

✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS

**January 18, 2009 • EPIPHANY II •**  
**ST. PETER'S CHAIR AT ROME •** ST. PRISCA, VM  
**Blessing of Expectant Mothers** is available after Mass. **Children's Confessions** are at **10:30 a.m.** **Dr. Drolesky** will be giving a timely **talk** on Abortion in America after the 11:30 Mass. **Vespers and Benediction** are at **4:45 p.m.** The latest issue of the **Retribuam**, the student newspaper- of St. Gertrude the Great Church- is included with the bulletin.

✠ THIS WEEK

The Mass schedule for the first part of the week is a tad thin, because I'm going up to Michigan, with Fr. Ramolla at the wheel, for a long overdue visit to my mother. Still do pray with us the charitable Chain of Unity Octave for the conversion of Non-Catholics. Catch the school Mass on the web if you can.



**Thursday, January 22nd:**  
**PRO-LIFE DAY OF PRAYER.**

This is the **36th Anniversary of Roe-v-Wade.** Following the 11:25 AM Mass, the **Blessed Sacrament will be Exposed for Adoration** all afternoon in reparation for the crime of abortion. There will be a **Children's Holy Hour** at **2:30 PM.** At **4:30 PM** a **Holy Hour** consisting of the Rosary and Pro-Life Devotions will be offered, concluding with **Benediction** at **5:00 PM.** This Day of Prayer ends with the **Votive Mass of the Holy Innocents.** Won't you come and spend time in adoration before the Blessed Sacrament and beg God's forgiveness on our country and plead that He spare us from His just and righteous anger for this horrible crime?

On **Friday** we continue to honor the Divine Infant of Prague with the Novena, as well as the **Espousals of Our Lady with St. Joseph.**

✠ **NITE OF RECOLLECTION evening of recollection.** Come for **Mass and Benediction** at **5:45 PM.** Confessions follow Mass. At approximately **7:15 PM** there will be a **Spiritual Talk** and an opportunity for questions and discussion. Refreshments conclude the evening. All ladies of the parish are invited.

On **Saturday** morning, we pray for the **Conversion of the Jews** at 7:30 and 8:00 a.m.

✠ NEXT SUNDAY

Today we conclude the Chair of Unity Octave at all Masses. We close as well the Twelve Sundays of Our Mother of Good Counsel, with a little procession after the High Mass.

Confessions are heard before and/or during all Masses. Catechism classes are at **10:40 a.m.** (please note the special time). Vespers and Benediction are at **4:45 p.m.**

Set your Missal: Epiphany III, commemoration of St. Paul and St. Peter, Preface of the Trinity.

✠ UPCOMING EVENTS

**Monday January 26th,** Fr. McGuire will meet with the Knights of the Sacred Heart **at the church,** rather than in the park, at 4:00 p.m.

**Tuesday January 27th 11:25 a.m.** Solemn Requiem Mass and Absolution, for †Fr. Gunther Richter.

**Thursday January 29th 11:25 a.m.** St. Francis de Sales Principal Patron of the Archdiocese-Special Mass and Afternoon Vespers.

**February 2nd -** Candlemas Evening Mass followed by Winter Soup Supper.



**Servers**

JANUARY 22-25, 2009

- THU 1/22 5:00 PM Low C. Ritze
- FRI 1/23 5:45 PM Low: G. Keaveney, C. Ritze, J. Bayer, M. Ribar
- SAT 1/24 7:30 AM Low: C. & T. Simpson
- 8:00 AM Low: G. Keaveney, M. Briggs
- SUN 1/25 7:30 AM Low: D. & S. Brueggemann
- 9:00 AM HIGH: CHAPLAINS: J. Lotarski, R. VandeRyt
- TH: R. Hill. ACs: T. Simpson, T. Kunkel
- TORCH: P. Duff, J. Simpson, A. Wanke, G. Kunkel
- CROSS: S. Cozzens
- 11:30 AM Low: F. Puglielli, G. Wnck
- 4:45 PM VESPERS & BENEDICTION: MC: G. Miller
- AC's: M. Brugger, J. Brugger TH: N. Brugger
- 5:45 PM Low: M. Brugger, J. Brugger

**Ushers**

JANUARY 25, 2009

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

**Collection Report**

Sunday January 11th .....\$4,746.00

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

✠ POETRY CORNER

**MACARIUS AND THE PONY**

People in a village  
 At the desert's edge  
 Had a daughter  
 Who was changed (they thought)  
 By magic arts  
 Into a pony.

At first they berated her  
 "Why do you have to be a horse?"  
 She could think of no reply.

So they led her out with a halter  
 Into the hot waste land  
 Where there was a saint  
 Called Macarius  
 Living in a cell.

"Father" they said  
 "This young mare here  
 Is, or was, our daughter.  
 Enemies, wicked men,  
 Magicians, have made her  
 The animal you see.  
 Now by your prayers to God  
 Change her back  
 Into the girl she used to be."

"My prayers" said Macarius,  
 "Will change nothing,  
 For I see no mare.  
 Why do you call this good child  
 An animal?"

But he led her into his cell  
 With her parents:  
 There he spoke to God  
 Anointing the girl with oil;  
 And when they saw with what love  
 He placed his hands upon her head  
 They realized, at once.  
 She was no animal.  
 She had never changed.  
 She had been a girl from the beginning.

"Your own eyes  
 (Said Macarius)  
 Are your enemies.  
 Your own crooked thoughts  
 ( Said the anchorite)  
 Change people around you  
 Into birds and animals.  
 Your own ill-will  
 (said the clear eyed one)  
 Peoples the world with specters."

-Thomas Merton

## ✠ THE CALENDAR

- MON 1/19/09 ST. MARIUS & COMP, MM**  
 ST. CANUTE, KING, M  
 CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE II  
*"The Return of all Oriental Separatists to Communion with the Apostolic See."*  
**11:25 AM High Mass** †Gloria Hable (Kirby & Jean Bischel)
- TUES 1/20/09 SS. FABIAN, P & SEBASTIAN, MM**  
 CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE III  
*"The Submission of Anglicans to the Authority of the Vicar of Christ."*  
**11:25 AM High Mass** For an End to Abortion  
 (William Harris)
- WED 1/21/09 ST. AGNES, VM**  
 CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE IV  
*"That Protestants throughout the world might find their way back to Holy Church."*  
**11:25 AM High Mass** The Millers (Arlinghaus Family)
- THUR 1/22/09 SS. VINCENT & ANASTASIUS, MM**  
 CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE V  
*"The Conversion of America"*  
 A SPECIAL PRO-LIFE DAY OF PRAYER AND REPARATION  
**11:25 AM Votive High Mass of the Holy Innocents & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**  
 In Honor of the Holy Innocents, for the Conversion of America  
**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT CONTINUES ALL AFTERNOON**
- 2:15 PM Children's Holy Hour**  
**4:30 PM Rosary and Devotions**  
**5:00 PM Benediction and Low Mass**  
 In Reparation for Abortion
- FRI 1/23/09 ST. RAYMOND PENNAFORT, C**  
 ST. EMERENTIANA, VM—Espousals of Our Lady  
 CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE VI  
*"The Return to the Sacraments of lapsed Catholics."*  
**11:00 AM Confessions**  
**11:25 AM High Mass** †John Wissing  
**Ladies Evening of Recollection**  
**5:10 PM Rosary 5:15 PM Confessions**  
**5:30 PM Infant of Prague Novena V**  
**5:45 PM Low Mass** †Michael Ribar Sr. (Keaveney Family)  
**Novena, Benediction, and Confessions**  
**7:00 PM Mother's Union Spiritual Talk**
- SAT 1/24/09 ST. TIMOTHY, BpM**  
 CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE VII  
*"The Conversion of the Jews."*  
**7:15 AM Low Mass** John Wiesman (Bob Brueggemann)  
**Confessions**  
**8:00 AM Sermon, Low Mass** For Mario Derksen  
 (Kathleen Mary West) **Confessions**
- SUN 1/25/09 EPIPHANY III, CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL, AP**  
 CLOSING OF CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE  
*"The Missionary Conquest of the World for Christ."*  
**7:30 AM Low Mass** †Robert Bloemker 8th Anniversary of death  
 (Kathy Schweitzer)  
**9:00 AM High Mass** In Honor of Our Mother of Good Counsel  
**10:40 AM Catechism Classes**  
**11:30 AM Low Mass** Special Intention for Deceased (Linda Faith)  
**4:45 PM Vespers and Benediction**  
**5:45 PM Low Mass** For the People of St. Gertrude

## ✠ BISHOP'S CORNER

It is only snowing gently as I write this, so I fear the "forecasters" have failed yet again—and happily so! I hope your forecasting-of the day, at morning prayer—is more accurate than theirs! Persevere at morning prayer, and don't give up on your most important New Year's resolution.



Do pray with us for the conversion of our country (patriotism at its best) these days of the Chair of Unity Octave, at inauguration, and the thirty six anniversary abortion as the law of the land. Personally I can't see the Rosary as a prelude to a rally of "right wing" Republicans. Any such procession leads to a dead end—more dead babies, no end in sight. Turn from discredited naturalist strategies to the divine strategy of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament Exposed. Do what you can—and must—to be with us Thursday afternoon for adoration.

I was just thinking only last Friday that when things go well, how well things go at St. Gertrude with different workers and volunteers all week long. We can always use more, though, and thus are happy to welcome Mrs. Janet Clementi from New Jersey, both to our parish and the sacristy!

I really need to appeal for some singers to start and sustain the traditional hymns for Friday night novena(s) and Mass. I tend to be flat, and John, (God love him) seems to end up in the basement, too. Darlene is willing but waaay off too. ☹️

What to do? Can you intone on pitch, more or less? Could you "take" one Friday evening service a month, say? Let me know.

Sometimes we **really** miss "Sister!" (Someone told me she's returned to Arizona, and is enjoying the sun.) "Mr. Scott," our former longtime organist, has also indirectly reported in. He seems to be enjoying better health than when he was with us all those years, and is considering moving back to Minnesota. God bless the both of them, so much a part of our life here for so many years. Indeed "God speed" to all of our former faithful!

Final plea: I really need someone for a few hours several days a week to clean the priests offices and their kitchen and coordinate the meals that are kindly sent in. We would be happy to offer a very modest salary to some lady if this would be required. Again, please let me know.

God bless you for all you do just in the way of fidelity to Sunday Mass and offerings, as well as all of the extras.

With a blessing

—Bishop Dolan



### ✠ PRAYERS, PLEASE

Please pray for our sick, including Michael Hinton, Jane Donadio, Connie Kamphaus, Marty Lierl, Fred Hauserman, and Althea LeBlanc. Also remember the soul of †Ken Brown, four years gone last October, whose name was not printed in the October list.

STAY TOGETHER FOR THE CHILDREN

When the will is not firm in its purpose to maintain indissoluble the bond of marriage, then, in both parents and children, there is lacking that tranquil and secure sense of the future, that feeling of absolute confidence, that interior and exterior bond of fidelity, in which domestic happiness finds its deepest root.

Why, you may ask, do we extend such consequences to the children? Because they receive three things from their parents; their being, their nutrition and their education, and for the satisfactory development of all three they need a happy atmosphere. Such a harmonious formation and steady growth is impossible without complete faith in their parents. Any breach of this bond of marriage, is, for the children, an act of cruelty, a humiliation and shame, a division of loyalties, separation from those they love, bitterness and -what is more serious still- a grave scandal to them.

-Pope Pius XII



REMOTE PREPARATION FOR MARRIAGE

*Napoleon is credited with this saying:*

The education of the child begins twenty years before the marriage of his parents. So that marriage may attain its ends there is need for a long preparation for it.

*Pius XI says the same in Casti Connubii:*

It cannot be denied that both the firm foundation of the happy marriage as well as the ruin of the unhappy one is laid in early infancy....



PRAYER OF SAINT GERTRUDE THE GREAT

To make amends for the way I previously lived, I offer Thee most loving Father, all the sufferings of Thy beloved Son, from the first infant cry as he lay on the hay in the manger, until that final moment when, bowing His head, with a mighty voice, Christ gave up His spirit. I think, as I make this offering, of all that He underwent, His needs as a baby, His dependence as a young child, the hardships of youth, and the trials of early manhood. To atone for all my neglect I offer, most loving Father, all that Thy only-begotten Son did during His life, whether in thought, word or deed. Amen.



*The other night I was reading the journal of a French priest during World War II, who writes of necessary Mass burials, often without Mass or Absolution. The next day I happened across this beautiful poem. Ah the folly, the folly of the wars imposed by the organized forces of naturalism!*

ANTHEM FOR DOOMED YOUTH

What passing-bells for these who die as cattle?

Only the monstrous anger of the guns.

Only the stuttering rifles' rapid rattle

Can patter out their hasty orisons.

No mockeries for them; no prayers nor bells,

Nor any voice of mourning save the choirs,-  
The shrill, demented choirs of wailing shells;

And bugles calling for them from sad shires.

What candles may be held to speed them all?

Not in the hands of boys, but in their eyes

Shall shine the holy glimmers of good-bys.

The pallor of girls' brows shall be their pall;

Their flowers the tenderness of patient minds,

And each slow dusk a drawing-down of blinds.

-Wilfred Owen

THE SPIRITUAL WORKS OF MERCY

To admonish the sinner,  
To instruct the ignorant,  
To counsel the doubtful,  
To comfort the sorrowful,  
To bear wrongs patiently,  
To forgive all injuries,  
To pray for the living and the dead.

THE CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY

To feed the hungry,  
To give drink to the thirsty,  
To clothe the naked,  
To ransom the captive,  
To harbor the harborless,  
To visit the sick,  
To bury the dead.



THE EIGHT BEATITUDES

1. Blessed are the poor in spirit; for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven.
2. Blessed are the meek; for they shall possess the land.
3. Blessed are they that mourn; for they shall be comforted.
4. Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after justice; for they shall be filled.
5. Blessed are the merciful; for they shall obtain mercy.
6. Blessed are the clean of heart; for they shall see God.
7. Blessed are the peacemakers; for they shall be called the children of God.
8. Blessed are they that suffer persecution for justice' sake; for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven.



THREE EMINENT GOOD WORKS

Prayer---Fasting---Almsgiving.

# ✠ CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE

## ✠ CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE

Our annual devotion for the conversion of different non-Catholic groups continues for eight days. Please join us in fervent prayer!

Pope St. Pius X sanctioned and blessed the *Chair of Unity Octave*. His Holiness, Pope Benedict XV, extended its observance to the Universal Church, highly enriching it with indulgences.

The *Chair of Unity Octave* has accomplished an immense good in awakening Catholics to a mission consciousness, and to the need of interesting themselves in the conversion of those without the fold. When the enemies of Christ seem to be triumphing as never before, how great is our obligation to pour forth fervent prayer for the millions who wander in darkness. Let's make this year's Octave a week of grace!

*An indulgence of 300 days during the octave of prayers for the unity of the Church from the Feast of the Chair of St. Peter at Rome (Jan. 18) to the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul (Jan. 25). A plenary indulgence on the usual conditions at the end of the exercise.*

## OFFICIAL CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE

### PRAYER

**Antiphon:** That they all may be one, as Thou, Father, in Me and I in Thee; that they also may be one in Us; that the world may believe that Thou hast sent Me.

**V.** I say unto thee that thou art Peter.

**R.** And upon this Rock I will build My Church.

**Let us pray:** O Lord Jesus Christ, Who saidst unto Thine Apostles: Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you: regard not our sins, but the faith of Thy Church, and vouchsafe to grant unto her that peace and unity which are agreeable to Thy Will. Who livest and reignest God forever and ever. Amen.



## SODALITY OF PRAYERS FOR THE CONVERSION OF THE UNITED STATES.

*Duties.*-To recite daily the prayer "Omnipotens" in Latin, or if the person is unable to recite this, the *Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory be to the Father*, with the same intention.

*[Indulgences.*-Plenary, at Easter communion, and in the hour of death, on receiving, or invoking the Holy Name of Jesus, if unable to receive. Partial, one hundred days each time.]

OMNIPOTENS sempiternae Deus, qui salvos omnes, et neminem vis perire, respice ad animas diabolica fraude deceptas; ut omni haeretica pravitate deposita, errantium corda resipiscant, et ad veritatis tuae redeant unitatem. Per Dominum nostrum Jesum Christum, etc. Amen.

ALMIGHTY and eternal God, who savest all, and wilt have none to perish, have regard to those souls who are led astray by the deceits of the devil, that rejecting all errors, the hearts of those who err may be converted, and may return to the unity of Thy truth: through Christ our Lord. Amen.



## PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY

Lord Jesus Christ! From the tabernacle Thou dost unceasingly invite us to partake of the bread that cometh down from Heaven and which containeth in itself sweetness of every kind: "Come to Me all ye that labor and are heavily laden and I will refresh you;" daily Thou dost offer Thyself upon our altars, as a sacrifice of praise and a victim of propitiation to Thy eternal Father—we beseech Thee, bless our beloved country with peace and prosperity; convert all sinners and unbelievers, that all may love Thee and serve Thee in unity of faith; look propitiously upon those pitiable souls who are excluded from the sweets of Thy banquet; mercifully pardon all that has been said and done in this land through ignorance or impiety against the most holy mysteries of the altar; strengthen the faith of all that believe in Thee, and may their conduct, by Thy grace, be in accordance with their faith; inspire the minds of all men with faith in Thee and with the most profound reverence for the Blessed Sacrament; may all become Thy children and be nourished at Thy holy table unto life everlasting. Amen.



## PRAYER FOR CONVERSION

**FOR THE CONVERSION** of this soul, Lord, I trust more in Thy grace than in any argument, example, or prayer of mine. When I have done all I can towards helping another in the discovery of peace and truth there is still the comforting knowledge that, when my effort has come to nothing, Thy grace is the only effective factor in the story of every conversion. Lord, bring Thy grace to bear upon this soul, and may the conversion which is brought about give satisfaction to Thy Sacred Heart

### MASSSES IN THE MISSIONS

The following Masses were offered in the missions:

In honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe for my parents  
(Cecilia M. Omlor)

In honor of Our Sorrowful Mother for the conversion of sinners  
(Cecilia M. Omlor)

In honor of Our Lady of the Rosary for Helen Margaret Bri  
(Cecilia M. Omlor)

In honor of the Sacred Heart for all who answered my prayer requests  
(Cecilia M. Omlor)

In honor of the Immaculate Heart for Fr. Gaetano  
(Cecilia M. Omlor)