

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

September 8, 2013 Nativity of Our Lady

Pentecost XVI



LET US KEEP THE FEAST OF THE MOST
NOBLE NATIVITY
OF THE GLORIOUS VIRGIN MARY

✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS

¶The traditional blessing of seeds and seedlings in honor of Our Lady's Nativity takes place after the High Mass. Everyone is invited to take part in the procession to the grotto for the blessing, and each child is welcome to take home a blessed seedling and some seeds for planting. A little birthday party for the Blessed Mother follows, in Helfta Hall. Again, all are invited

Our celebration of Mary's birthday continues with Vespers at 4:45 PM, followed by Benediction.



¶ALTER CHRISTUS

\$158 in alms was received this month for Masses for the sanctification and support of priests. God bless you for your generous giving!

*O our sovereign Lady,
commend us to your Son.*

¶THIS WEEK

The first full week of school commences **Monday** with **St. Peter Claver**, another saint of the Americas, "slave of the slaves." On **Tuesday** we conclude our *Summer Novena* to Our Mother of Perpetual Help, along with the last of the Thirteen Tuesdays of St. Anthony. **Wednesday** marks another anniversary of 9/11, as good a day as any to come to church. Continue to honor Maria Bambina on **Thursday**, feast of the **Holy Name of Mary**. The

Lumen Christi

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

The Holy Souls
(Barbara Stump)

Votive Mass of the Immaculate Heart of Mary is offered at 5:45 PM **Friday**, leading us to the Fatima Rosary Procession at 7:15. The great glorious feast of the instrument of our salvation, the **Holy Cross**, falls on **Saturday**. Our traditional blessing and veneration of our precious relic of the True Cross will take place *between* the two morning Masses at approximately 8:20 AM.

*The cross will certainly be dear to you
if the crucified Jesus is very dear to you.*

¶NEXT SUNDAY

Third Sunday of the month, with the blessing of expectant mothers given after all Masses. Our annual picnic takes place at Sharon Woods Park, from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM. We'll provide the hamburgers, hot dogs, and beverages. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share; most of all, bring yourself and the whole family.

Set Your Missal: Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary, commemoration and Proper Last Gospel of Pentecost XVII. Preface of the B.V.M.

Millions of Muslims are willing to fight to drive us out of their part of the world. How many Americans are willing to send our sons to die for secular democracy and American values in their part of the world?
— Pat Buchanan

¶PRAYERS, PLEASE...

Please continue to pray for all our sick and shut in, especially for Mary Safrey, Jane Donadio, Jeff Kamphaus, and Richard and Elizabeth Smith.

*"Silence, prayer, suffering, waiting:
these are the lessons
Our Lady is always teaching me."
— St. Mary Euphrasia Pelletier*

¶THE ROSARY CHAIN

To request prayers for your special intentions, or to assist in the Rosary Chain, please contact the church office (call 513-645-4212 or e-mail parishoffice@sgg.org).

Servers: SEPTEMBER 9 - 15, 2013

| | |
|----------|--|
| FRI 9/13 | 5:45 PM LOW: Friday Night Servers |
| SAT 9/14 | 7:30 AM HIGH: Simpsons 8:20 AM LOW: M. Briggs |
| SUN 9/15 | 7:30 AM LOW: Brueggemann Bros. 9:00 AM HIGH: CHAPLAINS: T. Simpson, Sr., B. Lotarski ACS: S. & L. Arlinghaus TH: S. Lawrence TORCH: A. Soli, M. Simpson, P. & N. McClorey 11:30 AM LOW: A.D. Kinnert, P. Omlor 5:45 PM LOW: G. Miller |

Collection Report

Sunday, September 1st\$3,120.00
Second Collection\$859.00

Fatima Rosary Procession for Peace

Friday, September 13, 2013 – 7:15 PM



Join us for the next-to-last 2013 Fatima Rosary Procession of Reparation, praying for peace, on **Friday, September 13th** (*immediately following the 5:45 PM Mass*) at **7:15 PM**. We meet in the parking lot at Union Centre Blvd. & Floer Drive (look for First Watch restaurant). The beautiful statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be illuminated atop the bier, and the Rosary Procession will commence promptly at **7:15 PM**.

(In the event of rain, the Rosary will be recited in church.)

"Continue to say the Rosary to obtain the end of the war"
 - *Our Lady of Fatima, September 13, 1917*

Sponsored by the Rosary Confraternity of St. Gertrude the Great Church



Sunday.

One of the most celebrated of English lawyers, Sir Matthew Hale, is said to have been the author of the following lines, the first two of which have become a proverb throughout England, and wherever the English language is spoken:

*A Sunday well spent
 Brings a week of content,
 And health for the toils of the morrow;
 But a Sunday profaned,
 Whate'er may be gained,
 Is a certain forerunner of sorrow.*
 - *The Ave Maria*



If we kneel before the Blessed Sacrament with feelings of weariness and discouragement, there gradually steals over us a feeling of peace; the power of this Divine Heart brings calm to our troubled souls.

WE GET LETTERS... ST ANTHONY GETS THANKS

Dear Bishop Dolan: Enclosed in this envelope is some money for Saint Anthony in thanks for answering my prayers. You see, when we were leaving Kentucky I lost my ring that has tremendous sentimental value to me, in our rental car. I promised Saint Anthony if he found my ring before we left the airport I would give him some money in return. So in this envelope is an offering for him. We had an amazing time going to church and I hope that very soon we will be frequent members of St. Gertrude the Great.

- *Miss A.M.R., Texas*

A wonderful letter from a recent visitor, with an offering which was placed in St. Anthony's poor box. This is a great way to thank the good Saint for favors received, by putting some money in his "Bread for the Poor" box. Remember? You'll find it right outside the door to the Gift Shop. Why not honor St. Anthony further by coming for the last of his Thirteen Tuesdays this week?

.....
 "We are not bound to be justices of peace, but we are bound to be angels of peace."

- St. Thérèse, the Little Flower

Our Lady's Birth

Once a plant grew from the waters
 Of a sin-enveloped world;
 And two leaves, like Hope's fair
 banners,
 Slowly to the light unfurled.

Then a lily bloomed beside them,
 All of peerless, snowy white, -
 At the dawn a golden sunbeam,
 And a star-ray in the night.

David's stem it was that nourished
 Through dark years of sin and rue
 Anne and Joachim the blessed,
 From whose hearts the lily grew.

Ah! dear Flower, thou radiant Lily,
 God must love our poor, sad earth,
 Since, for all its sin and weakness,
 It has known thy blessed birth.

- *Cascia.*



O Mary all beautiful, the enemy could in nothing prevail against you, for a thousand bucklers hang upon you, all the armor of valiant men. For there is no virtue which did not shine resplendent in you.

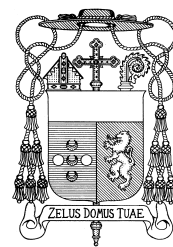


"Life is very short, and the world to come already dawns upon us. Choose boldly a life devoted to Christ. Be His above all; be His only. Hear the Church saying, 'My Beloved is mine, and I am His.'"

- *Cardinal Manning*

✠ THE BISHOP'S CORNER ✠

Blessed birthday of the Blessed Virgin! It is a blessing to have her birthday fall on a Sunday so that all may honor the happy dawn of our salvation. Draw near to her cradle in a childlike spirit. It is pleasing to her that we honor thus her infancy and quick passing childhood. Ask her to make you a child for the sake of the Kingdom. Pray for all of our children, who need to be studying their faith for *at least* a few minutes once a week, on the Lord's Day. Enroll your children in catechism classes, if you have not yet done so. Classes start in earnest next Sunday for both adults and children. Parents, *please* don't starve your children.



This Sunday we are privileged to offer a Solemn High Mass as our principal Mass, taking advantage of our deacon's last day with us. The **Rev. Mr. Bede Nkamuke** departs this afternoon for the seminary. This Fall he will be a busy man, both taking and giving courses, as well as preparing for his November ordination. I have asked him as well to preach to us today. It is his first sermon, given on this blessed feast day of Our Lady's Nativity.

Things are quietly humming around here this early Autumn, now that school has resumed. I am happy to have again the rhythm of the school day and year, with its high point the daily 11:20 High Mass, which gives such glory to God, and spiritual formation to our little ones. There are as well *virtual* Mass-goers from around the world with us daily on the web. The pleasant weather as we resumed things last week was a grand grace from the good God and His saints. Doby Curran continues to do a great job keeping our grounds well trimmed.

Our Lady's Birthday Octave leads us to a very busy weekend. Please be with us for Friday's (**two** prayerful Fridays in a row!) penultimate penitential procession for peace at 7:15 PM. The war drums beat ever louder. May the chorus of marching feet behind Mary's banner, and heaven-sent Hail Marys be even louder than the cries of madmen for yet another war. War is the punishment for sin. Help us to escape it by employing Heaven's remedy, Rosaries in reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Saturday's great feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross might be overlooked this year, but it should not be. The cross is *our* battle ensign, and "Christ Crucified" our cry which leads us to victory, and defends us daily from the foe.

Next Sunday we keep as always the feast of Mary's Martyrdom, her Seven Sorrows. That afternoon is our annual parish picnic, a priceless time for having a good time with your fellow Catholics, perhaps getting to know some from one of the other Masses. We provide the burgers, dogs, and drinks; the rest is potluck. Bring something to share, but most of all bring yourself. All the Fathers hope to be there, and I hope you will as well.

Fr. McKenna is finishing a mission circuit in North Dakota, Minnesota and Milwaukee today. Father has graciously agreed to be our guest speaker for the annual Rosary Confraternity Communion Breakfast after the High Mass and Procession on Rosary Sunday, October 6th. I have asked him to tell us a little about himself, and his road to the Holy Priesthood. Mark your calendar! Tickets will be on sale soon.

A final happy note: you proved me wrong, and I was delighted so to be undone! We had an *excellent* attendance for our "American St. Joseph's Day" last Monday. In fact, we had so many that I had to put more hosts into the ciborium (O happy problem!) for Fr. McKenna's High Mass. It was a splendid morning for good St. Joseph. The entire forenoon was occupied with four Masses for the Foster-Father and Protector, one Mass succeeding another at St. Joseph's beautifully decorated altar. May he indeed bless our work and prayer and the happy times we share in this new season and year.

God bless you and inspire you with great love for Mary and Joseph!

– Bishop Dolan



The Birth of Mary.

At the time of Mary's birth, the whole world was plunged in darkness. The heathen nations were steeped in vice and pride. The Jews, too, had corrupted their ways and departed from God. Everywhere there was sin and gloom, scarce a bright spot on the face of the earth. But when Mary was born a light arose amid the darkness: the dawn of the glorious day that was to usher in the Redeemer. So, too, the darkness of the sinner's soul is dispersed by Mary's holy influence. Where the love of her is born in the soul, all becomes full of light, and Jesus comes to make His habitation there.

– Fr. F.X. Lasance

The End of Christianity in Arab lands?

When the despotic King Herod plotted to kill Jesus by sending his agents to slaughter every boy under the age of 2 in and around Bethlehem, an angel appeared to Joseph and told him, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and escape to Egypt."

That, says the Gospel of Matthew, fulfilled what God said through the prophet Hosea: "Out of Egypt I called my son."

Now, two millennia later, we may live in a time when Christians must flee for their lives out of Egypt — not into it. They do not fear being slaughtered by King Herod, but by the Muslim Brotherhood.

When St. Paul was still persecuting Christians, Jesus struck him down with a bolt of light as he was on the road to Damascus. Paul regained his sight in that city and began his mission of spreading Christianity throughout the world.

Today, Christians fear being struck down on the roads of Syria not by bolts of light, but by Islamist revolutionaries allied with al-Qaida.

In Egypt last week, Islamists attacked 63 Christian churches. In Syria, rebels shot 11 people on the road between two Christian villages.

In our time, Christianity could be driven from some of the lands where it first took root.

If that dark and epochal moment comes, some of the blame for it must be pinned on the messianic foreign policies pursued by our most recent two presidents, George W. Bush and Barack Obama.

After al-Qaida attacked the United States on Sept. 11, 2001, this nation had a just cause in punishing the perpetrators of those attacks and making sure they could make no further assaults on our homeland. That, of course, required military action in those places where al-Qaida took sanctuary — particularly Afghanistan.

But George W. Bush thought it was his mission to make it America's mission to literally end tyranny in the world and implant "democracy" everywhere.

Obama did not reverse Bush's policy, but added another ill-advised element...he portrayed the Muslim majorities in the Middle East as victims of Western colonialism and Cold War policies.

What has happened in the MidEast during the Bush and Obama presidencies?

"The government of Iraq continues to tolerate systematic, ongoing and egregious religious freedom violations, including violent, religiously motivated attacks." Christians and other religious minorities, says the commission on International Religious Freedom, "have fled the country in recent years, threatening these communities' continued existence in Iraq."

The CIA estimates ten percent of Egyptians are Christians. But with their systematic attacks on Christian churches, Islamists are sending a message to Christians who still live in that land where Jesus once lived: Get out.

The Bush-Obama policies were rooted in two great errors. Their job was not to change other nations, but to protect the liberty, security and prosperity of this nation.

— Terence P. Jeffrey, CNSnews.com 8/21/13

Well, we have lost our liberty and our privacy, and the last Christians of the Holy Land (where once Our Lord lived and walked) have lost their churches and their lives, and been reduced to refugees. "Good job, Brownie!"



Who owns the future?

Looking back, of all the forces unleashed by the Arab Spring, the Facebook-Twitter crowd calling for secular democracy harvested the greatest publicity. But even then, other forces seemed to have deeper and broader roots in the hearts and minds of the masses. Those forces: tribalism, nationalism and Islamism.

And as the Jews have been expelled from the Arab world, today it is the turn of the Christians. They have seen priests murdered, churches torched and congregations massacred in Iraq, Syria,

Egypt and beyond, in Ethiopia and Nigeria — by extremists who cite the Quran for what they are doing. And after the Jews and Christians are gone, it is likely to be the turn of the Americans.

Why? First, the Americans are seen as standing behind Israel's regional superiority and dominance of the Palestinian Arabs.

Second, while we defend our wars as liberations from dictatorship and obscurantism, they are seen over there as America using her power to impose upon these nations our institutions and our ideology. And while America's achievements may inspire awe, its culture, suffused with feminist and Hollywood values, evokes revulsion.

Third, there is a growing confidence in the Islamic world that the future belongs to them. Whence comes this confidence? Western peoples are dying, as Muslim populations are exploding and Muslim migrants are pouring into Europe and the US. While Islam is booming in the East and being welcomed in the West, Christianity is dying in the West and being expelled from the East.

Fourth, while Egypt's army has the guns and, temporarily, the banner of patriotism, it has no faith, no philosophy, no ideology to justify an indefinite hold on power. When this generation of generals is seen as incompetent and repressive, upon what do they fall back to justify their legitimacy to the next crowd in Tahrir Square?

Indeed, this is America's dilemma. When Japan attacked and Adolf Hitler declared war, and when Josef Stalin set out to dominate the world, all we held dear — faith, family, freedom, country — said resist. When Osama bin Laden took down our towers, we united to take down him and al-Qaida. (But for what are we fighting now?)

Ethnonationalism and religious fundamentalism tore apart the British, French and Soviet empires. All are working now against the U.S. Imperium. The generals in Egypt won this round. But is there any doubt as to which way the wind is blowing?

— Patrick J. Buchanan, creators.com, 8/20/13

✠ THE CALENDAR

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

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| MON | 9/9/13 | ST PETER CLAVER, C ST GORGONIUS, M |
| | 8:00 AM | Low Mass †Earl Blain (Robert McDonald) |
| | 11:20 AM | High Mass Fr. McGuire-Happy Birthday! (The Fathers) |
| TUE | 9/10/13 | ST NICHOLAS OF TOLENTINO, C Closing of the Summer Novena |
| | 7:00 AM | Low Mass In honor of St. Anthony for lost item found (Regina Gilliam) |
| | 8:00 AM | Low Mass For priests (Frances Mattingly) Summer Novena |
| | 11:20 AM | High Mass Poor Souls-gratitude-Pattons' intentions (DJR) Summer Novena |
| | 5:00 PM | Low Mass †Earl Blain (Robert McDonald) Summer Novena |
| WED | 9/11/13 | Ss PROTUS & HYACINTH, MM |
| | 8:00 AM | Low Mass †Lucille Delawder, †Danny Delawder (Dale Wilker family) |
| | 11:20 AM | High Mass Forgotten Souls (G. Keaveney) |
| | 5:00 PM | Low Mass †Mike Hinton (H.O. & Becky Hinton) |
| | 6:30 PM | Choir Practice |
| THU | 9/12/13 | THE MOST HOLY NAME OF MARY |
| | 7:00 AM | Low Mass Cucina Clerical-for our cooks (The Fathers) |
| | 8:00 AM | Low Mass Javier Capetillo (Capetillo family) |
| | 11:20 AM | High Mass †Sr. Gerard, OSF-11th anniversary |
| | 5:00 PM | Low Mass Bishop Dolan's intention-Deceased brother (Simpson family) |
| FRI | 9/13/13 | FERIAL DAY RESUMED MASS OF SUNDAY |
| | 8:00 AM | Low Mass †Earl Blain (Robert McDonald) |
| | 10:55 AM | Confessions |
| | 11:20 AM | High Mass Richard & Elizabeth Smith (G. Keaveney) |
| | 5:15 PM | Confessions & Rosary |
| | 5:45 PM | Votive Low Mass of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Special Intention C, M & B (G. Keaveney) |
| | 6:30 PM | Sacred Heart Novena & Benediction |
| | 7:15 PM | Fatima Rosary Procession for Peace (Union Centre Blvd. & Floer Drive) |
| SAT | 9/14/13 | EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS |
| | 7:10 AM | Confessions |
| | 7:30 AM | High Mass Poor Souls-Thank you, Our Lady of Consolation (Simpson family) |
| | 8:20 AM | Blessing with the Relic of the True Cross, Low Mass †Kathleen Sanborn (Samantha) |

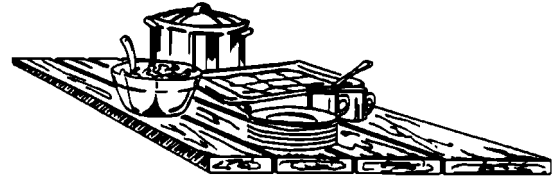
PARISH PICNIC

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2013

Sharon Woods Park
at Council Bluff Shelter

Enter Park Main Entrance from Lebanon Road
(Rt 42) – Take 3rd right – Council Bluff will be
the 2nd Picnic Area

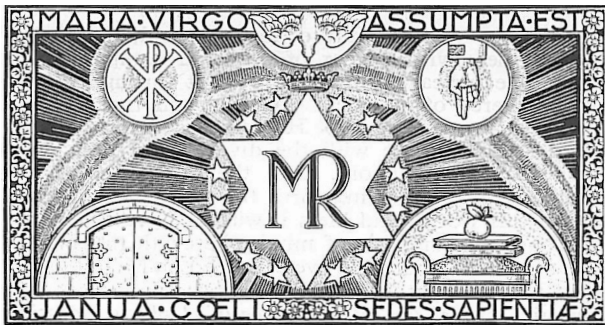
.FUN .GAMES . FOOD .
FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY!
PICNIC BEGINS AT 1:00 PM



Please bring a dish to share:
(Baked Beans, Potato Salad, Cole Slaw,
Fruit, Chips, Dessert, etc.)

(Hamburgers, Hot Dogs and Soft Drinks
will be provided)
See you there!!

| | | |
|-----|--------------|---|
| SUN | 9/15/13 | SEVEN SORROWS OF OUR LADY PENTECOST XVII ST NICOMEDES, M |
| | 7:05 AM | Rosary |
| | 7:30 AM | Low Mass †Bobby De Christofaro (Jane & Rob Brockman) |
| | 9:00 AM | High Mass Poor Souls-Honor & praise to Trinity, gratitude for all our blessings (DJR) |
| | 10:40 AM | Sunday Catechism Classes |
| | 11:05 AM | Rosary |
| | 11:30 AM | Low Mass Return to the faith-family members (Donna Patton) |
| | 1:00-5:00 PM | Parish Picnic at Sharon Woods Park |
| | 5:45 PM | Low Mass For the people of St. Gertrude the Great |



*O Virgin Mother! pure and sweet,
As low before thee bending,
We cast our garlands at thy feet,
In faith and love unending.
We sing the glory of thy name,
Who bore our Lord and Brother,
And since from heaven the angel came,
Hast been our loving Mother.
Blessed name to God most dear,
Sweetest name to sinners here,
Holy name that all revere,
Virgin Mother Mary!*

- William Livingston



WHY I LOVE THEE, MARY

(Stanzas 1 and 2)

Ah! I would sing, my Mother, why I love thee so,
Why thy gentle name enralls my very heart,
And why thy wondrous splendour, 'tis my joy to know,
Never unto my soul doth pangs of fear impart.
If I visioned thee in glory of the skies,
Surpassing in thy beauty the ranks of blessed there,
I would, O Mother loved, lower my longing eyes,
To call myself thy child, ah! then I would not dare.

For that a child may cherish a Mother loved and dear,
Their hearts must weep together and kindred sorrows
share;

O Sovereign of my heart in this strange exile here,
How didst thou weep to draw me! What anguish thou
didst bear!

In pondering thy life as from the Gospel known,
I dare to look upon thee, to draw anear to thee.
I am in truth thy child, to me 'tis clearly shown,
For I behold thee human and suffering like me.

- St. Thérèse of Lisieux, May 1897

CLOSING OF THE SUMMER NOVENA

Thirteen Tuesdays of St. Anthony: Week 13 Tuesday:

Meditation: The Name of Jesus

No one can be saved but through the merits of Jesus Christ, whose name is most holy and can cause our prayer to be heard before the eternal Father's throne. Jesus said to His disciples before He left this world: "Up to now you have not asked anything in My name; ask and you shall receive, that your joy may be fulfilled." In the name of Jesus the crippled walked, the dead came back to life, the diseased were cured, the tempted, freed from temptations.



Through Jesus Christ St. Anthony performed many wonders. Therefore, let us beg St. Anthony to intercede for us before the eternal Father, through the Savior Jesus Christ.

Glorious St. Anthony, faithful lover of sweet Jesus, beg of Him that His most Holy Name be always a light for us, so that our life may be continually in harmony with His divine will. Amen.

Closing Prayers.

O good and loving Jesus, safe refuge of my needy soul! Here at Thy feet I implore Thee, I by the love which St. Anthony bore Thee, and by the love of Thy Sacred Heart, which induced Thee to appear to him in the form of a gracious little child, in order to caress, and comfort him: come to me in my present need and sore affliction. Come as my loving Father and God, and relieve me in my necessities. In Thee alone do I place all my hope and confidence.

O my dear patron, St. Anthony! Intercede for me before the throne of God and help me in my necessities, so that, like so many others whom thou hast aided, I may be able to exclaim with a joyful heart: Blessed be God, Who truly lives and reigns in His servant, St. Anthony! Amen.

Holy Child Jesus, who didst flee to the arms of thy Mother for refuge, and appear in the arms of St. Anthony to reward him; grant us, we beseech Thee, through the intercession of Our Mother of Perpetual Help and St. Anthony, a sure refuge in this life and the reward of life everlasting, who livest and reignest world without end. Amen.



The above meditation and prayers may be included as private devotions in connection with the closing of the Summer Novena on Tuesday, September 10th.