

# **MASS FOR THOSE IN PURGATORY**

## **THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH STATES:**

**1030 All who die in God's grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified, are indeed assured of their eternal salvation; but after death they undergo purification, so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven.**

**1031 The Church gives the name Purgatory to this final purification of the elect, which is entirely different from the punishment of the damned. The Church formulated her doctrine of faith on Purgatory especially at the Councils of Florence and Trent. The tradition of the Church, by reference to certain texts of Scripture, speaks of a cleansing fire:**

As for certain lesser faults, we must believe that, before the Final Judgment, there is a purifying fire. He who is truth says that whoever utters blasphemy against the Holy Spirit will be pardoned neither in this age nor in the age to come. From this sentence we understand that certain offenses can be forgiven in this age, but certain others in the age to come.

**1032 This teaching is also based on the practice of prayer for the dead, already mentioned in Sacred Scripture: "Therefore [Judas Maccabeus] made atonement for the dead, that they might be delivered from their sin." From the beginning the Church has honored the memory of the dead and offered prayers in suffrage for them, above all the Eucharistic sacrifice, so that, thus purified, they may attain the beatific vision of God. The Church also commends almsgiving, indulgences, and works of penance undertaken on behalf of the dead:**

Let us help and commemorate them. If Job's sons were purified by their father's sacrifice, why would we doubt that our offerings for the dead bring them some consolation? Let us not hesitate to help those who have died and offer our prayers for them.

**T**herefore, beginning August 30, we will be offering our 7AM Monday morning Mass for the Souls in Purgatory. We will not be accepting particular Mass Intentions for this Mass as this Mass will be offered for the unknown souls, who may not have even a single person to pray for them.

We will also take advantage of the rubrics of our Missal, which allows for the Mass to begin with the *Confiteor*. The altar party will enter the sanctuary and stand at the foot of the altar, the people will respond. Thus, there will be no confession said after the homily.

*\*There may be some Feast Days, or Holy Days of Obligation that fall on a Monday, in such case the Mass for the Souls in Purgatory will be moved to another day in that week.*