

ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

"Invenies me in corde Gertrudis"

"You will find Me in the heart of Gertrude"

4900 Rialto Road, West Chester, Ohio 45069

TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS: Sundays 7:30 AM,
9:00 AM High, 11:30 AM, 5:45 PM

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Most Rev. Charles J. McGuire, *Pastor*
Rev. Stephen McKenna
Rev. Vili Lehtoranta
Rev. Thomas Simpson
Rev. Anthony Brueggemann




February 2, 2025

PURIFICATION OF OUR LADY

CANDLEMAS DAY • EPIPHANY IV

¶ CANDLEMAS

 Today is the great feast of Our Lady's Purification, and the closing of the Christmas Season. A **festive breakfast** takes place after the High Mass today. The second collection is for our Oblates. The Blessing of Religious Articles is available after all Masses. Blessed candles are available in the bookstore. There are no Catechism Classes today. Vespers of the Purification with Benediction are at 4:45 PM.

¶ ALTER CHRISTUS

The "Little Church" is in the vestibule to receive your alms for priests. God reward your generosity.

¶ THIS WEEK

The Blessing of Throats for St. Blaise's feast will be available at the Communion rail



following all Masses on **Monday**: 7, 8 and 11:25 AM.

First Thursday there will be a holy hour for priests at 5:00 PM, followed by the altar servers' pizza and game night.

Don't forget St. Joseph on **First Wednesday**, and the Sacred Heart on **First Friday!** (No 8 AM Mass Friday.)


¶ YOUR PRAYERS

Please pray for Lucia Constantino, Jeremiah Moore, and Isaac Vines.



¶ NEXT SUNDAY

Next Sunday we open our triduum to Our Lady of Lourdes. Catechism Classes will be at 10:40 AM. Vespers with Benediction will be at 4:45 PM.

 **Set Your Missal:** Epiphany V, second collect of St. Cyril of Alexandria, third of St. Apollonia. Trinity Preface.

¶ SORROWFUL MOTHER NOVENA

Our annual novena to the Sorrowful Mother with the Blessing of the Sick begins this Friday, February 14th. Bring your sick to be blessed, and be sure to call or email the office with their names to be mentioned in the novena.

"Lord, help me to live this day quietly, easily. To lean upon Thy great strength, trustfully, restfully. To wait for the unfolding of Thy will, patiently, serenely. To meet others,

peacefully, joyously. To face tomorrow, confidently, courageously."

— St. Francis of Assisi



¶ FIRST FRIDAY

11:00 AM Confessions
11:25 AM Low Mass, Benediction
5:00 PM Exposition
5:15 PM Confessions & Rosary
5:35 PM Infant of Prague Novena VII
5:45 PM Sermon & Low Mass
6:30 PM Sacred Heart Novena
All Night Adoration

First Friday Intention: For our youth: Vocations to the Priesthood & Religious life and for all: Generosity in the practice of the Faith.

Collection Report

Sunday, January 26th\$11,124.00

With Deepest Sympathy

We extend our condolences and prayers to Kevin Kiernan & family on the death of his father, Frank Kiernan.

¶ LOOK AHEAD

Altar Boys Day: Saturday, March 15
Ladies Retreat: Saturday, March 22
Children's Day of Recollection: Tuesday, March 25

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Summary: A storm rises while Jesus sleeps in the boat. His disciples, frightened, awaken Him, and He calms the storm.

...They marvel, saying, "What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey Him?" It is a good question, Lord Jesus. And it takes us back to the idea of the Epiphany. With us as with the apostles,



You are seeking to drive home the lesson that You are God. You first reveal Yourself as God to the Magi; then

to the disciples and guests at Cana when You change the water into wine. You cleanse a leper and heal a centurion's servant. In all these miracles, You show Yourself to be the Lord of creation. Nature and all of nature's laws bow to Your will. And today's acknowledgement of Your Godhead is most spectacular of all. "Peace, be still!"

The impact of the fact of Your divinity is inescapable...and so good for me to know. It is so good because it means that You are with us today—in Your Church, in the midst of our families, our parishes, our schools. The climate of fear that we breathe today seems to grow more and more dense. Your words come to us: "Why are you fearful, O ye of little faith?"



THE PURIFICATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

The liturgy celebrates, primarily, the entrance for the first time of the Infant Jesus into the Temple: "Behold the Lord, the Ruler, cometh into His holy Temple: rejoice and be glad, O Sion, and hasten to meet your God." Let us, too, go to meet Him, emulating the holy sentiments of the old Simeon who "came by the Spirit into the Temple" (*Gospel, Lk 2, 22-32*), and filled with joy, received the Divine Child into his arms.

In order to celebrate this event more fittingly, the Church today blesses candles and gives them to us; with burning tapers, we enter the Temple in procession. The lighted candle is a symbol of the Christian life, of the faith and grace which should shine in our soul. It is also the image of Christ, the light of the world, "a light to the revelation of the Gentiles," according to Simeon's canticle. The lighted candle reminds us that we must always bear Christ in us, the source of our life, the author of faith and grace. By His grace, Jesus Himself disposes us to go to meet Him with livelier faith and greater love. May our meeting with Him today be particularly intimate and sanctifying!



MATER CHRISTI

Adown the linkèd years there sweetly rang
Thy praises, as inspired prophecy
In chorus grand thy matchless beauty sang:

Unspotted Mirror of God's majesty,
In type and figure beautiful foretold,
The City of our God, the Ivory Tower,
The Lily pure whose blooming should unfold

A chalice whiter than earth's whitest flower;
The Star before the Dawn whose rising bright
Should promise Him, the World's unfading Light.

Fair names, O Mary! Yet there still was one
More than all these thy stainless Heart should thrill;
No prophet sang it, for thy Blessed Son Himself would speak it; and, by speaking, fill
His soul and thine with rapture heavenly.
Long seemed thy waiting, while the holy fire
Of yearning glowed more radiantly that He
Might say that word. His, too, was thy desire:
Both Hearts are ever one. And came a day,
Smile meeting smile, when Christ did "Mother" say.

"Mother" He called thee first in Egypt's night,
And "Mother" lingered like a sweet refrain
Through Nazareth's years. In Resurrection light
Of Easter morn, oh, hear again the strain!
The Risen Lord sought for no dearer name,
But "Mother" said. We fancy that was all.
Mother of Christ, it is our joy to claim
Thee Mother of Christ's Body Mystical;
Mother of Christ, and still our very own:
Speak thou good things for us before His throne.

— Anonymous

✠ THE BISHOP'S NOTE ✠

Fr. Simpson and I got back only ten days ago from an excellent pastoral visit to Mexico. Tomorrow, **Fr. Brueggemann** and I are leaving for France to visit **Fr. Guillaume Hecquard** for a week or so. Perhaps it was a little silly to arrange two international trips back to back like this, but they had to be done, and the rest of the year only gets busier. Lent starts one month from Wednesday, and the big ceremonies go all the way to the end of June this year since Easter is very late. There is typically a trip to **Fr. Martín's** chapel in Dos Rios, Mexico, in July; Confirmations in Milwaukee sometime in the summer; a priests' retreat and Confirmations in Seattle in July; Confirmations in Boston, Connecticut, and New Jersey in October; a trip to Tijuana, Mexico, in November; and the many pastoral things that go on here at St. Gertrude's on a daily basis. So it was now or never for the France trip. I am looking forward to seeing the Faithful of Fr. Hecquard, a small but fervent group of Catholics. I hope also to make some private visits with some of the other clergy while there, and even sneak in a visit to Our Lady of Pontmain and Lisieux, if possible. Father has me scheduled to give two conferences on the state of the Church in our day. France is very divided over the Thesis and the SSPX questions. Our position here at SGG is that, while we do not agree with the Thesis, it is not something that needs to divide Catholics, nor is it a topic that should be argued about publicly. St. Paul says, "Be convinced in your own minds." He then goes on to tell the Romans not to argue about opinions because this type of thing only scandalizes the weak of Faith, e.g. new converts. Untrained clergy has become a new problem in France, thanks to the late Bishop Williamson and certain other bishops, who take in recently converted Novus Ordo presbyters and quickly impose hands upon them, without first giving them the proper formation. What harm this type of action does to souls, and to the glory of the Church!

Fr. Lehtoranta is writing a new article for his personal website. I will put a link in the bulletin when it is completed. He has also been invited to be a guest on a Finnish podcast by a fellow that finds Father's story interesting...Finnish Sedevacantist priests are a rarity these days, after all.

Fr. McKenna is in Dallas today, but will be back to take care of things here at St. Gertrude's while I am away. He has been sick lately and will, hopefully, be fully recovered by then.

Fr. Simpson has been traveling a LOT lately. I really don't know how he does it! He will be back soon enough and will get a good break during the month of February.

School report cards went out on Friday afternoon, and it was good to see that they are doing so well, for the most part.



Lucia Constantino has been on everyone's mind lately. As many of you know, she has been quite ill and many of you have been praying very devoutly for her recovery. Keep up the prayers because they are working well! But don't forget to pray for her parents, too. One can only imagine the worry and stress that they have been going through these last few weeks—and they still have a few weeks to go. I am quite confident that the Holy Child Jesus, Doctor of the Sick is taking care of the situation!

Don't forget to get your throats blessed tomorrow after the 7:00, 8:00 and 11:25 Masses. The Church's sacramental devotions are so lovely and so very powerful! Don't look lightly upon them!

May God bless you and Mary keep you!

– **Bishop McGuire**

MEDITATION FOR THE FEAST OF THE PURIFICATION OF MARY, AND THE PRESENTATION OF JESUS

Behold, Mary entered the Temple, and in the name of the whole human race made the oblation of her Son. But, especially on this day, Jesus offered Himself to His Eternal Father. "Behold Me, O Father," He said; "to Thee do I consecrate My whole life; Thou hast sent Me into the world to save it: accept My Blood and My life; I offer them without reserve to Thee, for the salvation of the world." Unfortunate should I have been, my dear Redeemer, hadst Thou not satisfied the Divine Justice for me. I thank Thee with my whole soul, and I love Thee with my whole heart. And whom shall I love, if I do not love a God Who sacrificed His life for me?

All Night Adoration Guard of Honor

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM: David Swinney, Joseph Vines
8:00 PM - 9:00 PM: Tim Giese, Bruno Sequeira
9:00 PM - 10:00 PM: Collin Smith, Justin Soeder
10:00 PM - 11:00 PM: Nathan McClorey, Anthony Caggese
11:00 PM - 12:00 AM: James Kolenich, Paul Puglielli
12:00 AM - 1:00 AM: Levi Giese, Alfonso Capetillo
1:00 AM - 2:00 AM: Keith Elflein, Dan Stanislawski
2:00 AM - 3:00 AM: Dan & Philip Brueggemann
3:00 AM - 4:00 AM: McConnell Brothers
4:00 AM-5:00 AM: Matthew Giese, Zachary Doyle
5:00 AM - 6:00 AM: Joseph Simpson, Bill Herman
6:00 AM - 7:00 AM: John Riggs, Robert Rosendale



☞ *If you cannot make your hour, please contact the church office immediately: (513) 645-4212.*

☞ *If you have finished your hour but no one has arrived to relieve you, please call Fr. Brueggemann (513-378-2705) or Fr. Simpson (513-378-2870) to substitute.*

✠ CALENDAR

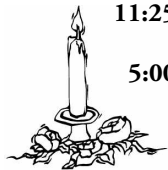
MON 2/3/25 RESUMED MASS OF SUNDAY • ST. BLAISE, BPM
 BLESSING OF THROATS AFTER ALL MASSES
7:00 AM Low Mass Lucia's Return to Good Health
(C. Simpson family)
8:00 AM Low Mass For all who cook for us and
 for our devoted drivers *(The Fathers)*
11:25 AM High Mass Theresa Simpson *(Bishop)*



TUE 2/4/25 ST. ANDREW CORSINI, BPC
8:00 AM Low Mass Our Lady of Pontmain in Thanksgiving
(Judy)
11:25 AM High Mass †Richard H. Smith – 6th Anniversary
(Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Prell)
5:00 PM Low Mass †Catherine Vinski *(Mary Egger & Lauren Caggese)*

WED 2/5/25 ST. AGATHA, VM • ST. PHILIP OF JESUS, M
 FIRST WEDNESDAY – PRAY TO ST. JOSEPH
8:00 AM Low Mass The Lodrini Family *(Judy)*
11:25 AM High Mass Special intention *(S.E.)*
5:10 PM Low Mass Thou knowest, O Lord *(Arlinghaus Family)*

THU 2/6/25 ST. TITUS, BPC • ST. DOROTHY, VM
 FIRST THURSDAY – PRAY FOR PRIESTS
8:00 AM Low Mass Rest in Peace, †Fr. Thielen *(Kolenich Family)*
11:25 AM High Mass Rest in Peace, †Archbishop Pierre Martin
 Ngô Đình Thục *(Kolenich Family)*
5:00 PM Holy Hour for Priests: Low Mass For the
 sanctification of priests *(Alter Christus Confraternity)*
Altar Servers' Party



FRI 2/7/25 FIRST FRIDAY • ST. ROMUALD, AB
Please note: No 8:00 AM Mass
11:00 AM Confessions
11:25 AM Low Mass, Benediction †Fr. James Thielen *(Mr. & Mrs. Mark Lotarski)*
5:00 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
5:15 PM Confessions & Rosary
5:35 PM Infant of Prague Novena VII
5:45 PM Low Mass "Thou Knowest, Oh Lord!" *(Renee Arlinghaus)*
6:30 PM Sacred Heart Novena, First Friday Devotions
All Night Adoration



SAT 2/8/25 ST. JOHN OF MATHA, C
7:05 AM Confessions & Rosary
7:30 AM High Mass Poor Souls in Purgatory *(Collin Smith)*
8:15 AM Ave Regina Coelorum, Devotions
8:20 AM Benediction, Sermon
8:40 AM Low Mass Jeremiah Moore *(Mr. & Mrs. Dale Wilker)*

SUN 2/9/25 EPIPHANY V • ST. CYRIL OF ALEXANDRIA, BPCD
 ST. APOLLONIA, VM
7:05 AM Rosary
7:30 AM Low Mass Michael Rabjohns *(KR)*
9:00 AM High Mass Souls entrusted to my care *(Collin Smith)*
10:40 AM Catechism Classes
11:05 AM Rosary

THE CREDO OF SORROW

I believe, O my God, that by suffering with resignation, the Passion of Christ is accomplished within me.

I believe that every creature in this world is sorrowing and subject to pain, while awaiting the day of the Son of God's manifestation.

I believe that we have here no lasting abode, and we seek another in the world to come.

I believe that all things tend towards the good of those who love God.

I believe that those who sow in tears shall reap in gladness.

I believe that blessed are they who die in the Lord.

I believe that our tribulations will work for us an eternal weight of glory, if we contemplate not what is visible, but what is invisible; for the things that we see are but passing, while those that we see not are eternal.

I believe that this corruptible body shall clothe itself with incorruptibility, that our mortal body shall put on immortality, and that death shall be swallowed up in victory.

I believe that God will wipe away all tears from the eyes of the just—that death for them will be no more, neither mourning nor weeping, and that their sorrow will cease at last, for all the former things will have passed away.

I believe that we shall then see God face to face.

Let us try to recite this "Credo" frequently, and we will find that joy can be found in the midst of sorrow if we firmly believe that all that God does is for our sanctification. God is always good, even when He asks sacrifice of us.



Servers

FRI 2/7 5:45 PM LOW: T. Lawrence
SAT 2/8 7:30 AM HIGH: P. Caggese, I. Smith
8:40 AM LOW: Brueggemanns
SUN 2/9 7:30 AM LOW: M. McConnell, Brueggemann
9:00 AM HIGH: MCS: D. Simpson, A. McClorey **TH:** D. Hudson
ACs: J. Rabjohns, J. Hudson **TBS:** N. Hudson, F., P. & Ma.
 Caggese, M. Drevenak, L. Rabjohns
11:30 AM LOW: Kolenichs
4:45 PM VESPERS & BENEDICTION: D. Simpson, I. Smith, F. & P. Caggese
5:45 PM LOW: Volunteer

11:30 AM Low Mass Rebecca Uhlenbrock *(Mary Rose Young)*
4:45 PM Vespers & Benediction
5:45 PM Low Mass For the people of St. Gertrude the Great