

ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

4900 Rialto Road, West Chester, Ohio 45069 • (513) 645-4212
parishoffice@sgg.org • www.sgg.org • www.SGGResources.org

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

TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS: Sundays 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM High, 11:30 AM, 5:45 PM

Cook a meal for the priests! Sign up here: <https://www.lotsahelpinghands.com/c/622747/>

February 19, 2017 SEXAGESIMA

¶ SEXAGESIMA

The Blessing of Expectant Mothers is available at the Communion rail after all Masses today. Sunday Classes are at 10:40 AM. Vespers with Benediction are at 4:45 PM.

¶ SORROWFUL MOTHER NOVENA



Our annual novena to the Sorrowful Mother, with the Blessing of the Sick, continues this Friday evening following the 5:45 PM Mass. Be sure to bring the sick to be blessed, and call or email the office with their names, to be mentioned during the novena.

¶ NEXT SUNDAY: QUINQUAGESIMA

Next Sunday is our Meet and Greet Social Sunday, following all morning Masses. Please see the ad elsewhere in the bulletin for more information. Sunday Classes will be at 10:40 AM.

📖 *Set your missal:* Quinquagesima, with the collects of the Holy Face, and Our Lady & All the Saints. Trinity Preface.



PLEASE PRAY for the repose of the soul of †Stanley Schappacher, who died on Thursday, February 16, 2017.

¶ UPCOMING EVENTS

March 1: Ash Wednesday

Lumen Christi

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

Special Intention
(Paul Ronan)

¶ IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please remember two more of our founding members, Bernie and Rita Brueggemann, who were always notable for their piety and generosity. Both of them died in February, but Rita in 2008 and Bernie in 2011. God reward them.



UPCOMING

SISTER SUNDAY

March 25th, Laetare Sunday

We are looking for craft items and donations for the silent auction.

New or gently used items welcome, may be religious or non-religious.

Children's auction items accepted.

Questions? Please contact:
Sisters of Our Lady of Reparation
sistersofourladyofreparation@outlook.com
513-376-6011

¶ GENERAL INFORMATION

Baptisms are by appointment. Godparents must be practicing Catholics in good standing who reject the changes of Vatican II. If you are contemplating Matrimony, please contact the priest before making any other arrangements, e.g., purchase of gowns or rental of halls. When making arrangements for funerals, please contact the priest *before* contacting the funeral director. If you would like to have a Mass said, please taken an envelope for that purpose, which you will find in the vestibule, fill out the appropriate information, and place it in the collection, or give it in at the Gift Shop. The donation is now \$25. Blessing of Articles takes place after each Mass on the first Sunday of the month.



"God is more honored by a single Mass than He could be by all the actions of angels and men together, however fervent and heroic they might be. Yet, how few hear Mass with the intention of giving God this sublime honor! How few think with joy on the glory a Mass gives to God. How few rejoice to possess the means of honoring Him as He deserves!... If we only knew the treasure we hold in our hands!" —Bl. Claude de la Colombiere

SEXAGESIMA SUNDAY

After the hymn, the preacher signs himself with the sign of the cross and recites the "Hail Mary" alternately with the people. The sign of the cross is made on this occasion and at the reading of the gospel, because all our actions should begin in the name of the Most Holy Trinity, and because we can hope for blessing and fruit only through the merits of Jesus Christ crucified. Our Lord says in the gospel for this day that some seed fell by the wayside, and, in explaining it, adds that they are those who hear the word of God; then, the devil comes and takes the word out of their heart, lest, believing, they should be saved. The devil endeavors to hinder the fruit of the divine word; that he may not be able to do this we sign ourselves with the sign of the cross, which has the sacramental power of keeping away diabolical influences and temptations, or of rendering them ineffectual. We justly also say the "Hail Mary," for Mary, the Mother of God, is the Mother of grace, and it is said of her, "that she kept all these words of Jesus, pondering them in her heart." (*Luke 2:19.*)

The Gospel

Today's Gospel supplies material for an instruction on the duty of hearing the Word of God, and of taking to heart the lessons which it imparts.

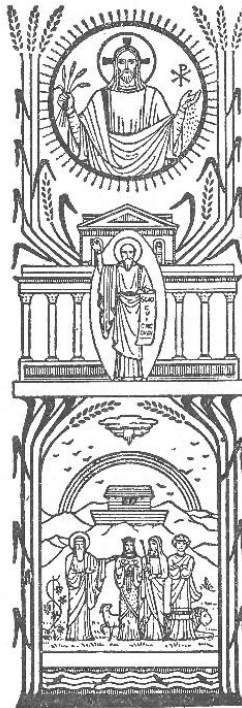
The preacher will make it clear that the obligation of the clergy to preach the Gospel implies an obligation on the faithful to hear the Gospel preached. That obligation is real and not to be evaded. It surely is not fulfilled by a Catholic who seeks to avoid every occasion on which the Gospel is preached—such as Masses at which there is a sermon, and devotions at which there is an instruction.

Then the preacher, in the light of today's Gospel, will seek to show that the mere hearing of the Word is not sufficient. The faithful are bound to

listen to it with reverence as the teaching of Christ, to take it to heart, and to make it the standard of their lives.

Not Over

One day, as an old lady was returning from a sermon she had heard she was met by a gentleman who asked her if the sermon was already over. "No," replied the lady. "But why do the people leave the church before the sermon is ended?" said the gentleman.



"Because the priest left the pulpit," she replied. "What!" said the gentleman, "is not the sermon over when the priest has left the pulpit?"

"The preacher," she replied, "has certainly ceased to speak, but the sermon on that account is not ended; on the contrary, it now begins, for the people must take home the sermon they have heard and practice it."

That lady's remark is worthy of our consideration.

A Prayer: How much I am shamed, O my God, that the seed, of Thy Divine word, which Thou hast sowed so often and so abundantly in my heart, has brought forth so little fruit! Ah! have mercy on me, and so change my heart, that it may become good soil, in which Thy word may take root, grow without hindrance, and finally bring forth fruits of salvation. Amen.

OBEISANCE

...will anything serve, short of a genuflection?

-Billie Collins

As for genuflection, that pause when crossing before the tabernacle,
the knees bending, the head bowed,
hands pressed together as if a flower
were flattened there, or a memory compressed, lips almost touching fingertips
and the warm breath flowing down the fingers,
the right-angularity of ankle joint and knee,
toes gripping through the soles of the shoe, altar
boy's red and white vestments draping from shoulder
to knee to floor and the single shaft of light angling
down from the tall window, crossing pews in
corrugation, diagonal slash across the muted quiet
of the church, the tension of this instant before
the motion reverses, this moment of obeisance perfected.

- Roy Beckemeyer



FILIPINO CATHOLICS IN A PASSENGER JEEP

The rickety jeep passed by the Sacred Heart of Jesus,
and five of us seven passengers began making
the sign of the cross, hurriedly—

more Quadrate or Square, more Greek than Latin:
forehead, chest, shoulder, shoulder

—executed somewhere between force of habit, and genuine expression of faith.

- Karlo Sevilla

Sexagesima marks sixty days, more or less, until Easter, but only ten until Lent. Time for us for be up and doing. Pray and plan for a good Lent with Our Lady. Your good intentions, the least of your efforts in honoring her, *will be* richly rewarded.

But first, a little purposeful church fun is fitting for Shrovetide or Mardi Gras. The traditional dish of this season is pancakes, and they will be on offer next Sunday after the morning Masses. We're calling it "Social Sunday," as we'd like to give our faithful, especially our young families a chance to get acquainted. Plan to stop by next Sunday to eat a pancake or two, and maybe say hello to somebody. For those so minded, informal games will stretch into the afternoon, with babysitting provided. No charge. This is a fun raiser, not a fundraiser, but maybe with a priceless purpose in mind, shoring up the faith of our families.

Stanley Schappacher died Thursday morning. Pray for him. He was one of the founding fathers of St. Gertrude the Great, as well as of St. Clare. A quiet man, a hardworking dairy farmer and father of a big family, his faith ran deep and his generosity overflowed. He and his wife, Wilma, knew great affliction in their later years. God grant him rest, and the reward of his labors.

I knew we had forgotten one of our recent deceased in our Sorrowful Mother Novena last week. It was John Weisman, so firm a Catholic and true and loyal to the very end. He died in August, but the funeral home did not give us the customary church record for our files. Little things which trip you up. But Thursday morning as I was counting out my pills I saw the "Australian Dream Arthritis Cream" John had given me for Christmas. So thoughtful! And I remembered him. May we never forget our deceased. They're family.

I suppose cats fit into the picture as well, at least from their point of view. Last Saturday before dinner Caravaggio presented **Fr. Cekada** with a big black field mouse, predispatched but pretty much intact for Father's delectation and eventual consumption. His cool reaction, however, nonplussed the pussycat. I had to coach Fr. Cekada in a properly grateful response to such a fine gift.

Do continue to keep Fr. Cekada in your prayers that he remain cancer free. He had his first catscan on Friday. Caravaggio, however, would be looking for mice.

Tomorrow, President's Day, should not pass without a prayer for our own. Draining a swamp is

tiring messy work. Ditto for the work of guiding Catholics out of the hopeless swamp of "Recognize and Resist," with its many dangers to the Faith. George Washington's birthday always coincides with St. Peter's Chair at Antioch. Say a big prayer for our Church, and the removal of the swamp monsters who inhabit Rome. Please don't feed them.

We had a pretty quiet St. Valentine's Day, but some nice cards from the little ones. Thanks for your help with the St. Valentine Bake Sale. The children sang a beautiful Solemn High Mass Thursday for **Fr. McKenna's** Fifth Ordination Anniversary. By exception, he's with us this Sunday.

Have a good Sunday. Read the Bulletin. Set aside some quiet time. Come to Vespers. Say your Rosary. God bless our Catechism teachers, and Our Lady of good Help reward them.

—Bishop Dolan



Portraits by Anny

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Call or text Anny @ 513-313-9893

Informal Meet & Greet **Social Sunday**

February 26th

after the morning Masses



FREE Breakfast



Connect with fellow Catholics - "face to face"

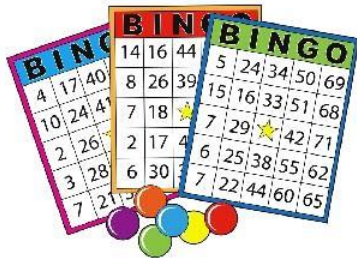
Visit with old friends & meet new members.

Babysitting



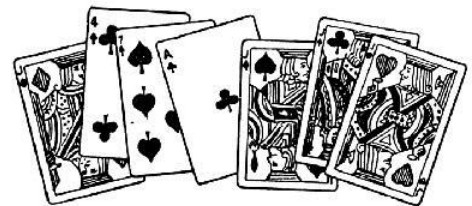
12:30 - 2:00

offered at no charge



**Games and cards available
for a causal good time.**

BINGO at 12:45



Invite a Friend

New comers, this is a fantastic way to meet the parish & get a word with the priests without a formal appointment.
Parents, your children benefit so much from Catholic friends. Please come & let the children meet some new playmates.

Singles benefit from Catholic friends as well. We have a good number in this church.

WE WILL FEED YOU, JUST COME & HAVE A GOOD TIME

Pass the word - everyone is welcome to attend.

DIGNITAS

Accounts vary, and a few say that the story about our civil Founders is apocryphal, but it would seem that the story is true. As one of the more jovial national patriarchs, Gouverneur Morris, a native of New York City, but representing Pennsylvania, willingly accepted a challenge from Alexander Hamilton during the Constitutional Convention in 1787 to pat George Washington on his left shoulder and say "My dear General, how happy I am to see you look so well!" Having vowed, he did exactly that in front of surprised onlookers. The General was a formal man, even austere in manners, and had already assumed a sense of presence that would befit him two years later when he became president of the United States. Washington froze, and then removed Morris's hand, casting an icy stare at him. The room fell silent save for the sound of the offender's wooden leg as he withdrew in confusion. Hamilton rewarded him with the promised dinner with wine for a dozen friends, but Morris said: "I have won the bet, but paid dearly for it, and nothing could induce me to repeat it."

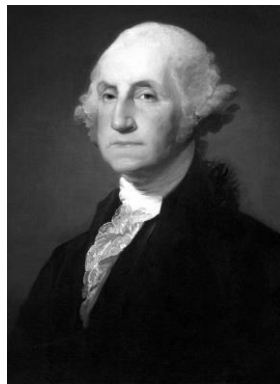
Washington's grace and tact was capable of eliciting deep affection along with admiration, but he had no patience for what he considered boorishness.

In our reduced culture when wealthy celebrities go about unshaven, neckties are considered an imposition, form letters from the bank address customers by their first names, and no thought is given to how to dress for church, attention to the gravity of one's office may seem archaic and indeed affected. But the opposite is the case. The amiably eccentric Queen Christina of Sweden, having abdicated her throne to become a Catholic, wrote to a friend: "Dignity does not consist in possessing honors, but in deserving

them." Customs and outward forms signal that one's duty is greater than one's self, and neglect of them is an exercise in egotism. The man who says, "Call me brother, call me pal," would not have to sloganize that way if he really were a brother and a pal.

The irony is this: those who are silly on the outside can be sly on the inside, and the comic can be cruel to those who see through the charade. Chesterton was a genuine wit and champion of the common man, which is precisely why he was skeptical of sham self-deprecation, and warned against the "easy speeches that comfort cruel men." Cruel men dressed Jesus as a clown on the way to the Cross, but he never abandoned his dignity. His humility made Pontius Pilate so anxious that with deliberate ambiguity the governor hung a sign over his head calling him a king.

-An excerpt from "Dignitas: The Manners of Humility" by Fr. George Rutter, Crisis Magazine



Collection Report

Sunday, February 12th\$4,385.47
 Bake Sale.....\$375.00
 Thank you for your generosity. Remember St. Gertrude the Great in your will.



GRACES OF LOURDES

Thank you for having filled with bitterness the far too tender heart you gave me!

For Mother Josephine who said that I was good for nothing, thank you!



For the mother mistress' sarcastic remarks, for harsh words, her ridicule, and the bread of humiliation, thank you!

Thank you for making me the one to whom she could say: "You are not like all the others."

Thank you for making me the privileged recipient of her rebukes, so that my sisters used to say, "How lucky that we are not Bernadette!"

Yes, thank you, Lady Mary, that I am Bernadette, who was threatened with prison because I saw you. I am she who the crowds stared at as a rare animal—that Bernadette so wretched that upon seeing her, it was said, "Is that it?"

For this pitiful body You have given me, this illness of fire and smoke, for my rotting flesh, my riddled bones, my sweats, my fever, my dull pains and my sharp ones, thank You, my God.

And for the soul that You have given me, for the desert of interior darkness, for Your nights, for Your lightning, for Your silence and Your thunder, for everything, for You absent and for You present, thank you, Jesus.

-St. Bernadette Soubirous

St. Bernadette Soubirous († 1879) was favored with a series of visions of the Blessed Virgin Mary at Lourdes. Her body remains incorrupt.

CALENDAR

MON	2/20/17	FERIAL DAY PRESIDENT'S DAY: NO SCHOOL 8:00 AM Votive Low Mass of the Passion For all who cook for us and for our devoted drivers (<i>The Fathers</i>)
TUE	2/21/17	FERIAL DAY COMMEMORATION OF THE PASSION 8:00 AM Low Mass †Jose Abella – 7 th Anniversary Feb. 21 (<i>Tom Karen Simpson</i>) & 11:20 AM Requiem High Mass Purgatorial Society 5:00 PM Low Mass of the Passion Special Intention – Deceased (<i>Robert & Rebecca Uhlenbrock</i>)
WED	2/22/17	ST. PETER'S CHAIR AT ANTIOCH 8:00 AM Low Mass †David MacDonald, Sr. – 52 nd Anniversary Feb. 21 (<i>Mr. & Mrs. Tom Simpson</i>) (from 2/21) 11:20 AM High Mass Timmy, Justi and their children 5:00 PM Low Mass Rebecca Uhlenbrock (<i>Capetillo family</i>)
THU	2/23/17	ST. PETER DAMIAN, BPCD VIGIL OF ST. MATTHIAS 8:00 AM Low Mass Emily Capetillo (<i>R. & R. Uhlenbrock</i>) 11:20 AM High Mass †Barbara Steinmetz (<i>Rosary Confraternity</i>) 5:00 PM Low Mass †Justin Yeager (<i>Rob & Jane Brockman</i>)
FRI	2/24/17	ST. MATTHIAS, AP 8:00 AM Low Mass †Phyllis Schlafly (<i>Doloris Ritze</i>) 10:55 AM Confessions 11:20 AM High Mass For deceased priests: Frs. †Gunther Richter, †Roy Randolph, †Wathan, †White, †Hall, & †Lundberg (<i>DJR</i>) 5:15 PM Confessions & Rosary 5:35 PM Closing of the Infant of Prague Novena 5:45 PM Low Mass Thomas Simpson (<i>Your family</i>) 6:30 PM Sorrowful Mother Novena III, Blessing of the Sick, Sacred Heart Novena & Benediction
SAT	2/25/17	OUR LADY'S SATURDAY ST. WALBURGA, V BL. SEBASTIAN OF APARICIO, C 7:10 AM Confessions & Rosary 7:30 AM Low Mass †Mary MacDonald – 53 rd Anniversary Jan. 30 (<i>Tom & Karen Simpson</i>) 8:05 AM Ave & Sermon 8:20 AM High Mass Stanley Schappacher (<i>Cathy Beil</i>)
SUN	2/26/17	QUINQUAGESIMA SOCIAL SUNDAY: PANCAKES & MORE AFTER MORNING MASSES TRIDUUM TO THE HOLY FACE 7:05 AM Rosary 7:30 AM Low Mass Our Parents (<i>Dan & Mary</i>) Pancakes 9:00 AM High Mass For the people of St. Gertrude the Great Pancakes 10:40 AM Catechism Classes 11:05 AM Rosary 11:30 AM Low Mass Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Hille & family (<i>Mary & Joe Kunkel</i>) Pancakes, games, babysitting available No Vespers 5:45 PM Low Mass Poor Souls (<i>Clare Lotarski</i>)

APOSTLE PRIESTS

The priest! Have you ever considered the difficulty of conceiving what is a priest? Have you ever explained to yourself, not how there have always been priests, and how there is still so great a number, but how there is even one? He who can meditate upon the priest, and not be struck by his existence, I pity that man! What, then, is a priest? Is he a man who promotes morality—an officer of morality, as the 18th century said? But, external to Christianity, where is the morality of the priest? What was the morality of the pontiffs of Greece and Rome? The priest, is he a philosopher? But philosophy combats the priest. Is he a public functionary of any kind? But if all the sovereigns of Europe and of the world combined to make a priest, they would only end by bringing on a man ridicule and disgrace....



The priest, the man who exists neither by morality, nor by philosophy, nor by the state, nor by the world! The man impossible to create, and who, nevertheless, exists always and everywhere! What is he, in fine? The priest is a man anointed by tradition to shed blood, not as the soldier, through courage, not as the magistrate, through justice, but as Jesus Christ, through love. The priest is a man of sacrifice; by it, each day, reconciling heaven and earth, and by it, each day, announcing to every soul the primordial truths of life, of death, and of resurrection.

—Fr. Henri-Dominique Lacordaire, O.P.

Dedicated to our priests in honor of Fr. McKenna's 5th Anniversary, February 11, 2017.

"The only thing necessary for us is God. Finding God consists in recollecting our souls in Him. One must separate one's soul from all which disperses it, and bring it to know the abyss of its miseries."

—Bl. Angela of Foligno



Servers

SUN 2/26	7:30 AM LOW: Brueggemann Bros. 9:00 AM HIGH: MC: Brendan Lotarski TH: M. Simpson ACS: P. Omlor, C. Arlinghaus TORCH: C. Richesson, T. Lawrence, D. Simpson, J. Stewart 11:30 AM LOW: N. & N. McClorey 5:45 PM LOW: G. Miller
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