

Tridentine Community News

April 16, 2017 – Easter Sunday

New Lansing Priest to Celebrate Mass in the Extraordinary Form in Jackson



Deacon Anthony Smela will be ordained to the sacred priesthood for the Diocese of Lansing, Michigan on Saturday, June 10 by Bishop Earl Boyea. Soon-to-be Fr. Smela will offer his first Holy Mass in the Extraordinary Form at St. Mary Star of the Sea Church in Jackson on Sunday, June 25 at 12:15 PM. He studied the Traditional Mass at Detroit's Sacred Heart Major Seminary, having taken the elective class taught by Fr. Clint McDonell. He

intends to return to St. Mary Star of the Sea and join their rotating list of celebrants.

Let us give thanks to God for every new priest who chooses to make the Tridentine Mass a regular part of their ministry. A significant number of seminarians at both Sacred Heart and Orchard Lake seminaries have signed up to take their respective courses on the Extraordinary Form, something not even imaginable a decade ago.

Local Action Already Taken on the Vatican's New SSPX Wedding Permission Extension

In a letter to the world's bishops dated March 27, 2017 and made public on April 4, the Pontifical Commission *Ecclésia Dei*, the Vatican department in charge of the Traditional Latin Mass, granted a means for priests of the Society of St. Pius X to conduct valid marriages. Until now weddings conducted by SSPX priests were considered invalid, because those priests did not possess faculties from the local diocesan bishop to witness those marriages. Under the new guidelines, seen by many as a hopeful step towards regularization of the SSPX, a diocesan bishop may either assign a priest with diocesan faculties to attend the wedding and receive the consent of the parties, or he may grant the SSPX priest the faculties to do so himself. In both cases it is envisaged that the SSPX priest would celebrate the Nuptial Rite and the Mass that follows.

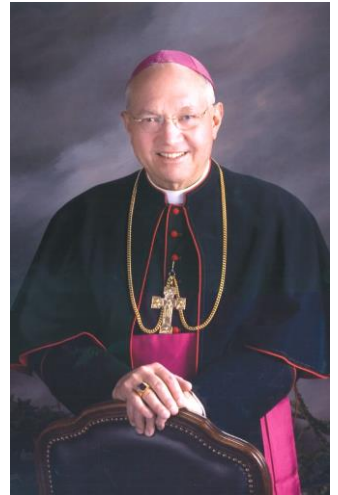
One of the first fruits globally of this new provision will take place right here in Detroit: Msgr. Ronald Browne has been working with a couple who wish to get married according to the Extraordinary Form at Old St. Mary's Church, which incidentally will be the first Tridentine wedding to be held there since the liturgical changes following Vatican II. The couple asked for an SSPX priest who is a relative of one of the parties to perform the wedding. Msgr. Browne consulted with the Apostolic Nuncio, who referred the matter to the *Ecclésia Dei* Commission. They in turn granted permission for Archbishop Vigneron to authorize the SSPX priest to witness the wedding, which His Excellency promptly did. While the wedding is not scheduled to take place until 2018, it is certainly one of the first weddings globally to be

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authorized under these new guidelines. It is noteworthy that the request for permission took place well before the public announcement on April 4, thus one could reasonably conclude that Rome considered this a prototype case.

Bishop Morlino Asks His Priests to Encourage Communion Kneeling and on the Tongue

At his diocesan Chrism Mass on Tuesday, April 11, Madison, Wisconsin Bishop Robert Morlino asked his priests to encourage their faithful to receive Holy Communion while kneeling and on the tongue, beginning in September of this year. This follows up on his previous request from the fall of 2016 that priests at least occasionally offer Holy Mass *ad orientem*, as he himself pledged to do at every Mass going forward. Both of these statements refer, of course, to the Ordinary Form of the Mass.



Bishop Morlino is also well-known as an advocate and frequent celebrant of the Extraordinary Form. He asks each of his seminarians to learn to celebrate the Traditional Mass before ordination, so that they are capable of ministering to those faithful who prefer that form of sacred worship.

Upcoming First Communions & Confirmations

Last week, Diocese of London Bishop Ronald Fabbro authorized Auxiliary Bishop Joseph Dabrowski to celebrate Confirmations in the Extraordinary Form for the St. Benedict Tridentine Community. At press time the date had not yet been set, but it is expected to take place at St. Alphonsus Church some time in 2017. Interested parties are asked to speak with Fr. Peter and register on the form available at the back of the church.

First Holy Communions are tentatively scheduled at St. Benedict on Sunday, May 28. Interested parents are asked to speak with Fr. Peter.

At the Oakland County Latin Mass Association, First Holy Communions will be held on Sunday, May 7. Confirmations in the Extraordinary Form with Bishop Hanchon will be held on Sunday, October 1. Interested parents are requested to speak with Msgr. Browne and e-mail their interest to info@oclma.org.

Tridentine Masses This Coming Week

Mon. 04/17 7:00 PM: Low Mass at *St. Josaphat* (Easter Monday)
Tue. 04/18 7:00 PM: High Mass at *Holy Name of Mary, Windsor* (Easter Tuesday)
Sat. 04/22 8:30 AM: Low Mass at *Miles Christi* (Easter Saturday)