

ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

4900 Rialto Road, West Chester, Ohio 45069 • (513) 645-4212 • www.sgg.org • www.SGGResources.org
Traditional Latin Mass: Sundays 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM High, 11:30 AM, 5:45 PM



Most Reverend Daniel L. Dolan, Pastor
Rev. Anthony Cekada, Rev. Charles McGuire,
Rev. Vili Lehtoranta, Rev. Stephen McKenna

May 18, 2014 Easter IV

St Venantius, M



IF I GO NOT, THE PARACLETE
WILL NOT COME TO YOU

¶ TODAY

The blessing of expectant mothers is available after all Masses. Sunday classes are at 10:40 AM. Benediction with May Devotions is at 5:15 PM.

When a good thought comes to your mind, turn to God and, realizing that it was sent by Him, give thanks.

— Dom Lorenzo Scupoli

¶ NEXT SUNDAY

Vespers return at 4:45 PM, with Benediction and May Devotions. Catechism Classes are at 10:40 AM.

Set Your Missal: Easter V, with collects St. Gregory VII and St. Urban. 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

¶ MAY DEVOTIONS

Mary's month of May is more than half over... have you been to **May Devotions**? Honor our Blessed Mother during the remainder of this, her month, by participating in this short but sweet service which is offered *every school day at 3:10 PM* plus most *Saturday mornings & Sunday afternoons.*



¶ BANNES OF MATRIMONY

THIRD TIME: Meriwether Brown of Muncie, Indiana, and Lee Melvin.

Lumen Christi

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

**My brothers, †Nicholas James
& †Jeffrey Christian Otto**

(Diane R. Seaman)

¶ THE HOUSELLING CLOTH

In conformity with Canon Law and Catholic Church custom, we use the *houcelling* (from the old English word for Eucharist) or Communion cloth at St. Gertrude the Great. It serves as a kind of tablecloth or napkin for the Lord's table, the Communion Rail where we are fed with His Body and Blood. Just reverently place your hands *under the cloth*. There is no need to scrunch it up particularly. Just place your hands neatly under it. If it starts to slide over the rail, gently put it back in place before departing.

On a related topic, never be in a rush to leave the rail. Instruct your children to swallow the Sacred Host reverently, if possible, before leaving.

The houselling cloth was the original means used to catch the Sacred Host or a particle of it in case of accident. The servers' Communion paten now serves chiefly for this purpose, but the law, custom, symbolism and practical purpose remain.

Collection Report

Sunday, May 11th\$4,480.00

¶ YOUR PRAYERS

Tom Payne is discontinuing his chemotherapy and will be entering hospice. Please keep him in your prayers, most of all for the grace of a good death; remembering we are praying the same way for William Harris of Dayton.

Our sympathy and the promise of our prayers goes to Eileen Duff for the loss of her mother, †Marie Meyer, who died recently. Eileen notes the consolation that her mother was very devoted to the Sacred Heart, and careful that her children all made their nine First Fridays.



¶ OUR THANKS and appreciation go to Mueller Funeral Home in Mason for their kind assistance and excellent service for Pat Harpen's funeral.



Servers: MAY 19 - 25, 2014

FRI 5/23 5:45 PM LOW: Friday Night Servers

SAT 5/24 7:30 AM LOW: Simpsons
8:10 AM LOW: M. Briggs

SUN 5/25 7:30 AM LOW: Brueggemann Bros.
9:00 AM HIGH: CHAPLAINS: B. Lotarski, N. McClorey **ACS:** A. Richesson, J. Lacy
TH: P. Lawrence **TORCH:** M. Simpson, Nath. & P. McClorey, C. Arlinghaus
11:30 AM LOW: P. Omlor, N. Puglielli
4:45 PM VESPERS & BENEDICTION: G. Miller
5:45 PM LOW: G. Miller

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 Saviour, for He that is mighty hath done great things 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: "Whenever 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.

✠ SUNDAY SEVEN: Seven Ways of Personal Improvement

1. Less love for the world and less love for self.
2. Love God and His Blessed Mother more.
3. Simplify life by having less.
4. Becoming more independent of comforts.
5. Growing less dependent upon the radio/television/Internet.
6. Denying one's self superfluities.
7. Turning a deaf ear to temptations.



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 freedom 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."*



*Mary, help of Christians,
pray for us!*

MY PRAYER

'Tis all I ask of Thee, dear Lord –
A simple little prayer, –
That I may be by Mary loved
And her protection share.

For this I surely know, dear Lord –
'Tis truth most sweet to me, –
If I am loved by Mary fair,
I'm also loved by Thee.

– K. H. M.



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, St. 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."

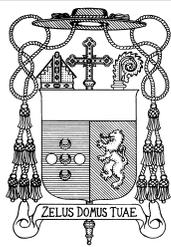
Back to his cell the saintly Felix went,
And all his days he lived in sweet
content.

Blessed the gift, when dark earth's
shadows grow,
In storm or sunshine, God's own
hand to know.

– Gertrude E. Heath

Today is the Feast Day of
St. Felix of Cantalicio

✠ THE BISHOP'S CORNER ✠



I write this Bishop's Corner a bit early, due to my visit this weekend to Tijuana, Mexico. The last extraordinary effort on the part of our Fatima faithful remains ahead – our first Rosary Procession for Peace on the 13th. But if our family here follows through with customary generosity, I know that it too will be a resounding success.

Let me tell you the tale of the last fortnight. The third Wednesday after Easter is St. Joseph's Paschal feast as patron and protector of the Church, and kept for a full eight days. We began with a Solemn High Mass, nicely sung by the school choir, and a number of the faithful making it to Mass. St. Michael's Easter feast fell next...glorious days of May! Meanwhile we're all doing our daily devotions for May, which means here singing the Latin Litany of Loretto for Our Lady. We were praying, too, for †Pat Harpen, and planning his funeral.

Friday saw Marlys' faithful band at church for the last minute work for the morrow's Mothers Day sale, oodles and oodles of cute crafts sold to help cover the camp costs this Summer. Saturday dawned dark and...rainy. I prayed and prayed, but as with the Armada, it looked as though Our Lord had His own plans concerning the weather.

God bless all of you ladies and young ladies (and some lads, as well) who braved the sodden skies to man the tables. **Fr. Cekada** visited both locations to encourage the troops. It was sunny at six when our wet warriors trudged back to Helfta Hall with the unsold items, setting up for a modest Sunday sale here, tired but never discouraged. We were singing our Vespers and gave thanks for it all. An informal report has it that about \$700 was raised...in the rain! Deo Gratias.

Some of these same soggy "sales assistants" also sang, brightly and beautifully for Sunday's splendid May Crowning Mass, reprising Stehle's *Missa Salve Regina* from Easter. It grew dark after the 7:30, and rained at the beginning of the High Mass. The church was packed as in the good old days, but humid too. Still we served and sang for St. Joseph and Our Blessed Mother, and prayed the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

Not wanting to be undone a second day of this rainy May, we had a plan A and a plan B, and even a C in store for the May Crowning. But the good Lord heard the prayers poured forth since Saturday. As we processed from the church, the sun slid out the damp clouds and shone upon us, as we sang the dear old hymns and marched in Mary's honor, led by the little ones of our Queen's Court.

The closing May Crowning had its moments (it often does), but Our Lady received her rosy crown and deigned to receive us her children, as well, as we renewed our consecration. It was a touching ceremony.

Another duty of devotion and charity remained for Monday, Pat Harpen's funeral. Already on Sunday evening our men were preparing the vestibule and sanctuary for the wake and the Requiem. More workers, mostly the same, returned to church in the morning for the funeral and to prepare Helfta Hall and serve a fine funeral luncheon.

The large Harpen family – Pat had 12 siblings – were impressed with the warm welcome they found here and the *family-like* atmosphere of our faithful. This is one of our greatest Gertrudian resources which when shared with others never diminishes and only increases.

Pat died poor in this world's goods, but a rich man in virtue, having shared his heavenly inheritance with us all in little quiet ways, as was his way. His funeral was a fine affair, "a rich man's funeral" with a full church and all of the considerable solemnity we could offer here at St. Gertrude.

I was especially struck with the Rosary recited for our Rosarian before his Requiem Mass. What a Rosary! Many of you were here and joined with the family to make a thunderous wall of prayer which must have resounded in Heaven's halls and caused some favorable comments. Usually our Rosaries are painful affairs, with some too slow and some too fast, and most too loud, with the rest murmuring meekly in the din. Not so this Rosary! I will never forget its resounding harmony nor Pat and his quiet example of prayerful virtue all of these years. May he rest in peace.

Fr. Cekada and Charles Simpson usually start their Saturday activities after Mass and Our Lady's antiphon with schola practice for the Sunday chant. But last Saturday they combined this with an unusual visit to the sick. H. O. Hinton has been a faithful choir and schola member for years, but is now paralyzed and living in a rehab facility, making slow progress. He's no loner able to join the schola for practice, so the schola went to him. Fr. Cekada even enlarged the photocopied chant for H.O. so he could follow, and follow he did. This must be one of the most creative "sick calls" ever, and it too took its proud place during last week's "St. Gertrude family days."

But these are quiet days of May now for most, with the regular work of family and church routine, and time perhaps for some rest and gardening. But don't forget St. Rita of Cascia, one of our sanctuary saints, on Thursday, nor Our Lady Help of Christians, our principal image of Our Lady, on Saturday.

(Continued on next page)

✠ THE CALENDAR

✠ THE BISHOP'S CORNER

All Sunday Masses, school day Masses, Friday evening and Saturday morning Masses are webcast at www.sgg.org

MON	5/19/14	ST PETER CELESTINE, PC ST PRUDENTIANA, VM
	11:20 AM	High Mass Our deceased grandparents (<i>The Wilkers</i>)
	3:10 PM	May Devotions
TUE	5/20/14	ST BERNADINE OF SIENA, C
	8:00 AM	Low Mass Fr. Daniel Ahern-30th ordination anniversary (<i>Current family</i>)
	11:20 AM	High Mass †Alfred P. Martin-3rd anniv. 5/21 (<i>M/M Mark Lotarski</i>)
	3:10 PM	May Devotions
WED	5/21/14	FERIAL DAY
	11:20 AM	Requiem High Mass Purgatorian Society
	3:10 PM	May Devotions
	6:30 PM	Choir Practice
THU	5/22/14	FERIAL DAY <i>ST RITA OF CASCIA, W</i>
	6:00 AM	Low Mass †Marie Meyer (<i>C. Simpson family</i>)
	11:20 AM	High Mass of St Rita of Cascia Special int.-Dr. K. (<i>Rebecca Hinton</i>)
	3:10 PM	May Devotions
	5:00 PM	Low Mass †Stella Ostricki (<i>Richard & Gloria Zbilicki</i>)
FRI	5/23/14	FERIAL DAY <i>ST JOHN BAPTIST DE ROSSI, C</i>
	8:00 AM	Low Mass Poor Souls in Purgatory (<i>Boston faithful</i>)
	10:55 AM	Confessions
	11:20 AM	Votive High Mass of the Holy Cross †Dan Dailey -2nd anniv. 5/16 (<i>Tom & Karen Simpson</i>)
	3:10 PM	May Devotions
	5:15 PM	Confessions & Rosary
	5:45 PM	Low Mass †Pat Harpen (<i>C. Simpson family</i>)
	6:30 PM	Sacred Heart Novena and Benediction
SAT	5/24/14	OUR LADY'S SATURDAY <i>OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS</i>
	7:15 AM	Confessions
	7:30 AM	Low Mass †Pat Harpen (<i>G. Keaveney</i>)
	8:10 AM	May Devotions, Low Mass †Marie Meyer (<i>Mike Briggs family</i>)
SUN	5/25/14	EASTER V ST GREGORY VII, PC, ST URBAN I, PM
	7:05 AM	Rosary
	7:30 AM	Low Mass Happy Birthday Bishop Dolan [from 5/28] (<i>Mr. & Mrs. Victor Ritze</i>)
	9:00 AM	High Mass †Patrick Harpen (<i>M/M Mark Lotarski & family</i>)
	10:40 AM	Sunday Catechism Classes

(Continued from preceding page) Next weekend we already have the official start of Summer (what happened to Spring?) with Memorial Day. Some of you will be away; others will perhaps come to pray with us for our Spring All Souls Day, coinciding with the first of our Rogation Day Processions. Then Thursday the 29th already, Our Lord goes away in glory to the Father so that He may send us His Spirit, the Holy Ghost.

May the "Holy Family of Heaven," the adorable Trinity, bless the earthly families and individuals who compose our so devoted church family. We could not do it without *you*. "Jesus, Mary, Joseph!" "Sacred Heart of Jesus, protect our families."

Pray for me south of the border today, and for Fr. Cekada heading to the seminary, and Fr. McKenna going from Milwaukee to Minnesota to North Dakota, and Fr. McGuire in Louisiana, and Fr. Lehtoranta holding the fort here. Somebody come back to Benediction and May Devotions today at 5:15 so Fr. Lehtoranta and the Court of Heaven won't feel so lonely. Don't worry, for this afternoon only, it's a *Vespers Free Zone!* ☺

God bless our family at St. Gertrude the Great!

– Bishop Dolan

PS: Finally, we had a fine first Fatima Rosary Procession for Peace on Tuesday evening, under fair skies over fairly clean sidewalks, with about 40 souls in attendance, including one visitor.



✠ A CARD OF THANKS

"Dear Bishop Dolan: Thank you and the parish for a beautiful funeral and luncheon for our brother, Patrick. Everything was perfect, and the lunch just delicious. You made Pat's day beautiful. Thanks to everyone involved."

– Mary Harpen Bolger



Prayer to St. Rita of Cascia (Feast day, May 22nd)

O glorious Saint Rita, thou who didst share in a marvelous manner the sorrowful Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ, obtain for me the grace to suffer in patience all the miseries of this life, and be my refuge in all my necessities. Amen.

(An indulgence of 300 days, once a day – *Raccolta No. 568*)

● ————— ●
11:05 AM Rosary

11:30 AM Low Mass Our priests (*Marty & Teresa Alter & family*)

4:45 PM Vespers, May Devotions & Benediction

5:45 PM Low Mass For the people of St. Gertrude the Great