

Tridentine Community News

February 11, 2024 – Quinquagésima Sunday

Msgr. Arthur Calkins, R.I.P.



Your prayers are kindly requested for the repose of the soul of Msgr. Arthur Calkins, who passed away on February 3 after some recent health complications. Msgr. Calkins was responsible for encouraging this writer to undertake the training of priests to celebrate the Traditional Latin Mass, as he believed having more diocesan priests familiar with

the TLM would be a key factor helping it to become more commonplace. For almost 20 years he was the English language correspondent of the Pontifical Commission Ecclesia Dei in Rome, the Vatican department which oversaw the Tridentine Mass. He was a mover and shaker behind the scenes, helping countless TLMs to start in dioceses where they might not otherwise have been welcomed. After retiring from Rome and moving to Sulphur, Louisiana, he focused on Marian scholarship, publishing and speaking, and leading retreats around the world.



Msgr. Calkins had special ties to our region: Beginning in 1998, he worked with a small group of local faithful to get a Tridentine

Mass started in the Archdiocese of Detroit. Detroit was the last large diocese in the United States not to have an indult Mass. Every other technique to convince the authorities to allow one had failed. After years of strategizing, Msgr. Calkins arranged for his superior, the President of the Ecclesia Dei Commission at the time, Dario Cardinal Castrillón Hoyos, to meet with Detroit's Archbishop at the time, Adam Cardinal Maida, during the latter's *ad limina* visit to Rome, and convince him that the time had come for the Archdiocese to have a TLM. St. Josaphat Church had already been lined up as the preferred site behind the scenes, and on October 3, 2004 the Mass there finally began.

Msgr. Calkins visited our area twice: On Tuesday, July 17, 2012, he celebrated a Missa Cantata for the Feast of St. Alexius at Assumption Church in Windsor [pictured at left]. The Mass was attended by several hundred faithful and numerous priests and was followed by a festive dinner at a nearby restaurant.



On Sunday, October 25, 2015, he celebrated a Missa Cantata for the Feast of Christ the King for the Oakland County Latin Mass Association at the Academy of the Sacred Heart Chapel in Bloomfield Hills. Following Mass, he gave a talk about his Marian academic work. [He is pictured above after that talk with Sacred Heart Major Seminary Professor Dr. Robert Fastiggi]

Being a priest of the Archdiocese of New Orleans but residing and ministering in the Diocese of Lake Charles, Louisiana, Msgr. Calkins will have three Requiem Masses: A Solemn High EF on Friday, Feb. 9; an OF in the Lake Charles Cathedral on Saturday, Feb. 10, and an OF at a church in New Orleans on Friday, Feb. 16.

Tridentine Masses This Coming Week

Wed. 02/14 12:00 Noon: High Mass at *Holy Family, Detroit* (Ash Wednesday)

Wed. 02/14 6:00 PM: High Mass at *St. Mary of Redford* (Ash Wednesday)

Wed. 02/14 6:00 PM: High Mass at *St. Matthew, Flint* (Ash Wednesday)

Wed. 02/14 7:00 PM: High Mass at *St. Alphonsus, Windsor* (Ash Wednesday)

Wed. 02/14 7:00 PM: High Mass at *St. Thomas the Apostle, Ann Arbor* (Ash Wednesday)

Sun. 02/18 10:00 AM: High Mass at *Old St. Mary's* (First Sunday in Lent) – Celebrant: Fr. Cy Whitaker, SJ