

## The Extraordinary Form

In 2007, Pope Benedict XVI issued the motu proprio *Summorum Pontificum*, a document which spoke of one Roman Rite of the Mass under two forms: the Ordinary Form (the 1970 Missal) and the Extraordinary Form (the 1962 Missal). *Summorum Pontificum* states that “where a group of the faithful attached to the previous liturgical tradition stably exists, the parish priest should willingly accede to their requests to celebrate Holy Mass according to the rite of the 1962 Roman Missal.” As the East End of Long Island had a stable community devoted to the 1962 Missal, the Extraordinary Form (EF) was celebrated by various priests to provide for that request. Prior to June of this year, Sunday Mass in the EF was celebrated at St. Isidore’s in Riverhead. Due to changes in diocesan personnel, Bishop Barres decided that the best way of ensuring the continuation of the EF in the diocese was to localize its celebration in the celebrants’ parishes. The past few months have been an adjustment period, but going forward, the East End will have the following schedule of Extraordinary Form Sunday Masses:

### East End EF Schedule

On the first, third, and fourth Sundays of the month, the EF will be held at St. Rosalie’s Chapel in East Quogue at 12:45 p.m. Normally, the first and third Sunday will be a Low Mass, and the fourth Sunday will be a Sung Mass. On the second and fifth Sundays of the month, the EF will be celebrated at St. Peter the Apostle in Amagansett at 1:30 p.m. Furthermore, on every Sunday of the month, the EF is celebrated at St. Matthew in Dix Hills at 12:30 p.m. Celebrations for feast days will be indicated on the respective parish calendars.

### Common Questions

*What is the Extraordinary Form?* – The Extraordinary Form is the Roman Mass celebrated according to the 1962 Roman Missal. It is also commonly referred to as the “Latin Mass,” the “Old Mass,” or the “pre-Vatican II Mass.” The “Ordinary Form” is what you will recognize as a regular Mass in English or Spanish.

*Didn’t Vatican II get rid of that form of the Mass?* – *Summorum Pontificum* is clear that the 1962 Missal was never abrogated. Pope Benedict noted that “what earlier generations held as sacred, remains sacred and great for us too, and it cannot be all of a sudden entirely forbidden or even considered harmful.”

*Why is everything except the homily in Latin?* – Just as many Jewish services use their religion’s ritual language (Hebrew) and Islamic services use their religion’s ritual language (Quranic Arabic), so too is the EF celebrated in the ritual language of Latin.

*Why does the priest have his back to the congregation?* – For the same reason that the people in the pew ahead of you do– because everyone is facing the same direction.

*Is this Mass better or worse than going to the Ordinary Form in English or Spanish?* – Neither. There is one Church, one Eucharist, one Priesthood, and one Faith. Both the 1962 Latin Mass and the 1970 Mass in English, Spanish, or other languages, are approved and good forms of worship.

*Does attending the EF fulfill my Sunday obligation?* – Yes, this is a regular Sunday Mass.

*Do I have to go to the Extraordinary Form?* – No. This is a parish Mass, and you are free to continue attending the English and Spanish Masses celebrated in Hampton Bays and East Quogue.

*Am I welcome to attend?* – Very much so! This is a parish Mass, and you are free to attend it as often or as seldom as you prefer. We have booklets at the East Quogue chapel to help you follow along.

In Jesus and Mary,

*Father John*