

Tridentine Community News

January 16, 2022 – Second Sunday After Epiphany

Attendance Grows at Detroit Area Tridentine Masses

Historically there are two kinds of cities in the Traditional Latin Mass world: ones with few TLM sites, but with high attendance per site; and ones with more numerous sites, but lower attendance per site. As this column has many times noted, metro Detroit and Windsor leads North America in number of sites, with 40 sites currently offering the Tridentine Mass. Logically one would conclude that with so many sites, attendance per site would be lower.

In recent months, however, the number of faithful attending many of our sites has been steadily increasing, to the point where a few sites are worthy of mention:

Immaculate Conception, Lapeer has seen their Sunday 12:00 Noon Mass grow to around 175 people, a significant increase from when that time slot hosted a Novus Ordo English Mass a few years ago.

Holy Family Church in Saginaw – far north of metro Detroit – has stabilized at 175 people for their 3:00 PM Sunday Mass.

St. Matthew, Flint, for years a site which had around 60 people attending, now sees as many as 300 people at their Sunday 3:00 PM Mass.

St. Mary Star of the Sea, Jackson has around 180 at their Sunday 1:00 PM Mass, having grown from many years at about 75 attending.

First Friday 7:00 PM Masses at Old St. Mary's attract a widely varying attendance, in part because of other events, family and secular, that compete for that time slot. Yet as happened in December, First Fridays occasionally can get as many as 300 faithful, many of whom hear about the Mass from ads on Detroit's classical radio station, WRCJ, 90.9 FM. The parish's monthly Sunday 10:00 AM High Mass gets almost triple the attendance of the Novus Ordo Latin Mass which is held in that time slot on the other Sundays of the month.



The quiet giant, however, is Ann Arbor's St. Thomas the Apostle [pictured above]. Fulfilling the long-held belief of Juventútem Michigan co-founder Paul Schultz that the parish was ideally located to become a major TLM site, attendance at their 11:30 AM Sunday Mass has grown to where it attracts 400-475 faithful each week, despite having "competition" from nearby Old St. Patrick's Parish, which offers a Second Sunday 12:30 PM Mass that continues to attract around 175 faithful.

The Priest Standing in for Christ

The below chart is a meditation on how the priest's actions at the altar during the Traditional Mass reflect moments in the life of Christ.

A Pious Reflection on the Latin Mass, which the Faithful May Use to Derive Spiritual Fruit.

THE PRIEST AT MASS	CHRIST
¹ Enters the Sanctuary	Enters the Garden of Olives
² Begins prayers at the foot of the Altar	Begins prayer in the garden
³ Says the <i>Confiteor</i> ("I Confess")	Falls down in agony, sweats blood
⁴ Goes to the Epistle side of the Altar	Is bound and as a prisoner is led to Annas
⁵ Reads the Introit	Is falsely accused by Annas and blasphemed
⁶ Goes to the middle of the Altar, recites <i>Kyrie Eleison</i>	Is brought to Calphas; is denied 3x by Peter
⁷ Turns to the people and says "Dominus vobiscum"	Looks at Peter and converts him
⁸ Goes to the Roman Missal and reads the Collect and Epistle	Is brought to Pilate
⁹ Goes to the middle of the Altar, then to the Gospel side	Is taken to Herod and mocked
¹⁰ Returns to the middle of the Altar	Is led back to Pilate
OFFERTORY	
¹¹ Uncovers the chalice	Is stripped of His garments
¹² Offers the bread and wine	Is scourged at the pillar
¹³ Covers the chalice with the pall	Is crowned with thorns
¹⁴ Washes his hands at the Epistle side of the Altar	Is declared innocent by Pilate
¹⁵ Turns to the people and says "Orate Fratres..."	Is shown to the people by Pilate who says "Ecce Homo" ("Behold the man")
¹⁶ Prays in a low voice, the Secret (prayer)	Is mocked and spat upon
¹⁷ Recites the Preface and Sanctus – bell is rung	Christ is condemned; Barabbas is freed
CANON OF THE MASS	
¹⁸ Makes the Commemoration of the living	Carries the Cross to Calvary
¹⁹ Blesses the bread and wine with the sign of the cross 5x	Is nailed to the Cross
CONSECRATION	
²⁰ Consecrates the Host, adores and elevates It	Christ is raised on the Cross
²¹ Consecrates the wine and elevates the chalice	Blood of Christ flows from His wounds
²² Prays in a low voice	Hangs on the Cross; sees His Mother kneeling
²³ Says aloud, "Nobis quoque peccatoribus"	Prays for all mankind
²⁴ Recites aloud the <i>Pater Noster</i> ("Our Father")	Speaks the seven last words on the Cross
²⁵ Breaks the Sacred Host	Dies on the Cross
²⁶ Drops a particle of the Host into the chalice	Christ's soul descends into Limbo
²⁷ Recites the <i>Agnus Dei</i> ("Lamb of God")	Christ is acknowledged to be the Son of God by those standing beneath the Cross
COMMUNION	
²⁸ Receives the Body and Blood of Christ	Christ's body is laid in the sepulcher
²⁹ Cleanses the chalice	Christ's body is anointed in the sepulcher
³⁰ Prepares the chalice on the Altar again	Rises from the dead
³¹ Turns to the people and says "Dominus vobiscum"	Appears to His Mother and Disciples
³² Reads Communion and Post Communion prayers	Teaches for forty days
³³ Turns to the people and says the last "Dominus vobiscum"	Bids farewell to His Disciples
³⁴ Says the "Ite Missa est"	Commissions the Apostles to preach the Gospel to all nations; ascends into Heaven
³⁵ Gives the blessing to the people	Sends down the Holy Ghost on Pentecost
³⁶ Reads the last Gospel	Is preached and worshiped throughout the world as the Son of God made Man

Tridentine Masses This Coming Week

Tue. 01/18 6:00 PM: High Mass at *Our Lady of Good Counsel, Plymouth* (St. Prisca, Virgin & Martyr) – Celebrant: Fr. Thai Hung Nguyen