

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

The Epiphany of Our Lord

January 6, 2013



*We have seen His
star in the east: and are
come with gifts
to adore the Lord.*



**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 Churaching 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

✠ JANUARY 6, 2013 • THE EPIPHANY •

Today is the first Sunday of the month. Our regular second collection is for the support of Most Holy Trinity Seminary. The Blessing of Religious Articles is available after all Masses, and Sunday Classes resume at 10:40 AM. Remember to pick up an Epiphany Blessing Packet, which includes blessed gold, frankincense and myrrh, with blessed chalk to make the inscription of the Three Kings above the doors of your home. You can do your home blessing today, or any day within the Octave.

This is also **“Benefactors Appreciation Sunday.”** The High Mass is offered for all of our helpers and loyal friends, church workers and volunteers... sacristans, secretaries, singers, servers, salespeople and seamstresses, generous givers, gardeners, teachers and techies, drivers, ushers, cooks, cleaners, catechists and cat handlers, men of the Guard of Honor ... **all** those who **do us good** (the meaning of ‘benefactor’) in so many ways, all year long. Please **join us in Helfta Hall after all Masses** and enjoy some special refreshments as a token of our deep and heartfelt gratitude.

*This star shines as a flame,
and points out God.*



✠ ALTER CHRISTUS

The “little church” is in the vestibule this morning to receive your alms for the support of priests. Thank you for your generosity!

*The Magi proclaim also by
their mystic gifts Who it is they adore.
– St. Gregory the Great*

✠ THIS WEEK

The glorious Octave of the Epiphany is the perfect time to manifest your presence at an extra Mass. **Saturday** is the beautiful feast of the Holy Family: Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, with Holy Mass at **7:30** and **8:10 AM**.

✠ NEXT SUNDAY

Set Your Missal: Octave Day of the Epiphany. Preface and Communicantes of the Epiphany.



Christmas Poinsettia Memorial

Our dear mother,
Martha Brueggemann
Dan, Mary & family



✠ LAST BUT NOT LEAST...

Our final Christmas Poinsettia Memorial offering arrived just after the Christmas Programs went to press. It was to have appeared in last Sunday’s bulletin, but due to an editing oversight it was left out. Thanks for your understanding!

*Most devoutly do we adore our Infant
Savior with the Magi.
– St. Bernard*

✠ IN YOUR CHARITY...

...please pray for all our sick or shut-in, especially Patrick Omlor, Sr. and Nellie Sutton, and all who have asked for our prayers.



Ushers: JANUARY 13, 2013

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 P. Graft

Collection Report

Sunday, December 30th.....\$3,079.00
Tuesday, January 1st\$2,937.00

Remember St. Gertrude’s in your will!

✠ THE POETRY CORNER

The Magi.

They came on lowliest homage bent,
Their precious gifts to bring,
Those pilgrims from the Orient
Who sought the Infant King.

Bright shone the glad, mysterious Star
That led them toward the west;
The light of Faith shone brighter far
Within each royal breast.

High heaven their love and courage
owned;
Upon that stable floor,
God in His Mother’s arms enthroned
They hastened to adore.

Their visit paid, with heart aflame
Each sought his distant home,
And crowned his witness to Christ’s
Name
By grace of martyrdom.

Their relics, brought from Eastern
lands,
Lie in a Northern shrine,–
Pride of the mighty church that stands
All stately on the Rhine.

Ye royal saints, who hailed the Star
And trod the desert way,
Melchior, Gaspar, Balthasar,
For us your children pray,

That Faith’s clear light may guide our
ways
Till the King’s home be won;
That we, with you, at last may gaze
On Mary and her Son!

–J.F. Scholfield

Servers: JANUARY 7 - 13, 2013

FRI 1/11 5:45 PM LOW: Friday

SAT 1/12 7:30 AM LOW: Simpsons
8:10 AM LOW: M. Briggs

SUN 1/13 7:30 AM LOW: Brueggemann Bros.
9:00 AM HIGH: CHAPLAINS: J. Soli,
T. Simpson, Jr. ACS: S. & L. Arlinghaus
TH: A. Richesson TORCH MC: B. Lotarski
TORCH: C. Richesson, T. Lawrence, A. Soli,
J. Lacy
11:30 AM LOW: P. Omlor, A.D. Kinnett
4:45 PM VESPERS & BENEDICTION: G. Miller
5:45 PM LOW: G. Miller

✠ MAGI MEDITATIONS ✠

Five Lessons of the Magi

The unforgettable story of the journey of the Magi, as recounted in the Gospel of St. Matthew, is an artful summary of the principal dynamics of the spiritual life. Watching the night sky with scrupulous attention for signs of God's purpose, the Magi evoke the importance of alertness in the spiritual order. We must keep our eyes open to see what God is up to. For far too many people, the spiritual life never gets underway, precisely because they don't pay attention. Once they saw the star, they moved, despite the length of the journey and the dangers of the road. Sometimes people know what God wants them to do, but they don't act, either out of fear or laziness or the influence of bad habits. In their confident journeying forth, the Magi teach us not to miss the propitious moment. They teach us to move.

When they entered into Herod's territory, the Magi caught the attention of the king. And when they spoke to him of the birth of a new King of the Jews, Herod became frantic and tried to use them in order to destroy the baby. A third lesson: when you walk the path that God has laid out for you, expect opposition. We live in a sinful, fallen world, and there will always be forces at cross purposes to God. Refusing to cooperate with Herod's game, the wise men came to Bethlehem, found the Child, and gave Him their precious gifts. When you come to Christ, don't give Him your second best; break open the very best of yourself and make it a gift for Him. Finally, they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod and so "they returned to their



home country by another route." As Fulton Sheen commented so magnificently: of course they did; for no one comes to Christ and goes back the same way he came!

— Very Rev. Robert Barron
The Magnificat



This is a blessed and memorable day for us ... on which the mercy of the Redeemer called us in the person of the Magi, from the darkness of unbelief, to the knowledge of the true faith. The Magi came at dawn of day to worship and to acknowledge the Messiah in our name, as their God and Redeemer. Yes, ... they are our forefathers and our models in the faith. Happy are we, if we imitate them faithfully, and follow in their footsteps. The holy Pope Leo calls out in an ecstasy of love and gratitude: "O angels of the heavenly city, lend me your glowing love to thank Almighty God for being called to Christianity and

eternal salvation." "Let us, my brethren," says this great saint, "celebrate joyfully the beginning of our blessed hopes. But let us be faithful to our calling, after the example of the Magi ..."

Yes, my brethren, this precious gift of faith will be taken from us, and given to others, if we do not make a practical use of it. Now, ... do we wish to keep this precious legacy in our midst? Let us follow faithfully in the footsteps of our fathers in the faith.

So as to obtain a feeble idea of the magnitude of the grace of our call to Christianity, we have only to consider what the coming of the Messiah was to our forefathers. He was their God, their Savior, their Light, their Hope.

As soon as they became aware of the appearance of the star, they at once, without asking any questions, made preparations to seek out their Redeemer. So powerfully did they feel impelled, so ardent was their desire to arrive at the place towards which they were attracted by the star, and towards which grace called them, that they did not delay a moment.

— Saint John Vianney, *the Curé of Ars*



***We have seen His star in the East,
and are come to adore Him.***

The Syro-Oriental, the descendants of the Holy Magi, have handed down to us a tradition received from their fathers, that the star which appeared in the heavens on the night of Christ's birth "bore the image of a young Maiden holding a Child in her arms, a royal crown upon His head."

— *The Ave Maria, January 6, 1912*

✠ A PERSPECTIVE FROM THE PAST ✠

In May, 1999, Darrell Scott, (the father of Rachel Scott, a victim of the Columbine High School shootings, and of Craig Scott, who was wounded but survived) was invited to address the House Judiciary Committees subcommittee on crime and gun legislation, just a month after the massacre. These courageous words are powerful, penetrating, and deeply personal... a modern-day "voice crying in the wilderness." The following is the transcript of his statement:

"Since the dawn of creation there has been both good & evil in the hearts of men and women. We all contain the seeds of kindness or the seeds of violence. The death of my wonderful daughter, Rachel Joy Scott, and the deaths of that heroic teacher, and the other eleven children who died must not be in vain. Their blood cries out for answers.

"The first recorded act of violence was when Cain slew his brother Abel out in the field. The villain was not the club he used.. Neither was it the NCA, the National Club Association. The true killer was Cain, and the reason for the murder could only be found in Cain's heart.

"In the days that followed the Columbine tragedy, I was amazed at how quickly fingers began to be pointed at groups such as the NRA. I am not a member of the NRA. I am not a hunter. I do not even own a gun. I am not here to represent or defend the NRA – because I don't believe that they are responsible for my daughter's death. Therefore I do not believe that they need to be defended. If I believed they had anything to do with Rachel's murder I would be their strongest opponent.

"I am here today to declare that Columbine was not just a tragedy – it was a spiritual event that should be forcing us to look at where the real blame lies! Much of the blame lies here in this room. Much of the blame lies behind the pointing fingers of the accusers themselves. I wrote a poem just four nights ago that expresses my feelings best:

*Your laws ignore our deepest needs,
Your words are empty air.
You've stripped away our heritage,
You've outlawed simple prayer.
Now gunshots fill our classrooms,
And precious children die.
You seek for answers everywhere
And ask the question "Why?"
You regulate restrictive laws,
Through legislative creed.
And yet you fail to understand,
That God is what we need!*

"Men and women are three-part beings. We all consist of body, mind, and spirit. When we refuse to acknowledge a third part of our make-up, we create a void that allows evil, prejudice, and hatred to rush in and wreak havoc. Spiritual presences were present within our educational systems for most of our nation's history. Many of our major colleges began as theological seminaries. This is a historical fact. What has happened to us as a nation? We have refused to honor God, and in so doing, we open the doors to hatred and violence. And when something as terrible as Columbine's tragedy occurs – politicians immediately look for a scapegoat such as the NRA. They immediately seek to pass more restrictive laws that contribute to erode away our personal and private liberties. We do not need more restrictive laws. Eric and Dylan would not have been stopped by metal detectors. No amount of gun laws can stop someone who spends months planning this type of massacre. The real villain lies within our own hearts.

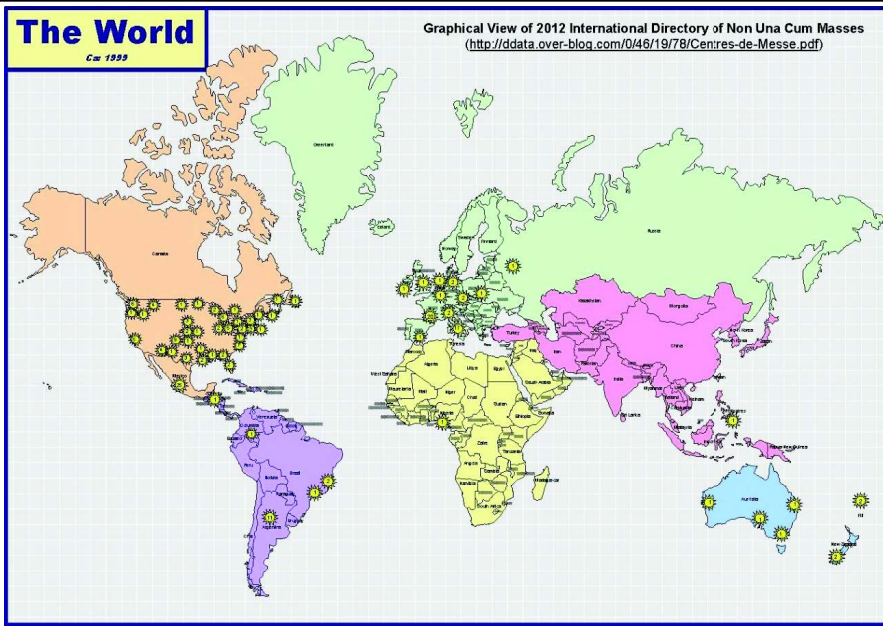
"As my son Craig lay under that table in the school library and saw his two friends murdered before his very eyes, he did not hesitate to pray in school. I defy any law or politician to deny him that right! I challenge every young person in America , and around the world, to realize that on April 20, 1999, at Columbine High School prayer was brought back to our schools. Do not let the many prayers offered by those students be in vain. Dare to move into the new millennium with a sacred disregard for legislation that violates your God-given right to communicate with Him. To those of you who would point your finger at the NRA -- I give to you a sincere challenge.. Dare to examine your own heart before casting the first stone!

"My daughter's death will not be in vain! The young people of this country will not allow that to happen!"



God dwells among His people in the flesh of Jesus Christ, born in Bethlehem of old, present in the Blessed Sacrament in our day. Like the Magi, let us bring the gifts of our worship before Him in praise, adoration, and thanksgiving.





THINKING GLOBALLY

Someone just pointed out to me an International directory of Non-una cum Masses (on a French-language website), and looking it over, it looks like a pretty thorough listing....

I was curious what it would look like in graphical form on a map of the globe, so I put together the above diagram. All of the yellow sun graphics have a number inside them, for the number of traditional Catholic Masses in that state or country. Quite interesting looking at the big picture! Also quite frightening to see how few true Masses are left on the planet (about 140), and how many wide areas of the planet aside from United States and Europe have absolutely nothing. How blessed we are to even have a Mass! Here are the top countries offering true traditional Masses in order:

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| United States 78 | Argentina 11 |
| Mexico 25 | Australia 4 |
| France 20 | Canada 4 |
| Italy 17 | All other countries are 1 or 2 maximum |

...could this Directory just as easily be called "The International Directory of Sedevacantist Masses"?

— A traditional Catholic from New England



Morning Offering in the spirit of Holy Slavery:

O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, in reparation for me sins, I offer Thee all my prayers, works, joys and sufferings of this day and of my entire life, for all the intentions of Thy Most Sacred Heart, in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass validly and licitly offered this day throughout the world, the infinite graces and merits thereof to be dispensed in accord with Thy Divine Will for the salvation of souls, the conversion of sinners, and the special intention recommended for this month:

January: Sanctification of home and family; truly Catholic marriages.

February: The spread of the true Catholic Faith through the spread of devotion to Mary.

March: An increase in pious and holy religious vocations.

April: For all of the missionary endeavors throughout the world and unity among the members of the Church militant.

— from "Behold thy Mother" published by the Missionary Sisters of the Holy Ghost
P.O. Box 589, Veradale, WA 99037
Subscription : \$16/year (three issues)

Kneel Before Me

In ancient Egypt
We cats were gods
We ruled the heavens
We reigned on earth
So kneel before me
I said come to me
Uh, listen to me
How about just a treat then?
Okay, maybe a toy
Some crumpled paper would do
I'm not picky
Well, can you at least scratch
 behind my ear?
Can you at least do that?
Oh
Oh yes
You serve your master well

— Francesco Marciuliano



The enlightened wise men who dwell in the land of the sun's rising came to the Sun; the star which takes its light from the sun led them to adore the Sun.
— St. Peter Damian

Ask for the ancient paths, where the good way is; and walk in it, and find rest for your souls.

✠ THE BISHOP'S CORNER ✠

A coyote came calling New Year's Eve. Literally. I was awakened about 10:30 PM by a loud cry, which sounded almost human, a coyote hunting hares. The "McFathers" saw him from the convento porch, and not for the first time.

Until this incident, we were all having a very quiet New Year's Eve. We made our Holy Hour early with Vespers, devotions and Benediction. **Fr. McKenna** barbequed some strip steak for us, and we all enjoyed a pleasant meal together. Some of us went to bed early. Coyotes, cats, rabbits and deer – all of whom are leaving tracks in the snow – are nocturnal creatures, and they all got busy. It is curious to think of how much "nature" survives in West Chester, including the six cardinals who came calling at the feeder during the days of Christmas.

Fr. McKenna and I headed off early on Friday to the airport, he to Milwaukee and I to Mexico. (Milwaukee does have a lot of Mexicans, however. But since **Fr. Siordia** did the last *quinciañera* they don't come anymore.) Fr. McKenna did a flip/flop the other day. Fortunately, it was only on his back, and not his theological positions. Father did not know about the treacherous sheets of ice which lurk under snow in one part of the parking lot. He does now. Still, he felt up to shopping and cooking for us all, which we very much appreciate.

Our French guest, Gaetan D'Humières has returned to the seminary, but Mr. Bede Nkamuke is still with us. We look forward to his ordination in November. **Fr. Valerii Kudryavtsev** of Ukraine, meanwhile, has been trying for the longest time to get a visa to visit our little Nigerian flock, but it is a very slow process. It seems the Nigerian consular officials fear he is a Russian oil worker, looking to work illegally in Nigeria. Actually, he is a priest, looking to serve souls.

Fr. Lehtoranta has returned from a quick Christmas trip to Florida to retrieve his books. Father spend a pleasant and busy Christmas in Milwaukee, Saybrook, and Grand Forks, North Dakota serving souls. He resumes his teaching duties at our school tomorrow morning.

It is this same motive which takes me this Epiphany to the rough border town of Tijuana, just a few minutes from San Diego, California. Fr. Villegas' flock needs a bishop, and I am happy to help souls, and do a little teaching and give some guidance myself. It's all in a bishop's portfolio today during these terrible times of chastisement and apostasy.

Today we mark with a Solemn High Mass the great feast of Epiphany. We think of the Wise Men and their precious gifts, and the many sacrifices they made to give them. This makes us think of so many of you, and your sacrifices and gifts. This is why we keep this feast as "Benefactors Day."

From the Latin, a benefactor is someone who does well. Every Catholic does well to give of himself, as we saw at Christmas. But some of you do very well, and give of your time and talent in some noted way to make our church possible. Some of you give just about every day of the year, others for some special job or occasion. All of you "do well" and we appreciate you all, without whom we would not have St. Gertrude the Great. I thank you all today and pray for you every day. God reward your goodness.

Be sure to get your Epiphany pack and do the home blessing with the chalk and the special prayers. Pray for all of those who travel, King-like, to seek and serve Our Lord is His Sacrament, or in souls. May the blessed chalk keep away the coyotes!

A blessed Epiphany and a blessed Benefactors Day to you all!

–Bishop Dolan

"To offer gold is to proclaim Christ's kingship, to offer incense is to adore His Godhead, and to offer myrrh is to acknowledge His mortality"

– St. Odilo of Cluny

When the king of heaven was born, the heavens knew that He was God because they immediately sent forth a star; the sea knew Him because it allowed Him to walk upon it; the earth knew Him because it trembled when He died; the sun knew Him because it hid the rays of its light"

– St Gregory the Great



✠ THE CALENDAR

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

MON	1/7/13	WITHIN THE OCTAVE
	8:00 AM	Low Mass †Dolores Maki (from 1/6) (<i>M/M Maki</i>)
	11:20 AM	High Mass Cucina Clerical-for our cooks (<i>The Fathers</i>)
TUE	1/8/13	WITHIN THE OCTAVE
	8:00 AM	Low Mass Poor Souls (<i>D&M</i>)
	11:20 AM	High Mass †Ivan Landry (<i>Joan Landry</i>)
	5:00 PM	Low Mass †Ida Youngworth (<i>Diane Puglielli</i>)
WED	1/9/13	WITHIN THE OCTAVE
	8:00 AM	Low Mass Holy Souls in Purgatory (<i>Patrick Omlor</i>)
	11:20 AM	High Mass †Harold Landry (<i>Joan Landry</i>)
	5:00 PM	Low Mass Special Intention (<i>Bishop Dolan</i>)
	6:30 PM	Choir Practice
THU	1/10/13	WITHIN THE OCTAVE
	8:00 AM	Low Mass Family & friends (<i>John Brueggemann</i>)
	11:20 AM	High Mass All our relations, living & deceased (<i>The Arlinghaus family</i>)
	5:00 PM	Low Mass Special Intention (<i>Bishop Dolan</i>)
FRI	1/11/13	WITHIN THE OCTAVE
		ST HYGINUS, PM
	8:00 AM	Low Mass For the salvation of my & my family's souls (<i>Mary Brueggemann</i>)
	10:55 AM	Confessions
	11:20 AM	High Mass Thanksgiving to Poor Souls (<i>Becky Uhlenbrock</i>)
	5:15 PM	Confessions and Rosary
	5:30 PM	Infant of Prague Novena III
	5:45 PM	Low Mass †Albert (Butch) Arlinghaus (<i>Simpson family</i>)
	6:30 PM	Sacred Heart Novena and Benediction
SAT	1/12/13	THE HOLY FAMILY
		WITHIN THE OCTAVE
		ST BENET BISCOP, AB
	7:15 AM	Confessions
	7:30 AM	Low Mass †Romilda Berling (<i>Simpson family</i>)
	8:10 AM	Sermon, Low Mass Andrew M. Prell-Happy Birthday (<i>Mom & Dad</i>)
SUN	1/13/13	OCTAVE DAY OF THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD
	7:05 AM	Rosary
	7:30 AM	Low Mass Anniversary-Fr. McGuire & Fr. Lehtoranta (<i>Mr. & Mrs. Victor Ritze</i>)
	9:00 AM	High Mass †Hannah Mae Keaveney-Month's mind (<i>Mike Briggs family</i>)
	10:40 AM	Sunday Classes
	11:05 AM	Rosary

Prayer to the Mother of God

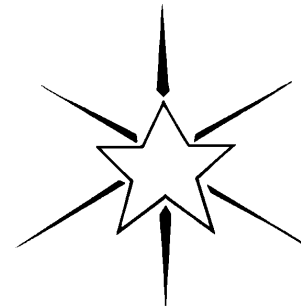
O immaculate and all-pure Virgin Mary, Mother of God, Queen of the Universe, our own good Lady, you surpass all the saints; you are the only hope of the patriarchs, the joy of the saints. Through you we have been reconciled with our God. You are the only advocate of sinners, the safe port of the shipwrecked. You are the consolation of the world, the ransom of captives, the joy of the sick, the comfort of the afflicted, the refuge and salvation of the whole world.

O great Princess, Mother of God, cover us with your wings of mercy and have pity on us. No other hope is given us but you, O most pure Virgin. We have given ourselves to you, and have consecrated ourselves to your service. We are your servants. Do not, then, permit Lucifer to drag us into hell.

O Immaculate Virgin, we are under your protection, and therefore we have recourse to you. We beseech you to prevent your beloved Son from being angry at our sins and abandoning us to the power of the devil.

O you who are full of grace, enlighten my understanding, loosen my tongue that it may sing your praises, and especially the angelic salutation, which is so worthy of you. I salute you, O peace and joy, O salvation and consolation of the world. I salute you, O greatest of miracles, O paradise of delights, O safe haven for those in danger, fountain of graces, mediatrix between God and men.

— St Ephrem the Syrian



THE FOLLOWING PARISH MASSES WERE OFFERED BY FATHER CEKADA:

Becky Mattingly (*Connie Kamphaus*)
†Special Intention Deceased (*Sharon Patton*)
Diane Roling & cancer patients (*The Arlinghaus family*)

-
- 11:30 AM** **Low Mass** Bob and Becky Uhlenbrock-Merry Christmas (*Bobby & Aubrey & family*)
 - 4:45 PM** **Vespers and Benediction**
 - 5:45 PM** **Low Mass** For the People of St. Gertrude the Great