

# 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



**May 18, 2025**

**EASTER IV**

**ST. VENANTIUS, M**

**ST. FELIX OF CANTALICE**

## ¶ EASTER IV

Today is the third anniversary of Bishop McGuire's episcopal consecration. The Blessing of Expectant Mothers is available at the Communion Rail following all Masses today. Catechism Classes are at 10:40 AM. Vespers with May Devotions and Benediction are at 4:45 PM.

## ¶ THIS WEEK...

...is a rare quiet one. Take advantage of it by catching an extra Low Mass, or stopping in for **May Devotions**, every weekday at **3:10 PM**. This is a short but sweet service including the Litany of Our Lady and a brief meditation on one of her virtues.

The Catholic Mothers Consortium meets on **Tuesday** after the 5:00 PM Mass, and the St. Monica Club on **Thursday**.



*O Almighty God, Who didst give St. Felix to the Seraphic Family and to the Church as an example of evangelical simplicity and innocence of life, following his example, may we strive to love and joyfully follow Christ alone, Who livest and reignest with Thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

*St. Felix of Cantalice, pray for us.*

## ¶ NEXT SUNDAY

Catechism Classes will be at 10:40 AM. Vespers with May Devotions and Benediction will be at 4:45 PM.

📖 **Set Your Missal:** Easter V, second collect of St. Gregory VII, third of St. Urban I. Preface of Easter.

*"The Church sings of Mary: 'All the glory of the King's daughter is within.' This is the character of Mary's sanctity. Nothing exterior, nothing conspicuous, all for God alone and known only to Him."*

*- Bl. Peter Julian Eymard*

## ¶ UPCOMING EVENTS

**Children's Day of Recollection (for Confirmands):**

Thursday, June 5

**Confirmations:** June 7

**First Holy Communions:**

Sunday, June 22

**YAG 2025:** July 11-13

**Girls' Camp:** July 22-24

**Boys' Camp:** July 29-31

## Lumen Christi

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

**Private Intention**  
(Karla Lawrence)

### Collection Report

Sunday, May 11<sup>th</sup> .....\$5,002.00  
Thank you for your generosity.  
Remember St. Gertrude the Great in your will.



THE SHRINE OF THE HOME

The most beautiful hymn ever voiced by a woman is the Magnificat: *“My soul doth magnify the Lord and my spirit hath rejoiced in God, my Savior, for He that is mighty hath done great thing to me, and Holy is His Name.”* In these sublime words inspired by the Holy Ghost, the Virgin Mother expresses her deep gratitude to God, and the yearnings of her noble soul to glorify Him.

How exquisitely beautiful is this Woman. A Woman above all women, “Our tainted nature’s solitary boast.” And it was Divine Grace that made her beautiful in the eyes of God. In amazement does one of the brightest Angels from Heaven address her: *“Hail Mary, full of grace!”*

A child’s delight is to grow like her mother. We grow in resemblance to Mary through sanctifying grace. Our happiness in Heaven will be measured by the graces adorning our souls. Grace blossoms into glory.

A loving mother wants her child to be like her. No one save God Himself has greater desires for our holiness than Mary. We may expect then, as long as the world lasts, that Our Blessed Mother will always be praying for our sanctification. Lourdes was one of her most eloquent appeals. Fatima, another. These shrines, hallowed and blessed by countless cures, have been paved by the uninterrupted Rosaries that pilgrims have fervently offered there.

But the shrine Mary loves best of all is the shrine of the home. To sanctify the home, Mary has given us her Rosary.

Far too long has God been forgotten in the home. Family prayer in modern times has been largely ignored. Our Blessed Lord has expressly said: *“Wherever two or three are gathered in My Name, there am I in the midst of them.”* Let us revive this holy practice of praying together in the home. Let us restore to Mary her rightful place as Queen of the Home.

Holy Queen, inspire all who read these lines to adopt the practice of honoring you daily by the family recitation of your Rosary.



Our Beloved Dead – May

Jeffrey P. Tilford	5-03-1999
Diane Powell	5-04-2012
Patrick Harpen	5-06-2014
Arthur F. Moser	5-08-1991
Robert Brockman	5-08-2020
Janet Becker	5-10-2018
Jean Boehm	5-11-2000
Maria Duff	5-11-2013
Anna M. Atanasoff	5-12-1987
Frank W. Wolf	5-14-1985
Helen Mariam Laub	5-15-2024
Rose Mary Jacobs	5-16-1982
Lena Goodman	5-19-1998
Honore E. Gerrard	5-21-1993
Jeffrey Robert Becker	5-25-1984
William Sandmyer	5-25-2011
John J. Bischak	5-26-1988
Paul T. Grau	5-28-2022
Anne McMahan	5-29-2009
Theresa C. Albert	5-30-1990
Elizabeth Reis	5-31-2013



THE GIFT

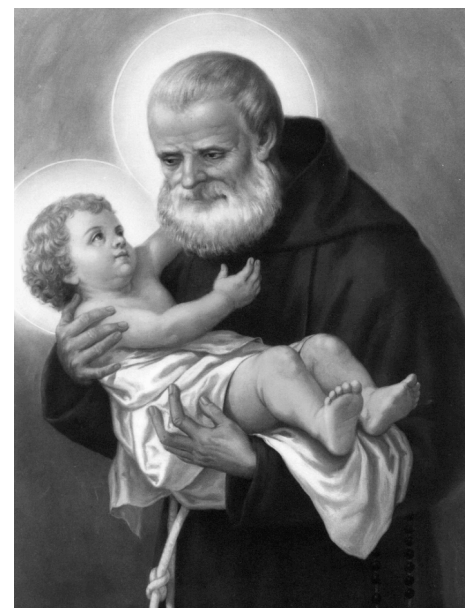
Saint Felix Cantalicio,  
For so it is said,  
Went forth one morning  
Seeking alms and bread.  
Loud blew the wind,  
Fast fell the chilling snow;  
“Bless thee, Saint Felix, whereso’er  
thou go!”

A Child’s sweet voice,  
Who held him forth his bread:  
“I bless thee, Brother Felix,  
In God’s Name!” He said.

Bowed low the Brother.  
In his heart the thought:  
“Thrice-blessed the Bread  
These holy hands have brought!  
Dear Lord, I thank Thee!  
But for bread I sued—  
Lo! in Thy hands are blessing  
And eternal Food.  
My Lord has spoken: by this holy  
token  
I know for me forever  
What is sent, is good.”

Back to his cell the saintly Felix went,  
And all his days he lived in sweet content.  
Blessed the gift, when dark earth’s  
shadows grow,  
In storm or sunshine, God’s own  
hand to know.

– Gertrude E. Heath



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## ✠ THE BISHOP'S NOTE ✠

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We have had a mix of some good and some bad weather so far this spring. A lot of gray days, but it is still spring and rain is good for the plants and flowers, which look very pretty this year. One of the cats brought me half of a baby bunny and left it outside my office door last week. **Fr. McKenna** says that it is a sign of the cat's loyalty and that the cat is just bringing a gift. I feed them well, but still they go out hunting...I guess that is what cats are meant to do. However, I would rather not partake of the animals which they catch. Yuck!

Wasn't the Fatima Rosary Procession on Tuesday great! Eighty-one souls came despite the threat of thunderstorms. We prayed to the Child Jesus, Our Lady, and even to Bishop Dolan asking for good weather. Sr. Regina knew it wasn't going to rain during the procession because she had her kindergarten class say a Hail Mary in chapel for that intention. Prayers were answered. The storm broke up right before it was supposed to hit West Chester. God is so good! Now we owe some prayers of thanksgiving.

Mother's Day May Crowning went very well last Sunday, too. We had good weather and the High Mass was packed. I am so very proud of our First Communion class. They all passed their test and also did a fine job crowning Our Lady.

**Fr. Lehtoranta** was sick for much of the week and wasn't able to teach on Monday. He did muscle through the weekend, offering Mass and preaching. We were short on clergy, so I am extra thankful for his practice of fortitude. Fr. Simpson has been a bit sick for a while now, but seems to be getting better. Whew! Our poor priests need a break! Well, school is almost out and vacation season begins soon—although the summer months are busier than the rest of the year. That is especially true this year since we have big feast days all the way through June.

**Fr. Ercoli** gave a very good report on our three seminarians. They are coming to the end of the year and two of them are up for Tonsure. I think this was mentioned last week, but it never hurts to hear it again.

**Bishop Selway** and I went to Most Holy Trinity Seminary a few days ago for a friendly visit with **Bishop Sanborn** and his clergy before returning here to St. Gertrude's. Bishop Selway is here just for a couple of days. Do say hello to him if you should see him.

Last Sunday was the third priestly anniversary of **Fathers Simpson, Brueggemann, Ojeka, and Okerulu**. May God continue to bless their priesthood. They

do such fine work with souls, and God could not have sent better priests to us. Continue your prayers for them! Today is the third anniversary of my episcopal consecration. If you don't mind sparing just a Hail Mary for me, too, I would be eternally grateful.

If you are wondering what to think of the election of Leo XIV, wonder no longer. He is going to be more of the same. He is a heretical adherent to the Vatican II sect and supports the previous reign of Bergoglio. Besides this, he holds the globalist agenda on climate change and is purported to have encouraged a woman desirous of becoming the first female priest to follow her dream. He has vowed to continue the "dialogue" between Christians and the Jewish religion and says that we ought to have a "mutual understanding and respect." As you can see, nothing has changed. But this should not discourage us. "Deus est!" There is a God. The Catholic Church is God's Church, and He will take care of His flock.

Keep up with your Marian devotions for the remainder of the month and then continue them for the rest of your life. She will get you to heaven!

– **Bishop McGuire**



### COMPLETE TRUST IN GOD

Do not look forward to the changes and chances of this life with fear. Rather, look to them with full confidence that, as they arise, God to whom you belong will in His love enable you to profit by them. He has guided you thus far in life. Do you but hold fast to His dear hand, and He will lead you safely through all trials. Whenever you cannot stand, He will carry you lovingly in His arms.

Do not look forward to what may happen tomorrow. The same Eternal Father who takes care of you today will take care of you tomorrow, and every day of your life. Either He will shield you from suffering or He will give you unfailing strength to bear it.

Be at peace then, and put aside all useless thoughts, all vain dreads, and all anxious imaginations.

– *St. Francis de Sales*

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## ✠ CALENDAR

<b>MON</b>	<b>5/19/25</b>	<b>ST. PETER CELESTINE, PC • ST. PRUDENTIANA, VM</b>
	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>Low Mass</b> Debbie Wilker – Happy Birthday <i>(The Stafford Family)</i>
	<b>11:25 AM</b>	<b>High Mass</b> Happy Birthday Momaw <i>(Your grandchildren)</i>
	<b>3:10 PM</b>	<b>May Devotions</b>
<b>TUE</b>	<b>5/20/25</b>	<b>ST. BERNARDINE OF SIENA, C</b>
	<b>7:00 AM</b>	<b>Low Mass</b> Happy Birthday, Andrew Kiernan <i>(Love, Mom &amp; Dad)</i> (from 5/19)
	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>Low Mass</b> Albert Daniel – birthday <i>(Levi Giese family)</i>
	<b>11:25 AM</b>	<b>High Mass</b> Special intention <i>(Janet Strauss)</i>
	<b>3:10 PM</b>	<b>May Devotions</b>
	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>Low Mass</b> Intentions of the CMC <b>Catholic Mothers Consortium</b>
<b>WED</b>	<b>5/21/25</b>	<b>FERIAL DAY</b>
	<b>7:00 AM</b>	<b>Low Mass</b> Private Intention <i>(The Smiths)</i>
	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>Low Mass</b> †Alfred P. Martin, 14 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary <i>(Mr. &amp; Mrs. Mark Lotarski)</i>
	<b>11:25 AM</b>	<b>Requiem High Mass</b> Purgatorial Society
	<b>3:10 PM</b>	<b>May Devotions</b>
	<b>5:10 PM</b>	<b>Low Mass &amp; Absolution</b> †Joanne Franklin
<b>THU</b>	<b>5/22/25</b>	<b>FERIAL DAY • ST. RITA CASCIA, W</b>
	<b>7:00 AM</b>	<b>Low Mass</b> For the most destitute soul in Purgatory <i>(I.J. Ford)</i>
	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>Low Mass</b> †Tom Simpson <i>(Christopher Browne)</i>
	<b>11:25 AM</b>	<b>High Mass</b> Annie Eberhardt <i>(Sister Regina)</i>
	<b>3:10 PM</b>	<b>May Devotions</b>
	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>Low Mass</b> For our fallen-away children <i>(St. Monica Club)</i> <b>St. Monica Club Meeting</b>
<b>FRI</b>	<b>5/23/25</b>	<b>FERIAL DAY • ST. JOHN BAPTIST DE ROSSI, C</b>
	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>Low Mass</b> Malachi Zver & Family <i>(Fr. Brueggemann)</i>
	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>Confessions</b>
	<b>11:25 AM</b>	<b>High Mass</b> Patt Family <i>(Sister Regina)</i>
	<b>3:10 PM</b>	<b>May Devotions</b>
	<b>5:15 PM</b>	<b>Confessions, Rosary</b>
	<b>5:45 PM</b>	<b>Low Mass</b> Special intentions <i>(ENR)</i>
	<b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>Sacred Heart Novena, Benediction</b>
<b>SAT</b>	<b>5/24/25</b>	<b>OUR LADY'S SATURDAY</b> <i>OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS</i>
	<b>7:05 AM</b>	<b>Confessions</b>
	<b>7:30 AM</b>	<b>Low Mass</b> Our children (& families), Grandchildren, Godchildren <i>(The Wilker Family)</i>
	<b>8:05 AM</b>	<b>Regina Coeli, Sermon</b>
	<b>8:15 AM</b>	<b>High Mass</b> †Jeannie Vines <i>(Mr. &amp; Mrs. Joseph Vines)</i>
<b>SUN</b>	<b>5/25/25</b>	<b>EASTER V • ST. GREGORY VII, PC • ST. URBAN I, PM</b>
	<b>7:05 AM</b>	<b>Rosary</b>
	<b>7:30 AM</b>	<b>Low Mass</b> Poor Souls in Purgatory <i>(Patsy McConnell)</i>
	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>High Mass</b> Our children <i>(Aidan &amp; Addie Stafford)</i>
	<b>10:40 AM</b>	<b>Catechism Classes</b>
	<b>11:05 AM</b>	<b>Rosary</b>
	<b>11:30 AM</b>	<b>Low Mass</b> †Elaine Pawinski <i>(Annie Fischer)</i>
	<b>4:45 PM</b>	<b>Vespers, May Devotions, Benediction</b>
	<b>5:45 PM</b>	<b>Low Mass</b> For the people of St. Gertrude the Great

## THE “EASTER PART” OF THE MASS *The Communion of the Faithful*

We know from the Gospel that not only the Apostles but also the disciples of Jesus had part in the breaking of bread after the Resurrection. Accordingly, all the faithful souls are invited to come and to partake of the Sacred Banquet. The Communion of the faithful is a figure of the Eucharistic repast of the risen Christ with His disciples.

To partake of Holy Communion freed from the guilt of mortal sin is essential. But, if in the dust of the roadside our heart has contracted one of those stains from which we cannot entirely preserve our poor human nature, let us say the Confiteor, that prayer of repentance and hope, and with sorrow, humility, and confidence let us ask pardon for our offenses. Let us bow beneath the consecrated hand of the priest, raised to give us absolution, and say with him: *“May Almighty God have mercy upon me, forgive me my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. May the Almighty and merciful Lord give me pardon, absolution, and remission of all my sins. Amen.”*



### Servers

WED 5/21 5:10 PM LOW WITH ABSOLUTION: P. & F. Caggese

FRI 5/23 5:45 PM LOW: A. Constantino, P. Caggese

SAT 5/24 7:30 AM LOW: Rabjohns  
8:15 AM HIGH: D. Simpson, M. Caggese, J. Stewart

SUN 5/25 7:30 AM LOW: M. McConnell, Brueggemann  
9:00 AM HIGH: MCS: C. Richesson, N. McClorey TH: A. McClorey ACS: J. Hudson, S. Richesson TBS: M. Drevenak, I. & J. Smith, T. Stanislawski, A. Constantino, F. Caggese  
11:30 AM LOW: Kolenichs  
4:45 PM VESPERS & BENEDICTION: TH: D. Simpson ACS: I. Smith, F. Caggese  
5:45 PM LOW: P. McClorey