The Archdiocesan Application of Traditionis Custodes

On July 16, 2021, Pope Francis promulgated an Apostolic Letter, motu proprio, Traditionis custodes, containing new norms governing the celebration of the Tridentine Mass (the Latin Mass prior to the Second Vatican Council). For your information, you can find the Holy Father’s motu proprio here and the accompanying letter to the bishops of the world here.

In 2010 our two Archdioceses entered into an agreement to provide the said Latin Mass at St. Ann’s Parish in Winnipeg. This community, with parishioners from both the Archdioceses of St. Boniface and Winnipeg, have been worshipping at St. Ann’s on Sunday mornings as an integral part of the parish.

In reviewing this new Apostolic Letter, we have determined to take some time to study the new norms prior to making any definitive decisions. We would hope to make these final decisions by the end of this calendar year. In the meantime, the following protocols, taking into considerations the requirements of the motu proprio, will be effective as of this date:

1. Mass according to the 1962 Roman Missal will continue to be celebrated at St Ann’s Parish in Winnipeg. At the same time, no new public liturgical celebrations of the 1962 Roman Missal should be introduced anywhere in either Archdiocese before the final decision is jointly arrived at by Archbishop Richard Gagnon and Archbishop Albert LeGatt. Once that decision has been confirmed and decreed, it will be communicated to all the priests, parish life directors and the lay leaders of the community presently celebrating at St. Ann’s Parish, as well as to any other interested parties.

2. At the celebration of what was formerly called, the Extraordinary Form, the readings are to be proclaimed in the vernacular using the translation of the Sacred Scriptures approved for liturgical use by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops.

We are thankful to all clergy over the years, including the current pastor, Fr. Kelly Wilson, who have facilitated the Latin Mass at St. Ann’s Parish, as well as the lay leadership who have assisted these liturgical celebrations.

We ask for your prayers as we discern future directions called for in Traditionis custodes.

Sincerely in Christ the Lord,

++Richard Gagnon
Archbishop of Winnipeg

++Albert LeGatt
Archbishop of Saint-Boniface