

ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

4900 Rialto Road, West Chester, Ohio 45069 • PARISH OFFICE: (513) 645-4212 (9 AM-3 PM)
parishoffice@sgg.org • bpmcguire@sgg.org • frlehtoranta@sgg.org • firmckenna@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
Rev. Vili Lehtoranta • Rev. Thomas Simpson • Rev. Anthony Brueggemann



August 6, 2023

THE TRANSFIGURATION

PENTECOST X • SS. XYSTUS I, P & COMP., MM



¶ THE TRANSFIGURATION

Today is the feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord. The Second Collection is taken up for our Oblates. The Blessing of Religious Articles is available at the Communion Rail following all Masses. The “Little Church” is in the vestibule to receive your alms for poor priests. Vespers and Benediction at 4:45 PM.

¶ SACRAMENTS & APPOINTMENTS

PLEASE NOTE: Sacraments and appointments with the clergy should be scheduled through the office, **NOT** by contacting the clergy directly. Please do not text, call or contact them via social media to arrange meetings or sacraments. By scheduling through the office, we can ensure that no one is double-booked or overlooked. Thank you for your cooperation in using the proper channels for scheduling.

¶ SUMMER NOVENA

Bring your intentions to Our Lady of Perpetual Help and St. Anthony during the Summer Novena. The Novena prayers are recited after every Mass on **Tuesdays**.



Please pray for the repose of the soul of

†Loretta Mikesell, who died on Monday, July 31.

¶ YOUR PRAYERS

Please pray for Bishop da Silva, Shirley Donovan, and Norm Basham.



“All our good works united would not equal one Sacrifice of the Mass, because they are the work of man, while the Mass is the work of God. Martyrdom is nothing in comparison to the Mass, martyrdom being the sacrifice which man makes of his life to God, and the Mass the sacrifice which God makes of His own Body and Blood to man. When before the Blessed Sacrament, instead of looking around us, let us close our eyes and open our heart; it is then the good God will open His. We will go to Him, He will come to us; to ask and to receive will be as a breath from one to the other.”

— St. John Vianney

¶ NEXT SUNDAY: PENTECOST XI

Vespers and Benediction at 4:45 PM. The Fatima Rosary Procession for Peace will take place at 7:15 PM, beginning in the First Watch parking lot in Union Center.

📖 **Set Your Missal:** Pentecost XI, second collect of Ss. Hippolytus & Cassian. Trinity Preface.

¶ LOOK AHEAD

- **The Assumption of Our Lady (Holy Day):** Tuesday, August 15
- **First day of school:** Wednesday, September 6
- **Nativity of Mary – Children’s Party:** Friday, September 8
- **Parish Picnic:** Sunday, Sept. 17
- **Fall Festival:** Sunday, Sept. 24
- **Rosary Sunday:** October 1

¶ ADOPT A STATION!

The Sodality of Charity kindly re-furnished the outdoor Stations of the Cross with beautiful plants and flowers, but they need to be kept up—regularly weeded and trimmed. If you would like to adopt a Station or two to care for, please let us know.



Congratulations to Tyler and Theresa Drevenak on the baptism of their daughter,

Isabella Anastasia, on Sunday, July 30, 2023.

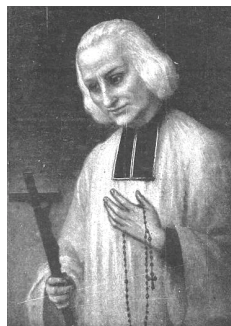
Collection Report

Sunday, July 30th.....\$6,402.27
Thank you for your generosity. Remember St. Gertrude the Great in your will.

**A MOST DEVOUT PRAYER TO OUR
BLESSED LADY**

(A favorite prayer of the Cure of Ars)

O thou most holy Virgin Mary, who dost evermore stand before the throne of the Most Holy Trinity, and to whom it is granted at all times to pray for us to thy most beloved Son; pray for me in all my necessities; help me, combat for me; give thanks for me, and obtain for me pardon of all my sins; help me especially at my last hour; and when I can no longer give any sign of the use of reason, then do thou encourage me, make the sign of the Cross for me, sprinkle me with holy water, and fight for me against the enemy. Make in my name a profession of faith; favor me with the testimony of my salvation, and never let me despair of the mercy of God. Help me to overcome the wicked enemy; and when I can no longer say, Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I place my soul in your hands, say it for me; and when I can no longer hear human words of consolation, then do thou comfort me; leave me not before I have been judged, and if I have to expiate my sins in Purgatory, oh! pray for me instantly, earnestly, and procure for me a speedy enjoyment of the blessed sight of God. Lessen my sufferings; deliver me speedily, and lead my soul into heaven with thee, that, united with all the elect, I may there bless and praise my God and thyself for all eternity. Amen. *Hail Mary, three times.*



The good God has created us and sent us into the world because He loves us; He wishes to save us because He loves us. To be saved, we must know, love, and serve God. Oh, what a beautiful life! How good, how great a thing it is to know, to love and serve God! We have nothing else to do in this world. All that we do besides is lost time. We must act only for God, and put our works into His hands. We should say, on awaking, "I desire to do every thing today for Thee, O my God! I will submit to all that Thou shalt send me, as coming from Thee. I offer myself as a sacrifice to Thee. But, O God, I can do nothing without Thee. Do Thou help me!"



ST. LAURENCE

Within the broken
Vatican
The murdered Pope
is lying dead.
The soldiers of
Valerian
Their evil hands are
wet and red.

Unarmed, unmoved,
St. Lawrence waits,

His cassock as his only mail.

The troops of Hell have burst the
gates,

But Christ is Lord, He shall prevail.

They have encompassed him with
steel,

They spit upon his gentle face,
He smiles and bleeds, nor will reveal
The Church's hidden treasure-place.

Ah, faithful steward, worthy knight,
Well hast thou done. Behold thy fee!
Since thou hast fought the goodly
fight

A martyr's death is fixed for thee.

St. Lawrence, pray for us to bear
The faith which glorifies thy name.

St. Lawrence, pray for us to share
The wounds of Love's consuming
flame.

—Joyce Kilmer

**STELLA MATUTINA
(MORNING STAR)**

Earth and skies the dawn is waking,
Sunlight bids the shadows flee,
Loving hearts, both glad and aching,
Turn, O Mother, up to thee!

Thro' the long night just departed,
Thou hast watched our curtained
sleep,
With a care so tender-hearted,
And a love so true and deep.

Thou hast calmed our restless
dreaming,
While the shadows round us lay:
Now the morning's rays are beaming,
Wilt thou, Mother, near us stay?

All life's toils and care before us,
Slipp'ry paths and heights to scale,
If some safeguard be not o'er us,
What will all our strength avail?

Leave us not, O helpful Mother!
Hold the hand and guide the feet,
Next to God, there is no other
Who can shield us from deceit.

Clinging close to thee in weakness,
We may venture forth again.
In the eve, O Maid of meekness!
Lead us back unspotted then.

—Eleanor C. Donnelly



**SALVATION FROM THE
CATECHISM OF ST. JOHN
VIANNEY**

There are many Christians who do not even know why they are in the world. "O my God, why hast Thou sent me into the world?" "To save your soul." "And why dost Thou wish me to be saved?" "Because I love you."

August, September, and October have always been my favorite months because of the weather, the return of the school children, and the Feast Days that occur on the liturgical calendar. This week, for instance, we have some of our most popular saints—the Curé d’Ars and his miracle worker/friend, St. Philomena; St. Lawrence; St. Clare, who is the patron of television because of her heavenly vision of the Mass while she was cooped up in her cell during an illness. Of course, next week is one of the best Marian feasts, her Assumption. September and October are filled with days dedicated to Our Lady. Truly, “of Mary there can never be enough!”

We are hashing out the details for the fast-approaching seminary year. It is a little challenging to find the perfect balance in scheduling because of the three hour time difference. All the clergy will have to sacrifice something in order to make this work, but I am very confident that this can be done. I am not sure if it has been mentioned before, but we have four seminarians at this point. Two of them have already completed one year of study while two more are just starting out. It is a good start to things, I would say. We do need priests even more now. The older generation has done so much good over the years; we know this from the fruits of their labors. It was always an uphill battle for them as they found their way through the changes of Vatican II, and the errors of the SSPX, among other things. And now a new generation of laity and priests have come along, the missions have grown, and our parishes have grown in size. All this is thanks to the many laborious years that clergy like Bishop Dolan, Fr. Cekada, and Bishop Sanborn have dedicated to the apostolate. Now it is our turn to carry the torch and to imitate the zeal of the generations of clergy and laity that have come before us. It will be no easy task, but one which the grace of God will help us all to carry out.

Speaking of growth, have you seen our yard lately! Bob and Becky Uhlenbrock have been taking superb care of our cloister gardens. A big thanks to them! But the outdoor Stations are not looking so hot right now, the Fatima shrine is almost overtaken by the tall Rose of Sharons and the Lamb’s Ears, the rose bushes did not survive the strange weather that we had earlier this year, and the Lourdes shrine is sort of “weedy,” as is the garden in back of church, and the evergreen trees have overtaken the sidewalk up to the rectory. It is a lot of work, and much is taken care of by the crew who comes to mow the lawn every other week or so, but still, any help would be most appreciated.

I think we are getting somewhere with the plans for the addition to the rectory. The “official plans” are being drawn up now and then we will need to get the city’s approval. It never has made much sense to me that the city/township approval should be needed to build on one’s own property, but it is what it is. Once things are approved we will need to raise some funds to complete the project. Fundraising is not something we clergy ever look forward to doing because

we know that the people are already so generous, but it is necessary. Please pray that we can finish this important matter soon. I truly believe that, once this is done and the Sisters have their own home, the Oblates of the Holy Face will begin to grow. As it stands, the sisters have to live at their families’ homes. This seems to be working temporarily, but it can never work for those young ladies who do not live so close to the church.



Enjoy these last weeks of the summer months. Keep the feast days and come to an extra Mass to thank God for, well...everything! May Our Lady’s Immaculate Heart bring you much consolation and peace!

– Bishop McGuire

DID THE SAINTS EVER HAVE FUN?

Surely the ‘Puns’ of St. Augustine are some evidence of the playfulness of St. Augustine! The conversion of England is closely connected with a pun—the pun of St. Gregory—‘Non Angli sed Angeli,’ and so on. From the letters that passed between St. Gregory Nazianzen and St. Basil we learn that at least two of the greatest and most learned Doctors of the Church were very playful men. They were very fast friends, at any rate for a time; and at the height of their attachment St. Gregory was very anxious that St. Basil should come to live beside him. Tiberina was the place suggested. Basil goes to look at Tiberina and finds it a dull and cheerless spot and writes to say so. Thereupon Gregory replies: ‘There is no use blaming me for the ice and cold of Tiberina. What a clean-footed, tip-toeing, capering man you are, to be sure. The fact is, you have set up to be a dandy. Therefore, say not a word more against our mud. If you do, I will match our wading with your trading and all the other wretched things that are to be found in towns.’ This is the letter of a Saint and it is a very ‘playful’ letter; its theme is the good old stand-by of all amateur debating societies, ‘Town versus Country.’

...There was a great deal of fun and frolic mingled with the simplicity of the Curé of Ars. It is well known that he countersigned the petition organized for his removal from Ars. ‘Now that they have my signature there ought to be no lack of material for a conviction.’ The first thing he did on being made a Canon was to sell his mozetta. ‘I have sold it for fifty francs,’ he wrote to the bishop. ‘The price completely satisfied me.’ During the campaign which he conducted against what he considered the improper stylishness of female fashions, he met Jeanne Lardet when he was walking in the village. Jeanne was wearing the very ‘latest thing’ in collars, and we may be sure was feeling and looking rather proud of the fact. The eagle eye of the Curé fell upon the collar. ‘Jeanne, will you sell me that collar; I will give you five sous for it?’ ‘But what for, Monsieur le Curé?’ ‘For my cat.’

✠ CALENDAR

MON	8/7/23	ST. CAJETAN, C ST. DONATUS, BPM 8:00 AM Low Mass Honor of Our Heavenly Father <i>(Tom & Karen Simpson)</i> 11:25 AM Low Mass Mary Beth Grumblatt <i>(M.E.G.)</i>
TUE	8/8/23	SS. CYRIACUS, LARGUS & SMARAGDUS, MM <i>FOURTEEN HOLY HELPERS</i> SUMMER NOVENA AFTER ALL MASSES 7:00 AM Low Mass Purgatorial Society 8:00 AM Low Mass Special intention deceased <i>(Anna Bianco)</i> 5:00 PM Low Mass Siblings & families <i>(K/V)</i>
WED	8/9/23	ST. JOHN VIANNEY, C ST. ROMANUS, M VIGIL OF ST. LAWRENCE <i>ST. EMIGDIUS, BPM</i> 7:00 AM Low Mass Andrew Prell – special intention <i>(Joseph & Elizabeth Prell)</i> 8:00 AM Low Mass †Fr. Wish <i>(Alter Christus Confraternity)</i> 5:10 PM Low Mass Fr. Thielen <i>(Alter Christus Confraternity)</i>
THU	8/10/23	ST. LAWRENCE, M 7:00 AM Low Mass Intentions of the St. Monica Club <i>(St. Monica Club)</i> 8:00 AM Low Mass †Fr. Cekada <i>(Alter Christus Confraternity)</i> 11:25 AM Low Mass Mary Beth Grumblatt <i>(M.E.G.)</i>
FRI	8/11/23	ST. TIBURTIUS, M & SUSANNA, VM <i>ST. PHILOMENA, VM</i> DAY I OF ST. PHILOMENA TRIDUUM 8:00 AM Low Mass †Bishop Dolan <i>(ACC)</i> 11:05 AM Confessions 11:25 AM Low Mass Special intention <i>(S. Kurtz)</i> 5:15 PM Confessions & Rosary 5:45 PM Low Mass †Angela Appelhanz <i>(Keith & Mary Christensen)</i> (from 3/16) 6:30 PM Sacred Heart Novena, Benediction
SAT	8/12/23	ST. CLARE, V DAY II OF ST. PHILOMENA TRIDUUM 7:10 AM Confessions 7:30 AM Low Mass Special intention AMV <i>(K/V)</i> 11:00 AM Nuptial Mass Joseph & Gabrielle Vines
SUN	8/13/23	PENTECOST XI SS. HIPPLYTUS & CASSIAN, MM <i>ST. JOHN BERCHMANS, C</i> <i>OUR LADY REFUGE OF SINNERS</i> DAY III OF ST. PHILOMENA TRIDUUM 7:05 AM Rosary 7:30 AM Low Mass Restoration & protection of the church & faithful <i>(Dan, Mary & family)</i> 9:00 AM High Mass Poor Souls – for favor received <i>(Joe Druecker)</i> 11:05 AM Rosary 11:30 AM Low Mass Jane Lotarski 4:45 PM Vespers & Benediction 5:45 PM Low Mass For the people of St. Gertrude the Great 7:15 PM Fatima Rosary Procession

MEDITATION FROM ST. CLARE

“How can man complain when he beholds Christ hanging on the cross and covered with blood?” asked St. Clare; and she also said that those nights in which she contemplated the Passion of our Lord, seemed short. During her long and painful maladies, she meditated on all the sufferings which our Lord endured to save us, and by this means, learned such resignation that she not only had no thought of murmuring against divine Providence, but also bore her pains with great interior consolation. See your crucified Savior and think: “What is my suffering compared to that which my Redeemer endured for love of me? My Jesus has suffered with patience, with joy, and even with the desire to suffer still more. Why then should I be impatient and fainthearted?” With such thoughts you should animate yourself, especially during the night, as it is generally then that pains increase. Remember the night, the bitter night, which your Savior passed in the house of Caiaphas, maltreated in every possible manner, and pray for grace, to bear the cross laid upon you, with patience and fortitude. Only try it once and you will find great relief. St. Gregory said rightly: “Remembering the sufferings of Christ, we can bear everything patiently, how heavy soever it may be.”

St. Clare, besides her love for her crucified Lord, had an especial devotion to the Blessed Sacrament. To it she went with all her cares, and found strength and comfort. Why do you not do the same? ...Especially when you are unhappy, in misfortune, in temptation, go to Him. Pray to Him in the words of St. Clare: “Lord, do not deliver to the demons the soul of one who believes in Thee. Protect and keep Thy servant whom Thou has bought with Thy Precious Blood.” Do not forget the instructions here given you. Follow the admonition of St. Paul, who says: “Let us therefore go with confidence to the throne of grace: that we may obtain mercy, and find grace in seasonable aid” (Heb 4:16). This throne of grace you find in the Blessed Sacrament. Fly to it in all your sorrows, and you will find comfort and assistance.

– Fr. Francis Xavier Weninger (d. 1888)



S E R V I C E S

FRI 8/11	5:45 PM LOW: Capetillos
SAT 8/12	7:30 AM LOW: Brueggemanns
SUN 8/13	7:30 AM LOW: Brueggemanns
	9:00 AM HIGH: MCS: M. Simpson, P. Omlor TH: T. Lawrence
	ACs: C. Arlinghaus, J. Stewart TB: N. & J. Hudson, C. VanderPutten, I. Smith, A. Constantino, F. Caggese
	11:30 AM LOW: Kolenichs
	4:45 PM VESPERS & BENEDICTION: G. Miller, D. Simpson
	5:45 PM LOW: B. Lotarski