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# YEAR IN REVIEW

It was an amazing year with many historic firsts for our community! Deo Gratias! In a spirit of thanksgiving, it is important to reflect on what God has provided.

Our two main goals from the 2018 Year in Review remain unchanged: a regular celebrant and a morning mass time; however, we accomplished half of our secondary goals from 2018. Please take a moment to carefully read this inventory of our gratitude!

## 1. Sacramental

- a. Offered first **Good Friday liturgy** in our 11-year history as a TLM community
- b. Expanded Confession times every Wednesday from 15 to 30 minutes.
- c. First Sacrament of Confirmation in our 11-year history as a TLM community means that we were able to provide **six of the seven Sacraments** according to the 1962 Missal to the faithful in 2019. Onward to Holy Orders!
- d. **First annual Rorate Caeli Mass** saw 100+ faithful rise at 6 a.m. By the conclusion of the Liturgy, the sunrise was blazing behind the stained glass of the Visitation, giving the window a bright rose gold hue at which several of the attendees marveled. Given the Advent season's devotion to Our Lady's pregnancy, it seemed to be a particular symbol of God's grace shining on St Joseph Parish.
- e. Second annual Christmas Day morning Mass now at the new time of 10:30 a.m.
- f. Added Fr. Steven Arena to our growing cadre of priests to celebrate Low Mass.
- g. **First Mass of Thanksgiving and First Blessings** in our 11-year history as a TLM community with Fr. Samuel Miller's first High Mass as a priest.

## 2. Liturgical/Devotional

- a. Added monthly **Benediction** on 3rd Sundays
- b. Added Two **new MCs**: Remi Asso became an MC and Steve Shope, our Instituted Acolyte, also agreed to MC one weekend each month to allow us to **restore weekly High Mass** from September through June annually.
- c. Celebrated many house blessings and **Enthronements** to the Sacred Heart.
- d. Added a **Pilgrim Fatima Statue** for families to host in their home each month.

- e. Organized first all-parish **Ladies pilgrimage** to the Fairfield Carmelite Monastery
- f. Held first priest-led **altar server training workshop** for Low Mass
- g. Made and distributed blessed candles for the community to burn in their homes for two expectant mothers

### 3. Fellowship

- a. First-ever priestly attendance at **5th annual Knights of the Altar appreciation night** at the Lancaster Barnstormers with a record number of dads and boys.
- b. Launched **Drop-in with Father** - a monthly teen homeschool gathering to learn about the virtues and enjoy fellowship.
- c. Knights of the Altar Father-son axe throwing afternoon at the Meduseld Meadery
- d. More than 25 members of our community witnessed the first Traditional Ordination in 50+ years at the diocesan cathedral.
- e. The **Latin Mass Young Adults Group** was formed and meets weekly for a Holy Hour and fellowship. They hosted a **St. Joseph Day dinner dance** in March raising over \$1300 for the restoration of the rediscovered historic altar rail sanctuary doors.
- f. Over a half dozen of our Young Adults group visited the National Shrine for the Inaugural **Mass of the Americas** where they represented our community on a [Lifesite News video report](#).
- f. First-ever participation in the **Buckley March** for Men and boys to benefit vocations with several of our servers and their dads making the grueling march.

### 4. Catechesis & Evangelization

- a. Weekly confirmation preparation using the Baltimore Catechism
- b. Saw representation from our TLM community at the International Catholic Identity Conference (CIC) for a second year in a row.
- c. Explored the establishment of a parish chapter of the **Confraternity of Christian Mothers**.
- d. Significant **website expansion** of [www.lancasterlatinmass.com](http://www.lancasterlatinmass.com) now includes more resources for new attendees and robust descriptions of our community.
- e. First professional photos taken of the Pontifical Mass for use in our anticipated website refresh in 2020.
- f. Record high e-newsletter subscriptions and expanded distribution methods via **Twitter** and **Instagram** for the first time!
- g. Our TLM Young Adults group visited several Christian intentional communities on Cabbage Hill, such as the one on Poplar Street and the Shalom Project. Several of these Protestants have been convinced to attend the Latin Mass, and some have been particularly impressed by the austere silence and reverent chants of its liturgical beauty. The same Young Adults have also made a point to attend Theology on Tap, the St

Mary's meal, and the San Juan festival where they have made connections with the larger Catholic community who later joined us for a Latin Mass and a social afterward, providing more opportunities to share lost traditions of the Faith.

***Special thanks to Mark O'Neill for compiling and writing this Year in Review!***