

How to make your Roman community thrive around the traditional Gregorian (Latin) Mass

Or maybe just improve on conditions!

1) Pray Our Blessed Lady & your patron saints to intercede for you.

"Apart from me, you can do nothing.", teaches Our Lord Christ. ([Jn. xv, 5](#)) "Unless the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it." ([Ps. cxlvi, 2](#)) "Be you also as living stones built up, a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ." ([I Pet. ii, 5](#)) Christ wishes to draw all to the Father, more surely than any of us can desire that good even for ourselves. Pray the holy Mass and the holy Rosary for the continuation and improvement of conditions for use of the traditional Missal and disciplines. Pray that many newcomers be added to your community. Pray that the enemies of the Mass be humbled. Humble yourself by learning to let God work through you, accepting the good and the evil that befalls you, regardless what or *whomever* he sends your way.

2) Start a potluck-agapē get-together Sundays & holy days after Mass.

Show your good cheer and don't give anyone reasons not to come back. Assign a few men to introduce themselves to everybody and get to know especially the newcomers, to invite them to the after-Mass social. Offer every newcomer to receive the weekly e-bulletin of the parish: write their e-addresses on a sign-up sheet, or exchange the same via text message. Welcome all, and make them feel welcomed.

3) Be missionary and set a good example.

Each week, invite and try to bring at least one non-Latin-Mass-going person or family to join you in prayer. Start with family, then friends, then acquaintances, potential converts, then everyone else. Frequently remind other Latin Mass-goers to do the same, to help form a habit of attending holy Mass together.

4) Sacred music is 'magnetic', and a must.

The heritage of Catholic sacred music is rich enough to feed any soul starving for transcendence and beauty. For advice about how to start a schola and/or choir, or how do the best with the music you have, contact NCCL. 484/240-5797 admin@national-coalition.org

5) Missals also are a must.

Unless already fluent in Latin, every Latin-Mass goer needs a missal to follow - to help pray - holy Mass. *The Coalition in Support of Ecclesia Dei* has prepared the famous "red missal", which can be ordered in bulk and is very helpful getting started. www.ecclesiadei.org

There are nowadays plenty of re-prints of the daily missal, too. Check the web.

6) Communicate.

Schedule a short e-mail to arrive each Thursday, with enough time to prepare for Sunday Mass but not enough time to forget. If you have the Mass each week and are working to have it every day, send out an e-bulletin at least monthly with tips about how each person or family can do one simple act to contribute to obtaining a daily or otherwise more frequent Mass.

Include any recent news, parish events, or edifying stories. (There is no need at first to prepare a newsletter, since it demands lots of effort with scant results to justify the labor. Get them there first: the news will make itself thereafter.)

The weekly or monthly note to remind everyone about the upcoming Mass might read:

Dear Friend of the traditional Roman Mass,

This Sunday, November 2, is the first Sunday of the month and the Latin Mass begins at 9:30 at St. John's on Main Street in downtown Littletown.

Because November 2, the Feast of All Souls, falls this year on a Sunday it is transferred to Monday, and we shall celebrate in its place - as is the custom in the Roman Rite - the Feast of All Saints. The readings for this Sunday are taken from St. John's Gospel chapter 6, verses 22-72, and from St. Paul's First Epistle to the Corinthians chapter 11, verses 1-34.

As always, coffee, donuts and a potluck brunch is served in the social hall across the street [or at the diner] immediately after holy Mass - so, bring a dish or drink or treat to share. Be sure to invite newcomers you see, and bring one other individual or family with you to Mass. Call me if you have any questions. See you there!

7) Live the faith with your fellow parishioners.

Practice hospitality by inviting a family over for supper. Start a reading/study group that meets regularly - e.g., to learn how to pray the old Mass well, or to learn the *Roman Catechism of the Council of Trent*. Get together with families to celebrate major feasts, take field trips, make pilgrimages, *et cetera*. In short, get to know better and associate with your fellow parishioners.

8) Subscribe to authentically Catholic periodicals.

The Remnant is a voice of traditional Catholicism for over 50 years. A fortnightly, it can be ordered in bulk and offered for sale at church. remnantnewspaper.com
admin@remnantnewspaper.com *The Latin Mass*, a quarterly, is also a magazine of record. www.latinmassmagazine.com admin@latinmassmagazine.com

In sum, four apostolates combine to make a traditional community thrive.

The key is simple but persistent effort, not lots of time or hard work.
Make great strides by small steps.

- a. **sacred music** - by polyphonic choir or/and Gregorian schola every Sunday and holy day, as well as weddings, funerals, special occasions
- b. **hospitality** - potluck-agapē & fellowship Sundays and after every feast; make pilgrimages; invite converts and faithful to worship in the traditional rites
- c. **education** - of youths & adults; e.g., a home-school co-op, Bible study, book clubs; weekly catechism for the parish following the potluck-agapē
- d. **charity** - service to the poor & needy (e.g., pro-life), visit the sick, seek jobs for the unemployed, care for mothers & newborns of the parish, start a beneficial society

Call on the **NCCL** apostolate for help. 484/240-5797 admin@national-coalition.org

Looking for other ideas? Time to petition the bishop to erect a traditional parish? Is your community stable and ready to expand? Or, is something missing?

NCCL has been helping faithful strive for holiness and a genuine Catholic restoration for over 40 years.

phn/txt 484/240-5797 admin@national-coalition.org

National Coalition of Clergy & Laity - 621 Jordan Circle, Whitehall PA 18052 USA

national-coalition.org reformofthereformer.org lookingeast.org

pilgrimage-for-restoration.org pilgrimage-for-restoration.org/blog/