

ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

Traditional Latin Mass: Sundays 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM High, 11:30 AM, 5:45 PM

Most Reverend Daniel L. Dolan, Pastor
Rev. Anthony Cekada, Rev. Charles McGuire,
Rev. Vili Lehtoranta, Rev. Stephen McKenna



August 11, 2013 Pentecost XII

Ss Tiburtius, M & Susanna, VM
St Philomena, VM



A CERTAIN SAMARITAN
BROUGHT HIM TO AN INN

✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS

¶ We conclude our Triduum to the dear little wonder-worker, St. Philomena, following Low Masses today. Vespers and Benediction are at 4:45 PM.

✠ ALTER CHRISTUS

Thank you for your almsgiving this month. \$172.00 was received, enough for nine Masses.

¶ FATIMA ROSARY PROCESSION

Join the Rosary Confraternity on the feast of Our Lady, Refuge of Sinners, for the Fatima Rosary Procession of Reparation, on **Tuesday, August 13th** at **7:15 PM**. You can make it an evening of honor to our Blessed Mother by coming first for Holy Mass (5:45 PM) and the Summer Novena, then heading over to our procession meeting place.

This will be the fourth of our six Rosary Processions of 2013 (May through October), in honor of Our Lady of Fatima, and in accordance with Her requests. We meet just a few minutes from church, at Union Centre Blvd. & Floer Drive in the parking lot of the First Watch restaurant. The Rosary Procession will commence promptly at 7:15 PM. *(In the event of rain, the Rosary will be recited in church.)*

"I want you to continue praying the Rosary every day..."

– Our Lady of Fatima, August 19, 1917

¶ FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION

Thursday, August 15th, is the Feast of **Our Lady's Assumption**, a Holy Day of Obligation. *All are bound to assist at Mass under the pain of mortal sin.* The Mass schedule for the Holy Day is as follows: **7:00 AM Low Mass** (for workers – no sermon), **8:45 AM Rosary** and blessing of First Fruits, **9:00 AM High Mass**, **5:10 PM Rosary** and Benediction, **5:45 PM Low Mass**.

"Blessed art thou, O Mary! – blessed above measure when thou didst receive the Redeemer at thy conception; blessed above measure when He received thee on thy Assumption!"

– St. Bernard

¶ NEXT SUNDAY

The blessing of expectant mothers will be given after all Masses.

Set Your Missal: Pentecost XIII, with commemorations of the Assumption and St. Agapitus. Preface of the B.V.M.

"Live and hope in the Lord, and let your service be according to reason."

– St. Clare

(Feast day, August 12th)

Lumen Christi

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

Zhang and Augusto family
(Chompooh Zhang & Hao Zhang)

¶ NEW INTERNET RADIO SHOW!

"From the Pulpit" on Restoration Radio (blogtalkradio.com/restorationradio) every Thursday at 6:00 PM, will feature two back-to-back sermons you won't want to miss! Bishop Sanborn has begun a new "Vatican II" series.

"The Blessed Virgin had more faith, hope, and charity than any other creature."

– St. Thomas Aquinas

¶ DID YOU LOSE SOMETHING?

A ring and an earring were found separately in church. Please call the church office to claim them!

Servers: AUGUST 11 - 18, 2013

TUE 8/13	5:45 PM LOW: Simpsons
THU 8/15	7:00 AM LOW: Volunteer 9:00 AM PONTIFICAL: MCs: R. Vande Ryt, T. Simpson, Sr., T. Simpson, Jr. ACs: B. Lotarski, S. Lawrence TH: A. Richesson CROSS: P. Lawrence MITRE: J. Lacy CROZIER: J. Simpson BOOK: S. Arlinghaus BUGIA: L. Arlinghaus TRAIN: C. Richesson TORCH: M. Simpson, A. Soli, T. Lawrence, C. Arlinghaus, Nathan & P. McClorey 5:10 PM EXPOSITION & BENEDICTION: Volunteer 5:45 PM LOW: G. Miller, Volunteer
FRI 8/16	5:45 PM HIGH: Friday Night Servers
SAT 8/17	7:30 AM LOW: Simpsons 8:10 AM LOW: M. Briggs
SUN 8/18	7:30 AM LOW: Brueggemann Bros. 9:00 AM HIGH: MC: T. Simpson, Jr. ACs: S. & L. Arlinghaus TH: N. McClorey TORCH: J. & J. Morgan, C. Arlinghaus, Nathan McClorey 11:30 AM LOW: F. & N. Puglielli 5:45 PM LOW: G. Miller

Collection Report

Sunday, August 4th\$3,624.00
Second Collection\$920.00

✠ A WORD FROM OUR LADY

A Meditation from The Mystical City of God

In order to renew the confidence of our Catholic princes, instructors and defenders of the holy faith in most holy Mary, He discloses all that I now and in the course of this history have been made to understand and record. For this reason the highest King of kings and the Restorer of monarchies has given the most holy Mary the title of Patroness, Protectress and Advocate of these Catholic kingdoms. Through this singular blessing the Most High has resolved to remedy the calamities and difficulties which the Christian people, on account of their sins, are to endure and suffer, and which in our own times we sorrowfully and tearfully are sustaining. The infernal dragon has poured out his froth and fury against the holy Church because he sees the carelessness of its leaders and of the members of this Mystical Body, and because he sees so many men in love with vanity and carnal pleasures. The greater part of the guilt and its chastisement falls upon the majority of Catholics, whose offenses, as being those of children, are more heinous; for they know the will of their heavenly Father, who dwells on high, and yet do not strive to fulfill it more earnestly than the strangers. Though knowing that the kingdom of heaven suffers violence and must be gained by labors (Mt. 11:12), they have nevertheless given themselves over to idleness and pleasure, temporizing with the world and the flesh. This dangerous deceit of the demon the just Judge punishes by the demon himself, giving him, in His just judgments, the liberty to afflict the holy Church and scourge its children with rigor.

But the Father of mercies, who is in heaven, does not permit the works of His kindness to be entirely undone, and in order to preserve them He offers us the opportune protection of most holy Mary, in order that through her prayers and intercession His divine justice may find some pretext or excuse for the suspension of the rigorous chastisements hanging over us. He wishes to wait and see whether we shall avail ourselves of the intercession of this great Queen and Lady of Heaven for pacifying the just indignation of her divine Son, and whether we shall amend our lives by which we make ourselves unworthy of His mercy and provoke His justice.

– Ven. Mary of Agreda, Book IV, *The Coronation*



It had for centuries been the custom to ring a bell called the curfew (or cover fire) at sunset, when Pope John XXII, in 1327, granted an indulgence to all who should say, during the ringing of this bell, three “Hail Marys.” This evening salutation of Mary soon became popular throughout Europe. In England, not three but five “Hail Marys” were said together with the Lord's Prayer.

– *The Ave Maria* (1919)

✠ A WORD TO OUR LADY

AUGUST

*Month of the Assumption
of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven
(August Fifteenth)*

No fear of death o'erspread her face,
Whom Gabriel saluted: “Hail, Full of Grace!”
“Arise, make haste, my love, my dove, my beautiful one, and come.”

Her hands lay clasped upon her breast,
Who lulled the Babe of Bethlehem to rest.
“A bundle of myrrh is my beloved to me.”

Before her Child, the Shepherds bent
And Wise Men on a journey went.

Her feet the *Via Dolorosa* trod;
At the Resurrection He came, Her Son and God,
As lightning darts from east to west,
Swifter than bird wings to the nest.
*“The voice of my beloved, behold,
He cometh leaping upon the mountains,
skipping over the hills.”*

Thomas, the late one,
Deprived of a deathbed vigil
Worn with indefatigable labor, arrived.
*“Whither is thy beloved gone,
O thou most beautiful among women.”*

He beseeched the grave be opened
That he might gaze upon God's Mother,
Immaculately conceived, without primeval stain.
“Thou art all fair, O my love, and there is not a spot in thee.”

Fear and astonishment came
upon the Apostles –
She was not there!
*“Who is she that cometh forth as the morning rising,
fair as the moon, bright as the sun,
terrible as an army set in array?”*

Thomas saw in bloom
Lilies within Our Lady's tomb.
*“Till the day break, and the shadows retire, I will go to
the mountain of myrrh and to the hill of frankincense.”*

– Rose Margaret Coughlin



✠ THE BISHOP'S CORNER ✠

Friday, feast of the Curé of Ars, patron saint of parish priests, saw much clergy coming and going, as Fridays often do. **Fr. Lehtoranta** departed for Milwaukee, and another “in absentia” funeral on Saturday. Father will be returning here towards the end of August, after serving many of our Midwestern missions, Milwaukee, and even New Mexico.

Last Friday, I had a funny trip to Milwaukee, a cancelled flight leading to a roundabout way to my destination via “the cities” (Minneapolis/St. Paul). I had just enough time before First Friday Exposition and Mass to get over to the hospital and give the Last Rites to Delores Martin, and say the Prayers for the Dying with this devout soul, so long faithful. Her family is burying her the new way, a short Ordo service in the funeral home. It’s all about convenience anymore. The Mass no longer matters.

Bishop Sanborn stopped by Friday night on his way to Detroit. **Fr. McGuire** and **Fr. McKenna** returned from vacation as well, refreshed after their sojourn in the woods of New England. Fr. McKenna continued on to Louisiana for today, our monthly Mass. **Fr. Francis Miller, OFM** tells me he is visiting the last of †**Fr. Eldred Leslie’s** sedevacantist faithful near Cape Town, South Africa. There is no good Mass in all of Africa. It’s very far to go for one soul (there may, of course, be more), but how far did Our Lord go for one soul?

As the **Rev. Mr. Bede Nkamuke** completes his priesthood training, which will one day enable him to be “Africa’s priest,” he has been accompanying Fr. Lehtoranta on his sick calls, a true “on the job training.” The Smiths, Angela Segrist and Bee Lutkehaus, Margaret Sutton and mother Nellie were all very happy to see him.

We all were so happy to hear the good news about Janet Clementi. She moved out here from the East a few years ago, but has been in a nursing home for a while, quite sick and unable to communicate or receive. Well, that lifted and she devoutly indicated her desire to receive Our Lord in Holy Communion the other week. Nathalie Andreotta has been faithfully visiting her all the way through. God love them both!

How much God would love to have a visit from you some lonely weekday! The other day we honored St. Cajetan, reformer of priests and friend of the poor. “I shall never be content until I see Christians flocking like little children to the priest to be fed on the Bread of Life with eagerness and delight,” he once said. I agree.

But if we truly make our Sunday Communion “with eagerness and delight,” *surely* we would yearn to receive Him, source of all our strength, font of grace, *sometimes* during the week, “just because....” “We are able to possess Christ, the Son of the Virgin Mary, and we do not desire Him.” St. Cajetan concludes with a warning: “Trouble comes to the one who does not care to receive Him.” Let us trouble ourselves, rather, to get to Him when we may. Soon enough we will be helpless, in this life or the next. Come to Him when you can.

Well, this week will be different, for the Holy Day summons us all away from work and play to hear Mary’s Assumption Mass that day. There will be rejoicing among the Assumption angels, I know, to see so many joining in their praise. Bring some produce and garden flowers to the grotto at 9:00 AM for the blessing, and process with us into church for Our Lady’s great Mass.



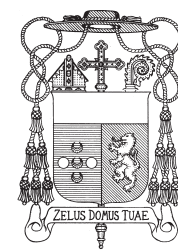
*Queen assumed into Heaven,
pray for us!*

Doby Curran has been helping us lately with the grounds, as have Brendan and several others – thank you! Many hands tackled the overgrown euonymus ground cover by our new sign. My Butterfly Bush is overgrown, too, but I don’t mind. The coolish Summer must agree with it. I even saw a Monarch butterfly (rare nowadays) enjoying the blossoms, having them all to itself.

I hope you are considering a memorial stone or two for the cloister garden. You will thus remember in stone some loved one or beloved saint, even as you contribute to the cloister’s completion.

Heaven’s brave little champion of Christ and great miracle worker, St. Philomena, comes today. She especially protects children and schools and the Children of Mary. May she oversee the new school season which will soon be upon us, and bless her Rosary children for Tuesday’s procession for peace.

Tuesday *and* Thursday this week, the Rosary and the Mass, and both for Our Lady...and for us. May your week be a blessed one!



– Bishop Dolan

A summary of the whole "African American" question, from a black professor of economics:

Weakening of black family led to social problems

If we put ourselves into the shoes of racists who seek to sabotage black upward mobility, we couldn't develop a more effective agenda than that followed by civil rights organizations, black politicians, academics, liberals and the news media. Let's look at it.

First, weaken the black family, but don't blame it on individual choices. You have to preach that today's weak black family is a legacy of slavery, Jim Crow and racism. The truth is that black female-headed households were just 18 percent of households in 1950, as opposed to about 68 percent today. In fact, from 1890 to 1940, the black marriage rate was slightly higher than that of whites. Even during slavery, when marriage was forbidden for blacks, most black children lived in biological two-parent families. In New York City, in 1925, 85 percent of black households were two-parent households. A study of 1880 family structure in Philadelphia shows that three-quarters of black families were two-parent households.

During the 1960s, devastating nonsense emerged, exemplified by a Johns Hopkins University sociology professor who argued, "It has yet to be shown that the absence of a father was directly responsible for any of the supposed deficiencies of broken homes." The real issue, he went on to say, "is not the lack of male presence but the lack of male income." That suggests marriage

and fatherhood can be replaced by a welfare check.

The poverty rate among blacks is 36 percent. Most black poverty is found in female-headed households. The poverty rate among black married couples has been in single digits since 1994 and is about 8 percent today. The black illegitimacy rate is 75 percent, and in some cities it's 90 percent. But if that's a legacy of slavery, it must have skipped several generations, because in the 1940s, unwed births hovered around 14 percent.

Along with the decline of the black family comes anti-social behavior, manifested by high crime rates. Each year, roughly 7,000 blacks are murdered. Ninety-four percent of the time, the murderer is another black person. According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, between 1976 and 2011, there were 279,384 black murder victims. Using the 94 percent figure means that 262,621 were murdered by other blacks. Though blacks are 13 percent of the nation's population, they account for more than 50 percent of homicide victims. Nationally, the black homicide victimization rate is six times that of whites, and in some cities it's 22 times that of whites. I'd like for the president, the civil rights establishment, white liberals and the news media, who spent massive resources protesting the George Zimmerman trial's verdict, to tell the nation whether they believe that the major murder problem blacks face is murder by whites. There are no such protests against the thousands of black murders.

There's an organization called NeighborhoodScout. Using 2011 population data from the U.S.

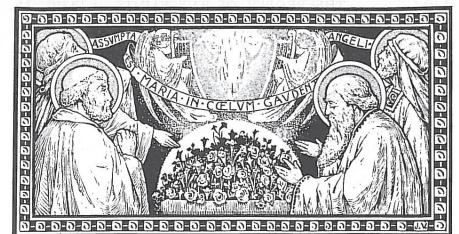
Census Bureau, 2011 crime statistics from the FBI and information from 17,000 local law enforcement agencies in the country, it came up with a report titled "Top 25 Most Dangerous Neighborhoods in America."

They include neighborhoods in Detroit, Chicago, Houston, St. Louis and other major cities. What's common to all 25 neighborhoods is that their makeup is described as "black" or "mostly black." The high crime rates have several outcomes that are not in the best interests of the overwhelmingly law-abiding people in these neighborhoods. There can't be much economic development. Property has a lower value, but worst of all, people can't live with the kind of personal security that most Americans enjoy.

Disgustingly, black politicians, civil rights leaders, liberals and the president are talking nonsense about "having a conversation about race." That's beyond useless. Tell me how a conversation with white people is going to stop black predators from preying on blacks.

– Walter E. Williams,
Syndicated Columnist
(*The Enquirer*, 8/4/13)

Walter E. Williams is a professor of economics at George Mason University.



The following private Masses

were said by Fr. McKenna:

Paulina Strauss (*A friend*)

Poor Souls (*DJR*)

Poor Souls (*Arlinghaus family*)

A good read....Liberal principles + practice = Detroit Disaster.

Rescue Detroit? Let the city fail

DETROIT – In 1860, an uneasy Charles Darwin confided in a letter to a friend: "I had no intention to write atheistically" but "I cannot persuade myself that a beneficent and omnipotent God would have designedly created the Ichneumonidae with the express intention of their feeding within the living bodies of caterpillars." What appalled him had fascinated entomologist William Kirby: The ichneumon insect inserts an egg in a caterpillar, and the larva hatched from it, he said, "gnaws the inside of the caterpillar, and though at last it has devoured almost every part of it except the skin and intestines, carefully all this time avoids injuring the vital organs, as if aware that its own existence depends on that of the insect on which it preys!"

Government employees' unions living parasitically on Detroit have been less aware than ichneumon larvae. About them, and their collaborators in the political class, the question is: What. Were. They. Thinking? Well, how did Bernie Madoff or the Enron executives convince themselves their houses of cards would never collapse?

Here, where cattle could graze in vast swaths of this depopulated city, democracy ratified a double delusion: Magic would rescue the city, or Washington would deem Detroit, as it recently did some banks and two of the three Detroit-based automobile companies, "too big to fail." But Detroit failed long ago. And not even Washington, whose recklessness is almost limitless, is oblivious to the minefield of moral hazard it would

stride into if it rescued this city and, then inevitably, others that are buckling beneath the weight of their cumulative follies. It is axiomatic: When there is no penalty for failure, failures proliferate.

This bedraggled city's decay poses no theological conundrum of the sort that troubled Darwin, but it does pose worrisome questions about the viability of democracy in jurisdictions where big government and its unionized employees collaborate in pillaging taxpayers. Self-government has failed in what once was America's fourth-largest city and now is smaller than Charlotte, N.C. Detroit, which boomed during World War II when industrial America was "the arsenal of democracy," died of democracy. Today, among the exculpatory alibis invoked to deflect blame from the political class and the docile voters who empowered it, is the myth that Detroit is simply a victim of "de-industrialization." In 1950, however, Detroit and Chicago were comparable – except Detroit was probably wealthier, as measured by per capita income. Chicago lost manufacturing jobs too, to the American South, to south of the border, to South Korea and elsewhere. But Chicago discerned the future and diversified. It is grimly ironic that Chicago's iconic street is Michigan Avenue.

Detroit's population, which is 62 percent smaller than in 1950, has contracted less than the United Auto Workers membership, which was more than 1 million in 1950, and now is around 390,000. Auto industry executives, who often were invertebrate mediocrities, continually bought labor peace by mortgaging their companies' futures in surrenders to union demands. Then city officials gave their employees –

who have 47 unions, including one for crossing guards – pay scales comparable to those of autoworkers. Thus did private-sector decadence drive public-sector dysfunction – government negotiating with government-employees' unions that are government organized as an interest group to lobby itself to do what it wants to do: Grow.

Steven Rattner, who administered the bailout of part of the Detroit-based portion of the U.S. auto industry, says "apart from voting in elections, the 700,000 remaining residents of the Motor City are no more responsible for Detroit's problems than were the victims of Hurricane Sandy for theirs." Congress, he says, should bail out Detroit because "America is just as much about aiding those less fortunate as it is about personal responsibility."

There you have today's liberalism: Human agency, hence responsibility, is denied. Apart from the pesky matter of "voting in elections" – apart from decades of voting to empower incompetents, scoundrels and criminals, and to mandate unionized rapacity – no one is responsible for anything.

Popular sovereignty is a chimera because impersonal forces akin to hurricanes are sovereign.

The restoration of America's vitality depends on, among many other things, avoiding the bottomless sinkhole that would be created by the federal government rescuing one-party cities, and one-party states such as Illinois, from the consequences of unchecked power.

The consequences of such power – incompetence, magical thinking, cynicism, and sometimes criminality – are written in Detroit's ruins.

– *George Will, Washington Post Columnist*
(*The Enquirer*, 8/4/13)



Calling all Catholics



for the Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady
Thursday, August 15, 2013

8:45 AM: Rosary at the Grotto, followed by Blessing of the First Fruits, and Procession to Church.

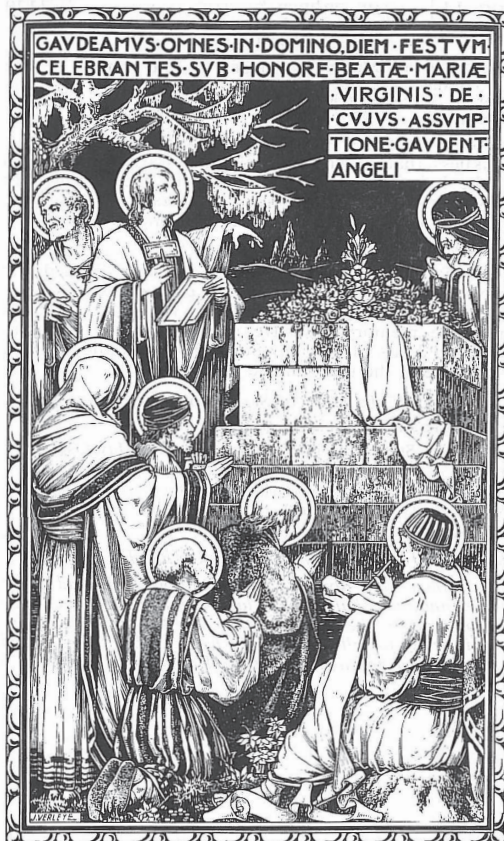


9:00 AM: Pontifical High Mass of the Assumption

Bring the whole family to the Lourdes Grotto (and your First Fruits: flowers, herbs, fruits, and vegetables) at **8:45 AM**. The Rosary will be prayed, followed by the blessing of the First Fruits. Bring a basket from your garden! The children will then carry blessed flowers, and lead the procession of the faithful into church for Holy Mass. Representing the angels, the children will fill Mary's tomb with flowers.



Plus:
**Early Morning
Low Mass**
especially
for workers
(no sermon)
7:00 AM



Finally:
Confessions,
Rosary &
Benediction:
5:10 PM

Evening
Low Mass
5:45 PM

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

MON	8/12/13	ST CLARE, V
	8:00 AM	Low Mass Ken Gilliam-successful surgery (<i>Katie Bischak</i>)
	9:00 AM	Low Mass Richard Rentschler-Birthday (<i>DJR</i>)
TUE	8/13/13	SS HIPPOLYTUS & CASSIAN, MM
		<i>ST JOHN BERCHMANS, C</i>
		<i>OUR LADY, REFUGE OF SINNERS</i>
	7:00 AM	Low Mass Joseph & Natalie Kunkel (<i>Mr. & Mrs. Victor Ritze</i>)
	8:00 AM	Requiem High Mass Purgatorian Society Summer Novena
	5:45 PM	Low Mass †Philippine de Gerin (<i>Kirby & Jean Bischel</i>) Summer Novena
	7:15 PM	Fatima Rosary Procession for peace (Union Centre Blvd. & Floer Drive)
WED	8/14/13	VIGIL OF THE ASSUMPTION
		ST EUSEBIUS, C
	8:00 AM	Low Mass Poor Souls-gratitude-Florence S. conversion (<i>DJR</i>)
	5:00 PM	Low Mass †Romilda Uhlenbrock (<i>Capetillo family</i>)
THU	8/15/13	THE ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY
	7:00 AM	Low Mass (<i>for workers-no sermon</i>) For the people of St. Gertrude the Great
	8:30 AM	Confessions
	8:45 AM	Rosary at the Lourdes Grotto
	9:00 AM	Blessing of First Fruits, Procession, Pontifical High Mass Connie Kamphaus & family, and †Tom Kamphaus (<i>John Wiesman</i>)
	4:30 PM	Vespers of the Annunciation, Exposition
	5:10 PM	Confessions & Rosary, followed by Benediction
	5:45 PM	Low Mass Thank you Sisters of St. Thomas (<i>Girls' Camp</i>)
FRI	8/16/13	ST JOACHIM, FATHER OF OUR LADY
		<i>ST ROCH, C</i>
	8:00 AM	Low Mass †Maria Duff and her family (<i>Mike Briggs family</i>)
	5:15 PM	Confessions & Rosary
	5:45 PM	High Mass In thanksgiving & honor of St. Philomena (<i>Patrick Omlor</i>)
	6:30 PM	Sacred Heart Novena & Benediction
SAT	8/17/13	ST HYACINTH, C
		OCTAVE DAY OF ST LAWRENCE
	7:15 AM	Confessions
	7:30 AM	Low Mass Mr. & Mrs. Bischel (<i>Samantha</i>)
	8:10 AM	Sermon, Low Mass Bishop Dolan's health & his intentions (<i>Mike Briggs family</i>)

THE SUMMER NOVENA : WEEK NINE

**Meditation for St. Anthony's Tuesday:
St. Anthony Helps His Devotees**

St. Anthony passed the nine years of his apostolate doing good and healing the sick. He has a remedy for all misfortunes of men.

*The sea withdraws and fetters break,
And withered limbs he doth restore,
While treasures lost are found again,
When young or old his help implore.*

Prayer: Glorious St. Anthony, obtain for us the great privilege of receiving Jesus Christ in our hearts to remain forever as King of all our affections. Amen.



St. Anthony, who restorest to young and old the use of their limbs, obtain for us the perfect use of the senses of our body and the faculties of our soul.

*— from St. Bonaventure's prayers on the 13 petitions
of the Miraculous Responsory of St. Anthony*

*This meditation and prayers may be included as private devotions in
connection with the Summer Novena for Tuesday, August 13th.*

Prayer at the Preface of the Mass

Lift up, O Lord, lift up my heart to Thee. Take from it all unholy thoughts, all earthly affections. Lift it wholly up to Heaven, where Thou art incessantly adored, and to the altar, where Thou art about to appear. My life is but one continual succession of Thy mercies, let it be one continual succession of acts of thanksgiving; and as Thou art now about to renew the greatest of all sacrifices, is it not meet that I should burst forth in expressions of heartfelt gratitude? Suffer me then, to join my feeble voice with the voices of all the heavenly spirits, and in union with them to say in a transport of joy and admiration: *Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of Hosts. The heavens and the earth are full of Thy Glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He that cometh, Hosanna in the highest.*

SUN 8/18/13 PENTECOST XIII
WITHIN THE OCTAVE
ST AGAPITUS, M
ST HELENA, EMPRESS, W

7:05 AM **Rosary**

7:30 AM **Low Mass** Jim Soli-Thank you for beautiful altar (*M/M Victor Ritze*)

9:00 AM **High Mass** †Fr. Martin Stepanich, OFM, STD (*Samantha Current*)

11:05 AM **Rosary**

11:30 AM **Low Mass** †Virgil McCormick (*Margaret & Albert Daniel Kinnett*)

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

AS WISE AS PIGEONS: LESSONS NEVER LEARNED

I always ask my freshmen college students what they've studied in high schools public and parochial, and, more to the point, *what they have not studied, what they haven't ever heard of*. "I'm going to name a few English writers," I said. "All I want to know is whether you recognize the names. You don't have to tell me anything about them." These people were bright enough, as you could tell from their conversation.

Milton. No recognition. Wordsworth. No recognition. Tennyson. One of the boys said, "Albert?" That was a hint that he had once heard the name. "Close," I said. "Alfred, Lord Tennyson, the great Victorian poet. Can you tell me anything about him?" No, nothing. "What on earth do you do in school for twelve years?" I asked. That's a question I've asked a thousand times. They laughed. They were not going to defend their schools. They knew they were indefensible.

They did tell me that they read Shakespeare, one play a year, detached from the history of England, from the tradition of English literature, and, most disappointing, from Shakespeare's Christian faith. *Shakespeare is the most theological of English dramatists*. It's not simply that he alludes to scripture all the time. It's that entire plays are structured around theological questions – and are incomprehensible without the foundation of the Christian story.

One young lady wouldn't allow that Shakespeare was a profoundly Christian author; not because her interpretation differed from mine, but because, in comparison with the gospel, the Christian writer meant nothing, even if he was the greatest dramatist who ever lived. I said, "You might have learned about Bach, that giant of a composer, who dedicated every work he composed to the name of Jesus Christ!" She shrugged and said she enjoyed Bach, but she wouldn't go so far as to call him a Christian. *She was moved not one inch by the wealth of Christian history, art, music, drama, and poetry that she had been denied the chance to study*.

Which brings me to the Common Core Curriculum that is being pedaled (*not peddled; the governmental foot is on the accelerator*) to our schools. Apparently plenty of Catholic schools are on board, too. That is baffling. Every big "reform" of the public schools for the last 60 years has been disastrous – the expunging of any trace of religion from the classroom; the replacement of small schools with hulking institutions; the consolidation of school boards to attenuate local control and personal oversight; the abandonment of geography; the shift from history to current events; the New Math; the basal reader; comic books to amuse the poorer students; the war on boys; the expansion of health class to "sex education"; teaching to standardized tests; absurdly biased textbooks; the abandonment of any systematic study of grammar;

teaching foreign languages "conversationally," which means, in effect, illiterately; abandonment of math-based sciences such as physics and chemistry, in favor of biology, reduced to ecology, reduced to cuddles; *what on earth would make us think that anything this system produces can do us any good?* Homeschoolers (and smallschoolers) enjoy their signal and mortifying success largely because they see every-thing that is done in school and then go and do precisely the opposite.

– Anthony Esolen, Crisis Magazine July 2013 (edited, some emphasis added)



TRAINING: *Shakespeare wrote: "In religion, what damned error, but some sober brow will bless it, and approve it with a text, hiding its grossness with fair ornament." It is to spare the faithful such confusion that the Church requires a prolonged theological training for her priests; they are to pass on to the faithful the truth which traces back through the Apostles to the Lord Himself. But the laity should also know some theology, which is always useful. One need not always be defending the faith; one can also find time to enjoy it, by studying and penetrating more deeply into its astonishing mysteries.*

THE LESSON OF FORGIVENESS

VENERABLE SAINTS: *Ven. Isidore Bakanja (1885-1909)*

If Isidore Bakanja had cursed the man who had him beaten with an elephant hide strip studded with nails, it would have been understandable. Instead, even as he lay dying of the massive infection resulting from his wounds, he said, "Certainly I shall pray for him. When I am in Heaven, I shall pray for him very much."

Ven. Isidore was a member of the Boangi tribe in the Belgian Congo in Africa. A convert to Christianity, he was whipped for refusing to remove his scapular. Although the beating took place in February, he lingered for nearly six months, suffering intense pain from the open, festering wounds covering his back. When medical treatment was finally sought, it was too little, too late. He died on the Feast of the Assumption, August 15, 1909.

When someone hurts us, we want revenge, not a chance to practice forgiveness. Yet, to put a new twist on an old saying, time wounds all heels. Everyone gets their comeuppance sooner or later. If it doesn't happen in this life, it will in the next. No good deed goes unrewarded and no evil deed goes unpunished. When we understand that we don't have to be judge, jury, and executioner for all who hurt us, we are free to leave vengeance to the Lord. It might not come in the way we would like and it probably won't come in the time frame we would choose, but it will come.