

ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

4900 Rialto Road, West Chester, Ohio 45069 • PARISH OFFICE: (513) 645-4212
parishoffice@sgg.org • bpmcguire@sgg.org • frlehtoranta@sgg.org • frmckenna@sgg.org
www.sgg.org • www.SGGResources.org • traditionalmass.org • EMERGENCY LINE: (513) 509-0424
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

May 21, 2023

SUNDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE ASCENSION

¶ ASCENSION SUNDAY

The Blessing of Expectant Mothers is available at the Communion Rail following all Masses today. Catechism classes are canceled due to the Parenting Talk given after the High Mass. For parents interested in attending the talk, you have the option of leaving your children with the Oblates. Vespers with Benediction are at 4:45 PM.

¶ DAY OF RECOLLECTION

All *children* who are Confirmation candidates must attend an *obligatory Day of Recollection* on **Thursday, May 25th**. The day begins at **9:00 AM**. Please bring a lunch. Children should wear Sunday clothes and have a prayer book and rosary with them. The day concludes with May Devotions and Benediction at 2:45 PM.



¶ FRIDAY – PLEASE NOTE!

There will be **no evening Mass or devotions** on Friday, due to preparations for the Vigil of Pentecost, which begins at 8:00 AM on Saturday morning.

Lumen Christi

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

Philip Stephen Curry (*Patrick Curry*)

¶ VIGIL OF PENTECOST

Saturday, May 27th, 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**. The Vigil begins at 8:00 AM, the Mass closer to 9:30. 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 may eat meat only once, at the principal meal.*

¶ NEXT SUNDAY: PENTECOST

Next Sunday is the great feast of Pentecost. There will be no Catechism Classes. Pentecost Vespers and Benediction will be at 4:45 PM.

📖 **Set Your Missal:** Pentecost. Preface of Pentecost. Proper Communicantes and Hanc Igitur.

¶ 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.

¶ UPCOMING EVENTS

- **First Communion:** Sunday, June 11
- **Girls Camp:** June 27-29
- **YAG:** July 7-9
- **Boys Camp:** July 25-27

Collection Report

Sunday, May 14th\$4,439.00

SHARING MARY'S FORTITUDE

Mary's glories are not only for the sake of her Son, they are for our sakes also. Let us copy her faith, who received God's message by the angel without a doubt; her patience, who endured St. Joseph's surprise without a word; her obedience, who went up to Bethlehem in the winter and bore our Lord in a stable; her meditative spirit, who pondered in her heart what she saw and heard about Him; her fortitude, whose heart the sword went through; her self-surrender, who gave Him up during His ministry and consented to His death...

What shall bring you forward in the narrow way, if you live in the world, but the thought and patronage of Mary? What shall seal your senses, what shall tranquilize your heart, when sighs and sounds of danger are all around you, but Mary? What shall give you patience and endurance, when you are wearied out with the length of the conflict with evil, with the unceasing necessity of precautions, with the irksomeness of observing them, with the tediousness of their repetition, with the strain upon your mind, with your forlorn and cheerless condition, but a loving communion with her! She will comfort you in your discouragements, solace you in your fatigues, raise you after your falls, reward you for your successes. She will show you her Son, your God and your all. When your spirit within you is excited, or relaxed, or depressed, when it loses its balance, when it is restless and wayward, when it is sick of what it has, and hankers after what it has not, when your eye is solicited with evil and your mortal frame trembles under the shadow of the Tempter, what will bring you to yourselves, to peace and to health, but the cool breath of the Immaculate and the fragrance of the Rose of Sharon.

— Bl. John Henry Newman

¶ YOUR PRAYERS

Please pray for Brenda Erwin, Marilyn Rempel, and all of the intentions that have been recommended to us.

¶ SODALITY ANNOUNCEMENT

It's two weeks before the bingo night! Make a point to come and have some fun on Friday, June 9th after the 5:45 Mass! Can't make it to this one? The Sodality of Charity will be hosting bingo on July 21st as well.

The Sodality would also like to announce that we will be putting the Fall Festival on again this year. There will be booths for sale if any of our crafters are interested. You can buy a booth for \$25 and sell your own craft items. You can take the proceeds from any items you sell. You have until September, so get crafting!

BLESSED PETER, having confessed Christ with a true faith and followed Him with a true love, received in a special manner the keys of the Kingdom of heaven and the sovereignty of judicial power, that all the faithful throughout the world might understand that whosoever separate themselves from the unity of faith or from his fellowship can neither be released from the chains of their sins nor enter the gate of the heavenly Kingdom.

A "branch theory" has been devised as a compromise with which to satisfy the yearnings of many an aching heart. But, alas! without avail. We [Catholics] too hold a "branch theory," but the branch theory of which our blessed Savior spoke. Branches there are, and there must be, in the One Church, but not branches without a stem and cut off from the vine, with their leaves scattered "High" and "Low" and "Broad." Our Lord spoke of such branches, and said: "If any one abide not in Me, he shall be cast forth as a branch, and shall wither" (Jn 15:6). The Church is the mystical Body of Christ, and where Peter is, there is the Church, as the Fathers said of old. — Raphael Merry Del Val

THE ASCENSION

When forty days had passed, Christ
blessed His friends

Upon the brow of Olivet; and, see,
The wonder! Lord Jesus! Slowly He
ascends.

They gaze until a cloud hides Him
from view.

Then, swifter far than lightning's
flash,

Surrounded by myriads of happy souls
and bright

Escorting angels, He speeds His soaring
flight

Towards heaven, 'mid trumpets' crash.

How great a rapture this

For Christ! His Father's home He
ne'er had seen

As man. What wealth was His!

What gleam of diamonds, emeralds!

What golden sheen!

— Rev. John J. Rauscher, S.M.



To obtain perfectly the gift of humility, four things are required: to despise the world, to despise no person, to despise one's self, to despise being despised. *Perfection consists in leading captive our own will, and in playing the king over it.* A man ought to mortify his understanding in little things, if he wishes easily to mortify it in great ones, and to advance in the way of virtue. Without mortification nothing can be done. We ought to hope for and love the glory of God by means of a good life.

— St. Philip Neri

Only a week left until we enter Pentecost, the final season of the Liturgical Year. This year we have some 41 confirmands, a record number, I believe. Don't forget the mandatory children's day of recollection this week for those children who are to be confirmed.



Today is **Bishop Nkamuke's** last Sunday with us before going back to his native Nigeria where the clergy and faithful eagerly await their new bishop's arrival. I am thankful once more for his willingness to preach, this time on the African missions. His Excellency also celebrated his very first Solemn Pontifical last week on the feast of the Ascension. Now he has that under his belt.

The weather was quite beautiful for four out of five of the recent processions. The Fatima Rosary Procession was lightly attended with only 58 souls, but I am hopeful that there will be many more present in June. The Mother's Day May Procession and Crowning was most edifying. Then out of the three Rogation processions we only had rain for one of them. So as you can see, it was a week of much praying, especially if you include the Holy Day. The devil hates when we pray because he knows that many graces will be given and many souls will be saved. St. Alphonsus says it clearly enough—"those who pray will be saved; those who do not pray will not be saved." Pray, dear children, pray every day. Pray especially to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Fr. Lehtoranta took Bishop Nkamuke on an outing last week to Marion, Ohio, where they saw the house of President Harding. They came back with some interesting details on the life and times of this president. Both of them like history, I believe, so I am happy they got to go. Every priest does need a break, after all.

Early this week **Fr. McKenna** and I will be meeting the architects to look over the plans for the new addition onto the rectory. Please pray that it goes well. Some work is being done on our church building, too. You might have noticed the leaning wall on the outside of the cloister or some of the stones that have fallen off the building. These things happen, so when they do I am thankful that we have someone to help us fix them.

As we continue this month of May I urge you to keep up your devotion to the Blessed Virgin. We need her so much because she is the channel through which all graces pass. When you find yourself in need of some grace or some virtue go to Mary and you will have it. Hail Mary, full of grace, blessed art thou among women!

– Bishop McGuire

BELLARMINE'S HYMN TO MARY THE VIRGIN

Among St. Robert's extant writing there is a short poem of twenty stanzas which he composed in the nature of a Litany to the Blessed Virgin. The text was first published in Italian some fifty years ago, and to the best of the writer's knowledge, has never been translated into English. Each verse-line begins with the name "Virgin," joined to a title and petition to Our Lady, starting with the letter "A" and going down the Italian alphabet to "V." Thus the first seven verses begin with the invocation: "Vergine adorna... Vergine Bella... Vergine casta... Vergine degna... Vergine eletta... Vergine felice... Vergine gradita..."

- Virgin adorned and clothed with the sun, grant me thine aid.*
- Virgin most beautiful, mystical rose, take abode in my heart.*
- Virgin most chaste, all undefiled, grant me true peace.*
- Virgin deserving of all honor and praise, give me thy love.*
- Virgin elect and full of all grace, lead me to God.*
- Virgin most blessed, star of the sea, dispel the storms besetting me.*
- Virgin most virtuous, holy and sweet, show me the way.*
- Virgin illustrious, with thy burning light, enlighten thou my mind.*
- Virgin more precious than jewels or gold, make reparation for me.*
- Virgin most worthy of all praise, mother, daughter, and immaculate spouse.*
- Virgin and Mother, make me more pleasing to Jesus thy Son.*
- Virgin most innocent of any stain or fault, make me more worthy of God.*
- Virgin enriched with every gift and grace, obtain the remission of my sins.*
- Virgin most pure, grant me to enjoy the bliss of heavenly love.*
- Virgin, thou lily among thorns, I pray thee for the grace of a happy death.*
- Virgin more rare than the rarest dream, bring joy to my heart.*
- Virgin so great there is none like thee on earth, bring peace to my soul.*
- Virgin most true, loving Mother too, Virgin Mary.*



✠ CALENDAR

MON	5/22/23	WITHIN THE OCTAVE • NOVENA IV <i>ST. RITA OF CASCIA, W</i>
	8:00 AM	Low Mass Brother Michael
	11:25 AM	High Mass Mr. & Mr. Mark Fischer – Merry Christmas! (<i>Mr. & Mrs. William H. Young III</i>)
	3:10 PM	May Devotions
TUE	5/23/23	WITHIN THE OCTAVE • NOVENA V <i>ST. JOHN BAPTIST DE ROSSI, C</i>
	7:00 AM	Low Mass Fr. Orasch (<i>Alter Christus Confraternity</i>)
	8:00 AM	Low Mass Special Intention CAV (<i>K/V</i>)
	11:25 AM	High Mass Tommy & Christina Wilson & family (<i>Dan & Mary</i>)
	3:10 PM	May Devotions
	5:00 PM	Low Mass William H. Young III (<i>Mr. & Mrs. William H. Young III</i>)
WED	5/24/23	WITHIN THE OCTAVE • NOVENA VI <i>OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS</i>
	7:00 AM	Low Mass William H. Young III (<i>Mr. & Mrs. William H. Young III</i>)
	8:00 AM	Low Mass Grandpa & Memère – Thank you! (<i>Sister Eulalia</i>)
	11:25 AM	High Mass Repose of the souls of †Margaret & †Albert Kinnett (<i>C. Simpson family</i>)
	3:10 PM	May Devotions
	5:10 PM	Low Mass Fr. Saavedra (<i>Alter Christus Confraternity</i>)
THU	5/25/23	OCTAVE DAY OF THE ASCENSION • NOVENA VII <i>ST. GREGORY VII, PC • ST. URBAN I, PM</i>
	7:00 AM	Low Mass Sr. Ulrica – Late Merry Christmas (<i>Old Friend</i>)
	8:00 AM	Low Mass Therese Young (<i>Mr. & Mrs. William H. Young III</i>)
	9:00 AM	Opening of Confirmands' Day of Recollection
	11:25 AM	High Mass Special Intention (<i>Mr. & Mrs. Mark Lotarski</i>)
	2:45 PM	May Devotions, Benediction
	5:00 PM	Low Mass Relief of All Faithful Departed (<i>Patrick Omlor</i>)
FRI	5/26/23	ST. PHILIP NERI, C • ST. ELEUTHERIUS, PM NOVENA VIII
	7:00 AM	Low Mass Repose of the soul of †Margaret Kinnett (<i>Jennifer Richesson</i>)
	8:00 AM	Low Mass Therese Young (<i>Mr. & Mrs. William H. Young III</i>)
	11:05 AM	Confessions
	11:25 AM	High Mass †Angela Appelhans (<i>Keith & Mary Christensen</i>)
		Benediction, Sacred Heart Novena
	3:10 PM	May Devotions <i>No Evening Mass</i>
SAT	5/27/23	VIGIL OF PENTECOST <i>FAST & PARTIAL ABSTINENCE</i> <i>ST. BEDE THE VENERABLE, CD • ST. JOHN I, PM</i> CLOSING OF PENTECOST NOVENA
	7:40 AM	May Devotions, Closing of Pentecost Novena
	8:00 AM	Pentecost Vigil
	9:30 AM	(approx.) Pontifical Mass For our Confirmands followed by Confirmations



AIM HIGH!

Adapt yourself with gracious and charitable compliance to all your neighbor's weaknesses. In particular, make a rule to hide your feelings in many inconsequential matters. Give up all bitterness toward your neighbor, no matter what. And be convinced that your neighbor is in everything better than you. This will not be difficult if you keep even a little aware of yourself. It will give you the ability to overcome your feelings of resentment.

Each day look for every possible opportunity to do a kindness for those you do not like. After examining yourself on the matter every morning, decide what you are going to do, and do it faithfully with kindness and humility.

Be sure to be warmly affable toward everyone. Speak to and answer everyone with very great gentleness and deference. Keep in mind the way the Lord spoke and replied to others even when he was most harshly treated. Never comment on the faults or the behavior of your neighbors. When others speak of them, put a good interpretation on their actions. If you cannot, say nothing at all.

In short, decide never to speak of the failings of others nor to reprimand them no matter how serious they seem to you. When you see someone fall into some fault, call to mind the gospel saying, "You can see the splinter in your brother's eye, but you cannot see the beam in your own." (see Mt 7:3).

(A beautiful spiritual reminder of the ideal of Christian charity, from the patron saint of teachers, St. John Baptist De La Salle. We should at least ponder these words, and regret we are so far from this ideal. – Bp. Dolan, 2007)

Servers

SERVERS FOR THE VIGIL OF PENTECOST ARE POSTED IN SACRISTY.

SUN 5/28	7:30 AM LOW: Brueggemann Bros.
	9:00 AM PONTIFICAL: POSTED IN SACRISTY
	11:30 AM LOW: Capetillos
	4:45 PM VESPERS & BENEDICTION: G. Miller, Seminarian
	5:45 PM LOW: Seminarian

SUN	5/28/23	PENTECOST SUNDAY
	7:05 AM	Rosary
	7:30 AM	Low Mass †Dolores MacDonald – 23 rd anniversary 5/27 (<i>Tom & Karen Simpson</i>)
	9:00 AM	Pontifical High Mass †Bishop Dolan (<i>Gloria</i>)
	11:05 AM	Rosary
	11:30 AM	Low Mass Mr. & Mrs. William H. Young III (<i>Mr. & Mrs. William H. Young III</i>)
	4:45 PM	Vespers, May Devotions, Benediction
	5:45 PM	Low Mass For the people of St. Gertrude the Great