



Our Lady of Sorrows

Traditional Catholic Mission Central Texas

Mass Location:

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

Mass Schedule:

Sunday, May 2nd, 2021 Mass – 6:00pm, Confession – 5:30pm

Contact information:

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Note From Father

Dear Faithful,

The weather down here in Cincinnati had been rather warm and pleasant, providing us with a rather nice spring season: that is, until the Solemnity of St. Joseph this past Wednesday. We all awoke to find the grass, now grown long and in need of its first trim, covered in white snow. Likewise, the newly leaved trees were weighed down by the added burden upon their boughs. It looked a bit odd, to be honest, this clashing of two seasons. However, it was for appearances only and the winter would not linger long, as it was all melted by the afternoon. Also, while it stuck to everything green, mercifully it didn't stick to any of the roads or even the parking lot. This allowed everyone who wanted to attend Mass for St. Joseph's day the ability to do so easily.

After our Solemn High Mass for the school kids, they invited the clergy and laity alike back to Helfta Hall for a fun pizza luncheon. One of the youngest children at the party asked me, before I was able to plate a slice, if I had washed my hands. "Yes, I did!" I answered him, enthusiastically. He followed it up with another question, "did you wash them all by yourself?" When I answered again in the affirmative, he simply responded "hmmm", seemingly both out of satisfaction and surprise at my hygienic aptitude. I was just glad I was able to pass his examination.

Did you know that a priest washes hands before vesting for every Mass? It is actually required and comes with its own vesting prayer. As he washes his hands, the priest recites "*Da, Domine, virtutem manibus meis ad abstergendam omnem maculam: ut sine pollutione mentis et corporis valeam tibi servire.*" That is, "Give virtue to my hands, O Lord, that every stain be wiped away, so that I may be able to serve Thee without defilement of mind and body." It is only fitting, as the priest is about to enter the Holy of Holies and to cradle his Creator in his own humble hands, that he be cleansed both inwardly and outwardly.

Speaking of an inward and outward cleansing, as well as cradling your Creator...when was the last time that you have made a good confession? And received a worthy Holy Communion? If it has been longer than since the beginning of Lent, remember that in order to fulfill one's Easter Duty, a good and worthy Holy Communion must be received between the start of Lent and Trinity Sunday (May 30th). Failure, through one's own fault, to do so incurs the penalty of mortal sin and such a person is no longer considered to be a Catholic in good

standing. So, if you haven't yet, come early for confession, if needed, at the next Mass opportunity and make a Good Holy Communion.

In Christ,

Fr. McKenna

Temptation of St. Catherine of Sienna

St. Catherine of Sienna, that favourite spouse of our Blessed Lord, who bore in her body the stigmata or marks of the Sacred Wounds, was at one time of her life subject to the most violent temptations of Satan. That wicked spirit, envious of the angelic purity of her soul, was wont to fill her mind with filthy imaginations, and to assail her heart with the most impure temptations. Unceasingly did she call on God for help, but she seemed to receive no answer. Her mind was obscured with frightful darkness, and she seemed on the very brink of the precipice. Often, indeed, she was unable to distinguish between temptation and consent, but an invisible hand always preserved her from falling. Upon one occasion after the temptations had ceased, our Blessed Lord came to visit her, filling her with heavenly consolations. "Ah, my Divine Spouse," she cried out, "where wast Thou when I lay in such an abandoned and frightful condition?" "I was with thee," he replied. "What," said she, "in the midst of the filthy abominations with which my soul was filled?" "Yes," answered our Lord, "for these temptations were most displeasing and painful to thee. By fighting against them thou hast gained immense merit, and the victory was owing to my presence." Thus did St. Catherine learn that God is never nearer to us than when we appear the most abandoned, and that He is never wanting to those who call upon Him with humility and confidence.

--Butler's Saints' Lives.

A Prayer in Temptation

(From the Imitations of Christ by Thomas á Kempis)

Enlighten me, O good Jesus, with the brightness of eternal light, and cast out of darkness from the dwelling of my heart.

Restrain my many wandering thoughts and suppress the temptations that violently assault me.

Fight strongly for me and overcome these wicked beasts--Lev. xxvi. 6, I mean these alluring concupiscences, that there may be peace in Thy strength--Ps. CXXI. 7. and the abundance of Thy praise may resound in Thy holy court, which is a clean conscience.

Command the winds and storms; say to the sea: Be thou still; and to the north wind: Blow thou not; and a great calm shall ensue.--Matt. viii. 26.

St. Louis de Montfort's Prayer to Mary

Hail Mary, beloved Daughter of the Eternal Father! Hail Mary, admirable Mother of the Son! Hail Mary, faithful spouse of the Holy Ghost! Hail Mary, my dear Mother, my loving Mistress, my powerful sovereign! Hail my joy, my glory, my heart and my soul! Thou art all mine by mercy, and I am all thine by justice. But I am not yet sufficiently thine. I now give myself wholly to thee without keeping anything back for myself or others. If thou still seest in me anything which does not belong to thee, I beseech thee to take it and to make thyself the absolute Mistress of all that is mine. Destroy in me all that may be displeasing to God, root it up and bring it to naught; place and cultivate in me everything that is pleasing to thee.



May the light of thy faith dispel the darkness of my mind; may thy profound humility take the place of my pride; may thy sublime contemplation check the distractions of my wandering imagination; may thy continuous sight of God fill my memory with His presence; may the burning love of thy heart inflame the lukewarmness of mine; may thy virtues take the place of my sins; may thy merits be my only adornment in the sight of God and make up for all that is wanting in me. Finally, dearly beloved Mother, grant, if it be possible, that I may have no other spirit but thine to know Jesus and His divine will; that I may have no other soul but thine to praise and glorify the Lord; that I may have no other heart but thine to love God with a love as pure and ardent as thine I do not ask thee for visions, revelations, sensible devotion or spiritual pleasures. It is thy privilege to see God clearly; it is thy privilege to enjoy heavenly bliss; it is thy privilege to triumph gloriously in Heaven at the right hand of thy Son and to hold absolute sway over angels, men and demons; it is thy privilege to dispose of all the gifts of God, just as thou wilt.

Such is, O heavenly Mary, the "best part," which the Lord has given thee and which shall never be taken away from thee--and this thought fills my heart with joy. As for my part here below, I wish for no other than that which was thine: to believe sincerely without spiritual pleasures; to suffer joyfully without human consolation; to die continually to myself without respite; and to work zealously and unselfishly for thee until death as the humblest of thy servants. The only grace I beg thee to obtain for me is that every day and every moment of my life I may say: Amen, So be it--to all that thou didst do while on earth; Amen, so be it--to all that thou art now doing in Heaven; Amen, so be it--to all that thou art doing in my soul, so that thou alone mayest fully glorify Jesus in me for time and eternity. Amen.

Importance of the Most Holy Rosary

"If you say the Rosary faithfully until death, I do assure you that, in spite of the gravity of your sins, you shall receive a never fading crown of glory. Even if you are on the brink of damnation, even if you have one foot in Hell, even if you have sold your soul to the devil as sorcerers do who practice black magic, and even if you are a heretic as obstinate as a devil, sooner or later you will be converted and will amend your life and save your soul, if—and mark well what I say—if you say the Holy Rosary devoutly every day until death for the purpose of knowing the truth and obtaining contrition and pardon for your sins."

--St. Louis de Montfort