**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

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**April 29, 2018**

**EASTER IV**

**ST. PETER MARTYR**

**ST. JOSEPH COTTOLENGO, C**

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**Lumen Christi**

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

God’s Holy Will

(Patrick Curry)

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**The Paschal Sacraments 2018**

Please note these important dates:

CHILDREN’S DAY OF RECOLLECTION: Thursday, May 17th.

CONFIRMATIONS: Vigil of Pentecost, Saturday, May 19th.

FIRST COMMUNION: Corpus Christi Sunday, June 3rd.

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**Mothers Day Envelopes**

You can find envelopes in the pews for Mothers Day. Please fill these out and return them, via the collection, bookstore, or office, by Saturday, May 12, so that the names will be on the altar for Mothers Day.

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**Our Sick**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Bishop Dolan’s grand-niece, Lauren, who died this past week; for Sr. Jeanne Marie, recovering from cataract surgery; Richard Smith, from back surgery; Charlie Henry, and Keith Brabender.

Congratulations to Joshua and Elizabeth Gunsher on the baptism of their daughter, Agatha Winefride, today, April 29.

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**Collection Report**

Sunday, April 22nd..................$3,896.00
A Bouquet of Thoughts

God’s Garden

Then right away our soul is transformed into a garden with fragrant blossoms of holy desire. And in the center of the garden is planted the tree of the most holy cross, the resting place of the spotless Lamb. He bathes and waters this glorious garden, irrigating it with His blood; and He Himself bears the mature fruit of true solid virtues. If you want patience, He is the bedrock of meekness, since not a murmur of complaint was heard from the Lamb. He is the bedrock of deep humility, since God stooped down to humanity, and the Word stooped to the shameful death of the cross. If you want charity, He is that charity—and even more, for it was the power of love and charity that kept Him nailed fast to the cross. The cross and nails never could have held the God-Man, had not the power of charity held Him.

I’m not surprised that those who make of themselves a garden through self-knowledge are strong in the face of the whole world, for they are conformed and made like unto Christ our life to have a foretaste of eternal life. They control the world by making light of it, the devils are afraid to get near to a soul on fire with divine charity. So up…I don’t want you sleeping any more in irresponsibility and sensual love. No, with a boundless blazing love get up and take a bath in Christ’s blood; hide in the wounds of Christ crucified.

— St. Catharine of Siena

Lifted Up

Christ willed to die lifted up, first of all, to cleanse the heavens: for since He had cleansed the things on earth by the sanctity of His life, the things of the air were left to be cleansed by His death: “through Him He should reconcile all things to Himself, whether on earth or in the heavens, making peace through His blood” (Col 1:20). Secondly, to triumph over the demons who prepare for war in the air: “the prince of the power of the air” (Eph 2:2). Thirdly, He wished to die lifted up to draw our hearts to Himself: “I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all to Myself.” And fourthly, because in the death on the cross He was lifted up in the sense that there He triumphed over His enemies; so it is not called a death, but a lifting up: “He will drink from the stream on the way, therefore He will lift up His head” (Ps 109:7). Fifthly, He willed to die lifted up because the cross was the reason for His being lifted up, i.e., exalted: “He became obedient to the Father even to death, the death of the cross; on account of which God has exalted Him” (Phil 2:8).

Now the fruit of Christ’s passion is eternal life; hence He says, so that everyone who believes in Him, performing good works, may not be lost, but have eternal life. And this fruit corresponds to the fruit of the symbolic serpent. For whoever looked upon the serpent of bronze was freed from poison and his life was preserved. But he who looks upon the lifted up Son of Man and believes in the crucified Christ, he is freed from poison and sin: “Whoever believes in Me will never die,” and is preserved for eternal life. “These things are written that you may believe…and that believing you my have life in His name.” — St. Thomas Aquinas

First Thursday is the Finding of the Holy Cross.

Jesus the Christ Wit Wonders

A God and yet a man,
A maid and yet a mother:
Wit wonders what wit can
Conceive this or the other.

A God and can He die?
A dead man, can He live?
What wit can well reply?
What reason reason give?

God, Truth itself, doth teach it.
Man’s wit sinks too far under
By reason’s power to reach it:
Believe and leave to wonder.

- Anonymous

Nature’s Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy...
Low, in stately reverence, bend the trees;

Holy, holy, holy...
Soft and solemn Vespers chants the breeze;

Holy, holy, holy...
Carol sweet and clear the whirling birds;

Holy, holy, holy...
Blossoms rend a psalm in perfumed words.

- Ray Forrd

The Harrowing of Hell

Love asks to penetrate
The hot dark place,
The place of pain,
From which the sons of light Hide their modest faces.
Love is allowed.
And oh! what gnashing of teeth
Among the demons
Who thought it was their own!

- D.M. Lewis
We took Fr. Lehtoranta out to dinner Thursday for his birthday, and were trying to remember when we had such a nice day. It’s been awhile. Candles was nice and sunny, but the groundhog surely saw his shadow. We are grateful now for the beauties of Spring. These are Our Lady’s days, of Good Counsel, of Consolation. Tuesday we begin her month. Make May special in your home, too, and under the roof of your soul. It’s always sunny and warm there, on the darkest days, if Jesus and Mary stay. We tend to rush by. Now is the time to stop and pay a visit to your Mother.

Fr. Lehtoranta reports an excellent High School Washington trip, which included a visit to the Senate. The distinguished lady from Minnesota was giving a speech praising “the musician formerly known as Prince.” Your tax dollars at work. The conflations of big government and entertainment would be funny, if it were not so destructive of all that is good, and worse, far worse.

We congratulate Sam Arlinghaus who placed second in a state competition for diesel skills. Many of our young people are going for good, stable “blue collar” jobs, and we salute their practicality. But everyone needs the basics of education in order to function. Our school and its fine staff are dedicated to that, and more, as are our devoted home educators. The latter have a help now in a new Skype school being pioneered by the Sisters of St. Thomas Aquinas. That way those who live too far from a real school can get in on a virtual one. A bit like the Mass. God bless the engineers and the technicians who provide us with these highly advanced means to practice our Catholic Faith, and educate our children.

Fr. Cekada is heading down to the seminary tomorrow for some good old fashioned teaching. Two of Fr. Nakumbe’s seminarians have been accepted for next year. Father is justly pleased, and remains grateful to all of you who help him feed his seminarians, or take care of his missions.

The violence of this world is so often directed against Christ and His Church. Two of “our” mission countries are increasingly dangerous to Catholics, and especially priests; Mexico and Nigeria. Please pray for our safety, for the pastors and the flocks.

Fr. McGuire returned to Effingham, Illinois this weekend, stopping in Indianapolis to offer Mass for Mary Black. Holy Face Mission, in south central Illinois, is a growing Mass center. Some of their members will be joining us for Confirmation (it looks to be a big class) on the Vigil of Pentecost. But how proud they were when Fr. McGuire arrived earlier this month with a fine altar from Milwaukee, designed and crafted by St. Hugh’s own Keith Kimpel. It was a sign that they were back together again, after so many years without a Mass. Year ago several priests visited them, including Fr. Fuji, who also preached a mission here in 1992.

What a bouquet of feasts Mother Church picks for us this week: Ss. Philip and James, St. Athanasius, Holy Cross, St. Monica, St. Pius V, as well as May Devotions, the Sacred Heart and the Immaculate Heart, All Night Adoration. Take some time to visit the garden, won’t you?

With a Marian blessing I send you home, but not for too long...

- Bishop Dolan

P.S. Oh yes, Caravaggio bagged a very big baby bunny last week and deposited it on the kitchen rug when he came in for dinner. It was predispatched, though, which saved me having to chase a rabbit around the house. Caravaggio is a single minded and very enthusiastic eater, so he never looked up from his dinner when I disposed of his gift. Thoughtful.

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All Night Adoration Guard of Honor
May 2018

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM; Joe Andreotta, Volunteer needed
8:00 PM - 9:00 PM: Ken Gilliam, Kirby Bischel
9:00 PM - 10:00 PM: Peter Gebel, Justin Soeder
10:00 PM - 11:00 PM: Andrew Prell, Dean McGlorey
11:00 PM - 12:00 AM: James Kolenich, Paul Puglielli
12:00 AM - 1:00 AM: Brett Kirkpatrick, Volunteer needed
1:00 AM - 2:00 AM: Chip McGlorey, David Marko
2:00 AM - 3:00 AM: Dan & Danny Brueggemann
3:00 AM - 4:00 AM: Steve Weigand, Volunteer needed
4:00 AM - 5:00 AM: Bob Uhlenbrock, Volunteer needed
5:00 AM - 6:00 AM: Paddy Omlor, Joseph Simpson
6:00 AM - 7:00 AM: Jim Soli, Sisters of Our Lady of Reparation

Sub: Brendan Lotarski (513-889-9449)

If you cannot make your hour, please contact the church office immediately: (513) 645-4212
**I am a Catholic...**

1.) Because the founder of the Catholic Church is the God-Man Christ, Who was foretold by the prophets, and Who proved the divine character of His mission and teaching by wonderful miracles, especially by His own Resurrection from the dead;

2.) Because Christ established upon Peter and the Apostles the Church, one, holy, universal, apostolic, with which He declared He would remain all days to the consummation of the world, and against which the gates of hell would not prevail;

3.) Because Christ gave this society certain well defined doctrines which all men everywhere must believe under pain of damnation, to which they may not add and from which they may not subtract.

(To be continued)

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**CONFIRMATIONS**

The sacrament of Confirmation will be solemnly administered on Saturday, May 19th. Anyone, child or adult, who wishes to receive the sacrament, should contact the church office at (513) 645-4212 or parishoffice@sgg.org for the necessary form. If you're new and were confirmed in the Novus Ordo (since 1971), you really should receive a conditional Confirmation.

Sponsors must be members of St. Gertrude the Great, or a church affiliated with us. Please ask if you have a question.

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**Upcoming Events**

2018 YAG: June 22-24. For more information and to register, please visit vagincincy.org.

Girls’ Camp: June 27-29

Boys’ Camp: July 24-26