



Assumption Grotto
Parish - 1832 -

ASSUMPTION GROTTTO NEWS

ASSUMPTION GROTTTO CHURCH

December 27, 2020



Our Lady of Lourdes
Shrine - 1881 -

A Vicarious Descant

Today is the Sunday within the Octave of Christmas in the Extraordinary Form of the Roman Rite and The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph in the Ordinary Form of the Roman Rite.

In the Extraordinary Form, the Introit gives a perfect example of a prophecy that is rendered in one context and then fulfilled in a wholly different and greater context.

The words come from the Book of Wisdom, which was written about 100 years before the birth of the Lord and speaks profoundly of Wisdom Incarnate. The verse as rendered in the RSV bible reads:

“For while gentle silence enveloped all things, and night in its swift course was now half gone, thy all-powerful word leaped from heaven, from the royal throne, into the midst of the land that was doomed.”

They are beautiful words prophesying the coming of the Messiah—God with us. And yet, in the book of Wisdom, they are referring back to the last of the punishments inflicted upon the Egyptians on that first Passover night. When God struck down the firstborn of every man and beast in the land, but did not touch his Chosen People.

The punishment of the enemies of one nation in captivity was a prophecy of the destruction of death itself for all nations in the age to come.

And yet the captivity of Israel in Egypt was a sign of the separation between God and His chosen people because of sin. For

us, that separation remains for those who do not have recourse to the saving waters of baptism and the Sacraments. The devil divided man from God in the Garden and the devil continues to seek to divide man from God by sowing doubt about what has already been revealed. This is plain by the words of the serpent in the Garden which, in the Latin Vulgate are much more revealing: “Why hath God commanded you (both), that you should not eat of every tree of paradise?” (Gen 3:1). The serpent did not mention the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. The serpent just asked the question as the first step of sowing doubt and then followed up with a plausible lie.

When we find ourselves asking about the teachings of the Church, we should not be alarmed, but we should look for an authoritative answer. But when we find ourselves *doubting* one or more of the teachings of the Church, we should be very alarmed. These doubts are often outside of a holy desire of “faith seeking understanding” (Anselm). This is the point where a good examination of our conscience and, not infrequently, confession of sin—often serious—is in order. Serious sin divides us from God’s grace. It breaks communion with God. It puts us in darkness. It deprives us of the protection of God’s grace and hinders our ability to discern good versus evil. The evil one can do immeasurable harm to souls who are not in communion with God through His Church.

Those who God had intended to be the leaders of His Chosen people themselves

had fallen away from fidelity and were leading many of the people astray. Although the prophets had been sent to bring the people back in the past, now the fullness of time had elapsed, and God sent his only begotten Son to restore what had been divided and even raise what was dead. That is why we hear in today’s Gospel, “Behold, this Child is set for the fall, and for the resurrection of many in Israel, and for a sign which shall be contradicted.”

The Lord was reuniting what had been divided and restoring what had been lost. Every event that had divided was being undone and what was separated by sin was being restored by grace. And this would be accomplished through a sign of contradiction.

Many of the Fathers of the Church understand the sign of contradiction to be the Cross of Our Lord. And the contradiction is this—that by the means of a torturous death of One comes the healing and resurrection of many. That the dying of the Author of life on a cross raised up above the ground at the top of hill would bring back to life those buried below the ground in the valley of death.

Simeon spoke the prophecy “and thine own *soul* a sword shall pierce, that out of many hearts thoughts may be revealed.” Many of the commentators understood this to mean “the sword of the spirit, who is the word of God, namely, the spirit of prophecy. It was as if to say: The sword of the prophetic spirit shall pass through thy soul, O Mary, to reveal to thee the secrets of sacred scripture and the hidden thoughts of

Mass Intentions for the Week



Monday, - December 28, 2020

7:30 a.m.– Christmas Novena Mass

Tuesday, - December 29, 2020

7:30 a.m.– Christmas Novena Mass

Wednesday, - December 30, 2020

7:30 a.m.– Christmas Novena Mass

Thursday, - December 31, 2020

7:30 a.m.– Christmas Novena Mass

4:00 p.m.– Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (Vigil)

12:00 a.m.- Nativity of Our Lord

Friday, - January 01, 2021

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

6:30 a.m.– Special Intention

9:30 a.m.-Special Intention

12:00 p.m.-Special Intention

Saturday, - January 02, 2021

7:30 a.m.– Christmas Novena Mass

4:00 p.m.– St. Monica Sodality

Sunday, - January 03, 2021

6:30 a.m.– Special Intention

9:30 a.m. -People of the Parish

12:00 p.m.– Special Intention

“When we leave the holy banquet of Communion, we are as happy as the wise men would have been if they could have carried away the infant Jesus.” -St. John Vianney

Important Update Regarding Families of Parishes:

Assumption Grotto has been assigned to Renaissance Vicarate Family 3 along with St. Joseph’s Shrine and Holy Family Parish. Our group is part of “Wave 2”, which will go into effect on July 1st, 2022.

Mass Servers

Saturday, January 02, 2021

4:00 p.m. D. Bastuba, J. Cline

Sunday, January 03, 2021

6:30 a.m. R. Jacek, M. Pomeroy.

9:30 a.m. K. Garavaglia, A. Santine, M. Grado, J. Prevo, D. Grado, C. Bueche

12:00 p.m. M. Chambers, A. & W. Remske, G. Welsing, J. & D. Berch

Readings for the week of

December 27, 2020

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1] or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [7a, 8a]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

Monday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35

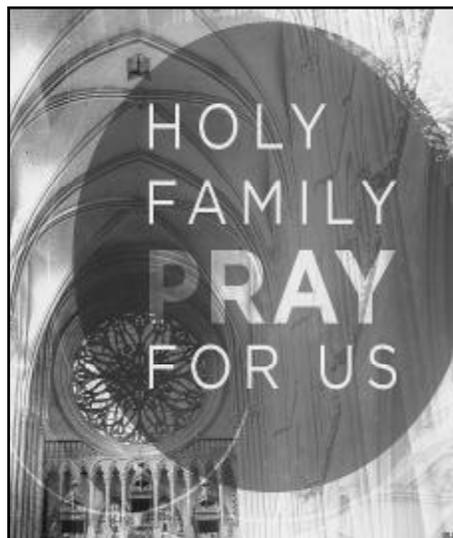
Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18

Friday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [3cd]/Jn 1:19-28

Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12



ASSUMPTION (GROTTO) PARISH

13770 Gratiot Avenue

Detroit, MI 48205

Pastor: Rev. Fr. Eduard Perrone

Associate: Rev. Fr. John Bustamante

Deacon Rev. Mr. James Wilder

RECTORY BUSINESS HOURS

Monday-Saturday 9:00am-5:00pm

Evening hours by appointment

Rectory 313-372-0762, FAX 372-2064

website: www.assumptiongrotto.com

email: grotto Rectory@ameritech.net

Grotto Gift Shop 313-332-4432

Parish Council President

Anna Graziosi 313-423-6972

Organist Ray Long 313-372-0762

Email: grottomusic@ameritech.net

SUNDAY MASSES: Saturdays at 4:00; Sundays at 6:30, 9:30 (Tridentine), & Noon

HOLY DAY MASSES: 6:30, 9:30 (Tridentine), Noon & evening at 7:00 p.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES: Monday-Saturday 7:30 a.m. (all Tridentine).

CONFESSIONS: Saturday 2:30-3:30, Sunday 9:00 & 11:30 a.m.

BAPTISMS: Every Saturday after the 4:00 p.m. Mass or Sunday after the Noon Mass. Arrange at the Rectory Office.

BLESSING FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS: After the Noon Mass on the first Sunday of the month.

REGISTRATION: Visit the Rectory or call for a form to be sent out to you.

Banns of Marriage

II *Thomas Addis*

&

Kathleen Koluch,

January 09, 2021

men” (Lapide). They believed that Our Lady understood all things of Scripture and with this wisdom, directed, for example, the servants at the wedding at Cana to “do whatever he tells you” because God gave her the wisdom to know that he would perform the miracle. It would stand to reason that one who is full of grace, in perfect communion with God and completely without sin would not be limited or deceived by the effects of sin and therefore able to discern perfectly what is hidden in the hearts of her spiritual children.

Likewise, in the Letter to the Hebrews we read, “For the word of God is living and effectual and more piercing than any two edged sword and reaching unto the division of the *soul and the spirit*, of the joints also and the marrow: and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

It is because of the prophecy of Simeon that Our Lady bears the title, Our Lady of Sorrows. Many have a particular devotion to Our Lady of Sorrows because it is by her intercession that what can lie hidden by sin or even the effects of evil can be revealed and made plain. When a person is failing to understand a spiritual matter in their life or struggling to overcome a particular sin, he or she should petition Our Lady of Sorrows’ intercession that they may have clarity about what is an obstacle to God’s grace, or what is the source or cause of an attachment or fault or habitual sin.

The sword of which Simeon spoke was also the sword of the sufferings inflicted upon Christ. Since the Blessed Virgin Mary shared so completely in God’s work of salvation through her Divine Son, so, too, she shared mystically in His sufferings. The Doctors of the Church teach that the Blessed Virgin is Queen of the Martyrs because while swords and iron pierced the bodies of the Martyr-saints, a sword pierced the *soul* of the Blessed Virgin.

Et verbo caro factum est, et habitavit in nobis. “And the Word became flesh and

dwelt among us.” This is the good news of great joy which we particularly celebrate in these eight days following Christmas.

The proclamation of the angels two millennia ago is still being made in heaven and on earth. The angel who appeared to the shepherds said this: “Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a Savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying: “Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom His favor rests.” (Luke 2:10-14).

May we return frequently throughout the year to this joy that God intends us to renew always in our hearts. May the Lord’s blessings be upon each of us this day and forever.

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Ushers Needed We are in need of additional men to serve as ushers at the 4:00 PM Saturday Mass and 6:30 and Noon Sunday Masses. Please contact Marty at 586-873-3905 or the rectory office if you are able to help.

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Grotto parishioner, James Likoudis, was recently awarded an honorary doctorate by Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit. A devout Catholic, the father of six children, and grandfather of 35, Likoudis and his wife now reside with their daughter Therese Williams in Ann Arbor. Likoudis served as president of Catholics United for the Faith, and for many years travelled and lectured throughout the world, defending *Humanae Vitae*, Catholic sexual morality, and the authority of the magisterium. A prolific writer, he helped thousands of ordinary Catholics understand the changes in society and liturgy. As a convert from Eastern Orthodoxy, his major

scholarly contribution has been on the ecumenical front, defending papal primacy and authority in response to Eastern Orthodox objections. In 2002, Likoudis was recipient of the Blessed Frederick Ozanam Aware for Catholic Social Action, presented by the Society for Catholic Social Scientists. In view of his tireless promotion of sound doctrine, morals, liturgy, and ecumenism since his reception into the Church in 1952, Likoudis was awarded an honorary doctorate of theology by the Sacred Heart Major Seminary this year. Because of the Covid pandemic, no public awards ceremony could be held and he was awarded his degree in absentia. The happy news is that we may now address him as DOCTOR James Likoudis!

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Come and Visit the Assumption Grotto Secular Carmelites. If you would like to be a part of a Fraternal Community, be inspired by Carmelite Saints, seek the face of God through contemplative prayer, and have a special devotion to our Blessed Mother, call *Paula Zurawski* at 586.463.1770 and leave a message to **schedule a visit with the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Discalced Carmelite Seculars**, at Assumption Grotto, in Detroit. We meet on the First Saturday of each month, beginning with a Communion Service at 8:30 am. The richness of Carmelite teachings and spirituality will still the restlessness of your heart as you learn to rest in the Lord.

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The Fr. John A Hardon 36 Week Advanced Marian Catechism Course will begin on Saturday, January 9th at 1 p.m. in the Shrine Lounge. You must have a certificate that you completed the Basic 16 Week course in order to participate. All class course materials must be purchased in advance. The class will meet every other Saturday completing one chapter every two weeks. This gives a sufficient time for busy Catholics to reflect and study. For more information on the Advanced or Basic Courses, leave your name at rectory and someone will contact you.



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Te Deum Laudamus!

A Blog by a Grotto Parishioner
DIANE M. KORZENIEWSKI

Photos from liturgical events at Grotto;
select topics in Catholicism; useful links

<http://te-deum.blogspot.com>



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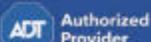
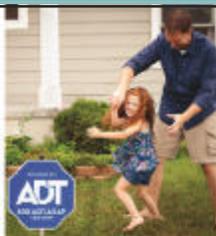
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