

SAINT GREGORY SOCIETY

Newsletter

New Haven

Number 41: Fall 2022

✦ *Saint Gregory Society—Quo Vadis?*

It is three and a half years since an issue of this Newsletter was published. In that time we have experienced the challenges of the Covid pandemic and the promulgation by Pope Francis of the *motu proprio* “*Traditionis Custodes*.”

✦ The pandemic in the spring of 2020 occasioned the widespread closing of churches throughout the world in obedience to both clerical and secular authorities. Such restrictions were a shocking and unprecedented event in the history of the Church, and the interruption of access to the sacraments was a source of deep anguish for all Catholics.

✦ In July of 2021, *Traditionis Custodes* provoked equal anguish among Catholics committed to the worship of God in the traditional liturgy. This *motu proprio* effectively overturned the directives of the two preceding Roman Pontiffs, Pope St. John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI. The former in his apostolic letter *Quattuor abhinc annos* of 1984 granted an indult encouraging the bishops of the world to allow the celebration of the liturgy according to the 1962 Roman Missal promulgated by Pope John XXIII to groups who requested it, and his *motu proprio Ecclesia Dei* of 1988 encouraged the bishops to grant a “wide and generous application” of the norms for the celebration of Mass according to the Missal of 1962.

✦ In recent decades papal solicitude towards the faithful devoted to the traditional liturgy culminated in the 2007 *motu proprio* “*Summorum Pontificum*” of Pope Benedict XVI, which stated that all priests of the Latin Church may freely celebrate Mass with the 1962 Missal privately. It also provided that “in parishes where a group of the faithful attached to the previous liturgical tradition stably exists, the parish priest should willingly accede to their requests to celebrate Holy Mass according to the rite of the 1962 Roman Missal” and should “ensure that the good of these members of the faithful is harmonised with the ordinary pastoral care of the parish, under the governance of the bishop.” The repudiation of two preceding popes in their pastoral concern for Catholics devoted to the old liturgy represented by *Traditionis Custodes* is a shocking and unprecedented event in the history of the Church.

✦ The St. Gregory Society was established for the purpose of preserving and promoting the use of the traditional liturgy in the life of the Church. While our members may have varying personal opinions regarding the “*Novus Ordo*” liturgy or many of the directives implemented “in the spirit of Vatican Council

II,” our organization has never engaged in any public criticism of the Council or the Missal of Pope Paul VI. We assert only our belief that the traditional liturgy of the Roman Rite still has much to offer the Church and the world, especially in the troubled times in which we find ourselves today. We therefore exhort all members and friends of the St. Gregory Society to pray diligently that all in authority in the Church recognize what

Pope St. John Paul termed the “just aspirations” of those devoted to the traditional liturgy. We also urge you to pray the Novena to Saint Gregory the Great found on the next page.

✦ *Saint Gregory Society needs your help!*

As we approach our 38th anniversary, we thank all of our members and friends for their support over the years that has made possible our many accomplishments: our publications—liturgical calendars and greeting cards; a critically acclaimed series of recordings; assistance to other groups supporting the use of the traditional liturgy; and the regular celebration of the traditional Mass in the New Haven community. We note yet again that the work of our organization is conducted entirely by volunteers—every penny of our income goes directly into the support of the traditional liturgy in our community and throughout the world.

✦ The support of our enrolled members, the second-offering contributions of those in attendance at the Latin Masses at St. Stanislaus Church, and the sale of our publications remain our chief sources of revenue. We invite all in the New Haven area who receive this Newsletter to support the traditional liturgy by attending the Latin Mass at St. Stanislaus Church as frequently as possible. Finally, we urge you to offer prayers of thanksgiving for having the liturgy in its ancient form again available throughout the world.

✦ A few of our loyal members have already renewed their membership voluntarily for calendar year 2022. We offer them our thanks and invite the rest of you to please consider enrolling for this calendar year today to do your part in furthering the work of the Society with your tax-deductible contribution. A membership form is printed on the back of this newsletter for you to mail in with your check; or you can enroll electronically on our website at: www.saint-gregory.org/membership. A roster of 2022 memberships to date is printed below along with a list of those who have contributed during the several seasons before. A final roster of 2022 members will be printed in the spring issue of this Newsletter.



Elevation of the Chalice Solemn Mass of Corpus Christi, 19 June 2022 at St. Stanislaus Church, New Haven.

✠ *Our Patron—Saint Gregory the Great*

Pope St. Gregory I (c. 540 – 12 March 604) reigned from 3 September 590 until his death. Son of a Roman senator, the young Gregory lived in a monastery he established on his family estate before becoming Prefect of Rome at age 30.

He later became a papal ambassador and then pope at age 50. Although he was the first pope from a monastic background, his prior political experiences helped him to be a talented administrator. During his reign, papal administration greatly surpassed that of the emperors in improving the welfare of the people of Rome. He was a strong opponent of slavery and extended tolerance to the Jews.

❖ Pope Gregory was deeply committed to missions: He is credited with re-energizing the Church's missionary work among the non-Christian peoples of northern Europe and is famous for sending a mission, often called the Gregorian mission, under St. Augustine of Canterbury to evangelize the pagan Anglo-Saxons of England. The mission was very successful, and it was from England that missionaries later set out for the Netherlands and Germany. The preaching of orthodox Christian faith and the elimination of all deviations from it was a key element in Gregory's world view, and it constituted one of the major continuing policies of his pontificate.

❖ Throughout the Middle Ages, he was known as "the Father of Christian Worship" because of his efforts in revising the Roman liturgy of his day. Western plainchant, standardized in the late 9th century, was attributed to Pope Gregory I and so became known as "Gregorian chant." A prolific writer, Gregory has been designated as one of the Latin Fathers and a Doctor of the Church. Gregory is the only pope between the fifth and the eleventh centuries whose writings have survived in quantity enough to form a comprehensive corpus. His dialogues, sermons and correspondence constitute the core of his oeuvre.

❖ Immediately after his death, Gregory was canonized by popular acclaim. St. Gregory is the patron saint of musicians, singers, students, and teachers.

✠ *The Saint Gregory Purgatorial Society*

Solicitude for the souls of our beloved dead is part of seeking happiness in this life and in the next. We know that Catholic theology of Holy Communion teaches that we are promised eternal life if we are in right relationship with the Triune God when we receive the Blessed Sacrament. In the Nicene Creed we say, "I expect the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come." Yet, death remains a mystery

because there is an interruption in our conception of space and time. The Old Testament bears witness in Second Maccabees to praying for the dead: "And making a gathering, he [Judas Maccabeus] sent twelve thousand drachms of silver to Jerusalem for sacrifice to be

offered for the sins of the dead, thinking well and religiously concerning the resurrection. (For if he had not hoped that they that were slain should rise again, it would have seemed superfluous and vain to pray for the dead). And because he considered that they who had fallen asleep with godliness, had great grace laid up for them. It is therefore a holy and wholesome dead, that they may be loosed from sins" (2 Maccabees 12:43-46). When we pray for the dead, we ask that they receive the grace of purification from sin so that their souls may live in the presence of the Most Holy Trinity. Divine Revelation and Sacred Tradition reveal and teach that no one dies in a state of absolute perfection.

❖ Just as other pious associations assisted souls with prayer and good works in bringing souls to the communion of saints, the St. Gregory Purgatorial Society does the same. The Church considers the Mass to be the greatest possible prayer of intercession, as it is the perfect offering of Jesus Christ to the Father. Saint Odilo, Abbot of Cluny (d. 1048), decreed that all of the Cluniac monasteries offer special prayers for the souls in Purgatory on November 2 (or at a Votive Mass of the Dead scheduled during the month of November). We stand in this tradition. At Purgatorial Society Masses we ask our Lord Jesus Christ to intercede on behalf of our loved ones that "Perpetual light may shine on them, and that the souls of all the faithful departed, may rest in peace."

❖ Participation in the St. Gregory Purgatorial Society is a richly rewarding spiritual work of mercy. Enrolled members are remembered at the monthly First Friday Mass

throughout the year as well at the special High Requiem Mass offered on All Souls' Day (or during the month of November). Remember your beloved departed today with an enrollment for calendar year 2022 by visiting the St. Gregory Purgatorial Society web page at <http://saint-gregory.org/purgatorial-society>.

••••• *Novena to Saint Gregory the Great* •••••



St. Gregory, you are known for your zeal for the Catholic faith, love of the liturgy, and compassion and mercy toward those in need. Please help and guide us so that we may share in these virtues and thereby bring Jesus into the hearts of our families and all whom we encounter. We especially ask for blessings upon the members and friends of our Society that bears your name and upon the priests that offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for us.

We also ask that you graciously intercede for us before God so that we might be granted the special assistance and graces that we seek in this novena, namely that the Traditional Liturgy of the Church ever be present in our community and throughout the world.

Help us to live as faithful children of God and to attain the eternal happiness of heaven.

Our Father ... Hail Mary ... Glory be ...

St. Gregory the Great, pray for us.

St. Gregory the Great, pray for us.

St. Gregory the Great, pray for us. Amen.

This newsletter is published periodically by

THE SAINT GREGORY SOCIETY

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✠ *The Society Salutes Fr. Robert L. Turner*

We rejoice to have Fr. Robert L. Turner on the roster of the priests who so generously add to their busy schedules in order to celebrate the Latin Masses at St. Stanislaus Church in New Haven. Fr. Turner experienced intimations of a priestly vocation in childhood when he was an altar boy at the Church of the Good Shepherd in his native town of Seymour, CT.

After graduating from Christendom College in Front Royal, Va., and studying at Mount St. Mary Seminary in Emmitsburg, MD, Turner spent time at St. Thomas Seminary in Bloomfield, while ministering to prisoners and hospital patients, as well as performing health care ministry with retired priests.

Fr. Turner was ordained by the late Henry Mansell, Archbishop of Hartford in May of 2011. His first assignment as a priest was as Curate at St. Margaret Parish in Madison, CT. In 2013 he was transferred to St. Monica Church in Northford. Shortly thereafter that church was merged with St. Augustine church to form St. Ambrose Parish, and Fr. Turner ultimately became Pastor of that parish.



The Reverend Robert L. Turner, Pastor of St. Ambrose Parish, North Branford, has been most generous in past seasons offering the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass in the traditional form at St. Stanislaus Church in New Haven.

In the early years of his priesthood, Fr. Turner expressed interest in the traditional liturgy and reached out to our Society. He received instruction in the ceremonial of the traditional Mass from our Master of Ceremonies, William Riccio, Jr., and one of our loyal servers at Mass, Michael Nazzaro.

All who attend the Latin Masses at St. Stanislaus are grateful for the reverence and decorum with which Fr. Turner performs the ceremonies at the altar and are inspired by the fine sermons he has preached.

We further commend Fr. Turner for his frequent offering of service in the traditional liturgy in his home parish of St. Ambrose in North Branford. He has brought the spiritual richness of the old liturgy to his community in observations of numerous feast days over the past several seasons. We encourage our members and friends to attend these services, which are announced on the Society's website.

We hope that Fr. Turner will continue to be able to offer the Holy Sacrifice for us at St. Stanislaus and we urge everyone to offer prayers in

support of and thanksgiving for this admirable priest and most generous Christian gentleman.

SAINT GREGORY SOCIETY

ENROLLED MEMBERS, 2017-2022

HONORARY LIFE MEMBER

Ms. Margaret Gaffney

CRUSADER

Mr. John H. Morgan
The Rev'd. E. M. Nestor, M.D.
Mr. Christopher Taddei

BENEFACTOR

Mr. Christopher B. Lacaria *
Joseph and Mary Murdocca *
Nicholas and Dorothy Renouf *
Mr. William V. Riccio, Jr. *

PATRON

Mr. William Aniskovich
Robert and Evangeline Bourgeois
Mr. Paul W. DiGrazio *
Mr. Michael Nazzaro *
Mr. Glenn Trunkfield

SPONSOR

Mr. David C. Howe
Mr. Alcides Lopez
Mr. Michael O'Neill
Donald and Joanne Turecek *

SUSTAINING MEMBER

Mr. Joseph T. Corradino *
Mrs. Linda G. Kelly *
Mr. Anthony J. Mascia
The Rev'd. James Miara
Mr. Dan Tran
Timothy and Christina Watkins

REGULAR MEMBER

Mrs. Elizabeth Altham *
Mr. John Anderson
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cleary
Mr. Philip Clingerman *
Marie Coane
Mr. Sean Coane
Mrs. Lisa DeFelice *

REGULR MEMBER (continued)

June-Ann Greeley *
Cecilia Hernandez
Mr. Daniel Ketter *
Janice Kisner
Mr. Timothy Lynn
Rebecca Raffaelli
Paula Maher-Rivera
Antoinette Sia
Mr. Christoher Tomlin *
Mr. Richard Zablocki *

SENIOR

Mr. Peter J. Desio
Mr. Mark Mazza *
Sandra Mendyk
Dr. Elizabeth Wilk-Rivard
Mr. Ronald Rivard
Mr. Gary Snowbeck
Mr. John Termine
Mr. David Walach *

* Those indicated with an asterisk have already enrolled as members for the current calendar year - 2022.

Membership in the Saint Gregory Society is for one calendar year, January-December, and is tax-deductible. The above roster lists all those who have enrolled in the Society from 2017 to 2022. We are especially grateful for these enrollments since they were made on personal initiative—during this period there was no membership solicitation. We apologize for any mistake or omission in this roster; if you contributed during 2002 and your name is missing or misprinted, please mail a note to our post office box or send an email to saintgregorysociety@gmail.com.

DIRECTIONS TO SAINT STANISLAUS CHURCH:

FROM THE NORTH: I-91 South to Exit 4, State Street. At the end of the ramp turn right and then turn left at the light onto State Street; proceed three blocks to the church on your right.
FROM THE SOUTH: Take I-95 to Exit 48 onto I-91; proceed North to Exit 3, Trumbull Street. Bear right at the end of the ramp, and at the light turn right onto Orange Street. Take the first right onto Bradley Street. Go to the end of Bradley Street, and take a left onto State Street. The church is on the left, one block down. Park in the city lot facing the front of the church across State Street, or turn left onto Eld Street and take first right past church into the church lot.

KEEP IN TOUCH ONLINE

please, Please, PLEASE ! . . .
SEND US YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS so that we can send you up-to-date information on the Mass schedule at Saint Stanislaus Church, special events, programs of music planned for the liturgy, and other news. Send your message to:

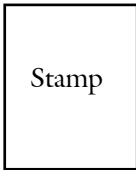
saintgregorysociety@gmail.com

We faithfully promise not to release your e-mail address to any other organization or individual.

SAINT GREGORY SOCIETY ONLINE!

Visit the our regularly updated website
 at: **www.saint-gregory.org**

SAINT GREGORY SOCIETY
 P.O. Box 891
 New Haven, CT 06504



Attend the Latin Mass Regularly:
 Sundays at 2:00 P.M.
 Saint Stanislaus Church, New Haven
 Corner of State and Eld Streets

SAINT GREGORY SOCIETY
Membership Enrollment Program
2022

Crusader	~	\$1,000 & up
Benefactor	~	\$500
Patron	~	\$200
Sponsor	~	\$100
Sustaining Member	~	\$50
Regular Member	~	\$25
Student/Senior Citizen	~	\$15

Your enrollment as a Member, your prayers, and your attendance at the Traditional Mass are the clearest ways you can help to ensure that Catholics in our community may continue to enjoy the graces that flow from the Holy Sacrifice offered in the venerable traditional form.



*Memberships are for one calendar year,
 January-December*

Please enroll me as a Member of the Saint Gregory Society for calendar year 2022. Enclosed please find my tax-deductible contribution.

Name: _____
 Address: _____

 telephone: (_____) _____
 e-mail: _____
 Category: _____ Amount: _____

Please make check payable to the Saint Gregory Society and mail with this form to:
SAINT GREGORY SOCIETY
 P.O. Box 891, New Haven, CT 06504
 on the Internet: <http://www.saint-gregory.org>
 email: saintgregorysociety@gmail.com