



DIOCESE OF AUSTIN

October 24, 1988

TO: Individuals Who Have Requested a Latin Mass
FROM: Bishop John McCarthy
RE: The Scheduling of a Tridentine Mass, Sundays at 12:30 P.M., Chapel, St. Joseph's Hall (Brothers' Residence) Located on the Campus of St. Edward's University

While Our Holy Father is constantly working for unity in the Church, he is at the same time conscious of the needs of special groups. Of late, I have received several letters requesting the scheduling of a Tridentine Mass and I am happy to oblige within the guidelines laid down by the Vatican.

A copy of the directive is attached, but let me point out the three most important items that will affect us with this Mass that is being scheduled.

- a. Persons making use of this privilege must indicate in a very clear manner that they accept the teachings of the Universal Church as manifested in the Second Vatican Council.
- b. Mass is to be offered in a chapel rather than in a parish church.
- c. Mass is to be offered only for those who request it.

I have been able to secure the use of the chapel at Holy Cross Hall on the campus of St. Edward's University in Austin and Father Leon Boarman, C.S.C. has generously offered to take this Mass each Sunday.

The celebration of this Mass will begin on the first Sunday of Advent at 12:30 P.M.

If, for some reason, Father Boarman is not able to offer the Mass, the Diocese will certainly endeavor to provide a substitute, but since 99% of our priests are always scheduled tightly on Sunday morning for parish Masses, you need to know from the very beginning that there may be occasions when the Mass will not be celebrated. I hope that those times will be few and far between.

While I hope that this arrangement is satisfactory to you, I would ask you to be aware that the vast, vast majority of our people prefer to pray in a language that they understand, and it is the teaching of the Universal Church, guided by the Holy Spirit, that they be allowed to do so. Please continue to pray that Christ's Church will grow evermore united.

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN CENTRAL TEXAS