ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

August 20, 2017
PENTECOST XI
ST. BERNARD, ABCD
WITHIN THE OCTAVE

PENTECOST XI
The Blessing of Expectant Mothers follows all Masses. Please note, there are no Vespers today.

THE SUMMER NOVENA
Our Thirteen Tuesdays devotion in honor of St. Anthony of Padua, with the novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help, coincides this week with the feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Masses will be at the usual times of 8 AM, 11:20 AM, and 5 PM. Come and participate in this powerful devotion.

NEXT SUNDAY: PENTECOST XII
There will be no Vespers next week.

Set Your Missal: Pentecost XII, with commemorations of St. Joseph Calasanctius and Our Lady & All the Saints. Trinity Preface.

UPCOMING EVENTS
• Wednesday, September 6th: First day of school
• Sunday, September 10th: First Day of Sunday Catechism Classes
• Sunday, September 17th: Parish Picnic. Sharon Woods Park, Cardinal Crest Shelter. Parking is prepaid! Just tell the person at the gate that you are with the group from St. Gertrude the Great Church at Cardinal Crest.

Collection Report
Sunday, August 13th.......................$4,266.00

Lumen Christi
The Sanctuary Lamp will burn before the Blessed Sacrament during the next fort-nigh for the following intention:
Special Intention
(Monique d'Auteuil)

Wedding Banns
First time:
Patrick Lotarski & Cristin McKinley

OUR SICK

SUNDAY CATECHISM
ENROLLMENTS NEXT SUNDAY!
It is that time again! Registrations for Catechism Classes will be held on Sunday, Aug. 27, and again on Sunday, Sept. 3 in Hefta Hall. Parents, it is of utmost importance that our young ones be fully armed in the rudiments of the Faith. Classes begin Sept. 10.

A TEACHER’S PRAYER

Lord Jesus, Supreme Educator of souls, I thank You for having called me to this wonderful task of education.

Make me ever more worthy of the confidence shown me by parents, by entrusting to me what is dearest to them in this world—their children!

Teach me to treat these souls with the delicacy and infinite patience of Your Holy Spirit.

Grant me Your light, the better to read hearts; Your perspicacity for discerning Your work and penetrating Your designs; Your mercy, for forgiving and healing; Your wisdom for counseling and directing the young lives entrusted to me.

May my actions be Your actions, my hands, Your hands; my lips, Your lips; my life, Your life; so that nothing may touch these children that is not divine, and that I may not impede Your action in their souls.

Grant me not to deviate in my teaching from the great laws of Your Redemption; never to forget that the one essential is for the Kingdom of Heaven to be preached to every man born into this world, and for it to be transmitted to my students in all its truth and beauty.

And to you, Mary, whom God gave to the Child Jesus as an educator, you to whom men in these recent times have given the beautiful title “Our Lady of the Schools;” obtain for me your docility to the Holy Spirit and your submission to the divine will; so that I may always be able to recognize the Heavenly Father’s plans for each of my pupils, and assist them in finding the place destined for them by your Beloved Son in the great task of the world’s redemption. Amen.

School begins September 6th!
THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

The most glorious Virgin loves us with a supremely ardent love, because she loves us with the very same love with which she loves the God-Man, her divine Son Jesus Christ, for she knows that He is our head and we are His members, that we are therefore one with Him, as members are one with their head. She thus considers us her children and loves us in a way, even as her own Son....

Mary’s heart is a burning furnace whose flames reach everywhere, generating more fire and warmth of love for us than ever existed in the hearts of all fathers and mothers towards their children, of brothers for brothers, of friends for their friends, in one word, more arder than ever burned in all the hearts of heaven and of earth.

This love is like a dazzling sun illuminating all things. It lightens the darkness of those who approach its glow; it reveals our faults and weaknesses that we may detest them; it shows us our nothingness and our misery so that we may become humiliated in our own eyes. The glow of Mary’s love reveals to us the malice and snares of the enemies of our salvation in order to save us from them; it shows us the illusion and deceit of the folly and conceits of the world, teaching us to despise them; and it manifests to us the marvels of the greatness and goodness of God that we may serve Him with fear and with love.

- St. John Eudes

St. John Eudes (†1680) was largely responsible for initiating and popularizing devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

O Heart most pure of the Blessed Virgin Mary, obtain for me from Jesus a pure and humble heart.

Sweet Heart of Mary, be my salvation.

THE PERIL

When anger comes to the coast of our desolate country
And the sky is the color of armor,
We listen, in the silence of the cliffs and bays as still as steel,
For the cry that terrifies the sentinel.
And if it sound, oh! suddener than Java dancers
Face us all the swords we fear.
Well, we have arms: we will put them to trial.

But even as we wait, in hiding, for the unknown signal,
It is the Bridegroom comes like lightning where we never looked!
His eyes are angels, armed in smiles of fire.
His Word puts out the spark of every other sun
Faster than sunlight ever hid the cities
Of the fire-crowded universe!
How shall I stand such light, being dim as my fear?

Rob me, and make me poor enough to bear my priceless ransom;
Lock me and dower me in the gifts and jails of tribulation:
Stab me and save me with the five lights of Your Crucifixion!
And I’ll become as strong as wax, as weak as diamonds,
And read Your speeches deeper than the sea
And, like the sky, fair!

- Fr. M. Louis, OCSO
When I came out of my house and into the sun Tuesday morning for the Pontifical, I could smell the herbs set up to be blessed in front of the Our Lady of Fatima shrine on the lawn. A good portent, I thought. We need something fresh and holy to clear the air these days. The old socialist lies and anarchist maneuvers have poisoned the summer air, planted there by those who control things behind the scenes. Their march is secure, inexorable, undisturbed, confident. The scene seems similar to that which prepared the way for world war one hundred years ago, and again eighty years ago.

Meanwhile Our Lady of the Sun is graciously waiting for us, “a great sign in the heaven.” Tomorrow’s purely natural phenomenon is eclipsed by Mary’s glory, but only faith gives the glasses to let us see and appreciate her glory and God’s plan. Be at peace. Prayer really is the solution.

Last weekend was a beehive of activity and I was sorry to have missed it, especially the Sunday evening Rosary Procession, which drew some 50 souls. The feast itself of the Immaculate Heart of Mary comes Tuesday, coinciding with one of the final weeks of our Summer Novena.

These quiet days of August’s end permit us to do our planning for the new season come September. Sunday Classes commence September 10th. Our annual parish picnic is the 17th. Rosary Sunday falls on the very first day of October. Forty Hours is the weekend of October 20th-22nd. Oh, and school opens Wednesday, September 6th. Fr. Cekada is planning an interesting looking Music Appreciation course for the High Schoolers.

I heard a sad report recently of a typical Novus Ordo funeral in a big, wealthy suburban parish. The server/thurifer was a lady in a sleeveless top and slacks, and the other lady, the cantor, sang the “Apsolution” to the tune of O Danny Boy! Is this really too hard for anyone to figure out?

The McFathers are in the northern missions today. Fr. Lehtoranta is helping here. This week the school preparation meetings take place for our teachers. We are welcoming Miss Colleen Eldracher, of Michigan, to our faculty. Fr. Cekada is adding a men’s section to our Sunday choir this year, which will enable them to expand considerably their repertoire and sound range.

Tomorrow is Sr. Jeanne Marie’s feast day, and we wish Sister a blessed one, with many prayers for a speedy and secure recovery. God keep her, and all of our shut in in His loving care.

The 7:00 AM Assumption Mass proved very popular last week, drawing almost 100 souls. In fact, all of the Masses were well attended. We had a lot of visitors at the 5:45 PM Mass.

On Friday there was a deadly Moslem attack in Fr. Lehtoranta’s hometown of Turku, Finland, in the very shopping area he knows well. We truly are living through a revolution, from the destruction of our American History, to the bloody Islamization of Europe.

Today’s St. Bernard is a Crusader Saint of Christendom. He is the glory of the high middle ages, the protector of the papacy against infiltration, a profound contemplative and an energetic church reformer. Oh, and never was there a more tender nor devoted son of Mary. May he light our way in this eclipsed Church of ours.

God bless you,

Bishop Dolan

Benediction

“As sons might come before a parent at night,” wrote Cardinal Newman, “so once or twice a week the great Catholic family come before the Eternal Father after the bustle and toil of the day; and He smiles upon them, and sheds upon them the light of His countenance.” Such is Benediction—the smile and blessing of God. In the monstrance Jesus Christ is our King, and surely we owe Him allegiance; He is our Father, and we owe Him our gratitude; He is our Friend, and we owe Him our love.

We envy the little children who drew near our Blessed Savior, and who felt the influence of His benediction on their young souls; we think with longing of those privileged followers who stood on Mount Olivet when Jesus Christ blessed the assembled disciples and ascended to His Father; yet whenever we kneel before Him and receive the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, we are blessed by that same God; and to us, as to His Apostles, does He whisper: “Peace be to you!”
The Lives of the Saints introduce us to a world within a world; a world where all earthly aims and values are accounted of very little worth, and where heavenly ends and heavenly means are the influences that mold life and character. One such saint is commemorated today, St. Jane Frances de Chantal. To the worldly-minded her life was an act of folly. She had, from an earthly point of view, everything to live for: social position, wealth, education, children. But then she felt called to something different, and, leaving all things, she followed the call; becoming, under God and St. Francis de Sales, the instrument for founding the Order of the Visitation.

All founders of religious Orders have been men and women of very strong character. Though all these Orders are essentially the same, yet each has a constitution, a character, a purpose all its own. This it gets from its founder; and the aim of the founder or foundress is to mold and form his or her subjects according to this new plan and give them a distinct personality.

St. Jane Frances de Chantal undertook to do this under the direction of St. Francis de Sales. And when the director was called away by death in 1622, this pious lady continued the work and brought it to success. Her own life was the highest exemplification of the spirit of the Order. Avoiding the extreme physical mortification of other Communities, the nuns of the Visitation seek for a mortification of the spirit—a development that peculiarly suits them as teachers for the everyday world we live in. Before the death of the foundress (1641) eighty-six houses of the Order had been established; and in 1910 the number had risen to one hundred and seventy. It was one of the first Orders introduced into the United States, having been established in Georgetown, D.C., where it still continues, and whence many branches have been transplanted to other parts of the country.