

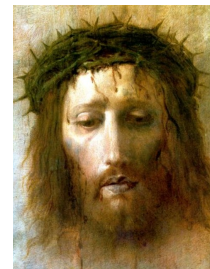
ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

parishoffice@sgg.org • bpdolan@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. Charles McGuire
Rev. Vili Lehtoranta • Rev. Stephen McKenna



February 14, 2021

QUINQUAGESIMA

ST. VALENTINE, PRM • HOLY FACE SUNDAY

¶ QUINQUAGESIMA SUNDAY

Today after Mass we open our annual Triduum of adoration and reparation to the Holy Face. The Blessing of Religious Articles takes place at the Communion Rail. Catechism classes are at 10:40 AM. Come back to Helfta Hall and enjoy the **St. Valentine's Day Bake Sale!** Vespers with Benediction are at 4:45 PM.



¶ THIS WEEK

On **Monday** (8 & 11:25 AM) we continue our Holy Face Triduum, and remember to pray for our country on President's Day. **Tuesday** we close our Triduum with the Feast of the Holy Face (7 & 11:25 AM). Don't forget to feast a little for Mardi Gras. **Ash Wednesday** begins our Lent. See the Calendar for the full schedule. **Thursday** offers a special schedule (11:25 AM & 5:15 PM) as we honor St. Bernadette, and **Friday** is the Feast of the Crown of Thorns. We close the busy week with Our Lady on **Saturday**, as we offer the restful Lenten Masses.

¶ ASH WEDNESDAY

Begin your Lent well by receiving ashes at one of the many services we will offer on that day. Ash Wednesday Masses are at 7 & 11:25 AM and 5:45 PM. Ashes will be given out before and after all Masses. Ashes will also be distributed after the 3:00 PM Children's Stations of the Cross. Last ashes are at 6:45 PM.

Collection Report

Sunday, January 7th.....\$6,039.00
Second Collection.....\$1,650.00
Alter Christus Confraternity.....\$304.00



*St. Valentine,
pray for us.*



¶ LENTEN FRIDAY: THE CROWN OF THORNS.

Come to our first Lenten Friday Evening of Recollection. Confessions and the Rosary are at 5:15 PM; Low Mass at 5:45 PM with the Sacred Heart Novena. At 6:45 enjoy our Parish Lenten Supper. Then stay for the 7:30 Stations, Sermon, Sorrowful Mother Novena with Blessing of the Sick, Benediction, and Holy Communion.

¶ NEXT SUNDAY: LENT I

The Blessing of Expectant Mothers takes place after all Masses next Sunday. Catechism classes will be at 10:40 AM. Vespers with Benediction will be at 4:45 PM. **Set Your Missal:** Lent I, second collect of Our Lady & All the Saints, third for the Living & the Dead. Preface of Lent.

¶ YOUR PRAYERS

Please pray for Jane Brockman, who had surgery this past week; Frank Beckerich, who has received Extreme Unction; Eldon Neukam, still in the hospital; Kathy Sutton, and Tim Bosier. Pray as well for the repose of the soul of †Patrick Kurtz, who died suddenly last week.

¶ UPCOMING

- **Sodality of Charity Meeting: Saturday, February 27.**
- **Children's Lenten Day of Recollection: Wednesday, March 10.** 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Lunch is provided. Please let us know if your children will be attending.
- **Altar Boy Day: Saturday, March 13.**

Did you miss the
*Ladies' Fashion
Night?*
Come back to Helfta Hall
to collect an info packet!

TUESDAY, FEAST OF THE
HOLY FACE

For so many, Shrove Tuesday is a date on the calendar that gets overshadowed by Ash Wednesday, that memorable day we wear the outward sign of repentance and recall our mortality. How much more meaningful will our Ash Wednesday be, if we first mark Shrove Tuesday as a Feast of the Holy Face, and begin Lent more in love with the countenance of Christ and, through Him, made more beautiful in our own soul.

“All those who, attracted by My Love and venerating My Countenance, shall receive, by virtue of My Humanity, a brilliant and vivid impression of My Divinity. This splendor shall enlighten the depths of their souls, so that in eternal glory the celestial court shall marvel at the marked likeness of their features, with My Divine Countenance...”

— Our Lord Jesus Christ to St. Gertrude



“This Holy Face reflecting
My blest Humanity
Is for thee the precious ransom
Paid for thine eternity.
None have ever met denial
Who looked to its priceless worth,
That Face of treasures holiest
That await the elect of earth.”
— Sr. Marie de St. Pierre

Lumen Christi

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

Special Intention (Florisel Guzman)

A ST. VALENTINE THOUGHT

“Sacrifice is difficult and irksome. Love can make it easy; perfect love can make it a joy.” (Old Marriage Exhortation)

I remember this from serving weddings when I was a boy. I love this quote, and cite it sometimes still for happy couples to be, or those that aren't any more.

— Bishop Dolan



“Walk before God in simplicity, not in subtleties of the mind. Simplicity brings faith; but subtle and intricate speculations bring conceit; and conceit brings withdrawal from God.”

— St. Isaac the Syrian

**FOR ST. VALENTINE'S DAY
ACT OF LOVE TO THE HOLY FACE**

Adorable Face of my Jesus, my only love, my light and my life, grant that I may see no one except Thee, that I may know no one except Thee, that I may love Thee alone, that I may live with Thee, of Thee, by Thee, and for Thee. Amen.

EXCERPT FROM “ASH WEDNESDAY”

“This is the time of tension between dying and birth.” — T.S. Eliot

Each anxious brow awaits
The blackened thumb
That soothes a cross of palms
Both blessed and burned.
How can the words
“Of dust you shall become,”
Find hearing in the heart
Where death is spurned?

The heart that speaks “forever” cannot lie,
Nor does the Bride speak false that man is dust.

For this we wear the cross on heads held high.

He saves the contradiction within us.
— Rita Simmonds

MOPE AND HOPE

In a little poem, entitled “The Two Sides of It,” Priscilla Leonard brings out in striking contrast the lives of two sisters who might be called Mope and Hope. The former, viewing the dark side of everything, went moping along her path; the other, seeing the bright side, was ever hoping:

There was a girl who always said
Her fate was very hard;
From the one thing she wanted most
She always was debarred.
There always was a cloudy spot
Somewhere within her sky;
Nothing was ever just quite right,
She used to say, and sigh.

And yet her sister, strange to say,
Whose lot was quite the same,
Found something pleasant for herself
In every day that came.
Of course things tangled up sometimes
For just a little while;
But nothing ever stayed all wrong,
She used to say, and smile.

So one girl sighed and one girl smiled
Through all their lives together;
It didn't come from luck or fate,
From clear or cloudy weather.
The reason lay within their hearts,
And colored all outside:
One chose to hope and one to mope,
And so they smiled and sighed.

It's a staying snow which snuck up on us this Shrovetide; liked what it saw, and decided to stay. Maybe it's simply to convey the message: "If your sins be as scarlet, they shall be *white* as snow." Oops, I guess that's racist, and if King David were corporate and current, he'd have to be convoked to one of those Maoist self-criticism sessions to hear all about his crimes, and do a public confession.

We're thinking sins, of course, this Sunday. Shrovetide means Confession time, as we purify our souls of sin and prepare to do penance for them. This year we are especially aware of what the moderns would call the "social aspect" of sin. Our sins, Heaven says, have brought both Church and country into its present miserable state.

What must be done? Reparation must be made to the offended majesty of God. This is the message of Fatima, of the Holy Face devotion. This inspires our Lenten theme again this year. **Reparation**, but with this end in mind, the salvation of our country, the restoration of our Church.

Please read along and practice with us the excellent "Reparation Notes" we send home with you every Sunday. The hour is late, the time is short. Each day, each Mass, each prayer, is a gift. Make it count. Heaven will hear! Confidence!

I was in Milwaukee last weekend, and it was just *too* cold, hovering always at 0°. I tried a Rosary walk Sunday afternoon, but the wind whipped down Lincoln Avenue towards the lake and drove me back to our charming cozy chapel and convenient rectory, perfect for some quiet time of prayer.

But these are busy days, snow or no snow, at St. Gertrude the Great. A big thanks to all who turned out to help put away our Christmas. Tuesday morning's surprise snow was plowed away in time to welcome a record Tea Party turnout that evening. Interesting and informative, as usual, and an excellent place to "network."

Thursday evening our fashionable ladies and young ladies turned out, about 40 to 50 of them, for a fine social and informative evening about "modesty +." You can be fashionable, and still follow the guidelines of modesty and common sense. Visit Helfta Hall after Mass to see the displays, and pick up some literature. Thank you, Colleen Eldracher!

Our multiple novenas continue, for 'tis the season. Let's pray for good weather for the ashes on Wednesday, and Friday's first Evening of Recollection. As usual, we do offer a lot...because we love it all, we love Lent, and we love *you*. Happy St. Valentine's Day. We'd love to see you back at



church this week, just for the sake of love. If you've got it, show it. If you've lost it, find it. Enough love of the right kind will defeat the diabolic hate which is destroying this land, and will bring us, as Our Lady once promised, "a period of peace."

May Love reign in your heart, your home and in our land.

– Bishop Dolan

P.S. This year we have as our goal to get the Blessed Ashes to as many missions as possible. Be grateful for the abundance of services here, and take advantage of them.

CATECHISM CORNER

We must believe that Jesus Christ has instituted in His Church seven Sacraments, or mysterious signs and instrumental causes of Divine Grace in our souls: BAPTISM, by way of a new birth, by which we are made children of God, and cleansed from sin; CONFIRMATION, by which we receive the Holy Ghost, by the imposition of the hands of the successors of the Apostles; the blessed EUCHARIST, which feeds and nourishes our souls with the Body and Blood of Christ, really present under the forms of bread and wine, or under either of them; PENANCE, by which penitent sinners are absolved from their sins, by virtue of the commission given by Christ to His ministers; EXTREME UNCTION, which wipes away the remains of sin, and arms the soul with the grace of God in the time of sickness; HOLY ORDERS, by which the ministers of God are consecrated; and MATRIMONY, which, as a sacred sign of the indissoluble union of Christ and His Church, unites the married couple in a holy bond, and imparts to them a grace suitable to that state.



"Covid is a true killer. So far it's killed the flu, cancer, heart disease—it killed the ability to think, logic and common sense. It killed the economy, the working class, and millions of jobs. It killed millions of businesses, human connection, love and compassion."

"We have an authoritarian government now. Over 50 executive orders in 3 weeks. Congress involved in show trials of political opponents. A two-tiered 'justice' system. Quarantines, masking of healthy citizens. Restrictions on religious services. Censorship."

This is an excellent summary. Please spread it around and quote it. Show trials, how true. But so far it's all like Covid. Mild, asymptomatic for many. Inform yourself, tell others, raise your voice. Cry to Heaven. – Bishop Dolan

∞ LENT BEGINS THIS WEEK ∞

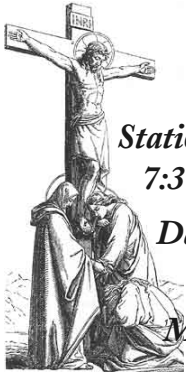
Ash Wednesday: February 17, 2021

*Begin your Lent well by receiving Ashes at one of the many services we will offer on that day.
Ashes are distributed before AND after all Masses.*

ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES: 7:00 (*Special Workers' Mass, no sermon!*) & **11:25 AM; 5:45 PM.**

ASHES: 6:45 AM, 11:25 AM (and *after* the Masses, as well), **3:15 PM, 5:45 PM** and the final distribution at **6:45 PM.**

STATIONS: There are **Children's Stations of the Cross** at **3:00 PM**, followed by distribution of ashes.



Come to Stations

Stations are available on Wednesdays at 3 PM, Fridays at 7:30 PM, and Short Stations on Sunday at 11:15 AM.

Daily Mass, or as often as possible, is an excellent Lenten observance.

Maybe this Lent you could finally start the family Rosary?

And what about spiritual reading—10 minutes?

Your Lent will only be as good as the effort you put into it.

Lenten Friday Evening of Recollection – Feb. 19th

5:45 PM: Low Mass

6:45 PM: Lenten Supper: Tuna salad, rolls, mac n cheese, fruit

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

8:30 PM (approx.): Distribution of Holy Communion

¶ NEW IN THE BOOKSTORE!

Have you seen the statue of the Scourged Christ at church? We now have a smaller one in the bookstore. Mater Dolorosa is back in stock as well. Pick up a good book and your Holy Face chaplet and Protection Cross; sure to increase your devotion this Lent.

New statues have arrived in time for the spring weddings. Find pictures and statues suitable for gift giving. Jewelry is glistening for St. Valentine's Day. The bookstore has a surprising array of Catholic necessities and gifts. Come in and browse without the mask!

That small army of saints coming from Italy is forming. Be sure to let the bookstore know this week if you are interested in a 5" statue of any of the following saints: *Agnes, Alexander of Bergamo, Alexis, Ambrose, Anthony Abbot, Anthony the Great, Apollonia, Bartholomew, Bernadine of Siena, Catherine of Alexandria, Catherine of Siena, Cecilia, Christina, Clare of Assisi, Cyrus Martyr, Dominic, Elizabeth Cousin, Francis of Paola, Isidore, Jerome, Lucy, Julia of Corsica, Lawrence, Martha, Matthias, Pancras, Rosalina, Simon the Apostle, Stephen, Sylvester, Vincent de Paul, Vincent Ferrer.*

LENT IS FAST APPROACHING. I am listing the dates below for Lenten dinners and anyone that has signed up.

We would like to have partners for cooking and cleanup. Many hands will make lighter work for sure.

People signing up will be responsible for setting up the food line with plates, bowls, silverware, napkins and so forth provided by the church. Cooks will provide the food. Feel free to turn in receipts to the church for reimbursement. Cleanup is also required and taking out the trash. Please try to find your help in advance.

In the past this has been very helpful instead of potluck where you are required to cook each Friday. One Friday on and the rest off. This makes the other Fridays more spiritually refreshing for each of us. We hope you can find your way to help out.

If you are new to the program you may want to partner with someone that is experienced. Just ask to join and I will give you the person to contact for your date.

Thank you for your help. Marlys: 859-801-7143

THE LENTEN DATES ARE:

February 19, *Arlinghaus girls.* **February 26,** *Bev Simpson, serving: Cuban beans and rice, cheesy potatoes, salad, bread, fruit.*

March 5, *Karla Lawrence, serving: Cheese Ravioli Bake, salad, bread, fruit.* **March 12,** *Anne Marie Omlor, serving: Veggie chili, cornbread, deviled eggs or egg salad, cheese & crackers, fruit.*

March 19 – *Volunteers still needed!*

March 26 – *Volunteers still needed!*



Cooks! You must be running low on dishes. There is an overflowing abundance in the social hall by the men's room. Check the metal cabinet and the carts. Please pick them up soon.

✠ CALENDAR

MON	2/15/21	SS. FAUSTINUS & JOVITA, MM HOLY FACE TRIDUUM II
	8:00 AM	Low Mass Happy Birthday, Will Young (<i>Bill & Terri Young</i>)
	11:25 AM	High Mass Repose of the soul of †Fr. Anthony Cekada (<i>Aleksi Kojonen</i>)
TUE	2/16/21	FERIAL DAY • THE HOLY FACE
	7:00 AM	Low Mass Jude Smith (<i>Collin Smith</i>)
	11:25 AM	High Mass For our country (<i>M.E.G.</i>)
WED	2/17/21	ASH WEDNESDAY FAST & ABSTINENCE <i>DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES BEFORE AND AFTER ALL MASSES.</i>
	6:45 AM	Blessing & Distribution of Ashes
	7:00 AM	Low Mass Our family (<i>Dan & Mary</i>)
	11:25 AM	High Mass †Irene Pachlhofer (<i>Kirby & Jean Bischel</i>)
	3:00 PM	Children's Stations of the Cross, followed by Distribution of Ashes
	5:00 PM	Rosary & Confessions
	5:20 PM	Penitential Litany
	5:45 PM	Low Mass Intentions of our fellow Catholics (<i>Kolenich Family</i>)
	6:45 PM	Final Distribution of Ashes
THU	2/18/21	FERIAL DAY FAST ST. SIMEON, BPM • ST. BERNADETTE, V
	11:25 AM	High Mass To MC from KC
	5:15 PM	Low Mass †Esther Simpson – 53 rd Anniversary 10/24 (<i>Tom & Karen Simpson</i>)
FRI	2/19/21	FERIAL DAY • THE CROWN OF THORNS FAST
	8:00 AM	Low Mass †Dennis Hille (<i>Bob & Becky Uhlenbrock</i>)
	11:05 AM	Confessions
	11:25 AM	High Mass Mary Beth Grumblatt & children (<i>MEG</i>)
	5:15 PM	Confessions & Rosary
	5:35 PM	Infant of Prague Novena VIII
	5:45 PM	Low Mass In thanksgiving to God, for prayers answered (<i>Nathaniel Arnold</i>)
	6:45 PM	Lenten Supper
	7:15 PM	Stations of the Cross, Sorrowful Mother Novena IV, Blessing of the Sick, Benediction
	8:30 PM	(approx.) Distribution of Holy Communion
SAT	2/20/21	FERIAL DAY FAST
	7:15 AM	Confessions
	7:30 AM	Low Mass †Ryan Greenwell (<i>Eva Nellenbach</i>)
	8:05 AM	Ave Regina & Sermon
	8:15 AM	High Mass †Fr. Cekada & all the Poor Souls (<i>Simpson family</i>)
SUN	2/21/21	LENT I
	7:05 AM	Rosary
	7:30 AM	Low Mass †Fr. Cekada (<i>Ken & Regina Gilliam</i>)
	9:00 AM	High Mass Steve Weigand, our Bible Study teacher (<i>His class</i>)
	10:40 AM	Catechism Classes
	11:15 AM	Short Stations
	11:30 AM	Low Mass †Dennis Hille (<i>Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Lotarski & Family</i>)
	4:45 PM	Vespers & Benediction
	5:45 PM	Low Mass For the people of St. Gertrude the Great

PRO LIFE FUTURE

Come to Pro Life classes and learn to defend the unborn. Have you been asked a question that you were not sure how to answer? Come equip yourself with answers.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2021 | 3-5PM

7294 Thompson Road, Cincinnati, OH 45247

Free admission

If you can join in person, please call or text for directions.

Victoria at 732-832-1464

Leanne at 859-394-7530

If you can join virtually please email us for the zoom link at cincinnati-prolifefuture@gmail.com. Ages 18 and up.



CHILDLIKE

In my poverty and misery, and as reparation, I should like to come to be the servant of the Mother of my Lord. Separated from communion with the angels because of the fall of our first parents, I should like to be the servant of her who is Handmaid and Mother of my Creator. As a docile instrument in the hands of the immense God, this is how I should like to be subject to the Virgin Mother: totally dedicated to her service.

Grant it to me, Jesus, God and Son of man. Grant it to me, Lord of all things and Son of Thy Handmaid. Grant me this grace, O God humbled in man. Allow me, a man raised up to God, to believe in the childbirth of the Virgin and to be filled with faith in Thy Incarnation. When I speak of virginal maternity, allow me to have words gushing in Thy praise. And while loving Thy Mother, let me be full of Thy very love for her.

Make me serve Thy Mother in such a way that Thou wilt recognize me as Thy servant. Let her be my Sovereign Mistress on earth, so that Thou mayest be my Lord for eternity. See with what impatience I long to be a vassal of this Queen, and with what faithfulness I dedicate myself to the joy of serving her...with what ardor I wish never to back away from her commands. How I wish never to be taken away from her service.... Make her admit me to the ranks of her subjects, and while serving her, allow me to merit receiving her favors, to live always under her mandate, and to love her for all eternity.

– St. Ildephonsus of Toledo

Servers

WED 2/17 7:00 AM **LOW:** A. Bayer
11:25 AM **HIGH:** CHAPLAINS: M. Simpson, C. Richesson **TH:** D. McConnell **ACs:** N. McClorey, A. McConnell **CROSS:** D. Simpson **MITRE:** S. Richesson **CROZIER:** A. McClorey **TORCH:** D. Simpson, A. McClorey
5:45 PM **LOW:** G. Miller

SUN 2/21 7:30 AM **LOW:** Brueggemann Bros.
9:00 AM **HIGH:** CHAPLAINS: J. Lacy, M. Simpson **TH:** D. Simpson **ACs:** T. Lawrence, C. Arlinghaus **CROSS:** T. England **MC:** Na. McClorey **TORCH:** J. & M. Kolenich, J. & C. McGinnis
11:30 AM **LOW:** A. McClorey, N. Kolenich
4:45 PM **VESPERS & BENEDICTION:** G. Miller
5:45 PM **LOW:** G. Miller

FEBRUARY 2021

<p>FAST  17</p> <p>Get your ashes Children's Stations 3 PM</p> <p>ASH WEDNESDAY V</p>	<p>FAST 18</p> <p><i>A good daily Rosary</i></p> <p>FERIAL DAY ST SIMEON, BpM ST. BERNADETTE, V V</p>	<p>FAST  19</p> <p>Evening of Recollection Mass & Stations</p> <p>FERIAL DAY THE CROWN OF THORNS V</p>	<p>FAST 20</p> <p><i>Reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary</i></p> <p>FERIAL DAY V</p>			
<p>FAST 21</p> <p>Angel Sunday Short Stations, 11:15 AM Vespers 4:45 PM</p> <p>LENT I V</p>	<p>FAST 22</p> <p><i>Pray for a Pope</i></p> <p>ST PETER'S CHAIR AT ANTIOCH W</p>	<p>FAST 23</p> <p><i>Penance!</i></p> <p>ST PETER DAMIAN, BpCD VIGIL OF ST MATTHIAS W</p>	<p>FAST  24</p> <p>Stations 3 PM Holy Communion after Stations</p> <p>ST MATTHIAS, AP EMBER WEDNESDAY R</p>	<p>FAST 25</p> <p><i>Visit the Blessed Sacrament</i></p> <p>FERIAL DAY ST WALBURGA, V BL SEBASTIAN OF APARICIO, C V</p>	<p>FAST  26</p> <p>Evening of Recollection Mass & Stations</p> <p>EMBER FRIDAY ST MARGARET OF CORTONA, PENITENT THE LANCE AND NAILS V</p>	<p>FAST  27</p> <p>Girls' Sodality of Charity after 8:15 AM Mass</p> <p>ST GABRIEL OF THE SORROWFUL VIRGIN, C EMBER SATURDAY W</p>

Short Stations
11:15 AM 28
Vespers 4:45 PM
St. Bernadette always went to Vespers.
LENT II V

Our Lent – Reparation *To restore the Church and save our country.*

MARCH 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<p>FAST 1</p> <p><i>Wear a daffodil – Pray for the Welsh</i></p> <p>FERIAL DAY ST DAVID, BpC V</p>	<p>FAST 2</p> <p><i>The Holy Face Devotions</i></p> <p>FERIAL DAY V</p>	<p>FAST 3</p> <p>First Wednesday <i>St. Joseph</i></p> <p>FERIAL DAY V</p>	<p>FAST 4</p> <p>First Thursday <i>Pray for priests</i></p> <p>ST CASIMIR, C ST LUCIUS I, PM W</p>	<p>FAST  5</p> <p><i>Communion, Holy Hour in Reparation</i></p> <p>FERIAL DAY THE HOLY SHROUD FIRST FRIDAY R</p>	<p>FAST 6</p> <p><i>Reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary</i></p> <p>Ss PERPETUA & FELICITY, MM FIRST SATURDAY R</p>
<p>Short Stations, 11:15 AM 7 Vespers 4:45 PM</p> <p>LENT III <i>Study your faith on Sundays</i> ST THOMAS AQUINAS, CD V</p>	<p>FAST 8</p> <p><i>An act of charity for others</i></p> <p>ST JOHN OF GOD, C W</p>	<p>FAST 9</p> <p><i>Guardian Angel prayer</i></p> <p>ST FRANCES OF ROME, W ST DOMINIC SAVIO, W</p>	<p>FAST 10</p> <p>Children's Day of Recollection Stations & Benediction 2:45 PM</p> <p>FORTY HOLY MARTYRS R</p>	<p>FAST 11</p> <p><i>Quiet time early in the morning</i></p> <p>FERIAL DAY V</p>	<p>FAST  12</p> <p>Evening of Recollection Mass & Stations</p> <p>ST GREGORY THE GREAT, PCD THE FIVE HOLY WOUNDS W</p>	<p>FAST 13</p> <p>Altar Boy Day 8:30 AM – 2:30 PM</p> <p>FERIAL DAY V</p>

PRAYER TO THE ETERNAL FATHER FOR OUR COUNTRY

**Eternal Father, we offer Thee the adorable Face of Thy well-beloved Son,
for the honor and glory of Thy Holy Name and for the salvation of the United States.**
(Clip and save. Say daily.)

fallen human nature dislikes to exert itself. Work is a form of mortification that all of us can look to see whether we could not work harder than we are doing—in performance of tasks that are part of our state in life.

By nature we are prone to first do what we like, then what is useful, and finally, what is necessary.

I cannot think of a more effective kind of reparation than to set our minds to reversing that order.

We should first do what is necessary, then what is useful, and only then what is pleasant or what we like.

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT – ENDURE

In some ways this is the **keystone of reparation**, the patient endurance of the sufferings and trials that God sends us.

God in His mercy sends us the Cross in order to try our patience that we might save our souls and the souls of many others besides.

The variety of these trials sent us by God defies classification and their intensity depends on a thousand factors that differ with different people. If we are to expiate sin we must resign ourselves to endure pain. Pray to:

- Accept misunderstanding from others with greater peace of mind.
- Be more generous in doing what we know God wants us to do, although doing it is painful.
- Suffer without pitying ourselves.
- Put up with discomfort, or distaste, or disability, without becoming bitter.

The crosses God sends us are tokens of His love. But how we need the light of faith to see this, and the strength of His grace to do this—in **reparation for sin**, as the price we must pay to reach heaven, where every tear will be wiped away and all the past, which is now the present, will have passed away.

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.

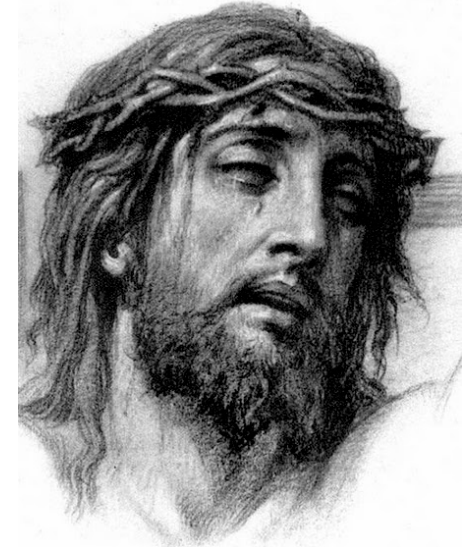
TRADITIONAL DAYS OF FAST: All the weekdays of Lent (Monday through Saturday) up until noon on Holy Saturday; Ember Days; the Vigils of Pentecost, the Immaculate Conception, and Christmas.

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

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

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

Reparation Notes



2021 Lenten

Daily Thoughts and Prayers
For the restoration of the Church and the salvation of our country.

An Offering for Lent – St. Therese
O my God! I offer Thee all my actions of this Lent for the intentions and for the glory of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. I desire to sanctify every beat of my heart, my every thought, my simplest works, by uniting them to Its infinite merits; and *I wish to make reparation for my sins by casting them into the furnace of Its Merciful Love.*

O my God! I ask of Thee for myself and for those whom I hold dear, the grace to fulfill perfectly Thy Holy Will, to accept for love of Thee the joys and sorrows of this passing life, so that we may one day be united together in heaven for all eternity. Amen.

Why penance and reparation? Because, in Christ's words, "Unless you do penance, you shall **all** likewise perish".

Is it any wonder that on Pentecost Sunday, after Peter preached his sermon, and rebuked the people for their sins, and they asked him, "what must we do," his first word to the multitude was the imperative verb, "Repent!"

Is it any wonder that Our Lady of Fatima's message to a sinful world in our day, may be summarized in the same imperative, "Do penance."

Indeed, the calamities that we have seen in the last century: two world wars with more casualties than in all the previous wars of history, and the threat of a nuclear holocaust that hangs over us like a tornado cloud. All of this is God's warning to do penance and reparation. Why? Because God is not mocked.

You do not offend God with impunity. You do not sin without retribution. You do not ignore the will of the Almighty and expect the Almighty to ignore what you do.

What bears emphasis, however, is that this retribution is either to be paid willingly, with our penance and reparation, or will be paid unwillingly within the divine punishment.

The divine logic is simple, awfully simple, and all we have to do is learn what God is telling us. Either we do penance and reparation because we want to, or we shall suffer (against our will) the consequences of our sins in this life, and in the life to come.

But remember, this penance and reparation is to be done not only for what we have personally done wrong. It is for all the pride and lust, for all the cruelty and greed, for all the envy and laziness and gluttony of a sin-laden human family.

God is merciful, all merciful, The Sacred Heart is an Ocean of Mercy. But despite what the Novus Ordo tells you, God's mercy is conditional.

It is conditional on our practice of penance and reparation.

OUR REPARATION RULES

Suppose we spend a moment each day on one of these seven rules, and ask Our Lord, to open our hearts to respond with generosity to His offended Sacred Heart.

ASH WEDNESDAY – PRAY

God expects more of us because we have sinned. And the first more that all of us can put into practice, is more prayer.

- Call it giving more time each day to prayer.
- Call it attending Mass more often.
- Call it reciting the Rosary more frequently.
- Call it being more attentive when we pray.
- Call it more fervor in our life of prayer.
- Call it getting more people to join us when we pray.

No matter, the first rule of salutary penance is more prayer.

THURSDAY AFTER

ASH WEDNESDAY – GIVE

Remember what Christ told us the night before He died. "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another as I have loved you." If all sin is a failure in loving God, and we mainly show our love for God by loving one another, then we had better show our love for others by sharing with them what God has given to us.

Again the word more comes in. We are to examine our conscience and ask ourselves, what more can I share with those whom God has placed into my life?

- Can I give more of my time to others?
- Can I share more of my knowledge with others?
- Can I share more of my skill with others?

- Can I share more of my money with others?
- Can I share more of my Catholic faith with others?

Each of us is different in this matter of sharing because each of us is living a different life with different people whom God's Providence places in our path. The second rule for the practice of penance is more generosity.

FRIDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY – FORGIVE

THE CROWN OF THORNS

Christ could not have been more explicit in urging us to forgive others who offend us. He gave us whole parables on the subject of forgiveness. He warned us that God will be as merciful to us as we are forgiving to others. He placed, in the center of The Lord's Prayer, a frightening invocation, "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us."

Once again, it behooves us to look to our practice of forgiveness of injuries, so to be more forgiving in the future than we have been in the past.

- Can I be more forgiving by forgetting what others have done to me?
- Can I be more forgiving by ignoring the unkindness and thoughtlessness and perhaps meanness that others commit against me?

No two of us are living the same lives. Each of us have different people saying or doing or failing to say or do things that hurt us and, perhaps, crush the very heart of our souls. The third rule of penance is to be more forgiving.

SATURDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY – WORK

We now shift from penance to reparation, and our first directive is to work. How is work a form of reparation of sin? It is reparation because our