St. Gertrude the Great Roman Catholic Church

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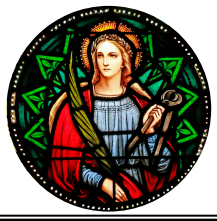
www.sgg.org • www.SGGResources.org • traditionalmass.org
Traditional Latin Mass: Sundays 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM High, 11:30 AM, 5:45 PM

Most Rev. Charles J. McGuire, *Pastor* • Rev. Stephen McKenna, *Asst. Pastor*
Rev. Vili Lehtoranta, *Chap. to Oblates & School* • Rev. Thomas Simpson • Rev. Anthony Brueggemann

February 5, 2023
Septuagesima
St. Agatha, VM • *St. Philip of Jesus, M*



¶ Septuagesima
Today we begin the short pre-Lenten season. The **Second Collection** for our Oblates will be taken up at the Offertory. The **Blessing of Throats** will be given at the Communion Rail following all Masses. (The Blessing of Religious Articles will be moved to next Sunday.) The **"Little Church"** is in the vestibule to receive your alms for priests. Catechism Classes are at 10:40 AM, and Vespers with Benediction at 4:45 PM.

¶ Upcoming Events
Sodality of Charity Meeting: Saturday, February 11.

Ash Wednesday: February 22, a day of ashes and Holy Masses to start Lent.

The first Lenten Friday Evening of Recollection: February 24, 5:45 PM Mass followed by supper and Stations.

Children's Lenten Day of Recollection: Wednesday, March 8.

St. Joseph's Feast Day with St. Joseph's Table for the poor: Monday, March 20.

The Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary: Saturday, March 25.

Girls Camp: June 27-29

Boys Camp: July 25-27

¶ Your Prayers
Please pray for LeeAnn Stacy, Ron Stout, Rick Woods, Ina Harpen, two families in grief, and the repose of the soul of †Wiktoria Smutek.

St. Philip of Jesus

¶ Next Sunday: Sexagesima
The Blessing of Religious Articles will be available at the Communion Rail next Sunday. Our **St. Valentine's Day Bake Sale** will take place in Helfta Hall. Catechism Classes will be at 10:40 AM. Vespers with Benediction will be at 4:45 PM.

📖 ***Set Your Missal:*** Sexagesima, second collect of the Seven Holy Founders. Trinity Preface.

Collection Report

Sunday, January 29th……$7,990.25

A Cheerful View
Take a cheerful view of everything. Trust in God and mind your own business.

Pray for a short memory as to forget all unkindliness.

Cultivate forbearance till your heart yields a fine crop of it.

Give your tongue more holiday than your hands or your eyes.

Compare your manifold blessings with trifling annoyances of each day.

Do the duty that lies nearest thee; thy second duty will already have become clearer.

Be content to do the things you can, and fret not because you cannot do everything.

Never reply in kind to a sharp or angry word; it is the second word that makes the quarrel.

Make the best of what you have and do not make yourself miserable by wishing for what you have not.

The Paschal Sacraments 2023
First Confessions & Testing: Saturday, April 22. *****Baptismal certificate must be already presented, and registration form completed* before *the test. Contact the Church Office for the necessary form.*****

Confirmands' Day of Recollection: Thursday, May 25

Confirmations: Vigil of Pentecost, Saturday, May 27

First Communion: Corpus Christi Sunday, June 11

DUTY AND PLEASURE

People play golf, see the movies, summer at the seaside, stay abed late, for pleasure. They prepare briefs, lay bricks, sell insurance, scrub floors as duty. We take up duties because we have to; pleasures because we like to.

Duty and pleasure are often—and falsely—accepted as opposites. One is supposed to exclude the other. We cannot attend to duty and experience pleasure, nor accept pleasure and feel we are performing duty. The point of view that pleasure is always out of step with duty is erroneous. The closer the harmony between our work and our amusement the sweeter the music of our lives. When duty is pleasure, pleasure duty, we have life harmony made perfect.

Is it not true we find things hard to do because we do not like to do them? Even the objectively difficult thing becomes easier if we carry a will to subdue it. Fighting to make likable what we do not like can be as pleasurable as betting on a racehorse.

To instance a primal institution. Why in this country is marriage too often considered a union wherein lurks a battle which often ends as retreat and escape? Is not the breakup often due to conflict between duty and pleasure. Marriage, entered into for the pleasure of the union, fades when pleasure exits.

Work becomes play, as play becomes work. Baseball is an amusement. To such as make the game a business it becomes work. Those occupied in what we consider serious pursuits often find work recreation as the baseball player finds recreation work.

Seeing religious men and women occupied in hospitals, schools and other centers of service, people shake sympathetic heads at what they consider joyless, dissatisfied lives. Were they to come nearer and stay longer they would withhold sympathy. Those who live within this so-called seclusion are not lonely. They are satisfied inside the restrictions which they entered of their own volition. It is hardly thinkable that these many thousands will continue in a condition of life wherein they are miserable. They are not held there against their will, as certain unthinking people too readily believe. The same authority may be evoked to let them out as was evoked to let them in. A community of life is not an unnatural life. Indeed, one may live and be happy within a religious community without being a member thereof. Retreat masters generalize on the unhappy lot of those who live within the cloister without the "call." Might not a man or a woman like quiet, seclusion, prayers, regularity, the round of duties without taking the vows that are the guideposts to perfect? Might not a man or woman choose the life of duty for the peace of it?

Where do people find those pleasures that are quieting, enrich memory, leave the heart vacant of all regrets? Is it not generally in duty? How many a girl goes out from work—in office or store—serenity surrounding her like a veil. She leaves the joy of duty where she labored, and goes out where people amuse themselves. She hears laughter; sees much to shock a conscience not shock-proof. She left the pleasure which goes with duty for the pleasure to be found where people play. Ask her which gave the more lasting happiness.

We best serve ourselves if we make duty almost, if not quite, the equivalent of pleasure. We must get pleasure out of duty. People who work hard keep warm. Idle people spread themselves over a fire. The high-school boy who labors like an artist at his homework will not stay out until three o'clock in the morning seeing how much Mabel can consume and remain sober. *– P.J.C.*

STABAT MATER SPECIOSA

Old Simeon was a kindly man,
As eighty years should be;
He scanned each prophet's ancient plan,
And waited patiently:
Like courage in his visions ran
The Premise he would see.

His brow kept clear, his eyes benign,
Through years of Hope's alarms;
He traced the routes of David's line
And Expectation's charms:
And blessingly he knew the Sign,
With the Christ Child in his arms.

Then up he spoke in prophet art,
Prayed his dismissal prayer,
And yet a sword for Mary's heart
Cruel would he declare:
Ah, why, O Simeon, why impart
That stroke of sorrow there!

Oh, bitter the kindly words may be
When God speaks to His own,
Yet courage He gives above degree,
And mercy fills His tone:
Christ's Mother stood all graciously,
With her heart a sworded throne.

Then chant we *Stabat Mater* now,
Though Simeon's voice be still,
And as our Mother sweetly bow
To God's all-saving will:
Her courage will lead us o'er the brow
Of Calvary's sworded hill.

– Michael Earls, S.J.

WHEN WILL MY MASS BE OFFERED?

We often receive this question. We are still scheduling Masses submitted as far back as October 2022, so it may be some time before your Masses are offered. Likewise, we are scheduling *Lumen Christi* intentions from as far back as August 2021. We only light two of these candles a month, so we do get quite a backlog of intentions. We thank you for your patience.

✠ THE BISHOP'S NOTE ✠

We ended the Christmas season on the Feast of Candlemas and have now begun the very short but important liturgical season of Septuagesima, which is the season intended by Holy Mother Church to prepare us for Lent. See the kindness of Our Lord? He knows that it is difficult for us to make the sudden shift from a festive season into an intense season of penance and prayer. In the Eastern Rite, the fast is much more strict than it is for us. So each week of Septuagesima the faithful are meant to begin abstaining from one thing that they are obliged to give up for Lent. Each week one more thing is given up until they enter into the full forty-day Lenten fast. It is a sort of "easing into penance." While that is not obligatory for us in the Western Church, we should begin preparing ourselves mentally and spiritually for Lent. This can be done in many different ways. First, ask the Mother of Good Counsel for her guidance in choosing the most efficacious penance for *you*. Perhaps you have been working on giving up a bad habit, or maybe there is a sin to which you are attached, or some virtue with which you struggle daily. Always ask Our Lady. Second, work out a plan of action. When a general goes into battle it is not enough for him to simply know that he must fight, he must have a plan of action. Again, pray to the Mother of Good Counsel, give it some serious thought, write it down. Third, choose a good book to use for spiritual reading. Fourth, don't try to do too much all at once. Be prudent, but not prudish. It is better to take on a little bit and do it well rather than to do many things and give them up. Stick to whatever you decide to take on. Fifth, ask Our Lady to help you to do everything *with* and *for* the love of God.

The Sodality girls elected new officials at their monthly meeting last weekend. Congratulations to the newly elected! Cora Arlinghaus is the president of the Sodality, Regina Simpson the Vice President, Renee Arlinghaus the Treasurer, Abigail Lawrence the Secretary, while Claire McConnell takes care of the media department and photography. Katelyn McConnell was the Sodality's very first president. She did a wonderful job and we are thankful for the work she put in for those two years! The meetings always look like so much fun. I came in and found the girls decorating clear plastic cups only to find out that they would put them into the oven to melt them until they became flat. The results were, I thought, so very neat! I'm not sure how to describe them other than to say that they end up as a sort of Christmas ornament.

Wednesday and Thursday were days of much work and much prayer here at St. Gertrude's. A lot goes into preparations for Candlemas and the Winter Soup Supper and we had lots of helpers. Sr. Ulrica brought her class down to help Sr. Eulalia in the sacristy and they were happy to help get the candles ready. The children often come to the sacristy, sometimes to learn about the things kept there, sometimes to help out. I think they have now well earned the title of "Sister's Assisters." Many others came to help as well. We are always grateful for the help and edified by your dedication to the church. The ceremonies were splendid and it might have been one of the best processions that we've had. I don't think there was a single glitch.

Fr. Lehtoranta has done another show on Catholic Family Podcast with Kevin Davis, a fellow Catholic who lives in Germany. The topic: Protestantism. If you don't already know, Father grew up in Finland as a Lutheran and knows much about the topic. It should be most interesting to hear. If you're interested, you can find Catholic Family Podcast on YouTube.

The young Fathers are all away this weekend, **Fr. Simpson** in Texas and **Fr. Brueggemann** in Milwaukee. Seminarian Poncho accompanied Fr. Brueggemann to St. Hugh's. This is a good introduction for Poncho on how the missions run and what the priest does when on these trips.

There is much to report on the missions in Nigeria, but I will save all the news for later. It is my hope to get the national newsletter going again in March. Bishop Dolan had to stop doing it around the time that Fr. Cekada became ill, but now I believe it is time to restart it. So many people from all over the world have donated to the missions, so it is only fair that there be a regular update on the good that is being done by our priests and bishops abroad.

The last bit of news is that I will be going to visit **Fathers Roger** and **Hecquard** in France this week to do Confirmations in Rennes and Chambery. Chambery is only a 45 minute drive from Annecy and near to Geneva where St. Francis de Sales lived, worked and died. His relics are still there with those of St. Jane Francis de Chantal. I will take a couple of days to visit the area. It will be a bit of a rest for me, but also a good way to prepare for the Lent that this year is being dedicated to St. Francis de Sales. It would be most appreciated if you would say a prayer for a safe trip and a fruitful apostolate.

I close this note with the assurance of my prayers and send a blessing to each one of you.

– Bishop McGuire

P.S. Fr. McKenna's birthday is on Wednesday, and his 12th anniversary on Saturday. Send him your well wishes and prayers on these occasions.

Masses offered privately by Bishop McGuire

2x For the reconciliation & reunion of my family *(Chad McGinnis)*

Repose of the soul of †Wiktoria Smutek *(Dorian Pula)*

✠ CALENDAR

MON 2/6/23 **ST. TITUS, BPC** • ST. DOROTHY, VM
8:00 AM **Low Mass** †Nina Anastasia Krawczyk *(Matthew Arthur)* (rescheduled from 1/31)
11:25 AM **High Mass** †Mrs. Margaret Kinnett *(Clare Lotarski)*

TUE 2/7/23 **ST. ROMUALD, AB**
PRAYER OF OUR LORD IN THE GARDEN
7:00 AM **Low Mass** Josef Eldracher – 90th Birthday *(Colleen Eldracher)*
8:00 AM **Low Mass** Maria Kunkel – Birthday *(Mr. & Mrs. Victor Ritze)*
11:25 AM **High Mass** Happy Anniversary J & J VandeRyt *(J. Hille)*
5:00 PM **Low Mass** Happy Birthday Fr. Brueggemann *(Dad & Mom)*

WED 2/8/23 **ST. JOHN OF MATHA, C**
8:00 AM **Low Mass** James Kolenich & family *(C. Simpson family)*
11:25 AM **High Mass** For all who cook for us and for our devoted drivers *(The Fathers)*
5:10 PM **Low Mass** Nick Puglielli – Happy Birthday *(From Grandma)*

THU 2/9/23 **ST. CYRIL OF ALEXANDRIA, BPCD**
ST. APOLLONIA, VM
8:00 AM **Low Mass** The Kinnett family *(C. Simpson family)*
11:25 AM **High Mass** For the sanctification of priests *(ACC)*
5:00 PM **Low Mass** Simpson Family – Thank you *(Julie Hudson)*

FRI 2/10/23 **ST. SCHOLASTICA, V**
8:00 AM **Low Mass** Our beloved departed family & friends *(Dan & Rose Wright)*
11:05 AM **Confessions**
11:25 AM **High Mass** Helen Mcdonald *(Jason Murray)*
Triduum to Our Lady of Lourdes
5:15 PM **Confessions & Rosary**
5:35 PM **Infant of Prague Novena VII**
5:45 PM **Low Mass** Conversion of my family *(John Brueggemann)*
6:30 PM **Sacred Heart Novena, Benediction**

SAT 2/11/23 **OUR LADY OF LOURDES**
7:10 AM **Confessions**
7:30 AM **Low Mass** Fr. McKenna *(Alter Christus)*
8:05 AM **Ave, Triduum**
8:30 AM **Solemn High Mass** Fr. McKenna *(Bishop McGuire),* **Triduum**

SUN 2/12/23 **SEXAGESIMA** • THE SEVEN HOLY FOUNDERS
TRIDUUM TO OUR LADY OF LOURDES
7:05 AM **Rosary**
7:30 AM **Low Mass** †Patrick Kurtz – 2nd anniversary *(S. Kurtz)*
9:00 AM **High Mass** William & Mary Rose Young – Happy Anniversary *(Bob & Becky Uhlenbrock)*
10:40 AM **Catechism Classes**
11:05 AM **Rosary**
11:30 AM **Low Mass** The Zver Family *(The Hudson Family)*
4:45 PM **Vespers & Benediction**
5:45 PM **Low Mass** For the people of St. Gertrude the Great

ST. BLAISE, BISHOP & MARTYR

As Bishop of Sebaste, St. Blaise lived a life of severe penance. In 316, he suffered martyrdom after undergoing frightful tortures. Having once saved the life of a child who was dying of strangulation, he is invoked for the cure of diseases of the throat. Today blessed candles are applied to the throats of the faithful, with the prayer that they may be kept safe from all ills, through the saint's intercession. We should remember that while Holy Church never hesitates to pray for material benefits, she primarily is concerned with our spiritual well-being. Our prayers to St. Blaise should request intercessions for all who suffer in soul, mind and body. We honor St. Blaise for his glad participation in the redemptive sufferings of Christ. Do we accept our own sufferings in a spirit of joyful co-operation with our Lord?

Our Beloved Dead - February

Eileen R. Bartels	2-03-2008
Margaret Winningham	2-04-2002
Betty Joliffe	2-04-2011
Richard Smith	2-04-2019
Carol Jean Mincey	2-07-2009
Dorothy Stoll	2-10-2002
Peter J. Gebel	2-11-2006
Patrick Kurtz	2-12-2021
Homer (Dale) Downing	2-14-2003
Estrella I. Simpson	2-14-2012
Vashtie Strunk	2-16-1991
Robert H. Gough	2-16-2000
Bernard Brueggemann	2-19-2011
Mary O'Donnell	2-20-2000
Joseph D. Wilson	2-20-2002
Paul J. Ewers, Sr.	2-22-1984
Frank Beckerich	2-23-2021
Sharon Patton	2-24-2018
Rita Brueggemann	2-27-2008
Mary A. Mahsling	2-27-1994

Servers

FRI 2/10 **5:45 PM LOW:** Capetillos

SAT 2/11 **7:30 AM LOW:** Brueggemanns
8:30 AM SOL.HIGH: MCS: M. Simpson, Seminarian **TH:** D. Simpson **ACS:** J. & N. Kolenich **TB:** M. McConnell, I. Smith, A. Constantino, M. Kolenich

SUN 2/12 **7:30 AM LOW:** Brueggemann Bros.
9:00 AM HIGH: MC: Seminarian **TH:** C. Richesson **ACS:** D. Hudson, M. Brueggemann **TORCH:** I. Smith, B. & A. Constantino, C. Van Der Putten, J. Hudson, J. Stewart
11:30 AM LOW: Kolenichs
4:45 PM VESPERS & BENEDICTION: G. Miller, Seminarian
5:45 PM LOW: Seminarian