



Our Lady of Sorrows

Traditional Catholic Mission Central Texas

Upcoming Mass Details:

Monday, November 8, 2022

Mass – 6:00pm, Confession – 5:30pm

Vintage Villas, Travis Room: 4209 Eck Lane, Austin, TX 78734

Contact information:

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Note From Father

Dear Faithful,

I have finally returned the ISIS truck...but it didn't leave easy. In fact, my trip home a rough one. I drove from Grand Forks to Fargo, only to get notice right before I got to the airport that my flight was canceled. At the desk, I was then informed there were no seats available the next day as well. The attendant then booked me on a flight out of Minneapolis...just an additional four hours of driving in my "beloved" truck to get to the Twin Cities. It took longer to land in O'Hare than usual, due to heavy storms and then we taxied for half an hour before getting to the gate. After running across the entire terminal, I arrived at my gate to find that it had already closed, and I wasn't going to be let on my plane. I hustled all the way back to where I arrived, because I knew the gate next to my arrival gate had a flight to Dayton...the last flight to Ohio that night. The agent informed me that all the seats were taken. However, I waited until everyone boarded and was rewarded to find that one person had not arrived, and the seat was mine. I got on the plane...and we were delayed, sitting on the tarmac for 45 minutes until we finally took off and I arrived home. Better late than never.

Travel has been more difficult, as of late, but whenever I am able to get to all the places I need to go to and bring the sacraments to the faithful across the land, I am happy and such inconveniences are just part of the effort. Sacramental graces delivered to hopefully help make ordinary people into saints.

Speaking of Saints, it is a busy liturgical weekend this weekend. Sunday is the feast of Christ the King, Monday is All Saints Day (a Holy Day of Obligation), and Tuesday is the feast of All Souls Day. On Sunday, I will be the celebrant for the Solemn High Mass, where the little tikes will dress up as Saints and lead our procession into the Church. After the Mass, our little saints will head to the social hall, where they will present the story of their saints' lives and see if Bp. Dolan, our resident hagiographer, will try to guess who they are dressed up as. He rarely misses, but this has led the children to dig deeper into their Saint books and find lesser-known saints, in an attempt to stump him.

Christ the King and All Saints Day are great days of celebration. We, the Church Militant, consecrate ourselves and our country to Our Lord, recognizing His rightful reign over us. On All Souls Day, we celebrate and invoke the prayers of all the Church Triumphant. We strive to follow in the footsteps of all these heroes who have already won their incorruptible crown of glory in Heaven. But Tuesday, Our Gold is traded for black and our solemn and joyous hymns for the somber *Dies Irae*, doing our duty to pray for all the Church Suffering, that they may obtain Eternal Paradise more

quickly and find relief from their purging pain. Three days, showing the unity of all the members of the Mystical Body of Christ. Our Church is so rich and glorious!

In Christ,

Fr. McKenna

St. Augustine on the Beatitudes

If anyone piously and earnestly ponders the Discourse which Our Lord Jesus Christ delivered on the Mount – as we read in the Gospel according to Matthew – I believe that he will find therein, with regard to good morals, the perfect standard of the Christian life. We do not venture to make this statement rashly; we infer it from the very words of the Lord Himself. Indeed, that Discourse is brought to a conclusion in such a manner that it evidently contains all the precepts which pertain to the formation of such a life, for the Lord brings it to a close with the following words: ‘Everyone therefore who hears these words of mine and acts according to them, I shall liken him to a wise man who built his house on a rock: the rain fell, the floods came, the winds blew and beat against that house; but it did not fall, for it had its foundation on a rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine, and does not act according to them, I shall liken him to a foolish man who built his house on sand: the rain fell, the floods came, the winds blew and beat against that house; and it fell, and great was its ruin.’ Therefore – since He did not say merely ‘Who hears my words,’ but said, furthermore, ‘Who hears these words of mine’ – He has, I believe, made it sufficiently clear that the words which He spoke on the Mount give such complete instruction for the conduct of those who wish to live in accordance with them that those men are rightly compared to one who builds upon a rock. I have made this observation so that it may be clear that this Discourse is thoroughly composed of all the precepts by which the Christian life is formed.

Prayer for the Poor Souls

God is well pleased with prayer for the Suffering Souls, and therefore we may rest assured that it will attain its object. If God hears our prayer when we ask for transitory things, how much the more so will He hear it when we pray for the deliverance of the Suffering Souls, whom He ardently loves and who are destined for and sure of enjoying with Him His bliss for all eternity. Hence St. Bernard touchingly remarks: “I will invoke the Lord with mournful lamentations, I will beseech Him with continual sighing. I will remember the departed in my prayers, hoping that the Lord will cast a pitying glance on them, and will change their torments into rest, their distress into ineffable glory. By such means their time of punishment can be shortened, their pains and torments mitigated.” No less aptly does Thomas a Kempis observe: “Therefore let us pray for our dear ones, whom we shall follow in a short time, that hereafter they may remember us in our distress and sufferings; but let us always pray with fervent devotion and attention.

Special Offering for the Souls in Purgatory

O God of love, Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ, on this altar behold the unbloody Sacrifice of the Body and Blood of Thy Son, representing that of His most holy death and grievous Passion, which He, the great High-Priest, offered Thee on Calvary. In consideration of this holocaust of sweet odor, have mercy on the souls in purgatory; open to them the gates of heaven that they may love and praise Thee, and enjoy Thee eternally in the abode of the saints. Together with the sufferings of Thy divine Son, I likewise offer Thee the sorrows of His blessed Mother, whose soul was crucified at the foot of her Son’s cross; for the lance which pierced the side and heart of

Jesus, Thine adorable Son, also transfixed the soul and heart of Mary, according to Simeon's prophecy, and made her the queen of martyrs. Behold then, O heavenly Father! the disfigured countenance of Thy Son on the cross and the sorrowful heart of His Mother at the foot of the cross; and by the merits of all the sufferings of Thy Son and of His blessed Mother, grant eternal repose to the souls in purgatory.

- St. Alphonsus Liguori

Prayer of St. Gertrude to the Saints in Heaven

I salute you through the Heart of Jesus, O all ye holy angels and saints of God; I rejoice in your glory and I give thanks to our Lord for all the benefits which He has showered upon you; I praise Him, and glorify Him, and offer you for an increase of your joy and honor, the most gentle heart of Jesus. Deign therefore, to pray for me that I may become according to the heart of God. Amen.

Efficacy of the Rosary for the Suffering Souls

(From the Manual of the Purgatorial Society 1907)

St. Dominic declared that the redemption of the holy souls from Purgatory is one of the principal effects of the Rosary. The venerable Alanus writes that many of the brethren had assured him that numerous souls had appeared to them whilst reciting the Rosary, and had declared that next to the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass there was no more powerful means of helping the suffering souls than the Rosary. And numerous souls were daily released thereby, who otherwise would have been obliged to remain there for years. St. Alphonsus Liguori, therefore, says: "If we wish to be of assistance to the souls in Purgatory, we must always remember them in our prayers to the Blessed Virgin Mary, and especially offer the holy Rosary for them."

Let us then frequently and with devotion recite the Rosary, which is so pleasing to our Blessed Mother, recommended most especially by Holy Church, discloses to us a rich source of grace, and is so efficacious in relieving the suffering souls and opening Heaven to them. Should our labor prevent us from reciting the entire Rosary every day, let us, at least, say a part of it. This simple homage to the Queen of Heaven will draw great blessing down upon us. And the holy souls will be wonderfully consoled and relieved if this devotion be offered in their behalf.

Prayer:

Graciously hear, O Lord, the prayer we offer Thee in the holy Rosary in honor of Mary, Thy Virgin Mother, for the relief of the souls in Purgatory, while in devout meditation upon Thy holy life and suffering we implore Thy Divine assistance. Thou, who livest and reignest, world without end. Amen.

Special Intercession: Pray for the souls who were most devoted to the holy Rosary. Lord grant them eternal rest, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen. (Three times.)

Practice: Recite the Rosary for the suffering souls.

Invocation: My Jesus, mercy!