

POLICY 2.5.1 Celebration of the Tridentine Rite in the Archdiocese of Grouard-McLennan

On July 7, 2007, the Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI issued the *motu proprio* Summorum Pontificum, which established the celebration of the Mass of Pope John XXIII as a valid and appropriate expression of true Catholic worship in churches throughout the world. This practice was to be made possible wherever a stable community of Catholic faithful requested it of their parish priest, and was not to be dependent on permission from the local Ordinary.

With the *motu proprio* of the Holy Father as guide, I issue these directives:

- It is recognized that there is no need for parish priests to request further permission in order to celebrate such Masses. As with all pastoral activity in his parish, it is for the parish priest, having heard the advice of his Parish Pastoral Council, to decide to celebrate such Masses on a regular basis.
- Needless to say, any parish priest's ability to celebrate such Masses depends on his formation and training to do so. No priest should attempt to celebrate such Masses until he has been adequately prepared.
- These Masses, considered to be of an extraordinary nature, are not to be celebrated more often than once on a given day. They cannot replace the Sunday celebration of the ordinary celebration of the Mass of Paul VI (*novus ordo*) in any parish. The celebration of these Masses cannot in any way lead to division or tension in the parish community. The celebration of these Masses cannot be held up to be other than a different expression of the one liturgy of the Latin Rite. It is expected that those who participate in such Masses are in agreement with the ordinary Magisterium of the Catholic Church, and supportive of the documents and directions of Vatican II.
- A "stable community" in the terms of the *motu proprio* is deemed by me to be thirty (30) people, gathered on a consistent basis. Therefore, it is expected that any request to have a Tridentine Mass celebrated in any parish of the archdiocese on a regular basis will be made in writing and signed by the adults representing at least thirty persons who thereby commit themselves to assist regularly at these Masses. The request will be submitted to the parish priest of the parish with a copy sent to me as archbishop.



Most Rev. Gerard Pettipas C.Ss.R.
Archbishop of Grouard-McLennan