



BULLETIN OF THE HOLY CROSS

DECEMBER 2018 – N° 54

My mother is 94 years old. Age has made her fragile. She became ill and needed to be hospitalized. She remained in the hospital for several weeks. During her stay she received many visits. The hospital staff could not but notice. Cassocks, religious habits, communion brought to the sick, rosaries prayed in the room, the modest dress of her visitors, all that could not go unnoticed. “What is Tradition?”, a nurse asked my mother. That is the right question.

In a general sense, tradition is all that we transmit, like medical science, without which there would be neither hospitals nor nurses to care for my mother and least of all ask her: “What is Tradition”?

In a more particular and supernatural sense, Tradition is all that Our Lord Jesus Christ gave to Peter and the Apostles and which their successors transmitted to us. And it is probably this aspect which interested the nurse. In the same sense, Holy Scripture is part of Tradition, even though we distinguish it from Tradition as the two sources of Revelation, one written and one oral.

Tradition has come to mean those who keep all that the Church teaches and refuse all that it rejects. In this sense, Tradition is Archbishop Lefebvre; it is Bishop de Castro Mayer; it is all Catholics faithful to the true Magisterium of the Church, who refuse the teachings of the Conciliar Church. Following in the footsteps of Archbishop Lefebvre and Bishop de Castro Mayer, they refuse to submit to an

authority that does not keep the integrity of Tradition. They do not deny this authority, but they resist its modernism. “Resistite fortes in fide”. It is the combat of the Faith.

May Our Lady guard her faithful in this combat which is dragging on. “Prepare yourself for a long combat”, said Archbishop Lefebvre. And he was very right.

+ Tomás de Aquino OSB



Doctrine

Saint Pius X's second pontifical document was his motu proprio on sacred music of the 22nd of November 1903. Some have criticized the saintly pope saying that there were more important things that needed his attention. But truly catholic souls understand that the holy pope was beginning with the greatest thing in the world: The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and that which surrounds it: the Divine Office.

“Sacred music, said Saint Pius X, as an integral part of solemn liturgy, participates in its general end: The glory of God, the sanctification and edification of the faithful.”

Then he adds:

“(...) Therefore, its proper aim is to add greater efficacy to the text, in order that through it the faithful may be the more easily moved to devotion and better disposed for the reception of the fruits of grace belonging to the celebration of the most holy mysteries.”

The pontifical document thus distinguishes a general and a particular end. It explains that the proper end of Gregorian chant *“is to add greater efficacy to the text itself”* by adding *“melodies appropriate to the liturgical text proposed to the understanding of the faithful.”* That is the beautiful role of Gregorian chant: helping to understand the sacred texts. That was the achievement of the immense work of Solesmes, works which caught the grateful attention of Blessed Théophane Vénard, of Father Emmanuel of Mesnil-Saint-Loup and of Saint Pius X. Gregorian is *“the chant proper to the Roman Church, the only one she has inherited from the ancient Fathers”*, says the motu proprio.

Saint Pius X gives the criterion for appreciating all liturgical chant:

“The more closely a composition for church approaches in its movement, inspiration and savor the Gregorian form, the more sacred and liturgical it becomes; and the more out of harmony it is with that supreme model, the less worthy it is of the temple.”

Maintaining Gregorian is not everything in the current fight, but it is part of it. Saint Pius X makes it one of his most important preoccupations. Let us follow his example.

With our best wishes for a
holy Christmas time and a
New Year blessed by God.

7.



G Ló- ri- a in excélsis Dé- o.



“ - Lord, what made You so small? “
- Love !, Bernard.”

*Words of our Lord
to Saint Bernard*

Chronicle

April

We received a visit of Father Réginald OP from Avrillé – who gave us and the faithful an excellent conference on the dangers of audiovisuals-, of Father Armando from Colombia as well as of Daniel Le Roux, who gave us conferences on Maritain's errors.

May

Annual retreat preached by Father André according to the method of saint Ignatius of Loyola.

Visit of Father Joaquim FBMV, who came to give courses of Church History to our students.

Visit of Carmelite Father Tiago de São José.

June

13 – Taking of the habit by Brother João Maria.

July

2 - Temporary vows of Brother Geraldo Maria.

August

15 - Taking of the habit by Brother Luis Maria.

September

His Excellency Bishop Zendejas graces us with a visit for the feast of the Exaltation of The Holy Cross and then also visits Candeias, Teixeira de Freitas et Vitória accompanied by His Excellency Bishop Tomás de Aquino.

October

28 - Mass of Christ the King with procession and exposition of the Blessed Sacrament to ask for the defeat of communism in Brazil.

Many Rosary crusades, convened by R.P. Jahir Britto FBMV, were launched everywhere in Brazil, for this intention.

On the same Sunday, October 28th, Feast of Christ the King, Mr. Jair Messias Bolsonaro is elected President of the Republic and the leftist candidate, defeated.

We wish our new President to be guided by the grace of Christ the king.

November

Mr Christian de la Forest Divonne comes to give us Gregorian chant lessons and help us be more faithful to the wishes and orders of Saint Pius X.

Note from the Cellarer

Many thanks from our cellarer to our benefactors to whom the monastery is indebted for its survival during this year of 2018 and was able to undertake work to receive new vocations.

To all, our best wishes for Christmas and the New Year, with the assurance of our faithful prayers.

PLEASE NOTE

Because of administrative difficulties we no longer have an account in the USA nor in Switzerland. But, those who wish, can send us a donation as indicated below.

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