

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.stlouislatinmass.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: 7:30 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

Adoration

- Wednesday: 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm
- First Friday: 1:00 pm – 6:00 pm (starting 2/6/26)

Divine Office

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

Infant Baptism – Baptisms are normally scheduled on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th 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
- **Vice-Rector:** Fr. Michael Rennie
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- **Deacon:** Deacon Steve Pieper, MD
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- **Co-Op:**
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- **Ushers:**
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- **Young Adults:**
youngadults@oratorysga.org
- **Online Giving:**
<https://www.osvhub.com/st-louis-latin-mass>

CONTACT US

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FROM THE RECTOR

God truly is all wise, loving and merciful. Since the celebration of the Lord’s Resurrection Holy Mother Church has provided us the blessing of contemplating the riches of God. From Our Lord’s glorious Ascension to today’s celebration of His Sacred Body on the External Solemnity of Corpus Christi, we have set before our very eyes the depth of His wisdom, love and mercy. It is through the mystery of the Most Holy Eucharist that the merits of the Lord’s Cross are still applied to the souls of mankind. Having prepared us for His great sacrifice at the Last Supper, He leaves this great memorial of His passion, death and resurrection that we, His faithful children, would forever have in our midst His real, true and substantial presence. In giving us the Most Holy Eucharist the Lord fulfills His promise to be with us always until the end of time. So too, through the Most Holy Eucharist we are allowed to experience our unity with the Blessed Trinity. Pray for an increase of respect and devotion to the Blessed Sacrament and pray for our priests who make this sacrifice available to us. Through your own lived sacrifices, make reparation for all the offenses against the Most Holy Eucharist. Let us entreat God for the courage we need to protect and defend the Most Holy Eucharist against all sacrilege and profanation. Finally, let us pray that the Holy Eucharist and the Holy Mass will always be the center of our lives.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, 8 June:

- Vespers @ 6:00 pm
- Compline @ 6:30 pm

Tuesday, 9 June:

- Compline @ 6:30 pm

Wednesday, 10 June:

- Adult Catechesis @ 4:00 pm
- Adoration/Confessions @ 5:00 pm
- Vespers @ 6:00 pm
- Compline @ 6:30 pm

Thursday, 11 June:

- Compline @ 6:30 am
- Knights of Columbus @ 7:00 pm

Friday, 12 June:

- Chavez/Gay Rehearsal 2:00 pm

Saturday, 13 June:

- Toscano Supplying Ceremony @ 11:00 am
- Chavez/Gay Wedding @ 2:00 pm

Sunday, 14 June:

- Prime @ 7:20 am
- Confessions @ 7:30 am
- Blessing of items after 8:00 am Mass
- Terce @ 9:40
- Coffee Hour @ 11:30 am
- Vespers @ 2:30 pm

PILGRIM VIRGIN MARY STATUE 2026

05/31-06/07 Cook	06/07-06/14 Hayward
06/14-06/21 Joseph	06/21-06/28 Blum
06/28-07/05 Wisniewski	07/05-07/12 Catalano
07/12-07/19 Kenney	07/19-07/26 Raymond
07/26-08/02 Hayes	08/02-08/09 Schuette
08/09-08/16 Filla	08/16-08/23 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 be removed from the schedule, contact Sharon Alexander saalexa@sbcglobal.net.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, 8 June – *Octave of Corpus Christi*

- 6:30 am: John Mendel (d)
- 12:15 pm: William H. Kuhlmann (d)

Tuesday, 9 June – *Octave of Corpus Christi*

- 6:30 am: John Mendel (d)
- 12:15 pm: William H. Kuhlmann (d)

Wednesday, 10 June – *Octave of Corpus Christi*

- 6:30 am: William H. Kuhlmann (d)
- 12:15 pm: Donna Thum

Thursday, 11 June – *Octave of Corpus Christi*

- 6:30 am: Herman Boeckman (d)
- 12:15 pm: William H. Kuhlmann (d)

Friday, 12 June – *Most Sacred Heart of Jesus*

- 6:30 am: John Mendel (d)
- 12:15 pm: William H. Kuhlmann (d)

Saturday, 13 June – *St. Anthony of Padua*

- 8:15 am: William H. Kuhlmann (d)

Sunday, 14 June – *3rd Sunday after Pentecost*

- 6:30 am: Rev. Steve Poole (d)
- 8:00 am: John Mendel (d)
- 10:00 am: William H. Kuhlmann (d)

IN GRATITUDE

Thank you to everyone who assisted in the planning, preparation, and execution of the great celebrations for my 30th Anniversary of Holy Priesthood. Words will never adequately express the depth of my gratitude for the celebrations themselves, but just as importantly all the loving care that went into the celebrations. I am profoundly aware how blessed I am to be the rector of this community. Many priests serve a life-time and never experience the love and support I experience every day. 30 years is a great milestone, but there is still so much more for us to do as a community of Christ's faithful. Please know that you are in my daily prayers and please continue to pray for me. Our Lady of Walsingham, ora pro nobis!

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CONFIRMATION

Congratulations to those who received the sacrament of Confirmation (26 May 2026). Please pray for them, their parents, teachers, and catechists.

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NEWLY CONFIRMED

- Dominic Martin Archer (St. James the Greater)
- Eliza Jane Ashlock (Blessed Virgin Mary)
- Clare Therese Atkinson (St. Helen)
- Benjamin James Joseph Gibson (St. Thomas)
- Elise Immaculata Green (St. Bernadette)
- Ambrose Joseph Grizzle (St. Francis of Assisi)
- Rose Erika Hayward (St. Helena)
- Augustan Gabriel Higa (St. Ferdinand)
- Adelaide Evangeline Hofmann (St. Cecilia)
- Alexander Grant Hofmann (St. Felix)
- Peter Gabriel Houser (St. John the Apostle)
- Victoria Virginia Kelly (St. Teresa of Calcutta)
- Joseph David Keys (St. Anthony of Padua)
- Mary Louise Lejdedal (St. Lucy)
- Maximilian Benedict Meyer (St. Gregory the Great)
- Olivia Ruth Moss (St. Therese of Lisieux)
- Juliette Rose Murray (St. Joan of Arc)
- Clarence Eugene Nations, II (St. Joseph)
- Stella Nancy Primo (Blessed Virgin Mary)
- Leo Edwin Raymond (St. John Bosco)
- Agnes Cosette Rennie (St. Cecilia)
- Miriam Elise Rheinheimer (St. Joseph)
- Ignatius William Scheer (St. Michael the Archangel)
- Colby Raylen Schubert (St. Patrick)
- James Dominic Stock (St. John the Apostle)
- Christopher Robert Borro (St. Anthony)

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SUMMER SCHEDULE (29 JUNE -14 AUGUST)

PLEASE NOTE that the summer schedule begins soon! Beginning on 29 June 2026 and concluding on 14 August 2026 the Oratory will have **daily Holy Mass at 12:15 pm (NO 6:30 am) with Confessions at 11:00 am**. The Saturday and Sunday schedules will remain the same. The offices hours during this time will be Monday through Thursday from 8:00 am until 2:30 pm. **The offices will be closed on Fridays**. These scheduling changes allow the priests of the Oratory to take vacation and more importantly to make their canonical retreats. So too, the changed office hours will allow our dedicated staff time for vacation.

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES

Congratulations to all those who graduated this spring from grade school, high school, and college. Blessings to the parents, family, and friends who sustained and supported all the recent graduates from the Oratory of Ss. Gregory and Augustine. Know of the prayers of this whole community as you move to the next phase of your life and your on-going journey with the Lord and Holy Mother the Church

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2026 MASS INTENTIONS ** IMPORTANT NOTICE **

PLEASE NOTE: the Mass intention calendar for 2026 is full. **We are no longer able to accept Mass intentions for 2026.** We will begin accepting Mass intentions for 2027 this fall.

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POLYHYMNIA SUMMER CHORAL CAMP, 13-17 JULY 2026

Polyhymnia St. Louis will be leading a weeklong music camp for boys and girls ages 8-17 at Little Flower Catholic Church, 13-17 July 2026 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

This camp will include lessons and workshops in chant and choral music, helping young people to stretch their voices, sing with others, and learn more about the musical traditions of the Church. Campers will sing both as a large ensemble and divided into groups based on previous experience: we can accommodate anyone from beginners to advanced students. The week will conclude with a concert on Friday, 17 July at 11:00 am, free and open to all. For more information, please contact Cathy Saccente, catsaccente@gmail.com or 314-814-2041. Register via Eventbrite: <https://tinyurl.com/yzbkz3yv>

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BIRTHRIGHT FATHER'S DAY CARDS

Birthright of Hillsboro has provided us with Father's Day cards. Please feel free to take as many as you need for the fathers in your life. The cards are located in the bulletin holder (on the right side of the double doors) in the main vestibule. For more than 40 years, Birthright of Hillsboro has offered free, confidential help to the mothers in our community. They need funds to continue the work of ministering to pregnant mothers, easing the burdens of those faced with an unexpected pregnancy, pledge funds toward rent and utilities and helping provide the essentials for children under the age of 3. Please consider supporting Birthright as you honor the special fathers in your life this Father's Day. Please also consider donating to their ministry.

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SAVE-THE-DATE: HARVEST FAIR

Saturday, 17 October 2026 in the Oratory Piazza (parking lot between church and school)

Calling all creatives! This Autumn, the Oratory will host its inaugural Business Fair. This is an opportunity for parishioners to connect with others over shared interests and to witness and share in others' varied industrious activities. This is an opportunity not only to source goods and services for your family from within our parish community, but to witness a reflected image of God's own creativity, in variation and abundance.

Do you have a good or service to offer fellow parishioners? If so, we'd love to consider you as a vendor for this event.

Please email Mrs. Rebecca Hoven at rebstolarski@gmail.com to indicate your interest! More details about this event will follow in the coming months.

NEW GUIDE BOOK/DIRECTORY

The 2026 directory is in process. If you do NOT want your phone number or address published in the upcoming directory please email the parish office no later than 26 June 2026: office@oratorysga.org. Unless we are notified in writing that you do not want your information published we will proceed with publishing the information that we have on file. Also, if you have moved recently and have not notified us of your address change – please email the office prior to 26 June.

FIVE FIRST SATURDAYS DEVOTION

“Look My daughter, at My Heart, surrounded with thorns with which ungrateful men pierce Me at every moment by their blasphemies and ingratitude. You at least try to console Me and announce in My name that I promise to assist at the moment of death, with all the graces necessary for salvation, all those who, on the First Saturday of five consecutive months, shall confess, receive Holy Communion, recite five decades of the Rosary, and keep Me company for fifteen minutes while meditating on the fifteen mysteries of the Rosary, with the intention of making Reparation to Me.” *Our Lady to Lucia on December 10, 1925*

In response to Our Lady’s request for the devotion of reparation to her Immaculate Heart, all are invited to join us in reciting the Holy Rosary on First Saturdays at 7:40 am, finishing in time to allow for the additional 15 minutes of private meditation on any of the mysteries of the Rosary with the intention of making reparation to Our Lady. Confessions are available 7:00 am – 8:00 am; Mass begins at 8:15 am. Help Our Lady bring about peace in the world!

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

On 18 July at the Cathedral Basilica, all are warmly invited to attend the Bicentennial Jubilee Mass at 10:00am, marking 200 years since the establishment of the Diocese of St. Louis.

The Prayer of the People is an archdiocesan-wide, prayerful and unifying initiative in preparation for this celebration. In the months leading up to the Jubilee Mass, the faithful are invited to submit personal prayer intentions, which will be gathered from across the Archdiocese and symbolically presented during the entrance procession.

Through the Prayer of the People, the faithful of every parish community will be represented in this historic moment. By bringing these intentions together, we express our commitment as one Church and entrust our prayers, hopes, and gratitude to our Lord, Jesus Christ.

The faithful may submit prayer intentions (anonymously) in one of two ways: (1) online portal: intentions submitted through the secure online portal on the Bicentennial website; (2) written prayer intentions may be placed in the collection basket or dropped off at the office until 13 July.

CELL PHONES

There has been an increasing number of cell phones ringing during Holy Mass. Please be sure to silence your cell phones before entering Church. Thank you for your cooperation.

BLESSING OF ITEMS

As a reminder, the blessings of religious items will take place after the 8:00 am Holy Mass at St. Joseph Altar on the 2nd Sunday of each month. Those who desire to have items blessed should bring them to the St. Joseph Altar **before** the 8:00 am Holy Mass with their names clearly marked on the items to be blessed. These items should be left on the St. Joseph Altar. If there are a large number of items, they can be placed around the altar but should not impede the distribution of Holy Communion. Two blessings will be given: one for rosaries and one for all other items grouped together. There is no need to take items from their packaging.

ADULTS SEEKING THE SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

We welcome those interested in becoming Catholic. To get started in that process within the OSGA community, please email one of our priests for an introductory meeting. Their contacts are available in the bulletin. After this, candidates for Initiation at the Oratory will be directed to complete a registration form with our Administrator.

Catechism classes are held in the St Joseph Room (rectory basement) generally on a bi-monthly basis on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 4:00-5:15 pm.

The content surrounds a set of topics central to Catholic teaching, as set forth by Msgr. Morris. Deacon Pieper moderates most meetings through a question-and-answer format and hopes to promote sincere dialogue with the candidates regarding those topics and/or related questions. The intent is to communicate Christ and His Church. Sacraments are offered on an individual basis, on a rolling schedule throughout the year, after mutual discernment by the candidate, our deacon, and priests.

RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

For those in our community who are new to the Traditional Latin Mass, when you approach the altar rail for holy communion it is the custom to begin filling in the altar rail at the far right near St. Joseph’s altar and fill in the rail until its end at the Marian altar. This practice is not impacted by which side of the Church you are seated. You are allowed, and encouraged, to switch sides in order to keep the communion line moving. This is particularly important when there are two sacred ministers distributing Holy Communion. So too, do not overly delay approaching the rail waiting for others to return to their pews. If everyone moves with attention to what is happening, there should be a flow of movement between those departing the altar rail and those approaching the altar rail. Also, for daily Holy Mass: please kneel at the rail only where the houseling cloth has been prepared for communion. Please keep in mind that we should not keep the Lord waiting but moving with grace and deliberation to the altar rail to receive our Eucharistic Lord.

2nd Sunday after Pentecost / External Solemnity of Corpus Christi

7 June 2026

WEDDING BANNES

There is a promise of marriage between:

III ~ Andre Chavez & Sarah Gay

II ~ John Jones & Danielle Murphy

I ~ Samuel Gerbic & Claudia Sahn

NEW FAMILIES for MAY (alphabetical order)

A warm welcome to our new parishioners!

- The Adams family ~ Michael & Abigail, and Ellie Mae
- The Conrad family ~ Michael & Savanna, Soren, Sage, Elsie, Solomon, Charlotte, and Adelaide
- Tom DeCampi
- John Grieshop
- The Grundman family ~ Parker & Maggie
- The Kramer family ~ Kevin & Marisa, Grace Ann, Hannah, Wyatt, and Landyn

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

In your charity, please pray for the following members of the Oratory who are ill: Mary Jane Bolte; Amanda Camarillo, daughter of Gregory & Nancy Latham; Heath Cheaney, son of Michael & Jaime; Jeanmarie DeCoster; Donna Hagan; Dotty Kuhlmann, mother of Donna Mueller; Mary McMahan; Kim Morgan; Michael Norfleet, son of Marsha Norfleet; Elizabeth Ryan; Jim Schaefer, father of Christi Reinlein; Karen Saykes; Mary Joseph Schenk, daughter of Nicholas & Elaine; Patrick Schneider; Kevin Smith, husband of Carol

Smith; Sylvester Soldinie; Caleb & Sheila Ten Eyck; Lara Trudell, daughter of Sharon and Jim Alexander; Renee Weidner; and Msgr. Witt.

PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

- William Robert Erdel
- Andrew Richard "Andy" Gilfoil, brother of Joe Gilfoil
- Darlene Harris, sister of Sharon Leanord & Joe Mendel
- Sue Schaefer, mother of Christi Reinlein
- Joan Rita Short, aunt & godmother of Gregory Latham
- David M. Smith, brother-in-law of Carol Smith

USHERS' SCHEDULE

Sunday, 7 June

6:30 am Bill Saccente*, Ben Schubert

8:00 am Kenny Buyle*, Terry Conway, Greg Rheinheimer, Jeff Martin

10:00 am Jordan Hermann*, Zach Morley, Brandon Roberts, Owen Bruns

Sunday, 14 June

6:30 am Jim Alexander*, Bill Saccente

8:00 am Terry Conway*, Greg Rheinheimer, Jeff Martin, Kip Babington

10:00 am Zach Morley*, Brandon Roberts, Owen Bruns, Josh Cummins

+ Altar Server Schedule: June 2026 +

Date	Time	MC at High Mass / Acolyte at Low Mass	Thurifer	Acolyte 1	Acolyte 2
7 June 2026	6:30	Jack Ryan			
	8:00	Castor Armesto			
	10:00	Philip Petrick	Raymond Buyle	Elijah Garvey	Robert Jones
14 June 2026	6:30	Ben Schubert			
	8:00	Benedict Armesto			
	10:00	Sebastian Petrick	Paul Keys	Silas Buyle	Stefan Noble

FIRST FRIDAY/FIRST SATURDAY

5 June 2026	6:30 pm	Castor Armesto	Thomas Koschmeder	Cabhan Ten Eyck	Robert Jones
6 June 12026	8:15 am	Avery Blaxton	Paul Keys	George Blaxton	Scott Fowler

WELLSPRING OF TRADITION: THE FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI

The feast of Corpus Christi is not an ancient one. It was first celebrated in 1247 in the diocese of Liege (in today's Belgium), at the urgent plea of an Augustinian Prioress, St. Juliana of Mont Cornillon (AD 1193-1258). From her youth she had a recurring vision of the moon that was full and beautiful, but marked by a black spot that signified that there was no joyous celebration of the Eucharist in the otherwise complete Church calendar. She began sharing her vision and prevailing upon local clergy and their superiors to inaugurate the celebration of the feast. Over the next several decades, her efforts enjoyed limited success, in varying degrees, as the politics of Church and state in Germany were altered by the relationship of the emperor and the papacy. In 1261, the one-time Archdeacon of Liege and a friend of St Juliana became Pope Urban IV. She appealed again to him to make the feast a universal one.

In 1263, her efforts received a boost when Peter of Prague, a German priest, stopped at the Church of St. Christina in Bolsena during a pilgrimage to Rome to offer Holy Mass. Although a holy and devout man, he had doubts about the Real Presence. These doubts were completely resolved when the Host he consecrated during that Mass began to bleed. He rushed to meet Pope Urban IV in Orvieto, bringing the Host with him. The Duomo (Cathedral) of Orvieto commemorates the miracle and now houses the blood stained corporal that Peter of Prague used. The following year, Pope Urban extended the feast to the universal Church. However, he died shortly thereafter and it was not until Clement V re-published Urban's decree in 1311 that the feast really took hold.

St. Juliana composed the first office for the original celebration of the feast in the diocese of Liege with the aid of a monk named John, and much of it is still preserved. This office was rooted more in devotional and theological texts, stressing the emotional value of the enduring presence of Christ in the Eucharist. The Cistercians found this too simple and emotional, and composed another office. In Germany, several rhyming offices were developed. Although still debated by many, it was likely St. Thomas Aquinas (1225—1274) who arranged a

Roman office between 1261 and 1263 for a special celebration of the feast in Orvieto in 1264, around the time when Urban IV extended the feast to the universal church in view of his impending death. Sometime after he died, a new Roman office was composed. After much debate during the 20c, most scholars now accept that St. Thomas was the author of this office. This formulary, drawing heavily on themes St. Thomas develops in his famous sermon *Homo quidam fecit cenam magnam*, contains some of the finest liturgical texts ever written, and is the source of the texts we still use today for this feast. They remained—almost singularly—unscathed during the horrendous devastation of Urban VIII’s humanistic demolition of the breviary hymns. And Bugnini’s butchers left much of it intact in creating the new Divine Office for the Liturgia Horarum (Liturgy of the Hours) as a rare exception to their normal practice. To have survived both of these iconoclastic periods of liturgical havoc is powerful testimony to the quality of St. Thomas’s texts and the high regard in which they are held.

As anyone familiar with this enduring formulary will know, St. Thomas relied heavily on sacred scripture, and especially the psalms, in choosing his texts. He has magnificently expressed the jubilant character of the day, especially in his famous hymns, most notably in *Sacris Solemniis*, which is sung at Matins and often sung during the procession:

Sacris solemniis juncta sint gaudia,	Great is the festive day, joyful and jubilant,
Et ex praecordiis sonent praeconia;	Let us with loving hearts offer the song of praise;
Recedant vetera, nova sint omnia,	Freed from the sinful past, may we renew in grace
Corda, voces, et opera.	All our thoughts and words and deeds

The fifth stanza of *Sacris Solemniis*, beginning *Panis Angelicus* (Bread of the Angels), usually accompanied by its doxology, *Te Trina Deitas*, has been used for centuries as a separate hymn in honor of the Blessed Sacrament. It is known and cherished widely among Christians of many denominations. Besides the superb chant melody, musical settings include those of Cesar Franck (1890), of the French Jesuit Louis Lambilotte (1855), and the powerful four-part setting usually ascribed to C. Casilini—but which should be more correctly credited to Jacopo Tomadini (1883).

At Vespers we chant the most well-known hymn by St. Thomas, *Pange Lingua Gloriosi Corporis Mysterium* (Praise, O tongue, the mystery of the glorious Body). The last two stanzas of this hymn, *Tantum Ergo* and *Genitori* (the doxology) are sung everywhere at Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament. The best-known musical setting of this hymn has remained the Gregorian chant melody (Mode III) in the *Antiphonale Romanum*. St. Thomas modeled this hymn on the Passiontide hymn *Pange lingua gloriosi proelium certaminis* of St. Venantius Fortunatus.

For Lauds, St. Thomas wrote the hymn *Verbum Supernum Prodiens* (The Divine Word coming forth). Pius Parsch remarked in his liturgical commentary that the famous composer of Latin hymns, Jean-Baptiste de Santeul, (+1697) said he would give everything he ever wrote to be the author of this hymn. As with the other hymns above, the penultimate stanza plus the doxology has become a favorite song and prayer on its own:

O salutaris hostia,	O saving host, o bread of life,
Quae caeli pandis ostium,	Thou goal of rest from pain and strife,
Bella praemunt hostilia:	Embattled are we, poor and weak:
Da robur, fer auxilium.	Grant us the strength and help we seek.

Many of the antiphons for the feast have become famous as well. *O Sacrum Convivium*, the antiphon for the *Magnificat* at Second Vespers, has long been a favorite of composers, and is also the prayer prescribed in the *Roman Ritual* for the celebrant to pray after Holy Communion has been distributed and the Blessed Sacrament is returned to the tabernacle.

At Holy Mass, the words *Exsultate—jubilate* of the Introit psalm verse announce the theme of today's feast and of the procession which follows. The psalm from which these words have been taken was once sung at the feast of Tabernacles, which was celebrated in the open, in tents constructed of boughs in memory of the tent-life of Israel in the desert. Hence it also refers to the dwelling of God with us in the desert of this world, and to today's festive procession in the open over a path often decorated with boughs and flowers. Today Mother Church's heart overflows with joy—with joy that extends beyond the confines of the church building. All Nature is to exult with her. And, conversely, Nature, with her trees now wearing their most beautiful green, with her wreaths and garlands, is allowed to make a solemn entry into the church. For this is also her festal day. From Nature the Saviour has selected the two species, bread and wine, under the appearance of which He gives Himself to us.

The melodies for St. Thomas’s texts have been borrowed from earlier Sundays or feasts; the Introit, for instance, has received both text and melody from the Monday in Whitsun Week. The melody sounds like the joyous ringing of bells. The famous Sequence of St. Thomas Aquinas in superb language enunciates the dogma of the Holy Eucharist. Its accompanying melody was composed by Adam of St. Victor (+ca. 1192). In its original form it was a hymn to the cross, for which the Alleluia *Dulce lignum* (3 May) supplies the initial motif. If done well, this Sequence takes a comparatively short time to sing. (E.g., at Beuron this chant is sung in six minutes.)

Dom Dominic Johner, OSB, comments on today’s *Graduale* chants: 'Through Holy Orders priests—and they alone—have received the power to offer the Sacrifice of the New Covenant. Consequently, their lives must be holy. But they act *in persona Christi* as the mediators of *our* Sacrifice, and for this reason we, too, must be holy. Let bread, wine, and incense be the symbols of our labor, our prayer, and our sacrificial spirit. If we rise superior to selfishness, to worldly pleasure, to the world’s way of thinking and acting, and go up to the altar of sacrifice with hearts vibrant with pure love of God, like incense, which seeks only what is above and is consumed for God, then are we a kingly priesthood, a holy nation. The melody borrowed from Whitsunday in a rather good adaptation fits fairly well to the text whose content is related to it.'

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

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