

ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT NEWSLETTER

MAY 2020 No. 201

ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT BISHOP'S APOSTOLATE • 4900 RIALTO ROAD • WEST CHESTER, OHIO
45069 SGGResources.org • traditionalmass.org

FROM BISHOP DOLAN

My dear Friends,

I wrote last at the end of March, marveling that by Divine Protection our church was still open as we anticipated Holy Week and Easter. Mary's gracious month of May, cloudy though it was and mostly dark, is ending as I pen these lines to accompany our Paschal report. But what months!

One of our mothers not given to hyperbole, recently told her children that they were witnessing history. While the Church is certainly eclipsed in our day, how sad it is at times like these that She should be *silent* as well. Most of the clergy cowered in confused compliance with the great Covid Conspiracy, this coup d'etat worthy of the French Revolution or Hitler or Stalin. The more cult-like of the clergy took advantage of the illegal overreaching government decrees to tighten their psychological hold on their poor people. *Psyop*, some call it, psychological operation. You could look it up, but we are living it.

I am grateful to Bishop Sanborn for his thoughtful observations and analysis in his recent Most Holy Trinity Seminary Newsletter, well worth a read. Of course the task of training future priests is well worth our prayerful and charitable interest, as we are investing in our own future.

Here at St. Gertrude the Great, most of the Sunday Sermons have been dedicated to *enlightening* the faithful in this unprecedented and planned panic, and enabling them still to live the Church's way in these sacred seasons. This is the best way to survive spiritually and emotionally, as well as to oppose our overlords and the terrible tyranny they are trying to impose upon us.

If there is one factor in our survival, more, our *thriving* here in spite of these trying times, it is surely our corporate, public prayer. The Sacred Liturgy comes first and last, and always with consummate love and care. It is supplemented by the Holy Ghost who inspires so many beloved and Church approved devotions. Prayer works, you know! You should try it if you haven't: confident continuing devotions. Trust not in men or in money, but in the beautiful divine promises, blessings for this life as well as the next.

Our friends in Brazil experienced this recently. Father Rodrigo da Silva and the Franciscan Friars, in need of a



Easter morning and its accompanying joy arrived to dispel the darkness of the current coronavirus panic. Our Masses were well attended despite the many obstacles thrust before the faithful. Arrayed in glimmering gold vestments, Bishop Dolan processes into the church flanked by Father McGuire and Father McKenna.

larger building for St. Joseph's Seminary, made a solemn novena to their patron for his feast day. Although practically unknown in Brazil, and despised as feared *sede vacantists* by those who did know them, calumniated even by those who should befriend them, it seems St. Joseph nevertheless took an interest in them. Money came in **as the novena ended and the feast dawned**, moderate amounts, for moderate are their needs, but enough to move to a larger building, rather than continue renting their current small house. The internet, some large donations, and suddenly it is feasible. St. Joseph comes through. "To St. Joseph, nothing is refused."

But Our Lady, "Omnipotent in Prayer," the Holy Child Jesus... so many powerful devotions, so much potential assistance in our needs.

Pray with us. We pray for you!

God bless and protect you by His angels.

– Most Rev. Daniel L. Dolan



(From top left down) Bishop Dolan has just received his blessed palm prior to the Palm Sunday procession. Following the Mass on Holy Thursday the Blessed Sacrament is reserved on the Altar of Repose. (From top right down) The Elevation of the Sacred Host at the Mass of the Presanctified on Good Friday. Holy Saturday's blessing of the baptismal font at our well-attended Easter Vigil. Father McKenna chants the Gospel at Holy Saturday's first Mass of Easter that concluded the morning services.

FROM FATHER NKAMUKE IN NIGERIA

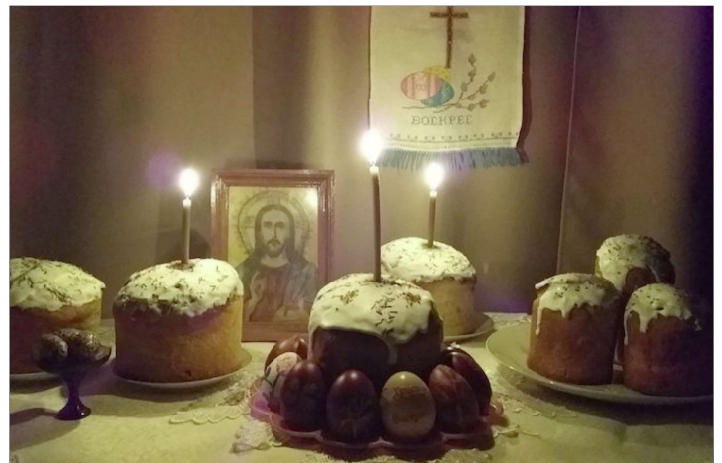


Father Nkmauke kindly sent some pictures from Lagos and a note along with them. He reports: "We didn't say Mass at the (public) chapel, but we observed all ceremonies at the seminary chapel. We have two buildings in Lagos: a hall for the public Mass and a flat for the seminarians and myself. We converted the sitting room of the flat to a chapel. It was there that we observed all the ceremonies of the Sacred Triduum. The attendance had to be few because of the landlady's instructions." The corona virus regulations were also a problem for Father in Nigeria just as it was problematic for many in the United States as well as in other countries around the world. Religion is not essential for modern man – quite telling! (From top left) Father Nkmauke and a small portion of his flock process on Palm Sunday. Good Friday prostration at the beginning of the Mass of the Presanctified. Seminarians and faithful adore the Cross as the Reproaches are read by Father Nkmauke. (Top right and above) The beautifully crafted Altar of Repose and the Procession with the Blessed Sacrament to the main altar on Good Friday.

FROM FATHER VALERII IN UKRAINE



Father Valerii Kudriavtsev is an Eastern Rite sedevacantist priest who resides in Ukraine. Father has been a long-time friend of our apostolate here at St. Gertrude the Great. Here we share some pictures of the Paschal Liturgy he celebrated in his "home chapel". (Above) The Great Entrance is dramatic representation that anticipates the real moment of the Consecration. After additional prayers at the altar, the doors of the iconostasis are shut. (Below) The Creed is then sung. (Top right) The Consecration of the Body. (Middle right) Christ is Risen! Usually the priest holds three lighted candles, but Father is only holding one because he has very few wax candles. Before Easter he intended to buy candles at the Kiev-Pechersky Monastery, but it was announced that more than a hundred monks, together with the hegumen-bishop (abbot), were "infected with a coronavirus." Because of this false cause the monastery was locked down on "quarantine". Policemen were posted at the entrance of the monastery, and they forbade people to enter. No candles!



Paschal food for the Ukrainian table. The icon that is visible behind the food was painted by Father Valerii when he was twelve or thirteen years old.