



Our Lady of Sorrows Mission

Mass Location:

Vintage Villas Hotel & Events - Travis Room
4209 Eck Lane Austin Texas 78734 Austin, TX

Mass Schedule:

Sunday, March 7th, 2021 Mass – 6:00pm, Confessions – 5:30pm

Contact information: Fr. Stephen McKenna

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Note From Father

Dear Faithful,

It looks like the beginnings of spring have begun. Even Grand Forks is projected to be fairly warm, going forward (early for them). It's still cool at nighttime, but by the time the sun rises above the church roof, the light frost begins to melt and it starts to become mild. I have already seen the turkey vultures, ominously circling in the sky to find the remnants of any unfortunate creature who didn't make it through the winter.

We had two deaths in as many weeks at St. Gertrude's, both of long-time parishioners. Fortunately, they both were able to receive the last rites before dying and had multiple visits from the priests to pray with them and to help them die. Unfortunately for one of them, he hadn't made his wishes crystal clear in writing, despite speaking it many times from his death bed. His family, thinking only of themselves and disregarding the fact that the man had volunteered to do work at our church and called it his spiritual home, decided to have a private funeral and burial. We will give him a proper Requiem Mass and bless his grave, regardless...but it is so sad to see Godless family deny a faithful man his final request. Be sure that your final wishes are clearly stated. This may necessitate designating someone to be in charge of your affairs who isn't your nearest relation.

I embark today on a mission trip, which has me traveling every day for over a week. During the trip, I will say Mass at all of the missions I am in charge of and also at our chapel in Milwaukee,



St. Hugh of Lincoln. It will be a very busy week, but it is necessary so that everyone can have a Mass before Holy Week and Easter.

I hope that your Lent is going well thus far. We are approaching the halfway point of our forty days and it is at this time that people often waiver and struggle the most with their Lenten resolutions and sacrifices...when we are neither close to the beginning nor the end. Be encouraged! These efforts will bear great spiritual fruits for you, in the end. If you have already waived, there is still plenty of time remaining for you to make the most of this holy season and end it well.

In Christ,

Fr. McKenna

Daily Prayers of Reparation for Lent

Join St. Gertrude's in praying these prayers each day of Lent for Our Country and the World

Prayer to the Eternal Father for our Country

Eternal Father, we offer Thee the adorable Face of Thy well-beloved Son, for the honor and glory of Thy Holy Name and for the salvation of the United States.

The Golden Arrow Prayer

May the most holy, most sacred, most adorable, most incomprehensible and unutterable Name of God be forever praised, blessed, loved, adored, and glorified in heaven, on earth, and under the earth, by all the creatures of God, and by the Sacred Heart of Our Lord Jesus Christ, in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar. Amen.

Devotion to the Holy Face

In Tours, France during the 1840s a young Carmelite nun received a series of revelations from Our Lord about a powerful devotion He wished to be established worldwide—the devotion to His Holy Face. The express purpose of this devotion was to make reparation for the blasphemies and outrages of “revolutionary men” [the Communists] through whom God is allowing the world to be chastised for its unbelief, as well as for the blasphemies of atheists and freethinkers and others, plus, for blasphemy and the profanation of Sundays by Christians. Specifically, this devotion is the Divine tool given by God to defeat Communism, but it is also an instrument given to the individual devotee as a seemingly unailing method of appealing to God in prayer—through adoration of His Holy Face and Name.

Our Lord gave Sister Mary a short but powerful prayer called “The Golden Arrow,” by which a person can “shoot directly into the Heart of God” to heal the wounds inflicted on it by the malice of sinners. Of the nine promises connected with this devotion, the first three are 1) “By My Holy Face you will work

miracles;" 2) "By My Face you will obtain the conversion of many sinners;" and 3) "Nothing you ask in making this offering will be refused to you." This devotion brought St. Therese to her great sanctity.

Anyone who is searching for a spiritual method for fighting atheism, socialism, materialism and paganism and its programs and/or who is searching for a virtually infallible method of prayer will be delighted with The Golden Arrow devotions.

"Just as in an earthly kingdom money which is stamped with the picture of the sovereign or ruling executive of the country procures whatever one desires to purchase, so likewise in the Kingdom of Heaven, you shall obtain all that you desire by offering the coin of My precious Humanity which is My adorable Face."

-Our Lord to Sr. Mary of St. Peter

Let nothing obscure the Face of Christ!" must be my formula of life toward God, neighbor and myself; giving praise to God, being glad for His presence within me, and relating His wonders to my neighbor.

The theme-hymn of Catholic Action: Seek God, only He can fill our needs. However, He will hide His Face if we become too absorbed in the face of created things.

Christ hides His Face from the proud who exalt themselves, who lay oppressive burdens on their neighbor and ignore God in all their works.

*"With deadly hatred banded,
Schism walks forth today,
The holiest laws defying,
Impatient of their sway;
And My Face, that highest rapture
In the vision of the blest,
With constant memory cruel
Of their outrage is impressed."*

Prayer for Purity

O good Jesus, I know that every perfect gift and, above all others, that of chastity depends on the powerful action of Thy divine Providence; I know that without Thee a creature can do nothing. This is why I beseech Thee to defend, by Thy grace, the purity of my soul and of my body. And if I have ever received any impression whatsoever of a sentiment capable of soiling this ineffable virtue, do Thou, O supreme Master of my faculties, blot it out from my soul, that with a clean heart I may advance in Thy love and in Thy service, offering myself chaste all the days of my life on the most-pure altar of Thy divinity. It is the Cross that I adore. The Cross of the Lord is with me. The Cross is my refuge. Amen.

-Saint Thomas Aquinas

Act of Reparation

Oh Good Jesus, in gratitude for Thy many graces, and in sorrow for many abuses of these graces, I wish at this moment, both for ever criminal, to make an Act of solemn Reparation. Listen, then, O merciful Saviour of our souls, listen to these Acts of Faith, these expressions of sorrow:

For the irreverence we have committed in the House of God- *I wish to make reparation*

For our careless and distracted attendance at Sunday Mass- *I wish to make reparation*

For our lack of preparation before, and our poor thanksgiving after Holy Communion- *I wish to make reparation*

For our failure to co-operate with Thy daily graces- *I wish to make reparation*

For our sins of pride, sensuality and of our entire life- *I wish to make reparation*

For our bad example and the sins we have caused in others- *I wish to make reparation*

For the frightful blasphemies uttered against Thee and Thine Immaculate Mother- *I wish to make reparation*

For the deplorable untruths of heresy for all deserters and apostates- *I wish to make reparation*

For the pleasure-seeking and money-mad profaners of the Lord's Day- *I wish to make reparation*

For the sacrilegious treatment of Thy churches and altars- *I wish to make reparation*

For the diabolical agents of hell, ever seeking whom they may devour- *I wish to make reparation*

For the heart-breaking outrages committed by those who should be Thy greatest consolation- *I wish to make reparation*

"O Love neglected! O Goodness but too little known"

