

For the Glory of God

Rekindle Your Faith

The Holy Church – Progress vs. Tradition

Roman Catholics who have strayed from the faith though had been baptized into the one true Church of Christ, the Holy Roman Catholic Church, may not realize that they remain always Catholic in the spirit regardless of how far, or how long, they have been away. Knowing the truth about the Holy Roman Catholic Church, and the Catholic faith, is vital for the sake of her survival in a secular world where evil seeks to destroy all traces of her holy existence.

It is important to understand that the Holy Church did not begin as we have come to know it today. The ***Sacrifice of the Mass*** has undergone many changes since its inception. Following is a summarization of the ***Sacrifice of the Mass***, as outlined by Fr. Josef Jungmann, SJ, (1889 – 1975) Professor of Pastoral Theology at the University of Innsbrook, and a consultor for the 1948 Liturgical Commission, from his thesis entitled, ***“The Sacrifice of the Church.”***

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- *“The basic structure of the Mass has not changed in one thousand seven hundred years. Since the 3rd century the Mass has always had: opening prayers; reading of the Sacred Scripture; the Eucharistic prayer, or anaphora; and final or closing prayers.*
- *The “Lord have mercy” was originally from the Eastern liturgies but was added to the Roman rite in the 4th century. Pope Gregory the Great (590-604) was the one who added it but he also modified it adding the Christe Eleison with the idea of the prayer being a chant to the Blessed Trinity: Kyrie Eleison - Father; Christe Eleison - Son; Kyrie Eleison - Holy Spirit.*
- *The Confiteor (I confess to almighty God and to you...) was originally a prayer used to distribute communion outside of Mass. It was added to the Mass in the Roman rite about the 10th century.*
- *The Gloria (Glory to God in the highest...) dates to before the 4th century. It was originally used only during the Mass at Christmas. Pope Symmachus (498-514) extended its use to every Sunday and to the feasts of martyrs.*
- *The Scripture readings may date from the 7th century BC to about 90 AD. The early Church decided which books would be in the Bible (CCC 120). The Bible was translated from the original languages into Latin by St. Jerome around 382. The earliest list of accepted books is called the Muratorian Canon, dated around 190 AD. The Council of Rome in 382, the Council of Hippo in 393, and the Council of Carthage in 397 also drew up the same list of accepted books.*
- *The Creed after the homily (We believe in one God,...) was written at the Council of Nicaea in 325. It was finalized at the Council of Constantinople in 385. Pope Benedict VIII added one word, “Filioque” in the year 1014 to reinforce the Church’s teaching that the Holy Spirit proceeds from Jesus as well as God the Father. The Spanish were the first to include the Nicene Creed in the Mass,*

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starting around 597. The Roman rite did not include it until the 10th or 11th century.

The Eucharistic prayers that the priest says at every Mass are based for the most part on very ancient texts. The Eucharistic prayers themselves are in 4 basic parts, an opening exclamation, or preface; a memorial also known as “anamnesis”; a petition to or invocation of the Holy Spirit, also called “epiclesis”; and the concluding doxology.

- The first Eucharistic prayer is also referred to as the “Roman Canon”. It was in use by the fourth century. Saint Gregory the Great who was a Pope and Doctor of the Church from 590 to 604 made some modifications to the prayer.*
- The second Eucharistic prayer is based on the “Anaphora of Hippolytus” which was composed around 215 and is the earliest Eucharistic prayer that has come down to us. Hippolytus was a Roman priest who was martyred in 235. It was revived after Vatican II.*
- The fourth Eucharistic prayer is based on the “Anaphora of St. Basil”. St. Basil was born in 330 in Caesarea of Cappodocia in the eastern Mediterranean.*
- The Agnus Dei (Lamb of God) was introduced into the Roman Canon by Pope Sergius (687-701) during the Fraction, or breaking of the bread, and was repeated as long as the Fraction was taking place. Eventually it was changed so that it was only repeated three times.*
- The sign of peace was at one time the kiss of peace. It was exchanged among all the faithful in the congregation until the time of Innocent III (1196-1215). At that time the congregation was divided with men on one side and women on the other. The Council of Trent changed it so that only the clergy exchanged any sign of peace. Vatican II*

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changed it back.

The blessing at the end of Mass was originally given by the Pope or other bishops.

Then, in the 12th and 13th century, ordinary priests were allowed to give the final blessing. The word "Mass" itself comes from the Latin "Ite missa est" which means "Go, it is ended". An alternate explanation is that it came from the Latin expression "misa facere" which means to dismiss. Whatever the origin, by the 6th century the word "Mass" began to mean the whole service."

Traditionalists, today, argue that the Roman Catholic Church has become far too progressive via the changes it has allowed, especially since the annunciation of Vatican II, and given the presiding Pope's intentions which seem to, often times, border on pleasing secular society rather than God.

The staunchest critic of the current Holy Father and the new order is the former Apostolic Nuncio to the United States, Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano', now retired. Archbishop Vigano' is highly regarded and admired by many traditionalists in the Roman Catholic Church, officials and parishioners alike. He has been outspoken on matters favoring tradition and has been judgmental

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regarding political intervention and secular modernism in the church. Archbishop Vigano's support for the "Mass of all time," and his belief that the **Acts of the Apostles** is the original guideline for the Holy Church, is essential in causing traditional Catholics to want to reclaim the church and revert it back to the position it once held before Vatican II. It must be all *for the Glory of God* and the salvation of souls.

In order to return to the initial purpose and doctrine of the Holy Church in its earliest form it *must* include the traditions, support for which seems to be increasing more steadily among both new and seasoned parishioners since the matter of saving one's soul and eternity are ever- looming on the horizon. In this day and age, when the *Novus Ordo* is the mandatory Order of the Mass since Pope (Saint) Paul VI had replaced the pre-Vatican II "**Mass of all time**," the Roman Catholic Mass has come to resemble that of the protestant churches, the theme of which was the actual inspiration for Pope (Saint) Paul VI's revised mass, as previously noted in another chapter. Sunday Mass was transformed in a way to

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become more palatable for appeasing parishioners whose lives and schedules were being considered far too consumed by other constraints to accommodate spending too much time at church. Vatican II and the changes in the church started appearing in the mid-sixties when the *mod* revolution with its hippies, flower power, drugs and sexual freedom, began to take hold of the younger generations and, thus, the Holy Church was blamed for being “out of touch” with the modern-day lifestyles.

The Tridentine Mass was last observed, officially, in 1962. It was not celebrated again after the *Novus Ordo* replaced it in 1969, that is until Pope Benedict XVI agreed to allow the Latin Mass, the 1962 version only, to be said at the discretion of a Diocese and parish priests, this after many parishioners had been heralding requests for the return of the centuries-old traditional mass.

Presently, Pope Francis I had called upon the Bishops to assess the value of the Latin Mass in today's re-structured church. This decisive move by the Holy Father has now sought the dissolution of the Mass of All Time for *all time*. What's more,

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as of February 2023, we have learned that not only has the Pope chosen to abolish the Latin Mass, and has chastised traditional Catholics, the FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation) has been investigating *traditional* members of the Catholic Church, deeming them to be “domestic terrorists!” For what purpose, and by whose authority, are constraints being adopted for the Holy Church by a branch of the United States Federal Government and why the sudden move to abolish all things traditional from God’s Church?

In 2007, Pope Benedict XVI clarified that the Latin Mass had not been abrogated by Vatican II and was permitted, as *"in the history of the liturgy there is growth and progress, but no rupture."* However, traditionalist Catholics fear that CDF prefect Cdl. Luis Ladaria's letter of March 7 could be the beginning of a process which puts the *Vetus Ordo Missae* "under threat."

"I can only interpret this as the CDF looking for trouble. As the old saying goes, 'If it ain't broke, don't fix it.' It looks like they're trying to break it, so then they can 'fix' it," a Rome-based canon lawyer as told to Church Militant.com."

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It has now become a reality; the traditional Latin mass and all private masses once held at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, have been restricted, according to Life Site News, a traditional Catholic news source, who, itself, has had their first amendment rights removed from public view because of their openness in supporting traditionalism; to wit:

“VATICAN CITY, March 12, 2021 (LifeSiteNews) — In a new development infringing on the freedom to celebrate the “extraordinary form” of the Roman rite, the Vatican’s Secretariat of State circulated a note with details of new dispositions restricting all “individual” Masses in Saint Peter’s Basilica, with special, even more restrictive measures for the traditional rite.

The new rules will enter into effect as of March 22, Monday of the fifth week of Lent. From that day onward, and for an indefinite period, all priests and faithful who come to daily Mass in the Basilica will be required to join “concelebrated” Masses at fixed times between 7 and 9 a.m. in only two locations: the Chapel of the Choir (“Cappella del Coro”) that is situated halfway down the left-hand nave, opposite the Chapel of the Most Holy Sacrament, and usually closed by a wrought-iron grille, and the Altar of the Chair of Saint Peter, behind the main altar in the apse of the Basilica. All individual celebrations of Mass will be in practice considered as exceptions to the rule.

Groups accompanied by a priest or a bishop using the Novus Ordo are “assured” of the possibility of having a Holy Mass celebrated individually by their spiritual attendant, but no longer in the Basilica, the heart of Christendom. These Masses will be relegated to the “Grotte vaticane,” in other words, the Crypt where many

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former Popes lie buried.

Priests who prefer the Vetus Ordo, the traditional Latin rite of the Catholic Church, will be confined to four time slots between 7 and 9 a.m., at only one altar: the Clementine Chapel of the Crypt."

This decision to eradicate the traditional Latin Mass began with the following:

"VATICAN CITY - Catholics worshipping according to the extraordinary Form of the Mass are deeply apprehensive after the Vatican sent bishops a questionnaire asking for "their advice" on the Latin Mass.

The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (CDF) is directing bishops to complete a survey on Pope Benedict XVI's edict Summorum Pontificum stating that "His Holiness Pope Francis wishes to be informed about the current application of the aforementioned document."

A deeper "crackdown" on the Latin Mass was rekindled following the death of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. The aforesaid article, and the new result, has led to the following statement to be issued from *Newsweek*, on February 10th:

"The FBI has come under scrutiny after a leaked document showed the bureau warning that "radical traditionalist" Catholics pose as an extremist threat. Kyle Seraphin, a former FBI special agent and federal whistleblower, obtained the document from the bureau's field office in Richmond, Virginia, and published it on the UncoveredDC website.

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The memo notes that FBI investigations have found that there is a "growing overlap" between the far-right white nationalist movement and RTCs. The January 23 document claims that RTCs are a small minority of the Catholic Church. They adhere to "anti-Semitic, anti-immigrant, anti-LGBT and white supremacy" ideology, while also preferring the "traditional Latin mass."

The memo notes that these Catholics reject the Second Vatican Council and show a "disdain for popes elected since Vatican II."

Also included in the memo was a list of Catholic organizations that are defined as hate groups by civil rights advocates the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC). These include the Catholic Apologetics International in Pennsylvania and the Slaves of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in New Hampshire.

The FBI has since confirmed to several news sites that it has removed the document from its systems because it does not meet the "exacting standards of the FBI."

Owing to this undisclosed information immediately publicized by a "whistleblower," the FBI has now rescinded its investigation. The far-reaching United States Government has gone over the top with its racism tactics and seeks to blame white Christian Americans, specifically Catholics, who believe that Vatican II was a mistake, the same lifelong Catholics who have a special regard and affinity for the traditional Latin Mass and the stricter rules of the traditional church. Why is the United States Government involved in religious/Catholic

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practices at all, and by whose authority? State governments have NO business defining religion! It should also be pointed out here that the Southern Poverty Law Center is a civil-rights organization, and that an unfair portion of inhabitants in the southern Bible belt despise Catholics and their faith. Some Protestant churches teach that Catholics will be going to hell before first and foremost. How are these marginalized views of discriminatory-based beliefs acceptable? Yet, Catholics who believe in tradition and the old ways of the Holy Church are being called out for hatred and racism by federal and state governments for exercising their rightful beliefs. Radicals and racists are found in every race and creed. Racial injustice is not found singularly in the white population, and this fact must be given serious consideration if peace is to be brought about in the world.

Judgment cannot, and should not, fall upon the pragmatic Catholic, or the entirety of faithful Catholics who have nothing to do, whatsoever, with indoctrination, but, for a few radical sources within the faith, especially politicians of the faith who abuse the faith. Such discrimination falls under the category of

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persecuting Christians. Punishment should be for the guilty not for the innocent, and the governments of the world need to step out of the framework of obstructing religions and the religious. There must be freedom of religion, and the persecution of Catholics, all Christians and Jews, must cease.

The Latin Mass, the extraordinary form of mass, is a magnificent experience to behold. There is something not only majestic about this centuries-old tradition, in retrospect, it seems a most befitting and legitimate tribute to the solemnity of Christ's Passion, especially, the Consecration and Offertory portions of the mass. The Tridentine/Latin Mass should remain a treasure to the church and highly regarded for its unique reverence to God and Jesus Christ, His son. The Vatican hierarchy would do well to relish more of the traditions which existed in the earliest forms of the Holy church as they are found nowhere else in the course of religion or faith other than in the Holy Mother Church. However, with the passing of new restrictions and probable banning of many traditions, traditional Catholics fear the next step may be to abolish God's Church forever, yet, another step in one of many attempts to lessen the integrity and standing of God/Christ's Church

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in the world.

The Holy Roman Catholic Church claims recognition as the one, true Holy and Apostolic Catholic Church of Christ, despite that past popes seem to have limited this distinction by incorporating God's Church into the realm of equality and an equal counterpart to all Christian churches, thereby minimizing its unique stance among the Christian world. Factually, there is no other Christian denomination who can be counted equal to that which was commanded into being by Jesus Christ. The Holy Catholic Church, including other denominations aligned to the Pope; i. e. Byzantine Orthodox and Coptic Christian, rises above other Christian denominations not aligned to the Pope, simply, because of Christ's involvement and creation of the Church and by His appointment of Saint Peter to govern over all. Of course, this fact does not diminish the faith and hope of protestant Christians in their strides toward salvation. Any one person believing in God and in Jesus Christ, God/Man, is already saved. However, there are other precautionary measures which must still be taken in order to achieve the award

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of complete salvation. To be factual, there are overwhelming differences between Catholic and Protestant Christianity, the first being Holy Communion. The Holy Eucharist of the Catholic Church beholds the true presence of Christ's body and blood after Consecration of the Host. Scientists have proven this truth in conducting research on the DNA of blood-letting hosts that have miraculously appeared at Catholic masses. The second great difference is found in the translations of the Holy Bible. Protestants strictly adhere to God's Word, as is, although their interpretations are very much inaccurate in many instances. Two issues of misreading Bible verses by Protestants, to which I was witness, include passages referencing Mary having relations with Joseph after the birth of Jesus and becoming a mother to more children after Jesus was born. With this false assumption they mocked the Catholic Church for their glorifying of Mary being a virgin, suggesting that the Church teaches such falsehoods. This suggestion is absolutely untrue and very disturbing. The truth is that Mary conceived the Son of God while a virgin and remained a virgin throughout the entire birth of our Lord.

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Therefore, in reference to Mary, as the Mother of God, she was, and is, the Most Holy Virgin, Mary, Mother of God. In the Catholic version of the Bible, which is translated from the original Greek writing, it is said in Matthew 1:24-25 that

24 When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home;

25 he had not had intercourse with her when she gave birth to a son; and he named him Jesus.

The original version does not here infer that Joseph had relations with Mary after she gave birth to Jesus as do the various newer interpretations of the Holy Book.

As He died slowly upon the Cross, Jesus turned to His mother and said:

“Behold your son.” Then, referring to (Saint) John, not a blood relation, standing beside Mary, Jesus said to this beloved Apostle: *“Behold your mother.”* Where were the other supposed children of Mary around her as Jesus was dying? Why did she not go home with her birth children if Jesus was not her only child?

Several references to Mary in the Bible which mentions Christ's brothers and

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sisters could be literal meanings for cousins and/or dear friends, just as congregations refer to one another as “brother and sister.” We hear from Jesus, himself, regarding the situation of His brothers and sisters in Mark 3: 31- 35:

31 Now his mother and his brothers arrived and, standing outside, sent in a message asking for him.

32 A crowd was sitting round him at the time the message was passed to him, 'Look, your mother and brothers and sisters are outside asking for you.'

33 He replied, 'Who are my mother and my brothers?'

34 And looking at those sitting in a circle round him, he said, 'Here are my mother and my brothers.

35 Anyone who does the will of God, that person is my brother and sister and mother.'

There is little interest for Mary in the protestant churches for they believe only in Jesus Christ, Savior and Lord, with no consideration given to Mary as Queen of Heaven and Earth, nor to Joseph, her spouse, nor any Saints. Protestant Christians confess their sins entirely to God and do not seek intercession from

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others for His approval of prayers and healings. This is the accepted Protestant belief. The Catholic version with regard to Reconciliation/Confession is found clearly in the Bible, in John 18:23, wherein Jesus is resurrected and visits His Apostles.

18 So Mary of Magdala told the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord,' and that he had said these things to her.

19 In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,'

20 and, after saying this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy at seeing the Lord,

21 and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you. 'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'

22 After saying this he breathed on them and said: Receive the Holy Spirit.

23 If you forgive anyone's sins, they are forgiven; if you retain anyone's sins, they are retained.

It was on the night of the Last Supper when Jesus, the Great High Priest,

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ordained the Apostles as His Priests, giving each the power to change bread and wine into His body and blood, extending that power later on to hearing confessions and forgiving, or not, sins.

The great schism of 1054 within Christ's Church first came about because certain Church leaders were not pleased by the inference that the Bishop of Rome was the dominant Christian leader over all, nor did they agree with many of the Roman Catholic positions on doctrines of the faith including the *Filioque*; the matter of the Holy Spirit proceeding from the Father alone or from both the Father and the Son. The centuries-old controversy between the Roman Catholic Church and the Eastern Orthodox Church ultimately began with the addition of "and the Son" in the Nicene Creed.

The outside claim that the Pope was, merely, "the first among equals," was borne of jealousy and ego rather than adhering to Jesus' instructions to Peter. The Bishop of Rome i.e the Pope, the Holy Father...is the chosen successor to Jesus Christ, Lord and Savior. Right or wrong, whether fallible and infallible, the

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Holy Father is the true “Vicar of Christ,” directed to be the single representative of Christ on earth. The Pope is, then, within his rights to alter Church doctrine as he sees fit, that ability given to him when Christ said to Peter: ***Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. - Matthew 18:18.***

The second schism known as the “Protestant Reformation” came in the 16th Century and the protagonists, Martin Luther and John Calvin, the former going so far as to eliminate verses in the Bible of his own accord. Schism within the Catholic Church seems evident in most recent times due to disparages ensuing between progressive and traditionalist clergy.

On which specific ideology, and how the Pope bases intricate changes, is a delicate line he must walk in order to retain the parameters within the Church according to God’s overall directions.

Bearing in mind that there have been Popes who have bordered the limitations between conservative and liberal ideologies, Pope Francis I may be the most

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liberal pontiff, yet, to lead the Roman Church. While his views appear to be more in line with appeasing the progressive portion of the world, his critics are speaking out loudly, and vehemently, against the Holy Father's handling of the church, including his lack of transparency during the sexual scandals which, for centuries, has been secretly suppressed by church officials and overlooked by several former Popes. Parishioners who have made the decision to leave the Roman Catholic Church over what they have deemed the sins of the Church fathers have done so in great number, with many fleeing in mass confusion and befuddlement over the extremeness of some of Francis' teachings.

At the same time Catholics should never abandon the faith, but, however, stand up to the blasphemies being committed and, thus, strive harder to preserve what Jesus Christ had created for His disciples and all His faithful followers, past, present, and to come.

There is a deep sense of gratefulness to God that accompanies one on their return to the Holy Church. For those, too, who ultimately find faith, there will be

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an unexplainable and sudden contentment within your soul once you do; a knowingness that you belong to something greater than humankind alone.

If you choose to leave the Holy Church, or to stay away indefinitely, your decision remains between you and God. Leaving the church, and turning a blind eye to evil rather than exposing it only lessens the value of what it means to be a faithful Catholic/Christian. Faithful Roman Catholics should never forget that Holy Mass is offered in remembrance of the sacrifices Our Lord made for us, and to secure our place in eternity. There is no other worthy of our complete devotion and presence before the Holy Altar than Jesus Christ, God, Himself, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost (Spirit).

Roman Catholicism will positively affect every person who desires enrichment of body and soul in the presence of Our Lord, Jesus Christ; God, the Just Judge. Rekindle the faith, and never lose sight of Scripture *and* the traditions belonging to the one Holy and Apostolic Church of God.

As for the Mass of the Ages, the Tridentine Mass, faithful Catholics must

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request of the Vatican hierarchy it's continued allowance, for it is the most reverent of all, the most beautiful honor for Our Lord, served with such Grace and Dignity as to never lose sight of the Son of God upon His Cross. Whether it is the true Latin version, or the 2002 English version utilizing the same Tridentine Order of Mass, both should be at the disposal of the traditional faithful and not condemned as "old fashioned and outdated." Catholics should kneel at an appropriate Communion rail before receiving the Holy Eucharist with exception for those who cannot kneel due to health concerns. Catholics should never receive the Holy Eucharist in the hand. The consecrated Host should come from the hands of an ordained Priest to be placed directly on the tongue. Our Lord deserves more from us than our standing in a representative "bread line" to receive into, perhaps, unclean hands, the body and blood of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Ponder for yourselves the loss of Catholic tradition. Attend a Tridentine/Latin Mass and discover the Glory of bearing witness to a ceremony where God and

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His Son are truly worshipped; a Mass not meant explicitly for the faithful, but, for
Our Lord, by the faithful.



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