

Tridentine Community News

January 29, 2012 – The Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

254 Bishops Have Celebrated the EF Since 2007

An interesting synopsis was published by the Spanish blog Acción Litúrgica and translated into English by The Eponymous Flower blog: A listing of all of the Bishops and Cardinals known to have celebrated the Extraordinary Form since the effective date of the Motu Proprio *Summorum Pontificum* in September, 2007. 254 Bishops in total, including Detroit's Auxiliary Bishop Francis Reiss, Lansing's Bishop Earl Boyea, Marquette's Bishop Alexander Sample, Ottawa's Archbishop Terrence Prendergast, and while he was Bishop of Oakland, California, current Detroit Archbishop Allen Vigneron.

The complete list is at:

<http://eponymousflower.blogspot.com/2012/01/254-cardinals-and-bishops-have.html>

While we don't have statistics, this seems to be a significant increase, around a doubling, of the number of Bishops who did so prior to *Summorum Pontificum*. Another reason why our Holy Father deserves prayers of gratitude for issuing this document which has had such far-reaching positive effects in so many areas of the Church.

Welcome Bishop Reiss

Speaking of Bishop Reiss, don't be surprised if you see him around the grounds of St. Josaphat: His Excellency has moved into the St. Josaphat Rectory and has already celebrated one Extraordinary Form Mass since his arrival. Not only are there obvious liturgical benefits to his presence, but he is also doing a service to the parish by occupying this important building.

In light of the above study, it would be interesting to know how many other Bishops reside on the property of parishes which offer the Extraordinary Form.

Blessing of Candles on the Feast of the Purification

A reminder that this Thursday brings the annual High Mass for the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, also known as Candlemas. Candles are blessed before Mass, and a procession with the candles precedes the Mass. This symbolism recognizes our Lord as the "Light for the revelation of the Gentiles." If you are unable to go, it may nevertheless interest you to view the Propers Handout for the Feast on our web site and read the prayers for the Blessing of Candles.

The Sign of Peace and the Pax Brede

At a Solemn High Tridentine Mass, after the first of the three Prayers Before Holy Communion, the celebrant offers the Sign of

Peace to the Deacon, after which it is passed on to the Subdeacon, the Master of Ceremonies, the Thurifer, and the Acolytes. Unlike in the Ordinary Form, the Sign of Peace is not passed on to the congregation; it is a formal process reflecting the Peace of Christ being given from one to another, as our Lord commanded, with little relationship to the notion of secular friendship.

The "giver" and the "receiver" approach one another with palms together and bow to one another. The giver places his palms on the receiver's shoulders, while the receiver places his palms under the giver's elbows. Both nod their heads to the right of the other as the giver says "*Pax tecum*" [Peace be with you]. The receiver replies "*Et cum spiritu tuo*" [And with your spirit]. Both join their hands as at the beginning, bow to one another, and depart.

When Holy Mass is celebrated by a priest in the presence of a Greater Prelate (i.e. a Bishop or higher), an different version of the ceremony may be performed. An object alternatively known as a *Pax Brede*, [simply] a *Pax*, or an *Osculatorium*, is held by a server in front of the receiver. This object resembles a larger reliquary,

often with a handle on the back. In the absence of a proper *Pax Brede*, a priest's paten may be used instead. The receiver kisses the *Pax Brede*, then the server wipes it with a linen cloth and presents it to the next receiver. The first receiver is always the celebrant and the second the Prelate. This version of the rite places emphasis on the peace that comes from the presence of and reverence towards Christ.

After 28 years of attending Tridentine Masses, this writer only recalls seeing a *Pax Brede* used once, at Merton College Chapel at Oxford University during the C.I.E.L. 2006 Conference. One might logically ask whether they are still being

manufactured. The answer is no as a catalog item, but yes as a custom piece: Holy Rosary Church in Portland, Oregon had some made several years ago.

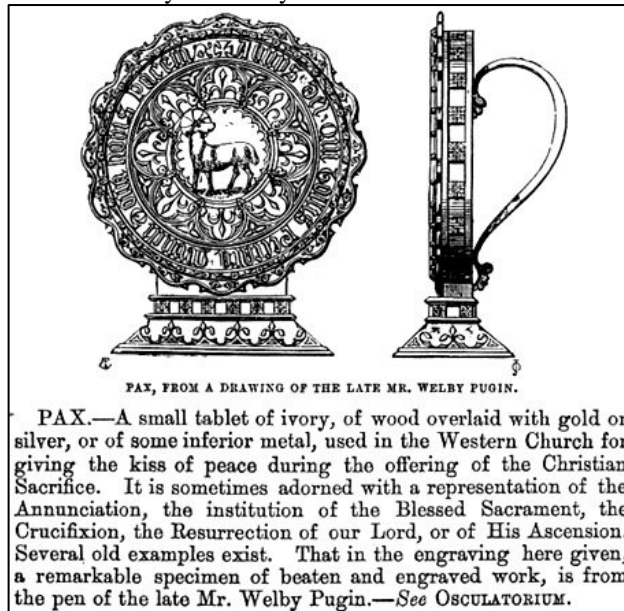
Tridentine Masses This Coming Week

Mon. 01/30 7:00 PM: Low Mass at *St. Josaphat* (St. Martina, Virgin & Martyr)

Tue. 01/31 7:00 PM: Low Mass at *Assumption-Windsor* (St. John Bosco, Confessor)

Thu. 02/02 7:00 PM: High Mass at *St. Josaphat* (Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary – with Blessing of Candles and Procession)

Sun. 02/05 1:00 PM: High Mass at *St. Hyacinth* (Septuagesima Sunday) – *Continuation of Tridentine Masses at St. Hyacinth depends in part on the level of attendance at this Mass*



PAX.—A small tablet of ivory, of wood overlaid with gold or silver, or of some inferior metal, used in the Western Church for giving the kiss of peace during the offering of the Christian Sacrifice. It is sometimes adorned with a representation of the Annunciation, the institution of the Blessed Sacrament, the Crucifixion, the Resurrection of our Lord, or of His Ascension. Several old examples exist. That in the engraving here given, a remarkable specimen of beaten and engraved work, is from the pen of the late Mr. Welby Pugin.—See OSCULATORIUM.