

Regina Coeli

REPORT

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A TALE OF TWO ORDINATIONS... 25 YEARS APART

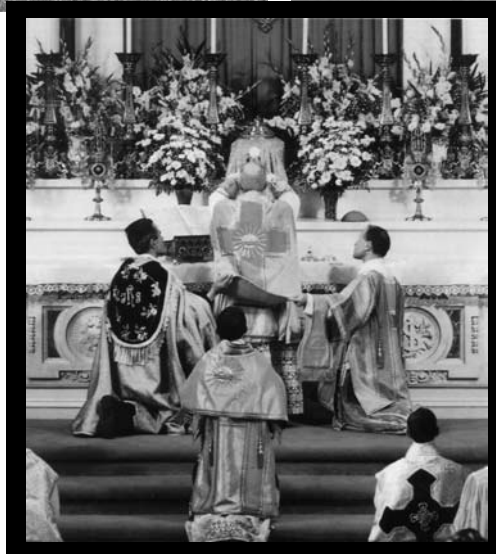


The 1985 ordinations at Ridgefield, CT.



The 2010 ordinations at Winona, MN.

During the past few months, two sets of priestly ordinations have been joyfully celebrated for the Society of St. Pius X in the United States. Though these ordinations are separated by twenty-five years, nevertheless they are intimately connected; for they demonstrate that Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre was correct when, as early as March 1971, he considered the United States to be fertile ground for the work of the Society's priests. Hence, despite the many trials that have beset the Society's American apostolate over the years, this proof has been wonderfully manifested, particularly during the past two years



This famous picture of Archbishop Lefebvre was taken during the Pontifical Mass of the 1985 Ridgefield ordinations.

which have witnessed large ordination classes.

The first priestly celebration took place on May 19th at St. Thomas Becket Church in Veneta, OR, where former seminary classmates Frs. Christopher Brandler and Loren Gerspacher quietly celebrated their 25th anniversary of priestly ordination. Both were ordained in 1985 by Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre at St. Thomas Aquinas Seminary, then located at Ridgefield, CT. Part of a class of four priests, the ordinations held at Ridgefield in 1985 were pivotal to the SSPX's apostolate in the United States.

Due to various trials and difficulties that had beset the United States Dis-

trict, the previous few years had been a demoralizing period for both clerics and faithful who were loyal to the spirit and attitude of Archbishop Lefebvre.¹ The heartrending situation had prompted the SSPX's new Superior General, Fr. Franz Schmidberger, to even consider closing down the Society's apostolate in United States.

Thus the 1985 ordinations at St. Thomas Aquinas Seminary were seen as a sign of hope for the Society's viability in this country. That year, four priests (Frs. Christopher Brandler, Loren Gerspacher, Gregory Foley and John Rizzo) and three deacons (now Frs. Charles Ward, James Haynos and Richard Gonzales) were ordained by Archbishop Lefebvre in the then nicknamed and unfinished "Cardboard Cathedral" (which has now been completed and dedicated to Christ the King Church²).

These ordinations greatly encouraged traditional Catholics in America, as well as the priestly society in general, giving witness to the fact that the SSPX's apostolate in the United States was actually flourishing! This hopeful sign from Providence was followed in subsequent years by a steady flow of priestly ordinations at St. Thomas Aquinas Seminary (first at Ridgefield, then moving to Winona, MN in 1988).

This year's second celebration of priestly ordinations for the Society occurred on Friday, June 18, when nine priests³ and three deacons were ordained at St. Thomas Aquinas Seminary in Winona, MN, by Bishop Alfonso de Galarreta. Building on last year's ordination of thirteen priests⁴ (the largest ordination the North American Seminary has ever seen), a total of 22 traditional priests have been ordained in just two years in the United States; a figure that is higher than the combined sum of several dioceses today!

In addition to the priests ordained in Winona (Frs. Todd Anderson, Br. Thomas Aquinas, OSB, John Bourbeau, Daniel Dailey, Sean Gerrity, Raphael Granges, Michael Goshie, Patrick Mackin, and Shane Pezzutti), two other ordinations have been held recently; three more priests at Zaitzkofen, Germany on June 26 (by Bishop Bernard Fellay), and nine more priests at Ecône, Switzerland on June 29 (by Bishop de Galarreta), bringing the SSPX's international total of priests to 529! We thank the Good Lord for this fruitful abundance and ask that He will continue to shower the Priestly Society of St. Pius X with such blessings.

Footnotes

¹ Cf. the July 2006 and April 2009 issues for further historical details.

² Cf. the February 2001 issue for details.

³ One, a Benedictine from Our Lady of Guadalupe Monastery in Silver City, NM.

⁴ Two for the aforementioned Benedictines, and a third for the Dominicans of Avrille, France.



A picture taken of the 1985 ordinations after Communion, when the power to forgive sins is bestowed and the folded chasuble is untied and let down, symbolizing reception of the full faculties of the priesthood.



Frs. Brandler (center with stole) and Gerspacher (wearing biretta) pose with the altar servers after the weekday academy High Mass celebrated in honor of their 25th jubilee on May 19th.



During the 2010 ordinations, the priestly ordinands kneel in a semi-circle as the bishop admonishes them about the duties of the priesthood.



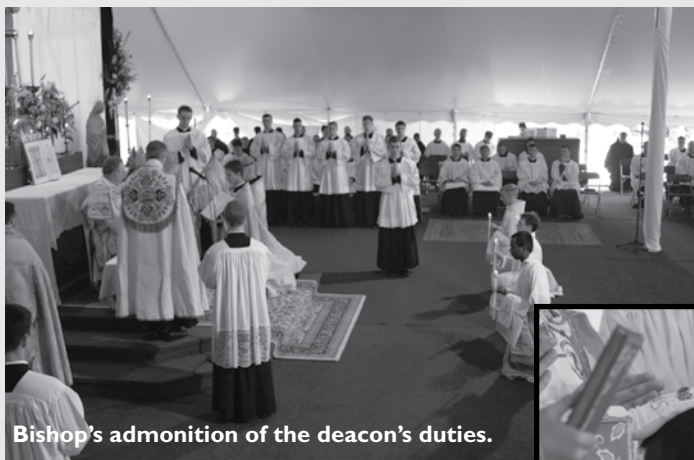
Bishop Alfonso de Galarreta anoints the hands of a new priest for the SSPX and ultimately the Church.



The new priests (kneeling in front of missals with their assistant priests) concelebrate their first Mass with their ordaining bishop.

Ordinations to the Diaconate

An important part of the recent ordinations that should not be overlooked was the elevation of three subdeacons to the diaconate (Br. Augustine, OSB, Jonathan Loop, and Theresian Xavier), who hopefully will be ordained to the priesthood next year. Featured here is a collage of images from this important step in the sacrament of Holy Orders that took place before the rite of the priestly ordinations.



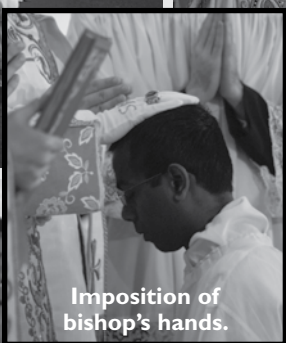
Bishop's admonition of the deacon's duties.



Giving the diaconate stole (worn diagonally over the left shoulder).



Bestowal of the diaconate garment, the dalmatic.



Imposition of bishop's hands.



Touching the Book of the Gospels (bestowal of office to chant the Good News).

A New Convent fo



The SSPX sisters stand in front of St. Thomas Becket's Church for a group picture.



A simple, but home-like new convent, which the parishioners of St. Thomas Becket had constructed for the Society sisters.

Another demonstration of the continued growth of vocations to the religious life in Catholic Tradition is the new foundation the Sisters of the Society of St. Pius X have just established at St. Thomas Becket Church in VENETA (EUGENE), OR.

The important multi-part event was befittingly begun with the arrival of the sisters for the Feast of Corpus Christi on Thursday, June 3. The District Superior, Fr. Arnaud Rostand, offered a High Mass followed by an outdoor Blessed Sacrament procession. After the Corpus Christi ceremonies, a pot-luck banquet was held in the school where the faithful (joyful to have the presence and assistance of the female religious) were able to meet the sisters. Present were the Sisters' Superior General, Mother Mary Augustine, her accompanying Second Assistant, the superior of the Browerville convent, and the three sisters who will form the new community at Veneta.



Assisted by the prior, Fr. Daniel Cooper, Fr. Rostand says the prayers for blessing the convent.

VOCATIONAL INQUIRIES FOR THE SSPX SISTERS MAY BE DIRECTED TO:

**Sacred Heart Novitiate
Sister Superior
540 W. 8th Street
Browerville, MN 56438
320-594-2944 tel**

A few days later on Sunday, June 6, Fr. Rostand solemnly blessed the small convent building situated near the church after Vespers. Arriving at the conclusion of the academic year, the new community of sisters were able to attend the elementary grades' graduation ceremony held on Tuesday, June 8. The apostolate of the sisters at Veneta will include teaching catechism in the school.

The sisters form a valuable second order for the SSPX (the first being the male clergy and religious), providing practical support for the priests, but more importantly, assisting the apostolate of the Society's priests by their prayers.

r the SSPX Sisters



A view of the potluck banquet held on Corpus Christi in the parish's spacious hall.



Fr. Cooper introduces the sisters to the teachers and students at St. Thomas Becket Academy.



The students on stage in the parish hall during the graduation ceremonies for the elementary grades.



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www.sjbma.org

**2010 ANGELUS PRESS
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*Celebrating 40 Years
of the SSPX*

**THE DEFENSE OF TRADITION
AS TRANSMITTED BY
ARCHBISHOP LEFEBVRE**

3-Day Weekend Conference
October 15 - 17, 2010
Hilton Kansas City, MO Airport

Featuring Bishop Bernard Fellay, Fr. Arnaud Rostand, Fr. Cyprian, OSB, Fr. Michael McMahon, Fr. Juan-Carlos Iscara, Fr. Scott Gardner, Fr. Kenneth Novak, Dr. Andrew Childs, and John Vennari.

Go to www.angeluspress.org for details!

NATIONAL RELIGION TEST WINNERS

A District-wide religion test was administered to all 8th and 12th grade students in the Society's schools in February. Congratulations to the following:



Best Scores — 12TH GRADERS:

Christopher Ostertag (Notre Dame de La Salette Boys' Academy, Olivet, IL)	85%
James Torzala (Our Lady of Sorrows Academy, Phoenix, AZ)	85%
Anne Matlock (Immaculate Heart of Mary Academy, Oak Grove, MN)	84%
Thomas Sumantri (Notre Dame de La Salette Boys' Academy, Olivet, IL)	84%
Lindsey Maria Wantland (Our Lady of Sorrows Academy, Phoenix, AZ)	84%

Winners received \$1,500 (1st place) or \$1,250 (2nd place) toward future tuition in an SSPX institution of higher learning, or toward a SSPX-sponsored pilgrimage.



Best Scores — 8TH GRADERS:

Jacob Matlock (Immaculate Heart of Mary Academy, Oak Grove, MN)	93%
Adrianna De Artola (Our Lady of the Angels Academy, Arcadia, CA)	91%
Genevieve Mackin (Immaculate Heart of Mary Academy, Oak Grove, MN)	88%
Anthony Bloch (Immaculate Heart of Mary Academy, Oak Grove, MN)	88%

Winners received \$500 (1st place), \$350 (2nd place) or \$200 (3rd place) toward future tuition in an SSPX school.

Schools (4 or more students tested) scoring the highest:

12TH GRADE: Notre Dame de La Salette Boys Academy in Olivet, IL
8TH GRADE: Immaculate Heart of Mary Academy in Oak Grove, MN

SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA AREA SEMINARY VISIT

In early May, the seminarians studying theology at St. Thomas Aquinas Seminary in Winona, MN, made a visit to San Jose, CA area, where the SSPX's St. Aloysius Gonzaga Retreat Center is located in nearby Los Gatos. Here we show a few highlights of their visit.



Proceeded by cross and candles, seminarians lead the faithful from the Los Gatos chapel in the annual public Rosary March that took place on May 8th in San Jose's downtown Cesar Chavez Plaza.



Photos courtesy of Mr. Juan Mendoza

Seminary vice-rector and professor, Fr. Thomas Asher, leads the faithful in prayer during the march. Kneeling beside him Fr. Jacques Emily, the prior at Los Gatos.



The theology students had the opportunity to visit several of California's famous Spanish missions. Here on May 7th, they can be seen praying inside Mission San Juan Bautista.



In a befitting gesture of gratitude, the seminary's visit included a trip to Monterey to pray for the repose of one of the SSPX's first and important benefactors, Lady Kinnoul.



Seminarians and Los Gatos faithful pose with Frs. Gerard Hogan (front left), Asher and Emily in front of Mission Santa Clara façade, wherein is buried "the holy man of Santa Clara", Franciscan Fr. Magin Catala (1761-1830).

Accepting Mass Stipends

The USA District Office is collecting Mass stipends for SSPX (or its associate) priests. The suggested donation is \$15.00 per Mass. NB: we cannot receive stipends for Gregorian Masses (e.g., 30 consecutive Requiem Masses). Checks should be made out to the SSPX (in US currency) and sent to:

Rev. Fr. Joseph Dreher, District Secretary
REGINA COELI HOUSE, 11485 N. Farley Road, Platte City, MO 64079

Please include a separate note outlining the Mass intention.

Please note: we cannot promise specific dates for the celebration of the Masses.

RETREAT SCHEDULE

ST. IGNATIUS RETREAT HOUSE
209 Tackora Trail, Ridgefield, CT 06877
(203) 431-0201

MEN: Sept. 13-18, Nov. 15-20

WOMEN: Oct. 11-16, Dec. 13-18

OUR LADY OF SORROWS RETREAT CENTER
750 E. Baseline Road, Phoenix, AZ 85042
(602) 268-7673

MEN: Oct. 11-16, Nov. 15-20

WOMEN: Jan. 17-22, 2011

OTHER: Oct. 27-30 (Matrimony Retreat),
 Dec. 13-18 (Women's Marian)

ST. ALOYSIUS GONZAGA RETREAT CENTER
19101 Bear Creek Road, Los Gatos, CA 95033
(408) 354-7703

MEN: Oct. 11-16, Dec. 16-19 (Weekend)

WOMEN: Sept. 20-25, Nov. 1-6, Dec. 2-5 (Weekend)

**Please contact the retreat house in question to
 ensure availability before making any travel plans**



EUCCHARISTIC CRUSADE

MONTHLY INTENTIONS

August: Justice in the world through
 the reign of Jesus Christ

September: Catholic schools and the
 education of youth

October: The missions and the conversion of
 the pagans

U.S. DISTRICT TREASURE (May 2010)

Daily Offering	11,058
Masses	4,641
Sacramental Communions	4,000
Spiritual Communions	8,528
Sacrifices	27,741
Decades of the Rosary	53,750
Visits to the Blessed Sacrament	3,796
15 minutes of silent meditation	3,459
Good Example	17,873
Number returned	399

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(Fully escorted pilgrimages accompanied by an SSPX priest)

6TH ANNUAL HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

MARCH 7-18, 2011

Live the Passion of Our Lord on our 6th Annual Pilgrimage to the Holy Land as we visit the Holy Shrines of Israel and Mount Sinai where Moses received the Ten Commandments from God in Egypt. Everything included from Newark airport just bring your spending money.

Limited space available to 45 pilgrims. Price per person all included \$3395.00 Contact us for itinerary and reservation.

Contact us for itinerary brochures or reservations
 St. Pius X Pilgrimage Co., Robert & Christine di Cecco
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 203-922-0096 tel info@stpiusxpilgrimage.com

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CATHOLIC TREASURES OF SICILY & SOUTHERN ITALY

13-Day Pilgrimage to Sicily, the Amalfi Coast, and Rome

NOVEMBER 4-16, 2010

Visit the main Marian sanctuaries including: Our Lady of Pompeii, Our Lady of the Tears in Syracuse, Mater Admirabili in Rome, and more. Learn about their lives and render homage to St. Philomena, St. Lucy, St. Agatha, St. Francis of Paola, St. Andrew, St. Matthew, St. Benedict, St. Philip Neri, St. Cecilia, St. Alphonsus Liguori, and many more. Land-only price: \$2,295 per person in double occupancy

Space for this pilgrimage is limited. For more information, contact:

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A Traditional Catholic tour operator located in Saint Mary's, Kansas
Toll Free: 866-369-8149 * info@reginapilgrimages.com
www.reginapilgrimages.com

CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE

These are the dates for chapels
 in the United States of America District

BISHOP BERNARD FELLAY

Denver, CO	October 10
Ft. Worth, TX	October 12
Albuquerque, NM	October 13
Las Vegas, NV	October 14

BISHOP ALFONSO DE GALARRETA

Post Falls, ID	October 30
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