

✝
PAX

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE MONASTERY



CHRISTMAS 2023



Dear Friends and Benefactors,

WE ARE PLEASED TO SHARE OUR PROGRESS and accomplishments of this past year 2023 in review. Firstly, our community of Sisters of St. Joseph Monastery are growing in numbers and construction crews have finished the work of creating room for 25.

Interest in the traditional Benedictine cloistered nun's vocation attracts discernment retreatants nearly every week. These excellent vocations are the fruits of the priests working throughout North America to foster solid Catholic families with schools and parishes dedicated to Tradition.

Secondly, thanks to the charitable generosity of our benefactors, our new roasting equipment is now in full operation, allowing us to meet the increase in demand from new coffee subscribers.

The custom engineered roasting equipment was designed to maintain the high quality of our unique Abbey Roast coffee which is both a source of economic independence and an apostolate. We are deeply grateful for your steadfast loyalty and enthusiastic support!

Our own expansion construction projects continue, with special thanks to your generous help, and we will soon have room for 50 monks.

Most importantly, the spiritual growth of our twin communities continues with the blessings of heaven upon the perseverance of our brothers and sisters, who have dedicated themselves to their contemplative vocation in the pronouncing of vows and investitures.

We offer you a special Christmas gift, which is an excerpt from a sermon given by Archbishop Lefebvre with counsels for great peace amid the many trials of today. May Our Lady of Guadalupe keep you and bless you with her love forevermore,

Fr. Cyprian



Sermon of Archbishop Lefebvre for
the Priestly Ordinations on
June 29, 1982 Ecône, Switzerland

+

My dear Brethren, my dear Friends,

HERE WE ARE GATHERED
ONCE AGAIN IN ECÔNE TO
participate in the priestly
ordinations which is such a moving
ceremony. Indeed, if there is a
ceremony that makes us live the most
sublime moments of the Church, it is
the ceremony of priestly ordinations.
It reminds us in particular of the
Last Supper where Our Lord Jesus
Christ made his Apostles priests. It
also recalls the outpouring of the
Holy Ghost on the Apostles on
the day of Pentecost. And so the
Church continues. It is by the hand
of the successors of the Apostles
that the Holy Ghost continues to
communicate Himself. And today
we are happy to be able to confer
priestly ordination on thirteen new
priests. [...]

MY DEAR FRIENDS, you who are going to be ordained priests in a few moments understand, I am sure, today more than ever, that this ordination will place you at the very heart of the work of the Redemption of Our Lord Jesus Christ. By His sacrifice on the Cross, Our Lord committed Himself in a certain way to make priests, to share his eternal priesthood with those whom he would choose to continue his sacrifice, the source of the graces of the Redemption, for this is God's great work : it is for the Redemption that God created all things, that he did everything. This is his great work of charity, and God is charity, everything that comes from God is charity. With burning desire from all eternity, he wanted to deify us, to communicate this immense charity to us. He wanted to communicate it to us; and he communicated it to us by an extraordinary manifestation: by His Cross, by the death of a God, by the Blood he shed. And he wanted men, chosen by him, to continue this sacrifice in order to give his divine life to souls, to heal them of their faults, their sins and to communicate his own life to them so that one day, this life glorifies us and that we may be glorified with God in eternity. This is the work of God. This is why he created all things: everything that we see. This whole world that he created : He has done this for the Cross. He has done this for the redemption of souls ; he has done this for the holy sacrifice

of the Mass ; for priests, so that souls could unite with him, especially as victims in the Holy Eucharist. He communicates himself to us as a Victim, so that we also offer our lives with His, and that we thus participate not only in our redemption but in the redemption of souls.

THIS PLAN OF GOD, this thought of God who has created the world is an extraordinary thing. We are amazed at this great mystery that the Good Lord has accomplished here below. And precisely because the sacrifice of Our Lord is at the heart of the Church, at the heart of our salvation, at the heart of our souls, everything that touches upon the holy sacrifice of the Mass touches us deeply, touches each of us personally, because we must participate in this sacrifice for the salvation of our souls, because we must receive the Blood of Jesus through baptism and through all the sacraments, and especially through the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, to save our souls. **That is why we are so attached to the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, that whenever it is tampered with in order to supposedly make it more acceptable to those who do not have our Faith, to those who do not have the Catholic Faith, we shudder at the thought !**

All these changes in what is most precious to holy Church, that have been introduced by the liturgical reforms in recent years, have taken place supposedly to bring us closer to our separated brethren, that is to say, to those who do not have our Faith. And then our hearts and minds were shaken and our Faith was heartstruck. We asked ourselves: "How is it possible that we could reduce this greatest, most mystical, most beautiful, most divine reality of our holy Roman Catholic Church, that we could diminish it in order to make it open to heretics?" **We didn't understand ! And in this commotion, we really wondered how clergy who have entered the Church, having ideas that are not those of the Church, not truly being moved by the Holy Ghost, not being filled with the spirit of truth but with the spirit of error, were able to rise to the highest summit of the Church and give us these very reforms that destroy the Church. What a mystery ! How is this possible ? How could Almighty God possibly allow this ?** How did Our Lord let this reality appear before our eyes, in our time; He who had made all those promises to Peter and to his successors, to the Church and to all the successors of the Apostles? Perhaps never in the course of their existence have the faithful had to confront this problem. Blessed are the faithful who lived before us and who did not have these problems to question and resolve!

SO IN A FEW WORDS, I would like to try to enlighten your minds somewhat, on what seems to me to be our line of conduct in these so very painful events that are taking place in Holy Church. It seems to me that we can compare this passion that the Church is suffering today to the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ. See how stunned the Apostles themselves were, seeing Our Lord bound. Having received the kiss of Judas' betrayal, He is taken away, He is made to wear a scarlet robe, then He is mocked, He is beaten, He is laden with the Cross, and the Apostles flee. The Apostles are scandalized : "It's not possible !" That the one to whom Peter proclaimed, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God" (Mt 16:16),

could be reduced to this indigence, to this humility, to this degradation ; it's not possible. They flee from him. Only the Virgin Mary with Saint John and a few women surround Our Lord. They kept the Faith. They do not want to abandon Our Lord. They know that Our Lord is God, but they also know that he is man, and it is precisely this union of divinity with Our Lord's humanity that has posed extraordinary problems, because Our Lord did not only want to be a man, he wanted to be a man like us, with all the consequences of sin, while remaining sinless, sin being excluded. Indeed, he wanted to suffer all the consequences : pain, fatigue, suffering, hunger, thirst, unto death ! Yes, Our Lord did this very extraordinary thing that scandalized the Apostles, before scandalizing many others who separated themselves from Our Lord, or who no longer believed in the divinity of Our Lord. Throughout the history of the Church, we see those souls who, astonished at the weakness of Our Lord, did not believe that he was God ; this is the case of Arius.

Arius said: "No, it is not possible -- this man cannot be God. No doubt he is superhuman, he is the firstborn, but he is not God, since he said that he was less than his Father, that his Father was greater than He. So He is less than his Father, so He is not God. And then he uttered such amazing words as these: "My soul is sad, even unto death." (Mk 14:34) **How could the one who had the beatific vision, who saw God in his human soul and therefore, who was much more glorious than infirm, much more eternal than temporal, because his soul was already in blessed eternity, how could He suffer and say: "My soul is sorrowful, even until death" ?**And yet he uttered these halting words, which we ourselves would never have imagined placing on the lips of Our Lord: "My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken me?" (Mt 27:46) But how could Our Lord, who is God himself, say this: "Why hast thou forsaken me?"

THEN, ALAS, THE SCANDAL SPREAD AMONG WEAKLY SOULS and Arius drove nearly the entire Church to say : "No, this person is not God !" Others, on the contrary, reacted and said: "But perhaps everything that Our Lord has suffered, this outpouring of blood, these wounds, this cross : all this is simply imagination !

And in fact, these are merely external phenomena that happened, but were not real. A bit like the Archangel Raphael, who had accompanied Tobias, then told him : 'You think that I really ate when I took food, but no, I feed myself with a spiritual food.' (Tobias 12:19) Thus the Archangel Raphael did not have a body like that of Our Lord Jesus Christ, he was not born in the womb of an earthly mother like Our Lord, born of the Virgin Mary. So perhaps Our Lord was a phenomenon like that and while appearing to eat, he did not really eat, and while appearing to suffer, he did not really suffer."

And then there came those who denied the human nature of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Monophysites, then the Monothelites who denied the human nature and will of Our Lord Jesus Christ : Everything was God in Him and everything that happened were only appearances. You see the consequences of those who are scandalized by reality, by the truth !

So now I shall make a comparison with the Church of today.



Christmas Midnight Mass blessing of the Nativity Scene

TODAY WE ARE SCANDALIZED – yes, truly scandalized – by the situation in the Church. We thought that the Church was truly divine and that she could never be wrong, that she could never deceive us ... Yes, it's true, the Church is divine. The Church cannot lose the truth ; the Church will always keep the Eternal Truth, yet she is human. The Church is human and much more human than Our Lord Jesus Christ. Our Lord could never sin: He was the Holy One, the Just One par excellence. The Church is divine and truly divine, she brings us all the things of God and most especially the Holy Eucharist ; eternal things that can never change, which procure the glory of our souls in Heaven. Yes, the Church is divine, but she is also human. She is supported by men who might be sinners, or who are indeed sinful, and who, if they participate in a certain manner in the divinity of the Church, to a certain extent (like the Pope, for example, who by the charism of infallibility participates in the divinity of the Church), nevertheless remain men and remain sinners. Apart from the cases in which the Pope uses his charism of infallibility, he can err and can sin. So why should we be scandalized and say, just like Arius: “He is not Pope! He's not a pope?”

As Arius said: “He's not God, it's not true. Our Lord cannot be God,” we would also be tempted to say: **“It is not possible; he cannot be Pope by doing what he does !”** Others, on the contrary, who would deify the Church to such an extent that everything would be perfect therein, might think: **“Everything being perfect in the Church, there is no question of us doing anything that could oppose something that comes to us from Rome, because everything is divine in Rome. We must accept everything that comes from Rome.”** They act like those who also say that Our Lord was so much God that

it was not possible for him to suffer; that they were appearances of suffering, but that in reality he did not suffer and that in reality his Blood did not pour out ; and that these were merely appearances those around him saw, but not reality. So it is the same with some today who follow by saying: “No, nothing can be human in the Church, nothing in the Church can be imperfect.” They are also mistaken, they do not follow the reality of things.



H.E. Bp. Fellay receives our Brother Mayol's perpetual vows

BUT HOW FAR CAN IMPERFECTION GO IN THE CHURCH ? How far, I would say, can sin in the Church, sin in the mind, sin in the soul, sin in the heart and in the will increase? Well, these facts themselves show us that. Just as I said to you earlier: We would never have dared to put these words on Our Lord's lips “My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?”

Neither would we have ever thought that evil, that error, could thus penetrate inside the Church. Well, we are living in this era. We can't deny it. Such things are right before us in plain sight, though not of our doing. We are witnesses of what is happening in the Church, of what frightening things have happened since the Council, of these ruins that accumulate day by day, year by year in holy Church. And the further we go, the more mistakes spread, the more the faithful lose the Catholic Faith. [...]

So let's look ahead to the end of it all : everyone will fall into heresy, and as Saint Pius X warned, everyone will fall into error because clergymen have entered the Church, and have occupied the Church, and have spread errors, while taking advantage of the authority they occupy in the Church.

Are we then under the obligation to follow error because it comes to us by way of authority ? No more than we must not obey parents who are unworthy and who ask us to do unworthy things ; no more are we ever bound to obey those who ask us to abandon our Faith and abandon Tradition in its entirety. It is entirely out of the question ! O surely, it is a great mystery! The great mystery of this union of the divinity with humanity! The Church is divine, the Church is human.

I ask, how far can the faults of humanity go to where they touch the divinity of the Church ? Only God knows; it's a great mystery. But as for us, we see the facts, and we have to stand before the reality of these facts and never abandon the Church, the Roman Catholic Church; never abandon it, never abandon the



Our new roasting operation with eternal gratitude to our benefactors

successor of Peter, because it is through him that we are united to Our Lord Jesus Christ, through the Bishop of Rome, successor of Peter. But if unfortunately, driven by I don't know what spirit or what formation, or what pressure he is under, by negligence, he leaves us and leads us on paths that make us lose our Faith. Well no, we must not follow him, while nevertheless recognizing that he is Peter and that if he speaks with the charism of infallibility, we must accept it. But when he does not speak with the charism of infallibility, he may very well be mistaken.

ALAS, THIS IS NOT THE FIRST TIME THIS HAS HAPPENED IN HISTORY, but at this level and to this degree, it is perhaps the first time that we notice such a thing in history. Then we are truly, deeply troubled, deeply mortified, we who love holy Church so much, who have venerated her and who still venerate her ! And that is exactly why this seminary [of Ecône] as well as all these seminaries [of the Society of St Pius X] exist : out of love for the Roman Catholic Church. We are deeply mortified in our mother's love, to think that her servants, alas, no longer serve or are even in her service. **So, we must pray, we must sacrifice ourselves, we must remain like Mary at the foot of the Cross, not to abandon Our Lord Jesus Christ, even if He seems, says Scripture, like "a leper on the Cross." The Virgin Mary had faith, and behind these wounds, behind this transpierced Heart, she saw God, her divine Son.**

We too, despite the wounds of the Church, despite the difficulties and even the persecution that we are suffering at the hands of those who have authority in the Church, let us not abandon the Church ! Let us love our Holy Mother Church, let us always serve her, even in spite of the authorities if necessary. And in spite of these authorities who persecute us wrongly, we continue our way, we continue on



our path. We want to maintain the holy Roman Catholic Church. We want to continue it and we will continue it through the priesthood, through the priesthood of Our Lord Jesus Christ, through the true sacrifice of Our Lord Jesus Christ, through the true sacraments of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and through his true catechism. See here today, my dear friends, all the confreres who are elderly, who have all been ordained in the traditional Holy Mass of all time, as I myself have been. They have been given the power to celebrate holy mass and the holy sacrifice in this eternal Roman Rite. Therefore, remember this: “I was ordained in this rite and I do not want to leave it, I do not want to abandon it ; this is the Mass in which I was ordained and in which I must continue to live. This, truly, is the mass of the Roman Catholic Church.”

S O BE FAITHFUL, FAITHFUL TO YOUR HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS, which will give you so many consolations, so much joy, so much support in your difficulties, in your trials, in the persecutions that you may encounter. You will find the strength to withstand all these sufferings with Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. And truly giving Our Lord Jesus Christ in his Body, in his Blood, in his Soul, in his Divinity, to the faithful, you will also give them the courage to continue following the Church in her Tradition and to pattern themselves after the example of the saints who have gone before us. All those who have been canonized, beatified, shown as an example of sanctity in Holy Church, these will continue to be our models.

May the Blessed Virgin Mary, in particular, be our model. Let us ask her today to make of you, my dear friends, holy priests, priests as she desires them. And certainly if you invoke her throughout your life, she will protect you and make you priests according to the Heart of Our Lord Jesus Christ, her Divine Son. +

Reprinted with the kind permission of the Society of St. Pius X

OUR SISTERS OF SAINT JOSEPH MONASTERY



Dear Friends and Benefactors,

NOW ENTERING THE REPOSE OF THE WINTER-TIME OF THE YEAR, we are reflecting with gratitude on all that has been so generously given to us, and glancing forward with a gaze of confident expectancy to all that will be coming next. “The Lord shall give His goodness and our earth will bring forth her fruit” as we sing with special emphasis this Advent season.

This exchange is the rhythm and pattern of our lives. It is the harmony of creation chanting back a faithful echo of Love to its Creator, or the beloved child lisping the words of His heavenly Father. As God pours out this charity into our hearts -- through the Sacraments, the Scriptures, and the “daily bread” of our crosses and consolations -- we are soon filled, and gradually “bring forth” the manifold fruits of that Charity.

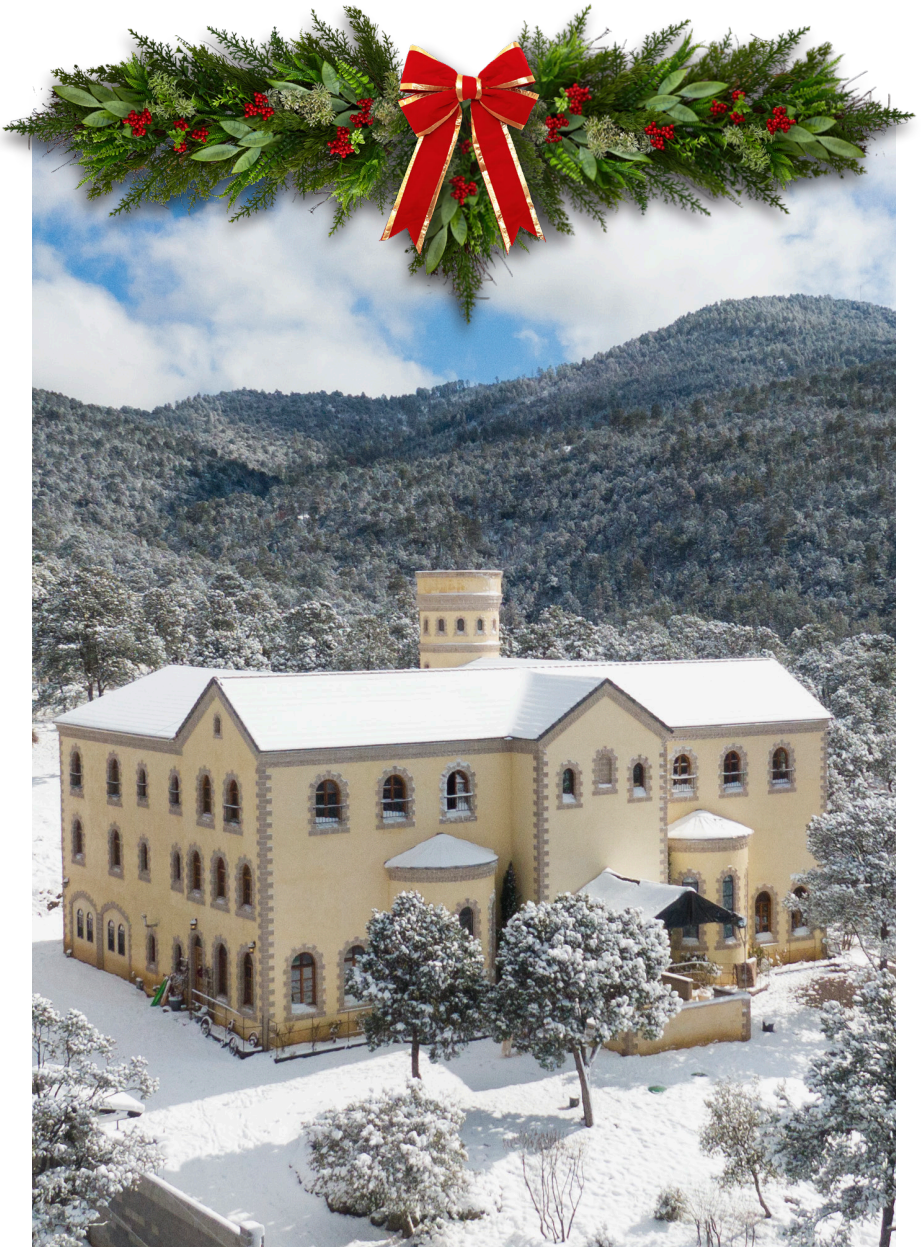
Complementing the spiritual growth of our foundation is the material expansion and adornment of our monastery. Generous workers from across the country have dedicated time and labor to complete our cloister courtyard with fountain and gardens which are a true centerpiece of beauty in our home. They also finished our third story, enabling new vocations to join us in the New Year.

As recipients of your generosity our “thank you” is transformed into prayers for your intentions each day! May our glorious patron, St. Joseph, guide your families in love, and share with you his devotion to Our Saviour.



EACH FIRST SATURDAY HOSTS AN EVENING CANDLELIGHT ROSARY PROCESSION to fulfil Our Lady of Fatima’s special request. This year witnessed again several investitures and vow ceremonies. With the paternal encouragement of His Excellency Bishop Fellay, we have been blessed to continue “processing forward” on the road of progress in our contemplative vocation.





OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE MONASTERY
142 JOSEPH BLANE ROAD
SILVER CITY, NEW MEXICO 88061



ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE
ourladyofguadalupemonastery.com
giftshop.ourladyofguadalupemonastery.com
abbeyroast.com
ologmonastery@gmail.com

