

# ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT NEWSLETTER

---

AUGUST 2010 NO. 117

SAINT GERTRUDE THE GREAT CHURCH 4900 RIALTO ROAD WEST CHESTER OHIO 45069

[sgg.org](http://sgg.org) [traditionalmass.org](http://traditionalmass.org)

---

## FROM BISHOP DOLAN

My dear Friends,

Our July ended on a very positive note, with an excellent boys' camp, and lively internet discussion of Father Cekada's ground breaking book on the New Mass, "Work of Human Hands." This will give you some idea of the far reaching apostolate of our fathers, and faithful, here at St. Gertrude the Great.

Due to summer travel and unforeseen obligations, our boys' camp planning was put off until the last week, (unlike the girls', whose camp benefited from much thought and discussion for almost a year!) still, God is good and almost as soon as the program was announced, mothers hastened to provide meals, and fathers to promise their presence for part or all of the three days along with Father McGuire and Father Larrabee. Twenty-two boys from Ohio, Michigan and Kentucky attended, camping on the beautiful and park-like grounds of St. Gertrude the Great.

Our young ladies, some thirty-two in number, benefited from the wonderful presence of three Sisters of St. Thomas Aquinas. Theirs was a day camp, and their days were filled with fun and laughter as they learned, played and worked crafts. The camp theme was "The Works of Mercy," and you might say our girls "gave as good as they got."

Father McGuire and I ended June in France, for the ordination of Father Guillaume Hecquard. The solemn Pontifical Mass drew over three hundred faithful to the Church of St. Pius V in Rennes, for the first truly Catholic ordination in France in many years. Despite the heat and the language differences, the splendid ceremony proceeded with unusual recollection and calm. Five priests from different nations assisted at this unforgettable masterpiece of God's mercy, the ordination of a priest.

Afterwards, Father McGuire accompanied me for little pilgrimages to the great shrines of the area; St. Therese at Lisieux, St. Bernadette at Nevers, the Curé of Ars and Paray-Le-Monial, with its Sacred Heart treasures, and the



*On Sunday, June twenty-seventh, Bishop Dolan ordained Rev. Mr. Guillaume Hecquard to the Holy Priesthood in Rennes, France. Father Hecquard spent several months at St. Gertrude the Great earlier this year where he prepared for his ordination. Assisting Bishop Dolan were Father Roger (left) who served as the deacon, and Father Rigoberto (right) who served as the subdeacon.*

tomb of St. Margaret Mary and Blessed Claude de la Columbiere. We were there on the first day of this month, the feast of the Precious Blood, and were able to offer Holy Mass at an improvised outdoor altar in a quiet corner of the park. This was a great grace for me, as I had come to Paray as a newly ordained priest myself thirty four years ago, and offered my second Mass there to consecrate my priesthood to the Sacred Heart.

May Our Lord grant many Holy Masses to our latest priest, and abundantly bless the active and generous priestly apostolates of our friends in France, especially Father Gilles Roger and his associates.



For the rest, our summer here is much like our winter, with many Masses, sung and read; prayers and devotions, triduums and novenas, sermons and talks to mark the feasts and seasons. In particular we at Church and our faithful at home have been careful to keep up the practice of the Holy Hour, such a source of spiritual strength and protection.

Father Cekada's new book, along with the other writings and those of Bishop Sanborn seem to be drawing thoughtful reactions which reach beyond the tired "R & R" (*recognize* Ratzinger as pope, and *resist* him) crowd which has too long dominated the discussions. While a sectarian mentality *has* claimed many of our traditional Catholics, new souls are continually coming forward to seek Catholic answers to the current Church crisis. This includes a lively group, ranging from more and more disenchanted Conciliar clergy to sincere young people raised in the new Church, and many in between. In this sense the Internet *has* done a good work, although it often is the devil's playground.

It is, as they say, "an exciting time to be alive." Thank you for helping our Church and its far ranging apostolates to stay alive, by your active and generous interest, as well as your prayers.

May the Precious Blood of Jesus now offered to the Father on one more altar, refresh you continually, and ransom ever more souls from darkness.

**—The Most Reverend Daniel L. Dolan**



*This year our annual St. John's Eve Bonfire was held in conjunction with the girls' camp. Following Mass, Vespers, and a dinner of various grilled sausages and traditional picnic side dishes, the St. John's Bonfire was blessed by Bishop Dolan. As the moon rose, Father Cekada treated the the Sisters of St. Thomas Aquinas and their girl-campers as well as all those who joined them, to a memorable rendition of Brer Rabbit and the Tar Baby. The evening continued with the roasting of marshmallows and the making smores and concluded with a campfire rosary.*



*(Above) Boys eagerly work at pitching their tents on the first afternoon of our annual boys' camp held in late July. Assisted by several dads, Fathers McGuire and Larrabee provided wholesome fun and activities for all the attendees. Additionally, the good Fathers saw to the spiritual formation of the boys with spiritual talks and daily Mass. (Below) The group poses during an excursion to the Air Force Museum.*



*The art of making good cinnamon rolls was lovingly passed on to another generation at our annual girls' camp that was held in late June. Eating those tasty morsels made a wonderful experience even more memorable for all who participated!*