

ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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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

January 7, 2018
THE HOLY FAMILY

SUNDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE EPIPHANY

¶ APPRECIATION SUNDAY

We appreciate you! Please help yourself to some refreshments after Mass, with our thanks. Catechism Classes resume today. The Blessing of Religious Articles is available at the Communion rail following all Masses. Vespers with Benediction are at 4:45 PM. The Little Church is in the vestibule to receive your alms for priests. Welcome to our webcast faithful. Be sure to use paypal to participate in the Offertory. God reward your generosity.

"To offer gold is to proclaim Christ's kingship, to offer incense is to adore His Godhead, and to offer myrrh is to acknowledge His mortality." (St. Odilo of Cluny)

¶ LOST AND FOUND

Missing something? Please check the lost and found box in the vestibule.

¶ NEXT SUNDAY: EPIPHANY II

Catechism Classes are at 10:40 next Sunday. Vespers with Benediction will be at 4:45 PM.

📖 *Set Your Missal:* Epiphany II, with commemorations of St. Hilary and St. Felix. Preface of the Nativity.

"When the King of Heaven was born, the heavens knew that He was God because they immediately set forth a star; the sea knew Him because it allowed Him to walk upon it; the earth knew Him because it trembled when He died; the sun knew Him because it hid the rays of its light."

(St. Gregory the Great)

Lumen Christi

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

Thomas J. Cirillo
(Maureen Scanlon)



An old tradition is the New Year's Day blessing given by the father to his children. The mother could easily accustom her little ones to ask their father for this blessing themselves. In this way, when they grow up, they will carry on this beautiful tradition, which honors human parenthood and draws down rare blessings on the family.

Here is a form of blessing that can be used by fathers of our fine Catholic families: *"May God bless you, children, even as I bless you. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen."*



Collection Report

Sunday, December 31st.....\$4,290.00
Monday, January 1st.....\$1,587.00

¶ THE EPIPHANY BLESSING

On Epiphany, the priest blessed chalk, as well as frankincense so that you could mark your doors for protection according to the ancient custom, and bless your home this Epiphany. Please pick up a pack of these sacramentals, along with the leaflet with prayers and instructions, to bring this blessing home to your family on this feast of the Holy Family. A wonderful family activity for this day!

¶ OUR SICK

Please pray for Norman West, who had recent heart bypass surgery; Katie West, and Les Pomerville.

How lovely is Thy dwelling place, Lord, God of hosts! Jesus Christ is the Son of the Father, dwelling in the bosom of the Holy Family of Mary and Joseph. In wonder, they too adore Him. He in turn subjects Himself to them in the same obedience He sees them exercise toward God.



Please pray for the repose of the soul of

†Vivian Wainright, who died on Wednesday, January 3.

AN EPIPHANY / HOLY FAMILY PRAYER

O Eternal Father, may every family adore Thee, and the family of nations bow before Thee in humble submission. Hear our prayers for our own families and for all the world. At the intercession of Our Lady and St. Joseph, draw us ever close to Thy Son, Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

THE HOLINESS OF THE HOLY FAMILY



Our Lord spend three hours in redeeming, three years in teaching, and thirty years in obeying, in order that a rebellious, proud, and diabolically independent world might learn the value of obedience.

Home life is the God-appointed training ground of human character, for from the home life of the child springs the maturity of manhood, either for good or for evil. The only recorded acts of our Blessed Lord's childhood are acts of obedience—to God, His heavenly Father, and also to Mary and Joseph. He thus shows the special duty of childhood and of youth: to obey parents as the vice-regents of God. He, the great God Whom the heavens and earth could not contain, submitted Himself to His parents.

If He was sent on a message to a neighbor, it was the great Sender of the Apostles Who delivered the message. If Joseph ever bade Him search for a tool that was lost, it was the Wisdom of God and the Shepherd in search of lost souls Who was actually doing the seeking. If Joseph had taught Him carpentry, He Who was taught was one Who had carpentered the universe and Who would one day be put to death by the members of His own profession. If He made a yoke for the oxen of a neighbor, it was He Who would call Himself a yoke for men—and yet a burden that would be light. If they bade Him work in a little plot of garden ground, to train the creepers or water the flowers, it was He Who was the great Dresser of the vineyard of His Church, Who took in hand the water pot and the gardening tools.

All men may ponder well the hint of a Child subject to His parents, that no heavenly call is ever to be trusted that bids one neglect the obvious duties that lie near to hand. - Bishop Fulton Sheen

ELIZABETH ANN SETON

Elizabeth Ann Seton, "Mother Seton," was both a wife and a mother, and the foundress of today's parochial school system. Raised an Episcopalian, she married a wealthy New York merchant and had three daughters and two sons. When her beloved husband contracted tuberculosis, they traveled to Italy in search of a cure. Unfortunately, he died there, leaving his widow in the care of a Catholic family. When she returned to America, she was determined to convert, despite opposition from friends and family.

After years of struggle, she opened a girls' school in Baltimore and was joined by several other women who helped her found the American Sisters of Charity. Even while she was a mother superior, she remained a mother. She arranged for her daughters to have debutante parties, complete with ball dresses and festivities, and she continually fretted over her sons and their adventures. A woman of deep feelings, her prayers tumble from the depths of her heart. She died January 4, 1821.

Prayer of Elizabeth Ann Seton:

"Almighty and Giver of all mercies, Father of all, who knows my heart and pities its weaknesses: You know the desire of my soul to do Your will. It struggles to wing its flight to You, its Creator, and sinks again in sorrow for that imperfection which draws it back to earth. How long will I contend with sin and mortality...Redeemer of sinners! Who gave Your life to save us, assist a miserable sinner who strives with the corruption and desires above all things to break the snares of the enemy."

JOSEPH'S LULLABY

Sleep now, little one.
I will watch while You and Your Mother sleep.
I wish I could do more.
This straw is not good enough for You.
Back in Nazareth I'll make a proper bed for You
Of seasoned wood, smooth, strong, well-pegged.
A bed fit for a carpenter's son.

Just wait till we get back to Nazareth.
I'll teach You everything I know.
You'll learn to use the cedarwood, eucalyptus and fir.
You'll learn to use the drawshave, axe, and saw.
Your arms will grow strong, Your hands rough—like these.
You will bear the pungent smell of new wood
And wear shavings and sawdust in Your hair.

You'll be a man whose life centres
On hammer and nails and wood.
But for now,
Sleep, little Jesus, sleep.

- Ron Klug



Far from winding down this Twelfth Night, our frozen Christmas peaks with Epiphany. Snow replaces sands, but cold is cold, until the Kings find the Divine Child with Mary His Mother. Such a warmth of love and devotion follows as precious gifts are proffered and exchanged, this world's gold for the Golden Boy's blessing, incense for His worship, and myrrh for His destiny.

Yesterday's beautiful Mass of Adoration, a tradition of ours here at St. Gertrude the Great, closed the All Night Adoration, and surely drew down Heaven's blessing. Among the many works we do, worship, the Sacred Liturgy, is surely our chief apostolate. The landscape is dark and barren so that even our little light in West Chester burns bright.

How busy we've been! Oh, our fair share of frozen pipes and catching up from Christmas, but more. First Thursday with its prayers for priests brought the news of Vivian Wainright's death. She had been a most active and devoted parishioner before moving to the country. I offered her Requiem right away to be on the safe side, but we were hoping to do all or part of her funeral.

Special prayers for the sick this week, and some sick calls for **Fr. McGuire** before he left for Milwaukee. Henry Sieverding is finishing his stay in a rehab facility, and feels fit as a fiddle.

Janet and Andy are doing the Epiphany sacristy, and found parking for the camel at the crèche! Two flutists and a look alike for little Joseph Murray are also to be found there, adoring. Three Three Kings shrines adorn the church. Be sure to take your Epiphany packet home with you; a blessing for your house.

On Thursday the **McFathers** joined me in schedule planning through Easter. We cover a lot of territory, serving nine chapels or missions, and assisting with two more, all the way from frozen Powers Lake, North Dakota to sometimes balmy El Paso, Texas. This season we had to schedule around the Retreat, and the Consecration in Florida, as well as Holy Week.

Thanks for all of your cards and gifts (mostly cookies and chocolate, but the altar boys were helping with that), and prayerful good wishes. Oh, and two hams and a turkey, which we are faithfully eating our way through. A lot of mouths to feed this Epiphany. **Fr. McKenna** is our faithful cook this season. When he leaves, good **Fr. Lehtoranta** generally takes over. Anny Reilly is a brick, as the English say. We can always depend on her for a good Saturday night meal. And what would we do without Andreottas, Makis, Bev & Charlie Henry, the Bayers, and...well, maybe you? So...many thanks!

I would like to ask you to join our CAT club at St.

Gertrude the Great. No, nothing to do with Caravaggio or Puccini, cat food or vet trips. CAT stands for something like "Cars and Transportation," actually "Clergy Airport Transportation," I guess. In a word, it assembles our drivers who would be willing to give an airport ride or pickup for the good Fathers going about their mission rounds. We're low at the moment, and nobody picked up Fr. Lehtoranta returning from his Milwaukee Christmas. I was mortified. It seemed a little unfriendly. Cold. And at Christmas. He took a cab. He and I are holdouts, dummies I guess, without Smart Phones. So, no Uber either. But the CAT club is a nice way to help your clergy, though, as well as to get to know them, and maybe participate in the graces of their apostolate. What's not to like?

Fr. Cekada returned to Izzy's lately and told the clerk that he made the Sunday "Hanukkah" Sermon in December. Father said he was amused. You never know what will end up in the sermon or the Corner, for that matter. The cats are keeping a low profile these days, mostly sleeping and frolicking in the freezing weather.

The "Printer's Devil" got into the bulletin and made a little mischief for last Sunday's schedule, leaving us with two competing Sunday schedules. I apologize for the mistake, but was gratified to see so many souls at Vespers last Sunday evening! Well, back to normal this week.

Fr. McKenna ran into some sleepy T.S.A. agents on Christmas morn. He was transporting a Baby Jesus in his carry on (doesn't everybody on Christmas?) and it was flagged for inspection, "in case it was a real baby!" Well, the dear Holy Child is indeed real, but usually T.S.A. inspectors, like the rest of us, aren't privileged to see Him. Thus the statues. One Christmas we counted 33 statues and pictures in our church.

Fr. Nkamuke reports a heavy travel schedule himself, by car and plane, for Christmas and Epiphany. The disgruntled relative of a coordinator blocked his car recently, and force marched him to see the local Novus Ordo priest to face charges of brainwashing young men. Pilate found him innocent, so then they sent him to Herod, the local Peace Corps; who also acquitted him. The Peace Corps! I thought they were supposed to teach people about crop rotation. What a strange world! And it's only January....

A blessed, faith filled Holy Family Feast to you all, and Epiphany graces this octave.

— Bishop Dolan



✠ CALENDAR

✠ FOR OUR SERVERS

ALL SUNDAY MASSES, SCHOOL DAY MASSES, FRIDAY EVENING AND SATURDAY MORNING MASSES ARE WEBCAST AT
SGGRESOURCES.ORG.

MON	1/8/18	WITHIN THE OCTAVE
	11:25 AM	High Mass †Katie Bischak (Ed & Joan Berning)
TUE	1/9/18	WITHIN THE OCTAVE
	8:00 AM	Low Mass Repose of the soul of †Wayne Deward Stinnett (Anne Stinnett)
	11:25 AM	High Mass †Paulina Strauss (Tom & Karen Simpson)
	5:00 PM	Low Mass †Karen Hable (Kirby & Jean Bischel)
WED	1/10/18	WITHIN THE OCTAVE
	8:00 AM	Low Mass †Irene Ulanowski (Colleen Eldracher)
	11:25 AM	High Mass Richard VandeRyt (Kuebler/Volz)
	5:00 PM	Low Mass Matt Wagner (James & Jennifer Wagner)
THU	1/11/18	WITHIN THE OCTAVE
		ST. HYGINUS, PM
	8:00 AM	Low Mass †Paul Leurck (Ruth Mayo)
	11:25 AM	High Mass Sacristan †Katie (Harmony Tardugno)
	5:00 PM	Low Mass †Margie Fitzgerald (Pat Elliott)
FRI	1/12/18	WITHIN THE OCTAVE
		ST. BENET BISCOP, AB
	8:00 AM	Low Mass Andrew M. Prell – Happy Birthday (Mom & Dad)
	10:55 AM	Confessions
	11:25 AM	High Mass Honor of St. Joseph (Tom & Karen Simpson)
	5:15 PM	Confessions & Rosary
	5:35 PM	Infant of Prague Novena III
	5:45 PM	Low Mass †Katie Bischak (Jacinta Simpson)
	6:30 PM	Sacred Heart Novena & Benediction
SAT	1/13/18	OCTAVE DAY OF THE EPIPHANY
	7:10 AM	Confessions
	7:30 AM	Low Mass R.I.P. †Katie Bischak (James Kolenich)
	8:10 AM	Alma & Sermon
	8:20 AM	High Mass Intentions of Janet Strauss (C. Simpson family)
SUN	1/14/18	EPIPHANY II
		ST. HILARY, BPCD
		ST. FELIX, PRM
	7:05 AM	Rosary
	7:30 AM	Low Mass †Dolores Maki (from 1/6/18) (Kent Maki)
	9:00 AM	High Mass Bishop Sanborn (Dave & MaryAnn Mar-ko)
	10:40 AM	Sunday Classes
	11:05 AM	Rosary
	11:30 AM	Low Mass †Katie Bischak (JCS)
	4:45 PM	Vespers & Benediction
	5:45 PM	Low Mass For the people of St. Gertrude the Great



YOUNG SERVERS GUIDE

Each week our young servers are learning (and older servers reviewing) one response of the Mass. Parents, please help.



THIS WEEK'S LESSON

P. Adjutorium nostrum in nomine Domini.

S. Qui fecit coelum et terram.
(Kwee fay'chit chay'loom ett ter'rahm.)



THE VALUE OF A COMMUNION

Ah, Christians, if even once you have understood the value of a Communion, never at the cost of the thing you most prize, will you be willing to let a single day pass without sitting down to the Eucharistic Feast. "So great is my desire for Holy Communion," wrote St. Margaret Mary, "that if I had to walk barefoot over a path of fire, I think that the pain would be nothing, compared to deprivation."

Listen to this model of devotion to the Sacred Heart. We ought to engrave these words in our hearts and regulate our conduct by them. Remember that devotion to the Sacred Heart is devotion to the flouted love of Our Lord. Hence, the soul truly devoted to the Heart of Jesus, seeks to increase the love of God in her by the most effective means; namely, Holy Communion... And she should never rest until she has made a resolve to communicate every morning.



SERVERS

SUN 1/14	7:30 AM Low: Brueggemann Bros.
	9:00 AM HIGH: CHAPLAINS: J. Simpson, J. Lacy TH: T. Lawrence
	ACs: C. Richesson, C. Arlinghaus TORCH: M. & D. Simpson, J. Stewart, S. Richesson
	11:30 AM Low: Peter & Nathan McClorey
	4:45 PM VESPERS & BENEDICTION: G. Miller
	5:45 PM Low: G Miller