

✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS

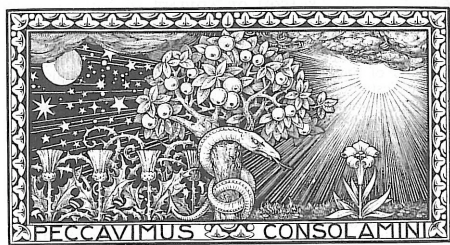
✠ **FEBRUARY 14, 2010 • QUINQUAGESIMA
• HOLY FACE SUNDAY •**



Today after Mass we open our annual Triduum of adoration and reparation to the Holy Face. The **blessing of throats** is again available after Mass, for those who missed last Sunday. Come to the rail after the **blessing of religious articles**. Then be sure to come back to Helfta Hall for a little Mardi Gras treat at our **St. Valentine's candy and bake sale**. **Catechism classes** are at **10:40 AM**. If you missed last Sunday's bulletin with its spiritual reading supplement, you may pick one up in the vestibule.

✠ THIS WEEK:

On **Monday (11:20 AM)** we continue our Holy Face Triduum, and remember to pray for our country on President's Day. **Tuesday** we close our Triduum with the **Feast of the Holy Face (8 & 11:20 AM)**. Don't forget to feast a little for Mardi Gras. You have the full **Ash Wednesday** schedule elsewhere in the bulletin. **Thursday** finds us already on our Lenten schedule (**8 & 11:20 AM, 5:00 PM**) as we honor **St. Bernadette**, and **Friday** is the **Feast of the Crown of Thorns**. We close the busy week with **Our Lady** on **Saturday** as we offer the restful Lenten Mass.



✠ ASH WEDNESDAY

Begin your Lent well by receiving Ashes at one of the many services we will offer on that day. **Ash Wednesday Masses** are at **8:00** and **11:20 AM** and **5:45 PM**. **Ashes** will be given out *before and after* all Masses. **Ashes** will also be distributed *after* the **3:00 PM Children's Stations of the Cross** at **3:20 PM**. Last ashes are at **6:45 PM**.

✠ LENTEN FRIDAY: THE CROWN OF THORNS

Come on our first Lenten Friday Evening of Recollection. Start your morning with confessions at **11:00 AM**, followed by a Holy Mass at **11:20 AM**. In the evening Confessions and the Rosary are at **5:15 PM** followed by a Low Mass at **5:45 PM** with the Sacred Heart Novena. At **6:45 PM** enjoy our Parish Lenten Supper, this week is Pizza Night – Bring a side dish to share. We'll provide the pizza. Then stay for the **7:30 PM** Stations, Sermon, Sorrowful Mother Novena, Blessing of the Sick, Benediction, Holy Communion, and Confessions.

✠ NEXT SUNDAY:

Catechism classes are at 10:40 AM. **Set your Missal:** Lent I with the collect of Our Lady and all the Saints, and for the living and the dead, Lenten preface. **Lenten Vespers** and **Benediction** are at **4:45 PM**.

✠ CALLING ALL COOKS

If you would like to prepare meals for our priests you can now go to our meal planning website, **cucina clerical** part of the Lots a Helping Hands network, and sign up for any available days on the monthly calendar.
www.lotsahelpinghands.com/c/622747/



Heretics are heretics and bear the name, because out of the articles of faith they choose at their taste and pleasure those which it seems good to them to believe, rejecting and denying others. And Catholics are Catholics, because without any choice or election they embrace, with an equal assurance and without exception, all the faith of the Church.

—Saint Francis de Sales

✠ POETRY CORNER

SAINT VALENTINE

I ALWAYS thought, before, a Valentine
Was paper-lace, held with a gory heart,
A rotund Cupid, with his gilded dart,
A sugared message: "Dear One, I am
thine!"
I pictured some coquettish Columbine,
Who snared poor Punchinello, with high
art,
Till he—great clumsy lout—could not
depart,
And for his clowning, could but weep and
pine!
But now—I know, O little Love of Mine,
Why men would hide them back of
paper-lace
And rosy garlands, where pale ribands
twine!
I, too, am dumb, when gazing on thy
face—
And glad enough to say, "Dear, I am
thine"—
In any fashion, by the good Saint's grace.

—Theda Kenyon



Servers

FEBRUARY 17, 18 AND 21, 2010

•WED 2/17 5:45 PM LOW: F. & N. Puglielli
•FRI 2/19 5:45 PM LOW: Simpsons
7:30 PM STATIONS AND BENEDICTION:
Simpsons and A.D. Kinnett
•SUN 2/21 7:30 AM LOW: A. & S. Brueggemann
9:00 AM HIGH: CHAPLAINS: R. Hill, J. Lotarski
TH: F. Puglielli AC's: A. Richesson, N. Puglielli
TORCH: J. Lacy, J. Simpson, S. & A. Arlinghausi
11:30 AM LOW: A. D. Kinnett, N. McClorey
4:45 PM VESPERS AND BENEDICTION: G. Miller
5:45 PM LOW: Divine Providence

Ushers

FEBRUARY 21, 2010

7:30 AM Kent Maki, Scott Pepiot, Volunteer, Volunteer
9:00 AM Mike Briggs, Mark Lotarski, Steve Weigand
11:30 AM Bob Uhlenbrock, Dennis Hille, Kirby Bischel, Volunteer
5:45 PM John Seyfried

Collection Report

Sunday February 7th\$3,540.00

Thank you for your generosity!
Remember St. Gertrude's in your will!

✠ THE CALENDAR

MON	2/15/10	SS FAUSTINUS & JOVITA, MM
	11:20 AM	Low Mass In Reparation for blasphemy (Mary Rose Uhlenbrock)
TUE	2/16/10	FERIAL DAY THE HOLY FACE
	8:00 AM	Low Mass Poor Souls for Mattingly family conversions
	11:20 AM	Low Mass Of the Holy Face and Closing of the Triduum: In Reparation to the Holy Face
WED	2/17/10	ASH WEDNESDAY FAST AND ABSTINENCE
	8:00 AM	Blessing of Ashes and Low Mass Poor Souls – St. Gertrude's needs
	8:45 AM	Distribution of Ashes after Mass
	10:45 AM	Confessions
	11:20 AM	Blessing and Distribution of Ashes
	12:00 PM	High Mass †Ralph Patton (Bernie Brueggemann)
	3:00 PM	Children's Stations
	3:20 PM	Distribution of Ashes
	5:00 PM	Rosary and Confessions
	5:20 PM	Penitential Litany
	5:40 PM	Distribution of Ashes
	5:45 PM	Low Mass Karen Puglielli (Francis & Nicholas)
	6:45 PM	Final Distribution of Ashes
THUR	2/18/10	FERIAL DAY ST SIMEON, BPM ST BERNADETTE
	8:00 AM	Low Mass Personal Intentions (Debi Ellis)
	11:20 AM	Low Mass †Charles & Elinor Richardson (M/M Mark Lotarski)
	5:00 PM	Low Mass Poor Souls for Wozny family conversions
FRI	2/19/10	FERIAL DAY THE CROWN OF THORNS
	8:00 AM	Low Mass †Justin
	11:00 AM	Confessions
	11:20 AM	Low Mass Stella Simpson (Bill Schauble)
	5:15 PM	Confessions and Rosary
	5:35 PM	Infant of Prague Novena VIII
	5:45 PM	Low Mass In honor of Our Mother of Perpetual Help for Anna, Pat and Patrick Omlor
	6:45 PM	Parish Lenten Supper
	7:15 PM	Confessions
	7:30 PM	Stations, Meditations, Sermon, Sorrowful Mother Novena IV, Blessing of the Sick and Benediction with Sacred Heart Novena, Holy Communion, Confessions
SAT	2/20/10	FERIAL DAY
	7:15 AM	Confessions
	7:30 AM	Low Mass In honor of St. Joseph (Tom & Stella Simpson)
	8:00 AM	Sermon, Low Mass Poor Souls - Favors received (Darlene Rentschler)
SUN	2/21/10	LENT I
	7:30 AM	Low Mass Katie Bischak, Thanks Katie (Mr. & Mrs. Victor Ritze)
	9:00 AM	High Mass In honor of the Mother of God, thanksgiving for petitions granted (Patrick Omlor)
	10:40 AM	Catechism Classes
	11:30 AM	Low Mass My daughter, Marta (Regina Gilliam)
	4:45 PM	Lenten Vespers and Benediction
	5:45 PM	Low Mass For the people of St. Gertrude's

✠ BISHOP'S CORNER

After Candlemas' cruel promise of early Spring, Winter has come for a second flight. Its severe beauty dazzles us, leaving everything white in its snow reflected light, cold and bright. The world has forgotten what Winter is in its obsession with "global warming." Our Creator, however, has seen fit to remind us as the Psalmist says, "He made us, and not we ourselves." Let us then praise God again for ice and snow, and do our best to get about His business each day, as weather permits.

Still, Spring waits at the door. "Holy Spring," Lent, comes for its annual visit on Wednesday, and surely Mother Nature will not long lag behind Mother Church. The longer days point the way, and we continue to pray for timely relief from Winter's blasts. Let us ask the Holy Souls to help us with this, and all of our needs this springtime of the soul, which this year we dedicate to them.

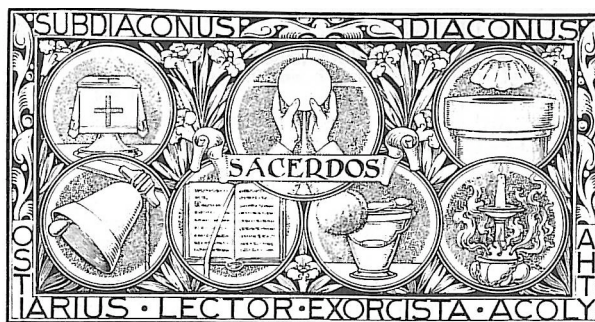
Happy St. Valentines' Day, and an enjoyable Mardi Gras to all, these last days before Lent. Relax and rejoice some before the penance comes, but do be thinking and planning how you will help the Poor Souls come Wednesday and its blessed Ashes. May they inspire us and help us to help them so that for all of us this will be the best Lent, because the most charitable Lent, ever.

Fr. Cekada has been working intently on the final touches for his book on the New Mass, the fruit of many years of research and thought and writing. Please pray St. Francis de Sales to bless this work, and render it fruitful for God's glory.

As usual, ashes will be given out all day long on Wednesday. Be thinking what time you and your family will come to receive this powerful sacramental. Start your Lent well. You will be surprised at what will follow.

God bless you for a blessed Shrovetide.

—Bishop Dolan



Light

Just where the road is roughest
We find a helping hand,
Just where the burden's hardest
Kind friends beside us stand;
Just when the hours are dreary
A song of joy rings true;
Just when the days are darkest,
The sunshine filters through.

Lent, as you know, must be characterized with the spirit of sacrifice, engendered by Christ's own sacrifice on the cross. Every sincere Catholic, heeding the call of the Church at this time, asks himself, "What shall I do in the way of self-denial to make this holy season profitable to me?" The Church, of course, asks you to follow the example of Our Lord. He fasted for forty days, and the Church asks you to do the same.

Our modern generation, however, does not take very kindly toward fasting, nor toward any kind of penance for that matter. Pleasure-loving Americans are able to find all kinds of objections to it. Some even question the validity of penance as a means to self-improvement. We hear them asking such questions as "What is the purpose of fasting?" "What good will it do me to inflict these sufferings and hardships upon myself?" "Is Almighty God pleased with me because I make myself miserable?" When the question is put so bluntly, the answer must also be blunt. Yes, it seems that God is pleased with you when you make yourself miserable—not because He rejoices in your misery, but because He rejoices in your sacrifice. Sacrifice, remember, means love, and if you are willing to make some sacrifice for God you thereby offer Him the greatest proof of your love.

An added attraction, so to say, is given us for Lent this year insofar as we can direct our Lenten fasting to the benefit of the Poor Souls in Purgatory, so helpless, so abandoned in their purifying flames. Set aside food and entertainment funds for Masses for these souls, which will also help feed poor mission priests, and support their apostolate.

This year, then, your Lenten sacrifice can do double duty. With one and the same sacrifice you can observe the fasting laws of the Church and also contribute more generously to the Poor Souls' relief in Masses, as well as by offering alms for the poor and our seminary. May your Lent do double duty this year!

How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds

*How sweet the Name of Jesus sounds
In a believer's ear!
It soothes his sorrows, heals his wounds
And drives away his fears!*

*It makes the wounded spirit whole
And calms the troubled breast;
'Tis manna to the hungry soul,
And to the weary, rest.*

*Dear Name! the rock on which I build,
My shield and hiding-place,
My never-failing treasury, fill'd
With boundless stores of grace,—*

*By Thee my prayers acceptance gain,
Although with sin defiled;
Satan accuses me in vain,
And I am own'd a Child.*

*Weak is the effort of my heart,
And cold my warmest thought;
But, when I see Thee as Thou art,
I'll praise Thee as I ought.*

*Till then, I would Thy love proclaim
With every fleeting breath;
And may the music of Thy Name
Refresh my soul in death!*

—John Newton (1725-1807)



**"Behold your instruction:
Sufferings for you; graces, which you
should obtain for others. A single soul
performing her actions in union with
the merits of My Holy Crown may
gain more than the whole
community."**

—Our Lord to Sr. M. Martha Chambon

*Suffer patiently for a while; your
winter will soon be over, and the
spring that succeeds will blossom
eternally.*

—Ven. Elizabeth Seton

The Heart of the Matter

The example of all the saints confirms the fundamental maxim of our Divine Redeemer, that the foundation of all solid virtue and of true sanctity, is to be laid by subduing the passions and dying to ourselves. Pride, sensuality, covetousness, and every vice must be rooted out of the heart, the senses must be mortified, the inconstancy of the mind must be settled, and its inclination to roving and dissipation fixed by recollection, and all depraved affections curbed. Both in cloisters and in the world, many Christians take pains to become virtuous by multiplying religious practices, yet lose in a great measure the fruit of their labors, because they never study with their whole hearts to die to themselves. So long as self-love reigns in their souls, almost without control, this will often blind and deceive them, and will easily infect even their good works, and their devotion will be liable to a thousand illusions, and always very imperfect. Hence religious persons, after many years spent in the rigorous observance of their rule, still fail upon the least trial or contradiction which thwarts their favorite inclination, and are stopped in their spiritual progress as it were by every grain of sand in their way: their whole life they crawl like base insects in the mire of their imperfections, whereas if they studied once in good earnest to curb sensuality and to renounce their own lights, their own will, and the inordinate love of themselves, difficulties would disappear before them, and they would in a short time arrive at the perfection of true virtue, and enjoy the liberty of the children of God, and His interior peace, the true road to which is only humility, meekness, and perfect self-denial. Did we know the treasure and happiness which this would procure us, we should, in imitation of the ancient holy monks, desire to meet with superiors who would exercise us by the severest trials, and think ourselves most obliged to those who apply the strongest remedies to purge and cure our sick souls.

—Fr. Butler

✠ LENTEN PREPARATION

THOUGHTS OF TODAY'S EPISTLE: THE SPECTRUM OF CHARITY

St Paul, writing to the Corinthians, ascribes to charity all the virtues that make a perfect man; "Charity is patient, is kind; charity envieth not, dealeth not perversely; is not puffed up, is not ambitious; seeketh not her own; is not provoked to anger; thinketh no evil; rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth with the truth, beareth all things, believeth all things, endureth all things" (*I Cor. xiii 4-7*). And writing to the Colossians he says: "Above all things have charity, which is the bond of perfection." (*Col. iii. 14*). "Let each one love his brother"; says St. Alphonsus Liguori. "We have each our faults. He, who has to put up with his brother's fault to-day, will have to be borne with himself to-morrow."

"Bear ye one another's burdens," writes the Apostle to the Galatians, "and so you shall fulfill the law of Christ; for if any man think himself to be something, whereas he is nothing, he deceiveth himself" (*Gal. vi. 2, 3*). The following homely lines contain a beautiful truth: –

*There is so much bad in the best of us,
There is so much good in the worst of us,
That it ill behooves any of us
To rail at the faults of the rest of us."*

DEVOTIONS FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Reflections

A truly pious soul will not fail to offer the holy sacrifice of the Mass and holy communion very frequently for the faithful departed. The Way of the Cross, the Rosary, novenas, and litanies are good devotions for the same purpose. The *De Profundis*, besides other indulgenced prayers and ejaculations, should be made use of daily for the relief of the poor holy souls in purgatory.

Nourish the most tender compassion for those who are now absolutely incapable of assisting themselves, and who must remain separated from God until the last farthing is paid, either by their own sufferings, or by the interposition of the faithful. Many powerful motives should induce you to be most fervent in assisting them. By this spiritual work of mercy you prove your love for God, you benefit your neighbor, and acquire great merit for yourself. You prove your love for God by interceding for those holy souls who are so dear to His divine Majesty, and whom He so ardently longs to glorify forever. You perform an act of the greatest charity toward these suffering, holy souls, by endeavoring to shorten their banishment where they

are tortured by a fire far more terrible than any earthly fire, and deprived of the sight of God, a torment more excruciating than all other pains; and you essentially serve your own soul by providing for yourself powerful advocates who will not forget you when they stand before God.

Let these considerations animate you to do all you can for the souls in purgatory. Devote fervently many prayers, good works, and various actions and mortifications to their relief, and endeavor to gain many indulgences for their benefit.



The heart of this good Mother is all love and mercy; she desires only to see us happy.

—Saint John Marie Vianney



FASTING & ABSTINENCE

RULES OF FAST: The laws of fast apply to persons between the ages of twenty-one and fifty-nine.

On a fast day one may eat one full meal and two light meatless meals, which together would not equal the main meal. Meat may be taken at the principal meal, except on days of complete abstinence. Liquids such as water, milk, and fruit juices may be taken between meals.

RULES OF ABSTINENCE: The laws of abstinence apply to everyone seven years of age and over. On a day of complete abstinence no meat, meat grave or soup made from meat may be taken. On a day of partial abstinence meat may be taken once.

TRADITIONAL DAYS OF FAST: All the days of Lent up until noon on Holy Saturday, Ember Days, the Vigils of Pentecost, the Immaculate Conception, Christmas and all Saints.

TRADITIONAL DAYS OF COMPLETE ABSTINENCE: Every Friday of the year, Ash Wednesday, Holy Saturday (until noon), the vigils of All Saints, the Immaculate Conception, and Christmas.

TRADITIONAL DAYS OF PARTIAL ABSTINENCE: Ember Wednesdays and Saturdays and the Vigil of Pentecost.

February 17th - Ash Wednesday

Begin your Lent well by receiving Ashes at one of the many services we will offer on that day.



Ash Wednesday Masses are at
8:00 and 11:30 AM and 5:45 PM.



Ashes will be given out *before and after* the Masses.

The Last Distribution of Ashes is at **6:45 PM.**

Ashes will also be distributed after the
3:00 PM Children's Stations of the Cross at 3:20 PM.

If you don't plan on doing anything else this Lent,
at least start it with your blessed ashes.

Daily Mass, or as often as possible,
is always an excellent Lenten observance.

Holy Mass, Confession, Holy Communion: a trinity uniquely Catholic.

Maybe this Lent you could finally start the family rosary?

And what about spiritual reading - 10 minutes?

Resolve to offer alms to the Seminary, the Church and the Poor.

Your Lent will only be as good as the effort you put into it start it well!

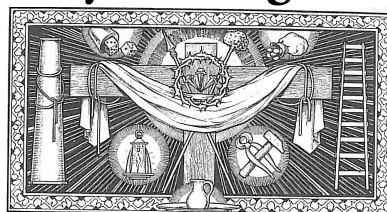
Start it with humble Holy Ashes, continue it with **Friday Evening**

Recollection: 5:45 PM Low Mass with homily **6:45 PM** a Delicious

Lenten Dinner - A different menu each week - Freewill offering.

7:30 PM A brief Way of the Cross followed by a short Sermon mediative
Sorrowful Mother Novena and Blessing of the Sick and Benediction to
conclude Holy Communion is distributed at the conclusion of Services.

Spend your Friday evening in Church with us!



The Progress Report

A Periodic Update on What's Happening at St. Gertrude the Great School

February 2010

We're now into the third quarter of the school year at SGG School. The students and teachers had a nice respite from classes and school work during the Christmas break but everyone's back in the classroom ready for the season ahead.

Got Priest? Yes!

In the Bishop's Corner a few weeks back Bishop Dolan related the charming anecdote of the first-graders who were devastated to learn that apparently none of the priests were available to teach their Bible History class; how one child started to cry and another with head in hand exclaimed, "Oh, no! what will we do?"

There's another amusing (and informative) detail from the story that we'd like to share with you. Miss Patton, the children's teacher, tells us that right at the moment when it looked as if all were lost and no priest would be found to teach the disappointed students, the children became determined not to take the prospect of a priest-less lesson lying down.

With the classroom quiet and the other children still upset, one of the little girls lifted her head and said "We want a priest." This simple statement rallied the other children and they then all began to chant in unison "We want a priest! We want a priest!"

It was clear to Miss Patton at that point that no one but a priest was going to do for these kids. Fortunately, the school is blessed to have four priests on staff and, as Bishop Dolan said, Fr. Larrabee saved the day.

This incident, though funny, shows that children—even as young as first graders—know there's something special about having priests teach them the Faith.

Speaking of Fr. Larrabee...

Father, who was ordained in June, started teaching at the school in the fall. Fr. Larrabee teaches a number of subjects to our high school students and like our other teachers is eminently qualified. He holds a degree in Classical Languages from UC Berkeley, with a specialization in Latin and Greek.

When the school year started in September Father was teaching just Latin and English Composition. Since then he's added American History and Geometry to his roster of classes. And since he did such a bang up job in that Bible History class, he's now teaching those demanding first-graders twice a week.

Father had never taught school before his assignment here at St Gertrude's but he tells us he's enjoying it very much. What's his favorite part of teaching? Working with the students, he says.

SGG School on Display

Thanks to the creativity and hard work of a couple of SGG School moms, a new bulletin board showcasing school events has been put up. It's in the hallway outside the bookstore and on it you'll see pictures of the varied activities, ceremonies and celebrations that take place at the school. This month the bulletin board has photos from the school's Christmas party, the Epiphany blessing ceremony conducted by Fr. McGuire and a religion class on Holy Baptism also led by Fr. McGuire. Besides highlighting the variety of activities the school children participate in, the photos also show how much the Faith is a part of daily life at St Gertrude the Great School. Stop by the bulletin board and take a look!

Bake Sale Today

Ash Wednesday and the start of Lent are just around the corner. That means lots of us will soon be giving up sweets and desserts until Easter. So there's no time to waste if you're going to indulge in a few delicacies before they're off-limits. Luckily, the school is holding its annual St Valentine's Day bake sale today in Helfta Hall. Lots of delicious items, such as cakes and candies, will be available for purchase. You won't want to miss this sale! Proceeds benefit SGG School.

Our Lady of Good Counsel please pray for the Students, Teachers, Administrators, Parents and Benefactors of St Gertrude the Great School.