



**Newsletter – Issue 123 May, 2023**

**Prepared by members of the *Una Voce Vancouver Island Association (U.V.V.I.A.)*,  
for the Traditional Latin Mass community, in the Diocese of Victoria, B.C., Canada.**

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<b>Latin Masses in May</b>		<b>Time</b>	<b>Celebrant</b>
Friday, 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Privileged Votive Mass of the Sacred Heart of Jesus + commem. Pope St. Pius V, Conf.>	8.30 a.m.	
Sunday, 7 <sup>th</sup> d May	Fourth Sunday after Easter	Noon.	
Friday, 12 <sup>th</sup> May	Feast of SS. Nereus, Achilleus, Domitilla the Virgin, and Pancras, MM.	8.30 a.m.	
Sunday, 14 <sup>th</sup> May	Fifth Sunday after Easter	Noon	Fr. John Domotor
Thursday, 18 <sup>th</sup> May	Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord	8.30 a.m.	
Sunday, 21 <sup>st</sup> May	Sunday after the Ascension	Noon	
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	Feast of St. Philip Neri, Conf. + commem. St. Eleutherius, P.M.	8.30 a.m.	
Sunday, 28 <sup>th</sup> May	Pentecost Sunday	Noon	

**PRAYER INTENTIONS:**

<u><b>For the sick and suffering (see also Parish Bulletin):</b></u>		<u><b>Miscellaneous Intentions:</b></u>
Mrs. Agnes Berard	Mrs. Christine Stornebrink	For our Priest, Bishop and the Holy Father.
Fr. Donald Malins	Mr. Ron Turner	For vocations to the Priesthood and Consecrated Life.

**R.I.P. Please remember in your prayers the faithful departed:**

Fr. Michael Birch, Irene Domotor, Roger Brown, Earl & Elsa Morrison, Bernard & Nova Wauthy,  
Louis Berard, Marcellina Baldauf, Patricia Gould, Mary Lawson, Lorna Cue and Doreen Kitchen,  
We also remember in our prayers the faithful servants of God: Benedict XVI and George Pell.

# NEWS

## **1. Seminarian support Fund**

I just sent a check to VTMS for the seminarian fund for \$567.00. (\$514 of that from our coffee fund collection and \$53 from the used book sale). That brings our year-to-date amount to \$1223.00 Thank you to all who have made this possible by your donations. Please keep up this most important work.

## **2. An Interview of Liam McCoy, recent convert to the Catholic faith.**

On behalf of the entire Traditional Latin Mass congregation, we extend our congratulations to two converts to the Catholic faith, This past Easter Saturday, 2023. They are Messrs. Liam McCoy and Kyle Flewelling. We thank God Who called them into the One Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. and wish them strength and courage as new members of the *Church Militant*.

We have asked Mr. Liam McCoy to tell our T.L.M. members about his conversion story by answering ten questions. Here follow the questions and his replies:

### **1. What is your full name?**

Liam McCoy.

### **2. What is your Baptismal name, if one was added to your given name?**

They didn't ask but my Patron Saint is Saint Francis of Assisi.

### **3. Which previous religion(s) or beliefs did you hold, e.g., Protestant (Anglican, Baptist, etc.); Atheist; Agnostic; Naturalist; Islamic; Buddhist; Hindu, or none?**

Agnostic. My father is an atheist my mother is "spiritual but not religious" and although my grandpa is from Ireland and a Catholic, he's not practicing anymore and was never open about it.

### **4. What was (were) the reason(s) for your conversion to Catholicism?**

I've been interested in history for most of my life and I've always been attracted to traditional ways of life, not really understanding why and even feeling guilty because the modern narrative teaches me that society has "progressed" since then. That's what sort of drew me into studying history, theology and philosophy. From there I found Christianity and from there I discerned Catholicism for a number of reasons, because I felt I had some roots in it coming from my grandpa, because I was attracted to its beauty and traditions and because it happened to be the closest church to where I am living and thus the first, I went too...

### **5. What were the influences of others upon your decision to become Catholic?**

I've been to all sorts of masses and while I do like the Novus Ordo, being invited into the beauty of the Traditional Latin Mass, where I found a good fraternity of young men who have been amazing witnesses to me in my faith and in traditional lifestyles was certainly a life changing moment. I also have to thank my God-Father Barnabas, a great man who has been able to answer many of my questions and has kept me responsible and committed in my journey of conversion. I'd also say my mother in a way helped me convert although quite indirectly. When I was young, she very much placed in my head the idea of a "higher power" even though a lot of what she did was hardly Christian. I also have to thank Father William for giving me my first bible and planting a seed of curiosity into conversion.

## **6. When did you first experience the desire for your conversion?**

I can't say there was one moment looking back in hindsight. What drew me into RCIA and the direct process of conversion however was having brunch with some CCO (Catholic Christian Outreach) folks after a mass they invited me to. I was already pretty involved in what was essentially the Catholic club in my university for a month or so, it being my favourite hangout spot, but during that Brunch I literally asked how one goes about converting, bringing me into the RCIA process from there.

## **7. How long did it take to prepare for and study the Catholic faith, and did you follow an RCIA program?**

I went through an RCIA program which lasted a little less than a year. It certainly helped cover the basic fundamentals of Catholicism for me but a lot of what I knew about the Church I had already known or was learning through personal interest, reading and the internet. I study History in University too and I like taking classes around Medieval Europe, Christianity, Theology and Philosophy, studying St. Thomas Aquinas and Dante's Divine Comedy. After my conversion however these studies have come into a totally new light.

## **8. How did family members and friends react to your decision?**

I'm still a little unsure to be honest. At first, I was very anxious about my dad in particular to the point where I was lying about where I was going on Sundays and such. But after praying I was led to Matthew 5:14-16, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." This passage very much spoke to me in my moment of anxiety and so I revealed myself to my dad and step-mother whom I am living with. She reacted with curiosity and openness but while my father did not oppose it, he certainly felt quite awkward and distant about it. My mother who still lives in New Zealand reacted rather positively, pleased to see how happy I was after my conversion. My brother has mocked me for it as he's a staunch atheist.

## **9. How has your conversion affected you emotionally and rationally?**

I feel much more at peace as Father John pointed out in his homily this Sunday (April 16th, the second Sunday after Easter). Sometimes, and I have to not let this be a matter of pride, I wonder how I even got by before I was a Christian. I let the littlest of things set me off into thinking it's the end of the world and was depressed and anxious almost 24/7. I've also felt pretty distant around most people as well, but the Catholic community has been nothing but warm and welcoming and I've never met people I feel closer to. In general, I am improving my life a lot after putting things into perspective and am constantly trying to get rid of the things in my life that distract me from what truly matters. Even being able to pray the rosary or pray over a single Bible verse for half an hour is something I wouldn't be able to do a year or so ago, having no attention span and being constantly distracted by meaningless 'things'.

## **10. Where there any minor or major hurdles to overcome when making the decision that led to your conversion?**

Anxiety around my parents' reaction was one of them I already mentioned. Another was scepticism, often being tempted with feelings of doubt and despair. General slothfulness is always a concern, as is hedonistic temptation and the desire to feel "free" from the supposed limitations set by the Church.

## **You may add on anything which you think might benefit others considering converting to Catholicism.**

The one thing I'd say to someone considering converting, is to just be open, nothing is set in stone if you join a RCIA program or attend a few masses. Be open to the Holy Spirit guiding you and the rest should follow.

### **LITURGY**

The month of May begins with the feast of St. Joseph the Workman (May 1<sup>st</sup>). Since this feastday falls on a Monday this year, there will be no Mass offered that day. We can, however maintain our own prayers and meditations to this great Saint. The month ends with the Feast of the Coronation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (31st May).

On Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> May, we celebrate the **Solemn Feast of the Ascension of our Lord**.

Ascension Thursday is the second solemn feast in the Paschal Season. It is a holyday of obligation on the universal calendar of the Church and was observed as such in Canada and in most countries until the 1970s. Ascensiontide is the period of ten days which precedes Pentecost.

**The Solemn Feast of Pentecost on 28<sup>th</sup> May, ranks in the 1962 rubrics immediately after Easter and before Christmas day. It is the grandest feast of the Church except for Easter, even outranking Christmas. It is also one of the oldest feasts, dating to the very year of our Blessed Lord's Resurrection, and it is the birthday of the Church. It is customary to adorn the sanctuary with red roses to symbolise the tongues of fire that descended on the apostles at the Cenacle on this day. There are eleven Alleluias chanted at this Mass to represent the eleven apostles left on Pentecost Day. If there be an aspersion before a sung Mass, the Vidi Aquam is used for the last time in the liturgical year in place of the Asperges Me.**

### **DEVOTIONS**

The month of May is dedicated to the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Queenship is deeply rooted in Scripture. Read more here: <http://seasonsofgrace.net/the-queenship-of-mary-is-deeply-rooted-in-scripture-2/>

In general, the best Marian devotion is the **Little Office of the Blessed Virgin Mary**, which ranks higher than the Rosary and above all the approved offices except the Divine Office and the Office of the Dead. The Rosary is, of course, the 'bread and butter' devotion to our Lady in our time, and for many centuries past. It was originally the layman's version of the Divine Office, or at least of the 150 Psalms, and it once replaced the obligation of monks to pray the Little Office of our Lady (although some of them actually memorised the entire Little Office!). That's why there are fifteen mysteries and 150 *Aves* in it. Each small bead represents a psalm. Pray at least one chaplet (five decades) of the Rosary every day!



Devotional prayer booklets and cards for this month can be found on the same website, <http://latinmassvictoria.com/>