



Immaculate of Heart of Mary Oratory

Institute of Christ the King Sovereign King

Living the Truth in Charity

*Prayer of Our Pilgrim Oratory:
O Lord, provide us a suitable location where we can worship you.*

June 2022

Update about our wandering oratory

At the end of our last update, we were renting a former thrift store at Cambrian Park Plaza, where we had been told by our landlord that we would be able to stay at least until May 20, 2022. In August of 2021 we were notified that the owner of the property had changed. Then on the first Friday of October 2021, we received a call from our new landlord, with the shocking news that we would need to move out in one month. As you can imagine, this short notice took us aback, it was so unexpected.

Now we needed to find someplace else to move to again, and quickly. Fortunately, in September, the month before this unexpected news, we had already formed a building development committee. Given the very expensive real estate situation in the San Francisco Bay Area, even with the generous work of the committee, it was very discouraging trying to find a location we could afford, especially in such a tight time frame.

After many efforts, we settled on using three different locations where we could split up the activities of the Oratory on a short term basis. God intervened through the goodness and generosity of His people. One location was a smaller space the landlord let us rent at the same shopping plaza, which we were able to fix up for weekday Masses. The second location was a chapel at Canyon Heights Academy in Campbell we could use for Sunday Masses, and the third location was a classroom at the non-denominational Home Church facility in Campbell where we could hold catechism classes.

We moved out completely from the former thrift store on Sunday November 7. During the months that followed, we encountered many challenges while we moved among the three different locations for different activities of the Oratory. The hall at Cambrian Park Plaza was only barely adequate for daily Mass because that space could only hold about 30 people. On feast days, the number of people was always greater than the space available, so that meant many of the faithful needed to stay outside on the walkway looking through the door during Mass.

As you know, the liturgy of the Traditional Latin Mass requires a proper setting and vestments for the celebration of Mass. That meant that every Sunday we needed to bring to the Canyon Heights Academy chapel a large number of items, such as a portable altar, altar cards, servers' cassocks, vestments, and more, not to mention items for ushers and after Masses to pack them out again. It was time consuming and stressful merely to carry out our regular schedule while, at the same time, we needed to spend additional time on our search for another temporary location where we could combine all of the Oratory activities together again.

At first, we hoped to find a new place in about three months, but again given the tight real estate situation in the Bay Area, it took five months. With generous efforts of the committee members and the faithful daily recitation of the Memorare to Our Lady and a prayer to St. Joseph, we were able to locate our current location

on Winchester Blvd. in San Jose, in February. We moved there after Easter. Bishop Cantu came to bless the chapel on Saturday April 23, and he gave us permission to keep the Blessed Sacrament there permanently.

God is good. He never abandons those who trust in Him, and He has manifested his goodness through the generosity of his people.



Daily Mass at the smaller chapel at Cambrian Park Plaza



Sunday Mass at Canyon Heights Academy Chapel



Catechism Class at Home Church



Sunday Mass at the current chapel on Winchester

Now we are grateful to have more stable and fitting place for the Liturgy and our other activities, but our final goal is still to find a church of own in the area and with the Bishop's permission purchase it. May God, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and St. Joseph continue to guide us!!!

Sincerely yours in Christo Rege,

Canon Raphael Ueda
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