

St. Gertrude the Great Roman Catholic Church

4900 Rialto Road, West Chester, Ohio 45069 • (513) 645-4212 • Fax: (513) 645-4214 • www.sgg.org • www.traditionalmass.org

Advent II

December 9, 2012

*Behold the Lord shall
come to save the nations;
and the Lord shall make
the glory
of his voice to be heard
in the joy of your heart.*

*O Lord Jesus, by the praise
Thou didst accord to Thy
forerunner St. John,
inflame our hearts with
love to imitate his
steadfastness and penance,
that we may never do
anything to please man
which may displease Thee.*



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

**The Rev. Anthony Cekada
The Rev. Charles McGuire
The Rev. Vili Lehtoranta**

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**

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.

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

✠ DECEMBER 9, 2012 • ADVENT II • WITHIN THE OCTAVE •

The Legion of Decency Pledge is renewed today. St. Nicholas will be visiting the children today after the 9:00 and 11:30 AM Masses. Adults, why not stop by and wish him a happy belated Feast Day (*December 6th*) as you have a donut and some coffee? Sunday classes are at 10:40 AM.

✠ 2013 COLLECTION ENVELOPES

Next year's collection envelopes will be available in the vestibule as soon as possible. Please look for your family name and pick up your envelopes. If you need a set of envelopes, please call the church office.

*Let us pray to the Blessed Virgin, and she
will go with us on the road to Heaven.*

— St. John Vianney

✠ THIS WEEK

The Immaculate Conception Novena continues each day of the Octave of this glorious Marian Feast. Honor Our Lady as well on the feasts of her Holy House of **Loretto (Monday)** and of **Our Lady of Guadalupe (Wednesday)**, the Empress of the Americas. **Thursday** comes another wise virgin of Advent, the martyr **St. Lucy**, who is invoked for afflictions of the eyes. The Novena closes on **Saturday**, the **Octave Day of the Immaculate Conception**.

✠ NEXT SUNDAY

Gaudete Sunday. The blessing of expectant mothers follows all Masses. St. Gertrude the Great School's Craft and Christmas Cookie Sale takes place in Helfta Hall.

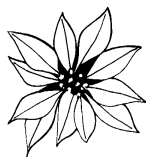
Set Your Missal: Advent III with commemoration of St. Eusebius and Our Lady in Advent, Trinity Preface.

✠ 2013 ALL SAINTS CALENDAR

Next year's calendar is available for purchase in the Gift Shop for only \$9.00. Every Catholic home should have a traditional calendar. **Visit our Gift Shop** for many wonderful Christmas ideas, starting with these beautiful color calendars.

✠ CHRISTMAS MASS NOVENA

Remember your loved ones in our Christmas Novena of Masses which begins Christmas Day – the perfect gift! Envelopes may be found in the pews. Fill them out and return them to the church office or the collection basket.



✠ POINSETTIA MEMORIAL

We welcome contributions to defray the cost of the Christmas flowers. If you wish to make a donation in memory of a loved one, please fill out the special Christmas Flower Offering envelope available in the vestibule and pews, and return to an usher or drop off at the Gift Shop or church office. *To have your loved ones' names included in the special Christmas memorial program, please turn in your envelope no later than Sunday, December 16th.*

✠ A THANKSGIVING MESSAGE

Eric Galati from Long Island called the church on Thanksgiving Day and left this message for Bishop Dolan: *"Your Lordship, I received yesterday your letter and the check of charity; because we are refugees and we were devastated by Hurricane Sandy here in New York; I thank you ever so much for your Christian charity, and please give our love and regards to the parishioners and to Father Cekada."*



We give our sincere sympathy, with the promise of our prayers, to Eldon and Dorothy Neukam. Eldon's father, Carl Neukam, died recently at almost the age of 100. May he rest in peace.

✠ HEALTH OF THE SICK, PRAY FOR US!

Please remember Bishop Dolan, Charles Henry, John Seyfried, and Mary Black in your prayers, and Gerry Keaveney's mother, who is dying, along with all of our sick and shut-in. Margaret Sutton asks a little prayer for her dear mother Nellie, and sister Cathy.

Collection Report

Sunday, December 2nd\$4,159.00
Second Collection\$874.00

NOVENA PRAYER FOR ADVENT

*Hail and blessed be the hour and
moment in which the Son of God
was born of the Most Pure Virgin
Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem,
in piercing cold. At that hour,
vouchsafe, O my God! to hear my
prayer and grant my desires through
the merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ
and of His Blessed Mother. Amen.*

*(Traditionally said 15 times a day
from St. Andrew's Day until Christmas.)*

*A Christian should love Mary,
and think the best of her.
— St. Anthony Mary Claret*

✠ CONGRATULATIONS...

...and best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Patton, who were joined in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony on 12/1/2012.



Congratulations as well to Shannon and Jeffrey Kamphaus on the baptism of their daughter, Lily Mae, on 12/8/2012.



*Be our senses rid of every encumbrance,
our souls alight with quenchless flame,
as we await your coming, Lord.*

Ushers: DECEMBER 16, 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 Bischel, Volunteer
5:45 PM VOLUNTEER, PLEASE

Servers: DECEMBER 10 - 16, 2012

FRI 12/14 5:45 PM LOW: Friday Night Servers

SAT 12/15 7:30 AM LOW: Simpsons
8:10 AM LOW: M. Briggs

SUN 12/16 7:30 AM LOW: Brueggemann Bros.
9:00 AM HIGH: MC: J. Soli ACs: A. & P. Lawrence TH: A. Richesson TORCH: J. & J. Morgan, A. Soli, T. Lawrence
11:30 AM LOW: F. & N. Puglielli
5:45 PM LOW: G. Miller



The Confessional

My Sorrow diligent would sweep
That dingy room infest
With dust (thereby I mean my soul}
Because she hath a Guest
Who doth require that self-same room
Be garnished for His rest.

And Sorrow (who had washed His feet
Where He before had been)
Took the long broom of Memory
And swept the corners clean,
Till in the midst of the fair floor
The sum of dust was seen.

It lay there, settled by her tears,
That fell the while she swept
Light fluffs of grey and earthly dregs;
And over these she wept
For all were come since last her Guest
Within the room had slept.

And, for nor broom nor tears had power
To lift the clods of ill,
She called one servant of her Guest
Who came with right good will,
For, by his sweet Lord's bidding, he
Waiteth on Sorrow still;

So, seeing she had done her part
As far as in her lay
And had intent to keep the place
More cleanly from that day,
Did with his Master's dust-pan come
And take the dust away.

She thankèd him, and Him who sent
Such succor, and she spread
Fair sheets of Thankfulness and Love
Upon her Master's bed
Then on the new-scoured threshold
stood
And listened for His tread.

— Helen Parry Eden

*With gratitude to the Fathers who dedicate themselves
to the apostolate of the confessional. Make a good, and
timely confession for Christmas yourself.*

Immaculate Clarity

How appropriate that commemoration of the events that led to the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe begin immediately after the feast of the Immaculate Conception. For Mary, preserved from original sin, knows that the deepest and truest need of our heart is to be loved by God and to experience the unique preference he has for each of us. True obedience flows from our rejoicing over this preference. The serpent lied to Eve and made her think that the greatest human need is to be as powerful as God. We have sustained this wound, which makes us mistakenly think that to achieve and to impress is more satisfying than simply to be loved, when the merest reflection shows the opposite to be true. We see the interplay between Mary's sinless clarity and the wound of original sin in her dialogue with Juan Diego, when he complains that he is not accomplished enough to be emissary to the Bishop. Mary reminds him that he is chosen, he has been preferred, and this is all that is necessary; in fact, this is everything. Let us pray to our Lady for our conversion that our experience may teach us that it is not relying on accomplishments, but rather rejoicing in his love that makes our lives bear the fruit of his presence.

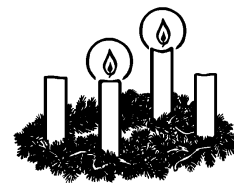


— Fr. Richard Veras,
Magnificat Advent Companion

A Prayer for Right Living

(by an unknown Confederate soldier, composed ca. 1861-65)

I asked for strength that I might achieve; I was made weak that I might learn humbly to obey. I asked for health that I might do greater things; I was given infirmity that I might do better things. I asked for riches that I might be happy; I was given poverty that I might be wise. I asked for power that I might have the praise of men; I was given weakness that I might feel the need of God. I asked for all things that I might enjoy life; I was given life that I might enjoy all things. I got nothing that I had asked for, but everything that I had hoped for. Almost despite myself, my unspoken prayers were answered; I am, among all men, most richly blessed.

**COLLECT OF THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the ways of Thine only-begotten Son: that through His advent we may be worthy to serve Thee with purified minds; Who livest and reignest, God, forever and ever. Amen.

(Say this prayer every evening this week as you light
two purple candles on your Advent wreath.)

✠ FROM V2 TO OBAMA....

BISHOP SANBORN'S INSIGHTS:

(His Excellency's analysis is rather more realistic than some, and thus seemingly more pessimistic, because seen by the light of the Faith. Read it carefully.)

Of recent interest is the re-election of Barack Obama as president. While I do not want to delve into the politics of it, the defeat of Romney is a very serious negative portent for this country. Romney was no prize. In my opinion, he was a liberal posing as a conservative in order to get himself elected. In other words, he was a dishonest liar. Nevertheless, he was *perceived* as a conservative candidate, one who stood for moral decency.

To me it is clear that the electorate did not vote their pocketbooks, but voted their religion. It is certain that, from the point of view of fiscal responsibility, Romney was the man. There was a founded hope – or at least the *perception* of one – that he would strive to enact measures which would take the country out of its crushing debt. Obama was the candidate of those who hold to the old Rooseveltian notion that in order to save the country from depression it is necessary that the government spend, spend, and spend some more. This is exactly what Obama did. Obama is also well-known for his socialist and communist background, thereby advocating a huge and suffocating government which trespasses against legitimate personal liberties. Most of all, Obama is noted for being a leftist on all the moral issues, particularly abortion and sodomy.

What election day taught us, in my opinion, is that the majority of Americans are in favor of socialism, that is, an enormous and intrusive government which is fiscally irresponsible, as well as a godless immorality which sanctions murder and sexual perversion. I say this because, as I see it, Romney was a viable candidate, in the sense that he was an intelligent, successful, and in all ways presentable person. The same could be said for his running mate. Romney was a capable speaker, campaigned hard, and spent an incredible amount of money. Yet he failed to draw a sufficient amount of votes to become president. Why? Because the “decent” people of this nation – those who at least believe in God and natural morality – are now in the minority.

The case was not the same in 2008, when the Republican ticket consisted of two absurd individuals who had no brains. That they would lose was a foregone conclusion. In 2012, the Republican Party put forth a moderate (which means liberal) for president and a compromising conservative for vice-president. Despite the obvious appeal to the Left, the ticket failed to draw away anyone from the camp of the murder-and-perversion-loving Democrats.

The socialism of the Left is a substitute for religion, and for this reason, the Democrats can count on loyalty much more than the Republicans. The Democrats – socialist leftists – are completely united in their ideals: big and invasive government, massive spending, redistribution of wealth, and moral libertinism. For them these principles are dogma; they adhere to them with religious fervor. The Republican Party, on the other hand, is a mishmash consisting of liberals, arch-

conservatives, neocons, tea partiers, moral libertines who are fiscally conservative, evangelicals, anti-abortionists, militarists, and war hawks. Every Republican votes for his candidate because he supports one or two of these issues, but in most cases opposes his candidate concerning the other issues. I think this will result in the gradual break-up of the Republican Party. The Democrats can only gain from this disintegration.

Furthermore, there is no factor or cause which will stop the downward moral slide of this country. It is so much easier to be bad than to be good. Morality always requires an energy or power to keep it up. When you go up a hill in your car, you must depress the accelerator and use extra fuel. Likewise a shift upward in morality requires some moral cause, whereas a drift downward requires only that we follow our worst instincts.

What was absolutely appalling is that in this election, when more than ever the morality of this country was in the balance, the States with enormous “Catholic” populations, all voted overwhelmingly for the candidate favoring murder and perversion. This fact is a scandal, and it is stinking and filthy scandal. On the other hand, the States in which heretics dominate, in the South, Midwest, and the Plains, went for the ticket which was to a certain extent opposed to these abominations. It is absolutely shameful that people who claim to be Catholic vote for candidates who oppose even the natural law.

But “Catholics” must be put within quotation marks, because they are not true Catholics, but Novus Ordites. They have abandoned their old religion and have accepted the new. The fact that these Novus Ordite regions would vote so heavily for moral corruption says a great deal about the Novus Ordo bishops and clergy. If the sheep are liberal pluralists, it means that their shepherds are as well. It means that they are being taught these things from the pulpit and in “Catholic” schools. If the issues of abortion and sexual perversion had been before the voters in the 1950s, the Catholic chancery offices and pulpits would have been howling with denunciation. Can anyone who is my age (62) think of his parents voting for candidates who favored abortion and same-sex marriage? Such subjects were not even mentioned in the house.

We have declined so much in a very short time. All of it is the effect of Vatican II.

– MHT Seminary Newsletter, Nov. 2012



John, in prison, sent two of his disciples to Christ.

...ELECTION REFLECTIONS ✠

DASHED HOPES AND NEOCONS

This political analysis from the December Chronicles is surprising; shocking even in some of its propositions. It is, however, worth some consideration towards an understanding of the world in which we live, a world of propaganda and politics. "Cum grano salis" (with a grain of salt) is always a good rule.
— Bishop Dolan

For once, we actually had a candidate, but as Ron Paul retires and his son does his best to sully the family brand name, the future of the movement he inspired is in doubt.... Rand Paul not only endorsed the man who had stolen half his father's delegates, but actively campaigned for him....

It gets worse, however, because now we are faced with a choice between Mitt, a hologram masquerading as a person, and That Man in the White House. What is a reactionary to do?

Despair is one alternative, and beyond that, indifference. We could adopt the Olympian perspective of a Robinson Jeffers, hole up in some secluded spot, and contemplate the decline of what had once been a great nation as a scientist would contemplate the death of the universe: as a natural event, to be appreciated for its terrible beauty. Shine, perishing republic!

Yet the Paul campaign, and the Buchanan campaigns before it, gave us some hope, however dim, that the reactionary populist fire hasn't gone out of the American soul. As the crisis of the regime accelerates, its cruelties and aspirations to absolute tyranny provoke resentment and rebellion, however inchoate and unconscious. Can these upsurges become not only stronger but fully conscious, ending in the overthrow of the regime?

The main obstacle to the restoration of our Old Republic is the Republican Party and its "brain trust," the neoconservatives. Romney is their perfect instrument, giving voice to the same tired talking points of plutocracy and untrammelled militarism. While his views on the budget and taxes are somewhat mysterious, his foreign policy pronouncements are fraught with a monstrous clarity.

The Romneyite enemies list is a long one: Iran, Syria, Russia, China, Venezuela, Lebanon's Hezbollah, the world's one billion plus Muslims, and anyone who has ever looked cross-eyed at his old buddy Benjamin Netanyahu. As for friends, the list is short, consisting only of Israel, "our closest ally," as Romney invariably puts it.

Romney and Paul Ryan have repeatedly attacked Obama for failing to meet with

Netanyahu in New York when both spoke before the UN. It's the most extraordinary example of shilling for a foreign power in the history of U.S. politics since the Federalists colluded with Great Britain in the War of 1812—the only difference being that the Federalists kept their treason under wraps, while Romney- Ryan wear theirs as a badge of honor. Netanyahu has done everything but endorse Romney, warmly receiving him in Israel while taking to the American airwaves to criticize American policy toward Iran as insufficiently warlike—with the full knowledge Republicans would use these soundbites in their ad war.

In his bid to drag us into a catastrophic war with Iran, Netanyahu is pulling out all the stops. That he has commandeered one of our nation's two major political parties as his fifth column is a disgrace unparalleled in our history. Netanyahu's American sock puppets deserve to go down to a miserable and crushing defeat. Their entire movement must be consigned to history's dustbin before we can even begin to think about restoring constitutional government in America.



But what about the threat represented by Barack Hussein Obama? Isn't he leading us down the road to socialism—a world of death panels and Kafkaesque bureaucracy, confiscatory taxation and supercentralism? This is a myth created by and for today's phony "conservatives," who are supporting a candidate whose own healthcare program in Massachusetts was a model for ObamaCare. It is nonsensical to believe the pragmatic Obama would push anything so ideological as socialism, which has fewer real adherents in this country than even constitutionalism and certainly none in Washington. Obama is no more a socialist than was Lyndon Johnson, whose programs were far more radical than anything Obama has proffered. When Harry Truman nationalized the steel mines at the height of a strike wave during

the Korean War, no one called him a socialist, yet Obama somehow earns that label for bailing out the auto industry. No one called John McCain a socialist when, in a joint statement with Obama, he called for bailing out the banks. For Republicans, that's a different story. Socialism of the plutocratic variety gets a free pass.

The truth is that Obama, far from being a radical of the left, is a conventional Democratic Party politician, who will do no more-or less-harm than his predecessors. Romney, on the other hand, promises us a return to the rule of the neocons — the worst of all possible worlds.

—Justin Raimondo, "Between the Lines"



The following is a "morning after" editorial from Michael Matt's Remnant. The "Recognize and Resist" religion is essentially skewered, of course, but this may be of some interest:

Tough to swallow, isn't it! But did we really think we could somehow vote our way out of this—with homosexual "marriage" now the law of the land and the slain bodies of millions of aborted babies clogging the sewers of American cities and consciences alike? All that was needed in order for us to be redeemed was another silly election? Please! Ideas have consequences—and so do crimes of infanticide and the other sins that cry to heaven for vengeance.

Barack Obama is not the problem. We are! Abortion is. Public schools are. A rotting pop culture is. Divorce and homosexual "marriage" are. Obama was reelected simply because America, like any nation, will always only get the leaders she deserves. We told God to go to hell a long time ago, and God is now allowing us to see what life is like without Him. So lead on, Mr. Obama!...

We are Christians, and our help is in the name of the Lord—not electoral politics. So, let's keep this in perspective. Out of fear and sheer desperation, most of us threw our hats in the ring for a Mormon, big government-backing, sometimes pro-life, moderately pro-gay rights candidate who is conservative only by comparison. Even by JFK's standards, Mitt Romney...is a rabid liberal.

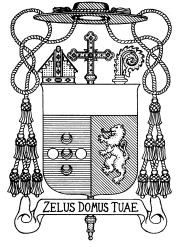
In other words, the GOP bet the pot on a moderate conservative, again...and lost big. They took our votes for granted, again, by downplaying the rather quaint social issues in favor of the ever-sophisticated pocketbook issues. Once again, it didn't pay off for them.

(continued, inside back cover)

✠ THE BISHOP'S CORNER ✠

This second of our Advent Sundays, St. Paul employs a striking title for the God whose coming we are now preparing: “the God of *patience*.” This has always struck me, but this year even more so. I asked God for a speedy return to health (and you joined me in this prayer) and he gave me instead patience, as one popular prayer would phrase it. At least, I’m asking for patience!

I thought that after a few days rest I would return to my daily duties, and even undertake the arduous Mexican mission trip, but it was not meant to be. God cancelled my reservations, so I’m just trying *patiently* to get better a little bit at a time.



These days at St. Gertrude, we might indeed employ the title “God of *patients*,” as **Fr. McGuire** temporarily joined our ranks early Wednesday morning. **Fr. McKenna** took him to the emergency room, suffering from a very painful attack of kidney stone. Fr. McGuire has since been able to rest and recover and is back to his old self. It seems, however, we might need to have a urologist on staff at St. Gertrude!

The God of patience, St. Paul says, is the God of hope, who “fills us with all comfort and hope in believing.” What comfort it is to us to see our Faith passed on to the next generation, whether it be of priests, or of children. It is taken up and taught, and practiced and loved, and passed down.

Someone wrote recently on what a blessing it is to have so many fine priests serving us, and to know we will get a good sermon regardless of who is in the pulpit!

Fr. Lehtoranta had his first wedding December 1st, for Christopher and Robin Patton, just before the start of the Advent season. In typical Gertrudian fashion, everyone got involved. Father prepared the bride for Baptism, and the engaged couple for their marriage. (He has been engaged this Summer and Fall in giving several catechumens their classes.) (By the way, if you attend but don’t belong, why not? You too could be a Catholic!)

Fr. McKenna volunteered to serve the wedding Mass. **Fr. Cekada**, though busy getting ready for his Florida trip, played the organ, and our delightful Bonaventura Quartet sang. Fr. Cekada as well was on hand to help with the practice and final preparations, and I was able to meet with Fr. Lehtoranta to go over the rubrics and the details of the ceremony itself. It really is complicated to bring off a wedding, but all went very well.

Of course, as usual, all of this would be impossible without the devoted assistance of Katie and Darlene in the Sacristy, along with their helpers, efficiently setting up a wedding in the midst of our Advent purple preparations.

I think this little story shows how this “God of patience and of hope” has blessed us here with a true community. It is true, the word is used to death by the collectives of the new religion, but it has a proper use as well. Perhaps one might call it instead a “family spirit,” forged in the furnace of suffering, melded together by common ideals of our Catholic Faith, strongly held, for which we sacrifice willingly, with a *gentle* kind of persevering charity. The fire of the furnace is fueled by love of God, which purifies us as it burns away the chaff. What’s left is gold.

I think this same spirit is found in those of you who pray for the sick and special intentions all week long through the Rosary Chain. What a comfort, in the hour of need, it is to ask for and receive powerful Rosary prayers. God reward your daily giving. Remember to ask the priests to mention your intentions at the altar, in their Mass. This too shows “family spirit” and is a powerful aid in any need.

All went well for a beautiful and well attended Advent Sunday, with Theresa and her helpers making a beautiful wreath. Soon it will be time to call for many helpers for Christmas decorating, as well as for the Cookie and Craft sale on the 16th.

I am still receiving cards and Masses both from the faithful here, and old friends in Cincinnati and elsewhere. One of the first messages I received was from an old dear friend, Loraine Gates, who turned 94 on November 28th, which was also Paulina’s birthday. She is only a Spring chicken, just in her eighties. I shall strive to imitate their good example of longevity.

What a blessing these warm December days bring us with their short but satisfactory sun. It’s not yet Christmas, but God helps us prepare for His Son’s coming by making the weather so agreeable. It’s easier to do all of those errands which fill these days, and even to save a little on the heating bill!

May Our Lord bless your love for His Mother Immaculate and the Mass, which brought you to church *twice* this weekend!

Yours in Our Lady Immaculate,

–Bishop Dolan

P.S. There is an astounding variety in nuns’ names. Sometimes Latin is used, sometimes English, sometimes the feminine forms, sometimes not. Our Lady’s name is generally taken, but its placement may be confusing. Thus (with my apologies) I *reintroduce* Sr. Isidore Maria and Sr. Mary Winifred, of the Sisters of Our Lady of Reparation.

✠ THE CALENDAR

*All Sunday Masses and most weekday Masses are webcast
Please check our website!*

MON	12/10/12	WITHIN THE OCTAVE ST MELCHIADES, PM <i>OUR LADY OF LORETTO</i> Immaculate Conception Novena IV
		8:00 AM Low Mass In honor of Our Mother of Perpetual Help for Janice West (<i>Anne Marie Omlor</i>)
		11:20 AM High Mass Mary Ellen Landry-Birthday (<i>Mother, Joan Landry</i>)
TUE	12/11/12	ST DAMASUS I, PC WITHIN THE OCTAVE Immaculate Conception Novena V
		8:00 AM Low Mass In honor of St. Philomena for the Poor Souls in Purgatory (from 11/20) (<i>Bill Schauble</i>)
		11:20 AM High Mass My family (from 11/20) (<i>Sharon Patton</i>) 5:00 PM Low Mass †Fr. Hector Bolduc (from 11/20) (<i>Christopher Browne</i>)
WED	12/12/12	WITHIN THE OCTAVE <i>OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE</i> Immaculate Conception Novena VI
		8:00 AM Low Mass Forgotten souls (<i>Emma</i>)
		11:20 AM High Mass Bishop Daniel Dolan (<i>M/M Mark Lotarski & family</i>) 6:30 PM Choir Practice
THU	12/13/12	ST LUCY, VM WITHIN THE OCTAVE Immaculate Conception Novena VII
		8:00 AM Low Mass Bill Schauble & Pat (<i>Tom Simpson</i>)
		11:20 AM High Mass †Fr. Martin Stepanich, OFM (<i>Kirby & Jean Bischel</i>)
FRI	12/14/12	WITHIN THE OCTAVE Immaculate Conception Novena VIII
		10:55 AM Confessions
		11:20 AM High Mass †Joan Weigand (<i>Katie Bischak</i>)
		5:15 PM Confessions and Rosary
		5:45 PM Low Mass Becky Mattingly (<i>Richard & Elizabeth Smith</i>) 6:30 PM Sacred Heart Novena and Benediction
SAT	12/15/12	OCTAVE DAY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION Closing of Immaculate Conception Novena
		7:15 AM Confessions
		7:30 AM Low Mass Poor Souls of priests-O.L. of La Salette (<i>JCS</i>)
		8:10 AM Sermon, Low Mass †Ralph Patton (<i>The Patton family</i>)
SUN	12/16/12	ADVENT III GAUDETE SUNDAY ST EUSEBIUS, BP M
		7:05 AM Rosary
		7:30 AM Low Mass Honor of our Heavenly Father (<i>Tom Simpson</i>)
		9:00 AM High Mass Richard Zbilicki-Happy Birthday (<i>Gloria</i>)

ELECTION REFLECTIONS (*continued*)

But there is a silver lining in all of this for those willing to see it. Decent folks are obviously fed up with the charade and will thus finally be absolutely united against an evil that would have remained entrenched inside the Beltway no matter who won this election. Conservative Catholics, traditional Catholics, pro-family Protestants, pro-lifers, pro-homeschooling advocates will all be solidly united against the White House for the next four years—and this is always a good thing...

This election has made it abundantly obvious to millions that vast numbers of their compatriots have simply lost any semblance of their God-given moral equilibrium—a sobering fact that will surely cause them to realize they're standing in knee-deep water that is rapidly rising and that it's time to seek higher ground. In other words, the party is over, and half the country is staring into the eyes of the beast. This is a golden opportunity for us, then—not to accuse Obama for being a closet Muslim or whatever else—but rather to encourage all Americans to come out of their respective closets and to become Christian again... Obama and the GOP have inadvertently accomplished the impossible: They've managed to galvanize the pro-family, pro-life and pro-Christ forces into a strong and united front of total opposition against the Christofoic revolution here in America and across the world. Indeed, God is good! Again, let us not lose perspective. In many ways, Mitt Romney would have taken us back to the good old days, which, let's face it, weren't all that great...

So, to recap: We lost a race in which we really didn't have a pony. And, as a result of that "defeat", millions of Americans had their blinders removed in an instant. They now know exactly where they stand. The slumbering Christian giant in America has finally roused himself from his utopian dreams.

God writes straight with crooked lines, and if America is to be humbled and brought to her knees then perhaps she will also be redeemed in the process. For this we hope and pray, even as we vow to fight against the reelected regime and never to surrender the old Faith of our Fathers—come what may. Viva Cristo Rey!

*Perhaps a tad optimistic? The "R & R" world
does tend to see "la vie en rose."
— Bishop Dolan*

Prayer to the Divine Tutor

Be kind to Your little children, Lord. Be a gentle teacher, patient with our weakness and stupidity. And give us the strength and discernment to do what You tell us, and so grow in Your likeness. May we all live in the peace that comes from You. May we journey towards your city, sailing through the waters of sin untouched by the waves, borne serenely along by the Holy Ghost. Night and day may we give You praise and thanks, because You have shown us that all things belong to You, and all blessings are gifts from You. To You, the essence of wisdom, the foundation of truth, be glory forevermore. Amen.

— St. Clement of Alexandria

● ————— ●
10:40 AM Sunday Classes

11:05 AM Rosary

11:30 AM Low Mass Thanksgiving to St. Joseph for petitions generously granted (*B. Uhlenbrock*)

5:45 PM Low Mass For the People of St. Gertrude the Great
