

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

January 12, 2020

THE HOLY FAMILY

SUNDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE EPIPHANY

ST. BENET BISCOP, AB



¶ HOLY FAMILY SUNDAY

Catechism Classes are at 10:40 AM today. Vespers with Benediction will be at 4:45 PM. Don't forget your family Rosary today on the feast of the Holy Family. The Epiphany Home Blessing Pack is a gift today. Take one home, and use it.

¶ ALTER CHRISTUS

\$124.00 was received for Masses for priests. God reward your generosity.

¶ CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE

The Chair of Unity Octave prayers begin on Saturday at 8:05 AM. Come to pray for the conversion of the world.

¶ NEXT SUNDAY: EPIPHANY II

The Chair of Unity Octave continues next Sunday. The Blessing of Expectant Mothers will be available at the Communion rail following all Masses. Catechism Classes will be at 10:40 AM. Vespers resume January 26th.

📖 **Set Your Missal:** Epiphany II, second collect of Ss. Marius & Companions, third of St. Canute, King. Trinity Preface.

¶ CATECHISM CORNER

A special actual grace is necessary: To avoid in this life all venial sin; To obtain final perseverance, that is, to die in the state of grace.

Collection Report

Wednesday, January 1st\$4,561.00
Sunday, January 5th\$12,322.00
Second Collection.....\$1,280.00



¶ UPCOMING

Candlemas Procession, "Mass of the Candles" and Reception afterwards:
Sunday, February 2nd, 9:00 AM.

☞ *"The Holy Name of Jesus is, first of all, an all-powerful prayer. Our Lord Himself solemnly promises that whatever we ask the Father in His Name, we shall receive. God never fails to keep His word. Each time we say "Jesus," it is an act of perfect love, for we offer to God the infinite love of Jesus." -St. Alphonsus Liguori* ☞

¶ YOUR PRAYERS

Please pray for Ed Strauss, who may be very near to death; Seminarian Henry de la Chanonie, Fr. Cekada, several priests in need, two special intentions, Ina Harpen, Pete Gebel, and the repose of the soul of Fr. Sons' grandfather, †Justin Sons.

☞ *"Jesus Christ, the God-Man, was born in a manger and is spiritually reborn on the altar. He suffered on Calvary, and continues to offer Himself on the altar. In His earthly life, He spread His teaching and worked miracles among the crowds. In the Eucharist, He spans the centuries and communicates Himself to all."*
- St. John Chrysostom ☞

THE PASCHAL SACRAMENTS 2020

Please note these important dates:

FIRST CONFESSIONS & TESTING: Saturday, April 18th.

Baptismal certificate must be already presented, and registration form completed *before* the test. CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE FOR THE NECESSARY FORM.

CHILDREN'S DAY OF RECOLLECTION: Thursday, May 28th.

CONFIRMATIONS: Vigil of Pentecost, Saturday, May 30th.

FIRST COMMUNION: Corpus Christi Sunday, June 14th.

O GOD OF OUR LIFE

God of our life, there are days when the burdens we carry chafe our shoulders and weigh us down, when the road seems dreary and endless, the skies grey and threatening, when our lives have no music in them and our hearts are lonely and our souls have lost their courage. Flood the path with light, run our eyes to where the skies are full of promise, tune our hearts to brave music, give us the sense of comradeship with heroes and saints of every age and so quicken our spirits that we may be able to encourage the souls of all who journey with us on the road of life, to Thine honor and glory. Amen.

- St. Augustine

JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH

I cannot separate Mary and Joseph from Jesus. That would be opposed to Jesus' example, who, after the Father, loved Joseph and Mary the most. And in heaven, He loves them eternally.

No one ever reflected Jesus' life more perfectly than Mary and Joseph.

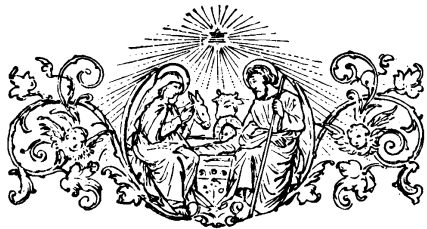
If Jesus could say to Philip, *He who sees Me sees the Father*, then I can say, "The one who sees Mary and Joseph sees Jesus." Mary and Joseph form the most faithful image of Jesus; and for this reason I can formulate the shortest path to holiness: "For me, to live is Christ, it is Mary and Joseph."

Mary, my mother, Joseph my father, give me your eyes to contemplate Jesus; give me your hearts and spirits to understand Him, and to be impassioned for Him.

Give me your will so that I may work for Him with my whole heart and mind without growing weary.

Give me your soul that I may endlessly proclaim: *Jesus, my Lord and my all!*

— Francis Xavier Nguyen Van Thuan



"But if with careful thought we wish to see how their threefold kind of gift is also offered by all who come to Christ with the foot of faith, is not the same offering repeated in the hearts of true believers? For he that acknowledges Christ the King of the universe brings gold from the treasure of his heart, he that believes the Only-begotten of God to have united man's true nature to Himself, offers myrrh and he that confesses Him in no wise inferior to the Father's majesty, worships Him in a manner with incense." — Pope St. Leo the Great

HOLY FAMILY COMMUNION

"Christ gave us His flesh to eat in order to deepen our love for Him. When we approach Him, then, there should be burning within us, a fire of love and longing... The wise men paid homage to Christ's body even when it was lying in a manger... They only saw Christ in a manger, they saw nothing of what you now see and yet they approached Him with profound awe and reverence.

You see Him, not in a manger but on an altar, not carried by a woman but offered by a priest and you see the Spirit bountifully poured out upon the offerings of bread and wine. Unlike the wise men, you do not merely see Christ's body, you know His power as well and the whole divine plan for our salvation... Let us then awaken in ourselves a feeling of awe and let us show a far greater reverence than did those foreigners so that we do not approach this sacrament casually, without thinking of what we do...

This food strengthens us, it emboldens us to speak freely to our God, it is our hope, our salvation, our light and our life.

— St. John Chrysostom



This is the Name which gave sight to the blind, hearing to the deaf, agility to the lame, speech to the mute and life to the dead. The power of this Name forced the mastery of the devil entirely from the bodies of the possessed. — St. Peter Chrysologus

WORDS FOR THE MAGI

'Shall I bring you wisdom, shall I bring you power?'

The first great stranger said to the child.

Then he noticed something he'd never felt before—

A wish in himself to be innocent and mild.

'Shall I bring you glory, shall I bring you peace?'

The second great stranger said when he saw

The star shine down on entire helplessness.

The gift that he offered was his sense of awe.

'Shall I show you riches' the third one began

Then stopped in terror because he had seen

A God grown-up and a tired tempted man.

'Suffering's my gift,' he said

'That is what I mean.'

— Elizabeth Jennings



HOUSEKEEPER

This is my little town,
My Bethlehem,
And here, if anywhere,
My Christ Child
Will be born.

I must begin
To go about my day—
Sweep out the inn,
Get fresh hay for the manger
And be sure
To leave my heart ajar
In case there may be travellers
From afar.

— Elizabeth Rooney

We really can't object to this dark rainy weekend, although our now departed Nigerian seminarians *did* hope to see some snow. This would have been a first for them. Still, for us, these mild sunny days of Christmas have been a great gift.

If **Fr. Cekada** is feeling better (his "flu" has lasted longer than Christmas) he heads off to the Seminary today for his teaching week. **Fr. McKenna** goes to Rome for the first time. He'll meet **Fr. Nkamuke**, **Fr. Trauner** and the intrepid world traveler, Stephen Heiner, to see the Holy City; and record some shows for Stephen's company, True Restoration. Fr. Cekada and I work for them as well with a monthly news commentary called "Behind the Headlines."

Meanwhile, back in River City we're praying for probably the one institution most under attack, the Family, as we keep the feast of the Holy Family. This devotion largely originated in Canada, poor Canada. Our neighbor to the north almost makes us look good in comparison. Remember our fellow Catholics who still strive to survive there despite a monstrous government, far advanced in tyrannical radicalism of every sort. **Fr. Dutertre** is doing an admirable work there, despite all of the obstacles.

But in the meantime, we proudly celebrate our Catholic Faith, the manifestation of Christ our King to all the world, Epiphany. A beautiful Mass marked Monday's solemnity, and afterwards in cozy candlelit Helfta Hall we made merry with a very generous chicken dinner. Thank you! Colleen Eldracher and Agustin Bayer got the Baby Jesus in their cake, and thus won a prize. The third remains a mystery. I hope the baby wasn't swallowed.

It turns out a converted Protestant pastor and R&R internet personality, Taylor Marshall, gave our calendar a nice plug (it *is* a fine work, as is the fine "work of God" we do here) which is why we've about sold out. There *are* a few more in the Gift Shop, so look lively if you need one.

Puccini showed up at the side door Friday morning, all drenched and bedraggled from the rain, quite distressed really. I got the feeling he blamed *me*. Well, he had some breakfast, and now he's drying off, sleeping under the couch, to be on the safe side in case of more rain.

Holy Family Sunday, coming so soon into the New Year, does suggest a resolution or two, doesn't it? Family prayer, Sunday Mass, Rosary, grace, modesty, catechism... Well, you get the picture. So should others, if you're Christians. Start today by blessing your

home, and banishing the devil, by devoutly doing the Epiphany Home Blessing, with incense and prayer and chalk. Little things go a long way!

May the Little King of Love run your home, and no one else!

– Bishop Dolan



HEAVEN ON EARTH

If we go to the next world fortified by this sacrifice, we shall enter its sacred portals with perfect confidence, as though protected all over, by armor of gold. But why do I speak of the next world? Because of this sacrament earth becomes heaven for you. Throw open the gates of heaven, look through and you will see the proof of what I say. What is heaven's most precious possession? I will show you it here on earth. I do not show you angels or archangels, heaven or the heaven of heavens but I show you the very Lord of all these. Do you not see how you gaze, here on earth, upon what is most precious of all? You not only gaze on it but touch it as well. You not only touch it but eat it. So cleanse your soul from sin and prepare your mind to receive these mysteries."

– St. John Chrysostom



"Give me, therefore, I pray Thee, this gold, this incense and this myrrh. Give me the gold of Thy holy love, give me the spirit of holy prayer, give me the desire and strength to mortify myself in everything that displeases Thee. I am resolved to obey Thee and to love Thee but Thou knowest my weakness, oh, give me the grace to be faithful to Thee!"

– St. Alphonsus Liguori

PRAYER FOR FAMILIES

May Thy presence, most Sacred Heart of Jesus, ever bless our homes and fill them with the virtues so perfectly practiced in Thine own Holy Family in Nazareth. Protect us from all dangers, bless our endeavors, and keep always in our family the spirit of love, of peace and happiness. Amen.

✠ CALENDAR

MON	1/13/20	OCTAVE DAY OF THE EPIPHANY 8:00 AM Low Mass Dengel Family (<i>Bill Young</i>) 11:25 AM High Mass My Special Intention 1 (<i>Fr. Lehtoranta</i>)
TUE	1/14/20	ST. HILARY, BPCD • ST. FELIX, PRM 8:00 AM Low Mass †Elsie Kloberdanz (<i>Mary Christensen</i>) 11:25 AM High Mass Young Family (<i>Bill Young</i>) 5:00 PM Low Mass 6 Godchildren (<i>Kirby & Jean Bischel</i>)
WED	1/15/20	ST. PAUL, FIRST HERMIT ST. MAURUS, AB • <i>OUR LADY OF PROMPT SUCCOR</i> 8:00 AM Low Mass The Damian Arthur Family – In Thanks (<i>Theresa & Joseph Simpson</i>) 11:25 AM High Mass Henry Sieverding (<i>Mike Sieverding</i>) ☞ 5:10 PM Low Mass Urgent special intentions in honor of Our Lady of Succor & for the Poor Souls (<i>Sarah Burns</i>)
THU	1/16/20	ST. MARCELLUS I, PM ☞ 7:00 AM Low Mass †Julia Puglielli (<i>Diane Puglielli</i>) 8:00 AM Low Mass Special Intentions (<i>P.T. & A.M. Omlor</i>) 11:25 AM High Mass †Frank Youngworth – Jan. 6 (<i>Diane Puglielli</i>)
FRI	1/17/20	ST. ANTHONY, AB <i>OUR LADY OF PONTMAIN</i> 8:00 AM Low Mass †Nancy J. Bradl (<i>Sherry Bradl</i>) 11:05 AM Confessions 11:25 AM High Mass My Special Intention 2 (<i>Fr. Lehtoranta</i>) 5:15 PM Confessions & Rosary 5:35 PM Infant of Prague Novena IV 5:45 PM Low Mass Seminarians at Most Holy Trinity (<i>Collin Smith</i>) 6:30 PM Sacred Heart Novena, Benediction
SAT	1/18/20	ST. PETER'S CHAIR AT ROME ST. PRISCA, VM OPENING OF THE CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE: "The return of all the other sheep to the one fold of St. Peter, the one Shepherd." 7:15 AM Confessions 7:30 AM Low Mass Intentions of Fr. Lehtoranta (<i>Mr. & Mrs. Michael Briggs</i>) 8:05 AM Alma & Opening of Chair of Unity Octave 8:20 AM High Mass Ed Strauss (<i>Bishop Dolan</i>)
SUN	1/19/20	EPIPHANY II SS. MARIUS & COMPANIONS, MM ST. CANUTE, KING, M CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE: "The return of Oriental schismatics (the Orthodox) to the Apostolic See of Rome." 7:05 AM Rosary 7:30 AM Low Mass †Ann Marko 47 th Anniversary (<i>Dave & MaryAnn Marko</i>) 9:00 AM High Mass For the people of St. Gertrude the Great 10:40 AM Catechism Classes 11:05 AM Rosary 11:30 AM Low Mass Andrew Prell – Happy Birthday (<i>Dad & Mom</i>) (from 1/12) 5:45 PM Low Mass Special Intention Deceased (<i>Tom & Karen Simpson</i>)

A TIMELY PRAYER FOR PEACE

O Immaculate Mary, Mother of the Infant Savior and my Mother, it has ever been in thy power to crush all here-sies, and to remove from the world many and great evils. Once again, we beseech thee, act in the splendor of thy strength and take from the world the false doctrines that trouble its peace, so that soon nothing will remain to divide men among themselves or to separate them from Jesus Christ, the source of all unity, all blessing, and all peace. Amen.



THE PRIEST'S COMMUNION

For the completion of a sacrifice, communion with the victim is necessary. In the unbloody Sacrifice of the Lord, this takes place at Holy Communion, wherein Christ becomes the food of the faithful. By means of this food and through this food, the faithful enjoy communion with the Divinity. And as it is the priest through whom Christ offers this sacrifice, the priest's Communion suffices for the consummation of the sacrifice, though Holy Church is desirous that the faithful also should receive the Body and Blood of Christ as often as they assist at Holy Mass. According to the very idea of this sacrifice, and of other sacrifices typical of it, both under the natural law and the Mosaic law, the celebrating priest should partake of the Sacrificial Victim. So stringent is the law of the Church in this matter that it ordains, in case of the celebrant's becoming ill or otherwise unable to complete the Mass after the Consecration, that another priest, even though he be not fasting, should be required to do so, in order that the Communion may be received and that integral part of the Mass may not be omitted.

SERVERS

SUN 1/19 7:30 AM Low: Brueggemann Bros.
 9:00 AM High: MC: C. Richesson TH: M. Simpson ACs: D. Simpson, S. Richesson TORCH: T. & D. England, J. Stewart, T. Lawrence
 11:30 AM Low: P. & A. McClorey
 5:45 PM Low: G. Miller