

# 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



**November 17, 2019**

**SOLEMNITY OF ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT**  
PENTECOST XXIII • ST. GREGORY THAUMATURGUS, BPC  
ST. HUGH OF LINCOLN, BPC • BL. PHILIPPINE DUSCHENE, V

## ¶ ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT

Blessed Feast Day and Happy Anniversary of our church. You're invited to complimentary donuts, juice and coffee after Mass. The blessing of Expectant Mothers is available at the Communion Rail after Mass. Classes are at 10:40. Vespers of St. Gertrude the Great, and Benediction are at 4:45. Visit the Christmas Craft Sale after Mass.

## ¶ SS. PETER & PAUL

Tomorrow, Monday, is the feast of the Dedication of the Basilicas of Ss. Peter & Paul.

## ¶ THE PRESENTATION

Thursday is the Presentation of Our Lady. Come to hear Mass in her honor at 7 AM, 8 AM, and 11:25 AM

## ¶ NEXT SUNDAY: LAST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

📖 *Set Your Missal:* Last Sunday After Pentecost, with collects of St. John of the Cross and St. Chrysogonus. Trinity Preface.

### Collection Report

Sunday,  
November 10<sup>th</sup>.....\$6167.00  
Thank you for your generosity. Remember St. Gertrude the Great in your will.



## OUR BEAUTIFUL MASS: THE BENEFITS OF THE MASS

And the most important cause of this feeling of satisfaction is that you are doing what the human race has done for thousands upon thousands of years...

— *Hilaire Belloc*

## ¶ GIFT SHOP

New Jewelry is arriving weekly! We have necklaces, chains & rings in sterling silver at reasonable prices. Leave the big stores and crowds behind. Everyone needs a little more faith in their lives and how better to encourage them than with a religious gift. Classic Catholic books are in, many of them with leather binding. Special items for children are available as well as several nativity scenes. Packaged Christmas cards are out for the sending season. The Sisters have four new Christmas designs that are reasonably priced at \$1 each. The Sisters have several hand painted statues on display. You can support the convent and get a very unique statue for home or someone special. Stop in and take a look.

## ¶ CATECHISM CORNER

*The Church gives her infallible and sovereign decisions:*

1. By an Oecumenical, or General council with the Pope;
2. By the Pope alone.

## ¶ CRAFT SALE

New things each week! Helfta Hall is brimming with gifts for the upcoming season. Stop back and check out the ornaments, journals, shawls, quilts, aprons, art sets, even hobbit items. You never know what will be on display. You may find just the right item for that really hard to buy for person. Sip your coffee or tea and enjoy a browse. The craft sale will be ending next Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>.

## ¶ YOUR PRAYERS, PLEASE

Please, remember Doby Curran's wife, Janice, the Brueggemann grandfather, Richard, Angela Kunkel and all of our sick, shut in and fallen away.



## ¶ PLEASE PRAY FOR

Viola Ripperger, who was buried on Friday, and was a dear soul, and long time member of our church.

WAY, TRUTH, LIFE

In your spiritual ascent and in your search after a closer union with God you must not allow yourself to relax and slip back. But go forward until you have obtained the object of your desires. Follow the example of mountain climbers. If your desires turn aside after the objects which pass below, you will lose yourself in byways and countless distractions. Your mind will become dissipated and drawn in all directions by its desires. Your progress will be uncertain; you will not reach your goal, nor find rest after your labors.

If, on the other hand, the heart and mind, led on by love and desire, withdraw from the distractions of this world, and little by little abandon baser things to become recollected in the one true and unchangeable good, to dwell there, held fast by the bonds of love, then you will grow strong, and your recollection will deepen the higher you rise on the wings of knowledge and desire.

They who have attained to this dwell as by habit in the sovereign good, and become at last inseparable from it.

True life, which is God himself, becomes their inalienable possession; forever, free from all fear of the vicissitudes of time and change, they rest in peaceful enjoyment of this inward happiness, and in sweet communication with God. Their home is ever fixed within their own souls, in Christ Jesus, who is to all who come to him *the Way, the Truth, and the Life*. — *Saint Albert the Great*

*Saint Albert the Great (†1280) was a German Dominican priest and the teacher of Saint Thomas Aquinas. He is a patron of scientists, and secondary patron of Cincinnati.*

SAINT GERTRUDE

Virgin (†1302)

At the age of five, Gertrude went to the Benedictine monastery of Helfta in Saxony, Germany. At twenty-five, she had a vision of Christ. He appeared as a young man who offered her his hand: "I have come to comfort you and bring you salvation." To that point, Gertrude had been enamored with philosophy. Henceforth she devoted herself to the Scriptures, the Liturgy and the Fathers.

Under the mentorship of the novice-mistress, Saint Mechtilde, Gertrude progressed both in study and in adherence to the *Rule*. She went deeper into prayer. Once she received a visit from Saint John on his feast day. John in turn brought her to Jesus, close enough to hear his beating heart. Later, Jesus appeared and revealed his heart to her saying, "I give it to you, and like a faithful, zealous servant, this heart will be ready, at any moment, to repair your defects and negligence." Indeed, Gertrude's mystical writings show that her shortcomings never held her back. She trusted Christ completely, certain that he had made up for them.

Gertrude died in 1302, having spent almost the entirety of her fifty-two years in the enclosure at Helfta. Her life shows us that the heart of a happy life, of a true life, is friendship with the Sacred Heart.

Heavenly Father, through the intercession of Saint Gertrude, have pity on me in my weakness.

NOVEMBER

Gray is the sky this November weather,

Dead are the grasses that used to grow.

'Tis bleak, for the wind is about on the heather,

With never a tree for a mile or so.

But a man can dream when the wind is wailing,

And in the hush of it look on high,

Where the troubled clouds down the sky are sailing,

Till they vanish out of his life and die.

'Tis the dusk of the day, and the night will follow;

The rooks for their forest home are bound.

Hear the wind's swish through the hedge in the hollow!

Hear the dead leaves whirling round and round!

A man has his dreams this November weather,

Out in the dusk where the chill winds blow.

Sweet is the smell from the heart of the heather—

A fragrance remembered from long ago!

*An Irish November Memory, from Fr. C.J. Carrol, C.S.C*

Besides prayer and other devotions which we can offer for the departed, we may specially mention almsdeeds; for, since this is a work of mercy, it is more especially apt to obtain mercy for the suffering souls.

—Fr. Müller, C.S.S.R.

## ✠ THE BISHOP'S CORNER ✠



Tuesday's crisp cold morning, the snow's white gleaming in the sun, was certainly a surprise after green Brazil's warm humidity. But they say Fall is coming back, and I hope it will be a long mellow one, since we have now payed our tribute to Jack Frost.

Father McGuire was joined by about thirty of our devout Rosarians at St Joseph's Cemetery last Sunday afternoon. It was sunny, a good day for this annual act of devotion for the Poor Souls. Father Lehtoranta, having offered Mass for the McGuire family in Chillicothe, came back to join them, and then go on to church for the 5:45. They visited Katie Bischak's grave, her parents', and several others.

Then, Monday afternoon, the weather came in. It was a pretty quiet week. Father Cekada was teaching the seminarians, Father Lehtoranta teaching too, here at St Gertrude, in spite of a bad cold. Father McGuire was faithful to his appointments, mission work, and sick calls. Viola Ripperger passed into eternity at 97, and was buried by Father and the school children on Friday. I remember visiting her and her husband Ken with Holy Communion decades ago, with good old Paulina at the wheel.

The cupboard was bare last week, once the young Fathers finished off Monday's chicken. We were all too sick or too busy, or both, to organize shopping for meals. This is where the supreme evangelical act of charity comes in ever so handy. I was hungry and you gave me to eat. Drop off a meal. But not three at once. Use the Cucina site, or give us a call or an email so we can coordinate things. The ideal is two midweek meals, like Tuesday and Thursday, or so. If I'm around, and the food is not too hidden, I'll organize things. But if I'm off to an exotic locale, often food does get wasted. If you bring something, say something. Well, God sees the desires of the heart.

So I was in Brazil last week, a quick trip, but quite intense, of six days or so. I met with four priests, four Franciscan seminarians, one secular seminary student and one brother. And of course the faithful, small still in numbers, but great in faith and charity, who support the seminary/ parish, and are spiritually fed in turn.

We had Tonsure again, for two of the Franciscans, and Minor Orders and Subdiaconate for another, and also a dozen Confirmations. I was again impressed at the quality of the singing, the impeccable serving for the full Pontifical Mass, and the fine hospitable organization of everything. It was as if they had been doing all of this for years instead of for months. Father Rodrigo, the superior, is less than two years ordained. He was with the Pius X "Resistance" movement, but saw the illogic of their schism, and sought us out. O happy day, indeed!

Speaking of traveling, two of our devoted young people, Theresa Simpson, our church secretary, and her brother Joseph, are on their first air trip, and it is a big one, to far away Australia. Far away and exotic in its own way, but close to us, too, for the multitudinous Omlor Cousins and Aunties, and the devoted ministrations of young Father Philip Eldracher, himself rather recently ordained.

Jim Soli, is an office veteran of ours, and was still willing to return and help out in the office, brave soul, during Theresa's absence. We are grateful for his devotion. God reward him.

It only remains for me to wish you all a happy St Gertrude's Day, and to hope you'll have a donut on us. "We love St Gertrude the Great so much," you might very well say, "whatever could we do to help?" Glad you asked. We're always in need of help cleaning and doing fix it types of repairs, and more. Pretty near anything. We have no janitor, or permanent maintenance staff. It's a big place. So, let us know, and you could dig right in.

Of course, many of you do, help, and in so many ways. As a matter of fact, that's what makes us great. After St Gertrude the Great, of course. Blessed feast day and anniversary.

-Bishop Dolan



## ✠ CALENDAR

<b>MON</b>	<b>11/18/19</b>	<b>DEDICATION OF THE BASILICAS OF SS. PETER &amp; PAUL</b> <b>8:00 AM Low Mass</b> Birthday-Frank Milillo <i>(Audrey Dunaway)</i> <b>11:25 AM High Mass</b> Special Intentions <i>(Arlinghaus Family)</i>
<b>TUE</b>	<b>11/19/19</b>	<b>ST. ELIZABETH, W</b> ST. PONTIANUS, PM <b>7:00 AM Low Mass</b> Mary Theobald <i>(Audrey Dunaway)</i> <b>8:00 AM Low Mass</b> In honor of the poor souls for a special intention (PAO) <b>11:25 AM High Mass</b> Children & grandchildren <i>(Audrey Dunaway)</i> <b>5:00 PM Low Mass</b> †Helen Duffenback (Kirby & Jean Bischel)
<b>WED</b>	<b>11/20/19</b>	<b>ST. FELIX OF VALOIS, C</b> <b>7:00 AM Low Mass</b> †Joseph Belansky (Collin Smith) <b>8:00 AM Low Mass</b> Sebastian Smith (Collin Smith) <b>11:25 AM High Mass</b> In Honor of St. Joseph (Tom & Karen Simpson) <b>5:10 PM Low Mass</b> †Ryan Greenwell (Nellenbach)
<b>THU</b>	<b>11/21/19</b>	<b>THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LADY</b> <b>7:00 AM Low Mass</b> Bayer Family (Tobias Bayer) <b>8:00 AM Low Mass</b> Mr. Patrick Cotter- his Baptism Day (Justin Soeder) <b>11:25 AM High Mass</b> In Honor of Blessed Mother (Tom & Karen Simpson)
<b>FRI</b>	<b>11/22/19</b>	<b>ST. CECILIA, VM</b> <b>8:00 AM Low Mass</b> Jude Smith (Collin Smith) <b>11:05 AM Confessions</b> <b>11:25 AM High Mass</b> St Anthony & Holy Souls Thank you <i>(Arlinghaus Family)</i> <b>5:15 PM Confessions &amp; Rosary</b> <b>5:45 PM Low Mass</b> The Intentions of Mark & Annie Fisher (JC Simpson) <b>6:45 PM Sacred Heart Novena, Benediction</b>
<b>SAT</b>	<b>11/23/19</b>	<b>OCTAVE DAY OF ST. GERTRUDE</b> ST. CLEMENT, PM ST. FELICITY, M <b>7:15 AM Confessions</b> <b>7:30 AM Low Mass</b> Claire Smith (Collin Smith) <b>8:05 AM Salve Regina &amp; Sermon</b> <b>8:15 AM High Mass</b> Karen Simpson Happy Birthday (Tom Simpson)
<b>SUN</b>	<b>11/24/19</b>	<b>LAST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</b> ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS, CD ST. CHRYSOGONUS, M <b>7:05 AM Rosary</b> <b>7:30 AM Low Mass</b> My Dad Richard Brueggemann (Regina Gilliam) <b>9:00 AM High Mass</b> "Our Church Mothers" the dear ladies who died the last few years. <b>11:05 AM Rosary</b> <b>11:30 AM Low Mass</b> †Gwyn Ritze (Theresa Hill) <b>4:45 PM Vespers &amp; Benediction</b> <b>5:45 PM Low Mass</b> Pro Populo

## Reflection

### With Lamps Burning Brightly

The lamps you will light prefigure that great procession of lights in which we shall go to meet the Bridegroom with the bright lamps of faith, our souls radiant and pure. Very careful shall we be not to fall asleep, in case the awaited One should arrive unexpectedly. Nor shall we come without the oil of good works, for fear of being excluded from the bridal chamber.

I see with my mind's eye the misery of such a disaster. On the Bridegroom's arrival a loud cry will summon the wise, who will go forth to meet him with their lamps burning brightly, being amply supplied with fuel; while the others, in utter confusion, will belatedly go to the storekeepers for some oil. Swiftly the Bridegroom will enter and the wise will go in with him, but the foolish will be shut out because when it was time to enter they were still busy preparing themselves . . .

There is no place in heaven for the arrogant and careless, nor yet for one dressed in rags instead of a wedding garment (cf. Mt 22:11-14), even though while on earth such a one may think himself fit for the splendence of the world to come and, deceived by vain hopes, slip in among the faithful without their knowledge.

What will the next world be like? Once we are within, the Bridegroom knows what he will teach the souls that have entered with him, and how he will be united with them. I believe that he will live with them and teach them yet higher and holier mysteries. May we ourselves have a share in that life: both we who impart this teaching and you who receive it, in Christ himself, our Lord, to whom be glory and power for ever. Amen.

St. Gregory of Nazianzus, *Oration 4.46*

This is a meditation on St. Gertrude's Gospel

## SERVERS

**SUN 11/24** **7:30 AM LOW:** Brueggemann Bros.  
**9:00 AM HIGH: CHAPLAINS:** M. Simpson, P. Omlor **TH:** J. Lacey  
**ACs:** T. Lawrence, C. Arlinghaus **TORCH:** J. Stewart, C. VanDer Putten,  
D. Simpson, A. McClorey  
**11:30 AM LOW:** P. & Na. McClorey  
**4:45 VESPERS & BENEDICTION:** G. Miller  
**5:45 PM LOW:** G. Miller