
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

September 17, 2023

SOLEMNITY OF THE SEVEN SORROWS OF OUR LADY

PENTECOST XVI • THE STIGMATA OF ST. FRANCIS

¶ PENTECOST XVI

Today we begin our Triduum to Our Lady of La Salette. The Blessing of the Sick follows all Masses today, in honor of the Sorrowful Mother. (The Blessing of Expectant Mothers will be available at the Communion Rail afterwards.) Sunday Catechism Classes are at 10:40 AM. There are no Vespers due to the **Parish Picnic** at Sharon Woods Park. Everyone is invited! Join us anytime between 1-5 PM at the Council Bluff Shelter.

¶ EMBER DAYS

Wednesday, Friday and Saturday of this week are the **Fall Ember Days**. Catholics between the ages of 21-59 are bound to the Laws of Fast; those who have reached their 7th year may eat meat only once, at the principal meal, on Wednesday and Saturday. The Ember Days were instituted for a good harvest and to draw down God's blessings upon the September ordinations. Pray for priests!

¶ NEXT SUNDAY: ANGEL SUNDAY

The **Blessing of Children** will be given after all Masses next Sunday, in honor of their Guardian Angels for Angel Sunday. Catechism Classes will be at 10:40 AM. There will be no Vespers.

📖 **Set Your Missal:** Pentecost XVII, second collect of Our Lady of Ransom. Trinity Preface.

Collection Report

Sunday, September 10th.....\$6,938.87



¶ CHECK OUT THE BOOKSTORE!

Many new items are available, and many more coming in time for holiday gift giving. We have new Diamond Art by the dozens, sure to make stocking stuffers for all ages. Check the basket on the movable stand or the display right inside the door. If you like to shop early for the holidays, we are working with you in mind.

The Used Book section has many repaired treasures for you to browse. You are sure to find your old, new favorite. We have large vintage wall art ready to hang. You're sure to find what you need and some new treasure. Come in and take a look around. Be sure to look up too.

Hail, O Cross, our only hope.
500 days indulgence

¶ LOOK AHEAD

Rosary Sunday: October 1

Altar Boys Day: Saturday, Oct. 14

Forty Hours Devotion: Oct. 20-22

All Saints Sunday: October 29

¶ YOUR PRAYERS

Please pray for Teresa Boyd, Rick Woods, Theresa Couch, two very special intentions for Kay Marie Fitzgerald, and all of the intentions that have been recommended to us.

*Mary most sorrowful, Mother of
Christians, pray for us.*
300 days indulgence



NEXT SUNDAY!

There will be pies and crafts available after the 7:30 AM Mass and games will begin after the 9:00 AM Mass. This year introduces new games, but the big excitement is the improved "dunk-booth!" Bring your good aim and appetite! Square dancing will be hosted after the 11:30 AM Mass.

OUR LADY OF SORROWS



For “there stood by the cross of Jesus His Mother.” O words full of compassion! For how much, O my heart, ought they to move thee in all thy depths, the sorrows and afflictions of so loving a Savior hanging upon the cross, and yet decreeing, for us alone, that we who were once enfolded in the darkness of our sins have now been led back again to the light, with the help of the Mother of God. It is fitting to suffer with such a Mother standing by the cross, bearing in her heart to the full the boundless sorrow of her suffering Son, and in some way, more special and more particular, to endure with her all that our innermost hearts could feel. It is indeed just that we, who in our miseries are constantly consoled by her, should also suffer with her in her sorrows. And even if we may not suffer with her as we should, at least, by calling to mind her dolor, let us stir up in faith, so far as we can, our heart’s devotion. The depths of the grief of that loving Mother we do not know, but let us seek from afar, by surmising them, from the sorrows that we have been shown. So let every lover ask himself how much he would be made to mourn, if he were to see whatever it is, so lovable, which he loves so deeply, given over to a shameful death, and with what vehement compassion he would be moved, even though a heart that does not love should find in itself nothing like this. Let a loving mind turn these things over, and from this he will well believe all that can be said of the sorrow of her who loved and mourned more than all mortal men, when she saw her dear One condemned to the vilest death.

– Blessed Henry Suso

THE PLAYFULNESS OF THE SAINTS

That a Saint may be frolicsome without prejudice to his prospects of canonization was settled once for all by St. Philip Neri. Cardinal Capacelatro, speaking of his extraordinary sprightliness, says: “I know no other Saint who resembles him in this respect.” St. Philip’s singularity lies not in the fact that he allowed great liberty to the playfulness of his disposition; but rather in this, that he made it one of the leading principles of his school of piety. He turned playfulness into a kind of apostolate. The municipality of Rome in the year 1898 set up a tablet on the Janiculan Hill with the following inscription: “Here in the shade of this oak tree, Philip Neri amid the merry shouts of boys became himself a boy again—most wisely.” Priest though he was and old, he would join in the sports of those boys of his. When the game of tennis or quoits was in full swing, he would withdraw to the shelter of the tree in order to say his prayers. If the boys called him back, he would return to the field. He even allowed his young followers to play tennis against the wall of his room; and although the occupants of the house complained of the din he would never permit the lads to be interfered with. All this and much more of this nature is true of St. Philip; but it is matched by what we read of in the lives of other Saints. St. Don Bosco also thoroughly enjoyed a game with his boys. St. Charles Borromeo was very fond of chess; and St. Aloysius played some ball game or other. The one, during his game of chess and the other during his game of ball, was asked what he would do if he were suddenly told that the world was about to come to an end; and both maintained that they would go on with the game.

THE SORROWFUL HEART

All-spotless heart, no breath of sin
E'er marred thy purity;
The shining choirs of angels show
Quite dim and dark by thee.
O fountain sealed, O garden closed
Where God doth take delight,
Obtain for us pure hearts to love
And honor Him aright.

Most valiant heart, that 'neath the cross
Of Jesus did not quail,
It was thy mighty love for Him
That would not let thee fail.
Teach us thy self-forgetting love
And make us strong like thee;
Then ask thy Son that we may stand
Upon Mount Calvary.

Most tender heart, no floods of grief
Thy love could ever drown;
The sorrows which once pierced thee
through
Are now thy fairest crown.
O Mother blest, thou to thy Son
Dost lead us in thy train;
Right well thy grateful children know
They cannot trust in vain.



SORROW

*Count each affliction, whether light or grave,
God's messenger sent down to thee; do thou
With courtesy receive him; rise and bow;
And, ere his shadow pass thy threshold, crave
Permission first His heavenly feet to lave;
Then lay before Him all thou hast; allow
No cloud or passion to usurp thy brow,
Or mar thy hospitality; no wave
Of mortal tumult to obliterate
Thy soul's marmoreal calmness. Grief should
be
Like joy, majestic, equable, sedate;
Confirming, cleansing, raising, making free;
Strong to consume small troubles; to commend
Great thoughts, grave thoughts, thoughts
lasting to the end.*

– Aubrey de Vere

It seems to me that things have picked up rather than slowed down after the summer months. You might say that this makes all the sense in the world. However, the summer months have always been some of the most action-packed for the clergy not involved in the school, while the start of school each fall brings more of a routine and a sense of calm. Not this year, but then it is a sign of a thriving parish, and for this we thank the Good God each and every day.

Sisters Ulrica and Eulalia made their Final Oblation on the feast of the Holy Name of Mary. The Oblation is not the same thing as a vow and it is not perpetual, but is to be renewed each year or so. The Oblation does not bind under pain of sin as the vows do. Furthermore, there is freedom to leave the Oblate vocation at any time for a legitimate reason. This, I think, makes the Oblate vocation more sacrificial, in a sense. Once a vow has been made, the sister knows that they can never go back on it without committing sin. Somehow, the thought of sin acts as a sort of safeguard, whereas the Sisters do not have this same motivation. They must freely make the conscious act of giving themselves to Our Lord in service to His Church each and every day. The Oblate has to deal with people on a regular basis, much like the parish priest does. She is not protected by any cloister save the one she makes for herself in her own heart. If the Oblate lets even a little bit of the worldly spirit creep into her soul, she will always be tempted to leave. So, without the safeguard of the religious vows, and without the protection of cloister she must remain faithful to the Evangelical Counsels. To do so much of what a nun would do without all the safety nets of religious life is a difficult task in today's modern world. Some may disagree with my opinion on the matter, but that is how I see it.

Fr. McKenna and I depart for Argentina tomorrow and should arrive on Tuesday. We will be there to celebrate **Fr. Alfredo Contreras'** priestly anniversary on Thursday. I will also be ordaining **Rev. Mr. Nicolas Benegas** to the holy priesthood this Saturday. I will tell you more about this young cleric after the trip, and perhaps invite him to come to St. Gertrude's some Sunday in the future. He does not know very much English at present. Still, we manage to communicate when we see each other.

Frs. Lehtoranta, Simpson, and Brueggemann

are staying back to take care of things while I am away. It is always nice, very nice, to have such capable priests to rely on. Thank you, Fathers!



The weather is changing, as are the leaves. The Faith, however, never changes. May Our Lady give you an ever growing devotion to your Holy Faith.

– **Bishop McGuire**



PRAYER TO DIVINE PROVIDENCE

O Sweet and Tender Providence of God, into Thy hands I commend my spirit, to Thee I abandon myself, my hopes, my fears, my desires, my repugnances, my temporal and eternal prospects. To Thee I commit the wants of my perishable body, to Thee I commit the far more precious interests of my immortal soul, for whose interests I have nothing to fear while I withdraw it not from Thy bosom. Though my faults are many, my misery great, my spiritual poverty extreme, my hope in Thee surpasses all. It is greater than my difficulties, stronger than death. Though temptations should assail me, I will hope in Thee; though I should sink beneath my weakness, I will hope in Thee still; though I should break my resolutions a thousand times, I will look to Thee confidently for grace to keep them at last; though Thou shouldst slay me, even then I will trust Thee, for Thou art my God, my Father and my Friend. Thou art my kind, my tender, my indulgent Parent, and I am Thy loving child, who cast myself into Thy arms and beg Thy blessing, who put my trust in Thee, and so trusting, shall never be confounded.

Providence did provide.

Providence can provide.

Providence will provide.

O loving Providence of God, we commit this cause to Thee. Amen.



✠ CALENDAR

- MON 9/18/23 ST. JOSEPH CUPERTINO, C**
8:00 AM Low Mass Repose of the soul of †Ina Harpen
(C. Simpson family)
11:25 AM Low Mass My uncle, Steve Roczen *(Eva Nellenbach)*
- TUE 9/19/23 ST. JANUARIUS, BPM & COMPANIONS, MM**
OUR LADY OF LA SALETTE • ST. EMILY RODAT, V
7:00 AM Low Mass Repose of the soul of †Bob Simpson
(C. Simpson family)
11:25 AM High Mass Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Kiernan –
 congratulations! *(Colleen Eldracher)*
5:00 PM Low Mass My uncle, Steve Roczen *(Eva Nellenbach)*
- WED 9/20/23 SS. EUSTACE & COMPANIONS, MM**
 VIGIL OF ST. MATTHEW
 EMBER WEDNESDAY – *FAST & PARTIAL ABSTINENCE*
8:00 AM Low Mass My uncle, Steve Roczen *(Eva Nellenbach)*
11:25 AM High Mass †Pat & †Ina Harpen *(Margaret Sutton)*
5:10 PM Low Mass †Ryan Greenwell – 6th anniversary
(Colleen Greenwell)
- THU 9/21/23 ST. MATTHEW, APÉV**
7:00 AM Low Mass Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Giese
(C. Simpson family)
8:00 AM Low Mass My uncle, Steve Roczen *(Eva Nellenbach)*
11:25 AM High Mass My son, Jay Tseng – special intentions
(H.Y.)
- FRI 9/22/23 ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA, BPC**
 SS. MAURICE & COMPANIONS, MM
 EMBER FRIDAY – *FAST & ABSTINENCE*
8:00 AM Low Mass †Lucie Vermette *(Tom & Karen Simpson)*
11:00 AM Confessions
11:25 AM Low Mass Thanksgiving for prayers
(Tom & Karen Simpson)
5:15 PM Confessions & Rosary
5:45 PM Low Mass In thanksgiving *(William Long)*
6:30 PM Sacred Heart Novena, Benediction
- SAT 9/23/23 ST. LINUS, PM • ST. THECLA, VM**
 EMBER SATURDAY – *FAST & PARTIAL ABSTINENCE*
7:10 AM Confessions
7:30 AM Low Mass Special intention *(Tom & Karen Simpson)*
8:10 AM Salve, Sermon
8:20 AM High Mass †Robert Simpson *(Tom & Karen Simpson)*
- SUN 9/24/23 PENTECOST XVII • OUR LADY OF RANSOM**
 ANGEL SUNDAY • FALL FESTIVAL!
7:05 AM Rosary
7:30 AM Low Mass Honor of our Guardian Angels
(Tom & Karen Simpson)
9:00 AM High Mass †Loretta Mikesell *(Jane Lotarski)*
10:40 AM Catechism Classes
11:05 AM Rosary
11:30 AM Low Mass Rafael Kuebler – Birthday *(K/V)*
5:45 PM Low Mass For the people of St. Gertrude the Great



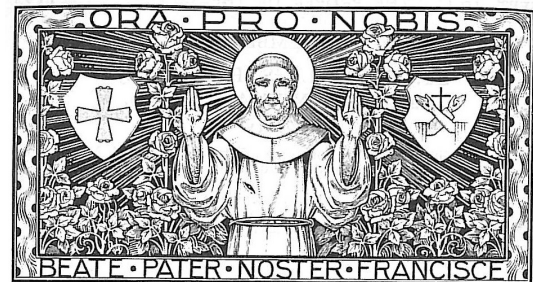
Family Bluegrass Night & Potluck



Thursday, October 5th
in Helfta Hall, following the 5:00 PM
Holy Hour for Priests

The HOP RIVER BAND will be
playing from 6:30 to 8:30 PM.

Please bring a dish to share for the
potluck.



The Stigmata of St. Francis

O Lord Jesus Christ, Who reproduced in the flesh of the most blessed Francis the sacred marks of Thine own sufferings, so that in a world grown cold our hearts might be filled with burning love of Thee, graciously enable us by his merits and prayers to bear the cross without faltering and to bring forth worthy fruits of penitence: Thou Who art God, living and reigning with God the Father, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, for ever and ever. Amen.

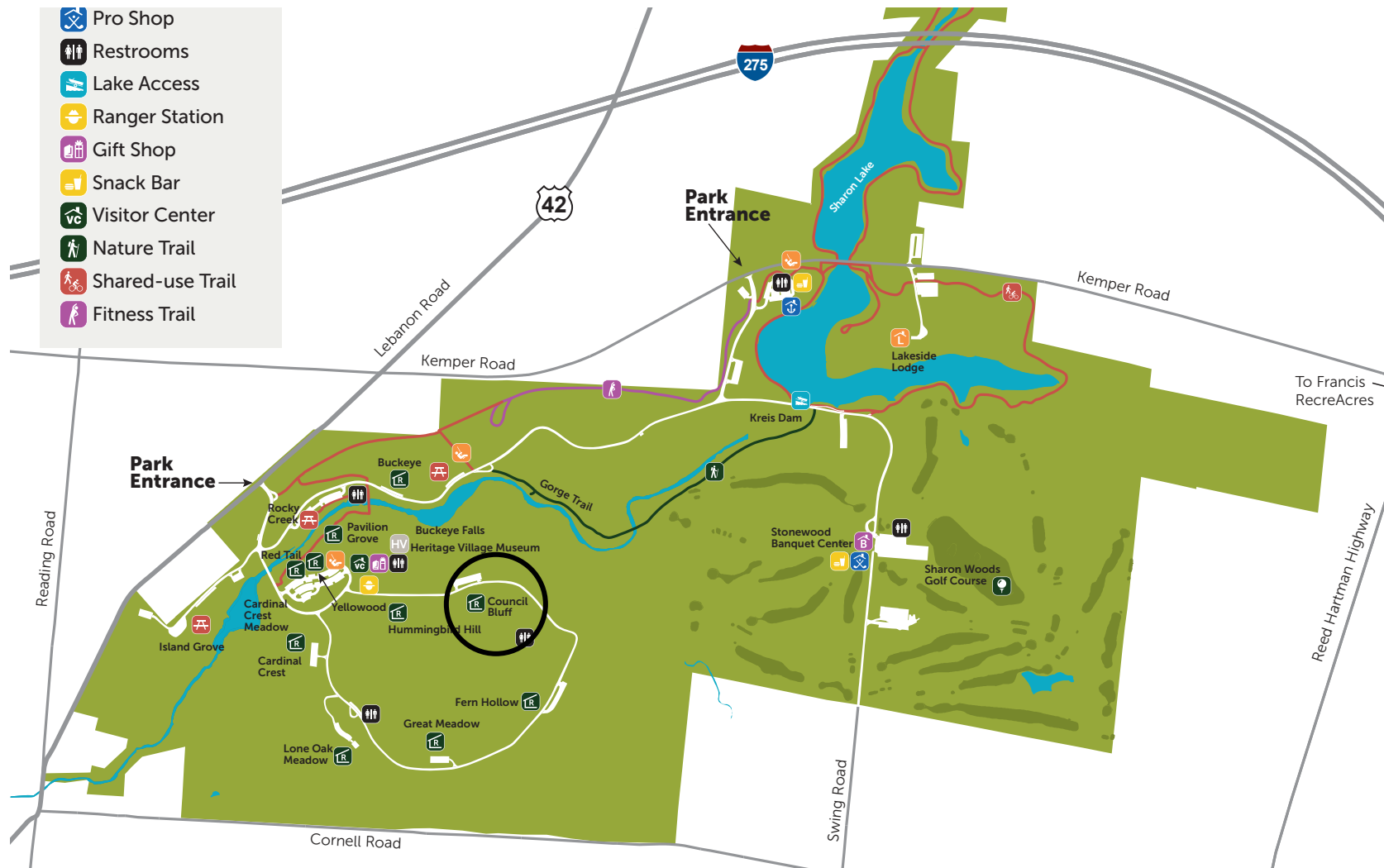
Servers

- FRI 9/22 5:45 PM LOW:** Capetillos
- SAT 9/23 7:30 AM LOW:** Brueggemanns
8:20 AM HIGH: M. Simpson, I. Smith, F. Caggese
- SUN 9/24 7:30 AM LOW:** M. McConnell, Brueggemann
9:00 AM HIGH: MC: C. Richesson TH: T. Lawrence ACs: D. Hudson, M. Caggese TB: A. Constantino, I. Smith, F. Caggese, L. Rabjohns, N. & J. Hudson
11:30 AM LOW: A. McClurey, J. Kolenich
5:45 PM LOW: B. Lotarski

PARISH PICNIC

TODAY FROM 1-5 PM IN SHARON WOODS PARK AT THE COUNCIL BLUFF SHELTER

Please bring a dish to share if you would like, but most of all bring yourself!
Hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks will be provided.



Enter park at main entrance from Lebanon Rd. (Rt. 42).



ROSARY CONFRATERNITY BREAKFAST

Sunday, October 1st

after the High Mass

Our keynote speaker is Dr. Dan Stanislawski
the new school principal.

INTERESTED IN THE CONFRATERNITY?

OBLIGATIONS: Each member strives to pray fifteen mysteries of the Rosary each week (this does not bind under sin), and must have his/her name inscribed in the register of the Confraternity.

BENEFITS: 1. The special protection of the mother of God. 2. A share in the prayer of countless thousands of members the world over, and this even after death. 3. A share in the prayers, Masses and apostolic works of the entire Dominican Order. 4. The intercession of the entire heavenly court. 5. Various plenary and partial indulgences.

You can sign up before breakfast if you are interested in being a part of the Rosary Confraternity.

The induction ceremony will be announced later.

Communion Breakfast

\$10 each or \$35 a Family - Get your tickets now!

You don't need to be a member to enjoy the breakfast and the talk. Please come!

Tickets are available in the bookstore or find a young adult selling them after Mass

Keep your ticket for entry & Sign your ticket for prize drawings