
St. Gertrude the Great Roman Catholic Church

4900 Rialto Road, West Chester, Ohio 45069 • (513) 645-4212 • Fax: (513) 645-4212 • www.sgg.org • www.traditionalmass.org

Lent V Passion Sunday

(Judica Sunday)

March 25, 2012

The Introit of this day's Mass, which begins with the word **Judica**, is taken from the psalm usually recited at the foot of the altar but omitted on this Sunday, because on this day the high priests held council about our Lord. From this day the Church occupies herself exclusively with contemplation of the passion and death of Christ.

Judge me, O God, and distinguish my cause from the nation that is not holy; deliver me from the unjust and deceitful man, for Thou art my God and my strength.

New at St. Gertrude's? Welcome! In the vestibule you'll find a pamphlet explaining the traditional rules for the reception of Holy Communion. There is also a Visitor's Card to fill out if you want more information on St. Gertrude's or on the traditional Catholic Faith and the Latin Mass. A free information packet is available to newcomers; ask an Usher or inquire in the **Gift Shop**. Stop by **Helfta Hall**, our social hall, after Mass for refreshments.

Dress Code: *Ladies & Girls*—Please wear a modest dress and a head-covering. No tight fitting, low-cut, short, slit, or sleeveless dresses. No pants or shorts. *Men & Boys*—Please wear a shirt and tie, with either suit coat, jacket or sweater, and dress shoes. No T-shirts, sweat shirts, sweat pants, tennis shoes, sneakers, shorts, jeans or sports logo jackets.



**The Most Reverend
Daniel L. Dolan, Pastor**

**The Rev. Anthony Cekada
The Rev. Julian Larrabee
The Rev. Charles McGuire**

Traditional Latin Mass

Sunday Masses

**7:30 AM Low Mass
9:00 AM High Mass
11:30 AM Low Mass
5:45 PM Low Mass**

**Weekday Masses
See THE CALENDAR inside**

Registration: Please complete a card at the Gift Shop or phone the church. Collection envelopes will be mailed.

Mass Intentions: Individual Mass intentions as well as Purgatorial Society enrollments are available in the vestibule, and may be given in with the collection or at the church office.

Votive Candles: You may light candles before the numerous shrines located throughout the main church as well as in the baptistery. The suggested donation for a seven-day votive candle is \$5.00. The suggested donation for six-hour votives is 50 cents.

Confessions: Fridays at 10:55 AM, Friday evenings and Saturday mornings (please consult *THE CALENDAR inside for times*); most Sundays before the morning Masses.

Baptisms: Saturday morning by appointment. *At least one parent as well as the sponsor (only one sponsor is required) must be practicing Roman Catholics who do not belong to the Novus Ordo religion. Novus Ordo and non-practicing Catholics may not serve as sponsors. The Church will provide a sponsor in case of necessity.* The Churching of New Mothers follows the baptismal ceremony.

Blessing of Religious Articles: First Sunday of the month after all Masses.

Blessing of Expectant Mothers: Third Sunday of the month after all Masses.

Rosary Chain: To request prayers for special intentions, or to assist in the Rosary Chain, please call the office.

✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS ✠

✠ MARCH 25, 2012 • LENT V • • PASSION SUNDAY •

Today begins Passiontide, the most solemn period of the Church's year, leading up to the great feast of the Resurrection. The ushers will be distributing a leaflet of devotions to the Holy Face of Jesus at all Masses. Take one home to enrich your Lenten devotions. Our Annunciation Afternoon of Recollection commences following the 11:30 AM Mass. The **silent** afternoon starts with a silent film, *Joan of Arc*, during lunch (catered lunch available for purchase for only \$6.00), followed by a spiritual conference, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Rosary at 3:30, and First Vespers of the Annunciation at 4:45 PM. (Have your lunch ticket validated *after* Vespers, and the Bishop will cheerfully refund your \$6.00!)

✠ STATIONS IN LENT

For one last time, at **3:00 PM** on **Wednesday**, we offer the traditional Children's Stations of the Cross and Holy Communion, and **Friday** evening Stations, at **7:30 PM**.

✠ OUR SORROWFUL MOTHER



Come on Friday for the feast of the Seven Sorrows of our Lady (8:00 AM, 11:20 AM and 5:45 PM).

The last of our Lenten potlucks follows evening Mass, with Stations, the closing of the Sorrowful Mother Novena, and Benediction.

✠ NEXT SUNDAY - PALM SUNDAY



Palms will be blessed and distributed at

7:15 AM, and again at the ancient and beautiful blessing ceremony with procession, beginning in church at **8:50 AM**. Parents, bring your children to walk in the procession that will include a live donkey. Palms will

be available at every Mass. It is also the first Sunday of the month, with our regular second collection to support Most Holy Trinity Seminary. Due to the procession, there are no Sunday Classes. Vespers and Benediction will be at **4:45 PM**.

Set Your Missal: Palm Sunday, Preface of the Holy Cross. The Passion is read at each Mass.

✠ IN YOUR CHARITY . .

...please pray for our sick, especially Elizabeth Reis, Diane Powell, Elsa Bowman, and all the allergy sufferers; and for the intentions of two of our loyal 7:30 ushers: Kent Maki, recovering from surgery, and the repose of the soul of the mother of Scott Pepiot, who died last week.

✠ EASTER NOVENA / MEMORIAL FLOWER OFFERINGS

Envelopes for the Easter Novena of Masses and flower donations are available in the vestibule and in the pews. The Novena of Masses will be said daily beginning with Easter Sunday. Names of loved ones for the Memorial Flower Offerings will be listed in the Easter bulletin. Envelopes for the flower offerings must be returned by Monday, April 2nd, to be included in the Easter bulletin. Please be generous! May God reward you.

LUMEN CHRISTI

The Sanctuary Lamp will burn before the Blessed Sacrament for the next fortnight for the following intention:

Poor Souls

(Mr. & Mrs. Maki)

Ushers: APRIL 1, 2012

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

Collection Report

Sunday, March 18th\$3,308.00

Remember St. Gertrude's in your will!

✠ HONOR THE ANNUNCIATION

with this afternoon's special services, and tomorrow's Solemn High Mass at 11:20 AM, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Rosary at 1:15 PM, Vespers at 2:00 PM, followed by Benediction.



Joseph Most Just

St. Louis de Montfort composed a prayer to St. Joseph to be used in his fifth method of praying the Rosary (from "The Secret of the Rosary"). The prayer is said with the sorrowful mysteries and is modeled on the Hail Mary:

"Hail Joseph the just, Wisdom is with thee; blessed art thou among all men and blessed is Jesus, the fruit of Mary, thy faithful spouse. Holy Joseph, worthy foster-father of Jesus Christ, pray for us sinners and obtain divine Wisdom for us from God, now and at the hour of our death. Amen."

Servers: MARCH 26 - APRIL 1, 2012

• MON 3/26 11:20 AM SOLEMN HIGH: School Servers, Simpsons, P. Omlor, MCs: R. Vande Ryt, J. Soli
• FRI 3/30 5:45 PM LOW: Regular Friday Servers
7:30 PM STATIONS: Regular Servers, A.D. Kinnett
• SAT 3/31 7:30 AM LOW: Simpsons
8:10 AM LOW: M. Briggs
• SUN 4/1 7:30 AM LOW: Brueggemann Bros.
9:00 AM HIGH: MCs: R. Vande Ryt, J. Soli ACs: J. Simpson, A. Richesson CROSS: R. Hill
TH: T. Simpson TORCH MC: B. Lotarski
TORCH: J. Lacy, M. Simpson, P. Omlor, T. Lawrence, J. Morgan, S. & L. Arlinghaus, N. McClorey
BELLS: P. Omlor (Torch for Mass)
11:30 AM LOW: F. & N. Puglielli
4:45 PM VESPERS & BENEDICTION: G. Miller
5:45 PM LOW: G. Miller

SERVERS: For the Holy Week schedule, please consult the list posted in the Servers' Sacristy. If you are unable to serve for any of the times for which you are scheduled, you *must* contact Bishop Dolan as soon as possible to allow time to find a replacement.

The Agony in the Garden

O thou my dear Lord Jesus Christ
Who went all sorrowful to the tryst,
Well thou knewest in thy heart
Thou must suffer heavy smart.
To the Father madest thy plea
The chalice be removed from thee,
With agony wast so in heat
Down thee poured the bloody
sweat.
Daunted with fear of death, thou
pray'dst
Three times, and the third time
saidst,
Father may thy will be done,
Not mine. Then when thou hadst
done
Praying in agony and fear
A heavenly messenger did appear
To speak to thee in thy distress, Not
to leave thee comfortless.

When thy agony was past,
Didst find the disciples sleeping
fast.
As sorrowfully they lay there,
Didst with greatest love declare,
Ye had better watch and pray
Lest temptation lead you astray.

O dearest Jesus, all our Good,
I pray thee, by thy precious Blood
And by thy threefold holy prayer,
When my agony draws near,
When I am in the throes of death,
May I while I still draw breath
At all times place my will in thine
And overcome this flesh of mine.
When I am weak and prone to
yield,
Help me, God, be thou my shield.
From temptation may I be kept
And not succumb like those who
slept:
In Faith and Love and Hope be
true
Till soul bid body adieu.
Amen.

Sanctuary

And if you too grow weary, may this be
The hand to lend you strength, the
heart to spill
Its overflow into each artery
And pump fresh power into your
flagging will.
And may this be the voice to make you
hear
And these the eyes to give you back
new sight
To face the morning with no trace of
fear,
To find a brilliance in the blackest
night.
For I was weary and you made me
strong
Held the sweet cup of kindness to my
lips.
It was your feet that taught my own
their song,
Your words that fell like rain upon lost
ships.
Oh, if you sorrow, may mine be the
grace
To give my shoulder to your
shadowed face!

-W.H. Gerry

MONKSENSE

When he was dying St. Cuthbert
gave their abbot a
message for the monks of
Lindisfarne, in which he
stressed that Christians
must be one in faith. "Be
of one mind together",
he said, "and live peaceably with
other servants of God. Do not turn
away any of the faithful who seek
your hospitality: treat them kindly
and with charity, and do not think
yourselves better than others who
have the same faith and often live the
same life as you do. But do not hold
communion with those who err from
the unity of the Catholic faith."



The Snowdrop

A very pretty legend about the
beautiful flower we call the
snowdrop is related in Palestine:

When Eve was weeping because of
the dreariness of the earth after she
been driven from Eden, she longed
to see a flower once more, but none
grew in the place of her banishment.
The snow was falling, and Eve called
to an angel, who was floating
through the chill air, and told him of
her woes. Pitying her, he caught a
flake of snow, breathed upon it, and
behold! the first snowdrop. And
there was not a flower in the Paradise
which she had lost that was so
beautiful to her longing eyes as that
fair blossom.

Catechism Corner

What Every Christian Must Believe (continued)

8. With the Catholic Church the
Scriptures both of the Old and
New Testaments, were deposited by
the Apostles. It is the guardian and
interpreter of them, and the judge
of all controversies relating to them.
The Scriptures, thus interpreted,
together with the traditions of the
Apostles, are to be received and
admitted by all Christians for the
rule of their faith and practice.
9. We must believe that, when the
Pope speaks "ex cathedra"—i.e.,
when, in discharge of his office of
Pastor and Teacher of all Christians,
he defines, in virtue of his supreme
Apostolic authority, a doctrine of
faith or morals to be held by the
universal Church,—he is endowed,
by the Divine assistance promised
to him in Blessed Peter, with that
Infallibility with which the Divine
Redeemer willed that His Church
should be furnished, in defining
doctrines of faith or morals. And
therefore such definitions of the
Pope are irreformable of
themselves, and not in virtue of the
consent of the Church.

Obama Nonsense

Traditional Christian doctrine teaches that human dignity derives from man's having been made in the *imago Dei*. An immortal creature who forfeited his immortality by the Fall, he can nevertheless, through Christ's redemptive self-sacrifice, be reunited with God and received into eternal life. "Kantian Christianity," on the other hand, attributes man's dignity to his unique, autonomous personhood, whose nature (therefore his natural right) is to achieve personal fulfillment, and even self-transcendence. The Catholic Church (*that is, the One-World Church—Ed.*) was the last of the Christian churches to embrace this dangerous misconception of man and of his relationship to his God, and to his fellow men.

The Second Vatican Council and the postconciliar Church since 1965 result directly from this error. Three generations before, Catholicism had embarked on a program of *aggiornamento* that reconciled Her in the course of the 20th century with democratic government and democratic society, which She had previously resisted. Indeed, *aggiornamento* ended in wholehearted conversion. Since the pontificate of John XXIII, the Catholic Church has accepted as axiomatic the proposition that not only is liberal democracy compatible with Church doctrine, but Her inspired teachings actually imply democratic liberalism as the sole legitimate form of government, whose legitimacy derives from its grounding in the secular doctrine of human rights. The new spirit of the Church imposes itself daily in the pages of the Vatican's newspaper, *L'Osservatore Romano*, which emphasizes the modern Church's commitment to

equal rights, human rights, minority rights, women's rights, human development, economic rights, social justice, and most of the rest of the liberal rights agenda.

By acquiescing in the Kantian basis of modern liberal democracy, Christianity has embraced the liberal democratic commitment to the radical individuality of democratic man, conceived as an autonomous individual whose unassailable dignity is a function of his autonomy and his will to self-realization (the fulfillment of his "dreams" as American politicians say), irrespective of any other individual provided only that, in this business of realizing himself, he "does no harm" to anyone else. Obviously, this view of human beings is in diametrical opposition to that of traditional Christianity which attributes human dignity to the divine spark each person carries within himself, and to his place in the hierarchical chain; his relationship to inorganic and inanimate objects, to the animals, to his fellow men, to the angels, and finally to the Creator. Such a creature has no need of "rights" or of "freedom"—an illusory notion in any case—though certain liberties, recognized over the centuries by both the Church and the state, are clearly appropriate to his nature. But these liberties are not contingent upon liberal democracy, which they precede by millennia.

Chilton Williamson, Jr.
What's Wrong With the World
Chronicles, April 2012

Obama-Nation of Desolation

Obama was a student of the ruthless tactics of Saul Alinsky, the left-wing agitator who authored the landmark **Rules for Radicals: A Pragmatic Primer for Realistic Radicals** in

1971. Mike Kruglik, Obama's Chicago instructor in Alinsky methods, said Obama was the best student of Alinsky tactics he ever had.

As is stated in *Rules for Radicals*, Alinsky's *foundational principles* are:

1. There is no such thing as dogma, all truth is relative.
2. There is no such thing as a fixed rule of ethics.
3. Corruption in the leader is a kind of virtue.

This is the school in which Barack Obama was formed: no dogma, no objective truth, no fixed standards of ethics; the end justifies the means; and corruption in the leader is raised to the level of virtue.

How can anyone believe anything Obama says? There is no fixed standard of ethics preventing him from lying to achieve whatever aims he deems fit.

John Vennari
What Obama Learned from Alinsky
Catholic Family News, March 2012

Saul Alinsky's dedication page in **Rules for Radicals** reads: "Lest we forget at least an over-the-shoulder acknowledgement to the very first radical; from all our legends, mythology, and history ... the first radical known to man who rebelled against the establishment and did it so effectively that he at least won his own kingdom—Lucifer."

Obama's guru, Alinsky, dedicated his handbook to the Devil.

"I am a Catholic. As far as possible I go to Mass every day. This is a rosary. As far as possible, I kneel down and tell these beads every day. If you reject me on account of my religion, I shall thank God that He has spared me the indignity of being your representative!"

—Hilaire Belloc, in a campaign speech before being elected to Parliament

✠ HOLY WEEK ✠

PALM SUNDAY

7:15 AM Blessing and distribution of Palms, **Low Mass**

8:50 AM Blessing of Palms, Procession, **High Mass**

The beautiful Procession and High Mass of Palm Sunday is magnificent, and well worth the extra time. Bring the children to the Procession!

N.B. If you are late leaving the 7:30 Mass (around 9:30 or so) or arriving early for the 11:30 Mass, please be so kind as not to start or drive your car in the parking lot during the Procession or the ceremony outside the doors of the Church.

Thank you for your cooperation.

11:30 AM **Low Mass**

4:45 PM **Vespers and Benediction**

5:45 PM **Low Mass**

SPY WEDNESDAY

DAY OF FAST

6:30 PM The Office of Tenebrae

8:30 PM Church decorating for Holy Thursday

MAUNDY THURSDAY

DAY OF FAST

9:00 AM **Pontifical High Mass**, Blessing of the Oils, Procession to the Altar of Repose, Vespers, Stripping of the Altar, Potluck Luncheon

Adoration continues at the Sepulchre until 12:00 Noon on Good Friday.

1:30 PM The Maundy (Washing of the feet)

6:30 PM The Office of Tenebrae

All Night Adoration

GOOD FRIDAY

DAY OF FAST AND ABSTINENCE

Adoration at the Sepulchre continues till Noon

11:25 AM Stations of the Cross

12:00 PM Tre Ore

12:15 PM **Mass of the Presanctified**, Adoration of the Cross

2:15 PM Tre Ore Devotions and Sermon

3:00 PM Blessing with the Relic of the True Cross, Vespers

3:00 PM **Confessions**

6:30 PM The Office of Tenebrae

8:30 PM Church decorating for Holy Saturday

Come when you can; leave when you must.

HOLY SATURDAY

FAST AND ABSTINENCE ENDS AT NOON

8:00 AM **Easter Vigil**: Blessing of the Fire, Prophecies, Blessing of the Font, Holy Baptism, First Mass of Easter, Vespers, Blessing of Easter Food

Everyone is invited to the complimentary Easter Luncheon following Mass.

4:00 PM **Confessions**

EASTER SUNDAY

6:00 AM Solemn Matins and Lauds

7:30 AM **Easter Sunrise Low Mass**

9:00 AM **Solemn High Mass**

11:30 AM **Low Mass with Benediction**

6:00 PM Vespers

(No 5:45 PM Mass on Easter Sunday)

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

GOOD FRIDAY 3:00 - 4:00 PM

HOLY SATURDAY 4:00 - 5:00 PM

PASSIONTIDE / HOLY WEEK VOLUNTEERS

Katie and her Sacristy crew welcome all helpers the next two weeks to assist with decorating, cleaning & polishing the vessels and church ornaments, ironing altar and Mass linens, and other tasks needed to help set up for the ceremonies. Keep in mind our general need for many holy helpers on the evenings of Spy Wednesday and Good Friday, after Tenebrae. If you can spare an hour or two, please leave a message for Katie at (513) 251-3895.

God bless you!

*The faithful who devote themselves without compensation to the making and repairing of church ornaments and liturgical vestments, as often as they devoutly recite the invocation: **Jesus, the way, the truth, and the life, have mercy on us**, while engaged in this work, may gain:*

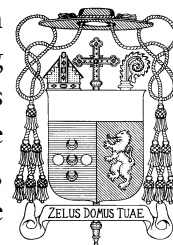
An indulgence of 300 days (S.P. Ap., June 2, 1933 and June 14, 1949).

Aspiration at the Elevation

At Mass, when the priest elevates the Body of Christ, say: "Behold the salvation of the world, the Word of the Father, a true sacrifice, living flesh, the whole Godhead, true Man. Hail, cause of our creation! Hail, price of our redemption! Hail viaticum of our journey! Hail, reward of our hope! Hail, consolation of our time of waiting! Be Thou our joy Who art to be our reward; let our glory be in Thee throughout all ages for ever. Amen."

✠ BISHOP'S CORNER ✠

All of nature, it seemed, was in bloom for Laetare weekend, and *rejoice* we did. The school children sang a heartrendingly sweet St. Patrick's Breastplate ("I bind unto myself today") on Saturday morning just as I was finishing my Mass at St. Joseph's altar, beside St. Patrick's shrine. The Solemn High Mass was celebrated by a bona fide son of Erin, and the sacred ministers wore white and green dalmatics we never before had occasion to use. The altar was all white and green and gold for this beloved saint, whose patronage extends even to our dear Nigerians. Afterwards we gathered for an enjoyable festive breakfast, one of two meals Mark Lotarski provided for this weekend.



For Sunday we went to rose, and rejoiced at the thought of the Resurrection, soon to come. **Fr. McKenna** ministered to the faithful still of St. Clare, now comfortably housed in a beautifully-fitted domestic chapel. **Fr. Larrabee** assisted me here, while **Fr. Cekada**, having caught the bug that's going around, nevertheless played and sang for another beautiful High Mass. That afternoon he flew to Florida, where he was soon stricken as well by "Spring Fever" (as were some of us here), i.e. afflicted by allergies, severe because Spring came with Summer strength, and of a sudden.

But, "no rest for the wicked," as my mother used to say. Monday's Solemn Mass for good St. Joseph was a bit of a scramble due to a scheduling mix-up, but everything proceeded serenely for the "quiet saint." The traditional procession and hot cross bun blessing followed Mass, and then a nice lunch. Vespers with the school children alternating with clergy closed this perfect feast day, or rather Our Lord did, giving His Eucharistic blessing to those who "kept the feast" as Christians used to, and sometimes manage yet today. Thanks be to God for three days of grace, and your generosity for St. Joseph's Table. The poor will eat well from the food gathered and given for good St. Joseph.

Monday was also the fifteenth ordination anniversary of **Fr. Gilles Roger**, of Rennes, France, another fine priest-son of St. Gertrude. I called to congratulate him, and learned that he had planned nothing special...just two Masses for St. Joseph (one in a distant chapel dedicated in his honor) and taking care of his boarding students. Twice a week the school boys spend the night to save on driving distances, and Father was getting together supper when I called.

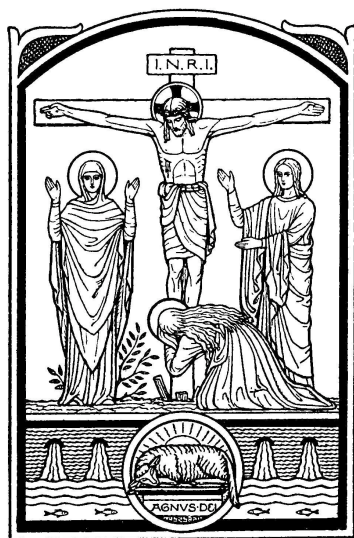
We've been enjoying cookouts these warm days, and eating on our deck under the aegis of indefatigable **Fr. McKenna**, who is an expert at the grill. The warm weather has favored as well the concrete work to complete the first stage of the cloister project. We hope to have everything ship-shape for Palm Sunday's Procession. I hope you will be there. The donkeys have promised to come.

Come by this afternoon for some or all of the Annunciation Silent Recollection, and tomorrow for the feast itself, another Solemn Mass, and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Passiontide! Make this week count. Cling to the beautiful and well-selected Daily Considerations on Charity (thanks, Gloria!), read them over and over, meditate them well. See you for the Sorrowful Mother on Friday?

May Jesus, Mary, and Joseph bless you these blessed days of Passiontide!

—Bishop Dolan



"The resurrection of Lazarus may be regarded by us also as a type of the Sacrament of Penance. Jesus alone has the power to convert the heart, but he delegates to his Apostles and ministers the office of freeing Lazarus from the bands and the winding-sheet which envelop him."

—Ildefonso Schuster

"Whenever you are tempted against faith, say to Satan: 'You left the church of the angels, and you want me to leave the church of the saints. Go away! I'll have nothing to do with you. I belong to Holy Church, and I will never forsake her.'" -St Francis de Sales

✠ THE CALENDAR

Weekday webcast Masses are marked with a 

MON	3/26/12	ANNUNCIATION OF THE BVM	
	8:00 AM	Low Mass	Fr. McKenna's Intentions
	11:20 AM	Solemn High Mass	Special Intention (<i>Christopher P. Browne</i>)
	1:15 PM	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary	
	2:00 PM	Vespers and Benediction	
TUE	3/27/12	ST JOHN DAMASCENE, CD	FAST
	8:00 AM	Low Mass	Special Intention-Deceased (<i>Kirby & Jean Bischel</i>)
	11:20 AM	High Mass	Fr. McKenna's Intentions
	12:20 PM	Vespers	
	5:00 PM	Low Mass	Poor Souls-Gratitude-†Kathy Brown (<i>DJR</i>)
	6:30 PM	Choir Practice	
WED	3/28/12	ST JOHN CAPISTRAN, C	FAST
	8:00 AM	Low Mass	†Paul Puglielli (<i>Paul & Karen Puglielli</i>)
	11:20 AM	High Mass	†Stella Simpson (<i>The Patton Family</i>)
	12:20 PM	Vespers	
	3:00 PM	Children's Stations and Holy Communion	
	5:00 PM	Low Mass	Poor Souls (<i>Chris & Paige McClorey</i>)
	6:30 PM	Choir Practice	
THUR	3/29/12	FERIAL DAY	FAST
	8:00 AM	Low Mass	Michael Brant (<i>St. Gertrude the Great Church</i>)
	11:20 AM	High Mass	†John J. Safrey-25th Anniversary (<i>Gloria Zbilicki</i>)
	12:20 PM	Vespers	
	5:00 PM	Low Mass	†Jim Horack (<i>Simpson Family</i>)
FRI	3/30/12	SEVEN SORROWS OF THE BVM	FAST
	8:00 AM	Low Mass	Honor of Blessed Mother (<i>Tom Simpson</i>)
	10:55 AM	Confessions	
	11:20 AM	High Mass	†Helen LeBrun (<i>Joan Landry</i>)
	12:30 PM	Vespers	
	5:15 PM	Rosary and Confessions	
	5:45 PM	Low Mass	†Tom & Helen Morris (<i>Carol Niehaus</i>) with Homily, Sacred Heart Novena
	6:45 PM	Lenten Potluck Supper	
	7:30 PM	Stations, Sermonette, Closing of Sorrowful Mother Novena, Blessing of the Sick, Benediction, Holy Communion	
SAT	3/31/12	FERIAL DAY	FAST
	7:15 AM	Confessions	
	7:30 AM	Low Mass	†Stella Simpson (<i>Tom Simpson</i>)
	8:10 AM	Sermon, Low Mass	†Michael Hinton (<i>H.O. & Becky Hinton</i>)

SUN	4/1/12	PALM SUNDAY
	7:15 AM	Blessing of Palms, Distribution
	7:30 AM	Low Mass Poor Souls (<i>Mary Brueggemann</i>)
	8:50 AM	Blessing of Palms, Procession and High Mass For the People of St. Gertrude (<i>Mom & Hannah</i>)
	11:30 AM	Low Mass Robert F. Brockman Family (<i>Jane & Rob Brockman</i>)
	4:45 PM	Vespers and Benediction
	5:45 PM	Low Mass Our Lady of LaSalette-Poor Souls of Priests (<i>JCS</i>)

LENTEN WORK OF CHARITY . .

"I was sick and you visited me, or wrote me a note..."

Diane Powell	Elizabeth Reis
577 Free Soil Road	c/o Shawneespring
Georgetown, OH 45121	10111 Simonson Road
	Harrison, OH 45030

Thanking God For His Gifts To Others According to St. Gertrude

One of the principles of the spirituality of St. Gertrude, that privileged friend of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, is the following:

When we thank God for graces bestowed on others, with confident hope of receiving the like ourselves, we merit, in some degree, to receive those same gifts ourselves.

Therefore, thank God for St. Joseph, and the graces bestowed upon him.

May Love Lead Us through Lent

I once asked an eighty-four-year-old parishioner how she was doing taking care of her housebound husband. She said it was hard, but "love gets you through...without love, there's no way!"

If Lent were about will power, it would be a dead end. Lent is about recognizing the love of Christ that moves me toward Him and away from sin. Only His love for me can lead me through the prayer, fasting, and almsgiving of this sacred season. "Love gets you through ... without love, there's no way!"

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

PASSION SUNDAY

Thought: "Be ye kind one to another; merciful, forgiving one another, even as God hath forgiven you in Christ"

(Eph. iv:32)

Meditation: He who has charity is not subject to anger, for St. Paul tells us that charity is patient, blind, and meek toward everyone. How often do we not get angry at trifles. We complain, we get excited, we speak haughtily, and for several days we remain in this condition. But you will say, I am accustomed to speak thus, and then my anger is soon over. You ought rather to say that you have not charity, which is patient and meek, and that you do not behave yourself as befits a good Christian. Tell me, if you had charity, would you not bear patiently, and even cheerfully, a word that was said against you, an insult, or some trifling wrong? "But he attacked my good name!" Ah, my friend, what good opinion do you want people to have of you—you, who ought to know your faults better than they? (St. John Vianney)

Prayer: When Thine enemies calumniated Thee, most meek Jesus, Thou didst answer them with tender words, whilst we can scarcely bear a hard word, and defend and avenge ourselves most passionately. Ah! pardon us our impatience, and grant us the grace to bear patiently the wrongs done us and to answer with gentleness for Thy glory and the salvation of our neighbor. Amen.

MONDAY IN PASSION WEEK

THE ANNUNCIATION

Thought: All perfection consists in the love of God; and the perfection of divine love consists in the union of our will with that of God.

(St. Alphonsus)

Meditation: Humility and charity are indivisible, and so joined and united together that one is never found without the other, if they are true and unfeigned. As soon as humility has abased itself, charity raises itself up toward Heaven. These two virtues are like Jacob's

ladder, upon which the angels were going up and coming down; they ascended in order to descend again. Humility always makes us descend, in order to lower, despise, and abase ourselves; and in proportion as we abase ourselves, we render ourselves more capable of ascending to the top of this ladder where we shall meet the Eternal Father.

Our Lady, being reassured by the angel and having learned what God willed to do, made this supreme act of humility, saying: I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let it be done to me as you say. She saw herself raised to the highest dignity that ever was or will be, yet the sacred Virgin is not puffed up, but declares that she will always remain the handmaid of the Divine Majesty, abandoning herself to the mercy of His divine will. Our Lady humbled herself and acknowledged herself unworthy of being raised to the high dignity of Mother of God; therefore she was made to be His Mother, for she had no sooner uttered the protestation of her littleness than, having abandoned herself to Him by an act of incomparable charity, she became the Mother of the Most High, who is the Saviour of our souls. (St. Francis de Sales)

Prayer: Most Blessed and Holy Virgin Mother, by the great power of thy intercession with God, obtain for me, I beseech thee, contentment and thankfulness to God for all that He has given me. As thou wert filled with the deepest peace of soul and inward happiness because Jesus was with thee, so may I also, keeping Jesus in my heart, be satisfied with whatever comes to me and rejoice only to see the Will of God perfectly accomplished in every detail of my life. Amen.

TUESDAY IN PASSION WEEK

Thought: Charity...is not puffed up; is not ambitious, seeketh not her own.

(1 Cor. xiii:4-7)

Meditation: Charity, says St. Paul, is not puffed up, does not know what it is to command arrogantly, to reprove with bitterness, to speak harshly, still less to treat anyone whatever with contempt. Now humility excels in all these holy things, whilst pride acts in an entirely opposite manner. Charity is disinterested, and

humility is also. As it does not esteem itself and esteems others as being better than itself, it places the interests of others always before its own. Pride thinks and acts in a quite opposite manner.

Resolution: I will love God for Himself, and for love of Him I will serve those who bear His image. I will give my heart to Him, and my hands to my neighbor, that he may be united to God.

WEDNESDAY IN PASSION WEEK

Thought: Be careful and do not lightly condemn the actions of others. We must consider the intention of our neighbor, which is often good and pure, although the act itself seems blameworthy.

(St. Ignatius)

Meditation: Men's actions are very difficult to judge. Their real character depends in a great measure on the motives which prompt them, and those motives are invisible to us. Appearances are often against what we afterward discover to have been deeds of virtue.

What mistakes have we not made in judging others! Have we not always found in our past experience that on the whole our kind interpretations were truer than our harsh ones? How many times in life have we been wrong when we put a kind construction on the conduct of others? We shall not need our fingers to count those mistakes upon.

Prayer: O God, help me understand how full of merit, how worthy of Your child it is to forgive. You have pardoned my innumerable sins; You are never weary of forgiving. Let me, likewise, for Your sake, pardon those who have offended me; and the more they have grieved me, the more may my pardon be generous and full. Remove from my heart all the remains of resentments, hatreds, and unkindnesses. Amen.

THURSDAY IN PASSION WEEK

Thought: Bearing with the imperfections of our neighbor is one of the chief characteristics of our love for him. Consideration of others is the offspring of charity.

(St. Francis de Sales)

Meditation: St. Gertrude once prayed the Lord, at the time of the Carnival, to show her some special service pleasing to Him that she might perform on those three days, on which He had to suffer so many insults from the world. The Lord made her this reply: “My daughter, you will never be able to do Me a greater service at any time than bearing patiently, in honor of My Passion, whatever tribulation may come to you, whether it be interior or exterior, always forcing yourself to do all those things that are most contrary to your desires.”

Prayer: Teach us, meek Lord Jesus, to have no will but Thy Will, so that everything that happens may be welcome for Thy sake. Teach us to bear patiently our inward weaknesses and the injuries which others inflict Upon us, and to esteem them as so many precious fragments of Thy holy cross. Amen.

FRIDAY IN PASSION WEEK

THE SEVEN SORROWS OF THE BVM

Thought: It will be a great consolation for us at the hour of death to know that we are to be judged by Him whom we have loved above all things during life. (St. Teresa)

Meditation: What does it mean to love God above all things and more than ourselves? I tell you that it means to prefer Him to all created things. It means to rather lose fortune, good name, parents, friends, children, husband, or wife, and even our own life, than to lose God by committing a mortal sin. St. Augustine tells us, that to love God perfectly means to love Him without measure, even if there were no heaven to hope for, or hell to fear. It means to love Him with the whole capacity of our heart. If you ask for the reason, it is, because God is infinitely amiable, and worthy of being loved. When we really love him, then neither sufferings, nor persecutions, nor contempt, nor life, nor death are capable of taking this love away from us, which we owe to God. (St. John Vianney)

Prayer: I love Thee, dear Jesus, Who, for love of me, hast made Thyself like unto me; kindle within me the flame of sacred love which Thou didst bring from Heaven, that, loving Thee, I may grow into Thy likeness. Amen.

SATURDAY IN PASSION WEEK

Thought: God sometimes gives a certain union of heart and tender love for our neighbor, which is one of the greatest and most excellent gifts that His Divine bounty bestows on man. (St. Francis de Sales)

Meditation: The union or concord which we ought to have with each other has been earnestly preached, recommended and taught to us by Our Lord, equally in word and example. He does this so forcibly and in such admirable terms that He appears to forget to recommend to us the love we ought to have for Himself and for His Heavenly Father. He does this to better inculcate in us the love and union He wants us to have for one another. He even calls the Commandment of love for the neighbor *His* Commandment, His most cherished one. He came into this world to teach us, as our divine Master. Yet nothing is so stressed, nothing stated so completely as the observance of this Commandment. He does so with good reason, for the beloved of the Beloved, the great Apostle St. John, assures us that anyone who says that he loves God and does not love his neighbor is a liar. On the other hand, he who says he loves his neighbor but does not love God also contradicts the truth. That simply cannot be. To love God without loving the neighbor, who is created in His image and likeness, is impossible. (St. Francis de Sales)

Prayer: I am weak, my Lord, and poor, and can do little of what I would for my neighbor. O Thou who art infinitely rich, bless my friends and neighbors. Keep us all together, in one great company, by Thy grace and love. Grant that we may come safely through all the perils of this life, and at last be Thy friends forever at the great wedding feast of Heaven. I ask it of Thy Sacred Heart, through the heart of Thy Virgin Mother, and by the friendly intercession of all Thy dear angels and saints. Amen.



St. Gertrude the Great Church
4900 Rialto Rd., West Chester, OH 45069
(513) 645-4212

Lent 2012

Charity



The Sacred Heart: pen-and-ink drawing
by Saint Margaret Mary or one of her novices (1685)

“The measure of love is to love without measure.”

-St. Francis de Sales

Daily Considerations

and

Prayers for Lent