

✠JMJ✠



## Quo Vadis?

Volume 1, No. 8, August 2021

*A Newsletter from Our Lady of Guadalupe Chapter--NE Florida*

UNA VOCE OF AMERICA

Chairman: L. J. Hammonds ([unavocejax@gmail.com](mailto:unavocejax@gmail.com)) Cochair: Taylor Miller ( [REDACTED] )  
Co-Editors: Kevin McLaughlin ( [kevinmcla@unavocejax.org](mailto:kevinmcla@unavocejax.org) ) and Katherine Owens ( [REDACTED] )

Visit us online at: [UNACOCEJAX](http://UNACOCEJAX) ([unavocejax.org](http://unavocejax.org)), or [Una Voce of NE Florida Latin Mass Society- Our Lady of Guadalupe Chapter - Home](#) | [Facebook](#)

“Therefore, brethren, stand fast; and hold the traditions which you have learned, whether by word, or by our epistle.” –St. Paul, 2 Thess. 2:14, DRV

In honor of Our Lady, we are dedicating this issue to her Assumption into Heaven.



“The Assumption of the Virgin,” Francesco Botticini, 1476

### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

L. J. Hammonds

Dear faithful fellow Catholics,

May this August newsletter bring you something positive in light of the news from the Vatican. We have been inundated with commentary regarding the Motu Proprio. Enclosed is a link to three official

statements: Una Voce ([FIUV International Federation Una Voce: Official Statement of the Fœderatio Internationalis Una Voce regarding the Motu Proprio «Traditionis Custodes»](#)), FSSP ([The Missive Blog - Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter \(fssp.com\)](#)), and SSPX (<https://fsspx.org/en/publications/letters/letter-father-pagliarini-about-motu-proprio-traditionis-custodes-67628>). I think the best thing for our North Florida chapter is to remain faithful and increase our prayers and sacrifices for our pope, bishops and cardinals, and that our priests will not be persecuted from within the one-fold of Christ's Church. Pray and fast for Bishop Estevez and his upcoming successor, that they will hold fast to the Traditional Mass, which unites people of all ages and languages to the Body of Christ.

We should refrain from bombarding our bishop with angry letters or requests. Instead, if you feel you must, you should send him letters of thanks, describing why the Traditional Mass is important to you.

A new three-part documentary, *Mass of the Ages*, will be released on August 15<sup>th</sup>, the Feast of the Assumption. For more information, please visit the

website for this project at [www.theliturgy.org](http://www.theliturgy.org). They have a registration link to receive these online videos once they are produced. Also on that day, Una Voce North Florida will be hosting a picnic at Alpine Groves Park from 1pm to 5pm. If you haven't bought tickets for the raffle, time is running out, more information on the raffle and the picnic are included below! Hope to see you there!

Stay true to the one true faith.

Viva Christo Rey!  
Chairman Hammonds

### **TRADITIONIS CUSTODES**

On July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Pope Francis sent an apostolic letter issued 'moto proprio' ("on one's own initiative") called ***Traditionis Custodes*** that concerns the *Usus Antiquior* ("More Ancient Usage"), Mass of all Ages or the TLM as it is popularly called.

The link to the document is here:

[https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/motu\\_proprio/documents/20210716-motu-proprio-traditionis-custodes.html](https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/motu_proprio/documents/20210716-motu-proprio-traditionis-custodes.html)

Here are some responses from our prelates:

#### **Cardinal Raymond Leo Burke**

A schismatic spirit or actual schism are always gravely evil, but there is nothing about the UA (*Usus Antiquior*, 'More Ancient Usage,' TLM) which fosters schism. For those of us who knew the UA in the past, like myself, it is a question of an act of worship marked by centuries-old goodness, truth, and beauty.

But can the Roman Pontiff juridically abrogate the UA? The fullness of power (*plenitudo potestatis*) of the Roman Pontiff is the power to defend and promote the doctrine and discipline of the Church. It is not 'absolute power' which would include the power to change doctrine or to eradicate a liturgical discipline which has been alive in the Church since the time of Pope Gregory the Great and even earlier.

"Statement on the Moto Proprio," July 22, 2021  
<https://www.cardinalburke.com/presentations/traditionis-custodes>

#### **Archbishop Athanasius Schneider**

Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger (later Pope Benedict XVI) spoke about the limitation of the powers of the pope regarding the liturgy, with this illuminating explanation: 'The pope is not an absolute monarch whose will is law; rather, he is the guardian of the authentic Tradition and, thereby, the premier guarantor of obedience. He cannot do as he likes, and he is thereby able to oppose those people who, for their part, want to do whatever comes into their head. His rule is not that of arbitrary power, but that of obedience in faith. That is why, with respect to the Liturgy, he has the task of a gardener, not that of a technician who builds new machines and throws the old ones on the junk-pile...

***The traditional Mass is a treasure that belongs to the entire Church***, since it has been celebrated and deeply regarded and loved by priests and saints for at least a thousand years [emphasis ours].

What is urgently needed is a Motu Proprio with strict norms suppressing the practice of such 'LGBT-Masses,' since they are an outrage to the divine majesty...

"TRADITION BETRAYED: Diane Montagna Interviews Bishop Schneider on '*Traditionis Custodes*.'" *The Remnant Newspaper*, July 23, 2021.  
<https://remnantnewspaper.com/web/index.php/articles/item/5493-tradition-betrayed-diane-montagna-interviews-bishop-schneider-on-traditionis-custodes>

#### **Cardinal Gerhard Müller**

For the unity in the confession of the revealed faith and the celebration of the mysteries of grace in the seven sacraments by no means require sterile uniformity in the external liturgical form, as if the Church were like one of the international hotel chains with their homogenous design. The unity of believers with one another is rooted in unity in God through faith, hope, and love and has nothing

to do with uniformity in appearance, the lockstep of a military formation, or the groupthink of the big-tech age.

Without the slightest empathy, one ignores the religious feelings of the (often young) participants in the Masses according to the Missal John XXIII. (1962) Instead of appreciating the smell of the sheep, the shepherd here hits them hard with his crook. It also seems simply unjust to abolish celebrations of the “old” rite just because it attracts some problematic people: *abusus non tollit usum* (“abuse does not cancel use”—translation ours).

“Cardinal Muller on the New TLM Restrictions,” *The Catholic Thing*, July 19, 2021. [Cardinal Mueller on the New TLM Restrictions - The Catholic Thing](#)

## **PARISH NEWS**

### **Births/Weddings/Deaths/Prayer Requests/ Special Events**

#### **St. Edward's**

Fr. Donovan's sermon for July 16, 2020 has been made available on Youtube. He talked about the development of the scapular first as monastic wear (he is a Mercedarian priest), and then how it was adopted for lay wear. <https://eva.us/c336cob7>

There will be a film screening of *Fatima* (2020) at 6:30pm on Friday, August 13<sup>th</sup>.

Please note that there **will not** be a Latin Mass on Sunday, August 15<sup>th</sup> due to a conflict on Father's schedule. However, the traditional blessing of an herb, fruit, and flower basket in honor of the Assumption will be done after all the Ordinary Form Masses on August 14<sup>th</sup> (4pm) and 15<sup>th</sup> (10am).

#### **Immaculate Conception**

The parish needs new hymnals. This is sadly no joke; the rats have been enjoying the others. Of many problems with rats or mice chewing on books is that the fibers of the different leaves stick together as a result of the rodent saliva and their chewing action. This makes it hard to open the book to read the pages without tearing the remaining paper. Donations are being gratefully accepted for replacements.



Fr. Kuhlman will be celebrating the Young People's Mass in honor of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary at 6pm followed by fellowship at 7pm on Sunday, August 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### **St. Joseph's**

Many folks were invested in the Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel by Fr. Hurley on Friday, July 16<sup>th</sup>.



#### **St. Michael's**

A playground for the children was installed on Saturday, July 24<sup>th</sup>. The swings are not yet up, but it's lookin' good!



The homeschooling co-op is resuming meeting on Mondays on August 16<sup>th</sup>.

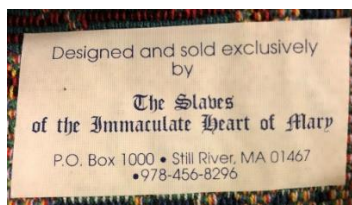


## St. Patrick's

No news for August.

### UNA VOCE FUNDRAISER RAFFLE

Mr. & Mrs. Ed Wnorowski donated two Our Lady of Guadalupe throws to our Una Voce chapter to use as a fundraiser in 2020. Our first attempt at the fundraiser happened very quickly and did not garner much attention. We will be doing a drawing for one throw on 8/15/21 (Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary) and for the second on 12/12/21 (Gaudete Sunday; Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe). Here are pictures of both:



The money raised by Una Voce will be used for good projects. Money from our chapter in the past has been used to send Diocesan priests to institutes to learn to say the Latin Mass, purchase altar missals, etc.

Tickets for the raffle are \$5 and so far we have 4 people who have donated and 8 tickets are outstanding (multiple tickets can be bought). You may purchase tickets through Paypal using [kevinmcla@unavocejax.org](mailto:kevinmcla@unavocejax.org) or by check made out to "Kevin McLaughlin" and sent to [REDACTED]. I'll keep track of your purchase and confirm everyone who has donated by email. Physical tickets won't be sent out.

## DIOCESAN NEWS

### Diocese of St. Augustine and "Traditionis Custodes"

Until further notice, the Latin Mass will continue at each parish with the priests who have been offering the Mass. The Bishop is reviewing the Pope's documents and will be advising the priests what to do at some point in the near-future.

### Update on the Seminarians on Our Prayers for Priest Calendar

Thank you to the Hammonds family for helping with the Prayers for Priest initiative.

Good news! Deacon Mac Hill has been ordained and is now Fr. Hill. He is stationed at the Cathedral Basilica in St. Augustine.

Please especially pray for these two seminarians in light of the new restrictions from Rome:

Seminarian Esteban Merkt is continuing his studies.

Anthony Cuesta, son of Deacon Angel Cuesta and his wife, Jazmin Cuesta, at St. Edward's has been accepted to Our Lady of Guadalupe Seminary, FSSP, in Denton, NB. He will begin his studies in September.



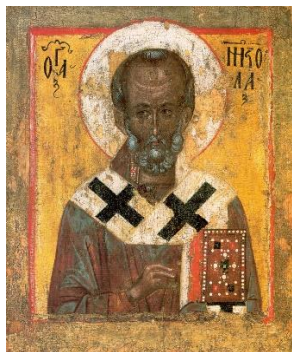
Anthony Cuesta with Fr. Donovan

The Patron Saint of priests is St. John Vianney. His feast day is August 9<sup>th</sup>. He is one of the incorruptible saints and his body can be seen in the town he loved, Ars, France.

Best known for his zeal for the Sacrament of Confession, St. John-Baptist-Mary Vianney, the Curé of Ars was granted by God the amazing gift to see into the souls of the faithful during Confession. He could see their sins, and remind them of ones they had forgotten, chide them for trying to minimize sins, and generally brought great sanctity to those who came under his care. His renown was so great, people from all over France came to have him hear their confessions. His book, *The Sermons of the Curé of Ars*, is recognized as one of the great books of Catholic literature.

St. John Vianney practiced much penance in his life, all for the reparation of sins. He was even visited by demons to such an extent that he did not always receive a full night's sleep. If the grilling by the demon(s) was particularly bad, he knew that a person especially attached to sin was coming into the confessional the next day. Sometimes he would be physically thrown around the room. ~ St. John Vianney, pray for us.

### ST AUGUSTINE OUR DIOCESE'S PATRON SAINT



Mark your calendars! The Patron Saint of our Diocese is St. Augustine, Doctor of the Church and his feast day is on August 28<sup>th</sup>. Most famous for his *Confessions*, St. Augustine was a very prolific early Church Father, who counts among his writings, the twenty-two books of the *City of God*. After his conversion (through the tears and prayers of his long-suffering mother, St. Monica) in 387, he became a priest, then bishop in his native Africa at Hippo, and created a monastic rule that made “him

one of the four great founders of religious orders” (Augustinians, Dominicans, Mercederians, Assumptionists, Ursulines). The other three are: the Rule of St. Basil (Basilian, Eastern Rite orders, Orthodox Church orders), the Rule of St. Benedict (Benedictines, Trappists, Cistercians); and the Rule of St. Francis (Franciscans, Capuchins).

*The Saint Andrew Daily Missal*, 1945. Reprint.

[The Rule of Saint Augustine - Catholicism.org](http://TheRuleofSaintAugustine-Catholicism.org)

[Rule of Saint Basil | Catholic Answers](http://RuleofSaintBasil-CatholicAnswers)

[Cistercian | Definition, History, & Facts | Britannica](http://Cistercian-Definition,History,&Facts-Britannica)

[Capuchin Franciscans – Province of St. Conrad \(capuchins.org\)](http://CapuchinFranciscans-ProvinceofSt.Conrad-capuchins.org)

It was Catholic Spaniard, Pedro Menendez de Aviles, who gave us our patron saint. He spied land on August 28, 1565. He named his upcoming settlement, St. Augustine, in honor of the Bishop of Hippo. Naming locations after the saint of the day was a pious Catholic tradition.

The Diocese was named after the city. St. Augustine will celebrate its 456<sup>th</sup> birthday on the day of its founding, September 8<sup>th</sup>. The Diocese was founded on March 11, 1870, with its first Bishop, Augustin Verot. According to the Diocese's historical timeline, there were only three parishes (St. Augustine Cathedral, Immaculate Conception in Jacksonville, and St. Michael's in Fernandina Beach), seven missions, and a scant 1,328 Catholics.

Prior to 1870, the future Diocese of St. Augustine was under the “vicariate apostolic” control of the Bishop of Savannah, Augustin Verot, starting in 1857. Vicariate apostolic status basically means an area of active missionary work with insufficient numbers of Catholic faithful to warrant an independent Diocese. During the Spanish Periods, Florida would have been part of a Diocese in Cuba.

Although the region did not qualify as a Diocese or vicariate apostolic prior to 1857, there are many notable firsts within the borders of the Diocese:  
[First Mass](#) = located on the grounds of the Mission of Nombre de Dios, September 8, 1565  
[First Parish](#) = St. Augustine Parish (later renamed Cathedral Parish)

[First Parish Church](#) = Nuestra Senora de los Remedios (Our Lady of Remedies) roughly located where the A1A Restaurant south of the Plaza in St. Augustine is today – the [first Catholic cemetery](#) has been partially excavated in the last 10 years from underneath A1A and surrounding buildings.

[First chain of missions](#) = across the northern part of Florida and as far north as southern Virginia, 1573-c.1673

[First monastery](#) = Franciscan, St. Francis Barracks in St. Augustine, 1588

[First hospital](#) = Nuestra Senora de las Soledad (Our Lady of Solitude), St. Augustine, 1597

[First seminary](#) = Franciscan, exact location unknown, 1605

[First Marian Shrine](#) = Nuestra Senora de la Leche y Buen Parto (Our Lady of the Milk and Happy Delivery), north of St. Augustine, 1620s

[First \(unaccredited\) ordinations in the future United States](#) = seven priests in 1674 (1<sup>st</sup> accredited priest ordained in the United States is in 1793)

[First Catholic colony to nearly die](#) = when the British took over in 1763, all but eight Catholics left for Cuba. The reason Catholicism survived in Florida was the emigration of the Minorcan colony who moved up to St. Augustine from New Smyrna in 1777.

[First \(unaccredited\) Catholic School for slaves](#) = in St. Augustine by Irish priest, Father Thomas Hassett, 1789 (1<sup>st</sup> accredited school is in 1829)

[First Catholic convent school for girls in Florida](#) = Sisters of Mercy from Rhode Island, 1859

[First Catholic Priest Ordained in the United States, 1793 | Pat McNamara \(patheos.com\)](#)

[Timeline of Black Catholic history \(uscatholic.org\)](#)

As the 20<sup>th</sup> century progressed, the other Dioceses of Florida developed out of the Diocese of St. Augustine. For more information about the history of our Diocese, please go here: [Historical Timeline | Diocese of St. Augustine \(dosaf.com\)](#).

## FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION PICNIC

Our Lady of Guadalupe Chapter, Una Voce, invites you and your family to a Marian picnic in honor of Blessed Mother's Assumption.

Please join us on Sunday, August 15th at Alpine Groves Park in St. Johns County, 2060 State Road 13, Switzerland, FL. We have the pavilion reserved with a grill from **1:00 pm-5:00 pm**, but the picnic tables will only seat 30-35 folks. Please bring your own lawn chair if you own any so those without can sit at the picnic tables.

Please bring a dish to share. If your last name starts with A-M, bring a main course-like dish. If your last name starts with N-Z, bring a side dish. Children learning to bake are encouraged to try their hand at a dessert.

A playground and public bathrooms are available. This County Park has a moratorium on alcohol, so each family/individual should bring their own non-alcoholic drink. In order to reserve the pavilion for the afternoon, we had to sign a waiver saying we would not be playing paintball, shooting off fireworks or rockets, engaging in an archery contest, or horse racing. There was a second waiver still in place as regards the virus and our commitment to keeping everyone safe.

The drawing for one of the Our Lady of Guadalupe throws will take place at 3pm. Tickets can be purchased at the picnic between 1pm and 3pm.

Please join us for fun, fellowship, and food as we honor Our Mother on one of her most important feast days of the year!

## LITANY OF THE LOVE OF MARY



The Death and Assumption of the Virgin, Fra Angelico, 1430-1434

Lord, have mercy on us. **R.** Have mercy on us.  
Christ, have mercy on us. **R.** Have mercy on us.  
Christ, hear us. **R.** Have mercy on us.  
Christ, graciously hear us. **R.** Have mercy on us.  
God the Father, Ocean of Divine Love, **R.** Have mercy on us.  
God the Son, Divine Victim of Peace and Love, **R.** Have mercy on us.  
God the Holy Ghost, Divine Spirit, and Prince of Love, **R.** Have mercy on us.  
Most Holy Trinity, **R.** Have mercy on us.  
Holy Mary, Mother and Queen of Love, **R.** Pray for me.  
Mary, my own dear Mother, **R.** Pray for me.  
Mary, my powerful advocate and faithful protectress, **R.** Pray for me.  
Because you are the delight of the Holy Family, **R.** I love thee.  
Because you are the well-beloved Daughter of the Eternal Father, **R.** I love thee.  
Because you are the Sweet Immaculate Mother of Jesus, **R.** I love thee.  
Because you are the Love, the Dove, the Spouse, the Immaculate One of the Holy Ghost, **R.** I love thee.  
Because you are the most lovely of the children of men. **R.** I love thee.  
Because you are our Mother by excellence, **R.** I love thee.  
Because you fully partook of the Sufferings of Our Crucified Jesus, **R.** I love thee.  
Because you are the friend of the friendless, **R.** I love thee.

Because you are the strength of the weak, **R.** I love thee.  
Because you were given us by Jesus Himself when dying on the Cross as the dearest pledge of His love, **R.** I love thee.  
Because you are our joy and salvation after God, **R.** I love thee.  
Because I, more than all others, should love you, **R.** I love thee.  
Because your goodness, mercy, and love of me have been indescribable, **R.** I love thee.  
Because your heart has been pierced with love of me, **R.** I love thee.  
Because all that is good, great, amiable and attractive is centred in Thee, **R.** I love thee.  
Because there is no one above Thee but God, **R.** I love thee.  
Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world; **R.** Have mercy on us. [3 times]

Let us Pray

O Mary, my Mother, you are the seat of all virtues, the treasury of graces, the greatest of all God's works, the sovereign Queen of angels and of men; I love thee, therefore, with my whole heart and soul, mind and strength, and invite all heaven and earth to love, praise, and serve thee – to cast themselves fearlessly into thy maternal arms, for though art the safe port of Heaven. Let angels sing to thee Hosannas of praise, and repeat Holy! Holy! Holy! Mary, Mother, Queen of our kingdom, rejoice, triumph, reign, peerless beauty and matchless royalty, for endless ages. Men unite your voices with the angelic choirs; they sing the praises of their august sovereign. Our tones must be of filial love, for Mary is our Mother. Let heaven and earth, men and angels, live to love, praise, and pay honour to Mary, our dear Mother. Amen.

Waters, John. *The Little Treasury of Leaflets*. Vol 1. 1914. Reprint.



## THE BLUE SCAPULAR

More than two hundred years after Our Lady of Mt. Carmel appeared to St. Simon Stock, the Blue Scapular developed as part of the Conceptionists nuns' habit in the 15<sup>th</sup> century (please watch Fr. Donovan's sermon included in this newsletter for information on the development of the scapular). Spanish foundress, St. Beatrice da Silva Menesses was a Gstercian nun, but founded the Order of Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Conception of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary in 1484. Their habits were white, and underneath they wore the Scapular of the Immaculate Conception. This Scapular became popular and the Sisters petitioned Rome so others could wear it.

In the next hundred years, this devotion grew in popularity and spread to Italy. In Naples, in 1583, the Venerable Servant of God, Ursula Benincasa, founded the Congregation of Oblates of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. On the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, after having received Communion, Sister Ursula was given a vision of Blessed Mother dressed in white with an azure blue garment over the top, holding baby Jesus and surrounded by a crowd similarly dressed. Thus changed the appearance of the Scapular of the Immaculate Conception.

Both Blessed Mother and Jesus spoke to Sister Ursula and she founded a second order devoted to solitude called the Theatines of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. A medal was cast and approved by Pope Pius X in 1910 to be worn in place of the Blue Scapular if so desired. The medal shows the Sacred Heart of Jesus on one side and Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception on the other.

A second order of nuns dressed in the same way as the Conceptionists, the Congregation of Marians of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. They were founded in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. To them is reserved the ability to found Confraternities of the Immaculate Conception per Pope Innocent XI. For the investiture into the Confraternity, a Marian priest is needed, reception of Communion, life thereafter is devoted to living for God alone, avoidance of the near occasion of sin, frequent visits to church, prayers, almsgiving, and penances. For more information: [THE BLUE SCAPULAR \(catholictradition.org\)](http://catholictradition.org).

[The Confraternity of the Immaculate Conception](#) | [Marians of the Immaculate Conception](#)



The closest Marian religious house to Florida is located in Washington, D.C.

## WHERE IN THE DOUAY?

The answer to last month's question was the book of **Hebrews** in the N.T.

For this month we won't be playing the guessing game. Here are some passages for reflection:

When any one shall offer an oblation of sacrifice to the Lord, his offering shall be of fine flour, and he shall pour oil upon it, and put frankincense, and shall bring it to the sons of Aaron the priests: and one of them shall take a handful of the flour and oil, and all the frankincense, and shall put it a memorial upon the altar for a most sweet savour to the Lord. And the remnant of the sacrifice shall be Aaron's, and his sons', holy of holies of the offerings of the Lord. But when thou offerest a sacrifice baked in the oven of flour, to wit, loaves without leaven, tempered with oil, and unleavened wafers, anointed with oil: If thy oblation be from the frying-pan, of flour tempered with oil, and without leaven, thou shalt divide it into little pieces, and shalt pour oil upon it.  
Leviticus 2:1-6

All of these words are directly from God Himself as He spoke to Moses from the Tabernacle. What is the point of taking a look at these passages?

**The Lord is very precise on how He desires to be worshipped.**



I recently watched a You-Tube video called “Traditions of the Liturgy” by Fr. Ripperger on the *Sensus Fidelium* channel. The link is here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O-K48iAPOoQ&list=LL&index=2>

In this video Fr. Ripperger has some excellent comments on the Mass of all Ages vs. the New Rite.

“All Rites of the Mass can trace their roots back to the apostles **except one.**”

Speaking concerning each generation of Catholics as it concerns the Liturgy:

“The Rite is NOT their property. It’s NOT theirs, it’s Gods”

“If you look in the Old Testament, it was NEVER envisioned that what was in the determination of how God is to be worshipped was in the hands of man.”

**GOD** tells → us how He is to be worshipped in the Liturgy, not the other way around.

And Nadab and Abiu, the sons of Aaron, taking their censors, put fire therein, and incense on it, offering before the Lord strange fire: which was not commanded them. And fire coming out from the Lord destroyed them, and they died before the Lord.  
Leviticus 10:1-2

## **BOOK REVIEWS**

*The Life of Mary as Seen by the Mystics* by Raphael Brown, compiler  
Submitted by Grace Walker

Father Raphael Brown compiles the private revelations of 4 mystics: St. Elizabeth of Schoenau, St. Bridget of Sweden, Venerable Mother Mary of Jesus of Agreda, and Sister Anne Catherine Emmerich.

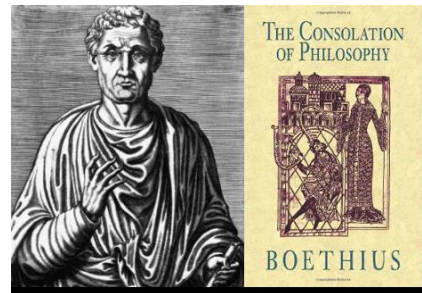
The Lord has placed these pictures in the minds of His saints. They portray the work and life of our Lady and Our Lord in color and motion.

I would recommend this book as a lively and rich addition to your joys of meditation. Place it close

to you, and share with company, family and friends.

Keep these images on your palette for mediation and let them imprint an irreplaceable picture.

*The Consolation of Philosophy* by Anicius Boethius  
Submitted by Kevin McLaughlin



Anicius Boethius (480-524 A.D.) who is venerated as a saint in the Italian diocese of Pavia (restricted) on October 23<sup>rd</sup> was a polymath who became the right-hand man of the Arian king, Theodoric the Great (454-526 A.D.), ruler of the Ostrogothic Kingdom. For history buffs, this would be right after what is called the fall of the Western Roman Empire (476 A.D.).



Boethius writes his greatest work after falling out of favor with King Theodoric after being accused of treason and is thrown in prison. Being a Catholic with orthodox belief may have contributed to his demise. Some of his theological tracks include, *De Trinitate* (The Trinity) and *De Fide Catholica* (On the Catholic Faith). Whatever the ultimate reason, Boethius goes from being favored to despised and this forms the background of his *Consolation*.

For my review, I’m using the Penguin Classics version, introduced and edited by V.E. Watts (1938-2002), who was Master of Grey College, Durham. I highly recommend a copy of the *Consolation* that includes some type of detailed introduction and copious footnotes.

The *Consolation* is a difficult book to describe but in essence it is a theodicy—a vindication of God in respect to the existence of evil. In other words, it is an **attempt** to resolve the problem of evil. Or in laymen’s terms in form of a question, Why is this evil happening to me when I haven’t apparently done anything wrong? Why are evil rulers in power making decisions that are detrimental to my survival? Think of the patriarch Job on the ash heap when you hear the word theodicy. Think about the father on the TV screen who is weeping because he just lost his entire family to the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami or the law-abiding South African families who now have to go without food because of maniac looters. The problem of evil is as old as the Rebellion of Lucifer and when you take the time to think about it, simple answers don’t work. A theodicy is a real attempt to answer all those who come to the conclusion that: God must not exist because if He did, He wouldn’t allow all the evil suffering in His creation.

This is, if I may digress, why fluffy and Pollyannaish homilies that repeat the mantra, “God loves you” without any deep empathy and consideration for the actual pain caused by real evil in the world has a tendency to push people away. Yes, “God is love”, but that love needs to be explained in a non-naïve way through the context of the rich Catholic Faith full of saints and martyrs in the context of an often brutal 2000 year history. How **does** God love me in the midst of tragedy?

What is brilliant about the *Consolation* is that, Boethius does NOT produce his theodicy using sources of revelation, i.e. the Holy Scriptures or Catholic dogma. He goes about his task using “philosophy”. And his “philosophy” isn’t the modern kind that is subversive to the Faith. A verse from the Bible might help explain,

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and injustice of those men that detain the truth of God in injustice: Because that which is known of God is manifest in them. For God hath manifested it unto them. For the invisible things of him, from the creation of the world, **are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made; his eternal power also, and divinity: so that they are inexcusable.**  
St. Paul to the Romans, 1:18-20

Boethius tackles the problem of evil using his God-given rational mind. He uses natural reason and logic as he looks out at the natural world. It is a cannon blast to the skeptic (one who denies that the human intellect can know anything with certainty). Yes, our human intellect is darkened by the effects of original sin. But not to the point where atheism and despair concerning evil is excusable:

God, our Creator and Lord, can be known with certainty, by the natural light of reason from created things (De fide.).

*Fundamentals of Catholic Dogma*, Dr.

Ludwig Ott

And if God can be known with certainty by the light of our natural reason, then the evil that we see around us and that directly affects us is somehow within the Providence of Almighty God. In other words, God exists, God is Good, and therefore evil is a permission in God’s good plan.

I’ll leave you with a little excerpt that is one of my favorites. Here Philosophy, personified by a woman, is speaking to Boethius about the natural (and classical, in our terms) philosophers who had run afoul of injustice:

The sole cause of their tragic sufferings was their obvious and complete contempt of the pursuits of immoral men which my teaching had instilled in them. **It is hardly surprising if we are driven by the blasts of storms when our chief aim on this sea of life is to displease wicked men.**

Bk 1, pg 39, Penguin Classics

Amen! God indeed help us to reach eternity being on the side of those who displeased the wicked!

### **ASK FATHER**

Have a burning theological or practical question related to the Catholic Faith not appropriate for the Confessional? Please email one or both editors and we’ll forward your question to our participating priests.

## ST. KATERI AND OUR LADY OF MARTYRS

Submitted by Katie Lane

### “The Bench”

On Holy ground, barefoot steps fall,  
Mommy look, there is a man!  
One child ahead calls.  
I approach and tears instantly flow without a  
sound.  
You were disguised as I hesitated to draw closer to  
the mound.  
Too often rejected, it is Christ Jesus we have  
found.

In the summer of 2017 our family went on a six week family vacation/pilgrimage expedition. Initially scheduled as a multi-state trip to spend time with grandparents, our trip became grandparents and much more as we incorporated several pilgrimages. Knowing our travel dates were set in stone, I began researching Catholic travel. Logistically I picked out some locations and relied on the Holy Spirit as our guide. While I was moved at all of the locations we visited, one in particular had a profound effect on me.

The Shrine of Our Lady of Martyrs in Auriesville, NY is holy ground. It is the location of both the birth (St. Kateri) and the death of saints (where three Jesuit missionaries were martyred.) Our oldest daughter chose St. Kateri as her confirmation saint, so we were excited to see and experience her birthplace just a few days before her feast day, July 14.

We arrived and spent some time praying and exploring the intricate coliseum. Outside, we made our way over to the garden and statue area. It was inspiring to experience memorial after memorial. Approaching the last one, the Unborn Memorial to babies lost to abortion I could see the bench from afar.

Our middle daughter started to run closer, then stopped saying, “Mommy! Mommy! There is a man lying on the bench.” My heart stopped. My husband hadn’t caught up with us yet. Fleeting thoughts of don’t go closer... wait... we are in the middle of nowhere... why is that person on the bench...don’t, go, closer. It felt slowly, but thoughts suddenly changed to, wait a

minute... this is a shrine... what ARE they doing here? Go, find out.

As my husband caught up and we got closer, together we realized that it was a statue. However, not just any statue. A statue of Jesus, crucified. He was completely covered with the exception of exposed crucified feet. I had immediate, deep profound tears. My kids and husband stared. My husband held me till the tears stopped. I couldn’t speak.



I have thought of that experience many times since July 2017. We didn’t talk about it again the rest of the trip, or even for months after. In fact, I didn’t even speak of it again till after receiving the graces of writing the poem above as a result of attending a silent retreat the following November.

Such a fitting placement for the memorial bench as St. Kateri was devoted to the Eucharist and to “Christ crucified.”

Homeless. Crucified. Rejected. Home. I realize now I was so deeply moved at the bench containing Jesus because of the path to holiness we are on. It is a journey in which one can feel alone or rejected, but Christ is always our home. Jesus and Mary are always leading us on our spiritual journey. It was another sign that we were headed the right direction. The concept of “home” kept resurfacing.

In our family journey of conversion, we have been led out of spiritual homelessness to the fullness of the Catholic Church. What a journey home it has been!

St. Kateri, pray for us!

You can visit the Our Lady of Martyrs Shrine [Our Lady of Martyrs Shrine](#) today online.

St. Kateri's National Shrine [Saint Kateri | Welcome to the Shrine! \(katerishrine.com\)](http://katerishrine.com) is a bit down the road in Fonda, NY.

[Our Lady of Martyrs is located on the spot of the Ossernenon Mohawk village. In 1884, Rev. Joseph Loyzance, S.J. worked with others to determine the location of the Ossernenon village. Once this was accomplished, he commissioned a church he called Our Lady of the Martyrs in honor of Our Lady at the foot of the Cross and how she consoles those who devote their lives to Jesus.]

## CHURCH SYMBOLISM

### "The Cross, Part II"

Submitted by Katherine Owens

While the Cross itself has been a symbol of Christians since the earliest days of the Church, the Sign of the Cross was early adopted as a way to consecrate oneself to God or as a blessing. It is also believed that this verse refers to the Sign of the Cross: "And I saw another angel ascending from the rising of the sun, having the sign of the living God..." (Apocalypse 7:2), further cemented by Tertullian (155-220). In *De Corona Militis*, "We Christians wear out our foreheads with the Sign of the Cross." But so fearful of discovery by pagans were the early Christians that they felt obligated to disguise physical signs of the Cross, opting to carve anchors or tridents to disguise the shape.



Raphael, "The Vision of the Cross," 1520-1524

Constantine the Great, emperor of the eastern Roman Empire in the early 4<sup>th</sup> century was a pagan. He succeeded his father as one of four rulers of the Roman Empire, but these rulers fought amongst themselves. After successes near Rome, in the field, in 312, several times in the days before the October 28<sup>th</sup> battle, it was revealed to Constantine that if he fought under the Sign of and name of

Jesus, he would be successful: *In hoc signo vinces* (In this sign you shall conquer). His soldiers painted the Cross on their shields and despite being vastly outnumbered, they carried the day. What is particularly interesting is the fact that at this time, some crimes were still punished by crucifixion.

It was Constantine, sometime between his 312 victory and his 337 death that he abolished the practice out of respect for Jesus Christ's Passion. And, it is well-known that Constantine was the first emperor to end Christian persecution and converted on his deathbed.

After Constantine's victory over his enemies, his mother, St. Helena [feast on Aug. 18<sup>th</sup>], converted to Christianity and devoted the remainder of her life (she was born c. 250) to good works and visiting the Holy Lands. It has long been piously believed she discovered Jesus's Cross in 326.

St. Helena paid to have the Holy Sepulchre uncovered for veneration by the faithful. In this she was assisted by the Bishop of Jerusalem, St. Macarius and a man named Judas, who knew the location of where Jews had previously hidden the True Cross and those of the two thieves. There are three versions of how the True Cross was revealed; one about the inscription from over Jesus's head still being attached, and the other two of miraculous healings. St. Helena and her son, Constantine, built the first basilica over the Holy Sepulchre.

While there is scant documentary evidence of St. Helena's role in locating the True Cross, it is documented that during the reign of Constantine the Cross was uncovered and authenticated. However, since her role has been the subject of pious belief since the 5<sup>th</sup> century, documents or verbal tradition of her role must simply be lost.

By the sixth century, persecution had become part of history and Christians no longer felt they needed to hide their symbol and began to regularly show the Cross superimposed by an image of Christ – the Crucifix. Some of the earlier symbols of the Crucifixion was a lamb with an anchor, or a dolphin twisted around a trident. The symbolism of a Crucifix over a simple representation of the Cross is "a reminder of Christ's great Sacrifice on the Cross" while "the Cross is the emblem of the triumph of Our Lord, Who, in expiring upon it,



conquered the world” (Moorman, *The Latin Mass Explained*, 13, 56). Furthermore, when the Pharisees gibed Our Lord to come down from His Cross and He remained silent,

in subjection [to the Father’s will] He allowed the nails to hold Him fast . . . . Hence the Crucifix should be for us an eternal lesson of docility, subjection and obedience (Kearney, *The Meaning of the Mass*, 78).

The supreme evil of sin, however, is in the refusal of man to be subject to God. Christ repaired this evil by an act of subjection. He atoned for man’s refusal by His willing acknowledgement, through perfect obedience, of the divine dominion (Kearney, *The Meaning of the Mass*, 77).

Your teaser for next month is, “...He wished us the best that God Himself could wish to give us...” (Kearney, *The Meaning of the Mass*, 80-81).

[CATHOLIC ENCYCLOPEDIA: Constantine the Great \(newadvent.org\)](http://www.newadvent.org)

[CATHOLIC ENCYCLOPEDIA: Archaeology of the Cross and Crucifix \(newadvent.org\)](http://www.newadvent.org)

Kearney, Rev. John. *The Meaning of the Mass*. Westmonasterii: E. Morrough Bernard, 1940. Reprinted: Pekin, IN: Refuge of Sinner Publications, Inc., 2015.

Moorman, Msgr. George J. *The Latin Mass Explained*. Rockford, IL: Tan Books, 2007.

[St. Helena - Encyclopedia Volume - Catholic Encyclopedia - Catholic Online](#)

### **BUDDING JOURNALISTS**

Budding author at home? Please encourage them to submit an article for the children’s section.

### **MASS OF THE AGES DOCUMENTARY**

On August 15<sup>th</sup> a documentary about the TLM or “Mass of the Ages” will premiere. It is actually going to be a trilogy. The first part will be on August 15<sup>th</sup>.

You can find out more at <https://theliturgy.org/>

A trailer is available on You-Tube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dyRZBANc9D0&t=1s>

On the website you can see that Fr. Nix will be in the film and I hear that Dr. Taylor Marshall will be featured as well.

It looks very professional and inspiring—it could be an excellent way to introduce the Latin Mass to those who are hesitant to attend.

### **TREASURER’S UPDATE**

Kevin McLaughlin

We have 23 active members who have paid the 2021 dues which are \$10 per family.

As of right now, **you can write a check to “Kevin McLaughlin”** and send it to [REDACTED]. I will then transfer the funds to our new VyStar bank account. Unfortunately, I am not able to cash any check made out to “Una Voce.” Thank you!

We also have an additional way to donate through Paypal. This can be done through my new email: [kevinmcla@unavocejax.org](mailto:kevinmcla@unavocejax.org).

### **SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

Katherine Owens, Kevin McLaughlin

Deadline to submit news, articles, information, or Mass schedule changes for **the September newsletter is August 25<sup>th</sup>**. **The September issue will be devoted to St. Michael the Archangel.**

- Please submit list of Mass times/locations to Kevin McLaughlin.
- Please submit names of faithful priests who need prayers to Katherine Owens.
- Parish news for Immaculate Conception, St. Patrick’s, and St. Joseph’s should be submitted to Kevin McLaughlin.
- Parish news for St. Michael’s and St. Edward’s should be submitted to Katherine Owens.
- All other information can be sent to both or either editor.

Articles longer than 500 words may be edited or split between two newsletter issues at the discretion of the editors.

2021

CALENDAR YEAR

AUGUST

CALENDAR MONTH

SUNDAY

FIRST DAY OF WEEK

Please pray for  
our priests!St. Augustine our  
patron, Ora pro nobis!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
01 1. Fr. John Sollee 2. Fr. Carlos Lopera	02 1. Fr. Philip Mayer 2. Fr. Mark Vernoy	03 1. Fr. Conrad Cowart 2. Fr. Jude Nwachukwu	04 1. Msgr. Mortimer Danaher 2. Fr. Michael Donovan	05 1. Fr. Darius Sleszynski 2. Fr. Mac Hill	06 1. Fr. Pierre Duverger 2. Fr. Richard Rasch	07 1. Fr. Samuel Fabula 2. Fr. David Ruchinski
08 1. Fr. Philip Gagan 2. Fr. Jose Panthaplamthottiyil	09 1. Fr. Sebastian George 2. Fr. Stephen Zehler	10 1. Fr. Sean Gerrity 2. Seminarian Anthony Cuesta (FSSP)	11 1. Fr. Rodolfo Godinez 2. Fr. Scott Settimo	12 1. Fr. James Haynos 2. Fr. Greig Gonzales	13 Fr. Briggs Hurley	14 Fr. Joshua Jacobs
15 Fr. David Keegan	16 Fr. Joseph Kuhlman	17 Fr. Christopher Liguori	18 Msgr. Daniel Logan	19 Fr. Clay Ludwig	20 Seminarian Esteban Merkt	21 Fr. William Mooney
22 Fr. Edward Murphy	23 Fr. Denis O'Shaughnessy	24 Fr. Charles Padathuruthy	25 Fr. Dilip Pally	26 Fr. Frederick Parke	27 Fr. Martin Arokie Raj	28 His Excellency, Bishop Felipe Estevez
29 His Excellency, Bishop Felipe Estevez	30 His Excellency, Bishop Felipe Estevez	31 His Excellency, Bishop Felipe Estevez	01	02	03	04

2021

CALENDAR YEAR

AUGUST

CALENDAR MONTH

SUNDAY

FIRST DAY OF WEEK

Traditional Latin  
Mass ScheduleUna Voce of N.E.  
Florida  
<http://www.unavocejax.org/>

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
01 St. Michael's 7:30 am I.C. 8:00 am St. Michael's 10:00 am St. Joseph's 12:00 pm St. Patrick's 12:00 pm St. Michael's 4:00 pm	02 St. Patricks 6:30 am St. Michael's 8:00 am	03 St. Patrick's 6:30 am	04	05	06 St. Michael's 6:00 pm	07 <b>FIRST SATURDAY</b> St. Michael's 9:00 am St. Patrick's 10:00 am
08 St. Michael's 7:30 am I.C. 8:00 am St. Michael's 10:00 am St. Joseph's 12:00 pm St. Edward's 12:30 pm St. Michael's 4:00 pm	09 St. Patricks 6:30 am St. Michael's 8:00 am	10 St. Patrick's 6:30 am	11	12	13 St. Michael's 6:00 pm	14 St. Michael's 9:00 am
15 <b>ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY</b> St. Michael's 7:30 am I.C. 8:00 am St. Michael's 10:00 am St. Joseph's 12:00 pm St. Patrick's 12:00 pm St. Michael's 4:00 pm	16 St. Patricks 6:30 am St. Michael's 8:00 am	17 St. Patrick's 6:30 am	18	19	20 St. Michael's 6:00 pm	21 St. Michael's 9:00 am
22 St. Michael's 7:30 am I.C. 8:00 am St. Michael's 10:00 am St. Joseph's 12:00 pm St. Michael's 4:00 pm	23 St. Patricks 6:30 am St. Michael's 8:00 am	24 St. Patrick's 6:30 am	25	26	27 St. Michael's 6:00 pm	28 <b>ST AUGUSTINE FEAST DAY</b> St. Michael's 9:00 am
29 St. Michael's 7:30 am I.C. 8:00 am St. Michael's 10:00 am St. Joseph's 12:00 pm St. Michael's 4:00 pm	30 St. Patricks 6:30 am St. Michael's 8:00 am	31 St. Patrick's 6:30 am	01	02	03	04