

Tridentine Community News

August 18, 2024 – Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

The Cathedral Basilica of Ss. Peter & Paul, Philadelphia



Rare is the church whose beauty can truly be called breathtaking. Certainly St. Mary of the Angels Church in Chicago qualifies, as this column has reported on several occasions. Recently this writer

visited another church that should be on everyone's bucket list to visit: the Cathedral Basilica of Ss. Peter & Paul in downtown Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, built in 1864.

This cathedral is noteworthy for what it does not have: There is not a single sign of post-Vatican II updating. Every traditional outfitting in the church from before 1960 remains. There is not a single banner or contemporary decoration, not a single TV monitor or modern distraction. And not a speck of dust, debris, or trash; the cathedral is absolutely spotless.



Adjacent to the main church is an expansive chapel built in 1955 where weekday Masses are offered.



It will come as no surprise to readers of this column that such an ideal edifice hosts occasional Tridentine Masses, the most renowned of which is the annual Assumption Day Solemn High Mass organized by Mater Ecclesiae Parish from the neighboring Diocese of Camden, New Jersey.

Tridentine Masses This Coming Week

Tue. 08/20 6:00 PM: High Mass at *St. John Resort Chapel, Plymouth* (St. Bernard of Clairvaux, Abbot & Doctor)

Comments? Ideas for a future column? Please e-mail info@windsorlatinmass.org. Previous columns are available at www.windsorlatinmass.org.