

✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS

☩ FEBRUARY 15, 2009 • SEXAGESIMA •

Ss FAUSTINUS & JOVITA • The **Blessing of the Sick**, in honor of Our Lady of Lourdes follows all Masses. The **Blessing of Expectant Mothers** will be offered after the Blessing of the sick.

☩ THIS WEEK

This is one of the quietest weeks of the year, fittingly so as we prepare for a devout and energetic Lent. Please note there is only one **5:00 PM Mass**, and that on **Monday**, and consult the Calendar for the different Votive Masses being offered daily. Our monthly **Requiem** for the Poor Souls is **Friday**.

☩ NEXT SUNDAY: Holy Face Sunday

Confessions are heard before and or during all Masses for Shrovetide ("Confession Time") in preparation for a good Lent Children's Confessions are at **10:30**, as are Catechism and Adult Education Classes. The Triduum and the Holy Face follows all Masses.

Set your Missal: Quinquagesima Sunday with the commemoration of St. Peter's Chair, and St. Paul; and Proper last Gospel of St. Peter's Chair, Preface of the Trinity.



☩ Please pray for the happy repose of the soul of Carol Mincey, called into eternity on February 7th after a life of innocence and suffering. Carol was buried from church last Tuesday.

Please remember all of our dear deceased, especially our priests and parishioners, as well as benefactors.



☩ Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Manzardo on the Baptism of their daughter Madeline Claire, yesterday Feb. 14, 2009.

☩ PALMS INTO ASHES

Please bring your blessed Palm to be burned for Ash Wednesday. Please drop off this sacramental in the vestibule any time this week. God Bless You.

☩ UPCOMING EVENTS

Children Lenten Recollection
Wednesday March 11th.



THE PRAYER OF THE DOVE

The Ark waits,
Lord,
the Ark waits on Your will,
and the sign of Your peace.
I am the dove,
simple
as the sweetness that comes from You.
The Ark waits,
Lord;
it has endured.
Let me carry it
a sprig of hope and joy,
and put, at the heart of its forsakenness,
this, in which Your love clothes me,
Grace immaculate. Amen.



It is in loving the cross that one discovers his heart.

-St. Bernadette



Thanks be to God and Mary.

Collection Report

Sunday February 8th\$3,964.24

*Thank you for your generosity!
Remember St. Gertrude's in your will!*

Ushers

FEBRUARY 22, 2009

7:30 AM Joe Androetta, Kent Maki, Joe Bayer, Jim Kolenich
9:00 AM Dale Wilker, Jim Gebel, Richard Smith, Bernie Brueggemann
11:30 AM Bob Uhlenbrock, Dennis Hille, Will Wiegand, Kirby Bischof
5:45 PM John Seyfried

Servers

FEBRUARY 16-22, 2009

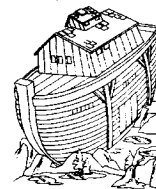
•MON 2/16 5:00 PM LOW: C. Ritzi
•FRI 2/20 5:45 PM LOW: G. Keaveney, C. Ritze, J. Bayer, M. Ribar
•SAT 2/21 7:30 AM LOW: C. & T. Simpson
8:00 AM LOW: G. Keaveney, M. Briggs
•SUN 2/22 7:30 AM LOW: D. & S. Brueggemann
9:00 AM HIGH: MC: A. Lotarski
TH: R. Hill ACs: G. Wnek, F. Puglielli
TORCH: P. Duff, J. Simpson, N. Puglielli, D. Wnek
11:30 AM LOW: M. & J. Brugger
5:45 PM LOW: G. Miller

✠ POETRY CORNER

NOAH'S PRAYER

Lord,
what a menagerie!
Between Your downpour and these
animal cries
one cannot hear oneself think!
The days are long,
Lord.
All this water makes my heart sink.
When will the ground cease to rock
under my feet?
The days are long.
Master Raven has not come back.
Here is Your dove.
Will she find us a twig of hope?
The days are long,
Lord.
Guide Your Ark to safety,
some zenith of rest,
where we can escape at last
from this brute slavery.
The days are long,
Lord.
Lead me until I reach the shore of Your
covenant. Amen.

- Carmen Bernos "Prayers From the Ark"



Noah is the patron saint of weather forecasters, and also the patron of those who ride out the storm. Today, when stormy weather predictions of destruction are common, let Noah and his wife be inspirations that you can ride out the storm if you are willing to build an ark.

No wood is needed for this ark, only the lumber of love soaked in hope. Fasten together the planks with prayerful devotion and secure them with an iron trust in God's abounding love. Bring aboard your ark not simply your family but all of creation as your companions. Then live in your ark; make it your home, rain or shine. I solemnly assure you that regardless of how terrible and long the storm, you will see God's rainbow when the clouds clear.

✠ THE CALENDAR

MON	2/16/09	FERIAL DAY 11:25 AM Votive High Mass of the Blessed Trinity <i>Eldon Nuekam (Bob Brueggemann)</i> 5:00 PM Low Mass <i>In Honor of St. Philomena</i>
TUES	2/17/09	FERIAL DAY COMMEMORATION OF THE PASSION - THE FLIGHT INTO EGYPT 11:25 AM Votive High Mass of the Passion <i>Children & Spouses, Special Intention (Kirby & Jean Bischel)</i>
WED	2/18/09	ST. SIMEON, BPM, ST. BERNADETTE 11:25 AM High Mass <i>All of our faithful departed relatives, friends & benefactors (Patrick Omlor)</i>
THUR	2/19/09	FERIAL DAY 11:25 AM High Mass <i>Poor Souls of Wissing Family living and deceased</i>
FRI	2/20/09	FERIAL DAY 11:00 AM Confessions 11:25 AM Requiem High Mass <i>Purgatorial Society</i> 5:15 PM Confessions/Rosary 5:30 PM Closing of the Infant of Prague Novena 5:45 PM Low Mass <i>In the Honor of the Divine Infant of Prague for Our Parents (Patrick and Anne Marie Omlor)</i> 6:30 PM Sorrowful Mother Novena III with Blessing of the sick, Sacred Heart Novena, Benediction, Confessions
SAT	2/21/09	OUR LADY'S SATURDAY 7:15 AM Confessions 7:30 AM Low Mass <i>Our Children (Jim & Barbara Kolenich)</i> 8:00 AM Sermon and Low Mass <i>Intentions of K & G (GPK)</i> Confessions
SUN	2/22/09	QUINQUAGESIMA ST PETER'S CHAIR AT ANTIOCH 7:30 AM Low Mass <i>Our Parents & Grandparents (Dan, Mary and Family)</i> 9:00 AM High Mass <i>Barbara Schmelzer (Gary Amyx)</i> 10:30 AM Children's Confessions, Adult and Children Catechism Classes 11:30 AM Low Mass <i>Jean Bischel - Thank you for your friendship and encouragement (Donna Patton)</i> 5:45 PM Low Mass <i>For the people of St. Gertrude</i>

Our Mother's Cross Path of Sorrows



Measure Her Love for You by the Greatness of Her Suffering

Join with us every Friday evening at the Pieta, in the recital of this precious devotion to Our Mother of Sorrows.

✠ BISHOP'S CORNER



The middle "gesima" Sunday introduces a properly quiet ten day period before the rigors of Lent. Take advantage of it to pray and plan for the holy forty day combat. A little light Shrovetide relaxation is liturgical, and wise, as well. This way, naturally and supernaturally we will be ready for Lent.

Today we bless the sick in honor of Our Lady of Lourdes. I have some fresh Lourdes water, should anyone require it. Remember the blessing of the sick each Friday night for Our Lady of Sorrows. Make the Novena with us.

I read recently that the last restaurant in New York to require men to wear a jacket and tie had relaxed its standards. Well, gentlemen: we are not a restaurant, but a true Catholic church in this barbaric age of no standards. If you wish to worship with us, you will have to observe the dress code. Men and boys must wear 1) A dress shirt with a tie 2) a jacket or sweater over this. Religious jewelry does not replace the tie, and the coat or sweater is not optional. Ladies: (to be fair) please remember to dress up, not down, in a modest outfit which does honor to the Lord's Day and house. Ours is a barbaric age, and sometimes it seems the Huns are at the gates. We are traditional Catholics. Let us dress as befits true Catholics, at least for Sunday Mass!

If nothing else, keep a jacket and tie (ladies a dress) in your car, and costume yourself appropriately before entering the church. Your kind cooperation is a sign of your respect for Catholic tradition, for Our Lord, and for His house and your neighbor. Thank you!
With a Blessing!

-Bishop Dolan



JESUS IN THE TABERNACLE

*He sits and waits,
no need for words.
His message of love,
by ears, can't be heard.
It's the heart that receives
that message of love,
As he beckons to us
to come show our love,
For Him; Our King, Our Saviour,
Our Friend.
Who said He'd always be with us,
'til life's journey ends,
When He'll remember those times,
When He gave us a call,
And we answered by coming,
to give Him our all,
No matter the effort,
both great and small.*

-John Seyfried

CHRISTIAN FAITH AND PRACTICE

WHAT EVERY CHRISTIAN MUST BELIEVE

(Continued from last week)

5. We must believe that Jesus Christ, our Saviour, who had been long foretold by the prophets, was, at God's appointed time, by the power of the Holy Ghost, without having any man for His father, conceived in the womb of the Virgin Mary; whom God had prepared for this wonderful Maternity in a wonderful manner: in that by a singular grace and privilege, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, she was in the first instant of her conception preserved free from every taint of original sin. Of her, who is blessed among women for evermore, was born our Lord— she still remaining a pure virgin. During the time of His mortal life Jesus Christ founded the Christian religion; and then offered Himself a sacrifice for the sins of the whole world, by dying upon a cross, to obtain mercy, grace, and salvation for us; and that neither mercy, nor grace, nor salvation can, or ever could, since Adam's fall, be obtained except through the mediation of the Son of God.

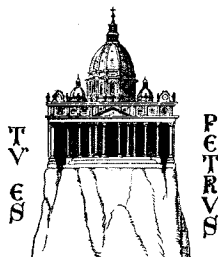
6. We must believe that Jesus Christ, after He died and was buried, arose on the third day from death to life, never to die again; and that, for the space of forty days, He was pleased, at different times, to manifest Himself to His disciples, and then ascended into Heaven in their sight; where, as God-man, He continually intercedes for us. Thence He sent down the Holy Ghost upon His disciples, to abide with them for ever, as He had promised, and to guide them and their successors into all truth.

7. We must believe the Catholic or Universal Church of Christ, of which He is the perpetual Head, and His Spirit, the perpetual Guide; which is founded upon a rock, and is ever victorious over all the powers of earth and hell, The Church is always One, in all its members professing one faith, in one communion, under one chief pastor, called the Pope, succeeding St. Peter, to whom Christ committed His whole flock.

The Church is always Holy, in teaching holy doctrine, in inviting all to a holy life, and in the eminent holiness of many of its children. It is Catholic, or Universal, for it subsists in all ages, and teaches all nations, and maintains all truth. It is Apostolic, for it derives its doctrine, its communion, its orders, and its mission, by an uninterrupted succession, from the Apostles of Christ.

8. With the Catholic Church the Scriptures, both of the Old and New Testaments, were deposited by the Apostles. It is the guardian and interpreter of them, and the judge of all controversies relating to them. The Scriptures, thus interpreted, together with the traditions of the Apostles, are to be received and admitted by all Christians for the rule of their faith and practice.

9. We must believe that, when the Pope speaks "ex-cathedra"- i.e., when, in discharge of his office of Pastor and teacher of all Christians, he defines, in virtue of his supreme Apostolic authority, a doctrine of faith or morals to be held by the universal Church, - he is endowed, by the Divine assistance promised to him in Blessed Peter, with that Infallibility with which the Divine Redeemer willed that His Church should be furnished, in defining doctrines of faith and morals. And therefore such definitions of the Pope are irreformable of themselves, and not in virtue of the consent of the Church.



No one can enter Heaven, unless he pass through Mary as through a gate. For just as God came to us through her, so too we must return to God through her...let us never depart from her, but having cast ourselves at her feet, let us always greet her with "Hail, full of grace."

-St. Bonaventure

Salvation can be found only in the Ark, in Christ. The normal approach to Christ is through the Church, which is the body of Christ. Only if we associate ourselves with the Church can we share in the redemption and obtain salvation. "No one can have God for his father who does not have the Church for his mother." (St. Cyprian). The same saint compares the Church to the ark of Noe. Only he who enters the Church can be saved. Only those who are guided by the infallible authority of the Church who are submissive to her teachings, and who make use of her sacraments with faith and humility, can escape eternal death. "Amen I say to you, whatsoever you shall bind upon earth, shall be bound also in Heaven: and whatsoever you shall loose upon earth, shall be loosed also in Heaven" (Matt. 18:18). "He that heareth you heareth Me; and he that despiseth you despiseth Me; and he that despiseth Me despiseth Him that sent Me" (Luke 10:16). Salvation is only in the Ark, in the Church of God.

-Fr. Bauer



However, the grace of God is not restricted. Pope Pius IX, while reiterating the traditional teaching, "Outside the Roman Church no one can be saved," nevertheless adds: "It must likewise be held as certain that those who live in ignorance of the true religion, if it is invincible, are guilty of no fault in this matter before the eyes of God" (Denzinger, no 1647).



O Mother of God, assist me in all my thoughts, words, and actions.

✠ SUNDAY AFTERNOON SPIRITUAL READING

Deliberate venial sin ruins the soil of the soul so that it cannot bring forth abundant fruit. Such sin does not separate the soul from God, but attaches itself like a dead weight to the soul and spirit, so that a man is hindered from living for God. Such a soul is like an eagle whose wings have been clipped. Venial sin shows a neglect of God and a contempt for Him, even though such neglect and contempt are not directly intended. By such sins we set up our own will against the will of God for the sake of some desire, some need, some temporal advantage which we prefer to the command and will of God. We thereby reject the inspirations of grace by our venial sins. Then we return to seek an increase of grace and love. Will God again offer us the grace which we once rejected? Since we have already misused the grace He gave us, God is likely to be less prodigal with His grace, and we shall receive it less frequently and in smaller measure. We shall easily fall into new faults, and thus the will becomes accustomed to giving way to venial sin. Our mental powers will be darkened; our faith will be weakened; the soul will become indifferent. If we are not on our guard and if we do not make strenuous efforts at the first sign of unfaithfulness, we are in danger of becoming spiritually blind and hardened. "And as he sowed, some fell by the wayside; and it was trodden down."

Our ruin is completed by habitual venial sin. There are many pious people who murmur and criticize others and never make an effort to cure this fault, never strive earnestly against it, and never feel sorrow for having given way and insolent in speech. They treat lightly the good name and the good works of others, and are not always honest in their dealings with others. They know that they have these faults and bemoan them, but they are not really sorry for them, nor do they make use of the proper means for correcting them.

They are not convinced that each of these faults and imperfections is a millstone about their neck which drags them ever downward. They do not consider that they began to fall into these faults by allowing their thoughts to become worldly. They do not remember that they began by neglecting and misusing the grace that was given them. The seed that was sown was good seed, but it fell by the wayside. "I would thou wert cold or hot. But because thou art lukewarm...I will begin to vomit thee out of My mouth" (Apoc. 3:16). Such is the fate of those who are indifferent to venial sin.

The seed fell by the wayside and on stony ground. How can it strike roots in such soil? How can grace produce fruit in a soul that is given up to habitual venial sin, that is overcome by sleep and indifference, and abuses grace? How can the seed bring forth fruit in such a soul? How can grace be fruitful in a soul that scarcely ever prays, that is entirely occupied with creatures, and that withstands the Holy Spirit? (Acts 7:51) "Arise, why sleepest Thou, O Lord? Arise and cast us not off to the end...Our belly hath cleaved to the earth. Arise, O Lord, help us and deliver us" from the evil of habitual venial sin. Who can deliver us once we have become victims of this baneful vice? Only the mercy of God. But what if the mercy of God should be inclined to vomit us out of its mouth? We may be sure that during the holy season of Lent, God will show His mercy.

What should our lives as Christians be if not a life of living submission to God through Christ Jesus? But how is this possible when even those who are priests and religious consecrated to God continue to oppose God, trifle with the things that are displeasing to Him, and thus place themselves in danger of turning their back on Him entirely? It is high time that we break away completely from venial sin.

What prevents the divine seed from bringing forth fruit in our soul? Is it our unrestrained selfishness that revolts at the thought of any mortification? Is it our vanity which can bear no rebuke?

Is it our self-sufficiency that spoils all our good works? Is it an attachment to our secret desires and secret passions that holds us back? Is it possibly our natural temperament, which we refuse to mold and change, that makes our progress so slow. Perhaps it is our neglect of prayer, or our haste and distraction in prayer. May God give us the grace to recognize the habitual venial sins that have bound our soul to earth. That we may obtain this grace we pray in the Offertory: "Perfect thou my goings in Thy paths, that my footsteps be not moved; incline Thy ear and hear my words; to show forth Thy wonderful mercies, Thou who savest them that trust in Thee, O Lord."

-Fr. Bauer



VEN. LOUISE BESSAY DE LA VOUTE

Martyr (c.1722-1794)

As a member of the French nobility, Louise Bessay de la Voute, of Saint-Mars-des-Prés, France, was in great danger from the anti-Catholic Jacobin regime of the French Revolution. On January 20, 1794, the seventy-two-year-old woman was brought before a Jacobin tribunal, which found her to be "suspect." Louise was then sent to Angers for imprisonment. Under questioning, she declared that she had attended Masses celebrated by Catholic priests who had refused to take the Jacobins' anti-papal oath of the "Civil Constitution of the Clergy." A Jacobin account adds that she had even taken pleasure in attending such Masses. Louise likewise admitted that she had refused to attend any Mass celebrated by priests who had broken with the Church and the papacy by taking the oath. Condemned for her faith, Louise was shot to death on February 10, 1794.

-At the price of her life, this martyr refused to attend the *Latin Tridentine Mass*, because it was *una cum*, "one with" the Revolution. What would she say of our Catholics today who attend the Latin Masses offered by the One World Church, and the Clergy who bless such traitorous compromise with antichrist?

MALE BOARDERS WANTED

\$100 Week

Includes All Utilities Private
Bedroom

Share House Appliances

15 Minutes From

St. Gertrudes

Contact Chris Ritze

513-476-0568