

ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

4900 Rialto Road, West Chester, Ohio 45069 • (513) 645-4212 • www.sgg.org • www.SGGResources.org
Traditional Latin Mass: Sundays 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM High, 11:30 AM, 5:45 PM



Most Reverend Daniel L. Dolan, Pastor
Rev. Anthony Cekada, Rev. Charles McGuire,
Rev. Vili Lehtoranta, Rev. Stephen McKenna

November 17, 2013 Solemnity of St. Gertrude the Great

Pentecost XXVI St Gregory Thaumaturgus, BpC
St Hugh of Lincoln, BpC



I WILL UTTER THINGS HIDDEN
FROM THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD

✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today is the 33rd anniversary of the dedication of our first church in Sharonville; 35th anniversary of the founding of St. Gertrude's Mission, and the happy tenth anniversary of our new church home. No Sunday Classes today. The blessing of expectant mothers will be offered next week.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament continues all day, as our Forty Hours Devotion concludes. Won't you linger a bit after Mass to spend some time with Our Lord? Fr. Nkamuke will be imparting his first priestly blessing following all Masses today. A reception in his honor will take place in Helfta Hall following the High Mass. Solemn Vespers are at 4:45 PM. Come back this evening for the Closing Ceremonies with procession and Benediction, commencing at 6:45 PM, a brief but solemn service to finish our Forty Hours Prayer.

✠ ALTER CHRISTUS

Thank you for almsgiving this month. A total of \$111 was received, which will provide for six Masses for the support and sanctification of priests.

"I could not forget to pray for all the missionaries as well as the simple priests, whose mission is sometimes as difficult to fulfill as that of the apostles, preaching to the unfaithful."

— St. Thérèse of Lisieux

Lumen Christi

The Sanctuary Lamp will burn before the Blessed Sacrament for the next fortnight for the following intention:

**Conversion of my children
to the true Faith**
(Joan Landry)

✠ THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LADY NOVEMBER 21ST

"Mary was brought by her parents to the Temple at Jerusalem in order that the Rod of Jesse from whence the Flower of Nazareth would blossom should be preserved from all danger in the shadow of the sanctuary. This should be a lesson to all, but especially to parents who cannot guard the innocence of their children more surely than by accustoming them from an early age to prayer and to frequent reception of the Sacraments." *Masses on the feast of the Presentation are at 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM.*



✠ NEXT SUNDAY

Next week is the last "Green Sunday" for A.D. 2013. Catechism Classes are at the usual time of 10:40 AM. The blessing of expectant mothers will be available after all Masses, at the Communion rail.

Set Your Missal: Last Sunday After Pentecost, with commemoration of St. John of the Cross and St. Chrysogonus. Trinity Preface.

"Can you conceive the comfort you receive in the midst of even the most trifling domestic occupations when you turn your eyes toward the tabernacle?"
— St. John de Brébeuf

✠ PLEASE PRAY

Please keep Fr. Kevin Vaillancourt in your prayers, as well as H.O. Hinton, Jeff Kamphaus, Barb Steinmetz, Kim LeBlanc, Doris Jeanne Campbell, Jane Donadio, Bee Lutkehaus, and all our sick and shut-in.

Servers: NOVEMBER 18 - 24, 2013

FRI 11/22 5:45 PM LOW: Friday Night Servers

SAT 11/23 7:30 AM LOW: Simpsons
8:10 AM LOW: M. Briggs

SUN 11/24 7:30 AM LOW: Brueggemann Bros.
9:00 AM HIGH: MASS MC: B. Lotarski
SERVER MC: T. Simpson, Sr.
ACS: J. Lacy, P. Omlor
TH: S. Arlinghaus **TORCH:** A. Soli,
T. Lawrence, C. Arlinghaus, C. Richesson
11:30 AM LOW: A.D. Kinnett, N. McClorey
5:45 PM LOW: G. Miller

✠ SERVER NOTICE

All Torchbearers who have been serving since last year should by now know their responses. There will be a test, through the Confiteor, on December 22nd.



*O Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament,
have mercy on us!*
(An indulgence of 300 days — Raccolta No.134)

Collection Report

Sunday, November 10th.....\$4,738.00

✠ PURGATORY, PRISON, PRESENTATION, PRAYER, POETRY ✠

PURGATORY

The pain of purgatory purifies and prepares the soul for eternal joy. This joy carries them through their suffering. Self-centeredness and selfishness are stripped away as the souls in Purgatory become what God meant them to be on earth: Saints entirely in love with Him. They can in no way accelerate the healing of purgatory's "Fire of Joy." Their utter passivity is probably the reason they are called the "poor souls". Helpless of themselves, they can be helped! They can be helped by our prayers, alms and the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

They cannot receive the Sacraments or offer acts of mortification in expiation for their sins, but *we can!* What better way to please Christ than coming to the aid of the poorest of the poor: the helpless souls in Purgatory.

There are some who have a special claim to our charity: parents, brothers, sisters, teachers, and the priests who brought us the Sacraments. Perhaps, there are thousands of others in Purgatory who have won special graces for us, whom we shall never know ... an old woman who suffered patiently and endured pain for some poor sinner known only to God. We are all branches of the Vine, Christ, and we can help one another....The shortest prayer. the smallest act done for the love of God can become a lever to Heaven for the souls in Purgatory.

— *Dedicated Decades*



Behold, then, the most proper method of assisting with fruit at holy Mass. Go to the church as if you were going to Calvary, and behave yourself before the altar as before the throne of God, in company with the holy angels.
— St. Leonard of Port Maurice

Tell Me

*Were you lonely in the Temple
With the dark-eyed Jewish girls?
Did you miss the way the dear Saint Anne
Brushed out your shining curls?*

*Did you like springtime processions
When the apple blossoms swayed
And you clasped a lighted candle
In your virgin hand and prayed:*

*"Let me be His little handmaid
When Our Saviour comes to men."
Dreamed you ever, wistful Mary,
Your part in Bethlehem?*

*O Child of Predilection,
Whom the Trinity loved most,
Wooded through the restless ages
By God the Holy Ghost!*

— *Sr. M. Anselma, C.S.C.*

An Efficacious Prayer to St. Gertrude

I praise and greet thee, O most blessed virgin, Gertrude, through the sweetest Heart of Jesus, thy Spouse; and through that Heart I magnify the goodness and condescension of the ever-adorable Trinity for all the grace which has ever flowed forth from that unfathomable abyss for thy salvation; beseeching thee by that mutual love which united thy pure heart to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, that thou wouldst look on me as commended to thy care in life and in death, and be my faithful advocate with God. Amen.

PRISON THOUGHTS

"I am completely at home in this little cell. I haven't been bored once. On the contrary, I am alone, yes, but never has the Lord been so near to me. I could shout for joy that He has allowed Himself to be found by me, without me meeting people or people being allowed to meet me. He is now my sole refuge and I feel safe and happy. I am willing to remain here always, if He will allow me to. Rarely have I been so happy and content.

"Don't yield to hatred. We are here in a dark tunnel but we have to go on. At the end, the eternal light is shining for us."

— *Fr. Titus Brandsma, O.C.D. (1881-1942)*

Fr. Brandsma was a Catholic priest imprisoned, cruelly beaten, eventually murdered by the Nazis.

ORDINATION

I am a priest forever.
All the loneliness of the years
And the pain of fears
That pained my heart and nurtured
Silent tears
Are quieted
In the strong embrace of Love
Divine.
And the Breath of Power
That made the stars
To shine
Through our prison bars
Is mine
To command
The Lord of Glory and the God of
Hosts.

— *John J. Holbrook*



TRANSUBSTANTIATION

Come, let us make eternal
And sip of the Blood of God, —
Drink till our souls become vernal
As flowers upon Aaron's rod.

Come, let us feast with high angels
Of Flesh than can never fail, —
Feed as the Blessed Evengels
Who supped from the Holy Graal.

Come, let us rise up and sever
This bondage of dust and of breath,
Living for ever and ever
The life that outliveth all death.

— *Shane Leslie*



Hidden Lord, through Your Eucharist You give me Your resurrection to transform me into You. I accept You in the silence of my soul, and our exchange becomes one of love.

✠ THE BISHOP'S CORNER ✠

May the blessings of these Forty Hours be with you every hour of every day of your life! “I was sick or in prison and you visited me.” *Did* you? You have been to Mass, certainly, and Holy Communion, probably. But did you *visit* our Lord, Who is sick with love for you, and self-imprisoned in the tabernacle just for you? He is waiting *for you*.

Make your Forty Hours visit today. Come back. Spend some time. Just chat or sit silently, tell your beads or read some beautiful prayers. But visit Him! You may gain a Plenary Indulgence by so doing, reciting your six Paters, Aves and Glorias, with Confession and Communion within a week, and all affection for sin banished from your soul. Visit Him; He will do that much and so much more for you!

Our priests of late have been visiting not only the sick and shut-in, but also prisoners. So far, due to regulations and red tape or outright impossibility, they have not been able to bring the Blessed Sacrament for Holy Communion, but the personal visit, the time spent and concern shown, as well as the prayers, all count for so much. Pray for our prisoners too.

Well, **Fr. Larrabee** was sprung from his almond grove last week to pay us a little visit out here in the Ohio Valley. It was wonderful to see him here again, and to hear about his good work assisting **Fr. Zapp**'s well developed apostolate in Martinez and Modesto, California.

Similarly, it was good to visit with the Brooksville Fathers, **Fr. Selway**, **Fr. Desposito** and **Fr. Fliess** at the recent ordination, as well as the two priests from Michigan, **Fr. Ahern** and **Fr. Saavedra**. These visits remind me – and should do the same for thee – of how *many* we priests are, and increasing each year (be encouraged), doing the same work with the same unchanged Catholic Faith and Mass, throughout the world. When you make your visit today, be sure to thank Our Lord, and to lift up His priests in grateful prayer.

Of course, we are all so grateful for our new priest, **Fr. Bede Nkamuke**, who visits us this weekend for one of his first Solemn High Masses, and to give us his priestly blessing. Already we feel close to this new Alter Christus, and his homeland, the site of his future apostolic labors in Africa.

Two of the directors of **Restoration Radio** favored us with a visit after the ordination. Stephen Heiner, the founder, spent several days with us, planning next year's expanded season of shows, which will include an increased number of our priests, and many popular topics. Each day the importance of this new apostolate increases, and more souls are reached, solaced, informed, and instructed. The fields, and radio waves, are white for the harvest. Tune in, and support Restoration Radio.

Speaking of visits, be sure to visit our **SGGResources.org** page, and **Fr. Cekada**'s interesting Quidlibet offerings. His last two, about marriage prospects (see today's bulletin supplement) and the tradition of organ playing, are particularly interesting. Another fine aspect of life at St. Gertrude.

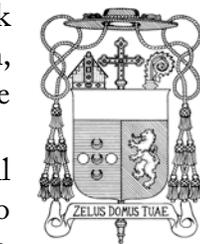
The **McFathers** and the Crown Victoria, somewhat the worse for wear, finally limped back home late Tuesday night. It was quite the adventure, but God's will sometimes prolongs a visit. I'm sure the Fathers and faithful in Florida enjoyed it.

Finally, we had a good size group, at least 30 souls, to visit Gate of Heaven Cemetery and pray the Rosary last Sunday afternoon for the Poor Souls. The weather was cold but sunny, perfect for our prayer peregrinations among the graves. But how bare a modern cemetery with its sunken markers seems in comparison with the splendid old Catholic cemeteries, whose statues and symbols and stones speak of our Catholic Faith and of the hope and comfort it affords.

As we prayed the 15 decades for all the Poor Souls, we visited †Sr. Gerard's grave, as well as those of †Albert Kinnett (ten years in December), †Cheryl Maki, †Stella Simpson, and †Eileen Bartels. May they, and all of our dear dead, rest in peace.

Martinmas usually brings us a last bit of Summer, but last week Winter came and gave us a playful bite, as a cat would. All was white for a day, and cold but not too, for the coming attractions. Actually, it was Winter on its good behavior, as the roads were not too bad, and this visitor did not overstay its welcome. I have the feeling St. Martin's Summer may visit us yet.

God visit your home and family with His loving presence this week!



– Bishop Dolan

✠ THE CALENDAR

All Sunday Masses, school day Masses, Friday evening and Saturday morning Masses are webcast at www.sgg.org

- MON 11/18/13 DEDICATION OF THE BASILICAS OF SS PETER AND PAUL**
11:20 AM **High Mass** †Fr. Martin Stepanich, OFM, STD -First Anniversary (*Samantha*)
- TUE 11/19/13 ST ELIZABETH, W ST PONTIANUS, PM**
7:00 AM **Low Mass** †Paul Puglielli, Sr. (*Paul Puglielli, Jr.*)
8:00 AM **Low Mass** Jeff Kamphaus (*Connie Kamphaus*)
11:20 AM **High Mass** Poor Souls-gratitude-Sharon Patton (*DJR*)
5:00 PM **Low Mass** Bishop Dolan's intentions
- WED 11/20/13 ST FELIX OF VALOIS, C**
8:00 AM **Low Mass** Poor Souls-gratitude-John Boyd & family (*DJR*)
11:20 AM **High Mass** Poor Souls-gratitude-Honor of the Holy Ghost (*DJR*)
5:00 PM **Low Mass** Bishop Dolan's intentions
6:30 PM **Choir Practice**
- THU 11/21/13 THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LADY**
8:00 AM **Low Mass** †Robert Duff, †Maria Duff (*Patton family*)
11:20 AM **High Mass** Poor Souls-gratitude-Chris Ritze & family (*DJR*)
5:00 PM **Low Mass** Bishop Dolan's Intentions
- FRI 11/22/13 ST CECILIA, VM**
8:00 AM **Low Mass** †Stella Simpson-birthday (11/8) (*Tom Simpson*)
10:55 AM **Confessions**
11:20 AM **High Mass** †Pres. John F. Kennedy-50th anniversary (*Lotarski family*)
5:15 PM **Confessions & Rosary**
5:45 PM **Low Mass** †Cathy Nienaber (*Simpson family*)
6:30 PM **Sacred Heart Novena & Benediction**
- SAT 11/23/13 OCTAVE DAY OF ST GERTRUDE THE GREAT ST CLEMENT, PM ST FELICITY, M**
7:10 AM **Confessions**
7:30 AM **Low Mass** †Ron Clingman (*Simpson family*)
8:10 AM **Sermon, Low Mass** MEK Special intention (*G. Keaveney*)
- SUN 11/24/13 LAST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST ST JOHN OF THE CROSS, CD ST CHRYSOGONUS, M**
7:05 AM **Rosary**
7:30 AM **Low Mass** Our children & Godchildren (*Dale & Debbie Wilker*)
9:00 AM **High Mass** Santo Niño de Atocha (*Mr. & Mrs. Frank A. Rios Jr. & family*)

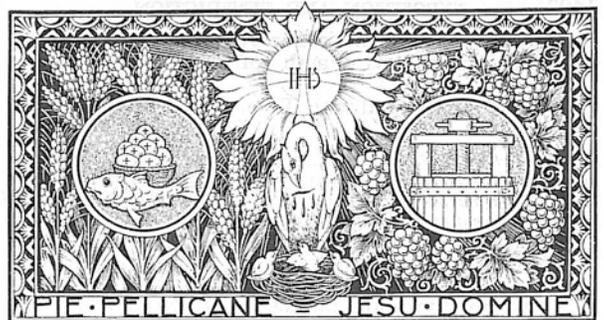
Offering for the Foreign Missions

O God of love! In all humility and confidence I offer Thee the immaculate heart of Mary together with the loving Heart of Jesus our Lord, who gave Himself upon the Cross of Calvary and still offers Himself upon the altar to sanctify and save the souls of men. In loving union with this sacrifice of infinite value, I offer Thee my whole being, O my God, and all my prayers and sufferings, all my sorrows and labors, my life and my death, in order to fulfil Thy divine will in my own soul, to sanctify all missionaries and their native clergy, to obtain the grace of perseverance for their converts as well as the conversion of all sinners and unbelievers in their missions.

An indulgence of 500 days. A plenary indulgence on the usual conditions, if this prayer is devoutly said daily for a month (S. P. Ap., Nov. 25, 1920 and June 5, 1933).

Those who go often to Mass during the week, do their work very much better than those who, for want of faith, think they have no time for it.

— St. John Vianney, the Curé of Ars



“To die for Christ is not to sacrifice one's youth, but to renew it. Jesus Christ returns a hundredfold for all offered Him, and adds to it eternal life.”

— St. Cecilia

(Feast day, November 22nd)

● ————— ●
10:40 AM **Sunday Catechism Classes**

11:05 AM **Rosary**

11:30 AM **Low Mass** Jeff Kamphaus (*Danny Kamphaus*)

5:45 PM **Low Mass** For the people of St. Gertrude the Great

: QUIDLIBET : SGG Young Person's Field Guide to Potential Trad Spouses

by Rev. Anthony Cekada

frcekada.com

IT ISN'T easy to be young and a traditional Catholic these days. Practicing the faith – and even just getting to Sunday Mass – requires a lot more effort and determination now than it did when I was growing up in the balmy pre-Vatican II era, and Mass was just a short bike ride away.

Then there is conflict among different traditionalist groups. While the average young Catholic pre-Vatican II encountered no doctrinal or disciplinary disagreements, and could safely go from one Latin Mass to another without worry and be left in complete peace, now he often encounters doctrinal problems and other types of disputes. I have addressed this issue before in a talk called *Young People and Conflict among Trad*s that I posted on Quidlibet last year.

To this there is joined another acute problem: If I am serious about practicing my faith, how do I find a spouse who is likewise serious about the faith? How could the differences among various traditionalist groups affect my potential choices?

Sometimes, too, young trads – and alas even many older ones! – wrongly believe that the only issue is “the Latin Mass.” Any group or priest that offers a Latin Mass is just fine. But “**the Latin Mass**” is not the whole story because trads are in fact engaged in a battle against the **doctrinal errors of Vatican II** and the false pope and hierarchy who adhere to them.

Our high school catechism teacher here at St. Gertrude the Great (SGG) asked me to speak to his students about the topic this past Sunday. To keep the issues and groups clear, I came up with a one-page chart as a “field guide.” Since the problem that occasioned it and the issues it addresses are of general interest to faithful Catholics, I decided to make it available here. (You can click on the chart to enlarge it.)

A few explanatory notes are in order.

SGG, SGG Approved Chapels List, CMRI: Obviously, potential spouses from the chapels in the first three columns are on the proverbial same page as regards Vati-

can II, the false popes, and Holy Orders of priests in their chapels. They are all sedevacantist – that is, they believe the papal see is vacant. I've listed the numbers of chapels in these categories in order to show young people that their possibilities for encountering potential spouses is not limited to one local chapel.

We at St. Gertrude the Great have taken the firm position that, since the post-Vatican II popes are heretics and therefore *false* popes, it is objectively a sin to participate in traditional Latin Masses that name them as *true* popes in the Canon of the Mass. (For a short explanation of the reasons, see my two articles at traditionalmass.org.) Such Masses, sometimes called “*una cum* Masses” (from the Latin phrase used to insert the name of the false pope into the Canon) are offered by the Society of St. Pius X, certain independent traditional priests, SSPX affiliates, the Fraternity of St. Peter and others. Since you know and believe Francis is a *false* pope, you should not participate actively in a Mass that proclaims he is a *true* pope.

For the sake of avoiding misunderstanding, I must note here that CMRI and other clergy on our approved chapels list disagree with this position, and see nothing wrong assisting at *una cum* Masses if nothing else is available. I even held that position at one time myself, but rather extensive research into the issues forced me to conclude otherwise.

SSPV, Immaculate Conception: Of all the groups on the list, this causes the most problems for our young people. The clergy of SSPV and Immaculate Conception (its affiliated Cincinnati-area chapel) regard clergy at the chapels listed in the first three columns as invalidly ordained, forbid attendance at our Masses, publicly refuse the sacraments to laymen who receive sacraments at these Masses, forbid SSPV laymen to be baptismal sponsors at such chapels, etc. These policies, as you can imagine, caused great heartache and division in families, because SSPV and Immaculate Conception clergy insist that one side of a family in a marriage treat the religion of the *other* side of the family as non-Catholic.

In the case of one potential SGG/SSPV marriage, the local SSPV priest, Fr. William Jenkins, even insisted that I par-

ticipate in a *public debate* with him over SSPV policies with the couple present. Some engagement party! (Those who are interested can view the tape of the debate at [youtube.com/watch?v=OrS5GGomhdu](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OrS5GGomhdu))

Nevertheless, many lay people who go to SSPV or Immaculate Conception simply *do not believe* what their priests say on these points, and observe the SSPV policy only because of social/familial pressure, school possibilities or mere geographical convenience. On a local level here in Cincinnati, in fact, many Immaculate Conception parishioners ignore the policy entirely, and assist at Mass or receive sacraments at St. Gertrude the Great whenever convenient. (A waggish priest at St. Gertrude's, who shall remain nameless, suggested that Fr. Jenkins might therefore consider running a courtesy shuttle over to SGG as a fundraiser.)

In any event, a potential spouse from among the latter group who was willing to ignore the flack and to start going to Mass at a chapel in one of the first three columns would not therefore be a bad bet.

SSPX: While this organization recognizes the false Vatican II popes as true popes and some of its lay followers are militantly anti-sedevacantist, others are not and have no difficulty assisting at Mass at a sede chapel.

In the case of a potential spouse, sometimes contact with sedevacantist clergy will lead a lay SSPX-er to examine the sedevacantist position more closely and embrace it. This will become more common, I think, once Bergoglio ("Pope Francis") really gets his revolutionary program into gear.

MOTU PROPRIO, FSSP: These refer to organizations that offer the "Latin Mass" under the aegis of the modernist hierarchy. A problem can arise if a potential spouse's family members are really militant anti-sedevacantists or "conservative" Novus Ordo "legalists." They would regard marriages in sedevacantist churches as invalid and "schismatic."

Again, though, the contact of a potential spouse with sedevacantist clergy sometimes leads him to re-examine his position. As with SSPXers, Bergoglio has offended many conservatives by his outrageous words and actions. For a recent example of this conservative reaction, see the recent blog post by Steve Kojec, *It Doesn't Take a Rigorist: Why All Catholics Should be Concerned about Pope Francis* (blog.steveskojec.com/2013/10/03/so-apparently-im-a-rigorist).

STANDARD NOVUS ORDO: The *Novus Ordo* does not recognize our sacraments at SGG as valid, treats any marriages that we perform as null, and routinely allows spouses married here or in one of our affiliated churches to marry again.

On the other hand, since the nature of the new religion is decidedly indifferentist, potential spouses from this milieu are usually "non-militant." Contact with a traditional Catholic from one of our chapels sometimes leads them to discover the true Catholic faith for the first time.

ADDITIONAL NOTES: First, one of my hopes in founding TradCircle was that it would become a social meeting site for young traditional Catholics and hopefully, future spouses. Though we had a number of marriages come from it, this has yet to happen on any large scale, probably because of the rather fragile ecosystem of social media sites. Perhaps we will still find a way of making TradCircle (or some other social media site) effectively achieve this end in the future.

Second, what we have said here is intended to address just *one* specific issue involved in choosing a potential spouse. There are many other important points for the young Catholic to ponder as well.

Finally, and most important of all: Since Catholic marriage is a sacrament and a means of sanctification established by God, agreement between spouses on religious principles will be the key to their success in the married life.

In the matter of considering and choosing future spouses, however, I urge our young people to reject the temptation to soften or compromise the religious principles I have mentioned, should they take an interest in someone from a "Latin Mass" group that espouses questionable doctrinal ideas. Save compromise in marriage for the color of the wallpaper. When it comes to future spouses and your faith, seek instead to *convince* and *convert*. Your priests will be happy to help!

St. Raphael, patron of future spouses, pray for us!



SGG Young Person's Field Guide to Potential Trad Spouses & Their Organizations

"Goes to Latin Mass" is not the ONLY issue!!!

ISSUE	Why important	SGG	SGG List 31 chapels	CMRI 47 chapels	SSPV Immaculate Conception	SSPX	Motu Proprio St Peter Fraternity	Standard Novus Ordo
Vatican II: Accept it or not?	V2 caused all the problems in the Church. Was evil, heretical.	REJECT	REJECT	REJECT	REJECT	REJECT	ACCEPT	ACCEPT
Pope Is Francis a true pope or a false pope?	If there is a true pope, a Catholic <u>must</u> submit to him. If someone is heretic, <u>can't</u> be a true pope & we <u>must</u> reject him.	FALSE POPE because he's a heretic.	FALSE POPE because he's a heretic.	FALSE POPE because he's a heretic.	AFRAID to take public position on issue. 	"TRUE POPE!" 	"TRUE POPE!" 	"TRUE POPE!" 
Name in Canon: Put in or leave out of Canon of Mass name of false pope?	<u>Must</u> omit name, because putting it in recognizes a heretic as a real Catholic	OMIT NAME of False Pope	NAME False Pope 	NAME False Pope 	NAME False Pope 			
Valid Ordination Source of their priests' Holy Orders	If <u>invalid</u> , their priests' sacraments are invalid (= don't 'work') & give no grace.	VALID Lefebvre, Thuc	VALID Lefebvre, Thuc	VALID Thuc	VALID Lefebvre, Mendez	MOST VALID Lefebvre SOME INVALID Some priests ordained by 'new rite' bishops	INVALID Priests ordained by 'new rite' bishops	INVALID New rite priests ordained by 'new rite' bishops
Effect on Family	Can marriage cause divisions in families/ between spouses?	N/A	NO PROBLEMS	NO PROBLEMS	HORRIBLE PROBLEMS. Treat SGG clergy as invalid, refuse sacs, forbid sponsors, forbid attend SGG.	Sometimes, if potential spouse's family are really militant SSPX. But many are not.	Sometimes, if potential spouse's family are Novus Ordo conservatives.	Usually not. NovOrd types are rarely "militant" about their religion.
Join SGG? Do potential spouses ever join SGG?	Goal of religious accord within new family.	N/A	NO PROBLEMS	NO PROBLEMS	Occasionally. Many aren't convinced by ImmCon policy but only observe it because social pressure. Others reg come to SGG Masses when convenient.	Often. Some SSPX laity are sedes or not hostile to them.	Sometimes.	Frequently. Because by coming to SGG with a potential spouse they discover the true Catholic faith

The Necessity of the Mass

Reprinted from *The Ave Maria*, 1918

It is indeed the Mass that matters. Without its "hidden, unutterable sweetness" life would be too hard. From our thousand altars it daily carries heavenward the adoration and the pleading of millions of Catholic hearts, and draws down pardon for our many sins and strength to bear our many burdens. That God may be fittingly worshipped, that His wrath may be appeased, that due thanks may be rendered Him, that our souls may be comforted and strengthened, the Mass is necessary.

In the secrecy of the Catacombs the early Christians gathered by hundreds for "the Breaking of the Bread"; and went forth prepared to brave the rage of tyrants and the sufferings of the arena. Freedom dawned at last. The Church became the loved mother of nations enthroned in high places; and everywhere – in Europe and Asia and Northern Africa, in unknown continents to which her missionaries accompanied explorers, or dauntlessly led the way – the Mass was the center of Catholic life, its sweetness and its support. It was in an effort fittingly to accompany it that the most stately and beautiful of all music was composed; fittingly to enshrine it, that the great cathedrals – the noblest of all man's works – were slowly built. That they might be magnificent no sacrifice was thought great, or even accounted a sacrifice. To adorn them sculptors and painters and artists, in gold and silver and bronze, vied with one another, thinking their task light even if it required the labor of years. To cities, to whole provinces, these wonderful cathedrals were dear, because they expressed, better than any other medium, the love of each heart, – and of the heart of united Christendom, – the love of the Holy Sacrifice.

In the terrible days of England's apostasy, when to say or to hear Mass was deemed a treasonable act, brave priests said it, and brave men and women heard it; and if detected, right bravely did they pay the penalty: impoverishing fines, isolation, imprisonment, torture, death, – these were the penalties paid that the Holy Sacrifice might be offered in England; paid not by priests and religious only, but by ordinary layfolk – nobles and peasants, mothers of families and frail girls, scholars and clerks and farmers.

In the time of the Reign of Terror, when no Frenchman's life was safe and nonjuring priests were hunted like animals, they lived in hiding and said their Masses in forests, in caves – wherever they could; and the faithful walked many miles, if necessary, for the privilege of being present, although they knew well how thirsty was the

blade of the guillotine, and how pitiless the hands that wielded it. Little children made their First Communion in dark caves, and in that time of peril and of joy learned a love for Christ, and Him crucified, that was to work for the regeneration of France and the salvation of thousands in the Foreign Mission field.

In our own country Mass was said in Florida, by a priest of Ponce de Leon's party, a hundred years before the Pilgrims landed. Priests came with each band of French and Spanish explorers, and the Mass came with them to sanctify the soil destined to be a refuge for the world's sad and poor and oppressed. As the tide of emigration moved westward the Mass went with it, and village after village built its chapel that Christ might dwell there.

The spirit of the pioneers lives on. Our missionaries in Alaska pack sacred vessels and the wine necessary for the Holy Sacrifice on sleds too small to hold as much food as is needed on their trips. To say Mass they must first thaw the wine and water; and the anointed, ungloved hands that clasp the chalice and the paten are often almost frozen before the Last Gospel is reached. But the only hardship of which they ever complain is that sometimes it is utterly impossible for them to say Mass; And in every city in this country the poor are giving their pennies that churches may be built and supported, and morning after morning they kneel at daybreak before God's altar; the weather is never too inclement, the church never too cold, the body never too weary; or too rheumatic.

The pity of it is that the edifying example of so many of our poor is not more generally followed by wealthy, or at least well-to-do Catholics. These latter could, with much less inconvenience than their poorer brethren, make it a practice to attend daily Mass, or, at the very least, be present at the Holy Sacrifice four or five times a week. The best of devotions at all times, assistance at daily Mass is especially to be counseled during Advent.

In his crabbed old age, with all his illusions gone, Thomas Carlyle said that the Mass is the only relic of religious faith now left in the world. He dimly perceived its tremendous significance; we Catholics see it clearly.

