

# ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

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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

## May 13, 2018

### SUNDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE ASCENSION

ST. ROBERT BELLARMINE, BPCD



#### ¶ ASCENSION SUNDAY

Happy Mother's Day! This Sunday our Mothers are remembered at all the Masses, but especially at the High Mass offered for those whose names are on our altar. The Procession and May Crowning takes place *after the High Mass*. We renew our consecration to Our Blessed Mother after all Masses. There are no Sunday Classes. Vespers with May Devotions and Benediction are at 4:45 PM.

Our first Fatima Rosary Procession for Peace takes place at 7:15 PM in West Chester. Members of the *Rosary Confraternity* and *all* parishioners, if you can, please make a sacrifice and pray this public rosary with us. We will meet in the parking lot of the First Watch restaurant, at the corner of Union Centre Blvd. and Floer Dr. Your witness and your prayers are sorely needed for our Church, our country and our families.



#### ¶ THE QUEEN'S COURT

Our congratulations to the top-scorers of the First Communion testing, conducted by Fr. Cekada.

*Crowning:* Abby Fulton

*Attendants:* Anastasia Brueggemann and Hailey Kamphaus

*Crown Bearer:* Oliver Uhlenbrock

*Assistant:* Matthew Schenider

#### Collection Report

Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup>.....\$5,295.00

Second Collection.....\$1,034.00

#### *Lumen Christi*

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

Conversion of Tanya Rodriguez with family  
(Ralf Karlsen)



#### ¶ THURSDAY, MAY 17<sup>TH</sup>

All *children* who are Confirmation candidates must attend an *obligatory* Day of Recollection. The day begins at 9:00 AM. Please bring a lunch. Children should be in Sunday clothes and have a prayer book and rosary with them. The day concludes with Benediction.

#### ¶ VIGIL OF PENTECOST

Saturday, May 19, the Vigil of Pentecost, is a day of *fast and partial abstinence*. You are invited to the beautiful Vigil of Pentecost Mass and ceremonies of Confirmation beginning at 8:00 AM. After Mass, there will be the enrollment in the Brown Scapular and individual photos. *Those who assist at the Vigil and Mass may consider themselves as dispensed from the Fast, but all must eat meat only once, at the Principal Meal.*

#### ¶ NEXT SUNDAY: PENTECOST

Sunday Classes will be at 10:40 AM next Sunday. Vespers with May Devotions and Benediction will be at 4:45 PM.

📖 *Set Your Missal:* Pentecost. Preface of Pentecost.

#### ¶ EASTER DUTY

Trinity Sunday, two weeks from today, is the last day on which to fulfill your Easter Duty of a worthy Holy Communion. *Those who neglect this duty are no longer Catholics in good standing and sin mortally.* Pray and offer sacrifices these next two weeks for all to make a good Confession and Communion.



Congratulations to Joseph and Jacinta Young on their wedding yesterday, May 12, 2018.

#### ¶ MAY DEVOTIONS

Don't miss the May Devotions at 3:06 PM—a short but sweet service to show our love for Our Lady. Join us on school days.

#### ¶ YOUR PRAYERS

Please pray for Nancy Seyfried, and for the repose of the souls of †Elvira Moser, and †Jan Becker.

#### ¶ ALTER CHRISTUS

\$209 was received for Masses for priests. God reward your generosity.

## THE CROWN OF TWELVE STARS

We may be sure that never is Mary invoked in vain. An appeal to her is always rewarded, and is far more efficacious than an appeal to any other saint. This was revealed to a Dominican saint by the Mother of God herself; he has left it in writing for our benefit:

1. "What Mary asks of God she invariably obtains.

2. "God withholds His mercy from no one for whom Mary prays.

3. "The world would long since have been destroyed had not Mary upheld it by her intercession.

4. "The love of Mary for sinners is greater than that of any one human being for another.

5. "Such is the love of Mary for sinners that, did God permit, she would be willing to make atonement for each one by daily bearing all the sufferings of the world.

6. "The least service shown to Mary, were it merely the recital of the Angelic Salutation, is worth more than an act a thousandfold greater performed in honor of one of the other saints.

7. "A single *Ave Maria* is of more value than any temporal gift of body or soul, of life or death.

8. "As the firmament of heaven surpasses all the stars in magnitude, so does the loving-kindness of Mary surpass that of all the saints.

9. "As the sun exceeds in its beneficent action all the other orbs, so does the assistance Mary renders us exceed that of all the other saints.

10. "The veneration shown to Mary rejoices all the blessed.

11. "The veneration paid to the saints may be compared to silver; that which is paid to Mary may be compared to gold; that which is paid to Christ, to precious gems; while that which is paid to the Holy Trinity is like all the stars in splendor.

12. "Never does a day pass without some souls being rescued

from purgatory by Mary."

These twelve privileges or graces are the crown of twelve stars which St. John saw encircling Our Lady's head. He who ponders them well cannot fail to feel himself irresistibly drawn to the service and veneration of Mary. Who would not gladly say a Hail Mary in her honor when he hears that she herself declares this short prayer to be worth more than any gift of body or soul? Who would not rejoice to enroll himself in her service when he is told that what he does for her is of far greater value than what is done for any other saint? Let us serve her, then, with zeal and fervor, especially by hearing Mass, and offering to her the sacrifice of her dear Son. For every time Mass is said Jesus is born anew in a mystic manner, and Mary's high dignity as His Mother is renewed.



### The Date Fast Approaches!

*Registration for the 2018 YAG ends in a little over a month, on June 17. Don't miss out on the fun! Register today at*  
[yagincincy.org](http://yagincincy.org)

## OUR QUEEN AND MOTHER

I like to think of the sunny sky  
 As Our Lady's mantle blue,  
 Circling this dull, cold earth of ours  
 With a lovely azure hue;  
 Chasing the lurking shadows away,  
 Flooding the world with light,  
 So our Mother cheers and protects  
 us  
 Through life's dark and gloomy  
 night.

When the sun goes down, and the  
 sky is lit  
 With a shimmering, starry sheen,  
 I think of it then as the jeweled  
 crown

Worn by our Heavenly Queen.  
 Priceless and rare are the gems she  
 wears—

Gems of virtue bright—  
 Shining forth for her children to  
 see,  
 With a clear and radiant light.

- J.M.



## HONEY

Mary is the flower-  
 field where  
 Bernard, the bee,  
 Drinks wild nectar to  
 Ecstasy.

- Sr. M. Madelava



*St. Bernard is one of the outstanding champions of devotion to Mary. He has the distinction of having added to that sweet and popular hymn, "Hail Holy Queen," the touching cry, "O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary."*

This has been an extraordinarily busy ten days, even for St. Gertrude the Great, which is saying something. I told you about Bernie Brueggemann on the Ascension. He has a worthy successor in heading our Guard of Honor in Brendan Lotarski. When Tom Simpson decamped to sunny Florida, Brendan just stepped in as a natural, and is a good salesman when it comes to filling Adoration slots. If they only knew what a deal they're getting!

So: Adoration and First Friday and Saturday, St. Pius V and a lovely last Paschal Sunday, with a meditative chant Mass, and a rousing hymn or two. On Sunday afternoon **Fr. Cekada** treated his music students to a fine Baroque concert at the newly restored Music Hall. Our High Schoolers are having quite the freshman year. We hit the ground running, or *processing*, rather, on Monday for the Lesser Litanies. Fine sunny days with some wind encouraged us in our holy exertions. Formal, proper, and liturgical as are our well organized ceremonies, there is always a family note as well. Someone commented that nowhere else do the people participate so enthusiastically, repeating with the choir the whole petition each time as they merrily march along.

The weather turned dark and humid by Wednesday afternoon, making *merriness* more of an effort in those so busy hours. And then you must factor in the Spring allergies. Still, the beautiful wild honeysuckle is in bloom everywhere. The cloister garden, however, is a charming oasis of order and calm color, as a cloister should be, all in readiness for today's May Crowning.

The Holy Day gathered in a good group of disciples to honor Our Lord's leave taking and receive His last blessing at the Ascension. Fr. Cekada noted that the school choir sang an especially beautiful Mass, but they always do. How blessed are we. The day ended with a fine solemn Vesper service, and Adoration, Rosary and Benediction as well as our May Devotions of the Latin Loreto Litany. A real *holy* day.

My Ascension Thursday ended with a late evening baby bunny rescue. Caravaggio plopped his captive down on the porch with his urgent "I've got a bunny" cry. But he seemed in no hurry to proceed to the slaughter. Then Puccini arrived, all business. The game was on. I outsmarted him (barely), and repatriated the wee rabbit to the tall grass. Puccini was uncharacteristically annoyed at the rescue, and was still pouting Friday morning. He'll recover.

Yesterday we welcomed visitors from Wisconsin

and Michigan for the wedding, even as we prepared for today's procession and May Crowning, always a touching ceremony. Don't forget this evening's *second* procession, the *first* Fatima Rosary Procession for Peace. "Of Mary, there is never enough," the saints say.

By tomorrow we'll be ready for some rest. Today is another long and intensive day of prayer around here. But that's what we're about. Perhaps this is the reason God has delivered us from the hands of our enemies so often. Prayer can be work, yes, but prayer works!

Elvira Moser was given out as dead last Saturday, but it was premature. She had not yet received her Last Rites. Cousin Jackie Regner obtained at last the family's permission, and contacted us Sunday afternoon. A tired Fr. Cekada (but such is a priests' life) went over on Sunday evening, and found the place and our patient with a little heavenly help. She died on Ascension Thursday, "well fortified with the sacraments of the church."

The holy day also saw Jan Becker enter eternity. The Beckers were one of our original families in the 80's and had, as families will, their ups and downs over the years, but we remember them, and those days, fondly. She and Mary Anne sang in the choir. Jan suffered for years for dementia, but received the Last Rites duly from **Fr. Lehtoranta** some time ago. Extreme Unction in such a case when Confession is impossible is so important, for it forgives sins which cannot be confessed, provided the intention is present in the soul. Procure this sacrament for yourself, and your loved ones, in a timely way. Don't delay.

Happy Mother's Day! Thank God for your mother, Holy Mother Church, and the Blessed Mother!

- Bishop Dolan



#### † WEED & MULCH

I'm in desperate need of help with weeding and mulching our flowerbeds. Could you give a hand for a bed or two? I'll rest easier at night.... Volunteer or paid. Groundskeeper post currently open as well.

Thanks,

Bishop Dolan

"Indeed, with His truth Our Lord confounds and destroys the lie with which the devil deceived Eve. That lie broke up the road to heaven, but Truth repaired it and walled it up with His blood." – *St. Catherine of Siena*

ST. GREGORY NAZIANZEN  
PRAISES HIS MOTHER

St. Gregory championed St. Nonna as a model of Christian motherhood. He wrote of her,

“My mother was a worthy companion for such a man [as my father] and her qualities were as great as his. She came from a pious family, but was even more pious than they. Though in her body she was but a woman, in her spirit she was above all men... Her mouth knew nothing but the truth, but in her modesty she was silent about those deeds which brought her glory. She was guided by the fear of God...”

St. Gregory describes his mother as having excelled in both piety and in managing the household. He put it this way:

“While some women excel in the management of their households and others in piety—for it is difficult to achieve both—she nevertheless surpassed all in both, because she was pre-eminent in each and because she alone combined the two. She increased the resources of her household by her care and practical foresight according to the standards and norms laid down by Solomon for the valiant woman. She devoted herself to God and divine things as though she were completely removed from household cares. In no wise, however, did she neglect one duty in fulfilling the other; rather, she performed both more effectively by making one support the other.”

Elsewhere he writes of his mother: “What time or what place did not see her praying? Prayer was her first occupation as soon as God sent a new day... She was completely dedicated to God and her reverence was not only for herself, but she imparted it to her children.” Full of wonder and gratitude towards his mother, he exclaims: “There was no mother with more compassion. And I say this in order to consider it a law

to honor your mothers... What mother was more sympathetic?”

At this point it should be known that she “owed her upbringing to her good parents.” Here we see that there is a continuum. That is, a conveying of true reverence from generation to generation. In other words, we see an authentic Orthodox Christian family, a “house church,” in which children receive the true faith and true love, and then, in turn, they transplant it to their own children.



St. Gregory, in the poem dedicated to his mother, says the following:

*“Some women are famous for their labors in the home,  
others for their beauty, as well as their decency,*

*others for works of piety, or for diseases of the body,  
or for tears, for prayer, for care for the poor.*

*But Nonna had the good fortune of them all.”*

St. Nonna had no money apart from her husband. This blessed couple shared all things and each one tried to surpass the other in works of philanthropy. Both loved and cared for all those in need, with St. Nonna

especially being a protector of the poor and especially of tormented women and orphaned children, which made St. Gregory the Theologian say: “Who became to such a great degree a protector of orphans and widows? Who stood by so much and truly consoled those who mourn?” Truly Nonna “considered wealth secure and abounding, if it was offered to the poor.”

Surely, she is a model not only for wives and mothers, but for all women, who are called to imitate her virtues and her inner beauty. Because St. Nonna—despite the fact that she was externally beautiful—was only truly interested in this and her inner beauty is what made her stand out. “One beauty she knew and tried to maintain in herself, and that was the beauty of the soul,” which remains without corruption over time, since it is connected with authentic love, with which it “converses with the ages.”

## A PENTECOST NOVENA PRAYER

O Holy Spirit, Creator, mercifully assist Thy Catholic Church, and by Thy heavenly power strengthen and establish her against the assaults of all her enemies; and by Thy love and grace renew the spirit of Thy servants whom Thou hast anointed, and in Thee they may glorify the Father and His only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.





## NEGLECT OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

Numerous reasons have been assigned to explain the lukewarmness of modern Christians and the growth of infidelity,—why so many who have the faith fall away from the practice of it; and why so many pass from Protestantism to infidelity, never to return. In each case the number of backsliders would seem to be on the increase. One explanation of this defection from Christian principles is to be found in the neglect of the Sacred Scriptures. If Christians who lived in the ages called of faith were less worldly than we are, and were influenced to a greater extent by the teaching of Christ than the generality of people in our time, it was probably because their knowledge of the Bible was more intimate, and their Christianity consequently less of a veneer.



The superior knowledge of the Sacred Scriptures to which we pretend—all this talk about an open Bible—is vain boasting. It is generally supposed—this supposition is natural enough—that, in our age of printing, acquaintance with Holy Writ is incomparably greater than it was in the Middle Ages. The very contrary, however, is the truth. Medieval preachers were distinguished for their deep and ready knowledge of the Bible, the neglect of which began with the Reformation. Modern sermons show scant acquaintance with the Sacred Volume, and contain only such references as may be gathered out of a concordance. The discourses of Medieval preachers, on the other hand, are imbued with the Old and the New Testament. The quotations are not superficially adduced, without regard to analogy; but are selected with great care, and bear strikingly on the subject under consideration. The allusions and references to the Sacred Volume in Middle-Age sermons are surprisingly abundant. So imbued with the Scriptures were those oldtime preachers that they were

probably unaware how largely they employed the words of the inspired writings. If their explanations and comparisons often seem somewhat forced and fanciful, one must consider the general taste for mysticism prevailing in those times.

That people flocked to hear such sermons, that they were listened to with reverent attention, and that they bore abundant fruit, the history of the Middle Ages sufficiently attests. It was not, we may be certain, idle curiosity that led crowds of peasants to follow preachers like St. Anthony of Padua; and these preachers must have known how to adapt themselves to the requirements of their hearers in order to attract immense audiences wherever they went. The effect of Medieval preaching is shown in a thousand ways—by the devotion of the people to the offices of the Church, by the strict observance of holy seasons, by the establishment of all sorts of guilds to promote the glory of God and the spiritual and temporal welfare of rich and poor, the building and adornment of magnificent churches, etc. The internal fruits of such preaching as was in vogue in those days must have been abundant; for there were numerous saints among all sorts and conditions of men.



## TEACHER'S PRAYER

*Lord Jesus, Supreme Educator of souls, I thank Thee for having called me to this wonderful task of education.*

*Make me ever more worthy of the confidence shown me by parents, by entrusting to me what is dearest to them in this world—their children!*

*Teach me to treat these souls with the delicacy and infinite patience of Thy Holy Spirit.*

*Grant me Thy light, the better to read hearts; Thy perspicacity for discerning Thy work and penetrating Thy designs; Thy*

*mercy, for forgiving and healing; Thy wisdom for counseling and directing the young lives entrusted to me.*

*May my actions be Thy actions, my hands, Thy hands; my lips, Thy lips; my life, Thy life; so that nothing may touch these children that is not divine, and that I may not impede Thy action in their souls.*

*Grant me not to deviate in my teaching from the great laws of Thy Redemption; never to forget that the one essential is for the Kingdom of Heaven to be preached to every man born into this world, and for it to be transmitted to my students in all its truth and beauty.*

*And to thee, Mary, whom God gave to the Child Jesus as an educator, thou to whom men in these recent times have given the beautiful title of "Our Lady of the Schools;" obtain for me thy docility to the Holy Spirit and thy submission to the divine will; so that I may always be able to recognize the Heavenly Father's plans for each of my pupils, and assist them in finding the place destined for them by thy Beloved Son in the great task of the world's redemption. Amen.*

*For the patron of teachers, St. John Baptist de la Salle, for our teachers!*

## SGG SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

TUESDAY, MAY 22, 9–11 AM

If you're a parishioner with children K-10, now is the time to consider St. Gertrude the Great School for the fall. We provide students with a traditional academic formation, together with a solid grounding in the truths of the Catholic faith and participation in the richness of the traditional Catholic liturgy.

We're offering a short informational session during school hours so parents can see us in action. If you have young children, child care will be provided.

Hear a short presentation about our program and our philosophy • Meet teachers • Meet parents • Ask questions • Visit classrooms

You're also welcome to stay afterwards for the school's daily High Mass, sung and served by our students.

MON	5/14/18	WITHIN THE OCTAVE • ST. BONIFACE, M
	11:25 AM	High Mass & Pentecost Novena Happy Anniversary Mom & Dad! ( <i>Your Kids</i> )
	3:06 PM	May Devotions
TUE	5/15/18	ST. JOHN BAPTIST DE LA SALLE, C <i>ST. DYMPHNA, VM</i>
	8:00 AM	Low Mass †Charles E. Simpson–27 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary 5/14 ( <i>Tom &amp; Karen Simpson</i> )
	11:25 AM	High Mass & Pentecost Novena †Jane Donadio ( <i>Anet Donadio &amp; Family</i> )
	3:06 PM	May Devotions
	5:00 PM	Low Mass Christopher Browne ( <i>Kirby &amp; Jean Bischel</i> )
WED	5/16/18	ST. UBALDUS, BPC <i>ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE, M • ST. BRENDAN, C</i>
	8:00 AM	Low Mass Mrs. Margarette Samul's intentions ( <i>Theresa Simpson</i> )
	11:25 AM	High Mass & Pentecost Novena With Appreciation, for Our Teachers
	3:06 PM	May Devotions
	5:00 PM	Low Mass †Matthew Kimpel ( <i>Keith &amp; Linda Kimpel family</i> )
&		
THU	5/17/18	OCTAVE DAY OF THE ASCENSION <i>ST. PASCHAL BAYLON, C</i> CONFIRMANDS' DAY OF RECOLLECTION
	8:00 AM	Low Mass Thanks Catherine ( <i>Aunt Patsy</i> )
	9:00 AM	Opening of the Day of Recollection
	11:25 AM	High Mass & Pentecost Novena †Sharon Patton ( <i>Christopher Browne</i> )
	2:50 PM	May Devotions & Closing Benediction
	5:00 PM	Low Mass Fr. Eldracher's visa intentions ( <i>Colleen Eldracher</i> )
FRI	5/18/18	ST. VENANTIUS, M
☞	7:00 AM	Special Early Low Mass My special intentions ( <i>Rich VandeRyt</i> )
	8:00 AM	Low Mass †Daniel Dailey–6 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary 5/18 ( <i>Tom &amp; Karen Simpson</i> )
	11:06 AM	Confessions
	11:25 AM	Low Mass & Pentecost Novena Poor Souls Most in Need ( <i>Mary Beth Grumblatt</i> )
		May Devotions, Sacred Heart Novena & Benediction
N.B. See the early morning Mass, at 7; there is no 5:45 Mass, due to the Pentecost Vigil.		
SAT	5/19/18	VIGIL OF PENTECOST FAST
	7:45 AM	May Devotions, Closing of Pentecost Novena
	8:00 AM	Pentecost Vigil
	9:30 AM	(approx.) Pontifical High Mass, For Our Confirmands, followed by Confirmations
SUN	5/20/18	PENTECOST SUNDAY
	7:05 AM	Rosary
	7:30 AM	Low Mass Poor Souls ( <i>Dan &amp; Mary</i> )
	9:00 AM	High Mass For the people of St. Gertrude the Great
	11:05 AM	Rosary
	11:30 AM	Low Mass †Ryan Greenwell
	4:45 PM	Vespers, May Devotions & Benediction
	5:45 PM	Low Mass Rafael Kuebler (Birthday) ( <i>Kuebler/Volz</i> )

When the Pope dies, the Church is widowed, and, in respect of the visible universal jurisdiction, she is truly acephalous. But she is not acephalous as are the schismatic Churches, nor like a body on the way to decomposition. Christ directs her from heaven. There is no one left then on earth who can visibly exercise the supreme spiritual jurisdiction in His name, and, in consequence, any new manifestations of the general life of the Church are prevented. But, though slowed down, the pulse of life has not left the Church; she possesses the power of the Papacy *in potency*, in the sense that Christ, who has willed her always to depend on a visible pastor, has given her power to designate the man to whom He will Himself commit the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven, as once He committed them to Peter.

"During the vacancy of the Apostolic See, says Cajetan, the universal Church is in an imperfect state; she is like an amputated body, not an integral body." (*Church of the Word Incarnate* [London: Sheed & Ward, 1954], 1:411 & note)

This, I think, is an accurate description of the situation.

- Fr. Cekada

### Kindling wood...for the altar

The Mass is a grouping together of Catholics at the Altar: of laborers, employees, business men, housewives, students.... But so many Christians are absent.... Let us, then, in a brotherly gesture, attend Mass in their name—in the name of an office worker, an electrician, a young mother, of someone who is ill and housebound.

### ☞ UPCOMING EVENTS

FIRST COMMUNION: Corpus Christi Sunday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

2018 YAG: June 22-24. For more information and to register, please visit [yagincincy.org](http://yagincincy.org).

Girls' Camp: June 27-29

Boys' Camp: July 24-26

### SERVERS

THU 5/19 8:00 AM VIGIL: MCs: R. VandeRyt, J. Simpson CROSS: P. McConnell TH: P. Omlor ACs: C. Richesson, Nathan McClorey MITRE: D. Simpson CROZIER: A. McConnell BOOK: M. Simpson BUGIA: D. McConnell TRAIN & GREMIALE: S. Richesson TORCH: P. McClorey, P. McConnell, A. McClorey, B. Kamphaus, D. McConnell, M. Simpson

SUN 5/20 7:30 AM LOW: Brueggemann Bros.  
9:00 AM HIGH: MCs: (R. VandeRyt) J. Simpson, J. Lacy TH: B. Lotarski CROSS: L. Arlinghaus ACs: P. Omlor, Peter McClorey MITRE: D. Simpson CROZIER: M. Simpson BOOK: T. Lawrence BUGIA: C. Arlinghaus TRAIN & GREMIALE: S. Richesson TORCH: C. & J. Mourer, J. Stewart, A. McClorey, T. Lawrence, C. Arlinghaus  
11:30 AM LOW: A.D. Kinnett, Nathan McClorey  
4:45 PM VESPERS & BENEDICTION: G. Miller  
5:45 PM LOW: G. Miller