

SAINT FRANCIS EXCHANGE

The Newsletter of the Oratory of Saint Francis of Assisi

OCTOBER 2026 – MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY

LETTER FROM THE MONSIGNOR

O GOD, Whose Only-Begotten Son, by His Life, Death and Resurrection hath purchased for us the reward of eternal salvation; grant, we beseech Thee, that meditating on these mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may both imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise.

– Collect from the Feast of the Most Holy Rosary of the BVM

THE month of October is traditionally the month of the Holy Rosary, and the need for our recourse to this beautiful prayer and devotion is paramount in today's dangerous and evil climate. S. Dominic de Guzmán (d. 1221), founder of the **Order of Preachers** (the *Dominicans*), used this prayer and devotion to combat the heresies of the Albigensians, who erroneously believed that everything material (created) including the humanity of the Lord Jesus, is evil, and only what is spiritual is good. This is often called neo-Manichaeism, which was an early heresy of *dualism*, the belief that everything in the universe is split into two diametrically opposed forces. The Holy Rosary brought about the conversion of many of these heretics. The Rosary was of

course also used to stave off the Turkish attackers at the **Battle of Lepanto** (1571) when Don Juan of Austria (d. 1578) with the vastly outnumbered Catholic forces were victorious. Pope S. Pius V (d. 1572) instituted the feast of **Our Lady of the Rosary** in commemoration of that day (7 October).

The Holy Rosary is a powerful spiritual tool that helps the soul grow in grace by meditating upon the mystical and salvific life of Our Lord, and the Blessed Virgin Mary, His mother. I do not believe there has been a saint raised to the dignity of the Altar within the past fifteen-hundred years that did not recite Our Lady's Rosary every day. When we pray the Rosary we must do so with great piety, reverence and attention.



When we do pray the *Aves* we must refrain from what Our Lord tells us is the *vain repetitions of the pagans* (cf. S. Matthew 6:7); instead, we must meditate upon the Mystery set before us. There is also great spiritual medicine in the Rosary,

for many emotions are calmed within us, and many wicked spirits are dispelled from us when we think on Our Lord and Our Lady and the great moments that wrought our salvation. Through intent and intense prayer we are there with Our Lady hearing the Message of the Archangel and at Our Lord's glorious Nativity: we are also standing with Our Lady at the foot of the Cross, and we mourn with her at His tomb: we rejoice with her at His Resurrection, and stand in awe at His Glorious Ascension: we weep with joy at Our Lady's heavenly Coronation. Our souls are with all of heaven when we truly pray and meditate upon this powerful prayer.

I personally know many souls that have come to the truth about the Catholic Faith and holy tradition through devotion to the Holy Rosary, especially because it is *scripturally based*. We must be sure to add Our Lady's intentions and the intentions of everyone else who prays the Holy Rosary, whereby they are multiplied exponentially!

We are ever grateful for your continued support and prayers for our little Chapel, we ask that you continue to remember us in your prayers. You and your intentions are prayed for every single day, especially at Holy Mass offered on our Altar.

**In Christ the King,
Monsignor ✠ Thomas JF Sebastian**

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q: Monsignor:
I know you have answered this before, but I feel I need a deeper understanding of the difference between a *venial sin* and a *mortal sin*. Thank you!
D.H.
Glendale, CA

A: Simply put, ALL SIN is a moral evil and imperfection since a voluntary act and its disorder are of the essence of sin: a *venial sin* is a voluntary act of a thought, word or deed in opposition to the Law of God and it impedes the *attainment* of man's last end (salvation) but does not deprive him from it. In its act it either consists in not *fully* or deliberately choosing some object prohibited by the Law of God, *e.g.*: through negligence you forget that it is a day of obligatory fast and you eat too much at a collation (the smaller of the allowed three meals). This could be remedied by eating less at your two remaining meals (an act of reparation), but also making an *act of contrition* and saying extra prayers would pay back in justice for the offence. Contrariwise, a *mortal sin* is a fully willful and disordered act set into motion by the will from temptation, meditation and consent against the Law of God. Because the act is *fully* purposeful it offends the Majesty and God as well as justice. A *mortal sin*, because it cuts us off from the grace and friendship of God, must be fully repented of and Sacramentally Confessed with the firm intention of never committing the same willful and disordered act again. These acts are

delineated in the *Decalogue*, *i.e.*: *Ten Commandments*, as well as the *Commands* of the Holy Church. To violate these Laws of God to any degree is a *mortal sin* ... it does not matter if you steal a penny or a million dollars, strike someone or murder 100 people, the *sin* is the same but the act of restoration to *justice* is different. I hope this helps.

If you have a question, please feel free to e-mail:

info@stfrancisoratory.org

PRAYER REQUESTS

YOUR continued prayers are requested for the sick, especially Mr. Brad Huizenga, Mrs. Denise Huizenga, Mrs. Norma Hernandez and Mr. Charles E. McClusky. Please also remember in your prayers the souls of those who have died, especially Mr. A. Kenneth Kennedy†, Mrs. Georgette May†, Mr. Paul Howard†, Mr. John Owen† and Mr. Atilano Duarte†. *If you know of someone unable to attend Holy Mass due to sickness, please be sure to let the Monsignor know so he can arrange for a sick call.*



Real Men Kneel at Holy Mass!

HOW TO DONATE AND SEND MASS STIPENDS

DONATIONS and Mass Stipends can be sent online via **Zelle** (be sure to select *donation*

and not payment) or you can always send a cheque to our Post Office Box:

St. Francis of Assisi

PO Box 8469

Van Nuys, CA 91409-8469

The normal stipend for a Mass Intention is \$20.00. Please be sure to include the person's name (w/Mr., Mrs. or Miss) and if they are living or deceased. Also, be sure to indicate if you wish a **Mass Card** to be sent to that person or their family.

Your continued support is appreciated and quite needed to continue our mission of offer the true and traditional Latin Mass of the Holy Catholic Church. The True Mass and Faith are ours to protect, defend and support!

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION FOR 2026

1 November 2026 (Sunday)

Feast of All Saints

8 December 2026 (Tuesday)

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

25 December 2026 (Friday)

Feast of the Nativity of the Lord

SUNDAYS OF OCTOBER: THE CATHOLIC HAND MISSAL

In order to assist the faithful following Holy Mass with their hand missals here are the Sunday Masses for October 2026:

4 October 2026:

Feast of S. Francis of Assisi:

Commemoration of the *Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost* at the Collect, Secret and Postcommunion, with the *Preface of Saint Francis (proper to our Chapel)*, and *Proper Last Gospel from the Sunday*.

11 October 2026:

Maternity of the BVM:

Commemoration of the *Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost* at the Collect, Secret and

Postcommunion, with the *Preface of the Blessed Virgin Mary*, and *Proper Last Gospel from the Sunday*.

18 October 2026:

S. Luke, Evangelist:

Commemoration of *Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost* at the Collect, Secret and Postcommunion, with the *Preface of the Holy Trinity*, and *Proper Last Gospel from the Sunday*.

25 October 2026:

Feast of Christ the King:

Commemoration of the *Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost*, at the Collect, Secret and Postcommunion, with the *Preface of the Christ the King*, and *Proper Last Gospel from the Sunday*.

To participate *correctly* at Holy Mass one *silently* unites his prayers with those of the Church through pious and attentive meditation of the prayers and reading of Holy Mass.

If you are unsure how to correctly set your hand missal arrive early for Holy Mass and ask the Monsignor to assist you. It is also important to become familiar with the *Ordinary of the Mass*, those parts that never change, *i.e.*: Kyrie, Gloria, Creed, Sanctus, Benedictus, and the Agnus Dei. And, of course, the Canon of the Mass, and the *Propers of the Mass*, those which vary according to the feasts of the day, *i.e.*, Introit, Collect(s) (after the Gloria or Dominus Vobiscum), Epistle, Gradual, Alleluia, Tract or Sequence, Gospel, Secret, Communion Verse and Post Communion. On many feasts or days there are *Commemorations* (additional prayers) at the Collect, Secret and Postcommunion. The careful attention to these prayers and readings will help one enter into a deeper spiritual relationship with the Holy Liturgy, the Saints and Mysteries of God.



*Feast of S. Luke, Evangelist
(18 October):
Pray for us!*



*Feast of S. Teresa of Avila, Virgin
(15 October):
Pray for us!*



The Hidden Mass in Van Nuys

Sunday Mass Time:

10:00 am

(818) 786-2540

e-mail: info@stfrancisoratory.org

Be sure to visit our web site at:

www.stfrancisoratory.org

N.B.: Our Mailing Address is:

Post Office Box 8469

Van Nuys, CA 91409-8469



✿ **Saint Francis Chapel** is staffed by the **Priestly Society of Christ the King (SSCR)**; properly trained and ordained Roman Catholic Priests who are faithful to the teachings and disciplines of the Roman Catholic Church. Saint Francis is not affiliated with the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. Our Holy Fathers, the Popes, most especially Saint Pope Pius V in His infallible decree *Quo Primum*, have given their permission in perpetuity to offer the Traditional Latin Mass (*Missal of S. Pope Pius V* and rubrics of *S. Pope Pius X*).

MASS GUILD

HOLY MASS is offered on the First Saturday of every month for all Friends and benefactors of SAINT FRANCIS ORATORY CHAPEL. Your generous donation (one time *or* monthly) enables you to be remembered upon the Altars of the Society, where *only* the traditional Latin Mass is offered, as codified and canonized by His Holiness, Saint Pope Pius V, *perpetually* approved of.

We would like to remind those who send Mass requests to PLEASE include the name of the person and/or intention with your stipend. Mass Cards will be sent to concerned parties upon request. Thank you and God bless you!

RECOMMENDED WEBSITES:

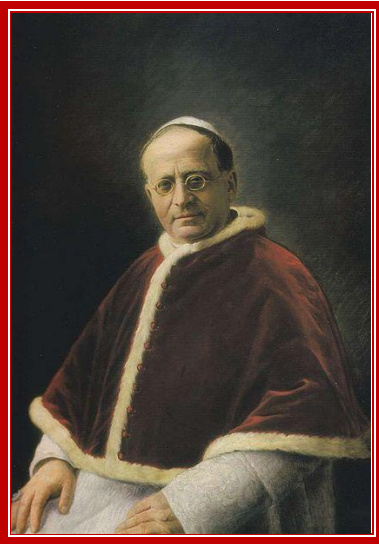
www.traditio.com

www.traditionalmass.org

www.novusordowatch.com

N.B.: Recommendation of a website is for information and does not constitute association with or full agreement of opinions or positions.

PETER SPEAKS:



D^O we not read throughout the Scriptures that Christ is the King? He it is that shall come out of Jacob to rule (Numbers 14:19), Who has been set by the Father as King over Sion, His holy mount, and shall have the Gentiles for His inheritance, and the utmost parts of the earth for His possession (*cf.* Psalm 2). In the nuptial hymn, where the future King of Israel is hailed as a most rich and powerful monarch, we read: *Thy*

Throne, O God, is forever and ever; the scepter of Thy Kingdom is a scepter of righteousness (Psalm 44:7). There are many similar passages, but there is one in which Christ is even more clearly indicated. Here it is foretold that His Kingdom will have no limits, and will be enriched with justice and peace: *in His days shall justice spring up, and abundance of peace...And He shall rule from sea to sea, and from the river unto the ends of the earth* (Psalm 71:7–8).

Pope S. Pius XI, *Quas Primas*, no.8, 11 December 1925



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AND A SEED**

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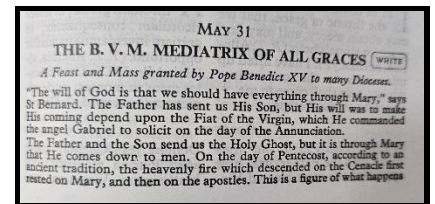
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THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY: MEDIATRIX OF ALL GRACES

NewRome's "Dicastery for the Doctrine of the NewFaith" tells us in its document *Mater Populi Fidelis* (7 October 2025), signed by Leo-Prevost under the direction and influence of pro-sodomite Victor "touchy-tucho" Fernandez, that calling our Lady *Mediatrice of all Graces* is "inappropriate and problematic because it risks confusing believers and obscuring Christ's unique role as the only Redeemer and Mediator" and that "applying "Mediatrice" in a way that broadens Mary's role beyond Christ's work is rejected ... somebody better tell poor Pope Benedict XV (d.1922)...



*Pope Pius XII (d.1958) being
"problematic" ...*