



PRESS RELEASE

INSTITUTE OF CHRIST THE KING SOVEREIGN PRIEST

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Worship returns to south-side Historic Landmark once slated for demolition

(Chicago, September 2007) A weekend of prayer and religious services will be held inside the former St. Clara/St. Gelasius church in south-side Chicago. This will mark the first time the historic building is the site of worship since its closure in 2002 and planned demolition. Priests of the Institute of Christ the King, now entrusted with the church, will offer the Traditional Latin Mass and devotions, to mark Pope Benedict XVI's recent document on the extraordinary form of the Latin Rite, which comes into effect September 14th. Symbolic of the church's coming back to life, the cross above the façade will be lit prior to the first event opening the weekend, a Solemn High Mass at 7:00 pm.

In June 2006 the church was given the status of a "Shrine" by Cardinal George. Now, as the Shrine of Christ the King it is the national center of the Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest, a priestly community dedicated to the Traditional liturgy of the Catholic Church. They will be commemorating the papal document further liberating the Latin Mass, which gives further impetus to their own work, by holding a "Forty Hours' Devotion" from September 14th through the 16th. A "Forty Hours' Devotion" is a traditional devotion in the Catholic Church in which the Holy Eucharist is solemnly exposed, and there is Benediction, Rosary, and other devotions. The schedule is as follows:

September 14th (Exaltation of the Cross), Latin Mass at 7:00 pm, opens the Forty Hours' Devotion

September 15th (Our Lady of Sorrows), Latin Mass at 8:00 am

September 16th (Sunday), Latin Low Mass at 8:00 am and Latin High Mass at 10:00 am,

closure of the Forty Hours' Devotion

“Come pray for the Church, for the Pope, and for your intentions before Our Lord in the Holy Eucharist”

Location: Shrine of Christ the King Sovereign Priest, 6415 S. Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago, 60637. Parking is available at the south side of the adjacent rectory. For more information, 773-363-7409.