

THE ORATORY OF SAINTS  
GREGORY & AUGUSTINE



TRADITIO | REVERENTIA | COMMUNITAS

## Welcome to the Oratory of Saints Gregory and Augustine

The Oratory of Saints Gregory and Augustine is pleased to welcome you. We are an apostolate of the Archdiocese of Saint Louis faithful to the teachings of the Church and striving to grow as a family of faith through the celebration of the Traditional Latin Mass and other Sacraments.

In the First Book of *The Confessions*, the other great St. Augustine (of Hippo) wrote the following: “Thou hast made us for Thyself and our hearts are restless until they find rest in Thee.” Whether you are curious about the traditional Latin Mass and interested in exploring its beauty, searching for a parish community where you and your family will feel at home, or seeking rest for your heart, we hope that the Oratory of Saints Gregory and Augustine can provide that respite for you.

Our bulletin serves to provide information about the weekly activities occurring here at the Oratory. Along with our website ([www.stlouislainmass.com](http://www.stlouislainmass.com)), the bulletin is your point of contact with the ever-increasing activities at the Oratory. I hope this will give you some sense of the grace of God, the love of Jesus Christ, and work of the Holy Spirit in our midst. I am delighted that God has brought you here! *Oremus pro invicem!*

—The Very Reverend Monsignor C. Eugene Morris, Rector

### MASS AND SACRAMENTS

#### Sunday Masses

- 6:30 am (Low Mass)
- 8:00 am (Low Mass)
- 10:00 am (High Mass)

#### Weekday Masses

- Monday thru Friday: 6:30 am & 12:15 pm
- First Friday: 6:30 pm
- Saturday: 8:15 am

#### Confession

- Sunday: 7:00 -7:45 am; 9:00 am – 10:30 am
- Monday thru Friday: 11:00 am – 12:00 pm
- Wednesday: 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm
- First Friday: 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm
- Saturday: 7:00 am – 8:00 am

#### Divine Office

- Sunday: Prime @ 7:20 am; Terce @ 9:40 am; Vespers @ 2:30 pm; Compline @ 7 pm
- Monday: Vespers @ 6 pm & Compline @ 7pm
- Tuesday & Thursday: Compline @ 7 pm
- Wednesday: Compline @ 6:30 pm

**Infant Baptism** – Baptisms are normally scheduled on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays of the month beginning at 10:00 am. Families expecting newborns and anticipating that they will be baptized here at the Oratory should schedule their baptism at the earliest convenience by contacting the Oratory office.

**Adult Baptism** – If you are interested in becoming Catholic or if you are an adult Catholic not yet confirmed, please contact the Oratory office for more information about adult catechesis.

**Matrimony** – Please contact the Oratory office at least six months prior to the desired date for the rite of marriage. The date is reserved after consultation and confirmation from the Rector of the Oratory.

**Extreme Unction/Visitation of the Sick** – Contact the Oratory to arrange the sacrament either at home or in the hospital.

### STAFF/ORGANIZATIONS

- **Rector:** Msgr. C. Eugene Morris  
[rector@oratorysga.org](mailto:rector@oratorysga.org)
- **Vice-Rector:** Fr. Michael Rennier  
[vicerector@oratorysga.org](mailto:vicerector@oratorysga.org)
- **Deacon:** Deacon Steve Pieper, MD  
[deacon@oratorysga.org](mailto:deacon@oratorysga.org)
- **Administrative Assistant:** Donna Mueller  
[office@oratorysga.org](mailto:office@oratorysga.org)
- **Facilities Manager:** Ben Schubert  
[facilities@oratorysga.org](mailto:facilities@oratorysga.org)
- **Auxiliary:** Anna Kalinowski  
[auxiliary@oratorysga.org](mailto:auxiliary@oratorysga.org)
- **Oratory Co-Op:**  
[co-op@oratorysga.org](mailto:co-op@oratorysga.org)
- **Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD):**  
[ccd@oratorysga.org](mailto:ccd@oratorysga.org)
- **Altar servers:**  
[servers@oratorysga.org](mailto:servers@oratorysga.org)
- **Altar and Rosary Society:**  
[altarandrosary@oratorysga.org](mailto:altarandrosary@oratorysga.org)
- **Knights of Columbus:**  
[kofc17355@oratorysga.org](mailto:kofc17355@oratorysga.org)
- **Troops of Saint George:**  
[tsg@oratorysga.org](mailto:tsg@oratorysga.org)
- **Oratory Schola:**  
[schola@oratorysga.org](mailto:schola@oratorysga.org)
- **Choir:**  
[choir@oratorysga.org](mailto:choir@oratorysga.org)
- **Young Adults:**  
[youngadults@oratorysga.org](mailto:youngadults@oratorysga.org)
- **Oratory Events:**  
[events@oratorysga.org](mailto:events@oratorysga.org)
- **Almonry of Ss. Gregory & Augustine:**  
[almonry@oratorysga.org](mailto:almonry@oratorysga.org)
- **Online Giving:**  
<https://www.osvhub.com/st-louis-latin-mass>

### CONTACT US

314-644-2144 / [stlouislainmass.com](http://stlouislainmass.com)  
7230 Dale Avenue, Richmond Heights, MO 63117

**FROM THE RECTOR**

The end of this year of grace and favor reminds us that our citizenship is not here on earth, but in the glories of Heaven. Sadly, contemporary man, within and outside of the Church, has neglected his eternal destiny. Modern man accepts the lie that all that matters is earthly life. Moreover, there is confusion and misunderstanding about God’s infinite mercy. There is an unhealthy confidence in man’s own righteousness and if there is any acknowledgement of sin it is joined with a presumption of the Lord’s mercy. As St. Augustine reminds us: **God does not create us with our consent, but He will not save us without that consent.** We must cooperate with grace and prepare ourselves for the coming of the Lord of Justice by coming to know and be known by the Lord of Mercy. We begin now our future in Heaven. Consequently, what is before us is the opportunity to not only thank God for what we have received this past year, but to also prepare ourselves for the coming year of Grace. How will I live better my Catholic life? What sins will I root out of my life? What relationships must be transformed in order to better live the dignity we have received by baptism? These are not rhetorical questions, but we must ask them with faith and listen attentively to the Lord. The Lord comes with Justice to rule the world. Let us welcome the King of Glory!

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Sunday, 24 November:**

- Prime @ 7:20 am
- Terce @ 9:40 am
- Coffee Hour @ 11:30 am
- Vespers @ 2:30 pm
- Compline @ 7:00 pm

**Monday, 25 November:**

- Vespers @ 6:00 pm
- Compline @ 7:00 pm

**Tuesday, 26 November:**

- Compline @ 7:00 pm
- Choir practice @ 7:00 pm

**Wednesday, 27 November:**

- Holy Hour @ 5:00 – 6:00 pm
- Compline @ 6:30 pm

**Thursday, 28 November:**

- **THANKSGIVING DAY – Office Closed**
- **Holy Mass @ 8:00 am (No Confessions before)**
- Compline @ 7:00 pm

**Friday, 29 November:**

- **Office Closed**

**Saturday, 30 November**

- No events scheduled

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**PILGRIM VIRGIN MARY STATUE 2024**

|                        |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 11/17-11/24 Wisniewski | 11/24-12/01 Catalano |
| 12/01-12/08 Kenney     | 12/08-12/15 Raymond  |
| 12/15-12/22 Hayes      | 12/22-12/29 Schuette |
| 12/29-01/05 Filla      | 01/05-01/12 Petrick  |

Drop off and pick up the statue in the vestibule (back of church). Place the statue bag on the floor to left of the Oratory table. To join or to quit the schedule contact Sharon Alexander saalex@sbcglobal.net

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**MASS INTENTIONS**

Monday, 25 November – **St. Catherine of Alexandria**

6:30 am: Susan Means

12:15 pm: Bruce Large

Tuesday, 26 November – **St. Sylvester**

6:30 am: Bruce Large

12:15 pm: Helen Lorene Pulse (d)

Wednesday, 27 November – **Feria**

6:30 am: Rose M. Pollina (d)

12:15 pm: Nicholas Kalinowski

Thursday, 28 November – **Feria (Thanksgiving Day)**

8:00 am: Pro Populo

Friday, 29 November – **Vigil of St. Andrew**

6:30 am: Donna Mueller

12:15 pm: Bruce Large

Saturday, 30 November – **St. Andrew**

8:15 am: Mark & Stephanie Rheinheimer

Sunday, 1 December – **First Sunday of Advent**

6:30 am: Pro Populo

8:00 am: Sharon Leonard

10:00 am: Br. Macarius of Jesus Christ Crucified

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**Our Lady of Walsingham, intercede for us who have recourse to thee!  
Ss. Gregory and Augustine, pray for us!**

## 24<sup>th</sup> (Last) Sunday after Pentecost

24 November 2024

### BAKE SALE

The Our Lady of Walsingham Girls' Guild will hold an Autumn bake-sale following 10 am Mass on Sunday, 24 November. Look for girls selling homemade treats between the church and the school (near wooden benches) or in the St. Joseph Room. All proceeds go to future Girls' Guild activities. Cash and Venmo accepted.

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### ADVANCED GIVING NOW OPEN FOR GIVING TUESDAY 2024!

The fun and excitement of Giving Tuesday is coming soon, and advanced giving has already begun. This year, giving Tuesday falls on December 3rd. On this day, parishes and Catholic groups from around the archdiocese will compete in a friendly contest of lighting-speed fundraising for good causes within their organizations. Last year, the Oratory ranked within the top five archdiocesan organizations and within the top 100 at the national level! For being a relatively small group, this is amazing! Here is a review of the 2023 archdiocesan ranking:



- #1 – Duchesne High School – \$205,143
- #2 – Hearts Hands & Homes – \$172,390
- #3 – St. Justin the Martyr Catholic Church – \$49,701
- #4 – Carmelite Sisters of the Divine Heart of Jesus – \$37,905
- #5 – Oratory of Ss. Gregory & Augustine – \$30,550

Last year, we also easily beat our personal best, going from earning \$13,505 in 2022 to earning \$31,210 in 2023. This year, our goal is \$40,000. As with last year, our cause is to glorify Our Lord through beauty. Msgr. Morris and Father Rennie have selected several liturgical/artistic items for the service of the liturgy and prayer here at the Oratory. For more information, and to donate, visit: <https://stl.givecatholic.org/organizations/oratory-of-ss-gregory-augustine> Thank you for your generosity, and enjoy the competition!

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### LEARN ABOUT CHRISTMAS MATINS

Prior to Midnight Mass of Christmas, members of the Oratory schola and faithful gather to pray the special Divine Office prayer called Christmas Matins. This prayer, which consists of psalms, responsories, and lessons is one of the most ancient and excellent preparations for the birth of Our Lord. If you would like to learn a bit more about Christmas Matins, join us for reflections and discussion with Mr. Stan Metheny in the St. Joseph Room on Wednesday, 11 December from 7 pm to 9 pm. Refreshments will be served.

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### IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

You're invited to the annual private showing of It's A Wonderful Life on Gaudete Sunday, 15 December @ 3:30 pm @Cinema One Plus in Washington, MO. Tickets are \$10 and include a boxed popcorn and small drink. For questions and to reserve your tickets, contact Carla Filla by call/text at 636-579-0208. Payment for your tickets may be done via Venmo, cash, or check to hold your spot. Come join us as we prepare for the coming of the Savior with this movie that holds such a special message for all!

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### COAT DRIVE

The Knights of Columbus will be collecting donations of coats for local kids throughout the month of November. Please deposit coats in the large box in the vestibule and contact Joseph Thomas with any questions: [josephmthomas555@gmail.com](mailto:josephmthomas555@gmail.com) or (217) 494-1314.

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### CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Christmas flower envelopes are now available in the pews and near the bulletins for all who wish to honor a deceased loved one by donating. The names of loved ones included on the envelopes will be shared in an upcoming bulletin. Thank you and may God reward your generosity.

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### CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

For the celebration of the Lord's Birth on Christmas Day, the Oratory will have the opportunity to celebrate three Sung Masses. The principal Holy Mass will be at Midnight. This will be Solemn High Mass assisted by our choir. On Christmas morning, Holy Mass will be celebrated at 6:30 am and 8:00 am.

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### PLANNING AHEAD: OFFICES CLOSED

The offices of the Oratory will be closed during the Octave of Christmas beginning 24 December 2024. The offices will return to normal business hours on Monday, 5 January 2025. In advance, blessings to everyone on the upcoming Holy Days.

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### ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT – 2024

Ladies, mark your calendars for the Oratory's Annual Advent by Candlelight on 7 December 2024 at 6:00 pm until 9:00 pm. This year's gathering will be in the St. Joseph Room. Please come and gather with women of the Oratory and friends of our community for an evening of prayer, reflection, and fellowship. This is wonderful way to experience the season of Advent. Also, we are in search of hostesses who would be willing to coordinate a table with 7 friends. If you are interested in hosting a table and/or for more information, please contact Gina Indelicato at (636) 328-5326 or [ginai7117@gmail.com](mailto:ginai7117@gmail.com). Space is limited; reservations will be taken in the order they are received. We hope you are able to join us.

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### THANKSGIVING DAY

The Oratory will celebrate Holy Mass @ 8:00 am on Thanksgiving Day (Thursday, 28 November 2024). Please come for Holy Mass and offer the most fitting act of thanksgiving, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. **Please note: NO Holy Mass @ 6:30 am; NO Confessions @ 11 am; NO Holy Mass @ 12:15 pm. Also, the offices will be closed on Thursday (11/28) and Friday (11/29).**

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### WEDDING BANNS

There is a promise of marriage between:

I ~ Andrew Cox & Perpetua Smith

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## 24<sup>th</sup> (Last) Sunday after Pentecost

24 November 2024

### BLESSING & IMPOSITION OF THE BROWN SCAPULAR

Twice a year, at Advent and Lent, the Oratory invests its faithful in the Brown Scapular. To assist those who desire to have a scapular blessed and imposed on them, **on the First Sunday of Advent, 1 December 2024 after the 8 am Holy Mass**, there will be the blessing and imposition of scapulars on those who present themselves at the communion rail. Please bring your own scapular, have it unwrapped and off your neck if you are already wearing it. As there might be a great number of people presenting themselves for this blessing, the only thing that will be blessed this day is the scapular. Any questions, please contact Msgr. Morris directly (rector@oratorysga.org).

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### SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

The Immaculate Conception will be celebrated this year on Sunday, 8 December 2024. We will celebrate the normal Sunday schedule for the Oratory. **Please note:** The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (the USCCB) in consultation and receiving clarification from the Vatican have reminded the faithful that as the Feast of the Immaculate Conception is transferred to Monday, 9 December 2024 in the Novus Ordo, the faithful must attend Holy Mass that Monday to fulfill the obligation of the Holy Day. For the Oratory this means even as we have already celebrated the Immaculate Conception, the faithful are obligated to attend Holy Mass that day. To assist the Oratory in fulfilling this obligation, in addition to the normal daily Mass schedule, Holy Mass will be celebrated at 6:30 pm as well (on Monday, 9 December); NO confessions preceding the evening Mass. The office will be closed on Monday as well.

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### HOLIDAY PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

Your fellow parishioner, Rebecca Hoven, will be available after the 8 am Masses on Dec. 1, and Dec. 15 to take family photos. These will take place outside on the front steps of Church and should take about 5 minutes per family. There is no charge. Take advantage of the already-dressed up children and the conveniently available bribe of donuts!

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### CHRISTMAS CARDS

The Oratory of Saints Gregory and Augustine Knights of Columbus Council 17355 will be selling Christmas cards personally designed by nationally renowned local Catholic artist Gwyneth Thompson-Briggs. Proceeds raised will be used to help fund the variety of activities and services provided by the Knights for the Oratory.

These cards will be available for purchase after Holy Mass beginning 24 November and extending through 8 December. Price per box of ten is \$15. Please consider these beautiful Christmas cards this season! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact [tjconway58@gmail.com](mailto:tjconway58@gmail.com)

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### OSGA CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE 2024

The Christmas Giving Tree, sponsored by The Almonry, is a way for the Oratory faithful to receive or contribute to local needs. If you or someone you know could benefit from help around the Christmas Season, please let us know by

emailing [almony@oratorysga.org](mailto:almony@oratorysga.org) with the following information:

- name of person in need and their contact information for delivery
- specific needs in detail, gift cards are acceptable

Starting Sunday, 1 December, needs will be displayed on ornaments for the faithful to take and fulfill. All names will be kept anonymous and gifts will be distributed prior to Christmas.

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### THE RORATE CAELI MASS

**When: 14 December 2023 @ 6:30 am**

The Rorate Caeli Mass is a traditional Advent devotion wherein the Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary for Advent is offered just before dawn.

The Mass takes its title, Rorate Caeli, from the first words of the Introit, which are from Isaiah 45:8:

*“Rorate, caeli, desuper, et nubes pluant justum, aperiatur terra, et germinet Salvatorem.” (“Drop down dew, ye heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain the just: let the earth be opened and bud forth a Saviour.”)*

The Rorate Mass is lit only by candlelight. Because it is a votive Mass in Mary’s honor, white vestments are worn instead of Advent violet. In the dimly lit setting, priests and faithful prepare to honor the Light of the world, Who is soon to be born, and offer praise to God for the gift of Our Lady. As the Mass proceeds and sunrise approaches, the church becomes progressively brighter, illumined by the sun as our Faith is illumined by Christ. The readings and prayers of the Mass foretell the prophecy of the Virgin who would bear a Son called Emmanuel and call on all to raise the gates of their hearts and their societies to let Christ the King enter; asking for the grace to receive eternal life by the merits of the Incarnation and saving Resurrection of Our Lord.

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### DEVOTION TO THE HOLY FACE OF JESUS - PUBLIC VENERATION

Sunday, 15 December 2024 @ Noon-2:00pm in church. An Oratory member has planned for a miraculous image of the Holy Face to visit our Oratory for veneration. All are welcome to come and pray.

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### DEVOTION TO THE HOLY FACE OF JESUS - BOOKS

Please accept a copy of "The Secret of the Holy Face" by Fr. Lawrence Carney as a donation to all parishioners available in the vestibule of the Church today. In addition to the book by Fr. Carney, you will find available a small booklet to assist you in learning about and then practicing this devotion.

Given the course of events occurring in our country and within the Church, especially with regard to the current growth of Communism, it is recommended that Catholics understand and pray the Holy Face Devotion. This powerful devotion was given to mankind by our Lord and evolved as a weapon to combat the evils of Communism when it first appeared. Though the devotion became less popular, primarily after Vatican II, many Catholics now believe there is an urgent and renewed need for this prayerful exercise given its promises.

## 24<sup>th</sup> (Last) Sunday after Pentecost

24 November 2024

Numerous miracles are associated with this devotion which has the full approval of the Catholic Church. In 1843 the Lord spoke these words Sr. Marie de Saint Pierre, a Carmelite nun, in Tours:

*"The earth is covered with crimes. The violation of the first three Commandments of God has irritated My Father. The Holy Name of God blasphemed, and the Holy Day of the Lord profaned, filling up the measure of iniquities. These sins have risen into the throne of God and provoked his wrath which will soon burst forth if justice be not appeased. At no time have these crimes reached such a pitch."*

In 1845, the Reparative Mystery of the Holy Face was revealed to Sister Saint-Pierre as the Lord stated: "I seek Veronicas to wipe and venerate My Holy Face which has few adorers... and by My Holy Face, you will work many miracles."

The Lord gave Sister Saint-Pierre the Golden Arrow prayer as special reparation for blasphemy. She then prayed the rosary asking Our Lady's intercession in helping her to get the Lord's message to others. Shortly thereafter Mary's apparition at La Salette followed which affirmed the Lord's words to Sister Saint-Pierre, "The Church will be in eclipse."

The revelations to Sister Saint Pierre are also at the foundation of Our Lady's warning at Fatima, regarding the spread of atheistic errors of secular humanism, Socialism, and religious suppression contained in Communism and of revolutionary men.

Please consider studying and praying the Holy Face Devotion for our country and for Holy Mother Church in these challenging times.

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### FACILITIES MANAGER

The Oratory is pleased to welcome Ben Schubert as the new Facilities Manager for the Oratory. Going forward, Ben is the point of contact for any issues concerning the physical plant of Church and surrounding property. He can be reached via email at [facilities@oratorysga.org](mailto:facilities@oratorysga.org). Ben and his family are also members of the Oratory. We are blessed to have him with us.

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### CCD:

It's not too late! CCD registration is still open: <https://www.osvhub.com/st-louis-latin-mass/giving/funds/ccd-registration-fees>. Please feel encouraged to enroll children between the ages of 6 and 18 (as of 2/28/24). Contact Jake & Terri Fowler with any questions: [ccd@oratorysga.org](mailto:ccd@oratorysga.org).

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### BULLETIN DEADLINE (FRIDAYS @ 10AM)

The deadline that LPI has set for our submission of the full bulletin is Tuesdays by 12 Noon each week. The deadline for bulletin submissions from individuals and groups of the Oratory is the prior Friday at 10:00 am.

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### BLESSED ITEMS

If you wish to have items blessed, please drop them off at the rectory (Mon-Fri, 9am-2pm) and include your name and

telephone number. Please make sure all items are clearly marked. Once Msgr. Morris or Fr. Rennie have blessed the items Donna Mueller, Administrative Assistant to the Rector, will call you to let you know the items are ready for pick up (from the rectory office, Mon-Fri, 9am-2pm). **Please drop off/pick up items at the front door on Dale Avenue, across from the field parking lot.**

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### NEW FAMILIES for OCTOBER (alphabetical order)

A warm welcome to our new parishioners!

- Rachel Madison
- Clayton Masterson
- The Pagano Family ~ Pete & Martha
- The Porter Family ~ Tre & Amelia, Aria, Maximilian, Genevieve, and Giancarlo
- Josiah Webb
- Gemma Welch

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### PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

In your charity, please pray for the following members of the Oratory who are ill: Louis Schubert, father of Ben Schubert; Damien Bruening, son of Aurora Miller; Jeanmarie DeCoster; Mary Gleckler, mother of Cathy Saccente and Mary Nelson; Hannah Green, daughter of Nicholas & Julie Green; Lena Henry, daughter of Toni & Mickey Henry; Shane Kiser, husband of Maggie Kiser; James Frances Mooney, father of Dr. Joseph Mooney; Michael Norfleet, son of Marsha Norfleet; Elizabeth Ryan; Patrick Schneider; Louis Schubert, father of Ben Schubert; Leah & Sylvester Soldinie; Lara Trudell, daughter of Sharon and Jim Alexander; and Renee Weidner.

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### PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

- Elizabeth Berwin, cousin of David O'Gorman
- Rev. John Deken, brother of Janet Deken, Joan Pisoni, and Beth Stolarski
- Anthony DeStefano, uncle of Emily Lund
- Robert Milton Folle, father of Dottie Schwartz
- Kathleen Graham, mother of David Graham
- Sharon Koenig, sister of Dottie Schwartz
- Jeannette Mailloux, grandmother of Danielle Daub
- Thomas McClay, father of Danielle Daub
- Andrew Pumphrey, brother of Katie Keys
- Gerald Saykes, husband of Karen Saykes
- Thomas Schuette, brother of Robert Schuette

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### USHERS' SCHEDULE

#### **Sunday, 24 November**

**6:30 am** Jim Alexander\*, Chris Bauman

**8:00 am** Terry Conway\*, Jeff Martin, Ken Catalano, Sam Ashlock

**10:00 am** Joe Gassararo\*, Charlie Raymond, Phil Henzler, Tom Gates

#### **Sunday, 1 December**

**6:30 am** Ben Schubert\*, Bill Saccente

**8:00 am** Jeff Martin\*, Sam Ashlock, Ken Catalano, Greg Rheinheimer

**10:00 am** Charlie Raymond\*, Phil Henzler, Tom Gates, John Simmons

# 24<sup>th</sup> (Last) Sunday after Pentecost

24 November 2024

## Sunday, 8 December

6:30 am Chris Bauman\*, Evan Adair

8:00 am Sam Ashlock\*, Greg Rheinheimer, Michael Nelson, Kenny Buyle

10:00 am Phil Henzler\*, Tom Gates, John Simmons, Mark Scheer

### + Altar Server Schedule: November - December 2024 +

| Date             | Time     | MC at High Mass / Acolyte at Low Mass | Thurifer      | Acolyte 1            | Acolyte 2      |
|------------------|----------|---------------------------------------|---------------|----------------------|----------------|
| 24 November 2024 | 6:30 am  | Michael Norfleet                      |               |                      |                |
|                  | 8:00 am  | Matthew Rheinheimer                   |               |                      |                |
|                  | 10:00 am | Sebastian Petrick                     | John Morgan   | Thomas Koschmeder    | Jude Kelly     |
| 1 December 2024  | 6:30 am  | Jack Ryan                             |               |                      |                |
|                  | 8:00 am  | Simon Wisniewski                      |               |                      |                |
|                  | 10:00 am | Philip Petrick                        | Peter Blum    | Elijah Robeson       | Charles Fowler |
| 8 December 2024  | 6:30 am  | Michael Norfleet                      |               |                      |                |
|                  | 8:00 am  | Joseph Blum                           |               |                      |                |
|                  | 10:00 am | Michael Rheinheimer                   | Isaac Robeson | Matthewemmet Roberts | Silas Buyle    |

### First Friday / First Saturday

|                 |         |                   |               |                      |                 |
|-----------------|---------|-------------------|---------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| 6 December 2024 | 6:30 pm | Joseph Blum       | Isaac Robeson | Elijah Robeson       | William Hayes   |
| 7 December 2024 | 8:15 am | Sebastian Petrick | John Morgan   | Matthewemmet Roberts | Cabhan Ten Eyck |

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### WELLSPRING OF TRADITION: ALL SOULS DAY

As is the case with some other feasts in the Roman calendar, the Commemoration of the Souls of All the Faithful Departed, commonly known as All Souls Day, originated with Odilo, the 11c abbot of Cluny, which was a very wealthy abbey with a vast network of daughter houses. This gave it considerable clout over the Western church and more often than not Cluny and their Cistercian descendants got what they wanted. But praying for the dead goes back to the earliest days of Christianity, who inherited the practice from late Judaism (Cf. 2 Mc 12:46). Our oldest extant written evidence of a Roman liturgy for the dead, the Ordo defunctorum, come from an early 8c manuscript. Like most extant manuscripts of the Roman rite, however, many of its elements were from a much earlier time. In this case, the rite contained there coalesced around same time as the Roman Canon, sometime in the 4c. We can see preserved in the Roman Canon of the Mass this attitude of early Christians toward the dead: they are in a place of rest, a locum refrigerii, lucis, et pacis. Like the Canon, these early rites contained elements from even earlier times, including some that were taking shape as the cult of the martyrs expanded over the course of the 2nd & 3<sup>rd</sup> centuries. E.g., the opening words of the Introit Requiem aeternam can be found on a 3<sup>rd</sup> century epitaph. In early chant manuscripts, we already find an Agenda Mortuorum, a complete liturgy for the deceased, with the same Introit and Gradual as in today's Mass. Initially, the Office hours formed a distinct formulary for the dead, but the Mass formulary was simply the Mass of the day. Then special prayers for the deceased were added on to that, and eventually entire Mass formularies for the dead evolved. It's a good example of how genuine organic growth occurs. Please note here that this was a complete liturgy: Mass celebrated within its proper context of the Divine Office. It remains so even today, to the point that even the Liber Usualis, an extraction from the official liturgical books designed as a handbook for parishes as its original title denotes, presents the Mass for the Dead and its accompanying rites within the hours of the Office in which it is set: Vespers, Matins, Lauds. Indeed, the elements of the formulary for the dead are an integrated whole: (1) taking the body from the home to the Church, (2) reception of the body into the Church, (3) Vespers, (4) Matins & Lauds, (5) Holy Mass, (6) Absolution, (7) burial. (N.B. these rites were celebrated in addition to the Office of the day.)

Unlike most other Mass chants used in the Roman rite, the chants for the formulary for the dead are a 'stark contrast' as one scholar puts it. They developed separately from and remained fluid and varied until rather late. A wide variety of chants were assigned to Masses for the dead, and the selection of propers was simply the decision of whoever oversaw the compilation of a particular manuscript. The complete formulary we have today was not settled until after the Council of Trent in the 16c.

St. Augustine tells us at Matins today that the liturgy takes us into the loving heart of Mother Church, who is pia mater communis, a solicitous mother of all. She forgets none of her children, even when they have died and their name is no longer remembered. She prays and offers the Sacrifice of Atonement for them all. As with all liturgical prayer, we should strive to make these prayers our own. A sublime quiet hovers over the today's prayers and chants; they express unbounded confidence in God's merciful love. The liturgies of the dead from early Christian centuries reflect the words: quia pius es. . . You, O God, are goodness, mildness, and mercy, and this spirit pervades today's Introit, Gradual, (Tract), and Communion. Around the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> centuries, we begin to find an emphasis on the idea of judgement and punishment for sin as the doctrines of Purgatory and Hell began to solidify and become normative. A shift in grammar also occurs, as the subjunctive begins to replace the indicative in the verbs. Hence the initial impression of the Sequence Dies Irae is one of fear and damnation. But a more careful reading quickly tells us that initial impression is not entirely the case even in the Sequence: pie Jesu Domine dona eis requiem it concludes. And the elegant Preface makes an even stronger statement: vita morietur, non tollitur. Our current liturgy of the dead, then, is a masterfully blended perspective of many elements: the purely human and natural sadness over the departure of loved ones, the reality of the judgement we all face, and confidence in the Resurrection of our Lord as a promise of eternal life. The interpretation and proclamation of today's chants should reflect that.

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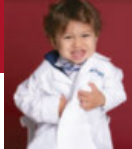
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