

ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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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



January 14, 2024

EPIPHANY II

ST. HILARY, BPCD • ST. FELIX, PRM

¶ EPIPHANY II

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

¶ CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE

Our annual devotion for the conversion of different non-Catholic groups begins this Thursday after the 11:25 AM Mass. Please join us in fervent prayer!

Pope St. Pius X sanctioned and blessed the Chair of Unity Octave. His Holiness, Pope Benedict XV, extended its observance to the Universal Church, highly enriching it with indulgences.

The Chair of Unity Octave has accomplished an immense good in awakening Catholics to a mission consciousness, and to the need of interesting themselves in the conversion of those without the fold. When the enemies of Christ seem to be triumphing as never before, how great is our obligation to pour forth fervent prayer for the millions who wander in darkness. Let's make this year's Octave a week of grace! *An indulgence of 300 days during the octave of prayers for the unity of the Church from the Feast of the Chair of St. Peter at Rome (Jan. 18) to the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul (Jan. 25). A plenary indulgence on the usual conditions at the end of the exercise.*

Collection Report

Sunday, January 7th\$7,368.00
Second Collection.....\$2,438.00



OFFICIAL CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE PRAYER

Antiphon: That they all may be one, as Thou, Father, in Me and I in Thee; that they also may be one in Us; that the world may believe that Thou hast sent Me.


V. I say unto thee that thou art Peter.
R. And upon this Rock I will build My Church.

Let us pray: O Lord Jesus Christ, Who saidst unto Thine Apostles: Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you: regard not our sins, but the faith of Thy Church, and vouchsafe to grant unto her



that peace and unity which are agreeable to Thy Will. Who livest and reignest God forever and ever. Amen.

¶ NEXT SUNDAY: EPIPHANY III

We continue the Chair of Unity Octave next Sunday. Catechism Classes at 10:40 AM, Vespers with Benediction at 4:45 PM.  *Set Your Missal:* Third Sunday After Epiphany, second collect of St. Agnes. Trinity Preface.

¶ ST. MONICA CLUB

The St. Monica Club will be meeting on **Thursday** after the 11:25 AM High Mass.

¶ YOUR PRAYERS

Please pray for Gabriel Nkamuke, the father of Bishop Nkamuke; Malia Beck-erich, Jane Fitzgibbon, Barbara O'Connor, Charles Briggs, Jim Brueggemann, and the repose of the soul of †Joseph Tellez.

Lumen Christi

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

Conversion & salvation, Višnja Ana Klarić

(Ana Klarić)



CONGRATULATIONS to Daniel & Michelle Hille on the baptism of their daughter, **Eleanor Grace**, on Sunday, January 7, 2024.

AND THE MOTHER OF JESUS WAS THERE

Every woman loves a wedding. Mary is no exception. We read in the Gospel that there was a wedding at Cana and the Mother of Jesus was there. Let us spend a few moments with her today talking about the wedding. There should be no trouble with distractions during this meditation. It is just two women talking about the thing women love to talk about most—a wedding.

Why is Mary present at this wedding? It is her only appearance in the public life of Christ. We shall not see her again until her Son is dying on the Cross and she comes to stand beside Him in His hour of need. The only event in the life of Christ in which Mary had a prominent place was the wedding at Cana. Why?

By their presence on this occasion Christ and His Mother wished to impress upon us the sanctity of the home and the important part that woman plays in making a home happy and successful. God is Love. God made man to His own image and likeness. Man's destiny is to love, to share God's happiness in heaven. To attain this destiny God gave but one commandment, the commandment of love which embraces all other commandments. Christ made a sacrament of human love. This sacrament surrounds and affects our entire lives. We are born, we live and we die under the consecrated love of a home. Nothing influences our lives or affects our salvation as much as our home. It is the foundation of society, the key to our happiness in time and eternity.

Woman plays an important part in making a happy home. A home is built on love and a woman's heart was made to love. That is why Mary spent her entire life teaching us how to make a home. We see her first when the Angel brings her the joyful news of motherhood. She is to be the Mother of God. Then she hastens to

Elizabeth to share with her the happiness of motherhood. Her life at Nazareth is absorbed in the task of keeping a home. The one miracle of her life was here at Cana, a miracle to make a home happy.

Someday you are going to have a home of your own. What kind of a home is it going to be? Talk to Mary about it. She is interested. Love is a sacred thing and should be saved for the home. Do not squander it. The modern world would have you hold it cheaply. Too many modern homes have failed because they have started with an empty heart, a heart that trifled with the greatest treasure a woman possesses, her love and affection.

Ask Mary to preserve your heart from the contamination of the modern world that is trying to destroy the sacredness of the home. Ask her to teach you the meaning of love. Offer her your heart and ask her to help you fill it with the virtues that make true love a beautiful thing, purity, gentleness, tenderness, thoughtfulness, and unselfishness. Speak to her of motherhood and ask her to talk to you as she did to Elizabeth and prepare you for its responsibilities. Ask her what the groom was like at Cana. Then talk about your wedding. Promise to introduce your boy friends to her. Ask her opinion of them. Promise her that the man of your choice must be her choice, too. Make up your mind on one thing now. You are going to invite Christ and His Mother to your wedding. It will be the happiest day of your life if you can say: "The Mother of Jesus was there."

— *Rev. William J. McClimont, C.M.*



THE SHEPHERD BOY'S GIFT

When near to her at Bethlehem
I knelt at Christmastide,
"There is no pillow for thy Son,
No pillow, Lady, for thy Son,"
I said to her, and sighed.

But when I softly turned away
And tiptoed from His bed,
The Lady Mary smiled at me,
The Lady Mary smiled to see
(I'd tucked it in so carefully)
My heart beneath His head.

— *Edith Hume*



MARY AND THE MAGI

The wise astronomers of old
Were men devout, though free;
And heaven's sidereal path of gold
Led them, dear Lord, to Thee!

The pole-star of mysterious ray
That drew their yearning souls,
Thanks be to God—as bright today
In faith's blue archway rolls!

When first the little Babe divine,
The Gentile kings adored,
Their homage—burning love benign,
At Mary's feet was poured.

Thence did it rise to Him she pressed,
In awe and love supreme—
Unto her meek, her sinless breast,
Beneath that Star's pure beam.

Their gold, their frankincense and myrrh,
Were laid at Mary's feet,
As wonderingly they gazed on her
Whose Son they came to greet.

Divine the lesson taught to men
By ancient sages grand;
Homage to God is dearest, when
Received at Mary's hand.

— *Cyril Robert*

✠ THE BISHOP'S NOTE ✠

This year's Christmas and Epiphany Octaves were very splendid indeed. Although the attendance for the Epiphany was somewhat lighter than most years, probably because it was a snowy Saturday morning, it was truly a Gertrudian day which started off with a well served and sung Solemn Pontifical Mass. Of course, there was a celebratory meal involved, too! Dominic and Lauren Caggese kindly agreed to prepare the breakfast, and Kevin and Phyllis Kiernan, hearing of it, decided they should be there to help. Mealtime is always an occasion which presents many an opportunity for the practice of virtue—the gold of charity being the brightest and best.

Epiphany gave way to the Holy Family on Sunday, a perfect time for a baptism! One of the three great mysteries which we honor in the Epiphany is the Baptism of Our Lord in the Jordan. What an honor it was to baptize little Eleanor Grace Hille. She was a little fussy, but that's okay, we all get a little fussy sometimes, don't we?!

In any case, little Eleanor has happily been adopted into God's holy family and is an heir to the Kingdom of God.

School resumed on Monday and most of the teachers and children have recovered from their sicknesses, though that awful cough still lingers for many. The return of the children always makes St. Gertrude's a smidge brighter. Their innocence is so refreshing. I pray that the Holy Family assists them to preserve it always (and their parents to remove from the home whatever might tarnish it)! The society in which we live is in no way conducive to our salvation. If we expose our children to it as if it were an acceptable thing then the children will be poisoned by its corrupt influence and will lose that innocence that is now so charming.

The sacristy snail count has grown to 16 now! I think the sacristy collection of critters is beginning to rival Miss Mikesell's classroom collection. Snailville is filled with plenty of soil, moss, rocks, and all the foods that snails like (although they seem to hide under the spinach more than actually eat it). There is even a cemetery for Nemo, fresh with a gate creatively crafted of toothpicks—and a



tombstone which says, "Here lies Nemo." I have to admit, God's creation is most enjoyable to watch. St. John was very often seen petting his pet bird and St. Francis de Sales was so intrigued by nature that he often used examples of animals and insects to prove spiritual lessons. Oh! and don't

forget that the great missionary bishop, St. Anthony Mary Claret, has a chapter in his autobiography in which he also uses animals as lessons in virtue.



Fr. Lehtoranta's Sodality of Charity had their Christmas party yesterday. The White Elephant gift exchange was the highlight of the day. Perhaps next week I will have more to say about the party.

The big news is the Ordination in Nigeria of **Fathers Benjamin Ikhiaemoh** (left of Bishop) and **Jonathan Okafor** (right of Bishop). The number of clergy in Nigeria is now five. **Fr. Okerulu** says that these were the first ordinations in that country since the 1960s. I will share more news after I speak again with **Bishop Nkamuke**.

I send you a blessing and offer you the promise of my daily prayers for each and every one of you.

– Bishop McGuire



MON	1/15/24	ST. PAUL, FIRST HERMIT • ST. MAURUS, AB <i>OUR LADY OF PROMPT SUCCOR</i>
	8:00 AM	Low Mass †Richard T. Dailey – 22 nd anniversary 7/3 <i>(Tom & Karen Simpson)</i>
	11:25 AM	Low Mass Patrick & Colleen’s intentions <i>(Theresa Simpson)</i>
TUE	1/16/24	ST. MARCELLUS I, PM
	7:00 AM	Low Mass Sarah Simpson & her baby’s health <i>(David Bayer)</i>
	8:00 AM	Low Mass †Mary McGuire <i>(Tom & Karen Simpson)</i>
	11:25 AM	High Mass †Ronald Lotarski <i>(Mr. & Mrs. Mark Lotarski)</i>
	5:00 PM	Low Mass †Jean Bischel <i>(The Puglielli Family)</i>
WED	1/17/24	ST. ANTHONY, AB • OUR LADY OF PONTMAIN
	7:00 AM	Low Mass †Jean Bischel <i>(Patsy McConnell)</i>
	8:00 AM	Low Mass My deceased cousin F.H. <i>(Carolyn McClorey)</i>
	11:25 AM	Requiem High Mass Purgatorial Society
	5:10 PM	Low Mass My family – Merry Christmas <i>(Cora Arlinghaus)</i>
THU	1/18/24	ST. PETER’S CHAIR AT ROME • ST. PRISCA, VM OPENING OF THE CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE: The return of all the other sheep to the one fold of St. Peter, the one Shepherd
	7:00 AM	Low Mass My †Grandparents <i>(Anna Brueggemann)</i>
	8:00 AM	Low Mass Graduates of 2023 <i>(C. Simpson family)</i>
	11:25 AM	High Mass Intentions of the St. Monica Club <i>(St. Monica Club)</i> , St. Monica Club Meeting
FRI	1/19/24	ST. MARIUS & COMP, MM • ST. CANUTE, KING, M CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE: The return of Oriental schismatics (the Orthodox) to the Apostolic See of Rome
	8:00 AM	Low Mass Erik Ruse & family <i>(Michelle)</i>
	11:00 AM	Confessions
	11:25 AM	Low Mass Special intention deceased <i>(Mr. & Mrs. Victor Ritze)</i>
	5:15 PM	Confessions, Rosary
	5:35 PM	Infant of Prague Novena IV
	5:45 PM	Low Mass †Estrella C. Abella – 38 th anniversary 7/7 <i>(Tom & Karen Simpson)</i>
	6:30 PM	Sacred Heart Novena, Benediction
SAT	1/20/24	SS. FABIAN, P & SEBASTIAN, MM <i>ST. HENRY OF UPPSALA • IHM REFUGE OF SINNERS</i> CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE: The conversion of Anglicans and Episcopalians throughout the world
	7:10 AM	Confessions
	7:30 AM	Low Mass Special intention <i>(Renee Arlinghaus)</i>
	8:10 AM	Alma, Sermon
	8:20 AM	High Mass Marriage blessings – Gabrielle & Joseph <i>(Levi Giese Family)</i>
SUN	1/21/24	EPIPHANY III • ST. AGNES, VM CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE: That Protestants throughout the world might find their way back to Holy Church
	7:05 AM	Rosary
	7:30 AM	Low Mass †Ann M. Marko <i>(Dave & MaryAnn Marko)</i>
	9:00 AM	High Mass Sophia Hudson <i>(Abigail Lawrence)</i>
	10:40 AM	Catechism Classes

Public debates between Catholic and non-Catholic controversialists were not infrequent in days gone by. They were seldom provoked by Catholics, but were often used by them for silencing enemies or for expounding the truth. They have now fallen into disuse principally because they almost invariably resulted in the triumph of the Catholic debaters and served to show up the ignorance and bigotry of those who provoked them.

One of the best known of these debates was that which took place between Bishop Purcell, of Cincinnati, and Alexander Campbell, founder of the Campbellite wing of the Presbyterian Church. Campbell was an Irishman, who migrated to this country and became famous as an evangelist and debater. The success and power of Bishop Purcell in Cincinnati, and his defense of Catholic principles, moved him to envy, and he challenged the Bishop to a public debate. The prelate had no taste for efforts of that kind, but he decided to accept the challenge; and on January 11, 1837, the preliminaries were arranged at the episcopal residence. The place of meeting was to be the Baptist Church, and the debate was to last for seven days. It was to be held under five moderators—two to be chosen by each disputant, and these four to choose a fifth; and the net proceeds were to be distributed equally among Protestant and Catholic charities.

Needless to remark, there was nothing original in the charges advanced by Campbell. They were the familiar ones about Catholic apostasy, superstition, and disloyalty—charges which had been imported from the other side of the Atlantic, and which are yet repeated in backward districts. The result was thus summed up by one of the city papers: “Catholicity lost nothing, and Protestantism gained nothing, by the discussion.” Indeed, the principal gainers were Bishop Purcell and his spiritual flock. The prelate dissipated a lot of the errors and prejudices which up to that time had possessed the minds of his fellow-citizens. He showed himself a scholar and a teacher of great force, and came out of the contest one of the big ecclesiastical figures of the country; and after that he was a welcome figure in the pulpit and on the platform throughout the land. The church where the famous debate took place is now a Catholic church.

– *The Ave Maria*

Servers

FRI 1/19	5:45 PM LOW: B. Constantino, F. Caggese
SAT 1/20	7:30 AM LOW: L. & J. Rabjohns
	8:20 AM HIGH: M. Simpson, P. Caggese, I. Smith
SUN 1/21	7:30 AM LOW: M. McConnell, Brueggemann
	9:00 AM HIGH: MCS: T. Lawrence, N. McClorey TH: C. Arlinghaus ACs: M. Caggese, T. England TB: J. & I. Smith, Ma. & P. Caggese, N. Hudson, A. Constantino
	11:30 AM LOW: Kolenichs
	4:45 PM VESPERS & BENEDICTION: D. Simpson, I. Smith
	5:45 PM LOW: C. & J. Plucker

11:05 AM	Rosary
11:30 AM	Low Mass †Rev. Eldred Leslie <i>(Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Prell)</i>
4:45 PM	Vespers, Benediction
5:45 PM	Low Mass For the people of St. Gertrude the Great