

# ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

4900 Rialto Road, West Chester, Ohio 45069 • (513) 645-4212 • EMERGENCY LINE: (513) 509-0424  
 parishoffice@sgg.org • bpmcguire@sgg.org • frlehtoranta@sgg.org • frmckenna@sgg.org  
 www.sgg.org • www.SGGResources.org • traditionalmass.org  
 TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS: Sundays 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM High, 11:30 AM, 5:45 PM

Most Rev. Charles J. McGuire, *Pastor* • Rev. Stephen McKenna, *Asst. Pastor*  
 Rev. Vili Lehtoranta, *Chap. to Oblates & School* • Rev. Thomas Simpson • Rev. Anthony Brueggemann



**January 8, 2023**

**THE HOLY FAMILY**

**SUNDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE EPIPHANY**



## ¶ THE HOLY FAMILY

Catechism Classes resume today at 10:40 AM. Vespers with Benediction are at 4:45 PM.

## ¶ 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!



*Almighty and everlasting God, Lord of heaven and earth, Who dost reveal Thyself to little ones; grant, we beseech Thee, that we, duly honoring the holy mysteries of Thy Son, the infant Jesus, and daily imitating Him in our lives, may come to the kingdom of heaven promised by Thee to little children. Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## ¶ UPCOMING

**Sodality Meetings:** Jan. 28 & Feb. 11

**The Purification:** February 2

**Ash Wednesday:** February 22

## Collection Report

Sunday, January 1<sup>st</sup>.....\$9,779.00  
 Second Collection.....\$2,046.00  
 Circumcision.....\$6,309.00  
 Thank you for your generosity. Remember St. Gertrude the Great in your will.

## ¶ NEXT SUNDAY: EPIPHANY II

The Blessing of Expectant Mothers will be available at the Communion Rail following all Masses next Sunday. Catechism Classes will be at 10:40 AM. **There will be no Vespers.**

## 📖 Set Your Missal:

Epiphany II, second collect of St. Paul the Hermit, third of St. Maurus. Trinity Preface.

## ¶ OUR SICK

Please pray for Rick Woods, Charles and Pat Beck, and all of our sick and shut-in.

## BECOME FOOLS FOR CHRIST!

“What are you doing, O Magi? Do you adore a little Babe, in a wretched hovel, wrapped in miserable rags? Can this Child be truly God? ...Are you become foolish, O Wise Men? Yes, these Wise Men have become fools that they may be wise.” – *St. Bernard*



THE CHRISTIAN FAMILY

Pope Pius XII depicts the happiness of truly Christian family life and deplores the ravages of divorce, in a lovely passage of his *Letter to the Hierarchy of the United States* in 1939.

“What can there be on earth more serene and joyful than the Christian family? Taking its origin at the altar of the Lord, where love has been proclaimed a holy and indissoluble bond, the Christian family, nourished in the same love by supernatural grace, is consolidated and receives increase....

“Tranquil walls resound with no quarreling voices nor do they witness the secret martyrdom which comes when hidden infidelity is laid bare; unquestioning trust turns aside the slings of sus-



picion; sorrow is assuaged and joy is heightened by mutual affection. Within those sacred precincts, children are considered not heavy burdens but

sweet pledges of love; no reprehensible motive of convenience, no seeking after sterile pleasure bring about the frustration of the gift of life, nor cause to fall into disuse the sweet names of brother and sister....

“It is also supremely necessary to see to it that the dogma of the unity and indissolubility of matrimony be known in all its religious importance, and that it is sacredly respected by those who marry....

“Oh! If only your country had come to know from the experience of others rather than from examples at home, of the accumulation of ills which derive from the plague of divorce!”



CONSECRATION OF THE FAMILY

O Jesus, behold our family prostrate before Thee. Once more do we consecrate ourselves to Thee—our trials and joys—that our home, like Thine, may ever be the shrine of peace, purity, love, labor and faith. Do Thou protect and bless all of us, absent and present, living and dead.

O Mary, loving Mother of Jesus—and our Mother—pray to Jesus for our family, for all the families of the world, to guard the cradle of the newborn, the schools of the young and their vocations.

O Joseph, Holy Guardian of Jesus and Mary, assist us by thy prayers in all the necessities of life. Ask of Jesus that special grace which He granted to thee, to watch over our home at the pillow of the sick and the dying, so that with Mary and with thee, Heaven may find our family unbroken in the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Amen.



THE CULTIVATION OF CHRISTMAS TREES

*There are several attitudes towards Christmas,  
Some of which we may disregard:  
The social, the torpid, the patently commercial,  
The rowdy (the pubs being open till midnight),  
And the childish—which is not that of the child  
For whom the candle is a star, and the gilded angel  
Spreading its wings at the summit of the tree  
Is not only a decoration, but an angel.*



*The child wonders at the Christmas Tree:  
Let him continue in the spirit of wonder  
At the Feast as an event not accepted as a pretext;  
So that the glittering rapture, the amazement  
Of the first-remembered Christmas Tree,  
So that the surprises, delight in new possessions  
(Each one with its peculiar and exciting smell),  
The expectation of the goose or turkey  
And the expected awe on its appearance,*

*So that the reverence and the gaiety  
May not be forgotten in later experience,  
In the bored habituation, the fatigue, the tedium,  
The awareness of death, the consciousness of failure,  
Or in the piety of the convert  
Which may be tainted with a self-conceit  
Displeasing to God and disrespectful to children  
(And here I remember also with gratitude  
St. Lucy, her carol, and her crown of fire):*

*So that before the end, the eightieth  
Christmas  
(By “eightieth” meaning whichever is last)  
The accumulated memories of annual emotion  
May be concentrated into a great joy  
Which shall be also a great fear, as on the occasion  
When fear came upon every soul:  
Because the beginning shall remind us of the end  
And the first coming of the second coming.*

Some have been asking how the cats are faring these days, fearing the worst since no mention about them has been made in the bulletin for a while. Well, I assure you they are living their nine lives to the fullest. **Fr. McKenna** tells me I feed them too much, but I disagree (it's more fun that way). Cats don't go to heaven so they might as well enjoy this life...no sense in making them fast. Besides, how can one tell a poor kitty no, especially when they meow and make a ruckus until they get exactly what they want?! The cats were stalking a deer from the window the other day, but as soon as I let them out they immediately cowered and watched timidly from behind the trees. Still, the cats really are doing well and are well cared for. It is easy to get attached to them.

Friday's feast of the Epiphany was everything it should have been. On the Vigil, we had two guests, who like the Magi, showed up suddenly. I was waiting for a third to appear but he never came. **Fr. Lavery** stopped by for a friendly visit on his way down to say Mass for some souls in Alabama and South Carolina; and Andy Hoxie came to assist Sister in the sacristy for the big feast day. Andy very kindly serves all the Masses when he is here since we often do not have a server, works the whole day in the sacristy, and works a full time job as he does so. I don't know where he gets the energy!

Okay, you are going to get a story in real time! As I am writing this, Fat Cat, formerly known as Giacomo (see why I can't remember his old name!), is outside stalking big game, the same deer that they were stalking from the window the other day. Fat Cat is stealthily, so he thinks, sneaking up on the deer, although the deer sees his every move. Welp, the deer won the standoff and chased the cat back into the woods. I have to give the cat credit though, he has the attitude of "Go big or go home."

**Fr. Lehtoranta** is finally back from his trip to St. Hugh of Lincoln in Milwaukee where he goes annually for the feasts of Christmas and the Circumcision, and Fr. McKenna is up there now. Although we cannot offer daily Mass there at this time, still they get Mass every weekend and get the big ceremonies throughout the year. For example, the full Holy Week is held there, as well as Forty Hours (which is done for 40 consecutive hours without break, and every hour filled by the laity), Christmas with all of its special Masses and different sacramental blessings during its Octave. The zeal and the spirit of sacrifice of the parishioners is most edifying.

**Fr. Simpson** gets to spend the weekend here for a change while **Fr. Brueggemann** takes care of our flock spread throughout the state of Illinois. I thought you would enjoy a little variety in sermons for the next couple of Sundays. Fr. Simpson is giving the sermon today and Fr. Lehtoranta next Sunday while Fr. McKenna and I are in Mexico. Please pray for a safe and fruitful trip for us. We will go first to the city of Colima, which is on the coast of the Pacific Ocean and has very warm weather all year round, and then to Guadalajara.



Today is the feast of the Holy Family. We live in times when the family is being attacked from every side by the forces of Anti-Christ, which makes it all the more important for the family to be a sort of domestic church in which Christ is the center of its existence, the Rosary is prayed together, and frequent reception of the sacraments is a must. Too often it happens that even the little children are allowed to have cell phones and iPads and other things which become at worst an easy occasion of sin and at best a source of distraction that teaches them to react to stimuli rather than to think and use their imagination. Parents, I know it is difficult, but instead of iPads, how about books for the children. I have fond memories of my mother reading to me as a child. This strengthens the bond between mother and child, whereas the gadgets seem only to put a wedge between them. Maybe for the month of the Holy Family do some family spiritual reading on the lives of the saints! Jesus, Mary and Joseph, protect our families!

I send you a blessing on this feast of the Holy Family.

– Bishop McGuire



**A DAILY PRAYER FOR EPIPHANY-TIDE**

"Give me, I pray Thee, this gold, this incense, and this myrrh. Give me the gold of Thy holy love; give me the spirit of holy prayer; give me the desire and strength to mortify myself in everything that displeases Thee. I am resolved to obey Thee and to love Thee; but Thou knowest my weakness. Oh, give me the grace to be faithful to Thee!" – *St. Alphonsus*

<b>MON</b>	<b>1/9/23</b>	<b>RESUMED MASS OF SUNDAY</b> WITHIN THE OCTAVE <b>8:00 AM Low Mass</b> Poor Souls ( <i>Kuebler/Volz</i> ) <b>11:25 AM High Mass</b> My mother, †Shiv Jen Cheng – rest in peace ( <i>H.Y.</i> )
<b>TUE</b>	<b>1/10/23</b>	<b>WITHIN THE OCTAVE</b> <b>7:00 AM Low Mass</b> †William & †Marcella Hable ( <i>Kirby &amp; Jean Bischel</i> ) <b>8:00 AM Low Mass</b> †Janet Clementi ( <i>Nathalie Andreotta</i> ) <b>11:25 AM High Mass</b> William S. Oleyar – Happy Birthday 10/7 ( <i>Mrs. Janine Oleyar</i> ) <b>5:00 PM Low Mass</b> Special Intention ( <i>Farrah Ernstine Luzincourt</i> )
<b>WED</b>	<b>1/11/23</b>	<b>WITHIN THE OCTAVE</b> ST. HYGINUS, PM <b>8:00 AM Low Mass</b> Bishop McGuire – Thank you ( <i>S.E.</i> ) <b>11:25 AM High Mass</b> In honor of Sts. Philip & James for the Poor Souls in Purgatory ( <i>A.M. Omlor</i> ) <b>5:10 PM Low Mass</b> 25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary for Mr. & Mrs. Robbins ( <i>Matthew Colucci</i> )
<b>THU</b>	<b>1/12/23</b>	<b>WITHIN THE OCTAVE</b> ST. BENET BISCOP, AB <b>7:00 AM Low Mass</b> Thanksgiving for recovery of Robin Corbin Brown's health ( <i>Marlene R. Corbin</i> ) <b>8:00 AM Low Mass</b> †Gary Amyx ( <i>Rosary Confraternity</i> ) <b>11:25 AM High Mass</b> All who helped move the piano – Thank you! ( <i>The Oblates</i> )
<b>FRI</b>	<b>1/13/23</b>	<b>OCTAVE DAY OF THE EPIPHANY</b> <b>11:05 AM Confessions</b> <b>11:25 AM High Mass</b> †Patricia Patton ( <i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Victor Ritze</i> ) <b>5:15 PM Confessions &amp; Rosary</b> <b>5:35 PM Infant of Prague Novena III</b> <b>5:45 PM Low Mass</b> Our Clergy ( <i>The Oblates</i> ) <b>6:30 PM Sacred Heart Novena, Benediction</b>
<b>SAT</b>	<b>1/14/23</b>	<b>ST. HILARY, BPCD</b> ST. FELIX, PRM <b>7:10 AM Confessions</b> <b>7:30 AM Low Mass</b> Holy Souls ( <i>Kolenich family</i> ) <b>8:10 AM Alma, Sermon</b> <b>8:20 AM High Mass</b> In honor of St. Raymond of Pennafort for Katie ( <i>A.M. Omlor</i> )
<b>SUN</b>	<b>1/15/23</b>	<b>EPIPHANY II • ST. PAUL, FIRST HERMIT</b> ST. MAURUS, AB • <i>OUR LADY OF PROMPT SUCCOR</i> <b>7:05 AM Rosary</b> <b>7:30 AM Low Mass</b> John B. ( <i>Aunt Patsy</i> ) <b>9:00 AM High Mass</b> †Jeanne Shellman ( <i>Kirby &amp; Jean Bischel</i> ) <b>10:40 AM Catechism Classes</b> <b>11:05 AM Rosary</b> <b>11:30 AM Low Mass</b> †Janet Clementi ( <i>Anita Swinney</i> ) <i>No Vespers</i> <b>5:45 PM Low Mass</b> For the people of St. Gertrude the Great

A PRAYER IN HONOR OF THE NAME OF JESUS

O Merciful Jesus! Thou didst in early infancy commence Thy office of Savior, by shedding Thy Precious Blood and assuming for us that Name which is above all names. We thank Thee for such early proofs of Thy infinite love. We venerate Thy sacred Name, in union with the profound respect of the Angel who first announced it to the earth. We also unite our affections to the sentiments of tender devotion which the adorable Name of Jesus has, in all ages, enkindled in the hearts of Thy servants.

Animated with firm faith in Thy unerring word, and penetrated with confidence in Thy mercy, we now most humbly remind Thee of the promise Thou hast made: When two or three should assemble in Thy Name, Thou Thyself wouldst be in the midst of them.

Come, then, into the midst of us, most amiable Jesus; for it is in Thy sacred Name we are here assembled. Come into our hearts, that Thy Holy Spirit may pray in and by us. Mercifully grant us through that adorable Name which is the joy of heaven, the terror of hell, the consolation of the afflicted and the solid ground of our unlimited confidence, all the petitions we make in this prayer.



THE HOLY NAME OF JESUS

The faithful who, during the month of January, perform some special act of devotion in honor of the Holy Name of Jesus are granted an indulgence of 7 years on any day of the month. A plenary indulgence may be gained on the usual conditions.



Servers

<b>FRI 1/13</b>	<b>5:45 PM LOW:</b> Capetillos
<b>SAT 1/14</b>	<b>7:30 AM LOW:</b> Seminarian <b>8:20 AM HIGH:</b> M. Simpson, Brueggemanns
<b>SUN 1/15</b>	<b>7:30 AM LOW:</b> Brueggemann Bros. <b>9:00 AM HIGH: MC:</b> T. Lawrence <b>TH:</b> N. McClorey <b>ACS:</b> S. Richesson, A. McClorey <b>TORCH:</b> I. Smith, C. Van Der Putten, N. & J. Hudson, C. Arlinghaus, M. Simpson <b>11:30 AM LOW:</b> Kolenichs <b>5:45 PM LOW:</b> Seminarian