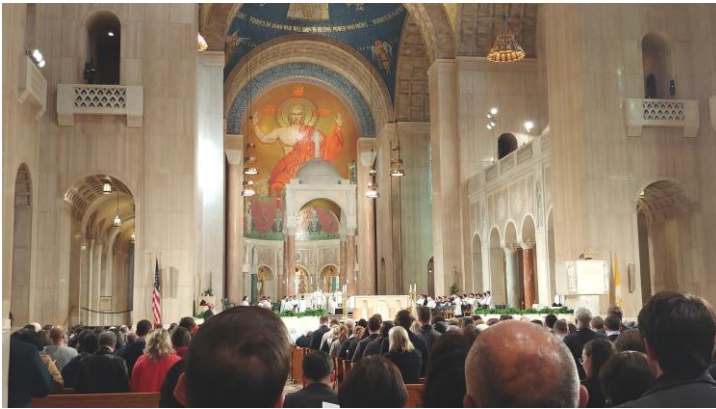


# Tridentine Community News

November 24, 2019 - Last Sunday After Pentecost

## *Mass of the Americas Report*

The third post-Vatican II Pontifical Mass in the Extraordinary Form in the Great Upper Church of Washington DC's Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception was held last Saturday, November 16. Organized by San Francisco's Benedict XVI Institute for Sacred Music and Divine Worship, the celebrant was San Francisco Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone. The occasion was the debut of a newly composed Mass setting, *Mass of the Americas* by Frank La Rocca. Intended to incorporate melodies based on Mexican devotional songs, to the untrained ear the Mass setting had the sound of a typical classical polyphonic composition. It was impeccably performed by a choir of local professionals under the direction of Richard Sparks. The National Shrine was standing room only, with thousands of faithful filling the pews and aisles. A conference followed the Mass, at which the composer, music director, and Archbishop discussed how the Mass came to be. [Photo of Communion Rail gates below]



Two days after this Mass, DC's Paulus Institute for the Propagation of Sacred Liturgy announced that yet another Extraordinary Form Mass has been scheduled at the National Shrine: On Saturday,

August 22, 2020 at 1:00 PM, Archbishop Thomas Gullickson, the Papal Nuncio to Switzerland and Lichtenstein, who has written extensively about the beauties of the Traditional Mass, will celebrate a Pontifical Solemn Mass in the Great Upper Church. Kudos must be given to new DC Archbishop Wilton Gregory for generously permitting these Masses.

## *San Francisco Architectural Beauties*

During a trip this week to train a priest in San Francisco in celebrating the Extraordinary Form, this writer was able to visit two remarkably beautiful churches, right across the street from one another. The Chapel of the Carmelite Sisters of Cristo Rey, built in 1958, looks much older and has a High Altar designed to resemble the one in Rome's St. Peter's Basilica, complete with baldacchino. There is no freestanding altar; daily Ordinary Form Mass is celebrated *ad orientem*, often – and surprisingly – by

Jesuits from the neighboring Jesuit-run University of San Francisco. The Traditional Mass is also offered there occasionally.

On the other side of the street is the enormous St. Ignatius Church, an architecturally stunning edifice, complete with a gallery of Side Altars. Its scale, ornateness, and grandeur would make it a superb setting for the Extraordinary Form, once a few decorative elements were removed.



## *Tridentine Masses This Coming Week*

Tue. 11/26 7:00 PM: Low Mass at *Holy Name of Mary, Windsor* (St. Sylvester, Abbot)

Sat. 11/30 8:30 AM: Low Mass at *Miles Christi* (St. Andrew, Apostle)

Comments? Ideas for a future column? Please e-mail [info@windsorlatinmass.org](mailto:info@windsorlatinmass.org). Previous columns are available at [www.windsorlatinmass.org](http://www.windsorlatinmass.org).