

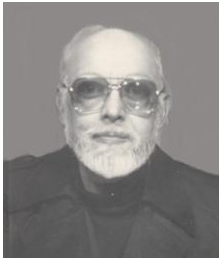
Tridentine Community News

October 5, 2025 – Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

The Founders of Detroit and Windsor's Original TLMs Part 1 of 2

A reader asked us to provide some history on the people behind the founding of the original Traditional Latin Masses in metro Detroit and Windsor. We'll start with the priests.

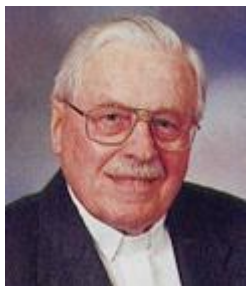
The first TLM in the region was founded in 1991 in Windsor by a group of Canadians and Americans. The Americans had become frustrated with the Archdiocese of Detroit's unwillingness to allow an indult Mass. The then-auxiliary bishop of the London, Ontario diocese, Frederick Henry, was much more hospitable and offered them a chaplain in the person of Hungarian bi-ritual Byzantine Rite priest Fr. Alexander Barna, and use of the chapel at Assumption College (High) School. Fr. Barna served as chaplain of the Windsor Tridentine Mass Association until 1999.



A member of the Basilian order, the late Fr. Ronold [sic] Pazik, C.S.B. was the primary celebrant of the Windsor Tridentine Mass between 1999-2001, and a substitute celebrant before and after those dates. Most of his priesthood was spent as a Spanish professor, first in Rochester, New York at the Aquinas Institute, then in Windsor at Assumption University and the University

of Windsor. Fr. Pazik was a true academic, pursuing advanced theological studies even after retirement. He donated a vast quantity of missals, breviaries, and reference books to the Windsor Latin Mass Community, which are still in use today.

Readers of this column might be interested to learn that Fr. Pazik was baptized at Sweetest Heart of Mary Church in Detroit and attended its grade school. The unusual spelling of his first name came about when Canadian authorities misspelled it during his application for Canadian citizenship. Rather than correct it, he thought it an interesting conversation starter.



The late Fr. Ulysse Lefaive began serving the Windsor Tridentine Mass Community during a low point: The Mass was being held in the humble chapel of the Villa Maria Nursing Home. Shortly after he started, the SARS epidemic broke out; you could not enter the nursing home without signing a form declaring that you had not been in contact with SARS patients, or even traveled to Toronto or

the Far East, where breakouts had occurred. Even more humiliating, you had to be sprayed with a disinfectant before being allowed into the building. Understandably, attendance plummeted to barely 15 people, but Fr. Lefaive urged the community to continue on. In 2003 the Mass relocated to the vastly superior St. Michael's Church. Even when his own health wasn't the best, Fr. Lefaive set an example for the rest of us by soldiering on. In over five years of working with him – from 2001 to 2006 – this author cannot recall a single complaint coming out of the man's mouth.

Fr. Lefaive came from an era when classes at London's St. Peter Seminary were taught in Latin. You read that right: The classes themselves were conducted in Latin; unimaginable in our day. The Latin language and love for the traditional liturgy were in his bloodstream. As pastor of Windsor's historic St. Alphonsus Church in the 1990s, Fr. Lefaive resisted pressure to rearrange the interior of the church after Vatican II. Thanks to his foresight, today, St. Alphonsus stands as one of downtown Windsor's architectural jewels, its ornate altars, oil paintings, and stencilwork stunning in an era of forgettable modernization jobs elsewhere.

Fr. Lefaive took his love for Holy Tradition across the border, as well. As a member of a "priest's club" in Detroit, he promoted the Tridentine Mass to fellow clergy on both sides of the border and softened some obstinate hearts in the process.



The late Fr. Edmond Bourque was the principal substitute celebrant of the Windsor Tridentine Mass for many years. Fr. Bourque had a particularly masterful grasp of the rubrics of the Tridentine Mass, and some might wonder why. Below we reprint a portion of his obituary, in which it is revealed that he taught Latin, though during his years of service to us he never mentioned this.

"After his ordination on April 25, 1959, at Fall River MA, for the Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette, Father studied Moral Theology at the Angelicum University in Rome. Upon his return to Canada, Father was a teacher of Moral Theology, Latin and Religion at both the Major and Minor Seminaries of the Missionaries of La Salette. From 1966 - 1969 he was Novice Master for the La Salette's. From 1969 - 1974 he returned to teach at the Minor Seminary in Enfield."

Second Sunday Benediction Resumes at OCLMA

Orchard Lake Schools has approved the Oakland County Latin Mass Association resuming Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament on the Second Sunday of each month, provided we are done by 10:40 AM. This is a longstanding tradition in metro Detroit, going back to the 1980s, when Benediction was offered after the *ad orientem* Novus Ordo Latin Masses held at St. Joseph Shrine in Detroit under Fr. Thomas Bresnahan.

Second Sunday Benediction continues after the 2:00 PM Mass at the St. Benedict Tridentine Community, at Holy Name of Mary Church in Windsor, as well.

Tridentine Masses This Coming Week

Tue. 10/07 7:00 PM: High Mass at *St. Benedict/Holy Name of Mary, Windsor* (Our Lady of the Rosary) – Marian Procession, organized by the Blue Army, precedes Mass at 6:30 PM.