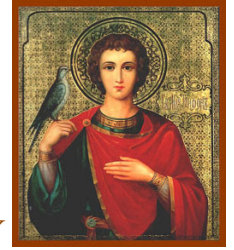




ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

4900 Rialto Road, West Chester, Ohio 45069 • PARISH OFFICE: (513) 645-4212 (9 AM-3 PM)
parishoffice@sgg.org • bpmcguire@sgg.org • frlehtoranta@sgg.org • frmckenna@sgg.org
www.sgg.org • www.SGGResources.org • traditionalmass.org • EMERGENCY LINE: (513) 509-0424
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
Rev. Vili Lehtoranta • Rev. Thomas Simpson • Rev. Anthony Brueggemann



November 10, 2024

PENTECOST XXV • ST. ANDREW AVELLINO, C

SS. TRYPHON & COMPANIONS, MM • PATRONAGE OF OUR LADY

¶ PENTECOST XXV

Today we begin with gratitude the devotion of the Twelve Sundays of the Mother of Good Counsel. Catechism Classes are at 10:40 AM, and Vespers at 4:45 PM. **Don't miss the Martinmas Festivities** after the 5:45 PM Mass, at approximately 7:00.

¶ THIS WEEK

Tomorrow is Veterans Day. Join us as we pray for the Poor Souls of our wars, and remember the futility of war, "a punishment for sin," which we impose on ourselves. The tolling of the bell is at 11:00 AM, followed by the Absolution for Veterans and war dead, sermon, and High Mass of St. Martin at 11:25. The Catholic Mothers' Consortium meets on **Thursday**, with Mass at 5 PM followed by a spiritual talk, supper and other fun activities.



¶ NEXT SUNDAY: SOLEMNITY OF ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT

The Blessing of Expectant Mothers will be available at the Communion Rail. Catechism Classes will be at 10:40 AM. The Rosary Confraternity will meet at Gate of Heaven Cemetery at 3 PM for an **indulgenced Rosary Procession**. All parishioners are invited to join and gain the indulgences in this charitable work of mercy. There will be **no Vespers**.

📖 **Set Your Missal: Low Masses:** Pentecost XXVI (Epiphany VI), second collect of St. Gregory Thaumaturgus, third of the Octave of St. Gertrude the Great. Trinity Preface. **High Mass:** St. Gertrude the Great, commemoration and Proper Last Gospel of Pentecost XXVI. Trinity Preface.

¶ POOR SOULS

Poor Souls Remembrance envelopes are in the **vestibule**. Please fill one out and return it to the bookstore, collection, or office, to be placed on the altar for the month of November.

¶ YOUR PRAYERS

Please pray for Vera Kudriavtsev and three special intentions for the sick.



**Has anyone lost a ring?
Please call the office if so!**

St. Gertrude's Day

Saturday, November 16

21st Anniversary of our Church's Dedication
Ordination Anniversaries of
Bishop McGuire & Fr. Lehtoranta

COME AND CELEBRATE WITH US!

Low Mass at 7:30 AM
High Mass at 8:30 AM

Collection Report

Friday, November 1st.....\$3,489.00
Sunday, November 3rd.....\$7,740.00
Second Collection.....\$3,094.00
Alter Christus.....\$314.00

EAGLES OF THE LORD

Nothing illustrates the mystery of God's grace better than the different ways in which the saints came to their goal. Some of them seemed marked for sanctity from childhood like the Little Flower and St. Catherine of Sweden, whose own mother was a saint. St. Aloysius appears never to have been touched by the world even when he was a page boy in the Florentine Court, but St. Camillus came to his great charities only after a misspent life in which he thought that he never could stop being a waster and a gambler. Other saints were converted in a blinding flash of grace like St. Paul on the road to Damascus, St. Augustine reading in his garden or St. Dismas who was canonized while living and taken to Paradise by our Lord.

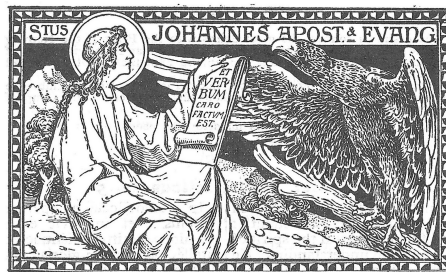
...The founders of the great religious orders were organizers that should appeal to Americans. The lives of these great saints are fascinating because they knew how to turn dreams into actuality. No business tycoon of today may hope that his enterprises will last as long as theirs or exert more influence upon history. The Europe that we know, the very civilization of which we are so proud, was saved for us by the foundations of St. Benedict, St. Bruno, St. Dominic and St. Ignatius Loyola. And both the Old World and the New World would be less civilized were it not for the sisterhoods founded by St. Angela of Merici and St. Jane de Chantal.

The enterprises of the saints and their human qualities make them interesting to us, but it is, of course, the things of the spirit that made them saints. They were men and women of many virtues and varied strengths but they all possessed the gift of fortitude. The martyrs among them died in a thousand places and by a thousand horrible means. They were always glad to die. There was that noble lady, St. Perpetua, who

knelt before the wild beasts in Carthage so long ago and died with the little slave, St. Felicitas; St. Agnes who faced the bloody sword that had mutilated her young body; St. Isaac Jogues who hurried back to America to be killed by the savages in New York State; St. Stanislaus who died on the altar steps in Cracow; and St. Thomas à Becket, who was murdered in London by a king who did public penance at his tomb.

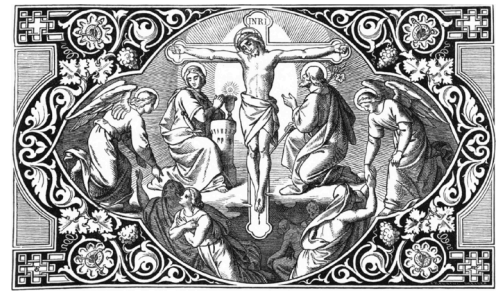
...Of course, nobody should read the life of any saint, expecting to copy it exactly. While all of us are intended to be saints, the sanctity of each of us is different. No man in all the world is exactly like any other man. Your strength may be my weakness, and my strength may be your weakness. Our very temperaments and personalities are the materials out of which we must make saints. Our temptations and deficiencies, our weakness, our wit and stupidity, our activity and sloth, our pride and humility, our bravery and cowardice, our envy, avarice, arrogance, lust—these are the crosses appointed for us and no other. If we do not take them up we know that we are not worthy to follow the Lord. And we know, too, that there is no neutral ground between sanctity and sin. He who is not with God is against Him.

— St. Anthony Messenger, 1954



BOOKSTORE

Watch for more information on the bookstore sale after Thanksgiving. Coming soon, more sermons by Bishop Dolan.



THE GARDEN OF THE HOLY SOULS

In Thy garden, in Thy garden, though
the rain

Fall, and the winds beat there,
And they stand unsheltered, piteous, in
the storm,

They who were once so fair,

In Thy garden of the souls, where
Thou art gardener,

Thou who was once so mild,

Now pruning down to naked stems
and leafless

The roses that ran wild,

Oh, Thy roses once waved in the wind
so sweetly,

Though thick with thorns beset;

In the morning sunshine opening, and
at evening

With cool dews wet.

In Thy garden, where Thou walkest as
a warder,

How poor, how small they stand;

Yet once their beauty, to the hearts
that loved them,

Lighted the living land.

In Thy garden, where no smile of
Thine is granted,

Yet keep within Thy heart,

A place in Paradise for these
transplanted,

Still with Thee where Thou art,

In Thy garden, in Thy garden, where
Thy roses

Without a thorn are sweet,

And each poor branch in endless
wreaths uncloses

To kiss Thy feet.

— from "Hours of the Passion"
by Eleanor Hamilton King

✠ THE BISHOP'S NOTE ✠

The thought of how wonderfully joyful our Faith is keeps coming back to me. Recently, I was interviewed on Teens and Faith, a podcast run by two teenage parishioners of ours (Gianna Larson from St. Hugh of Lincoln in Milwaukee, WI, and Annie Eberhart of St. Teresa of Avila Mission in Grand Forks, ND). It is very edifying to see the enthusiasm of many of our young families who, instead of fighting on Twitter over differences of non-essential matters, actually go out of their way to provide Catholics with wholesome entertainment. Our children have to give up so much in this world, so it is very important that these things are replaced with other Catholic things. Too often, our Faith is presented to children only from the negative aspect—what they are forbidden to do or not to do, what is mortally sinful, etc.—thus reducing our religion to what I refer to as a “Thou Shalt Not” religion. If someone followed you around telling you only the bad things you did and saying what you should not do, you would not be inclined to love this person and you would seek to avoid his company. When we present our religion in this way, we are essentially portraying Our blessed Lord as a harsh taskmaster, someone who just wants to take away joy, and is just waiting for us to make a mistake so that He can punish us. But our Faith is so much more than “giving up” things. Surely, “giving up” things and avoiding what is sinful is a huge part of the practice of our Faith, but it does not stop there. When Our Lord appeared on earth there was something so attractive about Him, something so captivating about His teachings and doctrines, that people were drawn to Him. They came in large crowds to hear Him and many left their homes and families to follow Him everywhere, hanging on to His every word. The Catholic Church is the Mystical Body of Christ and therefore the Church is just as attractive to souls as Christ was—but we must not focus merely on the negative aspects of the teachings. The practice of our Faith becomes so very joyful when we realize what beautiful things God has given us to do. When we realize what a beautiful thing it is to visit the sick and the elderly, or when we begin to truly study the lives of the saints, when we realize what a privilege it is to receive Holy Communion, what joy comes to our hearts. When we flock to the confessional to get rid of our sins, truly and really forgiven by Our Lord through the priest, what peace can fill our hearts.

Did any of you see the pictures from the All Saints party? They were absolutely fantastic! One could see the joy of the children all over their faces. I am convinced that this sort of joy comes only from their innocence and from the Holy Ghost. Their presentations were very excellent and no one even had to read from a sheet of paper this year! It was a day to remember.

Another thing that has been most edifying is to see

so many of our parishioners centering their day (and their lives) around the Church, as I imagine it would have been before Vatican II. Wednesday choir night has become a family gathering for so many. While the choir works so hard at practicing the music for Sunday, the children play in the parking lot, the ladies go on walks, the men do their thing, but everyone has a good time. In fact, oftentimes, even people who are not in the choir come to church just for the big social event.

Some of our men have put together a St. Joseph Guild and met just yesterday to begin working on laying the rest of the cloister tile. They didn't come just to work, which for most would have been enough. They came in time for the Salve Regina, sermon, High Mass, breakfast, and then a barbecue to end the day.

This Thursday the Catholic Mothers' Consortium will meet for Mass, followed by supper, a conference given by a member of the clergy, and then some time for the mothers to chat about different things. Elizabeth Gunsher will talk about the Liturgical Life lived at home. An excellent idea!

On Saturday, we celebrate the feast of our patroness, St. Gertrude the Great. It is also **Fr. Lehtoranta's** priestly anniversary. Be sure to wish him a happy anniversary and to say a prayer for him. He will sing the Solemn High Mass that day. Afterwards, the Rosary Confraternity will go on a field trip to one of the beautiful churches in downtown Cincinnati.

Fathers McKenna, Simpson, and Brueggemann are at St. Hugh's this weekend for the Forty Hours Devotion. They will offer Solemn Masses with sermons, a public Holy Hour, sing parts of the Divine Office, and spend private Holy Hours with Our Eucharistic Savior. Forty Hours is always a time of immense graces for the whole Catholic Church and always has the effect of bringing parishioners closer together and of bringing true joy to the hearts of all.

All of this should make us thankful to Our Lord. Do you see?! Our Lord gives us so much joy by the practice of our Faith and by taking part in Catholic society. It is important to educate your children in the proper way concerning our Faith. It is such a joyful, wonderful thing. How utterly unworthy we are to have it, but how much we should bless God for having given it to us!

– **Bishop McGuire**

ALL SAINTS DAY WINNERS

- 1st – Christian Wright as St. Joseph Cupertino
- 2nd – Bernard Constantino as St. Bernard
- 3rd – Gemma Horton as St. Hedwig

Group Winner:

Francis Caggese & others as St. Thomas à Becket

✠ MARTINMAS ✠

Saint Martin of Tours was a native of Pannonia, which is approximately modern day Hungary. He served in the Roman cavalry in Gaul, and it was there that he did his most famous act of sanctity. One day, while still a catechumen, he met an ill-clothed beggar, and he cut his cloak in two and gave one half to the beggar. Sulpicius Severus, who wrote the *Life of St. Martin* and met the saint personally, wrote that some around St. Martin laughed when they saw him in half of his cloak, though some were silent with shame that they had not done something similar to help the poor man. That night, St. Martin had a vision of Jesus clad in the half of his cloak he had given to the beggar, and, upon waking, St. Martin discovered his cloak restored to wholeness. Later in life, St. Martin was chosen to be bishop of Tours, and he hid in a pen of geese in an attempt to escape his appointment. However, the geese made such a cackling that he was discovered.

Saint Martin's Day, or Martinmas, marks a day of feasting which precedes the penitential season before Christmas. The season of penance was known as St. Martin's Lent and coincides with Advent. The degree of fasting has varied over years and regions.

Martinmas takes place at the end of the harvest, when animals are butchered and when much beer and wine is ready. Pastries in the shape of a croissant are made especially in Germany and Poland signifying the hooves of St. Martin's horse as well as the half of his cloak, as the shape of the croissant is the half of a pretzel. The Polish version has its origin when a baker saw St. Martin on his horse which lost a golden horseshoe. The baker was inspired to bake the croissants and give them to the poor. Interestingly, the authentic recipe is a Polish state secret.

Czechia has a pastry roll in the shape of a horseshoe,



as well. In Malta, children are given a red and white checkered bag (St. Martin's bag) which contains nuts, fruit, and a unique sweet bun.

Goose is traditionally served commemorating the geese that betrayed St. Martin's hiding place, and bonfires are lit. Children carry lanterns and sing songs, for which they are rewarded with candy or sweet breads in some places. Lanterns used to be made by hollowing out gourds or turnips and are the inspiration for the jack-o-lantern. The tradition especially of children carrying lanterns may have originated from children who saw St. Martin give the beggar half his cloak and ran back to the town with their lanterns to tell the townspeople. Taking place as the nights approach swifter each day, the lanterns also represent the light that holiness brings to the darkness.

St. Martin's Day is popular across Europe, and the lit procession behind a man dressed as St. Martin on horseback is especially prominent in Germany. In some places in Europe, the man on the horse would give nuts and sweets to children. Also, in one city of Belgium, children would hang stockings full of hay on Martinmas Eve and awake to find gifts in them (in thanks for feeding St. Martin's horse).

St. Martin's Day festivities are less common in America and are more of a local matter if any, though there have been lantern processions in St. Paul, Minnesota. If St. Martin processions happen in America, they are usually in German culture societies.

Martinmas contains the celebration of bounty held by Thanksgiving and the lights and sweets notable in Halloween, but, most of all, it leads those who bear the light of the Faith to the season of Advent, as St. Martin on his horse leads those who bear the light of lanterns.

— Levi Giese

WAIVE THE SWORD

It's Martinmas!
The Glory of Gaul
Lifts his sword
And slits his cloak
To clothe a beggar,
Naked, cold
Who swaddles quick
The offered wool.

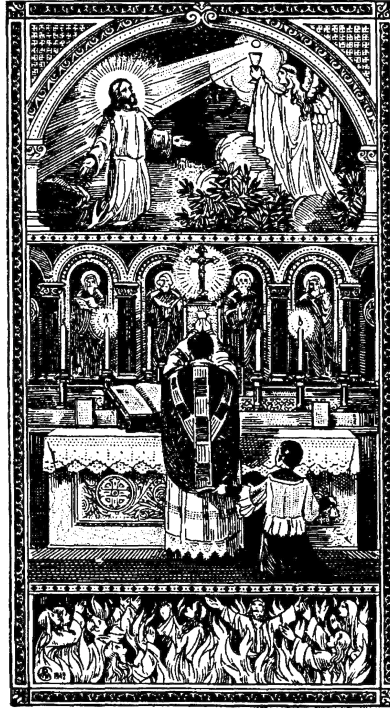
The soldier dreams
Of Christ the Lord
As mendicant
In lotted garb
Whose Kingdom strikes
His call and corps
To raise the Cross
And waive the sword.

— Rita A. Simmonds

OUT OF THE DEPTHS

Dante, steeped in Catholic feeling, put on the lips of the patient souls in the first circle of his Purgatory a very beautiful paraphrase of the Lord's Prayer.

“Our Father, Thou who dwellest in the Heaven,
 Not bound by space, but by love more intense
 Which Thou unto Thy primal works hast given,
 Praised be Thy Name and Thine omnipotence
 By every creature, as 'tis meet and right
 To render thanks to Thy sweet effluence.
 Upon us may Thy kingdom's peace alight,
 To which we cannot of ourselves arise,
 Unless it come—with all our reason's might.
 As of their will Thine angels sacrifice
 Make to Thee, while their lips 'Hosanna' say,
 So may men offer all their will's device!
 Our daily manna give to us today,
 Without which whoso through this desert drear
 Journeys, goes back, though pressing on his way:
 And as the trespass we from others bear
 We forgive each, so, Lord, do Thou forgive
 Of bounty, nor to count our merits care.
 Our virtue, which so soon doth harm receive,
 Put not to peril with our ancient foe,
 But from his evil sting deliverance give.
 This final prayer, dear Lord, from us doth flow,
 Not for ourselves, for we no longer need,
 But for their sakes whom we have left below.”
 So praying for themselves and us 'God speed!'
 Those souls went on their way beneath their weight.



“Look, O Jesus, how my ship has to struggle against the immense waves of difficulty and dangers. Please, do watch over it, and never let it be submerged. I have a great trust in Thee. I abandon myself to Thee; and, in so doing, I feel a deep tranquility descend into my heart.” – St. Frances Xavier Cabrini

We can understand, even if dimly, this passage from a recent writer: “In the justice of God, the Holy Souls see the fitness of their punishment: in His Light, the malice of Sin: in His Sanctity, the stain of the least imperfection: in His Being, their nothingness: in His ineffable Essence, their intrinsic need of Him. The Holy Souls plunge deep into God's Hiddenness, God's Silence, God's Immensities of Solitude.” And we can make our own spirit the prayer of Gerontius to his Angel:

“Take me away and in the lowest deep
 There let me be,
 And there in hope the lone night-watches keep
 Told out for me.
 There, motionless and happy in my pain,
 Lone, not forlorn—
 There will I sing my sad perpetual strain,
 Until the morn.
 There will I sing, and soothe my stricken breast,
 Which ne'er can cease
 To throb, and pine, and languish, till possess
 Of its Sole Peace.
 There will I sing my absent Lord and Love:
 Take me away
 That sooner may I rise, and go above,
 And see Him in the truth of everlasting day.”



DIES IRAE

There were no footprints left upon the waters
 When Jesus walked on Lake Genesareth,
 The unrecorded words His finger penciled
 In dust upon the road are gone like breath.

Yet when the charts and books are all discarded,
 And, dreadful in the dawn, the horn is heard
 Above the ended roads, the canceled phrases,
 Behold! the endless Way, the deathless Word!

– James L. Duff

- MON 11/11/24 ST. MARTIN OF TOURS, BPC • ST. MENNAS, M**
8:00 AM Low Mass Rick Cartwright (*JR*)
11:00 AM Tolling of the Bell, Absolution
11:25 AM High Mass For everyone who offered their help with kindergarten – Thank you! (*Sr. Regina*)
- TUE 11/12/24 ST. MARTIN I, PM**
7:00 AM Low Mass Special intention for health (*S. Kurtz*)
11:25 AM Requiem High Mass Purgatorial Society
5:00 PM Low Mass Zachary Christensen (*K. & M. Christensen*)
- WED 11/13/24 ST. DIDACUS, C • ST. STANISLAUS KOSTKA, C**
7:00 AM Low Mass Special Intentions (*KR*)
8:00 AM Low Mass A forgotten soul who perished during the French Revolution
11:25 AM High Mass Annie Fischer – Happy Birthday (*Mom & Pop*)
5:10 PM Low Mass Joseph Prell – Happy Birthday (*Beth*)
- THU 11/14/24 ST. JOSAPHAT, BPM**
7:00 AM Low Mass Private Intention (*Collin Smith*)
8:00 AM Low Mass Ken & Regina Gilliam & Family (*Fr. Brueggemann*)
11:25 AM High Mass Thanksgiving for a safe journey (*Arlinghaus Family*)
5:00 PM Low Mass For members of the Catholic Mothers' Consortium
Catholic Mothers' Consortium
- FRI 11/15/24 ST. ALBERT THE GREAT, BPCD**
8:00 AM Low Mass Mary Rose Young – Happy Birthday (*Mom & Pop*)
11:00 AM Confessions
11:25 AM High Mass †Henry Sieverding (*Mr. & Mrs. Victor Ritze*)
5:15 PM Confessions & Rosary
5:45 PM Low Mass †William J. Martin (*William A. Martin*)
6:30 PM Sacred Heart Novena, Benediction
- SAT 11/16/24 ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT, V**
OUR LADY OF DIVINE PROVIDENCE
7:05 AM Confessions
7:30 AM Low Mass †Fr. Cekada (*Collin Smith*)
8:10 AM Salve
8:30 AM Solemn High Mass Fr. Lehtoranta – Happy Anniversary (*The Fathers*)
Rosary Confraternity Field Trip
- SUN 11/17/24 PENTECOST XXVI**
 ST. GREGORY THAUMATURGUS, BPC
ST. HUGH OF LINCOLN, BPC
7:05 AM Rosary
7:30 AM Low Mass Happy Birthday Dad! (*Maria McConnell*)
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 In honor of St. Joseph & St. Raphael Archangel for prayers answered (*Ryan Faith & family*)

AT THE ECCE ANCILLA DOMINI

Our blessed Lady said to St. Gertrude: Whoever shall devoutly recall to my mind the joy which I felt in uttering the words: Behold the handmaid of the Lord, I will most truly show him that I am his Mother, and will unfaillingly succor him.

O Mother of blessedness and most august Sanctuary of the Holy Ghost, I praise and greet thee, and with most devout intention of mind recall to thee that unspeakable joy which thou didst feel when with calmest trustfulness thou didst commend to the divine Will thy whole unreserved self, and all that was to be done to thee and in thee, saying: *Behold the handmaid of the Lord:* beseeching thee that thou wouldst show thyself my Mother, and evermore succor me with the saving help of thy compassionate heart. Amen.



Most chaste Virgin Mary, I beg of you, by that unspotted *purity* with which you prepared for the Son of God a dwelling of delight in your virginal womb, that by your intercession I may be cleansed from every stain.

Most humble Virgin Mary, I beg of you, by that most profound *humility* by which you deserved to be raised high above all the choirs of angels and saints, that by your intercession all my sins may be expiated.

Most amiable Virgin Mary, I beg of you, by that unspeakable *love* which united you so closely and inseparably to God, that by your intercession I may obtain an abundance of all merits. – *St. Gertrude*

“I offer Thee as compensation, most loving Father, the Passion of Thy most beloved Son in its entirety.... To make up for all my acts of negligence I offer Thee, most loving Father, His most holy life in its entirety, completely perfect in all its thoughts, words, and deeds from the moment when Thine only-begotten Son was sent down from the pinnacle of His throne and entered our country through the Virgin’s ear, until the moment that He brought into Thy Fatherly presence the glory of His triumphant flesh....” – St. Gertrude

SERVERS

- FRI 11/15 5:45 PM LOW:** Capetillos
- SAT 11/16 7:30 AM LOW:** Brueggemanns
8:30 AM SOL.HIGH: MCS: T. Lawrence, D. Simpson **TH:** N. Kolenich **ACs:** T. Capetillo, M. Caggese **TBS:** M. Kolenich, F. & P. Caggese, I. & J. Smith, B. Constantino **CROSS:** J. Capetillo
- SUN 11/17 7:30 AM LOW:** M. McConnell, Brueggemann
9:00 AM HIGH: MCS: C. Richesson, A. McClorey **TH:** T. Lawrence **ACs:** J. Rabjohns, D. Hudson **MITRE:** I. Smith **CROZIER:** F. Caggese **CROSS:** S. Richesson **TBS:** L. Rabjohns, Ma. & P. Caggese, N. & J. Hudson, A. Constantino
11:30 AM LOW: Kolenichs
5:45 PM LOW: Volunteer

- 3:00 PM Rosary Procession at Gate of Heaven Cemetery**
5:45 PM Low Mass Terri Young – Happy Birthday (*Bill*)