



Office of the Bishop  
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May 1, 2023

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

On February 21, 2023, the Holy See issued a *Rescriptum* regarding the consequences of the Motu Proprio *Traditionis Custodes* (July 16, 2021). This *Rescriptum* offered the clarification that the dispensation is reserved to the Apostolic See for "the use of a parish church . . . for the celebration of the Eucharist using the *Missale Romanum* of 1962."

Please know that maintaining access to the Traditional Latin Mass is an important value for me as the Chief Liturgist in the Diocese of Las Vegas.

Having consulted widely with other Bishops regarding the *Rescriptum*, I have been apprised that there is no assurance that a Diocesan Bishop's request to use a parish church will be approved by the Holy See. In light of this, and desiring to maintain the continuity of this Mass in the Diocese of Las Vegas, I have made the following decision in order to remain in compliance with the aforementioned *Rescriptum*.

Therefore, beginning May 28, 2023, Pentecost Sunday, the Traditional Latin Mass will be celebrated at the Shrine of the Most Holy Redeemer, 55 East Reno Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada 89119 (near the Luxor Hotel) at 2:00 PM. I thank Fr. Manuel Quintero, Rector of the Shrine, both for his cooperation and extending a warm welcome to the Latin Mass community.

The last Traditional Latin Mass celebrated St. Bridget parish (a parish church) will be at 10:00 AM on Sunday, May 21, 2023. I also extend my gratitude to Father Faustinus Okeyikam, MSP for offering a home to the Traditional Latin Mass community for so many years.

Please know that the venues for non-parochial churches in the Diocese are very limited, both in number and in size. The others that were considered were simply inadequate to contain the vibrant community that you have become in the past several years.

Out of my desire to provide for this ministry, while remaining faithful to the Holy See, I believe that this proactive change will offer other benefits as well:

- The ability to provide the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions) every Sunday prior to Mass, which has not been possible because of the schedule at St. Bridget's.

Diocese of Las Vegas  
336 Cathedral Way + Las Vegas, Nevada 89109

Brothers and Sisters in Christ  
May 2, 2023

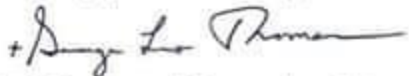
- The opportunity to celebrate all non-Sunday Masses, such as the Holy Week Triduum and moveable feasts, which has not possible given the schedule at St. Bridget's.
- The possibility of celebrating other Sacraments (including First Communions, Weddings, and Funerals) at one location, depending on the Shrine's calendar and the availability of priest celebrants. (Sacramental records, however, will be recorded at the Guardian Angel Cathedral.)

I ask for your understanding, cooperation, and prayers as we enter into this time of transition together.

I would also like to thank the Very Reverend Robert Herbst, OFM, Conv., for his indispensable ministry and assistance in finding ways to continue this important apostolate in the Diocese of Las Vegas.

With warm and prayerful best wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "George Leo Thomas".

Most Reverend George Leo Thomas, Ph.D.  
Bishop, Diocese of Las Vegas

cc: Diocese of Las Vegas Pastors and Administrators (via email)