

✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOVEMBER 25TH, 2007 - LAST SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST XXV

Today is the last Sunday after Pentecost with the commemoration of St. Catherine of Alexandria, patroness of philosophers, schoolgirls, spinsters and students; invoked against diseases of the tongue.

Confessions are heard before and/or during all Masses today.

Vespers and Benediction are at **4:45 PM**.
The Blessing of Expectant Mothers is available after Mass today. Please come to the center of the Communion Rail.

ADVENT

Visit our Gift Shop to get ready for this season of getting ready. Advent Wreaths, as well as good spiritual reading are available. Be sure to prepare an Advent Wreath (three purple and one pink candle) for your family dining table or shrine. The first candle may be lit on Saturday evening or Sunday.

MISSING CAT

A small black church cat, who answers to Catharina, and speaks some Italian has strayed. If you find her, please bring her back or give us a call. Last seen across the street visiting parishoners.

THIS WEEK

MEN'S EVENING OF RECOLLECTION



This Friday, November 30th the men's evening of recollection begins with Mass at **5:45 PM** followed by Confessions at **6:45 PM** and a spiritual talk at **7:00 PM**. There will be time for refreshments and socializing after the talk. We look forward to seeing some new faces.

FIRST SATURDAY

Saturday is the First Saturday of the month. The schedule is as follows:
 •Confessions: **7:15 AM**
 •Low Mass: **7:30 AM**
 •High Mass, First Saturday Devotions & Confessions: **8:00 AM**

Reparation Intention: In reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.



✠ POETRY CORNER

PROVIDENCE
VINCENZO DA FILICAJA (1642-1707)

Just as a mother, with sweet, pious face,
Yearns towards her little children from her seat,

Gives one a kiss, another an embrace,
Takes this upon her knees, that on her feet,

And while from actions, looks, complaints,
pretenses,
She learns their feelings and their various will,

To this a look, to that a word, dispenses
And, whether stern or smiling, loves them still;

So Providence for us, high, infinite,
Makes our necessities its watchful task,
Hearkens to all our prayers, helps all our wants,

And even if it denies what seems our right,
Either denies because 'twould have us ask,
Or seems to deny, or in denying grants.

From the Italian by Leigh Hunt.

'Tis

'Tis at the zenith of the elevation,
When we can see our Lord,
Most clearly.

'Tis when He plays on the strings of our hearts,
His song of Love,
most dearly.

-JOHN SEYFRIED

(In honor of Father Ramolla's Ordination)



JESUS

Jesus, source of grace of mercy
When our bark puts out from shore
And we cross the deepening waters
From whence we'll return no more,
Be our Pilot on the voyage
To Thy Father's Home above.
Leave us not until we anchor
Safely in His Arms of Love.

THANK YOU NOTE FROM FATHER RAMOLLA

I say thank you for the glorious weekend with the ordination to the Holy Priesthood on November 16th and the beautiful Solemn High Mass last Sunday. I was particularly touched by the hard work, preparation and intense participation of so many of the faithful of St. Gertrude the Great. I thank especially Bishop Dolan and Father Cekada for their preparation of my ordination. I would like to express particular thanks to Sister Mary Magdalene and her helpers in the sacristy, to the servers for the ordination and the First Solemn High Mass as well, to all members of the choir, which made the ordination and the first Mass under the direction of Sister so unforgettable. Thanks to the cooks, ironers, cleaners, to the office staff and the hospitality committee.

Thank you to all parishioners of St. Gertrude the Great for their prayers and their participation. Thank you so much.

With my blessing,
Father Ramolla



SUNDAY DECEMBER 2, 2007

Masses

7:30 AM Joe Andreotta, Tom Kamphaus, John Wiesman, Kent Maki
 9:00 AM Dale Wilker, Jim Gebel, Richard Smith, Bernie Brueggemann
 11:30 AM Bob Uhlenbrock, Dennis Hille, Jim Kolenich, Kirby Bischel
 5:45 PM John Seyfried

Servers

NOVEMBER 26TH, - DECEMBER 2ND, 2007

•MON 11/26 5:00 PM Low: J. Bayer
 •TUE 11/27 5:45 PM Low: G. Keaveny
 •WED 11/28 6:30 AM Low: C & T Simpson
 5:00 PM Low:
 •THUR 11/29 5:00 PM Low: G. Keaveny
 •FRI 11/30 5:45 PM High: C. Ritze, J. Bayer
 •SAT 12/01 7:30 AM Low: C. & T. Simpson
 8:00 AM High: C. Ritze, J. Bayer
 •SUN 12/02 7:30 AM Low: D. & S. Brueggemann
 9:00 AM HIGH: CHAPLAINS: R. VandeRyt, J. Lotarski TH:
 A. Lotarski CROSS: R. Hill AC: T. Simpson, B. Lotarski WREATH: D.
 Poepellman MITER: N. Puglielli CROZIER: F. Puglielli TORCH: P. Duff, G.
 Wnek, A. Richesson, N. McClory,
 11:30 AM Low: C. Ritze, I. French
 4:45 PM: VESPERS & BENEDICTION: G. Miller
 5:45 PM Low: G. Miller

Collection Report

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2007 \$3,639.14
 SECOND COLLECTION.....\$10.00

*Thank you for your generosity!
Remember St. Gertrude's in your will!*

✠ THE CALENDAR

MON	11/26/07	ST. SYLVESTER, AB - ST. PETER OF ALEXANDRIA, BPM- ST. LEONARD OF PORT MAURICE, C 11:25 AM High Mass - In honor of St. Leonard 5:00 PM Low Mass - †NiDi Berardino - 8th Anniversary 4:15-6:00 PM Knights of the Sacred Heart (Sharonville Park) St. Angela Merici Girls' Group (Sharonville Library)
TUES	11/27/07	FERIAL DAY - OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL 11:25 AM High Mass - Colin B. Hall (Ellen M. Hall) 5:45 PM Low Mass - In honor of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal
WED	11/28/07	FERIAL DAY - ST. CATHERINE LABOURE 6:30 AM Low Mass - Poor Souls in Purgatory (Duff Family) 11:25 AM High Mass - Birthday remembrance - Paulina Straus (The Fathers) 5:00 PM Low Mass - † Joan Hubatch - WI (Kirby & Jean Bischel) 7:00 PM Choir Practice
THUR	11/29/07	VIGIL OF ST. ANDREW - ST. SATURNINUS, M (N.B. Special Time) 8:15 AM Low Mass - Poor Souls in Purgatory (Dale & Debbie Wilker) 5:00 PM High Mass - Glenn Zschach 7:00 PM Compline
FRI	11/30/07	ST. ANDREW, AP 11:00 AM Confessions 11:25 AM High Mass - Fr. Saavedra B'day & 3rd Anniv. remembrance (Knights of the Sacred Heart) 5:15 PM Confessions & Rosary 5:45 PM Low Mass- Novena, Benediction & Confessions Bp. Dolan - 14th Anniv. of Episcopal Consecration (Men's Evening of Recollection) 6:45 PM Confessions 7:00 PM Spiritual Talk
SAT	12/01/07	OUR LADY'S SATURDAY - FIRST SATURDAY 7:15 AM Confessions 7:30 AM Low Mass - Reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary 8:00 AM High Mass - M/M Frank Beaver (Mrs. Tancreti)- First Saturday Devotions & Confessions
SUN	12/02/07	ADVENT I - ST. BIBIANA, VM 7:20 AM Lighting of the Advent Wreath 7:30 AM Low Mass - Special Intention for the Woeste & Lucas Families (M/M Victor Ritze) 9:00 AM High Mass & Advent Sunday Procession- Mr. William Harris - Spec. Intentions (Dale & Debbie Wilker) 10:40 AM Catechism Classes 11:30 AM Low Mass - †Albert Kinnett - Anniv. (M. & A.D. Kinnett) 4:45 PM Advent Vespers & Benediction 5:45 PM Low Mass- For the people of St. Gertrude's

IN CHRISTUM REGEM

Rev. Thomas Twaites.

O Christ, our King, I pray Thee reign
 In all our hearts till time shall cease:
 Extend Thy sway by land and main:
 To ev'ry nation grant Thy peace.

✠ BISHOP'S CORNER

What splendid memories are ours after the St. Gertrude's Day ordination of Father Ramolla. My favorite memories include the First Vespers of St. Gertrude which opened these days of celebration on Thursday and the Vespers of the Dedication of a Church (reminding us of our fourth anniversary) which closed everything on Sunday evening. I also remember with wonder the magnificent Masses offered simultaneously Saturday morning, four holy sacrifices on as many altars, the sunlight streaming in and the bells tinkling their tale of the progress of each Mass. It was so moving—"like in the old days, in a cathedral" someone wrote me—to kneel in the back and assist at all of these Masses. Thanks be to God and St. Gertrude the Great. The ordination Mass itself I remember as solemn and prayerful, and so moving with the presence of so many priests and faithful, the beautiful altars and music, and the slow, steady recitation of each holy prayer. A priest forever has been ordained! Several of you have mentioned to me how touching was the First Solemn High Mass, with the visit to Our Lady's Altar. Precious memories are ours of these lovely days.

Our lovely parties were relaxing after the long services in church, and enabled everyone to have some refreshment with their fellow Catholics some of them from far away. Thanks again to those who worked so hard in so many different areas, and did so well.

Our guests have gone, and we have Thanksgiving under our belts (literally) as we return to church today for the Last Sunday After Pentecost. Father Saavedra is kindly doing Confessional duty, and I am visiting St. Clare's with a framed copy of Our Mother of Good Counsel to be enshrined there.

May Our Blessed Mother bless and guide us all in the way of salvation.

—Bishop Dolan



PRAYER FOR THE HOLY SOULS

Lord, for the souls who suffer, —
 Suffer in cleansing fire,
 Longing, through all their anguish,
 Yearning with keen desire,
 Sighing for Thee, their Saviour
 We, who have loved them, pray:
 Give them Thy peace, we beg Thee,
 Give them their rest today!

Thou art their God and Master,
 thou art their Father still,
 Meekly they dwell in torment,
 Humbly they wait Thy Will,
 Lead them from pain to glory,
 Do not their joy delay,
 Give them thy peace, dear Saviour,
 Give them their rest today!

✠ KING OF LOVE



Congratulations to Tom and Connie Kamphaus, their children and grandchildren, who enthroned the Sacred Heart of Jesus as King of Love in their home last Tuesday evening.

"I will bless every place where an image of my heart is set up and honored." Why not claim these blessings for *your* family?

Call today to schedule an enthronement.

✠ NEXT SUNDAY

Next Sunday is the First Sunday of the month and the *First Sunday of Advent*, the beginning of a new liturgical year. The **Lighting of the Advent Wreath** is at 7:20 AM, and the **Advent Procession and Blessing of the Advent Wreath** will take place at 9:00 AM. Be sure to have an Advent Wreath for your home, and Advent resolutions for your heart.

The **Blessing of Religious Articles** is available following all Masses.

The **Second Collection** is for *Our Seminary and Mission Support*.

The beautiful **Advent Vespers** are sung at 4:45 PM with **Benediction**.

Set your *missal*: Advent I
COMMEMORATION: of St. Bibiana & Our Lady in Advent
PREFACE: of The Trinity.

✠ UPCOMING EVENTS:

• **A Visit from St. Nicholas**

Next Sunday St. Nicholas will be visiting our children after all the Masses. Please bring your children to Helfta Hall for this traditional Advent event.

• **Sunday, December 16th** – To those who craft, bake, or shop:

The *St. Gertrude the Great craft, bake sale, and raffle* will be held on Sunday, Dec. 16th. Whether your talent is crafting, baking, or shopping, you can find a way to help spread some cheer and enjoy this parish event. Please bring in your crafty creations and baked goods. We are looking for new toys for the children's raffle. Raffle ticket sales begin today. All crafts and raffle prizes must be delivered to Helfta Hall by Dec. 2nd. Baked goods may be delivered on Saturday Dec. 15th, or Sunday, Dec. 16th.

BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

(Recite next Saturday evening)

V. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R. Who made heaven and earth.

Let us pray. O God, by whose word all things are sanctified, pour forth Thy blessing upon this wreath, and grant that we who use it may prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ and may receive from Thee abundant graces. Through Christ our Lord. **R. Amen.**

Let us pray. Stir up Thy might, we beg Thee, O Lord, and come, so that we may escape through Thy protection and be saved by Thy help from the dangers that threaten us because of our sins. Who livest and reignest forever and ever. **R. Amen.**



NOVENA PRAYER FOR ADVENT

Hail and blessed be the hour and moment, in which the Son of God was born of the Most Pure Virgin Mary, at midnight in Beethlehem, in piercing cold. At that hour, vouchsafe O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires through the merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ and His Blessed Mother. Amen.

(Traditionally said 15 times a day from St. Andrew's Day until Christmas)



✠ ADVENT CUSTOMS

By SISTER MARY LAETITIA, R.S. M.

Advent is the season of lovely expectancy, of holy anticipation, and of intense longing. Especially in the home where the children learn to prepare for the Christ Child's birthday, Advent can be made the most tenderly beautiful season of the year.

In studying the literature of the Church we find that the Advent prayers dramatize joyfully the real meaning of preparation for the great feast. With this thought in mind we will explain through these pages the many customs of the Church which we can observe in the home or in the school to keep this Birthday a vibrant, living expectancy among young and old.

A MEDITATION TO PREPARE FOR ADVENT

Consider first, that the time of Advent, (so called from being set aside by the Church for worthily celebrating the Advent, that is the coming of Christ), is a penitential time (not a party time), and a time of devotion, in which we are every day called upon by the Church of God to prepare the way of the Lord, to make straight His paths; to enter into the like dispositions to those which St. John the Baptist required of the people when he was sent to preach to them conversion and penance, in order to prepare them for their Messias; that so we also, by turning away from our sins, by sorrow and repentance, and turning ourselves to the Lord our God with our whole heart, by love and affection, may dispose our souls to welcome our Saviour whose birth we are about to celebrate; and to embrace in such a manner the mercy and grace which He brings with Him at His first coming, as to escape hereafter those dreadful judgements which His justice shall execute upon impenitent sinners at His second coming.

See then, my soul, that thou dedicate this holy time to suitable exercise of devotion and penance, that thou mayest answer the end of this institution and be induced by the wholesome fear of the dreadful judgements that are continually hanging over the heads of impenitent sinners, to make good use of this present time of mercy, lest hereafter there should be neither time nor mercy for them.

Ah! sinners, if this day you hear the voice of the Lord, either sweetly inviting you with the allurements of His mercy, or terrifying you with the threats of His judgements, see you harden not your hearts. For now is your time. Sleep on no longer, unless you come to sleep in death, as it happened to them of old, who refusing to harken to God's voice, provoked Him so far, that He swore to them in His wrath, that they should never enter into His rest. O remember that the day of the Lord and His judgements shall come as a snare upon all them that will not watch, *Luke xxi, 35.*

Conclude to enter now into the true spirit of this holy time—which is a penitential spirit—and to prepare the way of the Lord, by putting away all thy sins, and purifying thy soul for Him; thus shalt thou welcome Him at His coming, and shalt be welcome to Him.

Craft, Raffle, & Bake

Sunday, December 16th

It is time for our craft and bake sale. This year we are combining the craft sale with a raffle. Raffle prizes include a beautiful (84"x 98") handmade log cabin quilt and an 1883 Haydock Family Bible. We need your support and cooperation to make this event a success.



There are several ways you can help:

- ☛ Donate creative crafts.
- ☛ Donate prizes for the raffle.
- ☛ Donate baked goods.
- ☛ Give of your time during the raffle and sale.



We are asking you to contribute handmade crafts and other creative items. Please deliver crafts to Helfta Hall no later than **December 2nd**.

We are asking you to donate new toys and gift items as prizes for the raffle. Please deliver these prizes to Helfta Hall no later than **December 2nd**.

We would like to sell a variety of baked goods. This includes smaller, individually sized treats, as well as a few larger items. Please deliver baked goods to Helfta Hall on Saturday, **December 15th**, or before the 9:00am Mass on **December 16th**.

Raffle ticket sales begin November 25th and will continue until the day of the raffle. Because tickets are sold in advance, we need an accurate list of the prizes, so please complete and return the following form by **November 18th**.

Please complete the form below and submit it to the church office or bookstore by November 18th.

How will you help?

Please check one or more of the following ways you would be able to help.

Baked goods.

Creative crafts. Briefly describe craft items you will be donating. _____

Prizes for the raffle. Briefly list the prize(s) you will be donating. _____

Time. The raffle/sale will continue throughout the morning. Please give your name and the times you are able to help.

Thank you for your generosity and cooperation.