

# ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT NEWSLETTER

## MICHAELMAS 2014 No. 155

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### FROM BISHOP DOLAN

My dear Friends,

They say that when someone asks you how you are doing, you should never reply, "I'm **so** busy." Still, it certainly feels that way here at St. Gertrude the Great as our new season is in full gear. Fr. Cekada is working on a new edition of the almost-sold-out *Work of Human Hands*, preparing another year of seminary classes as well as two Restoration Radio shows each month, borrowing from Peter to pay Paul and keep the whole operation afloat, paying bills and thinking about how the transmission of one of our cars is going out, as well as planning a new choir season, and practicing and playing the organ. There's more, doubtless, but this will do.

Fr. Vili Lehtoranta is teaching in our school, frequently preaching, and celebrating the daily high Mass which is sung by the students and is the heart of our life here; often shopping and preparing meals, giving convert and refresher classes, hearing confessions and visiting the sick, and occasionally the missions. Much the same might be said of the others priests as well. Fr. McGuire and I just put together the priests' mission schedule through the First Sunday of Advent. Now he will spend hours online figuring out and booking tickets at the best possible prices. Fr. McGuire is officially pastor as well for St. Hugh in Milwaukee and St. Clare in Chillicothe, a duty he shares with Fr. McKenna, who also cares for our thriving missions in Rochester, Minnesota and Grand Forks, North Dakota, visiting them every three weeks. Don't forget St. Joseph's Mission in Milledgeville, Illinois. So much to do, at home and abroad, so much and so many not to be forgotten.

Fr. Bede Nkamuke is preparing to return to Nigeria as a new priest (his first anniversary is November 6th) and missionary. We want to help equip him as much as possible. The bishop is doing what bishops do, keeping an eye on things, writing, preaching, and corresponding, helping priests, praying, exhorting and being distracted. ("How long *do* you bake a frozen chicken pot pie?" was my latest one, popping up, unexpected and unwanted, during the Postcommunion of Our Lady of Ransom.) There is always the last trip to recover from, and the next to prepare for. In October I'll be doing a Confirmation and pastoral visit to Minnesota and North Dakota.

Our October shrines (Our Lady of the Rosary and the Angels) are going up in our church as I write this, and the final preparations are being made for Rosary Sunday's Communion



*Bp. Dolan is seen giving a special blessing is given to children on the last Sunday of September, which has come to be known as "Angel Sunday", at St. Gertrude the Great Church.*

Breakfast. Forty Hours comes up closely after that, on the weekend of Christ the King. All of this entails everything from sacristy to office to kitchen work.

But all of this is done most of all for the love of God, for His glory. Much of it is "parish work," but so much, too, is for all the Church, which benefits (think of it) directly and indirectly. As the Salvatorians *used to* say, "The whole world is our parish!" We too would bring the work of the Savior to all the world.

"All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God." October is not only the month of the Angels and the Rosary, and of so many great and beloved saints. It is also the month of the **Propagation** of the Faith, Mission Month. We're not ashamed to say it. Thank you for your interest in our mission (liturgical, apostolic and educational) as well as in our missions.

We do a lot with a little, for there is so much to do, and so many souls are perishing and nibbling on poison for want of a little bit of bread. Thanks for helping us with our baking!

Sincerely yours in Mary, Queen of the Missions,

– Most Rev. Daniel L. Dolan



*(Above) Bp. Dolan, assisted by Fr. Lehtoranta, distributes a special Guardian Angel sticker to the youngsters on Angel Sunday following the blessing of children.*



*Michaelmas was fittingly kept at St. Gertrude the Great with a solemn Mass celebrated by Fr. Nkamuke. (Above) Fr. Lehtoranta, who served as the deacon, assists Father Nkamuke at the Offertory of the Mass. The node of the chalice is fashioned into an image of St. Michael.*



*In the wake of the feast of the great St. Pius X that opened our school year, came the beautiful Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Mary's Nativity was observed with a solemn high Mass celebrated by Fr. Cekada. At the conclusion of Mass a procession was formed, hymns were sung, seedlings and seeds were blessed at our Lourdes grotto, and a few words were spoken by Bp. Dolan under beautiful blue September skies. Immediately following the outdoor ceremonies our students and a nice showing of our homeschoolers gathered in Helftia Hall to sing Happy birthday to our Blessed Mother and enjoy cake and ice cream and punch.*

## All Souls Remembrance

The Catholic Church sets aside November 3rd this year as All Souls Day, to remember in a special way, all the faithful departed. Remember your loved ones by filling out and returning the enclosed special All Souls Remembrance envelope. In addition to remembrance on that day, the names of all those sent to us will remain on the altar for the entire month of November.

