

Tridentine Community News

March 12, 2006

Suppression of the Organ During Lent

During Lent and Advent, but not during the pre-lenten season of Septuagesima, the Church prescribes that the organ only be played to accompany singing, as a sign of penitence.

As a result, during these seasons, there will be no organ prelude or postlude; the Offertory and Communion pieces will always be a hymn or choir-sung; and no “all’elevazione” music will be played after the Consecration.

Tridentine Travelogue: All Saints Church, Flint

One of the first Tridentine Masses permitted in North America continues to this day at All Saints Church in Flint. All Saints is a 1940s era structure properly outfitted for the celebration of the Traditional Rite.

Its location on Pierson Road, one block east of I-75, just north of downtown Flint, makes it a convenient location for those coming from Saginaw and central Michigan. Mass is currently held at 4:00 PM Sundays.

For many years, the Mass at All Saints was celebrated by a bi-ritual Maronite priest, Fr. (now Msgr.) Anthony Spinosa. Upon his reassignment to a parish in Ohio, the Flint Latin Mass Community has been rotating through a number of celebrants, including our own Fr. Wolfgang Seitz.

All Saints is noted as being one of the first Tridentine communities to be granted permission to hold wedding and requiem Masses in the Tridentine Rite.

Each fall, an Anniversary Mass is celebrated, followed by a banquet. This is usually a Solemn High Mass.

On two occasions, Bishop Carl Mengeling of the Diocese of Lansing has celebrated Mass for the All Saints Tridentine community. The first time was a Solemn High Mass in 1995. For the fifteenth anniversary of the All Saints Tridentine Mass, on October 16, 2005, Bishop Mengeling celebrated that rarest of events, a Pontifical High Mass. Several seminarians and one priest drove in from the

Fraternity of St. Peter's Nebraska seminary to coordinate and rehearse the event. Our region was well represented: St. Josaphat's Deacon Richard Bloomfield served as Deacon. The thurifer came from Windsor's St. Michael's. The Assumption Grotto choir provided the music. Priests from around the Diocese



of Lansing had various roles within the Mass. One priest was moved to learn the Tridentine rite as a result of this experience. Approximately 400 people attended this event, at which Bishop Mengeling expressed his support for the Traditional Mass.

The Flint, Windsor, and Detroit Tridentine Mass communities are presently engaged in preparing plans for the future. Despite differences in diocesan policies among the three locations, there are numerous ways in which we can cooperate.

More information can be found at the All Saints Tridentine Mass community's web site at www.rc.net/lansing/latinmass/navigation.html