



NATIONAL HISTORIC
LANDMARK
Established 1833

Saint Patrick's Church

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16 July 2021

Dear faithful of St. Patrick's,

News of the Holy Father's *Motu proprio, Traditionis custodes*, has traveled quickly. In it, Pope Francis has expressed his will to end the permissions granted in *Summorum Pontificum* of Pope Benedict XVI and its subsequent documents. In their place, His Holiness has designated the bishops to have the authority to permit the celebration of the 1962 *Missale Romanum*.

The Holy Father made this decision after a survey to the world's bishops. Pope Francis informs us that the consultation yielded evidence that division existed within communities attached to the older rites. This new legislation is an attempt to prevent division in the Church and to deepen unity. I encourage you to read the text of the Holy Father's *Motu proprio* and its attached letter to the bishops.

Let me assure you, I remain committed to providing for the needs of our entire community, including those attached to the 1962 *Missale Romanum*. Operating under the new legislation from Pope Francis, our own **Archbishop Aymond has already seen fit to endow me, and other priests of our Archdiocese, with the necessary faculties to continue our ministry to the faithful in the same way that we have been.**

By responding quickly to our pastoral need, Archbishop Aymond shows himself, yet again, to be very attentive to the care of our parish. Please join me in offering a prayer of thanksgiving for his compassionate shepherding.

I conclude with an exhortation to all the faithful to view this moment in the light of our call to holiness. Now is our time to renew our dedication to prayer for the Church and for the Successor of St. Peter. We have been nourished at the rich font of the liturgy; therefore we are well-equipped to set aside useless words and to strive together for the unity of the Church. I count it a privilege to lead you to God's holy altar, and therefore, I desire to do so in the most excellent manner we can. God is worthy of our most sincere adoration; may this moment find us with increased trust in our Heavenly Father and with words of worship on our lips! "O Sacrament most holy, O Sacrament divine, all praise and all thanksgiving be every moment Thine!"

Sincerely yours, in Christ,

Rev. Garrett O'Brien
Pastor



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To Clergy: Priests and Deacons

Dear Brothers in Christ:

Earlier this morning, July 16, 2021, Pope Francis issued the *motu proprio*, *Traditionis custodes*, in which he establishes new guidelines for the celebration of the Traditional Latin Mass (“Extraordinary Form”) for the worldwide Church. I am in consultation with the pastors of the individual parishes in the archdiocese which celebrate this form of the Mass as well as the Director of the Office of Worship and canonists whose opinions I respect. Over the next few days we will discuss the proper pastoral implementation of these guidelines in the Archdiocese of New Orleans. I want to strongly emphasize that my first priority is the spiritual welfare of the people of the Archdiocese, particularly, in this case, those who find sustenance in this form of the Mass. More information will be provided in the upcoming weeks. For the time being, I want to offer support to all those who have some connection to the Traditional Latin Mass and assure them that their spiritual needs will continue to be met here in the Archdiocese of New Orleans.

Wishing you God’s blessings, I am

Fraternally in Christ,

Most Reverend Gregory M. Aymond
Archbishop of New Orleans

GMA/mk