

Tridentine Community News

August 9, 2026 – Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost

“The Other Fr. Z” Returns to Detroit



Years before Fr. John Zuhlsdorf established his “Fr. Z” internet persona, another priest started calling himself “Fr. Z”, and that priest was originally from Detroit.

Fr. John Ziegler is a member of the family that founded the retail chain KSI Kitchen & Bath. He initially went to law school and served as an assistant district attorney in Dallas County, Texas.

After exploring metro Detroit seminary options in the late 1980s, Fr. Ziegler decided to relocate to the Diocese of Arlington, Virginia and attend Mount St. Mary’s Seminary in Maryland. Before entering seminary, during his visits home while in seminary, and after his 1996 ordination to the sacred priesthood, Fr. Ziegler was a regular at St. Joseph Shrine in Detroit. At the time St. Joseph was known for offering a TLM-like Latin Novus Ordo Mass *ad orientem* at the High Altar. In 1996 Fr. Ziegler was the first priest to ask this writer to teach him how to celebrate the Latin (Novus Ordo) Mass, which incidentally over time led this writer to an avocation that continues to this day of training priests across North America in the Traditional Latin Mass.

Not surprisingly Fr. Ziegler later learned how to celebrate the Traditional Mass and became one of the enduring celebrants of it in the Arlington Diocese. During trips home in the late 2000s and early 2010s, he celebrated the TLM at St. Josaphat Church in Detroit.

On June 11 the Arlington Catholic Herald web site published an article stating that Fr. Ziegler was retiring and moving back to metro Detroit, where he has already received invitations to celebrate (Novus Ordo) Masses. We hope that this long-familiar priest will be able to celebrate the Traditional Mass for the Oakland County Latin Mass Association, the St. Benedict Tridentine Community, and perhaps other regional TLM sites.

Philippines Mall Chapel Latin Mass Grows

For around 20 years, Carlos Palad has been the most prolific and articulate writer about and promoter of the Traditional Latin Mass in the Philippines. On web sites such as New Liturgical Movement and across social media, Carlos is known for informed commentary about TLM situations across the globe.

The August 13, 2023 edition of this column mentioned the proliferation of Catholic chapels – many rather large – located in shopping malls in the Philippines. Our November 5, 2023 column

mentioned the first known Tridentine Mass in a Philippines mall chapel, held every Sunday at 12:00 Noon at the St. Joseph Chapel at Ayala Malls Cloverleaf.

In a July 19 Facebook post, Carlos published the below photos of the current status of that Mass, with attendance significantly higher than it was three years ago, standing room only outside the chapel. Even though we in North America do have a few mall chapels, such as the St. Francis Chapel at the Prudential Center Mall in Boston, none are as large as this one, nor do any have TLMs planned, past, present, or future. Perhaps one of them will take this initiative in the not-too-distant future.



Tridentine Masses This Coming Week

Tue. 08/11 7:00 PM: Low Requiem Mass at *St. Benedict/Holy Name of Mary, Windsor* (Daily Mass for the Dead)

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