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THE RED MASS

The origin of the Red Mass is obscured by its antiquity. It is the Solemn Votive Mass of the Holy Spirit (the word "votive" indicating that the Mass is offered for a special intention) celebrated generally near the beginning of the judicial year and attended by judges, lawyers and officials of all faiths for the purpose of invoking God's blessing and guidance in the administration of justice. Its traditional name, the Red Mass, is derived from the color of the vestments worn by the officers of the Mass symbolizing the tongues of fire representing the Holy Spirit. Moreover, the robes of the attending justices were, in ancient days, bright scarlet, thus providing an additional reason for naming it the Red Mass.

The tradition of the Red Mass goes back many centuries in Rome, Paris and London. From time immemorial this beautiful ceremony has officially opened the judicial year of the Sacred Roman Rota, the Tribunal of the Holy See. During the reign of Louis IX, Saint Louis of France, La Sainte Chappelle was designated as the chapel for the Mass. This magnificent edifice, erected in 1246, was used but once during the year, for the celebration of the Red Mass. The custom in England began in the Middle Ages and continued even during World War II when judges and lawyers attended the Red Mass annually in Westminster Cathedral.

English translation of the Order of Mass from the Roman Missal and readings for Confirmation from the Lectionary.

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REMINDER

TO PREPARE CHECK PRIOR TO DEPARTURE

MADE OUT TO "St. MATTHEW'S CATHEDRAL."



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

THE RED MASS
ST. MATTHEW'S CATHEDRAL

Sunday - January 26, 1975

Departure: 9:55 A.M.

Attire: Business Suit

From: Terry O'Donnell ~~TOP~~

BACKGROUND

The Solemn Votive Mass of the Holy Spirit (the word "votive" indicating that the mass is offered for a special intention) is celebrated in many cities generally in the beginning of the judicial year. The Washington Mass is attended by judges, lawyers, government officials and members of the Diplomatic Corps of all faiths for the purpose of invoking God's blessing in the administration of justice.

The traditional name, Red Mass, is derived from the color of the vestments worn by the officers of the Mass symbolizing the tongues of fire representing the Holy Spirit. Centuries ago, the justices attending also wore scarlet robes.

Included in the 900 public and invited attendees at the Mass will be Chief Justice Warren Burger, Judge John Sirica, Nicaraguan Ambassador Sevilla-Sacassa, Senator Russell Long, Senator Roman Hruska, and Congresswoman Gladys Spellman.

For guidance on movements during the Mass, you can look to your program which is enclosed or follow the priests who will flank the altar.

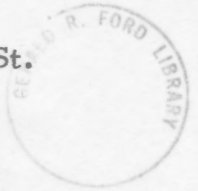
NOTE: The communion service is for members of the Roman Catholic faith only.



SEQUENCE

9:55 a.m.

You and Mrs. Ford board motorcade on South Grounds and depart en route St. Matthew's Cathedral.



9:58 a.m.

Arrive St. Matthew's Cathedral where you will be met by Archbishop William W. Baum, Archbishop of Washington, D.C.

PRESS POOL COVERAGE

Escorted by Archbishop Baum, proceed into the Cathedral and be seated in the first pew to the left of the center aisle.

NOTE: Mr. and Mrs. Bill Barody will also be in your pew.

The Processional Hymn begins.
Congregation stands and sings.

The Introductory Rites, The Liturgy of the Word, and The Gospel, led by Archbishop Baum begins.

The Congregation responds.

The Sermon (Homily) is offered by Bishop James Rausch, Secretary of the U.S. Catholic Conference.

The Creed and The Prayer of the Faithful begins.

The Congregation is seated and the Collection service begins.

NOTE: You will place an envelope with your check (made out to St. Matthew's Cathedral) in the basket as it is passed by your pew.

3.

The Communion Rite begins.

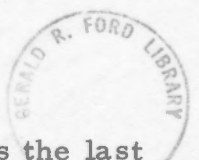
NOTE: The Communion is for Roman Catholics only. You will be seated in the pew during the actual delivery of communion.

The Concluding Rite begins.

The Congregation sings the National Anthem.

The Recessional begins.

NOTE: The Archbishop is the last person in the Recessional. He will pause at the President's pew.



11:05 a.m.

Escorted by Archbishop Baum, depart pew en route motorcade for boarding.

NOTE: The Recessional Hymn will continue as you depart the Cathedral. Archbishop Baum will bid farewell at the motorcade.

PRESS POOL COVERAGE

11:07 a.m.

Board motorcade and depart St. Matthew's Cathedral en route South Grounds.

11:10 a.m.

Arrive South Grounds.

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