

ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

4900 Rialto Road, West Chester, Ohio 45069 • (513) 645-4212

parishoffice@sgg.org • 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 25, 2018

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

ST. WALBURGA, V – BL. SEBASTIAN OF APARICIO, C

¶ LENT II – REMINISCERE SUNDAY

Sunday Classes are at 10:40 AM today. Short Stations are at 11:15 AM. Vespers with Benediction are at 4:45 PM.

¶ CHILDREN'S DAY OF RECOLLECTION

Our Children's Day of Recollection is this Wednesday, February 28th, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Please call the school (513-645-4216) by tomorrow to let us know if you plan to have your children attend. A lunch will be provided. No charge!

¶ FIRST FRIDAY

8:00 AM Low Mass
10:55 AM Confessions
11:25 AM Low Mass & Benediction
5:00 PM Exposition
5:15 PM Confessions & Rosary
5:45 PM Low Mass
6:45 PM Lenten Supper
7:30 PM Stations, Sorrowful Mother Novena & Blessing of the Sick
8:30 PM Holy Communion
All Night Adoration
Intention of First Friday: In reparation to the Sacred Heart and to pray for a good Lent.

¶ FIRST SATURDAY

7:10 AM Confessions & Rosary
7:30 AM High Mass
8:10 AM Devotions & Benediction
8:35 AM Low Mass
First Saturday Intention: In reparation for blasphemies against the Immaculate Conception.



SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT: *A first triumph of the spirit of light. Jesus transfigured shines resplendent on Mount Thabor.*

"If we were to spend a quarter of an hour in Heaven," said the holy Curé of Ars, "there is no suffering that we would not endure on earth!" Thabor ought to encourage us to ascend to Calvary.

Lenten Friday Evening
of Recollection – March 2nd

5:45 PM: Low Mass

6:45 PM: Lenten Supper: Mexican Casserole; Tortilla Chips with Salsa; Salad, and Fruit

7:30 PM: Stations of the Cross, Sorrowful Mother Novena, Blessing of the Sick

8:30 PM (approximately): Distribution of Holy Communion

Collection Report

Sunday, February 18th.....\$4,202.00
Thank you for your generosity. Remember St. Gertrude the Great in your will.

¶ NEXT SUNDAY: LENT III

The Blessing of Religious Articles will be available at the Communion rail following all Masses next Sunday. Sunday Classes will be at 10:40 AM. Short Stations will be at 11:15 AM. Vespers with Benediction will be at 4:45 PM.

📖 *Set Your Missal:* Lent III with collects of St. Casimir and St. Lucius I. Lenten Preface.

¶ SORROWFUL MOTHER NOVENA

Our annual novena to the Sorrowful Mother, with the Blessing of the Sick, now follows Stations each Friday evening. Be sure to bring the sick to be blessed, and call or email the office with their names, to be mentioned during the novena.



¶ UPCOMING EVENTS

March 11: Laetare Sunday, Sister Sunday.
2018 YAG: June 22-24
Girls' Camp: June 27-29
Boys' Camp: July 24-26

¶ YOUR PRAYERS

In your prayers please remember Sharon Patton, Sr. Jeanne Marie, Connie Kamphaus, Elaine Pawinski, and all of our sick and shut-in.

My God, mine only Good, Thou art all mine; grant that I may be all Thine.

CLOTHED IN GLORY

Matthew and Luke report that both Jesus' Face and His clothing were transfigured. Mark forgets the Face and concentrates on the vestments: *His clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them.* If we compare the case with Moses, Mark's focus becomes clear.

On Sinai, Moses' face was also remade in light. We read nothing about his clothes. In fact, he covers over his countenance with a veil. A mere piece of fabric is strong enough to subdue this passing, reflected glory, which the people cannot bear. By contrast, the Body of Christ, not just His Face, shines—and shines with such suffusing power that even its veil is imbued with light. What is happening?

This is an image of the *totus Christus*, the full Christ, head and members, i.e., the Church divinized in glory, enveloped in one shared light. We glimpse on Tabor not only Our Lord's glory, but our own. No launderer can fabricate such a white. This is the Bride *in splendor, without spot or wrinkle* (Eph 5:27), the New Jerusalem dressed to meet the Lord (Rv 21:2). Jeremiah said, *Though you scour it with soap / and use much lye, / The stain of your guilt is still before me* (Jer 2:22). Today in Christ we behold the divine detergent, able to wash us perfectly of our sins.

- Rev. A. Giambrone, O.P.



"SPIRITUAL" NOT RELIGIOUS

In our times, many people aver that they are "spiritual" but not "religious." By this they seem to mean that they have spiritual feelings, experiences, and aspirations, but they do not take their interior identity from membership in a religious organization, nor are they formally engaged in specifically religious practice.

I wonder whether one difference between "spirituality" and "religion" is that most religions seem to demand some form of sacrifice. Presupposing that there has been some inner experience of the otherness and transcendence of God, the religious person is inclined to express his or her own littleness and dependence in God's presence. This may take the form of reducing one's bodily size by prostrating, kneeling, or bowing. The same attitude may be expressed by giving away of some of our possessions. We offer a gift, even a tithe of what is ours. Overwhelmed with awe at our encounter with God, we demonstrate our willingness to offer ourselves and all we have to the divine majesty. We may deliberately submit our will to God's will in acknowledgment that the divine will is paramount.

Abraham was prepared, at God's command, to offer his only son Isaac, the miracle child of God's promise (Gen 22:1-9). This is surely not the sacrifice God demands of us, but it is a highly charged moment in Bible history.

There are many chapters in the Old Testament regulating the details of sacrifice intended to help the Hebrews to become holy as God is holy (Lev 11:45). As devout Jews, Joseph and Mary faithfully followed these prescriptions. The Gospel of the Presentation narrates how they brought their newborn Son to the Lord in the Temple, making the prescribed offerings (Luke 2:22-38).

This was done in such a spirit of reverence and devotion that they drew the attention of Simeon and Anna, two prophetic figures who waited for the deliverance of God's people.

The gifts Mary and Joseph brought were nearly nothing—the offerings of the poor—but what was manifest in their attitude was a heartfelt spirit of self-offering, bringing to the Lord what was dearest to them, their firstborn Son. Their action was a symbol of their Son's own offerings of Himself for the salvation of all. For, even as He came into our world, He said, "Here I am. I come to do your will" (Heb 10:9).



AT HIGH MASS

Thou Who hast made this world so wondrous fair,—
The pomp of clouds; the glory of the sea;
Music of waters; song-birds' melody;
The organ of Thy thunder in the air;
Breath of the rose; and beauty everywhere—
Lord, take this stately service done to Thee,
The grave enactment of Thy Calvary
In jeweled pomp and splendor pictured there!

Lord, take the sounds and sights;
the silk and gold;
The white and scarlet; take the reverent grace
Of ordered step; window and glowing wall—
Prophet and Prelate, holy men of old;
And teach us, children of the Holy Place
Who love Thy Courts, to love Thee best of all.

- Robert Hugh Benson

We had a great first Lenten Friday Recollection. There was a buzz about. Many came and stayed, ate well, and prayed. May it continue. If all goes well, **Fr. Lehtoranta** will have arrived back from Florida to offer the 5:45 for the second Lenten Recollection. **Fr. Cekada** and I should have gotten in that same afternoon, to offer reinforcements. You'll be able to "read all about" the Consecration next Sunday. This bulletin was printed on Tuesday, just before our bulletin editor departed as well for the Sunshine State. Quite the destination of late! A wonderful showing for a historical event.

I am grateful to **Fr. Thielen** for offering Mass for us on Thursday, as well as for being available for any sick call emergencies. His charity is appreciated.

Wednesday we begin another busy Lenten week with our Children's Day of Recollection. The Fathers will all be here, and each will give a talk and assist for this powerful Lenten retreat for our children. Be sure to send yours!

March and St. David come on First Thursday, with leeks and prayers for priests, with the opening of St. Joseph's month. The Sisters were planning on decorating his altar with gold leafing in time for March.

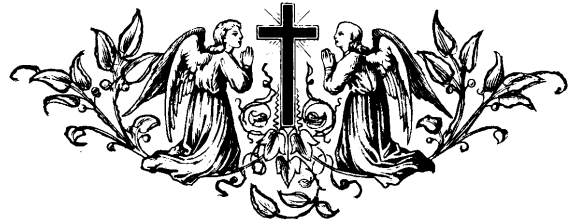
First Friday will see our regular First Friday schedule amplified for Lenten. Surely, something for everyone. To visit or keep watch with Our Lord is an excellent Lenten devotion, as it entails the sacrifice of sleep. Mass, Communion of Reparation, Stations at 7:30 with a Lenten Holy Hour...many possibilities. First Saturday (have you made yours?) ends the week and begins the month with Our Lady.

May Mary with her spouse St. Joseph bless you in this month which will end (already!) with Holy Week. How are you doing with extra Masses so far? It is the Mass that matters!

– Bishop Dolan



O Jesus, give me I pray Thee the bread of humility, the bread of obedience, the bread of charity; the bread of strength to break my will, and make it one with Thine, the bread of interior mortification, the bread of detachment from creatures, the bread of patience to bear the pain my heart endures. O Jesus, You desire to crucify me. Fiat! Then give me the bread of strength that I may suffer well, the bread to see Thee and Thee alone in all things and always. Jesus, Mary, the Cross, I desire no other loves but these.
– St. Bernadette



All Night Adoration Guard of Honor March 2018

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM: Joe Andreotta, *Volunteer please!*
8:00 PM - 9:00 PM: Ken Gilliam, Kirby Bischel
9:00 PM - 10:00 PM: Peter Gebel, Justin Soeder
10:00 PM - 11:00 PM: Andrew Prell, Dean McClorey
11:00 PM - 12:00 AM: Paul Puglielli
12:00 AM - 1:00 AM: Brett Kirkpatrick, *Volunteer needed!*
1:00 AM - 2:00 AM: Chip McClorey, David Marko
2:00 AM - 3:00 AM: Dan & Danny Brueggemann
3:00 AM - 4:00 AM: Steve Weigand, *Volunteer needed!*
4:00 AM - 5:00 AM: Bob Uhlenbrock, *Volunteer needed!*
5:00 AM - 6:00 AM: Joseph Simpson, Paddy Omlor
6:00 AM - 7:00 AM: Jim Soli, Sisters of Our Lady of
Reparation
Substitute: Brendan Lotarski (513-889-9449)

If you need to change your hour you may call the office or Brendan Lotarski (513-889-9449). Please do call if you need to cancel.



THE TREASURE OF TIME

As followers of Christ we are called to offer our lives to God. Most of us are not called to be martyrs, in the sense of dying for Christ. We are, however, obliged to take seriously the summons to loosen our grip on the things of this world in order to grasp more firmly the realities of eternity. We are called to sacrifice: to dedicate something of what is dearest to us. (This is not merely a reminder about the Sunday collection.) I suggest we offer something that is perhaps more precious to us than even money. What is that? *The Cloud of Unknowing*, a fourteenth-century English mystical tract, tells us, "Nothing is so precious as time."

What all of us are able to offer to God is time: time for prayer, time for spiritual reading, time to reflect, time to listen to others, and time to help them. Perhaps we could think of tithing our time.

– Fr. Michael, O.C.S.O.

“FROM OUR SPORTS EDITOR”

Virtually all major televised events feature pagan/occult symbolism, and it’s never more obvious than at a major sporting spectacle. The Super Bowl is no exception, as it’s a prime candidate for such mischief. The “half time show” is a bloated, corporate concoction to get you spending money while exposing your eyes and soul to debauchery. It goes without saying, but, the Roman coliseum was the gathering place for unholiness during ancient times. What’s changed?

The financial strain the Olympics and FIFA World Cup events put on the unfortunate country that hosts them is unparalleled. The mainstream media always memory-holes corruption stories that spring up after these events conclude. In 2017, the president of Brazil’s Olympic bid, Carlos Nuzman, was arrested when it was revealed that he received 16 gold bars (\$2 million) as a bribe to give South America its first Olympics in Rio de Janeiro. Similar scandals haunt the FIFA World Cup. In 2015, South American officials took millions of dollars in bribes from Fifa barons. This deep-seeded corruption in Brazil led to millions calling for socialist president Dilma Rouseff’s impeachment—a vote that occurred in 2016.

That’s just the illegal gambling/political bribery aspect of sports, which on its own, is enough to ruin the reputation of the industry from now until the end of time. The weird imagery and rituals they perform for the television viewing audience doesn’t inspire happiness in this viewer. When I see the same worn out pyramids; all-seeing-eye; half dressed, dead-eyed young women being manipulated into suggestive positions; black-robed wizardry and social justice hand wringing performed by pop singers whacked out on psychotropic drugs, I just roll my eyes. It’s pitiful, really, as it calls for prayer immediately upon viewing it. I loved competing in sports, but, the attention sports receives from the general public has made it an idol co-opted by some really nasty people with sinister motives, and that’s the nicest way I can put it.

BLESSED JORDAN OF SAXONY

One time, while visiting a community during Compline, a young friar found it hard to suppress a giggle, which spread through the choir. When an older brother tried to impose order, Bl. Jordan said, “Laugh on! ...You have escaped from the Devil who formerly held you in bondage. Laugh away, dear sons!”



The Sacred Liturgy itself, and the Holy Legislator of Monks both require us to bypass levity in Lent, but perhaps the Dominicans have a point!



THE SUNDAY MASS

Like Moses, to whom “the Lord used to speak face to face, as a man speaks to his friend” (Ex 33:11), and whose “face shone because he had been talking with God” (Ex 34:29), a soul faithful to Spiritual Reading and to Eucharistic adoration will be transformed into the image that she contemplates. We become what we contemplate. One who contemplates disfigured things becomes inwardly disfigured. One who contemplates transfigured things becomes inwardly transfigured. One who contemplates the all-beautiful Face of the Incarnate Word will be supernaturally beautified. Remember this come Friday, for All Night Adoration.

The Sister-Sunday Tribute

Nuns have a “habit”of touching the lives of others in some special way, and this year at Sister-Sunday we’d like to pay a little tribute to all of our past religious sisters who have done so much for the glory of God here below.



Let’s honor our beloved Catholic Sisters!

Send in your special memories For March 11th!

To do this, we ask that you take a moment to write down a fond memory of a particular Sister who touched your life in some little way. Say a prayer for her soul as you think back, and ask her to pray for more vocations to the Catholic Sisterhood. When your finished, send your story to mail@sistersofourladyofreparation.org , or hand it to one of the Sisters on Sunday. The stories will be displayed at the Sister-Sunday event so that others can enjoy and appreciate the lasting legacy of the Catholic Sisterhood.

Split-the-Pot Tickets available in the gift shop. Questions or Donations, call the sisters at 513-376-6011.

GAZING ON THE HOLY FACE

One-hundred-eighteen years ago, on August 5th, 1897, the eve of the feast of the Transfiguration, a young Carmelite stricken with tuberculosis had a very special desire. She wanted an image of the Holy Face of Christ placed close to her bed. The image was taken from the choir and attached to her bed curtains. On the following September 30th, she died. Her name? Thérèse of the Child Jesus and of the Holy Face. Saint Thérèse fixed her gaze on the Face of Christ disfigured by suffering, and found the transfiguration of her own suffering in its radiance.

The Holy Face of Christ was a mystery familiar to Thérèse. As a result of the good works of the Venerable Léon Dupont, the “Holy Man of Tours,” devotion to the Holy Face had spread throughout France.

A year before her death on August 6, 1896, Thérèse and two of the novices entrusted to her consecrated themselves to the Holy Face of Jesus. They understood the mystery of the Transfiguration just as the liturgy presents it to us today: as a preparation for the Mystery of the Cross. The three young Carmelites asked Our Lord to hide them “in the secret of His Face.” They were drawn by the Holy Ghost into the abjection of Christ, the Suffering Servant described in chapters 52 and 53 of the prophet Isaiah. They desired to be Veronicas, consoling Jesus in His Passion, and offering Him souls. Their prayer concluded: “O beloved Face of Jesus! As we await the everlasting day when we will contemplate Your infinite Glory, our one desire is to charm Your Divine Eyes by hiding our faces too so that here on earth no one can recognize us. O Jesus! Your Veiled Gaze is our Heaven!”



Thérèse's sister Celine wrote about St. Thérèse:

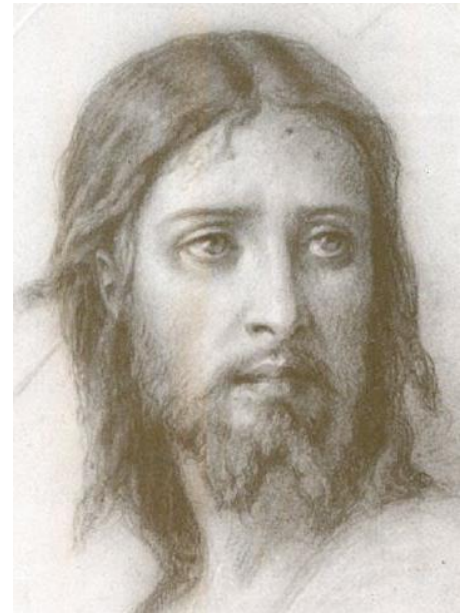
“Devotion to the Holy Face was, for Thérèse, the crown and complement of her love for the Sacred Humanity of Our Lord. The Blessed Face was the mirror wherein she beheld the Heart and Soul of her Well-Beloved. Just as the picture of a loved one serves to bring the whole person before us, so in the Holy Face of Christ Thérèse beheld the entire Humanity of Jesus. We can say unequivocally that this devotion was the burning inspiration of the Saint’s life. ...Her devotion to the Holy Face transcended, or more accurately, embraced, all the other attractions of her spiritual life.”



PRAYER TO THE HOLY FACE
Composed by Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus and of the Holy Face

O Jesus, Who in Thy bitter Passion didst become “the most abject of men, a man of sorrows,” I venerate Thy Sacred Face whereon there once did shine the beauty and sweetness of the Godhead; but now it has become for me as if it were the face of a leper! Nevertheless, under those disfigured features, I recognize Thy infinite Love and I am consumed with the desire to love Thee and make Thee loved by all men.

The tears which well up abundantly in Thy sacred eyes appear to me as so many precious pearls that I love to gather up, in order to purchase the souls of poor sinners by means of their infinite value. O Jesus, Whose adorable Face ravishes my heart, I implore Thee to fix deep within me Thy divine image and to set me on fire with Thy Love, that I may be found worthy to come to the contemplation of Thy glorious Face in Heaven. Amen.



TODAY'S MASS

In every celebration of Holy Mass, we ascend the mountain with Christ, and we go, as the Vulgate puts it, “from clarity to clarity.” Today, Moses and Elijah attest to Christ, the fulfillment of the Law and of the Prophets, and point to the mystery of His Exodus by way of the Cross and tomb, from the regions of darkness and of death into the very light and life of the Father.

Passing to the Holy Sacrifice, we, like Peter, James, and John, see His glory, not with eyes of flesh, but with the eyes of faith and by the light of the Holy Ghost. We know Him really present in the bread become His Body and in the wine become His Blood and, like Peter, cry out, “Lord, it is good to be here” (Lk 9:33). The altar of the Holy Sacrifice is our Mount Tabor. Over the altar resounds the voice of the Father, “This is my Beloved Son, the Chosen One; listen to Him” (Lk 10:35). Invisibly yet truly, mystically yet really, the altar — and all of us who from it partake of the Body and Blood of Christ — are enveloped in the cloud of the Holy Ghost and assumed into the grand priestly prayer of Christ to the Father.

MON 2/26/18 FERAL DAY FAST
ST. MARGARET OF CORTONA, PENITENT
 7:00 AM **Low Mass** Sharon Patton (*Fr. Lehtoranta*)
 8:00 AM **Low Mass** †Gloria L. Dailey (*Tom & Karen Simpson*)
 11:25 AM **High Mass** Dennis Mark Baryj (*Fr. Baryj*)
 12:25 PM **Vespers**

TUE 2/27/18 ST. GABRIEL OF THE SORROWFUL VIRGIN, C FAST
 7:00 AM **Low Mass** Holy Souls in Purgatory (*Rebecca Stump*)
 8:00 AM **Low Mass** Jan Groen for her birthday (*Colleen Eldracher*)
 11:25 AM **High Mass** †Jane B. Donadio (*Dave & Becky DeChristofaro*)
 12:25 PM **Vespers**
 5:00 PM **Low Mass** 7 Godchildren (*Kirby & Jean Bischel*)

WED 2/28/18 FERAL DAY FAST
CHILDREN'S DAY OF RECOLLECTION
 7:00 AM **Low Mass** Carley VandeRyt (birthday) (*Kuebler/Volz*)
 8:00 AM **Low Mass** Special Intention (RH) (*Kuebler/Volz*)
 9:00 AM **Opening talk**
 11:25 AM **High Mass** †Katie Bischak (*JCS*)
 2:45 PM **Stations of the Cross & Benediction**
 5:00 PM **Low Mass** Molly & Mason Wagner (*Rich VandeRyt*)

THU 3/1/18 FIRST THURSDAY FAST
FERIAL DAY • ST. DAVID, BPC
 7:00 AM **Low Mass** Special Intention (*Christopher Browne*)
 8:00 AM **Low Mass** †Katie Bischak (*Christopher Browne*)
 11:25 AM **High Mass** For the sanctification of priests (*Alter Christus Confraternity*)
 12:25 PM **Vespers**
 5:00 PM **Low Mass** Honor of St. Joseph (*Tom & Karen Simpson*)

FRI 3/2/18 FIRST FRIDAY FAST
FERIAL DAY • THE HOLY SHROUD
 8:00 AM **Low Mass** Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Walsh, Sr. – Wedding Anniversary (*Christopher Browne*)
 10:55 AM **Confessions**
 11:25 AM **Low Mass & Benediction** †Mary Jane Donadio (*John Donadio*) (Month's Mind)
 12:30 PM **Vespers**
 5:00 PM **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**
 5:15 PM **Confessions & Rosary**
 5:45 PM **Low Mass** †Tom Peter – 7th Anniversary (*C. Simpson family*)
 6:45 PM **Lenten Supper**
 7:30 PM **Stations of the Cross, Sorrowful Mother Novena VI with Blessing of the Sick**
 8:30 PM **Holy Communion**
All Night Adoration

SAT 3/3/18 FIRST SATURDAY • FERAL DAY FAST
 7:10 AM **Confessions & Rosary**
 7:30 AM **High Mass** The Simpson family (*Thomas Simpson*)
 8:10 AM **First Saturday Devotions, Benediction**
 8:35 AM **Low Mass** Doris Ritze (*Maria Kunkel*)
SUN 3/4/18 LENT III
ST. CASIMIR, C • ST. LUCIUS I, PM

YOUNG SERVERS GUIDE

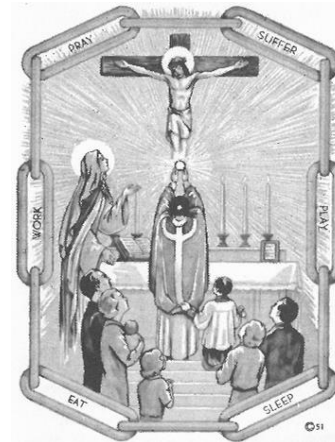
Each week our young servers are learning (and older servers reviewing) one response of the Mass. Parents, please help.

THIS WEEK'S LESSON

P. Domine, exaudi orationem meam.
 S. Et clamor meus ad te veniat.
 (Ett clah-more may'oose odd tay vay'nee-ott.)

P. Dominus vobiscum.
 S. Et cum spiritu tuo. (Ett coom spee'ree-too too'oh.)

Children's Day of Recollection
Wednesday, February 28



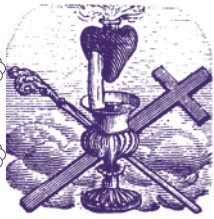
The day begins at 9:00 AM & concludes at 3:00 PM. A lunch will be provided. No charge. Please call the school if your children will be

SERVERS

SUN 3/4 7:30 AM Low: Brueggemann Bros.
 9:00 AM HIGH: CHAPLAINS: J. Lacy, P. Omlor TH: P. McClorey ACs: T. Lawrence, C. Arlinghaus TORCH: A. McClorey, S. Richesson, B. Kamphaus, J. Stewart
 STATIONS: T. Lawrence, C. Arlinghaus, N. McClorey, A.D. Kinnett
 11:30 AM Low: A.D. Kinnett, Na. McClorey
 4:45 VESPERS & BENEDICTION: G Miller
 5:45 PM Low: G Miller

7:05 AM **Rosary**
 7:30 AM **Low Mass** †Margie Soli (*Jim Soli*)
 9:00 AM **High Mass** †Katie Bischak (*Rebecca Hinton*)
 10:40 AM **Sunday Classes**
 11:15 AM **Short Stations of the Cross**
 11:30 AM **Low Mass** Dennis & Jeanne Hille – Happy New Year (*Bobby & Aubrey Uhlenbrock*)
 4:45 PM **Vespers & Benediction**
 5:45 PM **Low Mass** For the people of St. Gertrude the Great

MONDAY IN LENT II



Thought—“When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He.” (Gospel)

Practice—I shall accept all my sufferings today (my crosses)—great and small—without complaint and unite them with the sufferings of Jesus on the cross (lifted up), that thus I may share in the redeeming of the world with Him.

Prayer—All for Thee, Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. (300 days indulgence)

“Jesus attaches such a price to His Passion that He has willed the remembrance of it to be recalled to us daily...that is the Sacrifice of the Mass.”
—Abbot Marmion, O.S.B.

TUESDAY IN LENT II

Thought—“One is your Father Who is in heaven; one is your Teacher, Christ; and all you are brothers.” (Gospel)



Practice—I shall say something good today about the two people in the world that give me most trouble.

Prayer—Sweet Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us and on our erring brethren. (300 days indulgence)

“Daily Mass is not of obligation; but those who appreciate its value as a help to living a holy life, consider it a duty to attend when

possible. Unfortunately, the number who avail themselves of this privilege is far too small.”
—Fr. Degen

WEDNESDAY IN LENT II

Thought—“Whoever wishes to be the greatest among you shall be your servant, even as the Son of Man has come not to be served but to serve, and give His life as a ransom for many.”



(Gospel)

Practice—Today I shall do five little services for others without attracting attention.

Prayer—Sacred Heart of Jesus, may You be known, loved, and imitated. (300 days indulgence)

“The liturgy moves with salutary effect both soul and body...through the variety and beauty of the Sacred rites.”

—Pope Pius XI

THURSDAY IN LENT II

Thought—Shrouds have no pockets and bank-books are not buried with the dead, just as Dives left behind his table laden with good food. (Gospel)

Practice—Today I shall give away something I care for, to someone who needs it more than I do.

Prayer—My God and my All! (300 days indulgence)

“Mass is like a grain of mustard seed whence has sprung the whole Catholic liturgy.”

—Dom Cabrol

FRIDAY IN LENT II

THE HOLY SHROUD

Thought—“O Lord, deliver me from lying lip, from treacherous tongue.” (Gradual)

Practice—I shall be careful not to speak an untruth today, and say, “God bless ’em,” when I feel envy toward anyone.

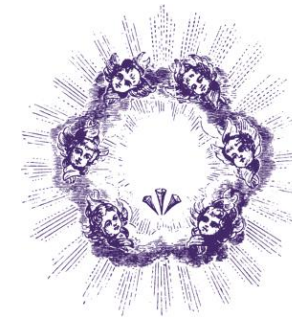
Prayer—By the sign of the Holy Cross deliver us from our enemies, O our God. (3 years indulgence)

“Mighty is the prayer that is prayed at Mass.” — quoted by M. Mary Loyola



SATURDAY IN LENT II

Thought—“And he rose and went to his father and said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ But the father said to his servants, ‘Fetch the best robe quickly and put it on him...and let us eat and make merry, because this, my son, was lost and is found.’” (Gospel)



Practice—I shall make a good confession today, preparing myself for it throughout the day until the afternoon or evening by making acts of sorrow, resolution, and trust in God, my merciful Father.

Prayer—I am sorry for my sins. Grant, O God, that I may amend. I give myself wholly to Thee; for Thee I am ready to live and die. (3 years indulgence)

“The Mass is the source and fount of much of our Catholic literature, the heart of our Liturgy, and the center of our Christian life.”

— Fr. Foster, S.J.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Thought—“He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me, scatters.” (Gospel) There is no such thing as a “broadminded



“broadminded neutrality” in living as a true Christian.

Practice—I shall spend at least fifteen minutes today reading either the Catechism or a Religion book or the question-and-answer section of a Catholic newspaper or magazine to learn the Catholic position on topics of present-day interest so that I won't have to be afraid to speak up during a discussion of the subjects.

Prayer—Christ Jesus, be Thou my Helper and my Redeemer. (300 days indulgence)

“So many people do not trouble to hear Mass on Sundays, when they could easily do so. If you hear a second Mass on a Sunday, after

your own Mass of obligation in reparation for those who are so negligent, do so.”

— de Segur

ON HOLY MASS

If we only knew the treasure we hold in our hands! Happy a thousand times those who know how to profit by the Mass! in this adorable Sacrifice, they can find all things: graces, riches spiritual and temporal, favors for body and mind for life and eternity.

Yet how often we must confess that we do not even think of using the treasure we possess, we do not even try to grasp it. What value do we set upon holy Mass? With what intentions do we assist at it? How do we hear it? Some come from custom and human respect, and sometimes even from less worthy motives. At Mass they are occupied with useless thoughts; they amuse themselves with looking at the decorations of the church or at the people; they talk and even yawn, not knowing how to occupy themselves.

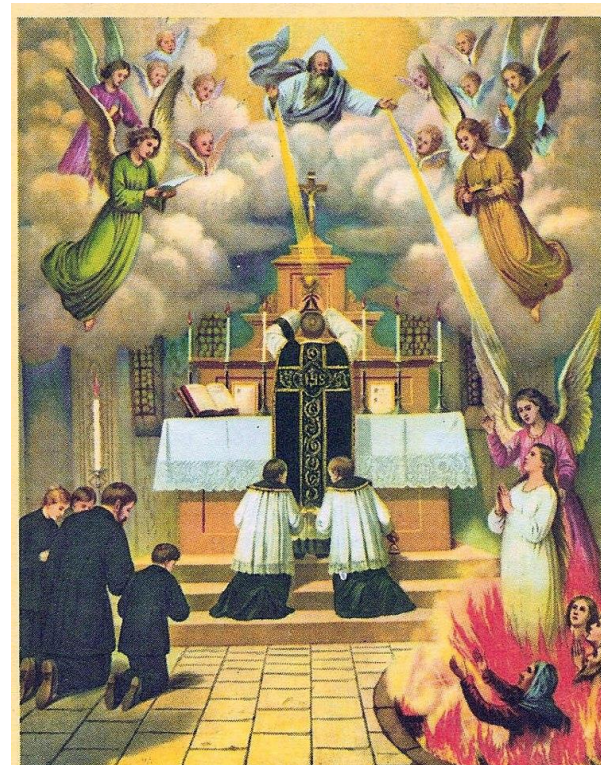
Have you never received any favors from God, and have you thanked Him for them? Take care lest through lack of gratitude you prevent God from showering His blessings upon you. It is a strange thing that we who are surrounded and loaded with God's blessings, we whom God has loved, preserved, and cherished from the first moment of our lives until now, have never even thanked Him as we ought.

This we do in holy Mass!

— Bl. Claude de la Colombiere

St. Gertrude the Great Church
4900 Rialto Rd., West Chester, Ohio 45069
(513) 645-4212
www.sgg.org

Our Lent: A Mass



Daily Meditations for Lent

2018

“At Mass there is offered to the Eternal Father the very person of Jesus Christ, God and Man. Consequently, the Divine Majesty receives an infinitely greater honor than if all mankind and all angels made the sacrifice of their lives.”

— St. Alphonsus