



# St. Anthony of Padua Church

SOCIETY OF ST. PIUS X

Easter Sunday (3/23/2008)

103 Gould Avenue, North Caldwell, New Jersey 07006

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## From the Pastor's Desk: Easter Message 2008

Since last year at Easter, some great and some foreboding things have happened in the Church.

Great was the number of Holy Rosaries collected by the Society of St. Pius X to present to the Pope, which surely helped him do one of his most important and difficult duties. He did it on the seventh of the seventh 2007 with the two key words: *Numquam abrogatam!* i.e., the True Mass was *never* abolished, hence no one can prohibit a priest of the Roman Rite from saying it. Hundreds of priests have come (or returned) to this Mass since then. However, the tactics of the enemy have changed, and we need to be aware of the dangers. Keep coming to Sunday Masses with ears and hearts open to hear the plans, counter-plans, and strategies that we need to keep our balance and win the battles we must engage in.

There is still among Catholic faithful too much of an unholy unwillingness to speak the truth "for fear of the Jews" (John 7:13). There is even a spirit of unholy compromise that dares to adapt the sacred traditions of our Unchangeable Faith to the sensitivities of the avowed enemies of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Yes, the Holy Father needs our prayers.

The "intentions of the Pope" we say to get the indulgences are often misunderstood. It refers to the general welfare of the Church and religion, not the specific personal plans of the man who happens to be Pope. Unless otherwise stated, they include: (a) the exaltation of the Church; (b) the uprooting of heresies; (c) peace among Christian nations; (d) the propagation of the faith; and (e) conversion of sinners. This was taken from the excellent work *My Catholic Faith*<sup>1</sup> by Bishop Louis LaRavoire Morrow in 1949 and is one of the most succinct, simple, and concise explanations of the doctrines and practices of Roman Catholicism that both Catholic and non-Catholic can easily understand without any ambiguity or relativism. Pure, unadulterated facts and absolutes. Three powerful helps the Good Lord left to His Church after His Resurrection: the papacy, the Holy Eucharist and His Holy Mother Mary! All are connected to His own Body and to the work of the Holy Ghost, given at Pentecost to activate the Church. All these three are denied by Protestants and distorted or neglected by Modernists. We have a lot of work to do to ward off attacks, sometimes found even in "Catholic" media, and rebuild the truth and sanctity of our Holy Church.

Remember that the Jews were once the Chosen People of God. As such, the Good Lord was very patient with them, see the outline of sacred history given by St. Steven in Acts, chapter 7. (They were not very patient with him!) One time, in the sixth century B.C., when the schism and infidelity within Israel became most dangerous to the True Religion, Almighty God raised up the Babylonians (from Iraq) to carry away into captivity the bulk of the Jews, who were thus punished severely for 70 years before the great return. After they returned, they found the city walls and temple destroyed, and there was need for a major rebuilding project: first the walls, then the temple, then the city. As they were working, attacked on every side, they needed to keep hold in one hand the sword to defend themselves, and the other hand a trowel to build the wall. This is described in the book of 2 Esdras (also called Nehemiah).<sup>2</sup>

So we must learn to fight on the one hand (learn about the crisis and how to deal with it) and build on the other (learn the virtues and how to practice them). That is what I have tried to help you to do over the last year: work on both approaches for the extension of God's Kingdom on earth and merit our salvation in Heaven.

Don't think the crisis will be over soon. There may be 70 years or more of crisis, as was the Babylonian Captivity. We have yet suffered but 40 years. The Arian crisis of the fourth century lasted more than a few decades; it came to an end with the help of an excommunicated archbishop, St. Athanasius. The Great Western Schism in the Middle Ages lasted also more than a few decades, finally being put in order with the help of a simple but saintly (and fiery) lay woman named St. Catherine of Siena. She must have been a dread to the enemies of Mother Church! What lessons for us in all this. *Patience* gains all things. But we must also be faithful and devoted to our duties.

Jesus appeared *first* to His Mother Mary on the morning of His resurrection. He wants to give us all blessings through Her. Let me recommend St. Louis de Montfort's Total Consecration to Our Lady, to be renewed on the feast of the Annunciation. This feast is transferred this year to March 31; let us show our love for our heavenly Queen by joining the SSPX call for a Heart of Mary Crusade. This involves a plan of action that will help us make the most of the graces offered to us in the True Mass (which we must *never* take for granted; that's what happened in the 1950s). It will also help the hierarchy to get the upper hand on the demonic forces that hold today such undue influence in the Vatican — forces that the late Sr. Lucy referred to as "diabolical disorientation." The disaster can be undone by God's grace and our effort. God wills it! To the defense of Mother Church, and the rebuilding of her walls and temple!

My prayers are with you all, for the blessings of this sacred time. Yours in Jesus, Mary, and St. Joseph,

*Fr Kevin J. Robinson*

<sup>1</sup> Download the whole book in two parts (without pictures) at the bottom of this Web page: [http://www.advancedchristianity.com/Pages/MPC/Docs/Docs\\_000\\_Contents.htm](http://www.advancedchristianity.com/Pages/MPC/Docs/Docs_000_Contents.htm)

<sup>2</sup> 2 Esdras (Nehemiah) 4:14 And I looked and rose up: and I said to the chief men and the magistrates, and to the rest of the common people: be not afraid of them. Remember the Lord who is great and terrible, and fight for your brethren, your sons, and your daughters, and your wives, and your houses.

4:15 And it came to pass, when our enemies heard that the thing had been told us, that God defeated their counsel. And we returned all of us to the walls, every man to his work.

4:16 And it came to pass from that day forward, that half of their young men did the work, and half were ready for to fight, with spears, and shields, and bows, and coats of mail, and the rulers were behind them in all the house of Juda.

4:17 Of them that built on the wall and that carried burdens, and that laded: with one of his hands he did the work, and with the other he held a sword.