

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



November 23, 2014

LAST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

ST. CLEMENT, PM

ST. FELICITY, M

¶ TODAY

Today is the Last Sunday after Pentecost, the final Sunday of the liturgical year. Catechism Classes are at 10:40 AM. Don't forget to visit the Gift Shop after Mass for Advent sacramentals and good reading for the upcoming season of preparation and prayer. Vespers are at 4:45 PM.

¶ THANKSGIVING DAY

A special holiday Mass of Thanksgiving is offered **Thursday at 9:00**

AM. If you prefer, early morning Masses are at **7:00** and **8:00 AM**. Assisting at Holy Mass is the best way to thank God for the many blessings He has bestowed upon us. Let's joyfully and gratefully stress the religious character of this holiday. This year we celebrate the feast of the Miraculous Medal, thanking God for so many powerful helps to Heaven. *The abstinence is traditionally dispensed on the Friday after Thanksgiving and meat may be taken.*

QuickTime™ and a TIFF (Uncompressed) decompressor are needed to see this picture.

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¶ OUR SICK

Please pray for Sue Becker Menefee, Connie Kamphaus, and Tom Vuksta.

Lumen Christi

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

Souls in Purgatory (Barbara Stump)



¶ BIBLE STUDY

Here is the study guide for the Adult Catechism Class, which meets at 10:45 AM every Sunday.

Leviticus XXVI: Verse 2 Keep My sabbaths and reverence MY sanctuary: I AM the Lord. Verse 11 I will set My tabernacle in the midst of you, and My Soul shall not cast you off.

Catholic men and women would do well to mind these simple instructions...

The complete chapter will be read with focus on these two verses. The Sunday Mass and receiving the Blessed Sacrament into "our" midst will be discussed.

One act of Thanksgiving, when things go wrong with us, is worth a thousand thanks when things are agreeable to our inclinations.

—Blessed John of Avila (16th century)

¶ NEXT SUNDAY: ADVENT I

The **Lighting of the Advent Wreath** takes place at **7:25 AM**, and the **Advent Procession and Blessing of the Advent Wreath** commences at **9:00 AM**. Sunday Catechism Classes are at 10:50 AM; Vespers with Benediction at 4:45 PM.

Set Your Missal: Advent I, with collects of Our Lady in Advent and Against the Persecutors. Trinity Preface.

My God, I give Thee thanks for what Thou givest, and for what Thou takest away; Thy will be done.

—An indulgence of 300 days

Servers

THURS 11/27: 9:00 AM HIGH: CHAPLAINS:

T.G. Simpson, J. Simpson **AC:** P. Omlor

SUN 11/30:

7:30 AM LOW: Brueggemann Bros

9:00 AM HIGH: CHAPLAINS: R. Vande

Ryt, T. Simpson **CROSS:** A. Richesson

TH: J. Lacy **ACs:** S. Arlinghaus, B.

Lotarski **MITRE:** L. Arlinghaus **STAFF:**

P. Omlor **TORCH:** C. Arlinghaus, T.

Lawrence, C. Richesson, A.S.I.

11:30 AM LOW: N. & N. McClorey

4:45 PM VESPERS & BENEDICTION: G.

Miller

5:45 PM LOW: G. Miller

Collection Report

Sunday, November 16th.....\$3,970.00

Thank you for your generosity. Remember St. Gertrude the Great in your will.

THE CALENDAR

All Sunday Masses, school day Masses, Friday evening and Saturday morning
Masses are webcast at SGGResources.org.

- MON 11/24/14 ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS, CD**
ST. CHRYSOGONUS, M
11:20 AM High Mass †Ivan Landry (*Joan Landry*)
5:00 AM Low Mass †Repose of the soul of Tonda Prell
(*Mr. & Mrs. Joseph M. Prell & Family*)
6:30 PM Choir Practice
- TUE 11/25/14 ST. CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA, VM**
8:00 AM Low Mass Dan Goubeaux (*Wilker Family*)
11:20 AM High Mass †Thomas Hable (*Jean Bischel*)
5:00 PM Low Mass Bishop Dolan's continued good
health (*Rebecca Stump*)
- WED 11/26/14 ST. SYLVESTER, AB**
ST. PETER OF ALEXANDRIA, BPM
ST. LEONARD OF PORT MAURINCE, C
7:00 AM Low Mass Poor Souls (*Boston Mission*)
8:00 AM Low Mass Poor Souls – in Thanksgiving (*Judy
Metz*)
11:20 AM High Mass Connie Kamphaus – healing (*Becky
Mattingly*)
- THU 11/27/14 THANKSGIVING**
FERIAL DAY
OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL
7:00 AM Low Mass Poor Souls
8:00 AM Low Mass †Iris Wilson – Anniversary 11/27
9:00 AM High Mass In Thanksgiving to Our Lady of the
Miraculous Medal (*Bishop Dolan*)
- FRI 11/28/14 FERIAL DAY (ABSTINENCE DISPENSED)**
ST. CATHERINE LABOURE
8:00 AM Low Mass William Pointing – His intentions
(*Elizabeth Copehy*)
5:15 PM Confessions and Rosary
5:45 PM Low Mass Paulina Straus, Happy Birthday! (*The
Fathers*)
6:30 PM Novena and Benediction
- SAT 11/29/14 VIGIL OF ST. ANDREW**
ST. SATURNINUS, M
7:10 AM Confessions
7:30 AM Low Mass Margaret Current – Happy Belated
Birthday! (*Samantha Current*)
8:10 AM Sermon, Low Mass Special Intention (*Mr. &
Mrs. Zelek*)
- SUN 11/30/14 ADVENT I**
7:30 AM Low Mass Teddy's Family (*Patsy McConnell
Family*)
9:00 AM Procession & High Mass For the people of St.
Gertrude the Great
10:50 AM Catechism Classes
11:30 AM Low Mass †Kathy Blanchard (*Karen & Bud*)

4:45 PM Vespers & Benediction
5:45 PM Low Mass Special Intention (*Laura Bellavia*)

BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH (Recite on Saturday evening, November 29th)

V. Our help is in the name of the Lord.
R. Who made heaven and earth.
Let us pray. O God, by Whose word all
things are sanctified, pour forth Thy
blessing upon this wreath, and grant that we
who use it may prepare our hearts for the
coming of Christ and may receive from Thee abundant graces.
Through Christ our Lord. **R.** Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Let us pray. Stir up Thy might, we beg Thee, O Lord, and come,
so that we may escape through Thy protection and be saved by
Thy help from the dangers that threaten us because of our sins.
Who livest and reignest forever and ever.
R. Amen.



Mark Your Calendars!

St. Gertrude the Great
Annual Christmas Craft Sale
Sunday, Nov. 30th, 2014

We welcome your "crafty" contributions.

¶ ALSO UPCOMING

Sunday, December 7th: St. Nicholas will be visiting the
children after all morning Masses.

PARISHIONER OPENS AUTO REPAIR SHOP

We thought you'd like to know that your fellow parishioners
Chip and Paige McClorey have opened an auto repair
shop in the neighborhood. Chip miraculously resuscitated
my totaled Crown Vic after the accident last year. Here is
his contact information. Thanks —Fr. Cekada



C and P Cars

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☪ YOUNG WEB SITE DESIGNER

Mark Fischer, Jr., whom some of you remember from our
SGG summer camps, has started his own website
development company, Top Page Design. He creates
websites, Android mobile apps and digital artwork, and
he's looking for new clients. His portfolio website address
is: <http://TopPageDesign.com/>.

The old Catholic harvest festival, once kept as Martinmas with a goose, and maintained in our land as Thanksgiving with a turkey, by rights should begin with Holy Mass, as all feast days do. At the Lord's Table, the Communion Rail, let us pause in saying our Grace, as people do that day, bow the head and give thanks to God for God, for the Church and the Mass, for our church and family and everything and everyone according to God's plan and providence. Included in this is Mary Immaculate, our Mother and God's. This Thanksgiving we celebrate the Miraculous Medal, a further cause of thanksgiving for such a Mother, so many miracles, such blessings through her.

Of course we here are especially thinking about St Gertrude the Great, both our protecting patroness and our new church, now in its twelfth year of dedication. We are grateful for last Sunday's feast, with its gorgeous altar and Pontifical Mass, our honored visitors from another land who came so far to be with us, and for the very fine anniversary dinner with which we were graced. We have had many meals in Helfta Hall, and before that in the undercroft of the first church, but rarely have we eaten so well, the best Mexican food I have ever tasted! And in West Chester, Ohio...

Augmenting our joy and adding to our numbers were guests from Tijuana and Mexicali, Mexico, Akron Ohio, and even some from the 7:30 and 11:30 ! (Those borders are usually fairly strict, unlike the American border) who bravely crossed over for the morning and joined our High Mass regulars to rejoice and feast with us on so great a day. Deo Gratias.

A sweet but melancholy air descended upon us in the afternoon as we returned to the empty church, empty save for Jesus, to give thanks, as we do every evening. All of our guests had gone, and who else would dare come to Vespers and face the force of the Vortex? The air was still autumnal, even though we were under the Winter Storm Watch. A flight of birds ascended in the dusky distance, and we prayed and sang our thanks. Only much later, towards midnight would the snow come to surprise our Fall trees still in their scarlet finery, and turn our thoughts for a few days to the coming Winter, and its great feast of Christmas. By today all should be melted, and the way of the Lord made ready for you faithful as we gratefully close the post Pentecost season, and another church year.

As Winter comes we are trying to repair the little hall heaters so church will be more welcoming and less frigid, especially for the little ones in the vestibule. But parents, may I ask you to keep an eye on your children of all ages? Somebody has been vandalizing the painting of Christ (with the children!) poking holes in this precious art work. God only knows how much it would cost to repair it properly. We will have to do something. Most of our

children are really rather well behaved, but it only takes one, and a finger or two to do great damage. Remember, free range is for chickens, not children.

What a boondoggle this Obamacare has been. Has your coverage gone up? Ours certainly has, and we've heard horrific stories from others. The big insurance companies are now in cahoots with the Feds, and that is that. Billions of dollars are being exchanged, and we get the bills. Thank you all for your steady, sacrificial giving each week. Thank you for the delicious meals you send, and for providing needed transportation for the priests' airport runs. We are grateful for you all, and for everything.

A good way to give thanks, and keep the blessings coming, is to give Masses, the infinitely perfect prayer. We are low this Fall on parish Masses, and would be able to schedule yours fairly quickly, now that we have six priests for the moment until Fr. Nkamuke leaves in December.

Happy St. Hugh's Solemnity to our Milwaukee faithful, and congratulations on their Silver Anniversary and first Forty Hours. Half of the Fathers are there today. Thank God for our fellow Catholics in our missions and churches, and throughout the world, including Catholic priests, far more than one would think.

Finally, today, we should remember to thank God for those who have gone before us, marked with the sign of faith. Only 22 years ago dear Sr. Gerard suggested we should have a parish dinner for St Gertrude's Day, and did most of the cooking herself! What wonderful memories, what great examples, what an enduring cause for thanks!

Have a happy, thankful Thanksgiving...

—Bishop Dolan

P.S. And afterwards, or before, instead of watching America's overpaid, morally challenged and bloody gladiators fight slowly and ritualistically unto death over the ball on TV, how about actually playing a little yourself, outdoors, with the kids? Just play, casual and fun, mind you, but healthy!

P.P.S. We still have Bee, and Loraine Gates and Paulina and Kim LeBlanc and Barb Steinmetz, to name a few. A visit would be welcome!

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TIFF (Uncompressed) decompressor
are needed to see this picture.

When a man renders thee any service, O Lord, thou rewardest it with some affliction. And oh, of how inestimable a value is this reward for those who love thee indeed! Oh, that it might be granted to them to know the worth of it!

—St. Teresa

Thank God for everything!

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Thanksgiving! What a beautiful feast! To the good Christian, every day is Thanksgiving Day, but is it not well to set aside one day to give God special thanks for His innumerable blessings which we are all too inclined to forget? As we go about our daily duties, do we thank God for life, for Baptism, for faith? Do we thank Him for the air we breathe, for the health we enjoy and for the strength and happiness He gives?

Perhaps there are some,—who hope there is not one among our readers,—who think that this year they have nothing for which to be grateful. Times are hard, days may be sad and dreary, but be your plight what it may, you have thousands of things for which to thank God. Poverty, sickness and disappointments are often great trials, but if we remember that the one and only real evil in the world is sin, no matter what our poverty, how great our sufferings or how many our disappointments, we are still able to “seek the kingdom of God” and, does not He Who is Lord and Master of all things say: “Seek ye first the kingdom of God and all other things will be added unto you”?

Beautiful November, which brings All Saints and Thanksgiving and also brings Poor Souls Day.



While we give God thanks for the favors He bestows, and rejoice with the saints who have preceded us to glory, let us not forget those who suffer to pay the last farthing of their earthly debt, those who from the prison house of purgatory cry out: “Have pity on me, have pity on me; at least you my friends have pity on me.” If we do this, then we, too, with joy in our hearts, can sing with the poet: “Behold congenial autumn comes, the Sabbath of the year.”

—Edgar B. Casey, O.F.M.
St. Anthony Messenger, 1930

We Get Letters...

Forty Hours, what a blessing—I wish to thank all our priests and all who helped to make it possible. May God give you a Special Blessing—

Prayers
F.R.M.

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The faithful who recite devoutly three times the doxology “Glory be to the Father” etc., early in the morning, and at noon and in the evening, with the intention of giving thanks to the Most Holy Trinity for the excellent gifts and privileges granted to the Blessed Virgin Mary, may gain: *An indulgence of 500 days for each recitation corresponding to each of the aforesaid parts of the day.*

THE PRESENTATION

When the little Mary
Sweet and full of grace,
Mounted the steps of the temple
Angels thronged the place.
Fairer was she than the lily,
Purer than white, swirling snow
Lovelier than the pink decked dawn
When soft, warm breezes blow.
When the little Mary
Folded her hands in prayer,
The sky bent low in awe and love
And silence filled the air.

—Sister Claude of Jesus, S.N.J.M

Give thanks frequently to God for all the benefits He has conferred on you, that you may be worthy to receive more.

—St. Louis IX, King of France.
(As reported in Joinville’s Life, 746.) (13th century.)

✽ **THE WHITE MAGIC** ✽

I mind how rain will run across the sand
Of desert places, and how grasses start
Their bodies through that dry and heavy land;
I mind how quickly music strips the heart
Of beggars that have pillaged it for years,
And how a child lifts up its troubled face
And cleans a puzzled heart with many tears.
I mind how surely spiders paint their lace
Across the wounds of old and tired trees,
And how the night will sentinel the rose
To shield her from the worry of the bees.
I mind how all this consolation goes
Unfailing in its tenderness and care—
And always then I know the strength of prayer.

—Bert Cooksley

This is a typical Thanksgiving poem for all the gifts of God. The title could be a reference to the “white magic” of last week’s beautiful snowfall!

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PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*We give Thee thanks, Almighty God, for all Thy blessings:
Who livest and reignest for ever and ever. Amen.*

THANKSGIVING

O God, Whose mercy is without measure and Whose bountiful goodness knows no end: we give thanks to Thy gracious majesty for the gifts conferred on upon us, ever beseeching Thy clemency; that even as Thou dost grant the wishes of Thy supplicants, Thou wouldst not abandon them but dispose them to receive still further rewards.

—Roman Missal, collect (After 9th century)