

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

May 6, 2018

EASTER V

ST. JOHN BEFORE THE LATIN GATE



¶ FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

Blessed Palm Crosses are available in the vestibule today. The Blessing of Religious Articles is available at the Communion Rail following all Masses. The second collection for our seminary will be taken up. Sunday classes are at 10:40 AM. Vespers are at 4:45 PM, followed by May Devotions and Benediction.

¶ ROGATION DAYS

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of this week we observe the Rogation Days. Each year the Church gathers up all of her needs and petitions and solemnly presents them to Our Lord so that He Himself will take them to the Father when He goes home to heaven on Ascension Thursday. This is the idea of the Rogation, or *asking*, Days. The Rogation Days Processions are a beautiful part of the Church's liturgy and draw down much needed grace upon ourselves, our Church, and our country. Join our school children in this powerful prayer at 11:00 AM on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

¶ ASCENSION THURSDAY

All Catholics are bound to attend Holy Mass under pain of Mortal sin on this Holy Day of Obligation. Masses are at 7:00 AM (*special workers' Mass—no sermon!*), 9:00 AM, and 5:45 PM. See the Calendar for the full schedule.

Collection Report

Sunday, April 29th.....\$3,957.00

Thank you for your generosity.



¶ MAY DEVOTIONS

Parents, grandparents and just about everyone is cordially invited to the daily May Devotions at 3:06 PM—a short but sweet service to show our love for Our Lady. Join us on school days.

¶ NEXT SUNDAY: MOTHER'S DAY

The May Procession and Crowning will take place after the High Mass next Sunday. There will be no Sunday Classes. Vespers with May Devotions and Benediction will be at 4:45 PM.

Our first Fatima Rosary Procession for Peace will take place at 7:15 PM in West Chester.

📖 *Set Your Missal:* Sunday Within the Octave of the Ascension, with commemorations of St. Robert Bellarmine and the Octave of the Ascension. Preface of the Ascension.

¶ ALTER CHRISTUS

The "Little Church" is in the vestibule today to receive your alms for priests.

¶ UPCOMING EVENTS

2018 YAG: June 22-24.

Girls' Camp: June 27-29.

Boys' Camp: July 24-26.

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.

¶ 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.

¶ 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.

¶ YOUR PRAYERS

Mary Lois Themann, recovery from surgery; †Margaret Mary Miller, a former parishioner of St. Clare; Elvira Moser, who is dying; †Bob Regner, the father of Maria Miller; and all of our sick, shut in and fallen away.

TODAY'S MASS

It is the Gospel which gives character to the whole of this day's liturgy. It expresses the deep love of Our Lord for His own,—a love ever-increasing, now that His hours on earth are numbered. He bestows upon His children His parting gift—the precious gift of prayer. "Hitherto you have not asked anything in My Name. Ask and you shall receive, that your joy may be full." "Amen, amen, I say to you," He solemnly declares, "if you ask the Father anything in My Name, He will give it to you."

What a wonderful legacy is this! He could hardly do more than leave them this immense boon, this unailing source of blessings—prayer. Though He Himself will no longer tread this earth with them, He will be ever near. They can commune with Him; they can tell Him of their love for Him; they can cry out for help in need, for comfort in distress, for relief in pain and weariness. And because they love Him the Eternal Father loves them, and His ear is ever open to their cry. Anything they ask in Christ's Name—i.e., in intimate union with Him by faith and love, for something which He Himself would pray for—the Father will give for love of His Son.

MAY OFFERINGS

The custom of offering flowers to the Blessed Virgin exists in all Catholic countries as expressive of her children's loving gratitude. May, the month of flowers, has in modern times been especially dedicated to her; flowers decorate her altars, and little girls crown her statue with them.



THE MASS:
RENUNCIATION & CHOICE

Those persons who apply themselves seriously to a study of the scope and meaning of the Mass, cannot help awakening in themselves a spirit of mortification, of subordination of the earthly to the heavenly, of absolute obedience to God's will and law. This is a necessity of the present hour, as is zeal for prayer. For many persons—among whom we observe with sorrow the presence of many Catholics—live as though their sole purpose in life were to establish an earthly paradise, with no thought being given to eternity or the hereafter.

- Pius XII



PRAYER FOR AN ENGAGED
COUPLE

O God, Who has chosen us to found a Christian home, grant that we may prayerfully and chastely prepare ourselves for the worthy reception of the Sacrament of Marriage.

Help us, Dear Lord, to understand the seriousness of our vocation. Prepare us ever to love Thee faithfully; always to prefer Thy sovereign will to our own; to accept with equanimity the joys and burdens of married life; and to bring up in a Christian manner the children that Thy Providence may confide to our keeping.

May the home that we are soon to set up be pleasing to Thee. May Thy Name be sanctified in it, and Thy kingdom on earth extended; to the end that in Thee we may be united forever and ever. Amen.

THE CORONET

When for the thorns with which I
long, too long,
With many piercings wound,
I seek with garlands to redress that
wrong,
Through every garden, every mead,
I gather flowers (my fruits are only
flowers)

Dismantling all the fragrant towers*
That once adorned my Shepherdess's
head.

And now when I have summoned up
all my store,

Thinking (so I myself deceive)

So rich a chaplet thence to weave
As never yet the King of Glory wore,

Alas, I find the Serpent old

That, twining in his speckled breast,
About the flowers disguised does fold,

With wreaths of fame and interest.

Ah, foolish man, that would'st debate
with them,

And mortal glory, Heaven's diadem!

But thou who only could'st the Ser-
pent tame,

Either his slippery knots at once un-
tie,

And disentangle all his winding snare,
Or shatter too with him my curious*
frame;

And let these wither, so that he may
die,

Though set with skill and chosen out
with care.

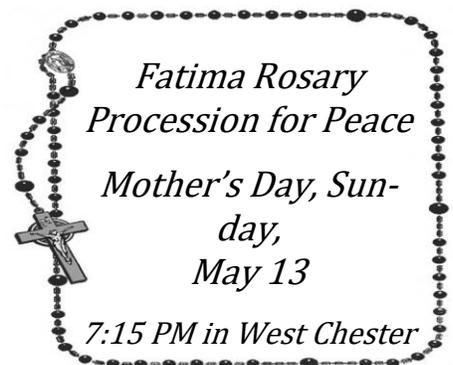
That they, while thou on both their
spoils dost tread,

May crown thy feet, that could not
crown thy head.

- Andrew Marvell

**towers*: high head-dresses; *curious*:
elaborately wrought

*In honor of the May Altar and Mary's
Crown*



Spring came last week in time for May, but didn't stay, stronger Summer chased it away. Our May is beautiful still (despite omens of heat and humidity), with refreshing winds and purifying rains, and even sun sometimes to cheer our day.

First Thursday was Holy Cross in Paschaltide, a magnificent feast, and very powerful prayer. Some were doing National Prayer Day, surely a good thing. Our Catholic Prayer Day is not one, but three, like the adorable Trinity. The Lesser Litanies, Monday through Wednesday, lead us to the Holy Day, which sees Our Lord take our petitions up with Him, home to Heaven. We're praying for blessings both temporal and spiritual, for country and church, for good weather and good children, for the sick and sinners, for ourselves and just about anything else.

Pray with us. More litanies are on offer each afternoon as we sing Our Lady's glories in a little visit. Did you remember your family May Altar and devotions? The Curé of Ars tells of a godless husband who once merely provided flowers for his wife's May Altar, and was rewarded for it by the grace of final repentance in the midst of committing suicide. Little things are everything, for weal or woe.

The Novus Ordo church is now *against* crosses. One of Bergoglio's "material cardinals," aptly named Marx, has criticized the Bavarian government for mandating the placement of crosses in certain public buildings. He finds them divisive. Indeed. He did allow himself lately to praise his namesake, Karl Marx, on the great Communist Labor holiday, May 1. That, presumably, is *not* divisive.

But all of this is logical, and entirely to be expected, the long awaited fruit of Vatican II's revolution. But what are we to say of those who recognize this new church as Catholic, or as guaranteeing apostolicity? Or would you attend a Mass in which Karl Marx is named in the canon? Is there a real difference? Pray for clear thinking and *simple* catechism truth.

I am very proud of our young priests who are bravely rowing against the tide, and trying to do so much to take care of, to save, souls. Little missions have they started, here and there, long hours they give in the confessional, and in counseling, teaching, and preparing for sacraments. Oh, did I mention long trips, constant packing and unpacking, as a way of life? All of this is founded upon a solid and full life of prayer, for you and in your name. Most of all, there is the daily offering of the Holy Sacrifice. This is what

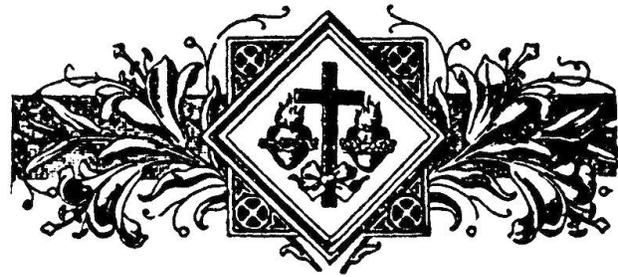
makes a *priest* different from a minister. Treasure your priests, pray for them, and this especially at the Sacrifice of the Altar. Cheer up a priest, and maybe Our Lord, by showing up at a weekday Mass sometime, just *because*.



Fr. McKenna was off to Louisiana First Friday, where he was replacing **Fr. Francis, O.F.M.**, who was visiting **Fr. Ercoli** in Seattle, and helping with a plumbing project in preparation for the Ladies' Retreat. Some priests wear many hats, and it's good to see priests "dwell as one." Pass the wrench. **Fr. Cekada** reports a good seminary week, and **Bishop Sanborn's** health much improved. But there are always the cares and worries of our worldwide work, which is why we do ask for prayers.

I promise mine for you in return at the altar, and at Mary's shrine this May.

- Bishop Dolan



AGAINST ENVY

My Jesus, keep me, I beseech Thee, from that shameful fault into which even those who sincerely desire to serve Thee are in danger of falling, of being envious and jealous of others. Preserve me from yielding to any sentiment of displeasure when others are praised, of discontent when others are preferred before me, or of sorrow and regret for the good which I see in men. Let me, on the contrary, rejoice with all my heart in any good which comes to others.

Teach me to search my soul for the hidden motives of my actions so that if I am inclined to envy others, to criticize them, to misinterpret their actions or to belittle their achievements, I may sternly check myself and force my soul to rejoice in all that Thou givest to others as though it were given to myself. Make me realize that we are all brothers and sisters in Thy great family, and whatever one receives from Thy bounty is given to us all. Teach me to discover and root out the least trace of envy from my heart, and to make that poor heart in every way like Thine in the fullness of generosity and love to all mankind. Amen.

St. Gertrude the Great School's 9th grade made a field trip to Washington DC on April 18-21. I was happy that I was invited on this trip,



together with Mr. Scott Richesson and Mrs. Carolyn McClorey, and the five students of our freshman class.

We started our trip on Wednesday morning, the feast of the Solemnity of St. Joseph. After an 8-hour drive we checked in at our hotel in Arlington, VA and made a short evening trip to the Marine Corps (Iwo Jima) War Memorial. This monument depicts a great victory during World War II, and the inscription shows all the conflicts in which the USA has been involved since the Revolutionary War: 28 so far, and there's still space reserved for more to come.

On Thursday morning we visited the Senate and the House of Representatives. The Capitol Visitor Center still displays among its many statues the bust of Fr. Junípero Serra, a gift of the state of California, despite the calls to remove him as an imperialist conqueror. We also saw the Old Senate Chamber, where the decisions of "The Golden Age of the Senate" (pre-Civil War) were made. The "Golden Age" is usually held to come to an end on May 22, 1856 (the Feast of Corpus Christi that year) when Senator Preston Brooks beat his fellow senator with his walking cane in that chamber. (That year the town of Melendez in Florida changed its name to Brooksville in honor of the Senator).

During our whole visit, all the flags of Washington DC and Arlington were at half-mast because of the death of former first lady Barbara Bush. And I guess we are still awaiting the return of the Senate's "Golden Age: our group arrived at the present Senate Chamber just in time to hear the Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party's Senator Amy Klobuchar giving a speech to honor the late pop & rock "artist" Prince. She greeted him as an "icon" who is now in Heaven (or in "the world of never-ending happiness," as she put it). After the House we made a visit to the National Museum of Natural History and to the National Air and Space Museum, where we saw Ronan Chapalain's documentary short "Planet Power" in an IMAX Theater.

The busy Friday started with a trip to the Arlington National Cemetery, where we saw the impressive

Changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. We also stopped at the gravesites of Presidents John F. Kennedy, and William Howard Taft, one of the Presidents from Ohio.

From the Cemetery we drove to see the Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land in America. Under the beautiful monastery church lie the catacombs with their narrow passageways and many side chapels. One of the chapels is dedicated to the Poor Souls in Purgatory, and it was truly unexpected to hear our tour-guide informing the people how the Poor Souls are suffering because of their sins, and that it is the duty of every Catholic to pray for their quick release into Heaven—something one certainly doesn't hear too often in Novus Ordo circles. The catacombs also include the reliquary containing the bones of St. Benignus, a Roman Martyr.

From the Monastery we made a quick stop at the nearby Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.



We admired its breathtaking domes in the upper church. Down in the Memorial Hall we saw the Tiara of Paul VI, which the Catholics of Milan gave him as a gift to use in his coronation, and which he laid on the altar of St. Peter's as a sign of the "renunciation of human glory" done "in the spirit of Vatican II."

We next headed to the National Museum of American History, with its many relics of a different kind, including the original Mary Young Pickersgill's Star-Spangled Banner, which is huge. We ended the busy day by touring the memorials of the city and watching the White House in the beautiful night light. A street musician at the House's corner was playing Sibelius's "Finlandia," a nice touch to end the day.

On Saturday, on our way back to SGG, we made the stop at Udvar-Hazy Center near Dulles International Airport. Its many attractions included the *Enola Gay* airplane, infamous for dropping an atomic bomb on Hiroshima; the space shuttle Discovery; and the Lockheed Blackbird spy plane.

On our school bulletin board you can see some photos from our fun trip. Take a look.

- Fr. Lehtoranta

THE MINOR LITANIES

This solemnity, which began in France, soon spread over all Europe. The province of Vienne was afflicted with divers plagues: there were frequent conflagrations and earthquakes, apparently threatening the whole world with speedy destruction. The sole explanation of these calamities was that they were the vengeance of an angry God. It began to be feared that the catastrophe of Sodom would be repeated. It was Paschal time. On Easter Eve, the great church, occupying the highest site in the city, was surrounded by a furious conflagration while the faithful were assembled within it. Every member of the congregation, fearing that his own dwelling would become a prey to the flames, fled from the building. Alone, the Bishop, St. Mamerus, remained intrepidly at the foot of the altar; and by the fervor of his prayers, accompanied with tears, obtained from Heaven the cessation of the fire and the preservation of the church. At this news the faithful hurried back to the sacred edifice and found no other flame than that of the holy candles. That same night the saintly Bishop conceived the design of establishing the Rogations, to thank God and to prevent similar misfortunes in the future. He fixed the first celebration for the days preceding the feast of the Ascension. They took the form of processions lasting three days.

- St. Avitus

From France, the observation of the Rogation Days spread to England, where they became known as "Gang Days" (probably from the provincial word *gang*, to go or walk), and "Cross Week," so designated, very likely, from the custom of carrying the cross at the head of the procession. One of King Alfred's laws considered a theft committed on a Rogation Day as grievous as one committed on a Sunday or a holyday of obligation. Even after the Reformation, while the recitation of the Litanies was discontinued in England, the Rogation Days remained days of abstinence and prayer, to avert calamities and to obtain God's blessing upon the fruits of the earth.



Kindling wood...for the altar

The Mass is the point of union between God and man. Here it is especially that God is "linked up" with us.... Here it is that He pours forth upon us, not His just wrath, but His mercy for the absent.... Let us, then, in a brotherly gesture, attend Mass in their name.

THE YAG IS COMING UP!

Registration ends in a little over a month, on June 17. Don't miss out on the fun! Register today at

LAST WEEK'S SAINTS SPEAK OF THE SACRIFICE FOR SIN:

THE MASS

Let us hear what Pope Alexander I. says concerning this sacrifice of propitiation: "By the offering of this victim the Lord is appeased, and forgives all, even the most grievous sins." The holy pope and martyr Julius writes: "All sins and iniquities are blotted out by the offering of this oblation." What comfort these words bring to the heart of the sinner, assuring him, as they do, that all sins, without exception, may be purged away by holy Mass! Again, St. Athanasius says: "The offering of the unbloody sacrifice is the expiation of our crimes." Passages of this kind from the fathers might be multiplied, but we will content ourselves with the pronouncement of holy Church on the subject: "The holy Synod teaches that this sacrifice is truly propitiatory, and if one draw nigh unto God, contrite and penitent, He will be appeased by the offering thereof, and, granting the grace and gift of penitence, forgive even heinous crimes and sins." (Sess. xxii ch. 2.) Words of solace, which show us what blessings and graces flow to us from this noblest of sacrifices! What praise and gratitude we owe to Christ for having given us so efficacious a means of propitiating an offended God!

St. Alexander, pope and martyr, was one of the seven sons of St. Felicitas. He it was who prescribed the highly expressive ritual of the tiny drop of water added to the wine of the chalice. (May 3)



MON	5/7/18	ST. STANISLAUS, BPM • ROGATION DAY 11:00 AM Lesser Litanies 11:30 AM High Mass †Patrick H. Harpen, Sr. (<i>Edna J. Harpen</i>) 3:06 PM May Devotions
TUE	5/8/18	APPARITION OF ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL <i>OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART • ROGATION DAY</i> 8:00 AM Low Mass Special Intention (AV) (<i>Kuebler/Volz</i>) 11:00 AM Lesser Litanies 11:30 AM High Mass Conversion of Sinners (<i>Mark Cash</i>) 3:06 PM May Devotions 5:00 PM Low Mass For the repose of the soul of †Janice West (anniversary of burial) (<i>A.M. Omlor</i>)
WED	5/9/18	ST. GREGORY NAZIANZEN, BPCD <i>VIGIL OF THE ASCENSION • ROGATION DAY</i> 8:00 AM Low Mass My special intentions (<i>Rich VandeRyt</i>) 11:00 AM Lesser Litanies 11:30 AM High Mass Happy Feast Day, Joseph! (<i>Katia Holbrook</i>) 3:06 PM May Devotions 5:00 PM Low Mass The Australian Mission & Fr. Eldracher's Intentions 5:50 PM First Vespers of the Ascension
THU	5/10/18	ASCENSION OF OUR LORD HOLY DAY 7:00 AM Low Mass For the people of St. Gertrude the Great (Workers' Mass) 8:30 AM Confessions 9:00 AM High Mass Bishop Daniel Dolan, Fathers Anthony Cekada, Charles McGuire, Stephen McKenna, Vili Lehtoranta (<i>Keith & Linda Kimpel & Family</i>) 4:30 PM Vespers & Exposition 5:10 PM Confessions & Rosary 5:30 PM May Devotions, Benediction 5:45 PM Low Mass Bishop Dolan & the Priests of St. Gertrude's (<i>Rich VandeRyt</i>)
FRI	5/11/18	WITHIN THE OCTAVE 8:00 AM Low Mass Aunt Patsy (<i>John Brueggemann</i>) 11:06 AM Confessions 11:25 AM High Mass †Sharon Patton (<i>Barbara O'Connor</i>) Opening of Pentecost Novena 3:06 PM May Devotions 5:15 PM Confessions & Rosary 5:45 PM Low Mass Happy Birthday, Genevieve! (<i>Theresa & Jacinta Simpson</i>) 6:30 PM Pentecost Novena, Sacred Heart Novena & Benediction
SAT	5/12/18	SS. NEREUS & COMPANIONS, MM 7:10 AM Confessions 7:30 AM Low Mass †Frank & †Ida Youngworth (<i>Paul & Karen Puglielli</i>) 8:10 AM May Devotions 10:30 AM Nuptial High Mass: Joseph Young & Jacinta Hilla
SUN	5/13/18	SUNDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF ASCENSION <i>MOTHER'S DAY • ST. ROBERT BELLARMINI, BPCD</i> <i>OUR LADY OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT</i> 7:05 AM Rosary 7:30 AM Low Mass Special Intention (<i>Patsy McConnell</i>)

WHY I AM A CATHOLIC

I am a Catholic...

4) Because Christ the Author of all holiness promised to guard this society from error and preserve it until the end of time;

5) Because the Catholic Church possesses all the marks of this Church established by Christ:

The Catholic Church is ONE because she everywhere professes the same faith, has the same sacrifice and sacraments, and is governed by one and the same visible head, the Pope. All non-Catholic sects lack unity. Because of the principle of private judgment they are continually splitting and subdividing. They have no central authority to hold them together. Their doctrines and practices are changing from day to day.

The Catholic Church is HOLY because its Founder, Jesus Christ, is all-holy; because its doctrines are holy; because its means of sanctification, the sacraments, are holy; because it produces holy men and saints.

The Catholic Church is UNIVERSAL because it subsists throughout the ages, teaches all nations, and maintains all the truths given to it by Christ. The sects are not spread over the whole world but rather localized, nor do they teach everything that Our Lord taught the Apostles.

The Catholic Church is APOSTOLIC because it was founded on Christ's Apostles, because it is governed by their doctrines through their lawful successors, and because it never ceases to teach their doctrine. The sects cannot trace their origin to Christ or to the Apostles.

6) I am a Catholic, finally, because God Who is Supreme Truth and Holiness could not possibly be the Author of the countless sects with their mutually destructive and contradictory teachings and practices.

Servers

THU 5/10	7:00 AM LOW: R. VandeRyt 9:00 AM HIGH: CHAPLAINS: Fr. McGuire, Fr. Lehtoranta MC: J. Simpson CROSS: P. McClorey TH: D. McConnell ACS: M. Simpson, A. McConnell MITRE: D. Simpson CROZIER: C. Arlinghaus TORCH: P. McClorey, P. McConnell, Simon Richesson, A. McClorey, B. Kamphaus, J. Mourer 5:30 PM BENEDICTION: G. Miller, P. Omlor 5:45 PM LOW: G. Miller, P. Omlor
SUN 5/13	7:30 AM LOW: D. & A. McConnell 9:00 AM HIGH: CHAPLAINS: P. Omlor, J. Simpson TH: J. Lacy ACS: T. Lawrence, C. Richesson CROSS: L. Arlinghaus TORCH: C. Arlinghaus, D. Simpson, C. Mourer, J. Stewart 11:30 AM LOW: A.D. Kinnett, Nathan McClorey 4:45 PM VESPERS & BENEDICTION: G. Miller 5:45 PM LOW: G. Miller

9:00 AM High Mass For all of our mothers whose names are on the altar
Procession & May Crowning

11:30 AM Low Mass †Jane Donadio (*Jim Guliano*)

4:45 PM Vespers, May Devotions & Benediction

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

7:15 PM Fatima Rosary Procession for Peace
 Union Centre Blvd. West Chester