

SAINT PIUS X PRIORY
SINGAPORE

WEEKLY BULLETIN
& MASS SCHEDULE

5 FEBRUARY 2017
FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER
THE EPIPHANY

SUN 5 Feb	Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany <i>2nd Class, green</i>	7.30 – Rosary 8.00 – Low Mass 9.30 – Rosary 10:00 – Sung Mass
MON 6 Feb	St. Titus <i>Bishop, Confessor, 3rd Class, white</i> St. Dorothy, Virgin, Martyr (Comm.)	No Mass
TUE 7 Feb	St. Romualdus <i>Abbot, 3rd Class, white</i>	11.30 – Low Mass 17.45 – Low Mass 18.30 - "Tuesday with Mary" Devotions
WED 8 Feb	St. John de Matha <i>Confessor, 3rd Class, white</i>	7.15 – Low Mass 11.30 – Low Mass 18.30 - Rosary 19:00 – Low Mass
THU 9 Feb	Saint Cyril of Alexandria <i>Bishop, Confessor, Doctor</i> <i>3rd Class, white</i> St Appolonia, Virgin, Martyr, (comm.)	7.15 – Low Mass 11.30 – Low Mass 18.20 – Rosary & Benediction 19.00 – Low Mass
 FRI 10 Feb	Saint Scholastica <i>Virgin</i> <i>3rd Class, white</i>	7.15 – Low Mass 18.20 – Stations of the Cross 19:00 – Low Mass
SAT 11 Feb	Feria <i>3rd Class, violet</i> <i>Apparition of the Bl. Virgin at Lourdes (comm.)</i>	11.30 – Low Mass
SUN 12 Feb	Septuagesima Sunday <i>2nd Class, violet</i>	7.30 – Rosary 8.00 – Low Mass 9.30 – Rosary 10:00 – Sung Mass

Confessions: 30 min before
Sunday Masses; on demand
every day.

**Children's Catechism on
Saturday:**

Older Group (13-18 years)
14:45-15:30

First Communion 14:45-15:30

Post First Communion 15:30-
16:15

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today. Second collection for SSPX Schools.



Today. Food fair after the 10am Mass organised by Mrs. Sumantri. Proceeds go to MI.

Saturday 25 February. Mr and Mrs. Thomas Sumantri will be celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary on that day. Anyone interested in joining them for the celebration might contact Mrs. Sumantri directly.

Rosary Crusade: don't forget to place your tokens in the box.

SOCIETY OF SAINT PIUS X - DISTRICT OF ASIA

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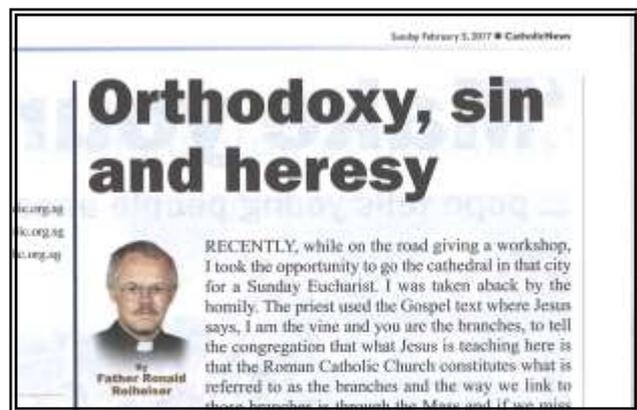
Resident Priests: Rev. Fr. K. Stehlin (District Superior), Rev. Fr. B. Wailliez (District Assistant),

Rev. Fr. F. Laisney (District Bursar), Rev. Fr. F. Loschi (Prior)

Donations to SSPX by cheque: make it payable to "Friends of the International Priestly Society of St. Pius X"



CATHOLIC ORTHODOXY



In an article in the latest issue of Catholic News, the official magazine of the Archdiocese of Singapore (5 February 2017), one can read the following statement by Father Ronald Rolheiser:

It's sad that this kind of thing is still being said in our churches. Does the Catholic Church really teach that missing Mass is a mortal sin and that if you die in that state you will go to hell? No, that's not Catholic orthodoxy, though popular preaching and catechesis of-

sin is a subjective thing that can never be read from the outside. We can never look at an action from the outside and say: "That's a sin!" We can look at an action from the outside and say: "That's wrong!" But that's a different judgment. From the outside we can judge an action as objectively wrong, but we can never make the judgment that it's a sin. Moreover this isn't new, liberal teaching, it is already found in our traditional Catechisms. Nobody can look at the action of someone else and say: "That's a sin!" To teach that we can make such a judgment goes against Catholic orthodoxy. We can, and must, affirm that certain things are wrong, objectively wrong, but sin is something else.

The article raises a few issues like: **1. Is it a mortal sin not to go to Mass on Sunday? 2. Does the state of mortal sin lead us to hell? 3. Can we express a judgement about an action and say: "this is a sin!"?**

Are those who answer these questions in the affirmative sinning against Catholic orthodoxy?

Before going further, we should have in mind what a sin is. A sin is an offence against God or our neighbour. In other words, **a sin is something wrong.**

How can Fr. Rolheiser write then: **"We can never look at an action from the outside and say: 'That is a sin!'"** and at the same time write the exact opposite when he says in the next sentence: **"We can look at an action from the outside and say: 'That is wrong!'"**? If I can judge that something is wrong, why can't I judge that something is a sin, since a sin is something wrong?

Let us now answer the questions.

1. Is it a mortal sin not to go to Mass on Sunday?

We find the answer even in the **Catechism of the Catholic Church of 1992** (Vatican website: http://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG0015/_P7O.HTM#-2A0) promulgated by John Paul II:

CCC 2180—The precept of the Church specifies the law of the Lord more precisely: **"On Sundays and other holy days of obligation the faithful are bound to participate in the Mass."** (confirmed in New Canon Law - art. 1247)

CCC 2181—The Sunday Eucharist is the foundation and confirmation of all Christian practice. For this reason the faithful are obliged to participate in the Eucharist on days of obligation, unless excused for a serious reason (for example, illness, the care of infants) or dispensed by their own pastor. **Those who deliberately fail in this obligation commit a grave sin.**

Is Father Rolheiser implying that the Catechism of the Catholic Church and the Vatican are not upholding Catholic orthodoxy in this regard?

2. Does the state of mortal sin lead us to hell?

Again let us turn to the Catechism of the Catholic Church and the Vatican for the answer (http://www.vatican.va/archive/ccc_css/archive/catechism/p3s1c1a8.htm):

CCC 1861—Mortal sin is a radical possibility of human freedom, as is love itself. **It results in the loss of charity and the privation of sanctifying grace, that is, of the state of grace.** If it is not redeemed by repentance and God's forgiveness, **it causes exclusion from Christ's kingdom and the eternal death of hell,** for our freedom has the power to make choices for ever, with no turning back.

3. Can we express a judgement about an action and say: "this is a sin!"?

Yes, we can: CCC 1861—However, **although we can judge that an act is in itself a grave offence,** we must entrust judgement of persons to the justice and mercy of God.

On that issue, I would add that the Ten Commandments were given to us by God to teach us how to judge that an action is a sin or not.

In order not to make the reading of this unpretentious bulletin fastidious, I will spare you the innumerable quotes of Church documents and teachings of the saints that state that it is a mortal sin not to go to Mass on Sunday, that a mortal sin (not regretted) leads to hell and that man has been given a reason in order to make moral judgements.

The Catholic Faith is not a toy one can play with at whim. As Saint Athanasius (c. 296-373) says in his Creed: **"Whosoever will be saved, before all things it is necessary that he hold the catholic faith. Which faith except every one do keep whole and undefiled; without doubt he shall perish everlastingly."**

Catholic orthodoxy is no joke, then. Keeping it or rejecting it bears the most serious consequences. What is at stake is nothing less than our eternal salvation.

Father Fabrice Loschi