

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

January 4, 2015

THE HOLY NAME OF JESUS

THE INFANT OF PRAGUE



¶ THE INFANT OF PRAGUE

The blessing of religious articles is available after all Masses today; our second collection is for support of the seminary. Sunday catechism classes are at 10:40 AM, and Vespers at 4:45 PM, followed by Benediction.



¶ ALTER CHRISTUS

The “little church” is in the vestibule today, to receive your Christmastide alms for the support and sanctification of priests.

¶ FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY – PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY & ANNUAL APPRECIATION DINNER

Join us **Tuesday**, the great feast of Our Lord’s *manifestation to the Gentiles* (Epiphany) for **Solemn Mass** at **5:30 PM**. The blessing of Gold, Frankincense, and Myrrh takes place before Mass. The home blessing packets, including blessed chalk and prayer leaflet, will be available for you to take home.

After Mass, all are invited to our **Parish Christmas Party** and annual **Appreciation Dinner**, which is our special “thank you” to all our hard-working and devoted employees, volunteers, and benefactors, and to our loyal parishioners.

¶ NEXT SUNDAY: THE HOLY FAMILY

Sunday classes for adults and children are at 10:40 AM.

Set Your Missal: The Holy Family, with Collects of the Sunday within the Octave of the Epiphany, of the Epiphany and of St. Hyginus. Preface and Communicantes of the Epiphany.



AT THE NAME OF JESUS
LET EVERY KNEE BOW

¶ PLEASE PRAY...

For John Segrist, Les Pomerville, William Tilford, and for all of our sick and shut-in.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA MEMORIALS



JOSEPH MAKOTO OKAMURA
MAXIMILLIANO HIROTO OKAMURA

MARIA MARIKO OKAMURA
MAXIMILLIANO HIROTO OKAMURA

¶ THE PASCHAL SACRAMENTS: 2015

Please note these important dates:

- *First Confessions & Testing:* **Saturday, April 18th**. (Baptismal certificate must be already presented, and registration form completed. *Contact the church office for the necessary form.*)
- *Children’s Day of Recollection:* **Thursday, May 21st**.
- *Confirmation:* **Saturday, May 23rd**.
- *First Communion:* **Corpus Christi Sunday, June 7th**.

Parents, please note: the Baptismal certificates of children not baptized at St. Gertrude the Great must be submitted to the church office by **Monday, March 16th**. If your child is not enrolled in the school or in Sunday catechism, *please let us know if you are planning on bringing him to be tested on April 18th*.

It is sometimes difficult to know if the children are ready, but if they know their basics, and are reverent at Mass, they probably are! Please speak with Bishop Dolan.

Collection Report

Thursday, December 25th.....\$8,292.00
Sunday, December 28th.....\$3,863.00
Thank you for your generosity. Remember St. Gertrude the Great in your will.

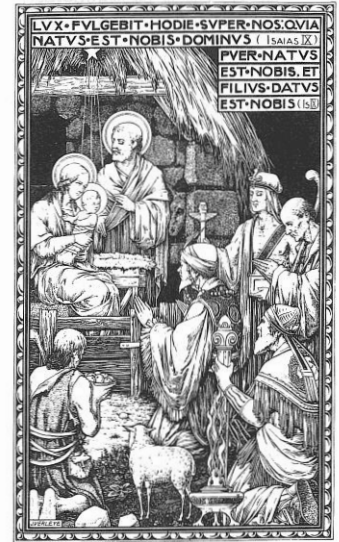
All Sunday Masses, school day Masses, Friday evening and Saturday morning Masses are webcast at SGGResources.org.

MON	01/05/15	VIGIL OF THE EPIPHANY ST. TELESOPHURUS, PM 8:00 AM Low Mass For all who cook for us 11:20 AM High Mass Fr. Nkamuke (ACC) 5:00 PM Low Mass †Fran K. Youngworth – 10 th Anniversary (D. Puglielli) 5:55 PM First Vespers of the Epiphany
TUE	01/06/15	THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD 8:00 AM Low Mass Charles R. Mattingly (Frances Mattingly) 9:00 AM Low Mass †Dolores Maki (Kent Maki) Blessing of Gold, Frankincense, and Myrrh 5:30 PM Solemn High Mass For Our Church Workers Parish Christmas Party
WED	01/07/15	WITHIN THE OCTAVE 8:00 AM Low Mass Blessings (Bob Riley) 11:20 AM High Mass Fr. Cekada (ACC) 5:00 PM Low Mass Bishop Dolan (ACC)
THU	01/08/15	WITHIN THE OCTAVE 6:00 AM Low Mass †Marcellus Cassidy (Samantha) 8:00 AM Low Mass Fr. McGuire (ACC) 11:20 AM High Mass Fr. Hecquard (ACC) 5:00 PM Low Mass Fr. Siordia (ACC)
FRI	01/09/15	WITHIN THE OCTAVE 8:00 AM Low Mass Poor Souls (Jim Gebel) 10:55 AM Confessions 11:20 AM High Mass Fr. McKenna (ACC) 5:15 PM Confessions & Rosary 5:35 PM Infant of Prague Novena III 5:45 PM Low Mass Merry Christmas, Mom & Dad (Simpson kids) 6:30 PM Sacred Heart Novena & Benediction
SAT	01/10/15	WITHIN THE OCTAVE 7:10 AM Confessions 7:30 AM Low Mass †Marcellus Cassidy (Samantha) 8:10 AM Sermon, Low Mass Birthday, from husband Ken Gilliam (Regina Gilliam)
SUN	01/11/15	THE HOLY FAMILY SUNDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE EPIPHANY ST. HYGINUS, PM 7:30 AM Low Mass Victor J. Ritze Birthday Remembrance (Mr. & Mrs. Jopseh Kunkel) 9:00 AM High Mass For the people of St. Gertrude the Great 10:40 AM Catechism Classes 11:30 AM Low Mass Children & their spouses (Kirby & Jean Bischel) 5:45 PM Low Mass Fr. Lehtoranta (ACC)

EPIPHANY

Behold, I come!
Come like the Magi
From afar,
Led by the light
Of faith, a star,
To where the host
Of virgins are
About a King.
For gifts I bring
My poverty,
Which gives to me
His wealth untold;
My chastity
Which makes me free
His love to hold;
My liberty,
More dear to me
Than love or gold.

—Sister M. Helen, C.S.C.



Our Beloved Dead – January

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Death</u>
Jean Ostendorf	1-01-1990
Robert H. Lutkehaus	1-02-1992
Joseph R. Duff	1-06-1993
Steven A. Nemeth	1-08-2002
Ernest Nellenbach	1-08-2011
Althea LeBlanc	1-12-2013
John A. Donadio	1-14-2004
James W. Bragley	1-15-1991
Vivian Deardorff	1-15-1996
Evelyn Rentschler	1-18-1999
George C. Vande Ryt	1-18-1997
Robert J. Kunkel	1-19-1995
Rev. Eldred Leslie	1-21-2009
Nellie Sutton	1-23-2014
Matthew Nies	1-24-1985
Rev. Urban Snyder	1-25-1995
Rev. Roy Randolph	1-26-1998
Elizabeth Binzel	1-27-2003
Robert Blomker	1-28-2001
Robert A. Stirnkorb	1-30-1991

Servers

TUES 01/06: (BE IN SACRISTY BY 5:00 PM)

5:30 PM SOLEMN HIGH: MCs: R. Vande Ryt, T. Simpson **TH:** B. Lotarski
ACs: N. McClorey, A. Richesson **CROSS:** S. Arlinghaus **MITRE:** J. Lacy
CROZIER: P. Omlor **BOOK:** J. Simpson **CANDLE:** L. Arlinghaus **TRAIN:** C. Richesson **TORCH:** P. & N. McClorey, A. Soli, C. Arlinghaus, M. Simpson, T. Lawrence

SUN 01/11:

7:30 AM LOW: Brueggemann Bros
9:00 AM HIGH: MC: B. Lotarski **TH:** J. Lacy **ACs:** S. & L. Arlinghaus
CROSS: J. Simpson **TORCH:** C. Richesson, T. Lawrence, C. Arlinghaus, A. Soli
11:30 AM LOW: N. Puglielli, P. Omlor
5:45 PM LOW: G. Miller

Christmas week is always a quiet one at St. Gertrude, with the exception of the Sunday and the Holy Day. But these are very quiet, too, or so it seems. The great Christmas push has subsided, and the numbers are down, many prudently "sleeping it off," avoiding an overdose of religion over the holidays. Remember that for the world Christmas is all December, but ends with December 25. Time to move on. Our regulars still come to the Sunday and Holy Day as usual. The faithful few meet to keep the feasts and observances during the week. The beautifully decorated church is quiet and empty most of the time. It just needs its regular maintenance from our helpers, although watering the handsome poinsettias does take a lot of time. Some children came back to Helfta Hall last Sunday to be properly fêted after being blessed for Holy Innocents Day. Christmas is a quiet time at St. Gertrude, affording the sweets of silent contemplation before the Crib for those who answer still the Angels' call.

But we are gearing up now for Epiphany and its Mass and dinner, greatest feast of Christmastide. As I write this on Friday, I am praying for a good and faithful First Friday attendance, especially for the All Night Adoration. Thanks to all of you who came quietly to pray, or are helping for the Feast of the Kings. The gifts you bring keep on giving.

We are still working on the wall dwellers. It seems they have not been captured yet. Too big. Some clever beasts got the food last time but escaped the snare. Meanwhile, our Franciscan crib keeps on growing, the Benedictine raven being its latest resident. Someone told me last week of an old Italian custom of the first plate on Christmas Eve going to the animals. I'm sure Caravaggio would approve. That cat has Christmas Eve year round.

It has been terribly cold in the sacristy all winter. It seems the heating unit is broken, and needs to be replaced. (That will be a big bill.) The ladies suspected as much, but the men didn't believe them. Turns out they were right. We are grateful it was no colder, but it's been cold enough back there for Darlene and Katie.

The cats have been enjoying our mild sunny days this Christmas, a true blessing for man and beast. May the good weather continue as we go about our business, God's business in the new year. Fr. McGuire had no sooner returned from the Illinois mission, than left again for Minnesota early yesterday. But all of the Fathers will be with us come Tuesday to celebrate the feast of Epiphany, and I pray you will be as well!

With every good wish for a truly happy new year,

Bishop Dolan

P.S. Don't forget your plan, keep your eye on the signs!

P.P.S. I'm back to a corner!

As we all know, the sixth of January is the feast of the Epiphany. We like to call it "The Feast of the Three Kings," and think that on this day the Magi came out of the East, and laid their offerings at the feet of the Divine Child. And when we erect the Christmas Crib in our churches and homes we place there, along with the shepherds, the statues of the holy men from the East, leading their camels and bearing their gifts. We really celebrate a triple feast on Epiphany: first, the Adoration of the Wise Men; second, the Baptism of Our Lord when the Voice from heaven proclaimed Him the Son of God; and third, the changing of the water into wine at the wedding feast.

The Epiphany had its origin in the Eastern Church, and it seems clear that the Baptism was the event first predominately commemorated. At times the Nativity itself was celebrated on the same date. But in the Western Church, the Christmas festival of December 25 was introduced before the Epiphany, and has always been regarded as the day for the celebration of the Birth of Christ.

With regard to the Magi, who followed the star until it brought them to the Infant, the Catholic Encyclopedia tells us that no Father of the Church holds the Magi to have been kings. They were Wise Men, members of the Magian priesthood; good, holy, learned men. There is a legendary notion that they represented the three families which are descended from Noe; but actually we know very little of these strangers, aside from the information found in the Gospel which tells us that they "came from the East."

These are but trifling incidentals in a beautiful, true story. What matters to us is this:

"There came wise men from the East to...Bethlehem of Juda...And entering into the house, they found the Child with Mary His Mother, and falling down they adored Him."

Let us, too, fall on our knees and give Him our gifts of love, prayer, and sacrifice—gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Then we shall be as wise as the Wise Men.

See you at Mass Tuesday!



PRAYER TO THE MIRACULOUS CHILD OF ATOCHA

Fearless Child of Atocha, protector of the imprisoned and of invalids, Divine Doctor of any illness, I praise Thee on this day and I offer Thee these three Our Fathers and Hail Marys, with a Glory Be in memory of the journey that Thou didst make incarnated in the most pure womb of Thy most beloved Mother.

For the petitions that I make today, I ask Thee to grant my request for which I submit these prayers. Divine Child of Atocha, I know that I will not be disappointed by Thee and I will obtain what is the best for me to the glory of God, the Father. Amen.

VIGNETTES OF THE SAINTS

ST. BERNARDINE AND ST. JOHN CAPISTRAN

The Holy Name Society and the feast of the Holy Name are so well-known and honored today that there is hardly a Catholic in this country who has never heard of either of them. Yet, it is possible that neither would be in existence today if it had not been for two great Franciscans, St. Bernardine of Sienna and St. John Capistran.

Bernardine devoted practically his entire life to preaching love for the Holy Name, not by scolding against the habit of “cussing,” but by inspiring his hearers to love the name Jesus and He Who carries the name. Capistran, who had other interests, followed the lead of Bernardine in this devotion.

The Card Maker

As a result of their preaching, people became quite holy, they prayed more and sinned less. A maker of playing cards complained to St. Bernardine that he was losing his living, since his former patrons stopped playing cards and devoted themselves to religious practices. Bernardine, having the real Franciscan spirit, did not tell the fellow to stop making cards. He knew human nature. If a man is told not to do something which he wishes to do, the itch to do it becomes stronger. So the saint told the card-maker to continue making cards, only he suggested a change in the design. He should make copies of the monogram of the name of Jesus, I H S, which St. Bernardine wished to distribute among the faithful. He followed the suggestion, and was overjoyed to find that his income increased enormously.

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

Clerical Envy

Jealousy prompted some of the clergy to accuse Bernardine of teaching superstition and promoting idolatrous practices. The accusation was brought before the papal court. Pope Martin V cited Bernardine to appear in court and give account of his doings. His confrere, Capistran, who was an orator and had a legal mind, accompanied him to court, and pleaded his cause so successfully, that the Pope exonerated Bernardine, and granted him permission to preach and teach the way he would, any place in Christendom. The Pope even took part as a humble pilgrim in one of the processions in which Bernardine's monogram of the Holy Name was carried.

An American Habit

Abuse of the Holy Name of God and Jesus is characteristic of the American people, Catholics included. If God were to take us at our word the entire country and all that is in it would have been damned over and over. When a man is annoyed, he has but one thought, to ask God's curse upon the person, animal, or thing that annoyed him. Our faith

teaches us to ask God's blessing upon ourselves and what is ours. We do the reverse. “Oh,” they say, “we don't really mean to curse; the words just slip out of our mouth.” Our Lord says (Matt. 12, 34): “It is from the heart's overflow that the mouth speaks.” Loves and hatreds, attitudes and judgments, become manifest by the speech. He who makes disparaging remarks about a person, shows that he hates the person; he who has impure words and anecdotes mixed up in his daily talk shows that he is impure; and he who speaks the name of God lightly shows disrespect for God.

Which is It?

Then there is also the case of the good farmer who asked the Pastor to bless his barn and stable. He had been having a lot of sickness and deaths among his horses, cows, and pigs. The priest did as he was requested. A neighbor noticed the procedure, and said to the priest: “Now I intend to watch, and see which is more powerful, your blessing or his curses.” We do not know what God will do in such a case, where one creature blesses a thing and another curses the same thing. But we do know that it is impossible for a person to bless and curse a thing at the same time; impossible to love and hate at the same time. If I abuse the name of God, it is a contradiction to insist that I respect and love Him at the same time.

A Positive Approach

St. Bernardine did not go about reprimanding people for cursing and swearing, and asking them to put an end to it. He instilled into their souls a love for Christ, the Savior, and respect for the Holy Name naturally followed. So we may go and do likewise. A curser will never break his habit by making the resolution not to curse. He must put into his heart a love for that which he should honor. The father told his son, who was a habitual curser, to pick up a stone each time he catches himself in a curse. The boy went with the truck out into a field to husk corn, and returned in a few hours with a load of stones, instead of corn. He had carried out his father's plan to overcome the habit of cursing.

Don't pick up stones in order to overcome a bad habit of cursing. Rather begin to bless things. This habit can be acquired, and is more beneficial. When you let slip a curse, or hear some one abusing the holy name, say, if not with the mouth, at least very definitely in your heart: “Blessed be God,” or “Blessed be His holy name,” or any of the other praises which we recite after Benediction. By and by, your heart will be filled with love and respect for Christ and there will be a change in your method of talking. “Out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks.”

—Ono Rio

The faithful who, during the month of January, perform some special act of devotion in honor of the holy Name of Jesus are granted: An indulgence of 7 years once on any day of the month.