

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
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

March 11, 2018
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
LAETARE SUNDAY



¶ LENT IV – LAETARE SUNDAY

Today is Sister Sunday! Come back to Helfta Hall after all morning Masses for a hot breakfast, craft and bake sale, and silent auction. Sunday Classes are at 10:40 AM. Short Stations are at 11:15 AM. Vespers with Benediction are at 4:45 PM.

¶ CAN YOU HELP?

Volunteers will be most welcome to help cover the statues on Saturday morning after the 8:20 AM High Mass and breakfast.

¶ UPCOMING EVENTS

March 19: St. Joseph's Day, the Blessing of the Bread and the St. Joseph Table
2018 YAG: June 22-24 (registration ends June 17!)
Girls' Camp: June 27-29
Boys' Camp: July 24-26

¶ NEXT SUNDAY: PASSION SUNDAY

Next Sunday opens Passiontide, with the statues and images shrouded in purple. Sunday Classes will be at 10:40 AM, with short Stations following at 11:15 AM. First Vespers of St. Joseph with Benediction will be at 4:45 PM.

📖 *Set your missal:* Passion Sunday. Second collect of St. Cyril of Jerusalem. Preface of the Holy Cross.

Collection Report

Sunday, March 4th.....\$5,690.00
Second Collection.....\$1,039.00
Alter Christus.....\$115.00
Thank you for your generosity.



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT: "Laetare!" Rejoice! The first fruit of the victory over this deceptive darkness, wherein our fallen nature gladly gropes, is interior joy. "Write that this is perfect joy to conquer self and to suffer all things willingly for the love of Christ." (St. Francis.) That is why the Church, no longer in violet, but in *rose* vestments, exults today. *Rejoice!* The "old sinner" that we all are, more or less, is going to be "buried" in the death of the Cross and be "resurrected" to the life of grace. Then he will be fed with divine food—the Easter Communion!

Lenten Friday Evening of Recollection – March 16th

5:45 PM: Low Mass

6:45 PM: Lenten Supper: Clam chowder, beer bread, spinach and mushroom quiche, crackers and cheese, salad, fruit

7:30 PM: Stations of the Cross, Sorrowful Mother Novena, Blessing of the Sick, Benediction

8:30 PM (approximately): Distribution of Holy Communion

¶ WE GET FEEDBACK...

On the Lenten Bulletin Inserts: "Thank you so much! I am really enjoying all of the information and special devotions for the Holy Face, the Mass, etc. For a busy Mom, it is a wonderful opportunity for a quick, short meditation or a few minutes of spiritual reading. THANK YOU! Please tell His Excellency and whoever else is involved with putting them together that they are excellent!"

¶ SORROWFUL MOTHER NOVENA



Our annual novena to the Sorrowful Mother, with the Blessing of the Sick, is now almost over. Be sure to bring the sick to be blessed, and call or email the office with their names, to be mentioned during the novena.

¶ REMEMBER SGG IN YOUR WILL

Remember SGG in your will, in your trust, or as a beneficiary of your life insurance policy. Contact Fr. Cekada for further information.

Thank you to the Mueller Funeral Home in Mason, Ohio, and to the Middendorf Funeral Home in Covington, Kentucky for their kindness to us.



HOMESICK IN THE PIGSTY:
A Classic Meditation on the Prodigal Son

Rembrandt painted a famous and moving tableau depicting the prodigal son receiving his father's embrace. Less well known is his hasty little sketch *The Prodigal Son among the Pigs*. It shows an emaciated, unnaturally old looking figure, wizened by untold disappointment, clad in tatters, bent on his knees and supported by a stick beneath his chin. He gazes out blankly past the feed box before him, where hogs gobble, snouts busily buried in their pods. It is the moment, we imagine, when the son comes to his senses.

Going through his head are thoughts about how to rescue himself from this abject company where he has landed. "I know what I shall do...."

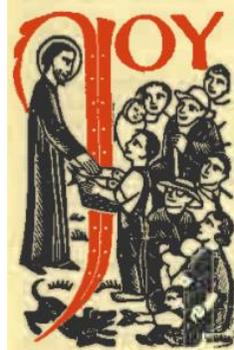
There are moments (note the plural) in every Christian life when we star within this picture. We hear the snorting around us and hesitate to think. The decision we face is stark: be a servant of the Father or revel in our "freedom," elbow in, and surrender to the life of the swine.

In Homer's *Odyssey* the sorceress Circe seduced men with blandishments, then turned them into pigs. On the hero she tried to weave a spell of forgetfulness, so he might never recall and return to his home. It is a grace of homesickness that saves Odysseus, the Prodigal, and us when ensnared by the bewitchments of the world.

- Rev. Anthony Giambrone, O.P.



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



IS analyzed in today's liturgy! *True liberty* (Epistle) and the *true satisfaction of hunger* (Gospel) are the *causes of joy*. Our moderns talk much of freedom; but freedom from what! The more they talk about freedom, the more heavily do they become chained in "bondage." In the Epistle a contrast is drawn between the slave son of a slave girl (symbolizing the fear begotten by the Mosaic law) and the free son of a free woman (symbolizing the love inspired by Jesus). The Epistle indicates also how freedom, "persecuted" by the flesh, finally triumphs. In the Gospel Divine Providence goes so far as to multiply the food to satisfy legitimate hunger, the food that also is a symbol of Jesus' feeding our soul with His own Body and Blood. *True freedom can only be gained by a sincere Easter Confession. Only our Easter Communion will satisfy the soul's instinctive hunger for a personal union with God, and unite us together in a real social and mystical union to work for one another in "a City which is compact together."* (Communion verse.)

Private Mass offered by Bishop Dolan

†Elaine Pawinski (*Ann Garrison*)

ROSE AND THORN

When Mary was a little child,
 Beside her door there grew
 A blushing rose of fragrance sweet,
 With leaves of fairest hue.

But 'neath the rose Our Lady knew
 A piercing thorn had grown,
 And prophets said the rose tree's
 life
 Would symbolize her own.

She wondered how it could be so.
 But lo! on Easter morn,
 She knew the rose was Bethlehem,
 And Calvary the thorn.

- Cecil Underwood
 For "Rose Sunday"



ON SEEING A PRIEST GIVE HOLY COMMUNION

Above the golden cup we watched
 him lift—
 Immersed in conscious prayer—the
 circled white.
 Then quietly he went, with God as
 gift,
 Dispersing darkness with the Light
 of light.

He moved as if he saw Divinity,
 Unclouded, in the cup and in his
 hand.
 Here was the miracle men hope to
 see:
 A priest, with love, give Love as
 Christ had planned.

- Sr. Miriam

THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY BLOOD
 OF THE NEW & ETERNAL TESTAMENT



I was talking with a nice non-Catholic lady from Southern Kentucky about the crazy changeable weather we had last week and she wisely summed it up in her charming twang, "Well, that's March for you." The Catholic in me sees it as symbolic of the greater Lenten struggle going on these days: Light vs. darkness. Fight on, nor be discouraged. Behold half of our combat is done, less than half remains. Let us rejoice that the true Spring, Easter, comes each year "ready or not" and animate ourselves bravely to fight on, generously to prepare.

The biggest enemy we face is not the enemy, in his many guises, but ourselves, as Pogo said. The saints reproach us each day. How *hard* they were on themselves, how easy on their neighbor. Curious how we manage to reverse it. But by prayer and penance and...*kindness* we can change the clock of our crimes, as we did last night with all of our gadgets for Daylight Savings Time. More daylight to do good. Put your neighbor's virtues in the daylight right next to your own faults.

Two Robins claimed the campfire grounds the other day. Maybe they've scheduled a YRG. (Stay tuned for our YAG announcement.) A positively obese Robin was hopping around, feeding in Thursday's snow and cold. The food must be good here, and he's sticking it out. Every now and then somebody surprises us with a *killer* Lenten meal. We're so grateful for your charity.

Fr. Cekada and the **McFathers** were away last week, so several days we did only morning Masses, since that seems to be where the money is. It's nice to see the little Baptistry chapel full. Still, it was odd for me not be offering my 5 PM Mass. I hope those who are interested in that sort of thing (extra Lenten Masses) are finding our weekday schedule helpful. For the rest, well...?

Several extra faithful *did* come to the Vespers on Sunday. If you come, you could chant the psalms with the clergy, or the men with the schola. We alternate, and texts are provided. Or you could just read the translation, or *just* listen to the beautiful chant and pray. We want most of all to go out of our way and pray in Lent.

I was in my room the other morning, practicing that day's Vesper hymn. Both cats, however, took exception to my singing, and came personally to remonstrate with me. Caravaggio climbed up on my lap with a wrathful look, as though he were the noise police. Puccini is generally an easygoing cat, but he has his limits, and came by to register a complaint. Radio or CDs they manage to bear in moderation, but never computer generated noise. I think I've been classed in that category.

Well the hymn *does* say we should be sparing in all things during Lent, *except* prayer and charity. I pray your

charity increases this Lent, and your prayer deepens.

A special Mass is on offer for Saturday, St. Patrick's day. And afternoon as well as evening Masses this week, and Stations, and a Recollection.... See you for Vespers this afternoon?

Enjoy the fun for Sister Sunday this morning. A wonderful way to rejoice. Just don't end up like that Robin...

God bless you all,

– Bishop Dolan





SATURDAY, MARCH 17TH



ST. PATRICK'S DAY

FESTIVE HIGH MASS WITH SPECIAL MUSIC AT
8:20 AM

FOLLOWED BY A COMPLIMENTARY CONTINENTAL "IRISH" BREAKFAST





***Afterwards, help needed
to veil the statues!***




PRAYER FOR FREQUENT MASS AND COMMUNION

Eucharistic Heart of Jesus, Divine Food of souls, Who came upon earth that all men might have life and have it more abundantly; grant, we beseech Thee, that all Thy faithful flock throughout the whole world may heed the invitation of holy Mother Church and go to Mass and Communion very frequently, and, if possible, every day. Enlighten our minds, most generous Friend, to understand and realize the sublime benefits of this Adorable Sacrament, in which we receive Thy Body and Thy Blood, truly present beneath the appearances of bread and wine. Amen.

MON	3/12/18	ST. GREGORY THE GREAT, PCD	FAST
	7:00 AM	Low Mass Poor Souls (<i>Clare Lotarski</i>)	
	8:00 AM	Low Mass †Katie Bischak (<i>Tom & Karen Simpson</i>)	
	11:25 AM	High Mass †Wilma Schappacher (<i>Mary Black</i>)	
	12:25 PM	Vespers	
TUE	3/13/18	FERIAL DAY	FAST
	7:00 AM	Low Mass Marta Fischer (<i>Theresa Simpson</i>)	
	8:00 AM	Low Mass Special Intentions J & G (<i>Arlinghaus Family</i>)	
	11:25 AM	High Mass Purgatorial Society	
	12:25 PM	Vespers	
	5:00 PM	Low Mass †Tony & †Karen Hable (<i>Dave & MaryAnn Marko</i>)	
WED	3/14/18	FERIAL DAY	FAST
	7:00 AM	Low Mass Our children (<i>Paul & Karen Puglielli</i>)	
	8:00 AM	Low Mass My Family & Friends (<i>Rich VandeRyt</i>)	
	11:25 AM	High Mass Special Intentions for Jay Tseng (my son) (<i>Hai Yuaan</i>)	
	12:25 PM	Vespers	
	3:00 PM	Stations of the Cross, Holy Communion	
	5:00 PM	Low Mass †Thomas Williamitis (<i>Mike Briggs Family</i>)	
THU	3/15/18	FERIAL DAY	FAST
		<i>ST. CLEMENT MARY HOFBAUER, C</i>	
	7:00 AM	Low Mass Dear Aunt & God-mother (<i>Kuebler/Volz</i>)	
	8:00 AM	Low Mass †Irene Ulanowski (<i>Colleen Eldracher</i>)	
	11:25 AM	High Mass Fr. David Thomas Baryj (<i>Fr. Baryj</i>)	
	12:25 PM	Vespers	
	5:00 PM	Low Mass Holy Souls (<i>James Kolenich</i>)	
FRI	3/16/18	FERIAL DAY	FAST
		<i>THE MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD</i>	
	8:00 AM	Low Mass Our Daughter Angela (<i>Mary Christensen</i>)	
	11:06 AM	Confessions	
	11:25 AM	High Mass †Sharon Patton (<i>St. Gertrude the Great School</i>)	
	12:25 PM	Vespers	
	5:15 PM	Confessions & Rosary	
	5:45 PM	Low Mass †Elaine Pawinski & her family (<i>Theresa Simpson</i>)	
	6:45 PM	Lenten Supper	
	7:30 PM	Stations of the Cross, Sorrowful Mother Novena VIII with Blessing of the Sick, Benediction	
	8:30 PM	Holy Communion	
SAT	3/17/18	ST. PATRICK, BPC	FAST DISPENSED!
		<i>ST. JOSEPH OF ARIMATHEA, C</i>	
	7:10 AM	Confessions	
	7:30 AM	Low Mass Anniversary of Fr. McKenna (<i>Janine Oleyar</i>)	
	8:10 AM	Ave Regina & Sermon	
	8:20 AM	Festive High Mass of St. Patrick For my deceased family and friends (<i>Bishop Dolan</i>) followed by Complimentary Continental Breakfast Afterwards, help needed to veil the statues!	
SUN	3/18/18	PASSION SUNDAY	
		<i>ST. CYRIL OF JERUSALEM, BPCD</i>	
	7:05 AM	Rosary	
	7:30 AM	Low Mass My Beloved Mother – Doris Ritze (<i>Rich VandeRyt</i>)	



A LITTLE THEOLOGY...

“...St. Thomas maintains that at the moment when a child—he is speaking of those in original sin and therefore of the unbaptized pagan—attains to the full use of reason, he turns either to God in a movement inspired by grace or away from God in a mortal sin (Ia IIae., q. 89, a. 6). In this way every man in all these millions is offered the opportunity of grace, and though one, such as Naaman, may show outwardly that he has received the gift, there may be innumerable pagans possessing the gift in a hidden manner. We have no means of judging the individual case, and there is no gain in guessing. But this fact does not modify the glorious truth that there is no salvation outside the newly chosen race of the Catholic Church. All grace comes through our Lord’s humanity. All grace is Christ’s grace, for He is the unique Mediator Who obtained the redemption of the whole world by His Blood. Hence the grace offered to every person when he attains the use of reason comes to him from Christ our Lord, and since Christ and the Church together form but a single mystical body, the justified pagan necessarily belongs to the Church, though unwittingly. We must therefore say that a pagan in the state of grace is not only a Christian believing at least implicitly the central truths of the Incarnation and the Holy Trinity, but also a member of the Holy Roman Church. The faith and devotion of such people, whether they are many or few, are preserved from error, St. Thomas tells us, through the inspiration of the Holy Ghost (IIIa, q. 36, a. 8), Who dwells in them and so binds them to the Church.”

NEVER KILLED ANYBODY.

- *Lent, Fr. Claude Pepler, O.P.*
Writing about last Monday’s Mass

SERVERS

SUN 3/18	7:30 AM Low: Brueggemann Bros.
	9:00 AM HIGH: CHAPLAINS: J. Simpson, J. Lacy TH: T. Lawrence ACs: M. Simpson, C. Arlinghaus TORCH: MC: P. Omlor. 1. D. Simpson, 2. S. Richesson, 3. J. Stewart, 4. C. Mourer
	11:30 AM Low: A.D. Kinnett, Na. McClorey
	4:45 VESPERS & BENEDICTION: G Miller
	5:45 PM Low: G Miller

9:00 AM	High Mass †Sharon Patton (<i>Mr. & Mrs. Mark Lotarski & family</i>)
10:40 AM	Sunday Classes
11:15 AM	Short Stations of the Cross
11:30 AM	Low Mass †Mary Jane Donadio (<i>John Brockman</i>)
4:45 PM	Vespers & Benediction
5:45 PM	Low Mass For the people of St. Gertrude the Great

MONDAY IN LENT IV

Thought—“Take these things away and do not make the house of My Father a house of business.” (Gospel)



Practice—Today when I pray I shall put aside all worries and trust in God so that my mind won't be cluttered up with all kinds of distractions, as the temple was distracted by the presence of all kinds of things, for my soul is also the Temple of God.

Prayer—Heart of Jesus, I put my trust in Thee! (300 days indulgence)

“Hundreds of sinners will be saved through the prayers that are offered for them in the Mass.”

— St. Laurence Justinian

TUESDAY IN LENT IV



Thought—“They wanted, therefore, to seize Him, but no one laid hands on Him because His hour had not yet come.” (Gospel)

Practice—I shall do what I think is right every moment of the day without thinking of what others will say about me or what they might do to me because of it.

Prayer—O Cross, my only hope, I salute thee. (500 days indulgence)

“We can offer Our Lord to His heavenly Father in the Mass as the Treasure belonging to us, and we shall be generously rewarded for this.”

— St. Mechtildis

WEDNESDAY IN LENT IV

Thought—“I went and washed and I see.”

Practice—Today every time I make a slip and hurt somebody, I shall immediately apologize, so that I will be able to face the truth about myself even when it hurts—see myself as others see me.

Prayer—Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me. (500 days indulgence)

“You offer up this sacrifice of propitiation not only for your own sins, but also for those of the whole Christian world, especially for great sinners.”

— Fr. Porter



THURSDAY IN LENT IV



Thought—Jesus said to the mother, “Weep not.” (Gospel)

Practice—Today I shall cheer up at least three people who are sad or disappointed.

Prayer—Mother of love, of sorrow, and of mercy, pray for us. (300 days indulgence)

“The Sacrifice of the Mass is the best means of quickly liberating the Holy Souls from Purgatory.”

— St. Thomas

FRIDAY IN LENT IV THE MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD

Thought—“Let us also go that we may die with Him.” (Gospel)

Practice—I will offer at least five mortifications today (like not using the internet, speaking, or eating what I like) so that my selfishness may die and my love grow.

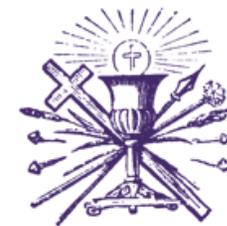
Prayer—Sacred Heart of Jesus, I believe in Thy love for me. (300 days indulgence)

“God...receives from the infinite merits of the Mass infinite adoration, infinite thanksgiving, infinite atonement, and infinite petition.”

— Fr. Laurence, O.D.C.



SATURDAY IN LENT IV



Thought—“Can a woman forget her infant, so as not to have pity on the son of her womb? And even if she should forget, yet I will not forget you.” (Epistle)

Practice—When anything goes wrong today, instead of worrying or grumbling about it, I shall at once trustfully ask God for help.

Prayer— Sacred Heart of Jesus, I believe in Thy love for me. (300 days indulgence)

“If Christians knew how to make use of the Mass, what wonders in the spiritual order would come to pass.”
—Mgr. Gibergues



PASSION SUNDAY

Thought—“They took up stones to cast at Him, but Jesus hid Himself, and went out of the temple.” (Gospel)

Practice—I will not quarrel or justify myself today when I am accused of anything, even if I am in the right, but quietly step aside as Jesus did.

Prayer—Deliver me from my enemies, O God. (500 days indulgence)

“Do not merely pray at Mass. Pray the Mass.”
— St. Pius X



St. Gertrude the Great Church
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AT THE BEGINNING OF THE DAY

O Lord God almighty, behold me prostrate before Thee in order to appease Thee, and to honor Thy divine majesty, in the name of all creatures. But how can I do this who am myself but a poor sinner? Nay, but I both can and will, knowing that Thou dost make it Thy boast to be called Father of mercies, and for love of us hast given Thine only-begotten Son, Who sacrificed Himself upon the cross, and for our sake doth continually renew that sacrifice of Himself upon our altars. And therefore do I—sinner, but penitent; poor, but rich in Jesus Christ—present myself before Thee, and with the love of angels and of all Thy saints, and with the tender affection of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer to Thee in the name of all creatures the Masses which are now being celebrated, together with all those which have been celebrated, and which shall be celebrated to the end of the world. Moreover, I intend to renew the offering of them every moment of this day and of all my life, that I may thereby render to Thy infinite majesty an honor and a glory worthy of Thee, thus to appease Thy indignation, to satisfy Thy justice for our many sins, to render Thee thanks in proportion to Thy benefits, and to implore Thy mercies for myself and for all sinners, for all the faithful, living and dead, for Thy whole Church, and lastly, for all poor schismatics, heretics, and infidels, that they also may be converted and save their souls. (Indulgence of three years.)

Our Lent: A Mass



Daily Meditations for Lent 2018

Come, then, come, children, come to Mass, and bring your merry hearts with you. Come, you that are young and happy, and rejoice before the Lord. Come, you that are old and weary, and tell your loneliness to God. Come, you that are sorely tempted, and ask the help of Heaven. Come, you that have sinned, and weep between the porch and the altar. Come, you that are bereaved, and pour out here your tears. Come, you that are sick, or anxious, or unhappy, and complain to God. Come, you that are prosperous and successful, and give thanks.