

Tridentine Community News

September 13, 2026 – Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

The Blessing of an Apartment Building



Recently an opportunity arose to perform an unusual sort of blessing. This writer is the managing partner of a project that converted a former office building, the Security Bank & Trust Building in Southgate, Michigan, into 216 apartments, now known as the Bank Tower Apartments. If we're going to put so much



effort into making a property a beautiful place to live, why not enhance it with some spiritual graces? And so on Monday, August 31, 2026, Msgr. Ronald Browne performed an hour-long ceremony to bless the building using prayers from the traditional Roman Ritual. His server was Jacob Grossi, son of project architect and St. Benedict Tridentine Community member Jason Grossi, who took these photos.

There is no blessing of an apartment building per se. There is no blessing of a commercial building, either. The *Rituale*, however, does include blessings of a home (as covered in the February 2, 2020 edition of this column) and of an apartment (as covered in our May 21, 2023 column). Msgr. Browne decided to pray one of the forms of the blessing of a home, since that is



really what the objective is, to bless what will be the home of many people, beginning with prayers and sprinkling of Holy Water at the entrance to the building. Inside the building he sprinkled Holy Water at the entrance to each of the four elevators, on every floor, since that is the method of ingress and egress that every tenant will cross. Then he sprinkled exorcized and blessed salt around the building, as is commonly done around a house to ward off demons.



If you or someone you know has a home or other residence that you or they would like blessed, please make inquiry with one of our priests. The riches of the Roman Ritual are available for everyone's benefit.

The English translation of the particular Latin prayer that was used, taken from the 1961 *New Sanctuary Manual*, is as follows:

℣. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

℟. Who made heaven and earth.

℣. The Lord be with you.

℟. And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

O Heavenly Father, Almighty God, we beseech Thee to bless ✠ and sanctify ✠ this house and all who dwell in it and everything else in it. We beg Thee to fill it with all good things. O Lord, rain down on them an abundance of heavenly blessings. From the riches of the earth grant them every substance necessary for life, and create in them the desire for eternal happiness. At our entrance please bless ✠ and sanctify ✠ this house as Thou didst bless the house of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob. Let Thy Angels dwell within the walls of this house to protect it and those who live here. Through Christ our Lord.

℟. Amen.

[It is sprinkled with Holy Water.]

Tridentine Masses This Coming Week

Tue. 09/15 7:00 PM: High Requiem Mass at *St. Benedict/Holy Name of Mary, Windsor* (Requiem After the Announcement of a Death)