

# THE THIRD ORDER

## Of the Society of St. Pius X



3 March 2008

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Dear Postulants and Professed members,

I have recently returned from a mini pilgrimage around Rome where I was able to visit the tombs of St. Pius X and St. Pius V to pray for the members of the 3<sup>rd</sup> order. We also visited the major basilicas and the tombs of many of the apostles, the pillars of our Faith. It was the traditional Faith that built the Rome that draws so many. Let us not give up the fight until that same Faith returns to Rome.

We are approaching Easter very early this year and it is important for us to make a proper preparation in order not to waste the graces Our Lord wishes to give us this season. The liturgy leading up to Holy Week should be for us a rich source of material for meditation and our meditations are always directed to the Blessed Sacrament. Allow me to examine the effects that ought to be the fruit of Holy Communion.

As with all the sacraments, the Blessed Sacrament gives grace, indeed the author of grace. Moreover, each sacrament gives its own specific sacramental grace corresponding to its own special purpose. And the sacramental grace of the Blessed Sacrament is the union of charity between the members of the Mystical body of Christ and their head. Holy Communion is the efficacious sign of the charity that should animate the members of the Mystical body of Christ of which we are all members who are Catholic. It seems to be a contradiction that souls who partake of the same Holy Eucharist should be divided. This sacrament of unity ought to produce an increase in charity, which should reign in the members of Our Lord more than anywhere else. It is not normal that members of the same body be divided amongst themselves. The Blessed Sacrament should be the paramount cause of unity in the members in our chapels.

We sometimes need to be reminded of the efficacy of the charity produced by the Sacrament of the Eucharist. We are all in need of this charity, we who believe, who have the same Faith, who want to stay Catholic all our lives. We must remain in this charity. As St. Paul says " We have believed in Charity". This Sacrament is the sign and symbol of the love that emanates from Our Lord's charity. How discouraging to see sometimes people, who nourish themselves regularly with the Holy Eucharist, never manage to allow the influence of charity to dominate their lives. They need to criticize, form little groups, make rash judgements, refuse to get along with their neighbour whom they should show sympathy because they share the same pews, or at least the same Faith. Let us who want to keep Tradition, and the Faith in the reverence for the Blessed Sacrament, make it a Lenten resolution to keep the fruit of the Holy Eucharist. The Faith by itself is not enough, nor to say we are attached to the tradition of the Faith and hope for the reward of the eternal life by receiving the Holy Eucharist without having within us all its fruits.

If God is love then He can only act out of charity, which is the reason for creation. He cannot do otherwise than ask us to love Him and to love our neighbour. He asks us to love our neighbour for the love of God. There is only one love, the love of God, and when we love our neighbour we love him for God's sake. When we love God, we love that which He loves and He loves our neighbour with an infinite love. They will be our companions in heaven for all eternity, so why not start now? It often costs us more to show charity to our neighbour than to not have a chocolate bar at lunch. Let charity reign supreme this Easter.

I will be offering Holy Mass for all members on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March. May Our Lord enlighten you more profoundly this Lenten season as to the mystery of the Passion and the Holy Eucharist during your daily meditations.

Please also note the changes in the retreat dates at Holy Cross Seminary. The men's Marion retreat has been pushed back until January 2009 allowing the September woman's retreat to be brought forward one week.

In Christ through Mary,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Curtis". The script is cursive and fluid.

Fr. Christopher Curtis  
Spiritual Director of the Third Order of SSPX  
for Australia

### ***On the lighter side:***

#### **The obituary notice for the late common sense**

Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend, Common Sense, who had been with us for many years. No one knows for sure how old he was, since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape.

Common sense lived by simple, sound financial polices: don't spend more than you can earn, and reliable strategies; adults, not children are in charge.

Common Sense lost ground when parents attacked teachers for doing the job that they themselves had failed to do in disciplining their unruly children.

Common sense lost the will to live as the Ten Commandments became contraband, churches became businesses, and criminals received better treatment than their victims.

Common sense was preceded in death by his parents, Truth and Trust; his wife, Discretion; his daughter, Responsibility; and his son, Reason. He is survived by his four stepbrothers. I know my rights, I want it now, Someone else is to blame, and I'm a victim.

Not many attended his funeral because so few realized he was gone.

