

# Tridentine Community News

May 19, 2024 – Pentecost Sunday

## *From Pajama Masses to Gregorian Chant: A Sign of the Times in Boston*

A small but noteworthy evolution: Longtime readers of this column may recall the critical role that the St. Paul's Choir School in Cambridge, Massachusetts played in this writer's life. Its sacred music offerings were, and still are, among the best in the world. If you like sacred music, you owe it to yourself to visit this church and hear the expert organ playing, the marvelous acoustics, and the ethereal singing of the Boys' Choir yourself at some point in your life.



However one must not get the impression that St. Paul Church is a quasi-Trad parish. Though it hosts occasional Tridentine Masses organized by Juventutem Boston – one of which was featured on Episode 2 of *Extraordinary Faith* – in addition to the largely Latin Novus Ordo Masses of the Choir School, the parish also hosts the Masses of the Harvard Catholic Student Center, which are, or were, decidedly less conservative.

Harvard has several clusters of dorms around campus. One such group is located almost a mile away from campus, in the Radcliffe Quad. It is distant enough from campus that a shuttle bus runs to take students back and forth from the Quad to the main campus. Back in the early 1980s we called it the “Braniff Air Shuttle,” named after a major airline of the era.

Because of the distance to the main campus, the Harvard Catholic Student Center used to offer a Sunday Mass at 10:00 AM in one of the



meeting rooms of this writer's dorm at the Radcliffe Quad, Currier House. On the way to catch the shuttle bus to attend the 11:00 AM Choir School Mass at St. Paul's, this writer would walk past the room where this Mass was being offered, in the most informal setting imaginable, on a table being used as an altar, with the priest wearing a chasu-alb, and with many of the student attendees wearing pajamas.

The principal offering of the Catholic Student Center was a late afternoon Sunday Mass in the basement church at St. Paul's, accompanied by a student choir with guitar music. Let's just say the music program wouldn't have appealed to the readership of this column.

During a visit to St. Paul's last week, this writer picked up a brochure in the vestibule entitled, “Harvard Catholic Forum”. It detailed the current offerings of St. Paul's and the Harvard Catholic Student Center. Two things caught the eye: 1) The Pajama Mass at Currier House is no longer offered, and 2) More astonishingly, pertaining to that Sunday afternoon student Mass at St. Paul's, the following quote, which needs no further comment: “A Student Schola studies and sings polyphony and chant for student Masses.”

## *2024 Sacred Liturgy Conference*

**The CHURCH on Fire in  
The SACRED HEART of JESUS**

June 4-7, 2024 in Ferndale, CA

*Jesus continues to love his disciples to the end,  
through all the ages, in the Holy Eucharist, the  
living love of his Sacred Heart in the world.*

Cardinal Gerhard Müller, Bishop Robert F. Vasa, Msgr. Andrew Wadsworth, Regumen Damon Higgins, Fr. Ralph Weismann, Fr. William Wagner, OMC, Dr. Lynn Blasonette-Pire

Please visit our website for a full list of speakers and conference information  
SacredLiturgy.org / (503) 558-5123

The annual Sacred Liturgy Conference is returning in 2024 to Ferndale, California, near Eureka, Tuesday – Friday, June 4-7. There will be presentations by Cardinal Gerhard Müller, Bishop Robert Vasa, Msgr. Andrew Wadsworth, and others. In 2023 this event attracted several attendees from Michigan. As with most large-scale liturgical conferences, this is an excellent opportunity to be inspired by high quality liturgy, processions, and conversations with like-minded individuals from across the globe. Full details and registration info are at: [www.sacredliturgy.org](http://www.sacredliturgy.org)

## *Tridentine Masses This Coming Week*

Tue. 05/21 6:00 PM: High Mass at *St. John Resort Chapel, Plymouth* (Pentecost Tuesday)  
Tue. 05/21 7:00 PM: High Mass at *Holy Name of Mary, Windsor* (Pentecost Tuesday)