

Tridentine Community News

June 3, 2007

The New Home of the Windsor Tridentine Mass: Assumption Church

Many of you remember the moment when you first learned that St. Josaphat Church would be the home of Detroit's Tridentine Indult Mass: A landmark church that most everyone had driven by countless times was encouraging enough, but one's first visit inside was positively breathtaking. No doubt, St. Josaphat is one of North America's gems of Romanesque design.

Get ready to have your breath taken away once again: The Diocese of London, Ontario has approved the relocation of the Windsor Tridentine Mass from 1940s-era St. Michael Church to Windsor's oldest, largest, best-known, and best-preserved Catholic church: Historic Our Lady of the Assumption.



Situated at the foot of the Ambassador Bridge, Assumption Church is a Gothic masterpiece built in 1874. The interior is reminiscent of St. Josaphat cluster partner St. Joseph. With a marble high altar and communion rail, deep sanctuary, side altars, and high pulpit, Assumption is an ideal location for the Classical Roman Rite liturgy. Its surrounding park makes an ideal setting for outdoor processions.



A Music Program Befitting the Edifice

Assumption is home to a magnificent three-manual Casavant organ, ideal for the Tridentine repertoire.



St. Josaphat Music Director Wassim Sarweh has rejoined the Windsor Tridentine Mass Community as co-Music Director with Matthew Meloche, in addition to continuing his duties at St. Josaphat. A professional choir has been formed which will sing alternating polyphonic and Gregorian Chant Masses. The new principal celebrant is liturgical scholar Fr. Peter Hrytsyk. Benediction will be offered once per month. A Solemn Missa Cantata (with Asperges and incense) will be held each Sunday at 2:00 PM, beginning today, June 3, 2007.

Special thanks to Diocese of London Auxiliary Bishop Anthony Daniels, Windsor Episcopal Vicar Fr. James Roche, and Assumption Pastor Fr. Paul Walsh for supporting this effort to provide an improved setting for our beloved Traditional Mass.



Corpus Christi Procession Next Sunday

Special events, including a Solemn High Mass, will be announced over the coming weeks to commemorate the move to Assumption. The first is a First Communion ceremony and Corpus Christi Procession next Sunday, June 10. *Deo gratias!*

Questions? Comments? Ideas for a future column? Please e-mail info@windsorlatinmass.org with your thoughts.