

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

February 22, 2015

LENT I

INVOCABIT SUNDAY

ST. PETER'S CHAIR AT ANTIOCH



¶ LENTEN ANGEL SUNDAY

The Church's Angel Sunday solemnly opens our Lenten season today. The ushers will be distributing Lenten coin folders. Please take yours home and return it, filled with change, on Good Friday.

By exception, Blessed Ashes will be distributed today after all Masses, for those who have not yet received them.

Sunday classes for adults and children are at 10:40 AM. Vespers with Benediction are at 4:45 PM.

AFTER ST. AUGUSTINE

Sunshine let it be or frost,
Storm or calm, as Thou shalt choose;
Though Thine every gift were lost,
Thee Thyself we could not lose.

—Mary Coleridge (1861-1907)

¶ NEXT SUNDAY: LENT II

The blessing of religious articles will be available after all Masses. The monthly second collection will be taken up for the support and sanctification of priests, for which we have so great a need these days. The "Little Church" will also be in the vestibule to receive your alms for this same intention. Sunday classes for adults and children are at 10:40 AM. **The Bishop will conduct a Q & A session in Helfta Hall at 10:45 AM.** Vespers with Benediction are at 4:45 PM. **Set Your Missal:** Lent II with collect of St. David and of Our Lady and All the Saints. Preface of Lent.

Lumen Christi

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

For the living and deceased members of the Peschi Family
(Edward C. Peschi)

THE HAPPY LIGHT

I love to watch the happy light
That burns for Jesus day and night;
Its every flicker speaks of joy,
To me it looks like Jesus' toy.

Around His House fall ruddy rays—
With Jesus hide and seek it plays;
The dancing flame is glad to tell
That here the Lord of all doth dwell.
—Fr. Aelred Knittles, O.F.M.



AND BEHOLD, ANGELS CAME
AND MINISTERED TO HIM

Collection Report

Sunday, February 15th.....\$3,431.00
Mardi Gras Bake Sale.....\$523.00
Thank you for your generosity. Remember St. Gertrude the Great in your will.

¶ WEEKDAY LENTEN SPECIALS

The older boys of St. Gertrude the Great School sing **Vespers** of the weekdays of Lent with the priests, **every school day** following the 11:20 AM Mass (approximately **12:20 PM**). Join our boys for this brief but beautiful service! Also, at **3:00 PM** on **Wednesdays**, we offer the traditional **Children's Stations of the Cross** (adults welcome!) followed by distribution of Holy Communion.

At **7:30 PM** on **Fridays** we offer Stations of the Cross, followed by a candlelight sermonette, the Sorrowful Mother Novena with Blessing of the Sick; Benediction, and Holy Communion. Make it an evening "of recollection" by supersizing to **5:45 PM** Mass, followed by a potluck supper.

¶ YOUR PRAYERS, PLEASE

The Boyds ask for prayers for their son, John, recently sent to Afghanistan. Fr. Roberto Mardones is suffering from painful headaches as a result of severe diabetes. Fr. Gerardo, of Mexico, who once spent several months here, helping us out, was in a bad car accident.

¶ EMBER DAYS

This week come the *Ember Days*, which are days of **fast** for all so bound, with partial abstinence (**Wednesday** and **Saturday**) and full abstinence (**Friday**) for everyone aged seven and up.

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



I salute thee, holy Angel who didst comfort my Jesus in His agony, and with thee I praise the Most Holy Trinity for having chosen thee from

among all the holy Angels to comfort and strengthen Him Who is the comfort and strength of all who are in affliction. By the honor thou didst enjoy and by the obedience, humility and love wherewith thou didst assist the sacred Humanity of Jesus, my Savior, when He was fainting for very sorrow at seeing the sins of the world and especially my sins, I beseech thee to obtain for me perfect sorrow for my sins; deign to strengthen me in the afflictions that now overwhelm me, and in all the other trials, to which I shall be exposed henceforth and, in particular, when I find myself in my final agony. Amen. *An indulgence of 500 days.*

O Lord Jesus, my Divine Redeemer, Who didst fast forty days and forty nights in the desert for my sake and the glory of Thy Eternal Father, help me observe this Lent more perfectly than ever in the past! Following Thy example, and with Thy assistance, may I persevere in penance, fastings, prayers and good works as befits my state of life and abilities. Help me thereby atone for my past sins, gain merit and future glory, and make reparation for the sins and outrages and apostasy of our times. May this Lent be for me an occasion of greater purification, the rooting out of my faults, and my more perfect formation into Thy image. Allow me not to yield to modern abandonment of traditional penances, but rather adhere to them with greater vigor, humility, and purity of purpose. In this Lent may I redouble my prayers and efforts for my own personal sanctification and the triumph of Thy Kingdom over the rising forces of evil and world disorder: and so to prepare myself not only for the holy days of Easter, but for the ultimate triumph of Thy Sacred Heart and our Immaculate Queen over the kingdom of Satan and Antichrist. Amen.

Servers

SUN 03/01:

7:30 AM LOW: Brueggemann Bros.

9:00 AM HIGH: MCs: R. Vande Ryt, A. Richesson TH: 18 ACs:

P. Omlor, J. Lacy MC: J. Simpson TORCH: T. Lawrence, C.

Arlinghaus, C. Richesson, M. Simpson

11:30 AM LOW: N. & N. McClorey

5:15 PM VESPERS & BENEDICTION: G. Miller, J. Murray

5:45 PM LOW: G. Miller, J. Murray

10:40 AM Catechism Classes

10:45 AM Q & A in Helfta Hall

11:30 AM Low Mass Andrew Schneider Family (Rob & Jane Brockman)

4:45 PM Vespers & Benediction

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

- MON 02/23/15 ST. PETER DAMIAN, BPCD**
 11:20 AM **High Mass** Thanksgiving to St. Blaise for Alex & Lindsey Soli, I (Fr. Lehtoranta)
 12:20 PM **Vespers**
- TUE 02/24/15 ST. MATTHIAS, AP**
 8:00 AM **Low Mass** Theresa and WM Clark (Frances Mattingly)
 11:20 AM **High Mass** Thanksgiving to St. Blaise for Alex & Lindsey Soli, II (Fr. Lehtoranta)
 12:20 PM **Vespers**
 5:00 PM **Low Mass** †Jack Browne (Richard & Gloria Zbilicki)
- WED 02/25/15 EMBER WEDNESDAY**
 ST. WALBURGA, V
 BL. SEBASTIAN OF APARICIO, C
 8:00 AM **Low Mass** Maria Ladd (Frances Mattingly)
 11:20 AM **High Mass** Thanksgiving to St. Blaise for Alex & Lindsey Soli, III (Fr. Lehtoranta)
 12:20 PM **Vespers**
 3:00 PM **Children's Stations, Holy Communion**
 5:00 PM **Low Mass** †Andrew D'Allessandro (Rob & Jane Brockman)
- THU 02/26/15 FERIAL DAY**
 ST. MARGARET OF CORTONA, PENITENT
 6:00 AM **Low Mass** †Ruth & Bob Brockman (Rob & Jane Brockman)
 11:20 AM **High Mass** †Huland Hinton (Rebecca Hinton)
 12:20 PM **Vespers**
 5:00 PM **Low Mass** †Rose Marie Donadio (Rob & Jane Brockman)
- FRI 02/27/15 ST. GABRIEL OF THE SORROWFUL VIRGIN, C**
 EMBER FRIDAY
 THE LANCE AND NAILS
 8:00 AM **Low Mass** †Jose M. Abella—5th Anniversary (Tom & Karen Simpson)
 11:20 AM **High Mass** Chester & Beth Nelson & their sons (Fr. Lehtoranta)
 12:20 PM **Vespers**
 5:15 PM **Confessions & Rosary**
 5:45 PM **Low Mass** †Mary Mahsling (Margaret Sutton)
 6:45 PM **Lenten Potluck Supper**
 7:30 PM **Stations, Sermonette, Sorrowful Mother Novena, Blessing of the Sick, Benediction & Sacred Heart Novena, Holy Communion**
- SAT 02/28/15 EMBER SATURDAY**
 7:10 AM **Confessions**
 7:30 AM **Low Mass** Special Intention—A.R. (Simpson Family)
 8:10 AM **Sermon, Low Mass** Poor Souls (Jim Gebel)
- SUN 03/01/15 LENT II**
 ST. DAVID, BPC
 7:30 AM **Low Mass** My children, grandchildren, & Godchildren (Regina Gilliam)
 9:00 AM **High Mass** For Millie & her intentions—Happy Birthday (Leanne Arlinghaus)

Christmas seems to have crashed our Lent, doesn't it? We are all ready for Holy Spring, but the good Lord sent us back to Winter for Ash Wednesday, and perhaps a bit longer. God's holy will be done. Let us take the troubles of the weather in the spirit of the perfect joy of St. Francis, the best penance because the one imposed by God Himself, even if it meant that many of you were unable to make the imposition of Ashes. By exception, we are offering the ashes again today, so that you may not be deprived. Still, it was edifying to see a good little group at almost all of Wednesday's Masses.

Thank you for your prayers for a good Mexican trip. The faithful in the north, under the care of **Fr. Villegas** in Tijuana and Mexicali, are well-educated and active Catholics, blessed with a generous spirit as well as devout young people who participate in the life of the church. It was a pleasure to visit them and get to know them better. In Mexicali, we had the Blessing of the First Stone, as well as of the as yet unfinished, but very impressive chapel.

I had Confirmations in both places, as well as a nice dinner reception with the people. In Tijuana I gave a talk on marriage to the married couples who attended, and discussed Bergoglio's efforts to destroy true and holy matrimony. We all know this, but some are willing to compromise so far as to attend those sacrilegious Masses offered in union with this archenemy of all things Catholic, and even of the Natural Law. Pray for the courage of your Confirmation, Holy Fortitude. Avoid sacrilege, schism and heresy. Do not assent, by your active participation, to its presence in the Canon of the Mass.

Fr. Villegas travels three hours each Sunday afternoon to offer Mass in Mexicali, and the faithful set everything up beautifully, but then have to take it down after Mass, as once did we in the "good old days." It is encouraging to see this energetic spirit of sacrifice still present in our young people, passed on now to another generation.

Meanwhile, on the other side of the ocean, **Fr. Nkamuke** has his Lenten travels planned out, which will take him around his Nigeria, including the capital of Abuja, and into neighboring Ghana as well. Do keep him and his health in your prayers, as his labors and travels are many.

Fr. Cekada is raising money for a "new old organ," an excellent second-hand instrument, as you may have seen in an email from him. Donations—and memorials—welcome! Gino has been installing the wiring for the new speakers, and the organ itself should be here the first week in March.

Our beautiful St. Francis arrived just in time for his Lent, and stands by the Mission Cross in the sanctuary. Many thanks to the Arlinghaus family, and especially daughter Millie, whose fine work—many hours of it—this is. May this wonderful saint find a good home with us,

inspire our Lent this year.

I would be happy to have your comments and questions for Lent this year. I hope to have another Q & A session one Sunday morning, and a Question Box in the vestibule. No question is stupid, but it is not to ask, as someone else needs to know as well. By asking we learn. How much we need to learn and pass on our Faith. Be sure to save our Lenten Special Events on your own calendar.

America's endless wars and interventions in the Middle East have opened up a Pandora's Box, Pat Buchanan says. From out this box the mad Mohammedans issue forth, murdering Christians. Let us pray so much for the Christians of that region, betrayed by our own country, and left helpless before the foe. It may be that God in His mercy would inspire some of these murdered ones for a true Baptism of Blood, so that they would indeed be martyrs in His eyes. The Rosary and the Fatima message are the path to peace, not politicians and parties. How about some extra Rosaries this Lent for the persecuted and abandoned Christians of the Middle East?

This cold last week of February is a regular Lenten one, with much on offer to help you offer up the best Lent ever. Offer up with us and at home your prayers, your sacrifices, your Masses and devotions. May St. Francis accompany you, and God bless you!

—Bishop Dolan

THE ISIS VICTIMS: BAPTISM OF BLOOD?

We have all heard about the horrific murders of men, women, and children by the ISIS terrorists. The barbarism of these people is beyond comprehension—they are clearly tools of the devil.

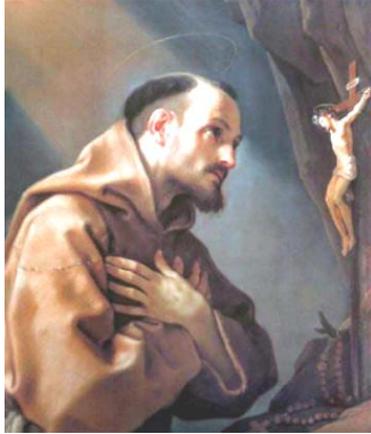
This scenario, under which someone who objectively professes heresy but is subjectively not guilty of the *sin* of heresy and instead possesses the love of charity and genuinely seeks to believe all that God has revealed, is killed for professing Christ, is known as the Baptism of Blood. (The term 'baptism' here is to be understood loosely, as it merely produces the grace of regeneration, not the sacramental character [indelible mark], and many who profess heresy but are not subjectively guilty of the sin of heresy already received a valid sacramental baptism in their own church. Cf. Pietro Parente, *Dictionary of Dogmatic Theology*, s.v. "Baptism".)

It is possible, therefore, that those poor ISIS victims were indeed saved.

—Novus Ordo Watch

ST. FRANCIS AND THE ASHES

During that winter of 1220, St. Francis suffered repeatedly from “fevers,” probably malaria that he had contracted in the East. During these sicknesses, he was allowed food with meat and soup made with meat broth. Even though St. Francis’s model of life did not involve abstinence, and, even in vegetarian religious orders, meat was allowed to the sick, St. Francis became convinced he was giving a bad example. After a sermon in the main piazza of Assisi, he told the audience not to leave. He took Peter of Catania and another brother into the duomo of San Rufino and produced a bowl of ashes and a rope. He told the brother to lead him back to the piazza by the rope and then to sprinkle the ashes on his head while St. Francis confessed his “fault” to the crowd. The unnamed brother flatly refused. “Brother Peter said to him: ‘Brother, in what concerns you and me, I cannot, and should not want anything else what pleases you.’” Francis’s ever-cooperative vicar, weeping, took the rope and bowl and did the job.



—Augustine Thompson, O.P., *St. Francis of Assisi*

“*May I feel in my heart, as far as possible, that abundance of love with which You, Son of God, were inflamed.*” —*St. Francis of Assisi*

BECOMING WHAT WE ARE

Our word “Lent” derives from a Germanic word meaning “springtime.” As the earth comes to life again after its long winter sleep, so Christ bursts from the tomb radiating the promise of eternal life. He reveals what we are called to be. During Lent we clear the debris of our lives in order to allow the mercy of God to fall upon them. Christ hallows the dust of our humanity with His own Blood. What I am to be is presented in the wounded Body of the glorified Christ. Lent begins with ashes and ends with the fire, the Paschal fire of the Resurrection—the assurance of what we shall be.

“*What a man is before God, that he is and no more.*”

—*St. Francis of Assisi*

The mercy and justice of God were admirably manifested in the Mystery of the Incarnation.

The Son of God, Who is the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity, was made man. He is both God and man, and is called Our Lord Jesus Christ. He is the Saviour and Redeemer of all men. He took a body and soul like ours in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary, His Mother, by the operation of the Holy Ghost, and was born on Christmas day.

He became man to redeem us from eternal damnation, to which we were all doomed by the disobedience of our first father, Adam.

He has redeemed us from that damnation, by dying for us on the Cross; by suffering as man, and imparting as God, an infinite value to His sufferings. On the third day after His death, He raised Himself from the tomb, in which He had been laid. Forty days after His resurrection, He ascended into Heaven, where He is seated at the right hand of God the Father. He sent down to His Church the Holy Ghost on the Day of Pentecost, in the visible form of fiery tongues, upon His Apostles, and the Disciples, who were assembled with them.



TO WHAT SHALL YOU RETURN?

Do not fear a torn heart.
Fear more a locked door
With rust
Where your being should
be.

For now you are dust.
Your conversion
But crust
On a heart never broken
to bleed.

—*Rita A. Simmonds*

GOD’S DWELLING PLACE

What happy, secret fountain,
Fair shade or mountain,
Whose undiscovered virgin glory
Boasts it this day, though not in story
Was then Thy dwelling? did some cloud
Fixed to a tent, descend and shroud
My distress Lord? or did a star
Beckoned by Thee, though high and far,
In sparkling smiles haste gladly down
To lodge light and increase her own?
My dear, dear God! I do not know
What lodged Thee then, nor where, nor how;
But I am sure, Thou dost now come
Oft to a narrow, homely room,
Where Thou too hast but the least part
My God, I mean *my sinful heart.*

—*Henry Vaughan (1621-95)*

Question: "Lent. I have never been advised on how to do this penance, so I am unsure as to what is expected. I do the fast and do not eat any snacky foods, crackers, cakes. No alcoholic drinks with my meals. May I have tea or coffee with my breakfast?"

Answer: Yes, and as much as you would like all day long, unless you've decided to give up a particular beverage, of course.

Alcoholic beverages do not break the fast, although Catholics often give them up for Lent.

The only thing you are bound to do is to follow the Lenten rules for Fasting, if you are within the fasting ages of 21 and 59 years. All the rest is up to you. Don't try to do too much, and concentrate on developing your spiritual life as well.

Question: "For the forty days, should you not...go out to eat; dinner parties; birthday celebrations; movies; concerts; theater shows; play sports?"

Answer: Traditionally we try to avoid many of these things during Lent, as a rule. But Sundays are okay. Of course, don't forget Vespers!

Still, sometimes it would be better out of charity to go. It is impossible to set a general rule. Every situation is different. Pray for guidance, discuss it with a good Catholic friend, and do what seems best...with a smile on your face in any case, and the love of God in your heart.



I OFFER THEE, O Lord, all the bitterness of Thy Passion, in reparation for the offenses committed against Thee.

PROMISE: Once when Jesus Christ appeared to St. Mechtilde, He spoke to her concerning His Passion, saying: "I make over to you all the bitterness of My Passion, that you may offer it to Me again, as though it were your own possession. And whoever shall do this shall receive double at My hand, and whenever he renews this offering he shall assuredly receive the double: and this is that hundredfold which a man receives in this life, and in the world to come, life everlasting."

MATINS

I cannot open mine eyes,
But Thou art ready there to catch
My morning-soul and sacrifice:
Then we must needs for that day make a match.

My God, what is a heart?
Silver, or gold, or precious stone,
Or star, or rainbow, or a part
Of all these things, or all of them in one?

My God, what is a heart?
That Thou shouldst it so eye, and woo,
Pouring upon it all Thy art,
As if Thou hadst nothing else to do?

Indeed man's whole estate
Amounts (and richly) to serve Thee:
He did not heav'n and earth create,
Yet studies then, not Him, by Whom
they be.



Teach me Thy love to know;
That this new light, which now I see,
May both the work and workman show:
Then by a sunbeam I will climb to Thee.

—George Herbert (*English*, 1593-1633)

MOUNTAIN PADRES

A prior am I. My friary
Stands where it is not seen
By blinded eyes that cannot see
A singing sunset sheen
Nor psalters in an aspen tree
Or chanting evergreen.

And every day my monks appear
On granite stalls and wide
Singing their songs for God to hear;
From morn till even-tide
They stand enchoired, tier on tier,
Upon the mountainside.

No monks were e'er so much alone
In prayerful whispering,
As trees that in their stalls have grown;
What psalms the pines can sing,
As if for ages they have known
That God is listening!

—Fray Angelico Chavez

From Bishop Dolan: This fine poem makes me think of the Rumorosa or "Whispering" Mountains I visited in Mexico last week, so called from the whispering sound the wind makes in the canyons of the mountains.

OUR LENTEN CALENDAR...

MARK YOUR OWN!

SUNDAY, MARCH 1ST, 10:45 AM: Q & A Session with Bishop Dolan in Helfta Hall

FRIDAY, MARCH 6TH – SATURDAY, MARCH 7TH: Our regular First Friday Mass with Exposition and All Night Adoration

SUNDAY, MARCH 8TH, 10:45 AM: In Helfta Hall—a casual meeting for those who would like to revive the Rosary Confraternity

SATURDAY, MARCH 14TH: A St. Francis Day of Recollection, starting at 8:10 AM

SATURDAY, MARCH 21ST: Our Altar Boys' Day from 9 AM to 2:30 PM

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25TH: Our Children's Day of Recollection, from 9 AM to 3:30 PM

LET'S SUIT UP

The season of Lent is about to begin
So let us all hunker down and our heels to dig in
'Tis when the devil and his minions work hardest of all
To get us to falter, to get us to fall.

Twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week
They hammer away at those temptations so havoc they can wreak
But if we're aware of their wiles and we work real hard
We can defeat their onset when they play temptation's card.

Through prayer, almsgiving, and mortification of every shape and size
We can build a deflective shield when it's our soul that the devil eyes
And it's when our prayers to our guardian angels and Purgatory's poor
souls

As most powerful intercessors can help us to reach our Lenten goals.

Let's not forget our merciful Savior,
Our Sorrowful Mother and that most holy Foster Father and Spouse
The most powerful weapons when it's the devil we wish to rout
So please let's not worry as to whether we've got what it takes or not
Complete abandonment to the above is a very sure shot.

—John Seyfried 2.8.15
Thank You Sweet Jesus for loving us so!



O holy Angel who didst strengthen Jesus Christ
our Lord, come and strengthen us also; come and
tarry not!

An indulgence of 300 days

*Bless the Lord, all ye His Angels: you that are mighty
in strength, and execute His word.*

*Bless the Lord, all ye His hosts: ye ministers of His
that do His will.*

An indulgence of 300 days

Lent with St. Francis of Assisi

Prayer to St. Francis

O glorious St. Francis, who voluntarily renounced all the comforts and riches of your home to follow more perfectly the life of poverty and abnegation of Jesus Christ: obtain for us, we pray, a generous contempt of all things in this world, that we may secure the true and eternal things of heaven.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.



MONDAY IN LENT I

“The deeds you do may be the only sermon some persons will hear today.”

Attributed to St. Francis

LOVE GOD. “Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with thy whole heart, and with thy whole soul, and with thy whole strength.” You should love God, the sovereign good and infinite perfection, so as to be enabled, if Christ should ask you, to answer too with St. Peter, “Yea, Lord, Thou knowest I love Thee” (John 21:15). How ungrateful is the heart which, surrounded on all sides by the flames of Divine love, remains cold and in-

sensible! “Let us therefore love God, because God first hath loved us” (1 John 4:19).

Thou art Beauty. Thou art Gentleness, Thou art the Protector, Thou the Guide and Thou the Defender: Thou art our Refuge and our Strength.

TUESDAY IN LENT I

“For it is in giving that we receive.”

Attributed to St. Francis

IMITATE CHRIST. Endeavor to be an image of Christ in your whole life,—in your deportment, in your speech, in your actions,—so as to edify all who see you.

Thou art our Faith, our Hope, our Charity. Thou art great sweetness to us.

EMBER WEDNESDAY IN LENT I

“Remember that when you leave this earth, you can take with you nothing that you have received—only what you have given.” Attributed to St. Francis

GIVE A GOOD EXAMPLE. “Be thou an example of the faithful, in word, in conversation, in charity, in faith, in chastity” (1 Tim. 4:12). Your example should be a living Gospel, a resplendent mirror, an instructive book. Let your life be in harmony with your name as Christian and your character as a Confirmed Catholic.

Thou art our Eternal Life and Thou art infinite Goodness, great and wonderful Lord God Almighty, Loving and Merciful Saviour.

THURSDAY IN LENT I

“Lord, grant me the strength to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.”

Attributed to St. Francis

VENERATE the Blessed Virgin, your Guardian Angel, and the Saints. The Blessed Virgin Mary is the Daughter of the Eternal Father, the Mother of the Divine Son, the Spouse of the Holy Ghost, the Temple of the adorable Trinity, the Queen of heaven and earth, the Patron of all her children: honor her with filial love and confidence. Venerate also your holy Guardian Angel and your Patron Saints, and recommend these devotions to others.

Holy, Holy, Holy: Lord God Almighty, Who is, and Who was, and Who is to come!

Let us praise and exalt Him forever!

EMBER FRIDAY IN LENT I FEAST OF THE LANCE AND NAILS

“I have been all things unholy. If God can work through me, He can work through anyone.” Attributed to St. Francis

CULTIVATE PIETY. “Exercise thyself unto godliness!” (1 Tim. 4:7) Piety fosters recollection, enkindles zeal, and inflames the soul, thus promoting devotion, good works, and merit. “Godliness is profitable to all things” (1 Tim. 4:8).

Worthy art Thou, O Lord, our God, to receive Praise, Glory, and Honor and Benediction!

Let us praise and exalt Him forever!

EMBER SATURDAY IN LENT I

“While you are proclaiming peace with your lips, be careful to have it even more fully in your heart.” Attributed to St. Francis

PRAY. Devote a certain time of every day to prayer. Prayer is the nourishment of the soul, the conversation of man with God and of God with man. St. Augustine remarks, “Whosoever knows how to pray well, will also know how to live well.” Neglect of prayer is the forerunner of spiritual death. Therefore be careful to recite your daily prayers attentively, entirely, reverently, and devoutly. Select a befitting time and place, in order to avoid as much as possible all distractions.

The Lamb that was slain is worthy to receive Power and Divinity and Wisdom and Strength and Honor and Benediction:

Let us praise and exalt Him forever!

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

“If you have men who will exclude any of God’s creatures from the shelter of compassion and pity, you will have men who will deal likewise with their fellow men.”

Attributed to St. Francis

AVOID SIN. Sin is the greatest, in fact the only, evil in the world. Avoid it carefully, especially when it approaches you in the form of pride, avarice, concupiscence, sloth, or intemperance. Abstain not only from mortal sin: venial sin also offends God. It leads by frequent repetition to mortal sin, and is the greatest obstacle to progress in virtue. “I would thou wert cold or hot; but because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will begin to vomit thee out of My mouth” (Apoc. 3:15).

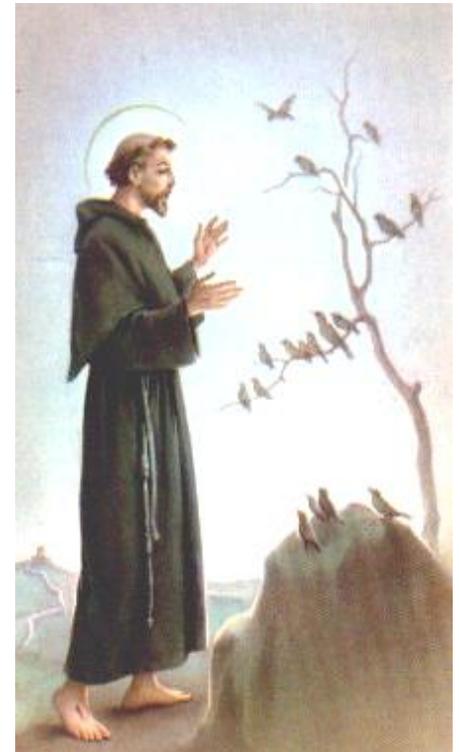
Let us bless The Father, and The Son, with The Holy Ghost:

Let us praise and exalt Him forever!

We adore Thee, most holy Lord Jesus Christ, here and in all Thy churches that are in the whole world, and we bless Thee; because by Thy holy Cross Thou hast redeemed the world.

St. Gertrude the Great Church
4900 Rialto Rd., West Chester, Ohio 45069
(513) 645-4212
www.sgg.org

Lent with St. Francis of Assisi



Daily Thoughts and Prayers
for Lent 2015

First Week of Lent