

ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

4900 Rialto Road, West Chester, Ohio 45069 • (513) 645-4212 parishoffice@sgg.org • bpdolan@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

January 24, 2021 EPIPHANY III CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE • ST. TIMOTHY, BPM



¶ EPIPHANY III

After Mass today we continue the Chair of Unity Octave, praying for the conversion of the Jews. We also conclude with great gratitude and loving confidence our annual Twelve Sundays of the Mother of Good Counsel. Be sure to go to confession within a week of today, and Holy Communion, so as to gain the Plenary Indulgence. Sunday Classes are at 10:40 AM, Vespers with Benediction at 4:45 PM.

¶THIS WEEK

This week we are welcoming some visiting priests who are joining our own for a **Priests' Retreat**. Please note the **special schedule** Tuesday—Friday morning: Low Masses at 7:00, School High Mass at 8:00. Please remember the Fathers in your prayers. On **Monday** the Chair of Unity Octave concludes. On **Friday**, we make the feast of our Cincinnati Patron, St. Francis de Sales, with a Solemn High Mass at 8:00 AM. On **Saturday** we bid farewell to the Alleluia until Holy Saturday.





Under Mary's Mantle

"In the last times the Lord will especially spread the renown of His Mother: Mary began salvation and by her intercession it will be concluded. Before the Second Coming of Christ, Mary must, more than ever, shine in mercy..." – Venerable Mary of Agreda

"For without faith, government is but a lamentable and disastrous slavery of the demons, which is permitted by the hidden judgments of God for the punishment of both those that govern and that are governed." – City of God



¶ SORROWFUL MOTHER NOVENA

Our annual novena to the Sorrowful Mother opens this Friday evening after Mass and concludes with the Blessing of the Sick. Offer a ride to someone who could use the blessing. Please submit to the Church Office the first names of anyone you wish mentioned during the novena. The Infant of Prague Novena continues at 5:35 PM. Please join us in praying for all of our needs, corporal and spiritual, to the Divine Infant, as well as for the conversion of non-Catholics.

¶ NEXT SUNDAY: SEPTUAGESIMA

The Church's short pre-Lenten season of Septuagesimatide opens next Sunday, and we should start planning our Lent. Catechism classes are at 10:40 AM and Vespers and Benediction close our church day at 4:45 PM. Set Your Missal: Septuagesima, second collect of St. John Bosco. Trinity Preface.

¶ UPCOMING: Candlemas, Tuesday, February 2, Blessing of Candles, Procession, and the very special "Mass of Candles," starting at 5:30 PM. Winter Soup Supper follows. Plan to be there! Bring some soup to share. Blessing of Throats: February 3. First Friday with All Night Adoration: February 5.

PLEASE PRAY for the repose of the soul of †Howard Delawder, Debbie Wilker's father, as well for †Greg Becker, former parishioner, and all of the intentions recommended to us, especially for Regina Gilliam, surgery on Friday.

"BE MADE CLEAN"

In the ancient world, leprosy was a deadly and terrifying disease. Besides the disfiguring sores, the oozing pus, and the shame of being considered accursed by God, lepers were social outcasts. They were required by the Law of Moses to live apart from human society, and wherever they went they had to rend their garments and shout, Unclean, unclean (Lv 13:45)....

As Jesus was traveling from village to village in Galilee, a leper approached him with surprising boldness. This man must have heard the rumors about Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth who was healing the sick, and in his desperation he resolved to act. Braving the disapproval and disgust of others, he came and knelt before Jesus and voiced his plea: If You will, You can make me clean (Mk 1:40).

Seeing the man's wretched condition, Jesus was moved with compassion. The Greek word means physically churned up or stirred with gutwrenching emotion. It was the deeply human reaction of the Son of God. Jesus never looked upon afflicted people with detachment or indifference, but always with the empathy that comes from knowing the human condition from within. We can imagine the love in His eyes as He replied, I will do it. Be made clean: Does He will to make a man whole, unto the ravages of the fall? This is what he came for!

According to the Law of Moses, any contact with a leper would render a person unclean. The crowd standing nearby must have gasped in astonishment as they watched Jesus deliberately reach out and touch the man. And before their eyes, the leprosy disappeared.... Instead of the unclean contaminating the clean, the clean had triumphed, as was indisputably proven by the fact that the man was no longer a leper. Jesus' holiness is invincible. No defilement can contaminate Him; rather, He removes defilement from whoever approaches Him in faith. It is a powerful message for those who feel unworthy even to approach Him.

- Mary Healy

VOICE FROM THE CHAPEL

Why pass Me by, With ne'er a nod? Perhaps because I'm only God. Perhaps you've rushed, You haven't time To ask for grace, Not even Mine.



You turn Me down, But still you meet Your frivolous pals 'Cross the street. You laugh, you joke, You have your fun Without a thought For Christ, the Son.



In worldly things You're much engrossed, And yet I think You'd be quite lost Were I to cease My watch o'er you And guide you not In all you do.

It's lonely here-A few drop in To breathe a prayer Then leave again But you don't come I wonder why-I'm always here-Don't pass Me by.

– M. Lucille Rooney



THE YEAR IN REVIEW 2020 FOR ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT

Holy Communions: 24,000 (approx.)

Marriages: 2 Baptisms: 6 **Confirmations:** 9

First Holy Communions: 5

Funerals: 11

THE INCARNATION

No breath but what she gave, No heartbeat save Mary's own, No way but where she walked, Treading the hard, cold stone.

No food but from her given, No speech save through her lips, No touch to fondle the world But through Mary's fingertips.

No sight to see the evening, Or watch the new day dawn, Yet through her flesh He is The Evening, the Day, and the Morn!

- Sister Claude of Jesus, S. H. N.

PETER AND PAUL

Saul thundered forth upon his horse A figure of renown, Breathing fiery threats until God simply knocked him down!

Simon walked out blustering All confident he trod. But both of them came creeping back Like little boys to God.

-Sister M. Liguori, O.P.



THE PASCHAL SACRAMENTS 2021

Please note these important dates:

FIRST CONFESSIONS & TESTING: Saturday, April 10th. **Baptismal certificate must be already presented, and registration form completed before the test. CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE FOR THE NECESSARY FORM.**

CHILDREN'S DAY OF RECOLLECTION: Thursday, May 20th.

CONFIRMATIONS: Vigil of Pentecost, Saturday, May 22nd.

FIRST COMMUNION: Corpus Christi Sunday, June 6th.

★ THE BISHOP'S CORNER ★

Today we close our Twelve Sundays of the Mother of Good Counsel, mindful of all the times we have been saved by our Blessed Mother under this powerful title and devotion. The security and growth we have enjoyed since the Plandemic kicked off have been extraordinary. Today as well we pray for the conversion of the Jews in the Chair of Unity Octave, which concludes tomorrow. Pray with us! Already this Friday we begin our Sorrowful Mother Novena after the evening Mass on the great feast of St. Francis de Sales.

Saturday we bid farewell to the Alleluia. Easter soon beckons, heralded by next Sunday's Septuagesima purple. Prepare yourself for the combat, it cries. We know this is so from "the signs of the time." But we pray these upcoming seventy days to increase in knowledge, both of God's will and the wicked enemy's crafty ways.

This past week the most prolife president ceded place to an open and militant abortion/gender change, etc. proponent. But how fitting that two days after the Inauguration, we prayed for America's conversion in the Chair of Unity Octave. We added to this our sacrifices and acts of reparation for the crime of "abortion +" represented by the new administration. Don't be deceived by the classic press tag "devout Catholic." Thank God for the truly devout Catholics who are adding to their prayers and sacrifices these days.

Thursday was dedicated to Kent Maki's funeral. The full Catholic funeral, with Rosary, High Mass, Absolution and graveside services is a fitting farewell for a *devout* Catholic, a solemn consolation for the bereaved, and a source of great graces for the departed soul. Fr. Lehtoranta's touching eulogy for this "cheerful man always with a smile" was most fitting. We also were able to offer a fine parish luncheon afterwards. Thanks so much to the ladies who provided an excellent meal, and the warm hand of friendship to the bereaved family. It's a wonderful tradition.

I've often thought about offering a priests' retreat here, but tomorrow we begin one for the first time. Please pray for our priest retreatants, and remember to check the bulletin for some changes this week. Once again I thank the cooks, our faithful generous cooks, for feeding the Fathers.

Speaking of food, the season of church suppers (sometimes called Lent) opens next month. We hope to get things off to a good start with our Candlemas

Winter Soup Supper. Do one of those "save the date" things, and plan to come with your favorite soup to the children's perennial favorite, Candlemas, on Tuesday, February 2nd. First the Blessing, Procession



and "Mass of the Candles," then another warm social evening. Newcomers, don't be shy! We're all here for the same purpose. Make some friends.

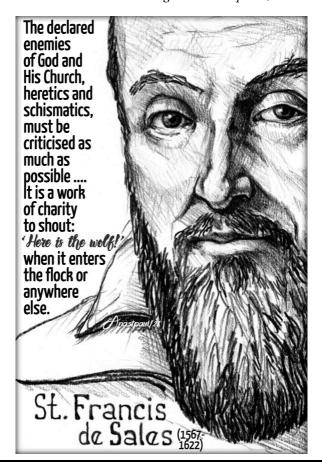
But "may Jesus and Mary be your best friends," as Gerry Keaveney used to say. God bless you.

-Bishop Dolan

A Nice Story

"Let me close with a cute anecdote from our school. I forgot this past Tuesday morning that I had promised Fr. McGuire to take the First Grade Bible History Class for him, and was working at the rectory. Fr. McGuire was on business in Columbus, and Fr. Cekada was not free either. One child started to weep, and another put her head in her hands and exclaimed quite sincerely, 'Oh, no! What will we do?' Well, Fr. Larrabee to the rescue! Class was taught much to the children's satisfaction, and our school morning continued peacefully. God bless our little school!"

(This was in the Bishop's Corner in the bulletin on January 24, 2010, and is too good not to reprint.)



¥ READ...AND PRAY ₹

ST. TIMOTHY

Emily Post, whose name is synonymous with etiquette, recommends using polite language for introductions. So please allow us to introduce St. Timothy, young disciple of St. Paul and Paul's ambassador to many early Christian communities.

St. Timothy was born of a Jewish mother, who was a convert to Christianity, and a Greek father, who remained a pagan. So St. Timothy probably knew the tension of life in a family in which the parents don't share the same faith. St. Timothy's Eunice—and mother, grandmother, Lois, who was also a Christian convert—had a great deal of influence in his life, schooling him Judaism and the Hebrew Scriptures. He grew up reading and studying so diligently that even St. Paul was impressed. A recipient of two letters included in the New Testament, St. Timothy became the first bishop of Ephesus and was eventually martyred.

St. Timothy's credentials might leave you feeling inadequate as a Catholic today. It's easy to view saints and holy people that way. But St. Timothy was very much like us. Like most of us, he had gifts and talents that enabled him to serve Our Lord well, and he also had challenges and roadblocks that he had to overcome.

It seems that St. Timothy was somewhat shy, as St. Paul urged the Corinthians to put him at ease among them and to be careful how they criticized him (1 Corinthians 16:10-22). He was young, timid, perhaps, but also gentle and tactful. Paul trusted him to deal with awkward situations. "I have no one comparable to him," he once said (Philippians 2:20). St. Timothy also frequently suffered stomach ailments, causing Paul to prescribe a little wine to help (1 Timothy 5:23).

Think of the encouragement St. Timothy's example offers us. Despite his shyness and problematic health, he became a valuable "second generation apostle." Even despite setbacks and imprisonment, he held fast to the Gospel, keeping his conscience clear and resisting the lure of riches and power. He trusted that God would deal with his weaknesses and could still use him in spite of them.

Patron saint of stomach ailments, St. Timothy reminds us that God uses each of us, tummy aches and all.

"Jesus, thank You for how You made me. Use all of me to build Your kingdom."



FOR OUR PRIESTS' RETREAT

Sanctify to Thyself, O my Lord, the hearts of Thy priests, that, by the merits of Thy sacred humanity, they may become living images of Thee, children of Mary, and full of the fire of the Holy Ghost, that they may guard Thy house, and defend Thy glory, and that through their ministry the face of the earth may be renewed, and they may save those souls which have cost Thee all Thy Blood. Amen.

Queen of Apostles, pray thy Son, the Lord of the Harvest, to send laborers into His harvest, and to spare His people.

"He who is not angry when there is just cause for anger is immoral. Why? Because anger looks to the good of justice. And if you can live amid injustice without anger, you are immoral, as well as unjust."

- St. Thomas Aquinas

"The sole reason why society is perishing is because it has refused to hear the word of the Church, which is the word of God. All plans for salvation will be sterile, if the great word of the Catholic Church is not restored in all its fullness!" – St. Anthony Mary Claret



Lord, teach me to be generous,
To serve You as You deserve,
To give and not to count the cost,
To fight and not to heed the wounds,
To toil and not to seek for rest,
To labor and ask for no reward,
Save that of knowing I do
Your Holy Will.



"Let the man truly possessed by the love of Christ keep His commandments. Who can express the binding power of divine love? Who can find words for the splendor of its beauty? Beyond all description are the heights to which it lifts us. Love unites us to God; it cancels innumerable sins, has no limits to its endurance, bears everything patiently. Love is neither servile nor arrogant. It does not provoke schisms or form cliques but always acts in harmony with others. By it, all God's chosen ones have been sanctified; without it, it is impossible to please Him. Out of love, the Lord took us to Himself. Because He loved us and it was God's will, our Lord Jesus Christ gave His life's blood for us—He gave His body for our body, His soul for our soul."

– St. Clement I of Rome (c 35–99) Martyr for Christ, Bishop of Rome, Apostolic Father

PRAYER FOR UNITY AMONG TRADITIONAL CATHOLICS

(Adapted from the prayer of St. Clement Mary Hofbauer)

O my Redeemer, will that terrible moment ever come, when but few Christians shall be left who are inspired by the spirit of faith, that moment when Thine indignation shall be provoked and Thy protection taken from us? Have our vices and our evil lives irrevocably moved Thy justice to take vengeance, perhaps this very day, upon Thy children? O Thou, the author and finisher of our faith, we beseech Thee, in the bitterness of our contrite and humbled hearts, not to suffer the fair light of faith to be extinguished in us. Remember Thy mercies of old, turn Thine eyes with compassion upon the vineyard planted by Thine own right hand, watered by the sweat of the Apostles, by the blood of countless martyrs and by the tears of so many sincere penitents. O Divine Mediator, look upon those zealous souls who raise their hearts to Thee and pray without ceasing for the maintenance of that most precious gift of Thine, the True Faith. Ah, keep us safe in the true Catholic and Roman Faith. Make us faithful to the traditions of our Holy Faith, passed down from the time of Thine Apostles as Thou didst teach it to them. Protect us in unity and keep us from all that will divide us from our Catholic Faith, from one another, and from Thee. Great is the deceit of Satan in trying to wrestle from our souls the peace and comforts of our holy religion. Banish his influence far from us, and make St. Michael, Thy holy standard bearer, to stand strong in our defense. Let no outside force ever separate us, but rather send Thy grace that will move all hearts of children faithful to Thee and Thy traditions, ever closer to Thee and the ancient truths of Thy Church. Give us all a love for a Church united in heart, faith and devotion, and the

courage to work toward that end. With this we can be strong and remain unmoved by even the fiercest of foes, for none is stronger than Thee, our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.



FIRM IN YOUR FAITH

Be steadfast and firm in your faith and be on the alert, for in this way you will avoid all the evil snares of the enemy. This is precisely the warning given us by the prince of the apostles, St. Peter: Be sober, be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith.... Yes, renew your faith in the truths of Christian doctrine, especially at times of conflict. And renew in a most particular way your faith in the promise of eternal life which our most sweet Jesus makes to those who fight energetically and courageously. You should be encouraged and comforted by the knowledge that we are not alone in our sufferings, for all the followers of the Nazarene scattered throughout the world suffer in the same manner.... Let us remember that the lot of chosen souls is to suffer. God, the author of all grace and of every gift leading to salvation, has decreed that glory will be ours on condition that we endure suffering with a Christian spirit. So let us lift up our hearts full of confidence in God alone. Let us humble ourselves beneath His powerful hand, let us cheerfully accept trials to which the mercy of the heavenly Father subjects us, so that He may raise us up at the time of His visitation. Let all our concern be to love God and be pleasing to Him, paying no attention to all the rest, in the knowledge that God will always take more care of us than we can say or imagine.

- Padre Pio

We must believe the Catholic or Universal Church of Christ, of which He is the perpetual Head, and His Spirit the perpetual Guide; which is founded upon a rock, and is ever victorious over all the powers of earth and hell. The Church is always One, in all its members professing one faith, in one communion, under one chief pastor, called the Pope, succeeding St. Peter, to whom Christ committed His whole flock. The Church is always Holy, in teaching a holy doctrine, in inviting all to a holy life, and in the eminent holiness of many of its children. It is Catholic, or Universal, for it subsists in all ages, and teaches all nations, and maintains all truth. It is Apostolic, for it derives its doctrine, its communion, its orders, and its mission, by an uninterrupted succession, from the Apostles of Christ.



"A day will come when the civilized world will deny its God, when the Church will doubt as Peter doubted. She will be tempted to believe that man has become God. In our churches, Christians will search in vain for the red lamp where God awaits them. Like Mary Magdalen, weeping before the empty tomb, they will ask, 'Where have they taken Him?" – *Pope Pius XII*



Collection Report

Sunday, January 17th.....\$4,152.00 Thank you for your generosity. Remember St. Gertrude the Great in your will. ¥ CALENDAR

★ CURRENT EVENTS

MON 1/25/21 CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE: "The Missionary Conquest of the World for Christ." 8:00 AM Low Mass Happy Birthday, Joseph Kustra (Bill & Terri Young) 11:25 AM High Mass †Dennis Hille (Alberta VandeRyt) SPECIAL RETREAT SCHEDULE TUE 1/26/21 St. POLYCARP, BPM 7:00 AM Low Masses. Main Altar: Special Intention Deceased (Tom & Karen Simpson) **8:00 AM** High Mass For our country (M.E.G.) ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM, BPCD WED 1/27/21 Low Masses. Main Altar: Evan Fischer (Mark & 7:00 AM Annie Fischer) 8:00 AM High Mass †Donald Pfannenstiel (Christopher Browne) THU 1/28/21 St. Peter Nolasco, C ST. AGNES (THE SECOND TIME) 7:00 AM Low Masses. Main Altar: Bayer daughters (D. Bayer & sons) **8:00 AM High Mass** †Ken & †Viola Ripperger (*JCS*) FRI 1/29/21 St. Francis de Sales, BPCD PATRONAL FEAST OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF **CINCINNATI** 7:00 AM Low Masses. Main Altar: Emily Capetillo – surgery (R. & R. Uhlenbrock) 8:00 AM Solemn High Mass †Father Anthony Cekada (Joseph & Nathalie Andreotta) 5:15 PM Confessions & Rosary 5:35 PM Infant of Prague Novena V 5:45 PM Low Mass In honor of St. Rose of Lima for the Poor Souls in Purgatory (A.M. Omlor) 6:30 PM Opening of the Sorrowful Mother Novena with Blessing of the Sick Sacred Heart Novena, Benediction SAT 1/30/21 EPIPHANY IV (ANTICIPATED) ST. MARTINA, VM 7:15 AM Confessions Low Mass Poor Souls (Patrick A. Omlor) 7:30 AM 8:05 AM Salve & Sermon 8:15 PM **High Mass** Intentions of Prayer Chain & Prayer Warriors (Mike Briggs Family) SUN 1/31/21 SEPTUAGESIMA • ST. JOHN BOSCO, C 7:05 AM Rosary 7:30 AM Low Mass †Kent Maki (ICS) 9:00 AM **High Mass** Appreciation for the choir (Mr. & Mrs. Victor Ritze) 10:40 AM Catechism Classes 11:05 AM 11:30 AM Low Mass †Melvin E. Prell (Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Prell & family)

4:45 PM Vespers & Benediction

5:45 PM Low Mass For the people of St. Gertrude the Great

THE UNFOLDING PLAN

Many Christians interpret the globalists' unfolding plan to track, trace and vaccinate the people of the planet, use a social credit score to monitor compliance with the state and not allow individuals to buy and sell without an immunity passport as the mark of the beast. They wonder what they can do in the face of this unfolding tyranny of biblical proportions. "What can one person do to make a difference?" a protestant minister asks. A lot. He cites as examples how two women—Madalyn Murray O'Hare and Margaret Sanger—"called by the devil, full of wickedness, wreaked havoc."

"Pray and educate yourself," he says. "Use the skills God gave you" and take targeted action appropriate to the situation. "God is in control. God always chose someone. He chose Moses and Joshua. Each person has an assignment. Ask God what He wants you to do and do nothing less. And keep praying."

F is for Facism. A study conducted by Princeton and Northwestern University concluded that the U.S. government does not represent the majority of American citizens. Instead, the study found that the government is ruled by the rich and powerful, or the so-called "economic elite." Moreover, the researchers concluded that policies enacted by this governmental elite nearly always favor special interests and lobbying groups. In other words, we are being ruled by an oligarchy disguised as a democracy, and arguably on our way towards fascism—a form of government where private corporate interests rule, money calls the shots, and the people are seen as mere economic units or databits.

V is for Viruses and forced Vaccinations. What started out as an apparent effort to prevent a novel coronavirus from sickening the nation (and the world) has become yet another means by which world governments (including the U.S.) can expand their powers, abuse their authority, and further oppress their constituents. With millions of dollars in stimulus funds being directed towards policing agencies across the country, the federal government plans to fight this COVID-19 virus with riot gear, gas masks, ballistic helmets, drones, and hi-tech surveillance technology. The road we are traveling is paved with lockdowns, SWAT team raids, mass surveillance and forced vaccinations. Now there's talk of mobilizing the military to deliver forced vaccinations, mass surveillance in order to carry out contact tracing, and heavy fines and jail time for those who dare to venture out without a mask, congregate in worship without the government's blessing, or reopen their businesses without the government's say-so.

Servers

FRI 1/29	8:00 AM SOL.HIGH: MCS: P. Omlor, C. Richesson TH: D. McConnell ACs: N. McClorey, A. McConnell CROSS: A. McClorey TORCH: A. McClorey, S. Richesson
Sun 1/31	7:30 AM LOW: Brueggemann Bros. 9:00 AM HIGH: CHAPLAINS: M. Simpson, C. Richesson TH: D. Simpson ACs: C. Arlinghaus, S. Richesson TORCH: T. England, T. Lawrence, M. & N. Kolenich MC: J. Lacy 11:30 AM LOW: Na. McClorey, J. Kolenich 4:45 PM VESPERS & BENEDICTION: G. Miller

5:45 PM Low: G. Miller