

THE PONTIFICAL
MISSION
SOCIETIES ARE:

THE SOCIETY FOR THE
PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH

THE SOCIETY OF
ST. PETER APOSTLE

HOLY CHILDHOOD
ASSOCIATION

MISSIONARY UNION OF PRIESTS
AND RELIGIOUS

ABOUT OFFERINGS

The Society For The Propagation Of The Faith

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the perfect offering made to God because it is Christ Himself who is priest and victim. Around the world, hour by hour, as the Eucharist is offered, Jesus' sacrifice on Calvary and His Resurrection are made present, and His redeeming work continues for all.

The benefits of each Mass are infinite and include the whole world. Those who have holy Mass offered, and those for whom a Mass is offered, partake in a special way of the grace of the Eucharistic sacrifice. Throughout the centuries, Catholics have followed the custom of requesting that Mass be celebrated for themselves, or for loved ones, living or deceased.

Gregorian Masses are a series of Masses for one particular deceased person offered on 30 consecutive days. They are named for St. Gregory the Great who was Pope from 590 to 604. Tradition holds that when a monk named Justus died, Pope Gregory had the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass offered for the repose of his soul on 30 consecutive days. At the end of that time, Justus is said to have appeared to his brother, assuring him that he, Justus, had been released from Purgatory.

Consequently, *the custom of offering 30 "Gregorian Masses"* for one particular deceased person spread throughout the Christian world and is in practice today.

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith supports the tradition of sending offerings for the celebration of Gregorian Masses by priests in mission dioceses. Mission priests depend greatly on Mass offerings for their support as they serve among the very poor. They are willing to accept the special responsibility of celebrating Gregorian Masses, this 30-day series of Masses for one deceased person. In some instances, Mass offerings are the only support available to many mission priests.

The requested offering for Gregorian Masses is \$300.00.

Though *the priest who receives your offering* is unknown to you, you are united in love of Christ in the Eucharist and faith in the power of prayer.

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