

Tridentine Community News

November 28, 2021 – First Sunday of Advent

First Solemn High Mass of Fr. Steve Mateja



This Friday, December 3 at 7:00 PM at Old St. Mary's Church in Detroit, Fr. Steve Mateja will celebrate his first public Solemn High Tridentine Mass, with Fr. Derik Peterman as Deacon and Fr. Michael Suhy as Subdeacon. The choir will sing Mass in C by Baldassare Galuppi.

Fr. Steve became intrigued with the Traditional Mass during a Juventutem Michigan Mass held on July 26, 2013 at Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish in Plymouth, where he was assigned at the time. As this column reported in our August 22, 2021 edition, Fr. Steve has received training from Extraordinary Faith in 2020 and 2021 and has offered Low Masses privately and semi-privately since. He currently serves as Associate Pastor of St. Mary Mystical Rose Parish in Armada.

As with all First Friday Masses at Old St. Mary's, a reception will follow the Mass in the second floor parish hall.

Orchard Lake Seminary Gets Reprieve

On Monday, November 22, the Orchard Lake Schools Board of Regents published the below announcement indicating that Ss. Cyril & Methodius Seminary may not close after all. This is certainly good news for the Archdiocese of Detroit and especially for the Oakland County Latin Mass Association, whose weekly 9:00 AM Sunday High Mass is held in their Shrine Chapel.



November 22, 2021

To the Orchard Lake Schools Community:

At the recent meeting on November 18, 2021, the Board of Regents decided to accept the recommendation of the Board of the Ss. Cyril & Methodius Seminary to suspend its earlier decision to close operations at the Seminary until April 2022. During this time period, the Seminary's new rector, Fr. Bernard Witek, together with the Seminary Board, will develop and propose a plan detailing how the Seminary's operations could be restructured, addressing the recruitment of new seminarians, and ensuring the financial means necessary for the Seminary's short and long term operations. The Board of Regents will then review the plan and progress and consider the issue once again.

The Regents' decision to suspend its earlier decision was based in part on having received further clarification that recent policy changes of the Polish Episcopate do not prohibit Polish Seminarians from transferring to the Ss. Cyril & Methodius Seminary. It was also based upon the strong belief articulated by some Regents that Polonia would provide assured funding for the Seminary to operate for years to come.

The Regents look forward to working with Polonia and other supporters of the Seminary willing to provide their prayers, assistance, and financial support for the Ss. Cyril & Methodius Seminary.]

Sincerely,

Board of Regents
Orchard Lake Schools

The Seasonal Saturday Masses of Our Lady

The 1962 Roman Missal contains five seasonal Votive Masses of Our Lady, for use on Fourth Class Saturdays of the year. As with all Fourth Class Feasts, they are optional and not required, however they are often the default choice for those days. The five sets of Propers are to be used on the following dates:

1. Advent [permitted on Third Class Saturdays]
2. Christmas to the Purification (February 2)
3. February 3 through Holy Week
4. Eastertide
5. Trinity Sunday through the Saturday before the First Sunday of Advent

Rorate Masses

The tradition of Rorate Masses continues in our region this year. These are Saturday Votive Masses of Our Lady in Advent, typically held before or at dawn and illuminated solely by candlelight, symbolic of awaiting the dawn of our Lord's coming. They are so named because the first words of the Introit of the Advent Saturday Mass of our Lady are *Rorate cæli desuper* (Drop down dew, ye heavens). These Masses are permitted on Saturdays of Advent of Third Class, which in 2021 are December 4 and 11. Variants of Rorate Masses are similarly candlelit Masses celebrated on other Feast Days of Advent, using the Propers of that day. Churches which have announced that they will be holding Rorate Masses or their variants this year include St. Thomas the Apostle, Ann Arbor (December 4, 11, and 18 at 7:00 AM); St. Matthew, Flint on December 4 at 7:00 AM; and St. Mary's of Redford on December 11 at 7:00 AM. [Photo of Our Lady of the Scapular, Wyandotte]



Tridentine Masses This Coming Week

Fri. 12/03 7:00 PM: Solemn High Mass at *Old St. Mary's* (St. Francis Xavier, Confessor) – First public Tridentine Mass of Fr. Steve Mateja. Deacon: Fr. Derik Peterman. Subdeacon: Fr. Michael Suhy. Reception after Mass.