

# Next Week



**The Extraordinary form of the Mass is next Sunday at 12:30 rather than the second Sunday of September!**

Our monthly Extraordinary Form Mass will be on the first rather than second week of the month for next month only. We happen to be expecting a light turnout. If you have ever been curious about this form of the Mass, this may be your turn to try it. If you are planning to come, invite a friend!

**Tuesday's Mass and Confession schedule remains intact but there are no public Masses in the Church this week other than Tuesday. No public Mass on Mon, Wed, Thu, or Fri. There WILL be Mass on Saturday morning. See you there!**

**NOTE that our daily Mass schedule will be changing beginning on Sept. 7th for the academic year as it does every year:**

Mass times are Wed. and Fri. mornings at 8:15am;

Thurs. and Sat. at 8:30am and Tuesday's schedule is unchanged. There is no scheduled Mass on Mondays.

Tuesday worship begins with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at around 5:30 or 5:45 and Confessions until 6:45 followed by Mass at 7pm.

## Prayer Chain for Fr. Gerald

We are initiating a prayer chain for Fr. Gerald while he is away. All are invited to sign up for a weekly commitment to pray for Fr. Gerald and the Christian refugees in Iraq. Sign-up sheets will be available after Mass. This is very simple; sign up by selecting a time and day of the week and say a prayer during that time slot every week.

Here are some questions and answers:

Q. Do I have to come to the Church to pray?

A. No. Pray wherever you are?

Q. Do I need to pray for the entire hour?

A. No. Praying the entire hour is great if you can but what is being asked is to say a pray during that hour.

Q. Can I sign up for more than one hour?

A. Yes. Sign up for as many slots during the week as you'd like. Families can take a slot together and so can couples; members of the families can each take their own time slot.

Q. How long are we doing this?

A. For the duration of Fr. Gerald's three year assignment.

Q. Is this open only to members of Old St. Patrick?

A. No. Anyone can be part of the prayer chain (please be considerate of Fr. Gerald's request to avoid use of social media regarding his assignment and to be prudent regarding who you share the information with.

Q. When do we start?

A. You can start now but if not start by August 15<sup>th</sup>.

Q. If I have further questions who can I ask?

A. Contact Gary Perrydore @ [gperrydore@comcast.net](mailto:gperrydore@comcast.net) or 734-634-0084.

### Missionary Cooperative Appeal

Our Dear Friends and Benefactors, Rev. Fr. Gerald Gawronski and Parishioners, It is with immense gratitude that I write this letter. Thanks so very much for everything you have done to make our visit a fruitful one. Father Jose Manuel did enjoy every bit of his short visit in the parish. Beautiful Church, devotional liturgy and music, friendly atmosphere, lively community and great hospitality of you and your people! It was indeed a relaxing and prayerful weekend for him! Allow me also to sincerely thank you and your parishioners for the generous sacrifice you've made in the Appeal collection in support of our mission diocese. However helpless we are to repay you for your kindness, we pray that the good Lord bless you and reward your missionary zeal.

Sincerely we are,  
Rev. Raju B. Pilla, Mission Rep.  
Latin Archdiocese of Trivandrum



### Thérèse of Lisieux on the sure hope of attaining heaven:

“You’re going to leave me!” I said:

“Oh! not for the space of an inch!”

Resuming my usual theme, I said: “Do you believe I can still hope to be with you in heaven? This seems impossible to me. It’s like expecting a cripple with one arm to climb to the top of a greased pole to fetch an object.”

“Yes, but if there’s a giant there who picks up the little cripple in his arms, raises him high, and gives him the object desired!”

“This is exactly what God will do for you, but you must not be preoccupied about the matter; you must say to God: “I know very well that I’ll never be worthy of what I hope for, but I hold out my hand to You like a beggar and I’m sure You will answer me fully, for You are so good!”

— *From a conversation with Celine on 5 August 1897.*

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Peter said, “This shall never be for you!” And the Lord severely rebuked him saying that he was thinking as man, not God, and was in the service of Satan.

**And what of us? The Church cannot even seem to ask people** to attend Mass on a Holy Day if it is on a Monday or a Saturday. It is apparently too much to ask people to come to Mass two days in a row. If that be the case, who will summon them to withstand and vigorously protest unjust and evil laws, even if it means financial penalties or even jail? And blood martyrdom? It hardly seems likely that most clergy today would counsel readiness for such a thing or even be close to being ready ourselves. Bishops or priests who do so can expect to be called reckless and imprudent in shy and soft times like these. The cry will surely go up, “It is not yet the time for such things!” But if not now, when?

**Scripture says, *If the trumpet does not sound a clear call, who will get ready for battle?*** (1 Cor. 14:8). It cannot simply be priests who must make this call. Parents and other leaders need to sound it as well. Yes, parents need to prepare their children for more than a career. They need now to prepare them for difficult days ahead — days that will include persecution and even martyrdom if they decide to follow Christ unambiguously.

**Am I wrong? I sure hope so.** But we can no longer, as a Church, sit idly

by and hope things just magically get better. As a culture, and even in segments of the Church, we have sown the wind, and now we are reaping the whirlwind.

**Many, these days, like to criticize the Church of the past for any number of failings.** But I wonder how the future members of the Church will remember the Church in our times. Columnist Joseph Sobran, writing over 15 years ago, wondered the same thing and wrote:

[Catholics of the future] certainly won’t accuse us of excessive zeal. They might be shocked by our lukewarmness, our cowardice masquerading as tolerance, our laxity, our willingness to countenance heresy, sacrilege, blasphemy, and immorality, even within the Church itself, our eagerness to ingratiate ourselves with the secular world ... (*Subtracting Christianity*, p. 268)

**Yes, I too wonder. From St. Peter to Constantine there were 33 Popes. Thirty of them were martyred and two died in exile.**

Countless clergy and lay people too were martyred. It is hard to imagine the Church in the decadent West being willing to suffer so. Surely our brethren in many less affluent parts of the world *are* dying in large numbers. But I wonder: After all these years of “comfort Catholicism”, would the average American parishioner or clergyman be willing or able to endure such loss?

**It is time, past time, to retool.** It

is time to prepare for persecutions that will get bolder by the month and year. The dark movements that marched in under the banners of tolerance never meant it. And having increasingly gained power, they are seeking to criminalize anyone who resists their vision. No tolerance for us. Religious liberty is eroding, and compulsory compliance is already here. The federal courts increasingly shift to militantly secular and activist judges who legislate from the bench. When will we as a Church finally say to the bureaucrats who demand we comply with evil laws: “We will not comply. If you fine us we will not pay. If you seek to confiscate our buildings, we will turn maximum publicity against you, but we still will not comply. If you arrest us, off to jail we go! But we will simply not comply with evil laws or cooperate with evil.”

**Right now, most of us can barely imagine our clergy standing so firm.** Quiet compromises and jargon-filled “solutions” will be a grave temptation to a Church ill-prepared for persecution.

**Call me alarmist or call me idealist, but I hope we find our spine before it is too late.** It is usually a faithful remnant that saves the day in the Biblical narrative. I pray only for the strength to be in that faithful remnant. Will you join me too? Let’s pray and start retooling now. Only our unambiguous faith can save us or anyone we love. Pray for strong and courageous faith.