

ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

4900 Rialto Road, West Chester, Ohio 45069 • (513) 645-4212

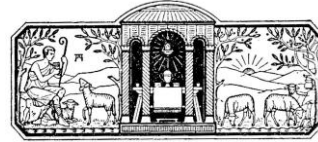
parishoffice@sgg.org • www.sgg.org • www.SGGResources.org

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

April 10, 2016
EASTER II



¶ GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

Today is the second Sunday of the month, and Good Shepherd Sunday. Sunday classes for adults and children resume at 10:40 AM. Devotions with Benediction are at 5:15 PM.


¶ ST. JOSEPH'S SOLEMNITY



We missed the solemnity of St. Joseph's Day this year, because it fell on the Saturday before Palm Sunday. But be with us for this Wednesday if you can for the Solemn Mass at 11:20 AM, followed by

the blessing of bread (you may bring your own to be blessed. We will be blessing sweet rolls for everyone) and the St. Joseph's Table. Please bring some food for the poor to place on St. Joseph's Table.

¶ NEXT SUNDAY: EASTER III

Solemnity of St. Joseph. Sunday Classes are as usual at 10:40 AM. The Blessing of Expectant Mothers will be given at the Communion Rail after all Masses. There are no Vespers. Sunday Compline will be sung after the 5:45 PM Mass.  Set Your Missal: LOW MASS: Solemnity of St. Joseph, with commemoration of Easter III. Preface of St. Joseph. Proper Last Gospel of Easter III. HIGH MASS: Easter III with commemoration of St. Joseph and St. Anicetus, Paschal Preface.



I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD

¶ FIRST CONFESSIONS

All First Communicants must come to church this Saturday, April 16, at 9:00 AM for the spiritual talk, examination of conscience and to be tested, and then make their first Confession.

All children who wish to participate must be registered in advance with the office, and must bring a copy of their Baptismal certificate. Those getting ready for First Confession need to KNOW all the questions in the First Communion Catechism, especially the Ten Commandments. Testing will be based on the New St. Joseph Catechism.

¶ CONFIRMATIONS

The sacrament of Confirmation will be solemnly administered on Saturday, May 14. 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.

¶ ALTER CHRISTUS

\$513 was received this month for the support and sanctification of priests.

¶ THE PASCHAL SACRAMENTS

Confirmation will be administered on Saturday, May 14th, during the Pentecost Vigil Mass. Enrollment in the Brown Scapular and individual photos are scheduled at the conclusion of the Pentecost Vigil. The *obligatory* Day of Recollection for all confirmands is Thursday, May 12th, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. This day will include testing appropriate to each age group. *Children need to KNOW all the questions pertaining to Confirmation.* If you have questions you may contact either Sharon Patton or the church office. *Again, children must be registered in advance if not already registered for First Confession and get the necessary Confirmation questions they must know.*



First Holy Communion will be administered during the 9:00 AM High Mass on Corpus Christi Sunday, May 29th.

¶ PSST! HAVE YOU HEARD...

We are counter-revolutionary at our church, and find the new sloppy, egalitarian casual styles, well, *revolting!* That's why we have rules for Sunday dress, as in the old days. Men and boys wear a tie with a jacket or sweater. Women and girls should wear their modest Sunday best, and cover up as much as they can out of consideration for the angels. Thank *you* for fighting for Christ the King.

Collection Report

Sunday, April 3rd.....\$3,493.00
Second Collection.....\$964.00

¶ YOUR PRAYERS

In your prayers please remember Tom Dennis, who had a heart attack, Joan Landry & son, Bill Tilford, and Joseph Mundy.

¶ UPCOMING EVENTS

You are invited to our annual School Spring Program after the 11:30 AM Mass on Sunday, April 24, followed by a festive spaghetti dinner. There is no charge, but free will donations for our school are gratefully accepted.

The Girls' Camp is scheduled for June 22-24, with the St. John's Bonfire and Parish Picnic on June 23rd.

The Boys' Camp will be July 26-28.

¶ IF YOU'RE HARD OF HEARING...

You'll have a hard time hearing the sermon in our church, due to the echo. But join the "audientes" who audit the sermon perfectly right under the pulpit. The other sweet spot for hearing everything is the vestibule, where knowledgeable babies decamp for sermon time every Sunday.

AND TO YOU I WOULD SAY, stand fast in the faith in Jesus Christ; keep an invincible faith in His merits, live in His love. By ardent faith, holy desires, and a charity which causes you to yield yourself without reserve to the generous and faithful accomplishment of the Divine good pleasure, do not cease, as long as you are here below, "absent from the Lord," as St. Paul's says, to augment your capacity of seeing and loving God, of enjoying Him in eternal beatitude, of living by His own life.

The day will come when faith will give place to vision, when hope will be succeeded by the blessed reality, when love will fully unfold in God's eternal embrace. Sometimes it seems to us that this beatitude is far off; but no, each day, each hour, each minute brings us nearer to it.

-Dom Columba Marmion,
"Christ, the Life of the Soul"

PASCHAL PEACE

Let your whole concern be to possess your soul in peace and serenity of heart. Do not be cast down by anything that happens, except your own sins and those of others and anything that might further be an occasion of sin to you. Let no accident trouble or disquiet you. Do not allow yourself to become angry at the faults of others. Cherish sentiments of sympathy and compassion for all,



recognizing that you yourself would be much worse than they, did not Christ Jesus preserve you by His grace.

Furthermore, prepare yourself to suffer for

the name of Jesus ignominy, adversity, and grief of all kinds. If the least desire or the slightest thought of self-importance rises within you, even under pretext of magnanimity, crush it on the spot with the staff of the cross, as the head of the infernal serpent. Call to mind the humility and the cruel Passion of the Savior Who, flying royal honors, embraced the cross voluntarily, despising all the shame. Shunning as a deadly poison all human praise, after His example, and happy in your wretchedness, a person who deserves to be despised and trodden under foot by everyone else.

-St. Vincent Ferrer

EASTER FLOWER MEMORIALS

H.O. Hinton & Barbara Schmelzer
Mike Briggs Family



TO A YOUNG SEMINARIAN

O Little Bo-Peep, don't weep, don't weep,
You'll know it when you grow older,
That the worldly hearts of your sheep, your sheep,
Have to wander apart if you keep, you keep,
That Lamb resting on your shoulder.

Someday you will step in the presence of kings,
And life full of gladness will be,
And your sheep will come flocking around you.
Someday you will kneel by the one King of Kings
On a Fisherman's boat by the sea,
And the Lamb that you love will attend you.

So Little Bo-Peep, don't weep, don't weep,
You'll know it when you grow older,
When again you come to your sheep, your sheep,
Everyone for your Lambkin to keep, to keep,
And you resting on His Shoulder!
-Fray Angélico Chávez



We had a wicked wind storm on Easter Saturday afternoon. It rattled our timbers, blew open doors, set off alarms and ruined our router, thus cutting off internet access. This I most of all regretted, that the wind blew away the webcast Masses for Low Sunday. I prayed to the angels during the storm, and thought Sunday it must have been devils which blew in such a wind. But then the other day for my meditation I read this from Tuesday's St. Vincent Ferrer:

"Sometimes it is God Himself Who, in a sense, sets up obstacles to the accomplishment of the pious designs we form for His sake, either by sending us some infirmity or in another way. Do not be disturbed, in that case, by your powerlessness. Endure it patiently and leave everything to Him Who knows better than you do what is advantageous to you and Who, perhaps without your knowing it, is drawing you constantly to Himself, so long as you surrender yourself completely to His providence."

Low Sunday was quiet and cold, the Gregorian Chant serenely resounding in the sunny church as things returned to normal. There were only a few babies for the 11:30, although we did have some philippics for the 5:45. True to its name, our attendance was quite *low*, after Easter's high of four hundred souls.

I regretted the internet outage again on Monday's great transferred feast of the Annunciation. Still, with the assured help of our trusty young people we had a beautiful and very solemn Mass, and the children themselves sang Our Lady's Vespers during our pro-life Holy Hour of Adoration. Be sure, dear friends of the internet, our *virtual* congregation, you and your intentions were with us on these beautiful feasts as we concluded the Easter Novena of High Masses.

Fr. Lehtoranta had a rough trip to Finland through Russia, but returned with his final forms all in order, and happy to be back. Homeland Security sent a man out Tuesday to check on our Finnish Father, and **Fr. Cekada** showed him around the school where he teaches. "Homeland Security," Father announced. "They're here to check your homework!" Seems like they check on everything and everyone *except* immigrant terrorists who post their plans on social media.

Life returned to normal this past week, with regular schedules and saints and sermons here. The early Easter means that everything is happening in May, necessitating much April planning. But there is

April travel, too.

This week **Fr. McKenna** returns from his missions, including St. Joseph's mission in Illinois, and will join us for St. Joseph's Solemn High Mass on Wednesday at 11:20. The annual novena begins on Tuesday, with his Solemnity on the Sunday as usual.

Yesterday was **Fr. James Thielen's** 25th anniversary of ordination. Please join me in extending good wishes and prayers for this gentle and good priest, a true apostle of the sick and shut in. Father tells me he is thinking of a celebration for late Spring or early Summer. Friday will be **Fr. Thomas LeGal's** 10th anniversary of ordination, right here at St. Gertrude the Great Church. It was a memorable event, and a great grace to have his Holy Saturday ordination. Fr. LeGal works in France now, but also brings the true Mass to isolated souls throughout Europe, including Ireland. Please pray for these two faithful priests and their quiet apostolate for souls.

I am in Mexico for another quick weekend trip, this time to Tiujana and Mexicali, with scheduled return for Monday night. Prayers, as always, will be appreciated. Please pray for parents and children for Saturday's First Communion testing, and First Confession. These are busy, happy days, but also so important for eternity. What a responsibility.

I thank the families who are faithful to Mass *each Sunday*, for their good example. I treasure and thank our older Catholics who give such an example of fidelity year after year. They are all of them honorary Good Shepherds looking after the Lord's lambs, after Our Lord's own example.

May Our Lady, Mother of the Good Shepherd look after your flock, and lead them to safe green pastures.

Bishop Dolan



DENNIS THE MENACE by Hank Ketcham



THE PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL FOR PRIESTS

O Jesus, Eternal Pontiff, Good Shepherd, Source of life, Who through the singular generosity of Thy Sacred Heart hast given to us our priests, in order that those designs for sanctification which Thy grace inspires in our hearts might be fulfilled, come and help them, we pray, with Thy merciful assistance.

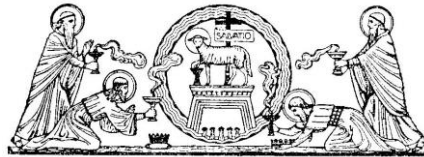
Be in them, O Jesus, faith alive in their works, hope unshakable in their trials, charity ardent in their designs. May Thy word, a ray of eternal wisdom, become to them through constant meditation the daily nourishment of their interior life. May the examples of Thy life and passion renew themselves in their conduct and their sufferings, for our instruction and for a light and comfort in our sorrows.

Grant, O Lord, that our priests, detached from every earthly interest and concerned only for Thy glory, may persevere faithfully in their duty with a sure conscience until their last breath. And when with the death of the body they render into Thy hands their well finished task, may they have Thee Lord Jesus, Who were their Master on earth, the eternal reward of the crown of justice in the splendor of the saints. Amen.



A PRAYER FOR LOST PRIESTS

Divine Savior Jesus Christ, Thou art the Good Shepherd Who lives His life for His sheep. Oh, be in a very special way the Good Shepherd of those poor lost priests who are also appointed by Thee to be leaders of Thy people, but who have broken the oath of their holy ordination and have become unfaithful to their exalted calling. Bestow upon these poorest of the poor the very fullness of that pastoral solicitude with which Thou dost so faithfully seek the sheep that are lost! Touch their hearts with that irresistible ray of grace which emanates from Thine all-merciful love! Enlighten their minds and strengthen their wills, that they may turn away from all sin and error and come back to Thy people. Amen.



"I AM PREPARED FOR A GREAT WORK OF MERCY"

Our Lord took pleasure in revealing the mercy of His Heart to a holy young Italian nun, Sister Benigna Consolata of the Visitation Order, who died on September 1, 1916, having offered her life as a victim to end the Great War. He bade her write down what He said of His mercy and of the confidence He desired souls to have in it.

"I am prepared for a great work of mercy.... Confidence is the key to the treasure-house of My mercy. You will never be able to comprehend the joy it is to Me to be a Savior. The greater the misery of the soul, the greater joy I have in raising her out of it.... A hundred sins assuredly offend Me more than does one, but if that sin be one of want of confidence in My mercy, it wounds My Heart

more than a hundred others, because nothing hurts Me like not being trusted.

My love for man feeds on



the occasions he gives Me of forgiving him, a humble and contrite heart is what pleases Me most, because I exercise My office of mercy and that of Savior on it. The soul should never be afraid of Me. I am ever ready to show mercy, and the greatest joy My Heart can have is to present the greatest number of sinners to My Eternal Father. My Heart finds cause not only for pity, but for joy in a soul the more there is in it which requires to be remedied, as long as it is devoid of malice.

"As a fire is fed by dry sticks, so does My mercy nourish itself on man's miseries. It burns the brighter for the quantity it consumes. I transform their imperfections into so many acts of humility, which I enable them by My grace to perform. How fortunate a builder would think himself if he could change useless rubble into good building material! Yet this is what the faithful soul can do, aided by My grace. Thus shameful faults, sincerely repented of, may serve as foundation-stones of the edifice of the spiritual life. You complain of your miseries, trust them to My mercy. Even the little prayer, "I trust Thee," finds its way to My Heart. What above all I wish to be known is that I am all love, and that the greatest grief man can cause My Heart is to doubt its goodness."

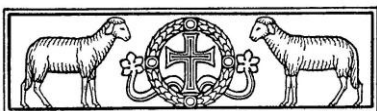
These are only a few of the consoling words of Jesus to His faithful spouse. But they are enough to occupy our minds when we recite the title "Heart of Jesus, patient and abounding in mercy."

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

This image of the brave young shepherd well suits Christ, the victor of Eastertide Who stands amongst us today and says, *"I give My life for My sheep."* In it all the images of the good shepherd from the Old Testament are fulfilled. He tells us that He is the fulfillment of the promise *"I am the good shepherd."* And now it is clear as well why this image of the shepherd belongs above all to Eastertide. It has often shown full of promise on the long road of the Pasch, from the beginning of the fasting season to the great week of suffering. But it was first the Passion which revealed the Lord properly as the good shepherd of His sheep. A hired shepherd whose sheep are not his own has not love's courage to risk death for them. The Lord says, *"He has no concern for the sheep."* When he sees the wolf come he leaves the sheep alone and runs off. His only concern is for his pay, not for the beasts themselves. Evil shepherds such as these were the leaders of Israel whom the prophet Ezechiel accuses, and whom Christ found in places of authority when He came to visit His flock.

Christ is the good shepherd, the real shepherd. The sheep belong to Him; He has created them. He is God's Logos through Whom all things are made. All things are His; they have fallen from Him, and yet He loves them. He comes as a shepherd and wounds Himself for this miserable flock. He fights with the wild beasts, with hell and sin, and death, to snatch these sheep, led astray, from Satan's mouth. He does more than any human shepherd does. He throws Himself to the attackers, so to speak, in place of the sheep.

*-Sister Aemiliana Löhr, O.S.B.
Sr. Aemiliana (†1972) was a German Benedictine nun who wrote about the liturgy.*



Our Beloved Dead ~ April

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Date of Death</u> |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| Andrew Courter | 4-03-2012 |
| Carole K. Rogers | 4-04-1987 |
| Florence Roth | 4-04-1988 |
| Mary L. Blase | 4-04-2004 |
| Veronica Golembeski | 4-08-1996 |
| John M. Reis | 4-10-1994 |
| Sue (Maggie) Mincey | 4-10-2007 |
| Ellen G. Amyx | 4-12-2005 |
| Louis R. Bickett | 4-12-2010 |
| Alberta Courter | 4-15-2008 |
| Iole G. Feighery | 4-16-2005 |
| Walter C. Elbert | 4-19-2001 |

A PASCHALTIDE POOR SOULS' PRAYER

Jesus, through the merits of Thy bitter passion and death and through Thy glorious Resurrection, I beseech Thee, have compassion on the poor souls and grant them a happy and glorious admission into heaven. Let them enter into that peace so long desired; let them contemplate the splendor of the beatific vision; let them bless eternally Thy mercy.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord; and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

An indulgence of 300 days, applicable only to the holy souls.

LOVING THE GOOD SHEPHERD

O good Jesus Christ, my sweet Shepherd, what return shall I make to Thee for all that Thou hast given me? What shall I give Thee in exchange for Thy gift of Thyself to me? Even if I could give myself to Thee a thousand times, it would still be nothing, since I am nothing in comparison with Thee. Thou, so great, hast loved me so much and so gratuitously, I who am so small, so wicked and ungrateful! I know, O Lord, that Thy love tends toward the immense, the infinite, because Thou art immense and infinite. Please tell me, O Lord, how I ought to love Thee.

My love, O Lord, is not gratuitous, it is owed to Thee.... Although I cannot love Thee as much as I should, Thou dost accept my weak love. I can love Thee more when Thou dost condescend to increase my virtue, but I can never give Thee what Thou deservest. Give me, then, Thy most ardent love by which, with Thy grace, I shall love Thee, please Thee, serve Thee, and fulfill Thy commands. May I never be separated from Thee, either in time or in eternity, but abide, united to Thee in love, for ever and ever.

*-Blessed
Raymond
Jourdain*

Blessed Raymond Jourdain († 14th century) was a prolific French spiritual writer. He was a Canon Regular of St. Augustine, and became abbot of Celles, France.



✠ CALENDAR

All Sunday Masses, school day Masses, Friday evening and Saturday morning Masses are webcast at SGGresources.org.

- MON 4/11/16 ST. LEO I, PCD**
11:20 AM High Mass In honor of St. Francis of Paola for Jenny (A.M. Omlor)
- TUE 4/12/16 FERIA DAY**
8:00 AM Low Mass Special Intention (*Judy*) (from 4/2)
11:20 AM Votive High Mass of the Angels Fallen away of our families (*Paul & Karen Puglielli*)
Opening of the St. Joseph Novena
5:00 PM Low Mass In honor of St. Francis of Paola for †Mom (A.M. Omlor) (from 4/2)
5:55 PM First Vespers of St. Joseph's Solemnity
- WED 4/13/16 SOLEMNITY OF ST. JOSEPH**
8:00 AM Low Mass Francis Puglielli (Happy Birthday) (*Mom & Dad*)
11:20 AM Solemn High Mass †H.O. Hinton (*Rebecca Hinton*)
Blessing of Bread, St. Joseph's Table
5:00 PM Low Mass †Cheryl Maki (*Kent Maki*)
- THU 4/14/16 ST. JUSTIN, M**
 STS. TIBURTUS & COMPANIONS
8:00 AM Low Mass Holy Souls (*Kolenich Family*)
11:20 AM High Mass Paige & Chip's intentions (*DJR*)
5:00 PM Low Mass †Mary Martha Foley (*Carolyn McClorey*)
- FRI 4/15/16 WITHIN THE OCTAVE**
8:00 AM Low Mass Karen Muuson (*Becky Uhlenbrock*)
10:55 AM Confessions
11:20 AM High Mass In honor of Our Lady of the Sorrowful Heart (*Frances Mattingly*)
5:15 PM Confessions & Rosary
5:45 PM Low Mass Nancy Seyfried (*JCS*)
6:30 PM Novena & Benediction
- SAT 4/16/16 WITHIN THE OCTAVE**
 ST. BENEDICT JOSEPH LABRE, C
7:10 AM Confessions
7:30 AM High Mass †Guy Macchia – 38th Anniversary April 13 (*Tom & Karen Simpson*)
8:20 AM Sermon & Low Mass Holy Souls in Purgatory (*John Ucci*)
9:00 AM First Holy Communion Testing, followed by a talk with Bishop Dolan; First Confessions
- SUN 4/17/16 SOLEMNITY OF ST. JOSEPH**
 EASTER III
 ST. ANICETUS, PM
7:30 AM Low Mass Special Intention (*Dan, Mary & family*)
9:00 AM High Mass Rosemarie Zuccaro – birthday (*Mr. & Mrs. David Marko*)
10:40 AM Catechism Classes
11:30 AM Low Mass Jeff Kamphaus – In memory of the sorrows of Our Lady (*Connie Kamphaus*)
5:45 PM Low Mass For the people of St. Gertrude the Great
6:55 PM Sunday Compline



Clip & save

A DIVINE PROMISE

Ask for grace for greater confidence and you will receive it, for Jesus put no restriction to His promise "Ask and you shall receive." And the more a grace is important, the more must it be asked, the more it may be difficult to obtain, the more it must be prayed for; the longer Our Lord makes you wait for a grace, the more you must entreat Him to grant it. Persevere in prayer and you will be heard: Our Lord has given His Word.



SERVERS

- WED 4/13** **11:20 AM SOL. HIGH: MCs:** B. Lotarski, T. Simpson **TH:** P. Omlor **ACs:** J. Simpson, Nicholas McClorey **CROSS:** P. McClorey **TORCH:** A, P, & D. McConnell, D. & M. Simpson, P. McClorey
- SUN 4/17** **7:30 AM LOW:** Brueggemann Bros.
9:00 AM HIGH: CHAPLAINS: T. Simpson, A. Richesson **TH:** P. Omlor **CROSS:** D. Holbrook **ACs:** C. Richesson, T. Lawrence **TORCH:** C. Arlinghaus, D. & M. Simpson, D. Holbrook
11:30 AM LOW: P. & Nathan McClorey
5:45 PM LOW: G. Miller