

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

February 15, 2015 QUINQUAGESIMA SUNDAY

HOLY FACE SUNDAY

STS. FAUSTINUS & JOVITA, MM



¶ HOLY FACE SUNDAY

Today we mark approximately 50 days until Easter Sunday, and make final preparations for Lent. We honor the Holy Face of Our Lord today by offering our adoration and reparation. Sunday classes for adults and children are at 10:40 AM. Holy Face Devotions and Benediction are at 5:15 PM



"By offering My Face to My Eternal Father, nothing will be refused, and the conversion of many sinners will be obtained."

—Our Lord to St. Mary of St. Peter

¶ ASH WEDNESDAY

The Holy season of Lent begins on Wednesday. Start your Lent with the sacramental of blessed ashes. Be sure to see the Calendar for the complete Ash Wednesday schedule.

*Thy grace, O Father, give,
That I may serve in fear;
Above all boons, I pray,
Grant me Thy voice to hear;
From sin Thy child in mercy free,
And let me dwell in light with Thee.*

—St. Gregory Nazianzus

BENEDICTION OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

May the Lord bless thee, and keep thee;
May the Lord show His Face to thee, and have mercy on thee;
May the Lord turn His Countenance toward thee, and give thee peace.

¶ NEXT SUNDAY: LENT I

Sunday classes for adults and children are at 10:40 AM. Vespers and Benediction are at 4:45 PM.

Set Your Missal: Lent I with collect of St. Peter's Chair at Antioch. Preface of Lent.



RECEIVE THY SIGHT:
THY FAITH HATH MADE THEE WHOLE



Congratulations to Joe and Erin Soli on the baptism of their daughter, Genevieve

Iris Annette, on 2/7/15.

¶ MARDI GRAS BAKE SALE

Stop by Helfta Hall today to pick up some treats for Mardi Gras—and for St. Valentine's Day!



¶ YOUR PRAYERS...

...would be appreciated for Kyle McGuire, Father's father; for Gloria's mother Mary Safrey, who is in the hospital; for Dominic O'Donnell's father, Charles, who is having surgery on Feb. 19; and as well as for some dear former parishioners. Yvonne Kramer is ailing and home bound, and Margaret O'Brien is dying. Margaret was one of the chief organizers in the early days of the restoration of the Faith in Covington and Cincinnati. She worked especially with Fr. Fenton and the O.R.C.M. We owe her a great debt of gratitude, and our sincere prayers for a happy death. Tom Dennis had a heart procedure last week. We were happy to see Richard Smith back at church last Sunday, and to learn that Les Pomerille's surgery was successful.

O Divine Jesus, through Thy Face and Name, save us. Our Hope is in the virtue of Thy Holy Name!

Collection Report

Sunday, February 8th.....\$4,761.00
Thank you for your generosity!

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

- MON 02/16/15 FERIAI DAY**
 DAY II OF THE TRIDUUM TO THE HOLY FACE
11:20 AM Votive High Mass of the Blessed Trinity
 Poor Souls
- TUE 02/17/15 THE HOLY FACE**
 FERIAI DAY
 THE FLIGHT INTO EGYPT
8:00 AM Low Mass Poor Souls (*Anon.*)
11:20 AM High Mass of the Holy Face †Kim LeBlanc
 (*Samantha Current*)
- WED 02/18/15 ASH WEDNESDAY**
 ST. SIMEON, BPM
 ST. BERNADETTE, V
6:00 AM Blessing & distribution of Ashes, Low Mass
 †Fr. Matin Stepanich, O.F.M., S.T.D. (*Samantha*)
7:00 AM Low Mass (no sermon) Bernadette Ritchey (*Frances Mattingly*) **Distribution of Ashes**
10:55 AM Confessions
11:20 AM Blessing & distribution of Ashes, Solemn High Mass Poor Souls (*Doris & Vic Ritze*)
12:20 PM Distribution of Ashes
3:00 PM Children's Stations of the Cross
3:20 PM Distribution of Ashes
5:00 PM Rosary & Confessions
5:20 PM Penitential Litany
5:40 PM Distribution of Ashes
5:45 PM Low Mass †Tom Peter – 4th Anniv. (*Simpson family*)
6:45 PM Final Distribution of Ashes
- THU 02/19/15 FERIAI DAY**
8:00 AM Low Mass Catherine Callazo – Happy Birthday
 (*Samantha*)
11:20 AM High Mass Charles O'Donnell – successful operation (*Emma O'Donnell*)
5:00 PM Low Mass †Bobby De Christofaro (*Rob & Jane Brockman*)
- FRI 02/20/15 FERIAI DAY**
 THE CROWN OF THORNS
8:00 AM Low Mass Katherine Kunkel (*Kueblers*)
10:55 AM Confessions
11:20 AM High Mass †John Donadio (*Rob & Jane Brockman*)
5:15 PM Confessions & Rosary
5:35 PM Closing of Infant of Prague Novena
5:45 PM Low Mass †Frank & Donna Judickas (*Kieran MacKenzie*)
6:45 PM Lenten Potluck Supper
7:30 PM Holy Face Stations, Sermonette, Sorrowful Mother Novena with Blessing of the Sick, Sacred Heart Novena, Benediction, Holy Communion
- SAT 02/21/15 FERIAI DAY**
7:10 AM Confessions
7:30 AM Low Mass †Norman Barre – passed 12/30/14
 (*Tom & Karen Simpson*)
8:10 AM Sermon, Low Mass Julian Ritchey & Tjasa
 (*Frances Mattingly*)

FAST & ABSTINENCE

RULES OF FAST: The laws of fast apply to persons between the ages of 21 and 59. On a fast day one may eat one full meal and two light meatless meals, which together would not equal the main meal. Meat may be taken at the principal meal, except on days of complete abstinence. Liquids such as water, milk, and fruit juices may be taken between meals.

RULES OF ABSTINENCE: The laws of abstinence apply to everyone seven years of age and over. On a day of complete abstinence no meat, meat gravy or soup made from meat may be taken. On a day of partial abstinence meat may be taken once.

TRADITIONAL DAYS OF FAST: All the weekdays of Lent (Monday through Saturday) up until noon on Holy Saturday; Ember Days; the Vigils of Pentecost, the Immaculate Conception, Christmas and All Saints.

TRADITIONAL DAYS OF COMPLETE ABSTINENCE: Every Friday of the year; Ash Wednesday; Holy Saturday (until noon); the Vigils of All Saints, the Immaculate Conception, and Christmas.

TRADITIONAL DAYS OF PARTIAL ABSTINENCE: Ember Wednesdays and Saturdays, and the Vigil of Pentecost.

ASH WEDNESDAY

The ashen cross
 A thumbed design
 A trace of loss
 To mark the mind
 Remind the flesh
 Of its return
 Refresh the ear
 To hear and yearn.

Commencing on the forty days
 The crowds still come
 To turn away
 To brow the smear
 To wear the smudge
 To bear the grit and grain
 Of love.

—Rita A. Simmonds

Servers

WED 02/18:

7:00 AM LOW: T.G. Simpson **5:45 PM LOW:** Some Simpsons, P. Omlor

SUN 02/22:

7:30 AM LOW: Brueggemann Bros.

9:00 AM HIGH: MCS: R. Vande Ryt, J. Simpson **TH:** J. Lacy **ACS:** S. & L. Arlinghaus **MC:** B. Lotarski **TORCH:** T. Lawrence, C. Arlinghaus, C. Richesson, M. Simpson,

11:30 AM LOW: A.D. Kinnett, P. Omlor

5:15 PM VESPERS & BENEDICTION: G. Miller

5:45 PM LOW: G. Miller

SUN 02/22/15 LENT I

ST. PETER'S CHAIR AT ANTIOCH

7:30 AM Low Mass Special Intention (*The Wilkersons*)

9:00 AM High Mass Special Intentions (*Arlinghaus family*)

10:40 AM Catechism Classes

11:30 AM Low Mass Mrs. Patton – Happy 80th Birthday
 (*Rich Vande Ryt*)

4:45 PM Vespers & Benediction

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

The days lengthen, Lent approaches, and today we honor Our Lord's Holy Face, as we prepare to "go up to Jerusalem" with Him. Before we do, a little joyful indulgence seems quite traditional for Mardi Gras these last days. Then, fortified with prayer and hungry for fasting, let us enter our Lent with humble resolve and spiritual joy, ashes on our face as we contemplate Christ's adorable Face, mirror of man's misery and God's Mercy.

One of the compelling components of the Holy Face devotion is Eucharistic reparation, which has always been dear to us at St. Gertrude the Great. This seems an excellent time then to have blessed the chapel of the Sisters of Reparation, and begun the reservation of the Blessed Sacrament at their convent. The Sisters are only a few minutes from church, but now have the great privilege of Our Lord under their roof, Whom they honor in prayer all day, especially their daily Holy Hour of Reparation. A special "shout out" goes to the faithful here who have been so faithful in helping them prepare the chapel, altar and convent.

Last Sunday's big news was the accident in which two of the Soli children, Alex and Lindsey, were rather severely burned. Thank you for your concern and prayers. They seem to be on the mend now, having learned the hard way that aerosol cans do indeed explode in a fire. We are all relieved and grateful.

Fr. McGuire is assisting **Fr. Cekada** in serving you all this cold Quinquagesima Sunday in West Chester. I am in balmy 80's weather in northern Mexico, just on the other side of the California Border. Three busy days are planned for me, but I should return in time for the last hours of Mardi Gras, and then the start of Lent. As always, we have a full schedule of Masses and ashes, and urge this one sacrifice to start off well the season of sacrifices, our annual Lenten retreat.

Fr. McKenna is back from his rounds tomorrow, now having marked already his third priestly anniversary on Our Lady of Lourdes. The busier you are, the faster it goes. Father offered Mass again near Bismark, and caught up with some folks we know, Dan and Rose (Geckle) Wright, both of whom had attended Mass with us at times over the years. The little mission is growing, and some folks even came all the way from Powers Lake, several hours north, which was in the 70s a true traditional powerhouse of Catholicism under the late Fr. Nelson. Father and most of the shrine are gone now, but still it is nice to think of some continuity in these days of change.

I was happy to see so many at the 5PM Mass for Our Lady of Lourdes last week, and pray that weekday Mass attendance will pick up for Lent, so simple, so sublime a sacrifice. And don't forget Stations, which are slowly dying out, as well as the concept of just dropping by for a visit to the Blessed Sacrament.

Have a blessed start to your Lent, but first of all rejoice a little and drop by the Bake Sale. Rejoice, Spring must be near, since Lent is here.

May Our Lord make His Holy Face to shine upon you!

—Bishop Dolan

✠ CATECHISM CORNER



Faith is a supernatural virtue, by which we firmly believe all that God has revealed to His Church, and which she proposes to our belief.

The principal mysteries of Faith are those of the Trinity, of the Incarnation, and of the Redemption, which are contained in the Apostles' Creed.

God is a pure spirit, eternal, immense, independent, immutable, infinite, omnipotent. He was always and always will be; He is everywhere present; He has created all things, He can do all things; He knows all

things, and He governs all things. He is the Lord of all things; and nothing happens but by His permission. There is only one God, and there cannot be more than one. But, in this one God there are Three Persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. The Father is God, the Son is God, and the Holy Ghost is God; nevertheless, They are not three Gods, but one God in Three Persons perfectly distinct; and these Three Persons are equal in all things, each one of them being existent with, and equal to the others in all things.

CORRECTION PLEASE!

In 6 years Obama's drones killed more people than the Spanish Inquisition did in 350 years: 2,464 people—but they all had a trial and saw a priest before they died.
(pjmedia.com/tattler/2015/02...)



Almighty and eternal God, Who savest all, and wilt have none to perish, have regard to those souls who are led astray by the deceits of the devil, that rejecting all errors, the hearts of those who err may be converted, and may return to the unity of Thy truth: through Christ our Lord. Amen.

IN THE HOLY SEASON of Lent we meditate on the Passion and Death of our dear Lord. Good Catholics attend the Lenten sermons and the devotions of the Way of the Cross regularly. If they have the opportunity, they like to assist at Holy Mass and receive Holy Communion every day of Lent. In this sacred period the meaning and value of our Savior's sufferings, and our manifold ingratitude and indifference to them in the past, must come home to us in such a way that we, too, as the girl in the story, feel the need to cry ourselves out in the view of Jesus' infinite love for us and our meager return for it. And we also should declare: "From now on it will be different. My divine Redeemer will never again have any complaints regarding my conduct towards him."



In his "Life of St. Francis" Joergensen tells a story that is to the point, to wit: "Francis was seen one day wandering around...the chapel (of Portiuncula) sighing and weeping as if overcome by a great sorrow. A passer-by approached him and asked in sympathy what had gone wrong with him, and why he wept. The Francis answered: 'I am weeping over the sufferings of my Lord Jesus Christ, and I will not be ashamed to wander around the whole world and weep over them.' This so affected the stranger that he too began to shed tears, and they wept together."

LIVING WITH THE CHURCH



There is probably no cycle in the ecclesiastical calendar that the liturgy of the Catholic Church invests with greater beauty and inspiration than that of the Lenten season, which is now upon us. Fully conscious that the unfolding of the mystery of the Redemption flashes before the mind at once the saddest and the sweetest story ever told, Holy Mother Church pressed into the service every available means of bringing home to us the meaning and purpose of Lent, which she regards as "the soul's heroic progress through the purifying fire of penance."

The Catholic who studies the liturgy of this most sacred season with becoming reverence and devotion will be richly rewarded for his pains. Above all he will appreciate more deeply the purpose of Lent, which is to give us divine life, at once the essence and goal of Christian piety—divine life as Christ has bestowed upon the world through His sufferings and death. Witness, for example, these two extracts which reflect the Church's mind with regard to fasting. Intending Lent to be a renewal of Christian life, the Church understands by fasting, not only abstinence from food

and drink to a certain extent; she embraces in it all actions that might be of use to us in the regeneration of the life of grace. The Lenten hymn, from the breviary, carries this message:

"Henceforth more sparing let us be
Of food, of words, of sleep;
Henceforth beneath a stricter guard
The roving senses keep.
And let us shun whatever things
Distract the careless heart;
And let us shut our souls against
The tyrant tempter's art;
And weep before the Judge, and strive
His vengeance to appease;
Saying to Him with contrite voice
Upon our bended knees;
Much have we sinned, O Lord! and still
We sin each day we live;
Yet look in pity from on high,
And of Thy grace forgive."

Similarly the ancient prayer on fasting, from the Leonine Sacramentary, reminds us of the spiritual advantages of this practice, so eminently fitting during Lent, since the "days of penance have come to us, to atone for sin, to save souls" (Antiphon).

Almighty Father, eternal God!

So that human nature might return to its original destiny, Thou appointest to every part of the individual man what is needful.

The body is nourished with food, the soul is refreshed with fasting.

Without their proper nourishment the limbs can be of no service.

Without abstinence the ruling power of the spirit cannot survive.

According to this diversity of our being Thou leadest us in Thy wisdom.

And since the whole cannot subsist without the care of both parts of our being,

Thou commandest us in wise measure to partake of what preserves the vigor of both:

The body should not be without its sustaining food; and there should be discipline, through which the spirit is strengthened.

In the Gospel for Ash Wednesday the Church explains the purpose of fasting and the manner of fasting which is pleasing to God: "When you fast, be not as hypocrites, sad." We should start Lent with joy and continue joyfully, for "now is the acceptable time, now are the days of salvation." (Breviary).



Commenting upon the declining birth-rate in France, which has made even the anti-Christian attitude of many of her statesmen subside in the face of the appalling situation, one writer delivers himself of these forceful words: "Where religious admonition failed, stern necessity steps in; there can be no gainsaying the logic of facts, and hard, cold facts point out to France that in a few years it will be a dead nation."



The deep, religious concern of the French hierarchy has now been reinforced by public approval of a stand to be made to arouse the nation to its impending peril. The principles recently enunciated by Our Holy Father in his immortal encyclical on marriage and the Christian family are being emphasized anew throughout the length and breadth of the country. If anything further were required, the brilliant history of large families in France ought to be sufficient to intensify the zeal of the people and inspire them with becoming pride and respect powerful enough to prevent their self-murder. The testimony of the Catholic writer, M. Henri Reverdy, whose interesting study of the families of some of the greatest saints reveals some salient facts, which deserve wide publicity.

Those advocating barnyard morality as Theodore Roosevelt termed the eugenistic movement, might well ponder the findings of M. Reverdy. His study acquaints us with the following facts: St. Bernard was the third of seven children; St. Thomas of Aquin, the sixth child; St. Vincent Ferrer, one of eight children; Blessed Bernardine de Feltre, of a family of ten children; St. Teresa, with eleven brothers and sisters; St. Vincent de Paul, of a family of five children; St. John Berchmans, family of five children; Venerable Jean Eudes, family of seven children; St. Aloysius, family of eight children; St. Margaret Mary, family of seven children; St. Jean-Baptiste de la Salle, family of ten children; Blessed Grignon de Montfort, family of eight children; St. Alphonsus Ligouri, family of seven children; Blessed Catterini Laboure, family of eleven children; Venerable Bernadette Soubirous, family of eight children.



"The records," says M. Henri Reverdy, "if one may use this expression, are held by the families of St. Ignatius Loyola, with thirteen children (he was the youngest); St. Benedict Labre, fifteen children; St. Paul of the Cross, sixteen children (he was the eldest); St. Francis Borgia, seventeen children (by two marriages); St. Catherine of Siena, twenty-two children (all of the same mother).

"Among the married saints, we find also St. Felicité, with seven children; St. Louis, with eleven children; St. Francis Borgia, with eight children; Blessed Lestonnac, with seven children; Blessed Marie of the Incarnation, with six children; St. Jeanne de Chantal, with six children."

—*St. Anthony Messenger*, March 1931

LATER LIFE:

A DOUBLE SONNET OF SONNETS (A)

Before the mountains were brought forth, before
Earth and the world were made, then God was God:
And God will still be God, when flames shall roar
Round earth and heaven dissolving at His nod:
And this God is our God, even while His rod
Of righteous wrath falls on us smiting sore:
And this God is our God for evermore
Thro' life, thro' death, while clod returns to clod.
For tho' He slay us we will trust in Him;
We will flock home to Him by divers ways:
Yea, tho' He slay us we will vaunt His praise,
Serving and loving with the Cherubim,
Watching and loving with the Seraphim,
Our very selves His praise thro' endless days.

—*Christina Rossetti (English, 1830-1894)*



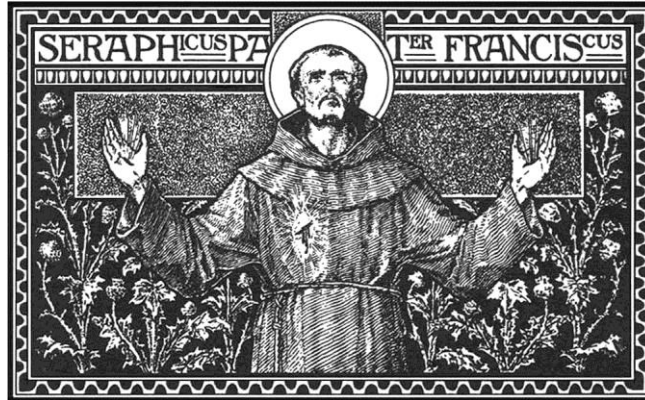
LENTEN INVITATORY

At that time, Jesus said to His disciples: When you fast, be not as the hypocrites, sad. (Mt. 6:16)

Come, fling open the sashes of the spirit
And let the broad gusts of remorse
Scatter your careful defenses.
Fetch out the keys for the secret gates of the heart
And bring in sorrow
Brutal as nails, real as weighted whips.
Let the toads of your sins sit on your eyelids,
Batter your ears with your lies.
Go, break your hands
On all your most genteel brutalities.
Because Christ's body glows with blood,
Your own by fasts must dwindle.
And for His tattered flesh,
Your flesh must know some lash's accusation.
Press joy, a small bruised flower,
Between the rough leaves of your brown avowals
And put the book away. Let mirth go mute.
The Christ is crucified:
Oh, come and mourn Him with grey regrets
And sacks of grief like stones!
And will you never learn how your Betrayer
Sets snares of Love in all your heavy scheming?
Your stones of careful grief go limp with wonder
That it behooved the Christ to suffer all
These things. Oh! sell your somber songs, believing
How on the third day He shall rise again.

—*Mother Mary Francis, P.C.C.*

LET US DEDICATE OUR LENT TO
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
AND PRAY WITH HIM.



Ash Wednesday: February 18, 2015
Lent begins with blessed Ashes and Holy Masses

Start your Lent right, by receiving Ashes at one of the many services we will offer on that day. **Ash Wednesday Masses** will be offered at:
6:00 AM, 7:00 AM, 11:20 AM, and 5:45 PM.

There will be several distributions of Ashes, beginning at **6:00 AM** with the final distribution at **6:45 PM**. Ashes will be given out *during and after* all the Masses, and *following* the **3:00 PM Children's Stations of the Cross**.
Please refer to the complete schedule in **THE CALENDAR**.

Continue your Lent with **Friday's Holy Sacrifice, Supper, & Stations:**
5:45 PM Low Mass with Sermon

6:45 PM Potluck Lenten Dinner (*bring something to share*)

7:30 PM Our Lenten tradition: a brief **Way of the Cross** followed by the traditional candlelight sermonette with St. Francis of Assisi, Sorrowful Mother Novena with Blessing of the Sick, and closing Benediction. Holy Communion will be distributed at the conclusion of services.

Spend your Lenten Friday evenings in Church with us!

Come when you can, leave when you must.