R



### *A Prayer to Mary Immaculate*

O Virgin Immaculate, thou who by a singular privilege of grace wast preserved from original sin, look in pity upon our separated brethren, who are nevertheless thy children, and call them back to the center of unity.

Not a few of them, although separated from the Church, have kept a certain veneration for thee; and do thou, generous as thou art, reward them for it, by obtaining for them the grace of conversion.

Thou was conqueror of the infernal serpent from the first instant of thy existence; renew even now, for it is now more necessary than ever before, thine ancient triumphs; glorify thy divine Son, bring back to Him the sheep that have strayed from the one fold and place them once more under the guidance of the universal Shepherd who holds the place of thy Son on earth; let it be thy glory, O Virgin who destroyest all heresies to restore unity and peace to all Christian people. Amen.

### *In Praise of the Immaculate Virgin*

O pure and immaculate and likewise blessed Virgin, who art the sinless Mother of thy Son, the mighty Lord of the universe, thou who art inviolate and altogether holy, the hope of the hopeless and sinful, we sing thy praises. We bless thee, as full of every grace, thou who didst bear the God-Man: we all bow low before thee;

we invoke thee and implore thine aid. Rescue us, O holy and inviolate Virgin, from every necessity that presses upon us and from all the temptations of the devil. Be our intercessor and advocate at the hour of death and judgment; deliver us from the fire that is not extinguished and from the outer darkness; make us worthy of the glory of thy Son, O dearest and most clement Virgin Mother. Thou indeed art our only hope, most sure and sacred in God's sight, to whom be honor and glory, majesty and dominion for ever and ever world without end. Amen.

-Saint Ephrem the Syrian

### *Set Your Missal*

Second Sunday of Advent. Second Collect of St Peter Chrysologus, third of St Barbara. Trinity Preface.