

Tridentine Community News

March 8, 2015 – Third Sunday of Lent

Wassim Sarweh to Lead Chant Workshop on April 25

Few in metro Detroit can claim the level of experience with Gregorian Chant of Wassim Sarweh. Having gained experience singing at various Catholic churches in Windsor and Detroit beginning in his teenage years, Wassim became Choir Director and Organist of the Windsor Tridentine Mass in 1997, holding that post until 2004, resuming it again in 2007 and keeping it to this day. From 2004-2012 he was Music Director of the Tridentine Mass at St. Josaphat Church in Detroit, and from 2007 to the present he has led the music for the Tridentine Masses at St. Albertus Church. In 2014 he was appointed Choir Director and Organist for the Oakland County Latin Mass Association at the Academy of the Sacred Heart. These various positions mean that on certain Sundays, he sings and plays for an incredible *three* Extraordinary Form Masses: at 9:45 AM at the Academy, at 12:00 Noon at St. Albertus, and at 2:00 PM at St. Alphonsus or Holy Name of Mary. He is also the most sought-after music director for special occasion Tridentine Masses in this region. No one can match his continuous track record of singing Gregorian Chant for the Traditional Latin Mass, week after week, Sunday after Sunday, as well as for funerals, weddings, Confirmations, Holy Week, and the like. He has spoken at the Church Music Association of America's Colloquium and has been invited to lead the music at special Masses in other parts of North America.

Wassim's talent lies not only in his technical proficiency with chant, but also in his inherent musicality and ability to convey the emotion in the sacred texts. His ability to accompany chant on the organ and his use of drone singing alongside the chant has attracted attention from other music directors.

In 2007, Wassim began to lead occasional Chant Workshops in the area. Interestingly, the idea for the Oakland County Latin Mass Association sprang from a meeting of like-minded individuals at his first workshop. It is only fitting, then, that the OCLMA host its own Chant Workshop with Wassim, on Saturday, April 25 beginning at 9:00 AM at the Academy of the Sacred Heart in Bloomfield Hills. The workshop will last into the late afternoon, and lunch will be provided.

Attendees do not need to have prior experience with chant. Instruction in how to read square note chant notation will be provided, along with a history of chant and a practical tutorial in singing. It is our intention to conclude the workshop with a Tridentine Mass in the Academy Chapel, to allow participants to apply their newly-acquired skills in the service of the Sacred Liturgy. Attendees will also be invited to sing with the choir at the OCLMA Sunday Mass the next day.

A Facebook event page is here:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/803688956384249/>

The registration page for the workshop is here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/oakland-county-spring-chant-workshop-tickets-16011545965>

Plenary Indulgence on the Fridays of Lent

Holy Mother Church gives the faithful numerous opportunities to gain Plenary Indulgences. Some may be gained at any time, such as by praying a Rosary or the Stations of the Cross in church. Others are tied to specific Feast Days or parts of Church year. Of particular relevance in this season is the annual opportunity to gain a Plenary Indulgence by praying the below *Prayer Before a Crucifix* after receiving Holy Communion on the Fridays of Lent, under the usual additional conditions of Confession within 20 days, prayer for the Holy Father's intentions, and freedom from attachment to sin:

En ego, o bone et dulcissime Jesu, ante conspéctum tuum génibus me provólvo, ac máximo ánimi ardóre te oro atque obtéstor, ut meum in cor vívidos fidei, spei et caritátis sensus, atque veram peccatórum meórum pæniténtiam, eáque emendánda firmíssimam voluntátem velis imprimere; dum magno ánimi afféctu et dolóre tua quinque vúlnera mecum ipse considéro, ac mente contéplor, illud præ óculis habens, quod jam in ore ponébat tuo David Prophéta de te, o bone Jesu: "Fodérunt manus meas et pedes meos: dinumeravérunt ómnia ossa mea."

Behold, O kind and most sweet Jesus, I cast myself upon my knees in Thy sight, and with the most fervent desire of my soul, I pray and beseech Thee that Thou wouldst impress upon my heart lively sentiments of faith, hope, and charity, with a true contrition for my sins and a firm purpose of amendment; while with deep affection and grief of soul I ponder within myself and mentally contemplate Thy five wounds, having before my eyes the words which David the prophet put on Thy lips concerning Thee: "My hands and My feet they have pierced, they have numbered all My bones."

St. Joseph Day of Prayer

Detroit's St. Joseph Church will be reopening just in time for their annual St. Joseph Day of Prayer, on the Feast Day of their Patron Saint, Thursday, March 19. Along with a full day's spectrum of events, a Tridentine Mass will be offered at 6:00 PM, celebrated by Fr. Joe Tuskiewicz.

Further information and a flyer with the full schedule are available on a Facebook event page:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1553776104894667/>

Tridentine Masses This Coming Week

Mon. 03/09 7:00 PM: Low Mass at *St. Josaphat* (Monday in the Third Week of Lent)

Tue. 03/10 7:00 PM: Low Mass at *Holy Name of Mary* (Tuesday in the Third Week of Lent)

Sun. 03/15 12:00 Noon: High Mass at *Our Lady of the Scapular* (Fourth Sunday of Lent – Lætáre Sunday) – Fr. Borkowski continues to hold approximately one special Tridentine High Mass per month, on a Feast Day of significance