

Tridentine Community News

September 14, 2025 – Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Pope St. John Paul II Altar Served at Orchard Lake Shrine Chapel Side Altar

A fascinating story was published in the September, 2025 edition of the Orchard Lake Schools' *Campus Communicator* bulletin, distributed at the Orchard Lake Shrine Chapel where the Oakland County Latin Mass Association holds its Sunday 9:00 AM Tridentine Masses. The right Side Altar in the chapel, which has recently been upgraded with a reredos displaying a relic of St. Faustina, was the scene of an unexpected visit in 1976:

Remembering the Humility of Another Polish Saint

The newly dedicated St. Faustina and Divine Mercy altar has another unique significance. During the stay of the Polish bishops at Orchard Lake at the time of the International Eucharistic Congress in Philadelphia (1976), I was unable to join Cardinal Karol Wojtyla and the Polish bishops in concelebrating the morning community Mass. As Principal, there was an issue I had to deal with that morning. So, in the afternoon at about 2:00 PM, I went to celebrate a private Mass at that same side altar, the one closest to the organ console. When it came time for the offertory, as I unveiled the chalice and prepared to put the water and wine in it, there stood Cardinal Wojtyla, offering the water and wine to me. Then he washed my hands. I thought, at the time, what a humble act of service that was. Apparently, he had come in to pray privately in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament – a cardinal, who would become pope, and then a saint! Now I look upon it as one of the greatest moments of my priesthood.

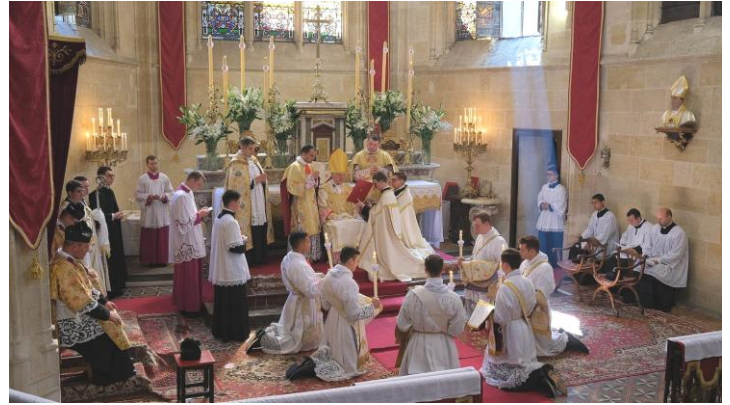
- Msgr. Tom Skindeleski (Prep '63, College '67)
Last Priest-Principal of [Orchard Lake] St. Mary's Prep

Readers of this column may recall that in 2020 Fr. Cy Whitaker, SJ, and in 2021 Fr. Michael Suhy [pictured below] each offered one of the Low Masses of All Souls Day on that same Side Altar. Little did we know that our own local altar servers were following in the footsteps of a saint.



Cardinal Mueller Pontifical Mass on October 26

Archbishop Weisenburger has granted permission for a Pontifical Solemn Mass in the Extraordinary Form, celebrated by Gerhard Cardinal Mueller, at St. Joseph Shrine in Detroit on Sunday, October 26. This Mass is being held as part of the Call to Holiness conference, being held at Laurel Manor in Livonia that weekend. [Photo of Cardinal Mueller celebrating a Traditional Mass of Ordination for the Institute of the Good Shepherd in 2024]



Potsdam, New York Priest Training Report



Congratulations to Fr. Scott Belina, Parochial Vicar of St. Mary's Church in Potsdam, New York, who celebrated his first Traditional Latin Mass on Friday, Sept. 5, 2025, after training from Extraordinary Faith. Fr. Bryan Stitt, Pastor of the parish and Director of Worship for the Diocese of Ogdensburg, also took part in the training. They have recently been given responsibility for the longstanding Latin Mass Community in Potsdam and hope to upgrade the Sunday Masses to Missa Cantatas as their experience offering the Mass develops.

Tridentine Masses This Coming Week

Tue. 09/16 7:00 PM: Low Mass at *St. Benedict/Holy Name of Mary, Windsor* (Ss. Cornelius, Pope, & Cyprian, Bishop & Martyrs)

Comments? Ideas for a future column? Please e-mail info@windsorlatinmass.org. Previous columns are available at www.windsorlatinmass.org.