

ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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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

January 21, 2024
EPIPHANY III
ST. AGNES, VM



¶ EPIPHANY III

The Chair of Unity Octave continues today. The Blessing of Expectant Mothers is available at the Communion rail following all Masses. Catechism Classes are at 10:40. Vespers with Benediction at 4:45 PM.

¶ SORROWFUL MOTHER NOVENA

Our annual novena to the Sorrowful Mother, with the Blessing of the Sick, opens this Friday evening following the 5:45 PM Mass. Be sure to bring the sick to be blessed, and call or email the office with their names, to be mentioned during the novena.

¶ NEXT SUNDAY: SEPTUAGESIMA

Sunday Classes will be at 10:40 AM. Vespers with Benediction will be at 4:45 PM.

📖 *Set Your Missal:* Septuagesima, with commemorations of St. Peter Nolasco and St. Agnes. Trinity Preface.

¶ UPCOMING EVENTS

February 2: Candlemas, First Friday. Blessing of Candles, Procession and Mass at 5:30 PM, followed by our Winter Soup Supper and All Night Adoration. *Abstinence dispensed for those who attend the Mass.*

February 3: St. Blaise Blessing of Throats, First Saturday and Sunday.

February 14: Ash Wednesday.

February 28: Children's Lenten Day of Recollection.

Collection Report

Sunday, January 14th.....\$5,970.00
Thank you for your generosity.



PRAYER TO ST. AGNES ON HER FEAST

O singular example of virtue, glorious Saint Agnes, the lively faith that animated thee from thy childhood rendered thee so acceptable to God that thou merited the crown of martyrdom. Obtain for us, we pray, the grace to preserve entire in our hearts the Catholic Faith, and to seek the conversion to the faith of our Christian brethren now separated from us, so that all may become Christians not only in word but also in deed. Pray for us today that, as we confess Jesus openly in the face of men, Jesus may give favorable testimony of us before His Father in Heaven. Amen.

¶ YOUR PRAYERS

Please pray for Nathan Harkleroad, the repose of the soul of †Charles Briggs, and all the intentions recommended to us.

THE PASCHAL SACRAMENTS 2024

Please note these important dates:

FIRST CONFESSIONS & TESTING:
Saturday, April 13th. (Baptismal certificate must be already presented, and registration form completed *before* the test. Contact the church office for the necessary form.)

CHILDREN'S DAY OF RECOLLECTION: **Thursday, May 16th.**

CONFIRMATIONS: Vigil of Pentecost, **Saturday, May 18th.**

FIRST COMMUNION: Corpus Christi Sunday, **June 2nd.**

Parents, please note: the Baptismal certificates of children not baptized at St. Gertrude the Great must be submitted to the church office by **Saturday, March 16th.** If your child is not enrolled in the school or in Sunday catechism, please let us know if you are planning on bringing him to be tested on April 13th.

It is sometimes difficult to know if the children are ready, but if they know their basics, and are reverent at Mass, they probably are! Please speak with Bishop McGuire.

Please note the following:

- Children and parents must be attending Mass (and the children Class) **every Sunday**, not once or twice a month as sports or Sunday activities permit, in order to receive the Sacraments.
- No child will be tested without his Baptismal Certificate and form filled out.
- Sponsors must be members of St. Gertrude the Great, or a church affiliated with us. Please ask if you have a question.

“FOR I ALSO AM A MAN SUBJECT TO AUTHORITY” - GOSPEL

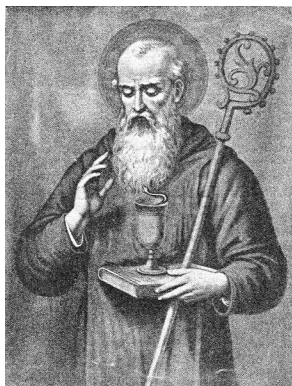
Obedience is better than sacrifice.

The first step of humility is unhesitating obedience, which comes naturally to those who cherish Christ above all.... Such people as these immediately put aside their own concerns, abandon their own will, and lay down whatever they have in hand, leaving it unfinished. With the ready step of obedience, they follow the voice of authority in their actions. Almost at the same moment, then, as the master gives the instruction the disciple quickly puts it into practice in the fear of God; and both actions together are swiftly completed as one.

It is love that impels them to pursue everlasting life; therefore, they are eager to take the narrow road of which the Lord says: *Narrow is the road that leads to life* (Matt 7:14)....

This very obedience, however, will be acceptable to God and agreeable to men only if compliance with what is commanded is not cringing or sluggish or half-hearted, but free from any grumbling or any reaction of unwillingness.... Furthermore, the disciples' obedience must be given gladly, for *God loves a cheerful giver* (2 Cor 9:7). If a disciple obeys grudgingly and grumbles, not only aloud but also in his heart, then, even though he carries out the order, his action will not be accepted with favor by God, Who sees that he is grumbling in his heart.

— St. Benedict



Our Beloved Dead – January

Jean Ostendorf	1-01-1990
Robert H. Lutkehaus	1-02-1992
Vivian Wainright	1-04-2018
Joseph R. Duff	1-06-1993
Steven A. Nemeth	1-08-2002
Ernest Nellenbach	1-08-2011
Althea LeBlanc	1-12-2013
Kent Maki	1-12-2021
John A. Donadio	1-14-2004
James W. Bragley	1-15-1991
Vivian Deardorff	1-15-1996
Kim LeBlanc	1-17-2015
Evelyn Rentschler	1-18-1999
George C. Vande Ryt	1-18-1997
Robert J. Kunkel	1-19-1995
Rev. Eldred Leslie	1-21-2009
Nellie Sutton	1-23-2014
Matthew Nies	1-24-1985
Rev. Urban Snyder	1-25-1995
Rev. Roy Randolph	1-26-1998
Elizabeth Binzel	1-27-2003
Robert Blomker	1-28-2001
Robert A. Stirnkorb	1-30-1991
Jane Donadio	1-30-2018



THE FINDING

Your father and I sought You
sorrowing.
The first day back, my wondering
heart stilled
On the road as the sun was lowering

And listened for You above the
bellowing
Of beast and man. We wandered and
called,
Your father and I, sought You
sorrowing.

And surprised: The bright spirit's
feathering
Light, the sweet psalm that over-
whelmed and filled
Me, Your father's dreams, pained and
harrowing—

Were these things for naught? Were
we following
Mirages when we fled into the wild?
Your father and I sought You
sorrowing

Three days in the city, and hallowing
The name of the Lord we found You,
Child,
At temple as the sun was lowering,

Seated among them, asking, listening.
Your eyes were shining and Your face
was mild.
My Son, I said—but my heart was
softening—
Your father and I sought You
sorrowing.

— Daniel Patrick Sheehan



 **Winter Soup Supper**
Candlemas 
First Friday, February 2

PROCESSION & MASS: 5:30 PM

*Please bring your favorite soup to share.
Abstinence is dispensed for those who attend
the Mass.*

It is a snowy Friday morning, but the sun is coming out. The snails have been very active this morning—all seventeen of them (another was found earlier this week on the feast of St. Marcellus, so he was named Marshellus). Ian Ford is going to make a little home for them since they are just in a plastic box with plenty of ventilation and lots of greenery. The cats are doing cat things and don't really give us much to talk about, except that Fluffy has caught some mice back in the church offices. Black Cat prefers to catch the outdoor ones, and Fat Cat just begs for canned food—lots of it, all the time! **Fr. McKenna** has showed a rather compassionate side and has taken to feeding the cats himself. Of course, he will say it's just to keep the cats quiet, but I know better than to believe that. I think the critters have grown on him after all these years!



On a serious note, one seminarian left the seminary after Christmas break and another joined. Our new seminarian is from Spain and has already completed the majority of his training under **Bishop Sanborn**. Seminary life is very demanding and truly does put one's vocation to the test. One must prove his vocation by passing the required courses, but also must show himself to be truly virtuous. This is not to say that those who leave are not intelligent or do not possess great virtues. A priestly vocation is also one to which a young man must be called by God and not everyone who enters the seminary has a vocation. These men who "gave it a try" already show that they are serious about doing the Will of God and they will find the vocation to which God is calling them. The ones who stay and become priests will have received all the necessary tools to become good priests, but they must never stop learning or growing in virtue after ordination. Keep our seminarians and clergy in your prayers.

We have very nice feast days coming up this week. They all have very interesting tales. Of course, Ss. Vincent and Anastasius on Monday, St. Raymond on Tuesday, "Timid" St. Timothy and the courageous St. Paul, and St. Polycarp who was talked about in the Book of the Apocalypse. Come to attend Mass and hear a sermon on an extra day this week!

– **Bishop McGuire**

St. John the Apostle's preaching touched many lives, including that of a young man named Polycarp. It is believed that St. John ordained Polycarp a bishop and sent him to the town of Smyrna, Asia Minor (modern-day Turkey). Polycarp might have been only a teenager when he was ordained, and he shepherded the Church in Smyrna for more than sixty or seventy years. St. Irenaeus later wrote that Polycarp "would speak of his familiar intercourse with John, and with the rest of those who had seen the Lord; and he would call their words to remembrance." Irenaeus was Polycarp's disciple, being about sixty-five years younger. That the faith passed on from Jesus to John, from John to Polycarp, from Polycarp to Irenaeus, and from Irenaeus to his disciples down through the ages well illustrates that the faith we have today is "apostolic," meaning passed down to us from the Apostles.

As a bishop, Polycarp was a fierce and courageous defender of the faith, especially against early heresies. He also worked closely with other bishops in the early Church, including the pope. One of those bishops was the Apostolic Father St. Ignatius of Antioch. In 107 A.D. Ignatius was arrested and brought in chains through the city of Smyrna. Polycarp met him on the way and kissed his chains. Ignatius later wrote to Polycarp, asking him to care for his people. Polycarp did so in part by writing a letter to the Church in Philippi in which he beautifully exhorted the people in their faith. This is the only letter from Polycarp that has survived.

Polycarp is perhaps best known for his martyrdom, which is the second earliest written detailed account of a martyr's death, the first being the account of St. Stephen's stoning as recounted in the Acts of the Apostles. According to that account, he was brought before the proconsul in an arena filled with spectators. The proconsul called him an atheist because he rejected the gods of the Roman Empire. He then promised Polycarp would live if he rejected Christianity. The proconsul threatened him with wild beasts, but Polycarp responded, "Eighty and six years have I served Him, and in nothing has He wronged me. How, then, can I blaspheme my King, who saved me?" The proconsul then threatened to burn him to death, but Polycarp said, "You threaten me with fire that burns but for a season, and is soon quenched. For you are ignorant of the fire of the judgment to come, and of the eternal punishment reserved for the wicked." The proconsul then condemned him to death and people gathered wood for the fire, but when they approached him to fasten him with nails to the wood, Polycarp said, "Leave me as I am, for He Who gives me strength to endure the fire will also allow me, without the security of your nails, to remain on the pyre without moving." The fire was then lit, and Polycarp remained there by his own will. But to the surprise of all, his flesh did not burn. Instead, there came forth a sweet aroma as the fire surrounded him and protected him. Angered at this spectacular event, one of the soldiers thrust a spear into him, killing him. When he did this, a dove emerged from his chest, and so much blood gushed forth that the flames were extinguished. Some of the angry mob feared that Polycarp's followers would take his sacred body and worship it, so they ignited the fire once again and burned his body.

"I exhort you all therefore to be obedient to the word of righteousness and to practice all endurance, which also you saw with your own eyes in the blessed Ignatius and Zosimus and Rufus, yes and in others also who came from among yourselves, as well as in Paul himself and the rest of the Apostles; being persuaded that all these ran not in vain but in faith and righteousness, and that they are in their due place in the presence of the Lord, with whom also they suffered. For they loved not the present world, but Him that died for our sakes and was raised by God for us." ~Letter of Polycarp to the Philippians

✠ CALENDAR

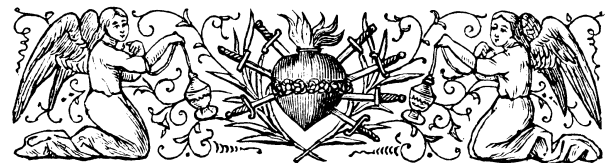
MON	1/22/24	SS. VINCENT & ANASTASIUS, MM CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE: "For the conversion of America." 8:00 AM Requiem Low Mass †Andrzej Pula (<i>Dorian Pula</i>) 11:25 AM Low Mass Thank you Fathers Brueggemann & Simpson (<i>Mary Black</i>)
TUE	1/23/24	ST. RAYMOND PENNAFORT, C. ST. EMERENTIANA, VM • <i>ESPOUSALS OF OUR LADY</i> CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE: "Return to the Sacraments of fallen-away Catholics" 7:00 AM Low Mass Noah Kuebler – Birthday (<i>Volz</i>) 8:00 AM Low Mass For all the Girls' Camp donors (<i>The Girls' Camp Committee</i>) 11:25 AM High Mass My mother, †Jean Bischel (<i>The McClorey Family</i>) 5:00 PM Low Mass †Jean Bischel (<i>Cummins Family</i>)
WED	1/24/24	ST. TIMOTHY, BPM CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE: "The conversion of the Jews." 7:00 AM Low Mass Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Vines (<i>C. Simpson family</i>) 8:00 AM Low Mass Private Intention (<i>MB & JAJ</i>) 11:25 AM High Mass To all who prayed for my mother – Thank you (<i>Michelle Mikesell</i>) 5:10 PM Low Mass My family – living & dead (<i>Cora Arlinghaus</i>)
THU	1/25/24	CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL, AP CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE: The Missionary Conquest of the World for Christ 7:00 AM Low Mass Special intention – G.H. (<i>C. Simpson family</i>) 8:00 AM Low Mass Bishop McGuire – Happy Birthday 9/9 (<i>Mary Black</i>) 11:25 AM High Mass My mother, †Shiv Jen Cheng – soul to go to heaven (<i>H.Y.</i>)
FRI	1/26/24	ST. POLYCARP, BPM 8:00 AM Low Mass Holy Souls (<i>Kolenich family</i>) 11:00 AM Confessions 11:25 AM Low Mass Mario & Tammy Derksen (<i>John Boyd</i>) 5:15 PM Confessions, Rosary 5:35 PM Infant of Prague Novena V 5:45 PM Low Mass †Jean Bischel (<i>Smith Family</i>) 6:30 PM Sorrowful Mother Novena & Blessing of the Sick, Sacred Heart Novena, Benediction
SAT	1/27/24	ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM, BPCD 7:10 AM Confessions 7:30 AM Low Mass †Jake Kloberdanz – anniversary of death (<i>Mary Christensen</i>) 8:10 AM Alma, Sermon 8:20 AM High Mass †Wolfgang Mozart (<i>Keith Elflein</i>)
SUN	1/28/24	SEPTUAGESIMA • ST. PETER NOLASCO, C ST. AGNES (THE SECOND TIME) 7:05 AM Rosary 7:30 AM Low Mass †Mrs. Jean Bischel (<i>Dan, Mary & family</i>) 9:00 AM High Mass †John M. Sharp – rest in peace (<i>The Hudson Family</i>) 10:40 AM Catechism Classes

The Confiteor: A PLEA FOR PARDON

At the same moment, the realization of his own unworthiness overpowers the priest; he remembers his past sins, for, though vested with unearthly power, he is still merely a creature. In the consciousness of his guilt, he bends low before the altar and strikes his breast in all humility as he prays the act of contrition known as the Confiteor.

What a solemn moment! In the presence of the holy, omniscient God, both priest and people feel their guilt and publicly ask for grace and pardon. The soul must cleanse itself in the waters of contrition at the very beginning of this sublime act. How could it otherwise receive the full benefits of the approaching Mystery?

As once on the Cross Our Lord took upon Himself the sins of the whole world, to atone for them with His Blood, so now we lay our sins upon Him as upon a victim about to be immolated on the altar, that He may expiate them. It is to indicate this that the priest at the commencement of the Mass bows down at the foot of the altar, and in the spirit of humility presents himself as if laden with the sins of the people before the Eternal Father, in order to prevail upon Him to have mercy. In this position he also personifies Christ upon the Mount of Olives, Who, bowed down under the burden of the sins of the whole world, fell upon His face, His sweat becoming as drops of blood, and prayed earnestly to His Heavenly Father. In like manner, Christ's representative prays for the pardon of his own sins and the sins of all present, for whom the price of Redemption was once paid, and is daily offered anew to operate the remission of sin.



SERVERS

FRI 1/26	5:45 PM LOW: P. & M. Caggese
SAT 1/27	7:30 AM LOW: Brueggemanns 8:20 AM HIGH: D. Simpson, F. Caggese, A. Constantino
SUN 1/28	7:30 AM LOW: M. McConnell, Brueggemann 9:00 AM HIGH: MCS: C. & S. Richesson TH: D. Hudson ACs: N. Kolenich, D. Simpson TB: J. Smith, B. Constantino, J. Hudson, C. VanderPutten, F. Caggese, M. Kolenich 11:30 AM LOW: Capetillos 4:45 PM VESPERS & BENEDICTION: D. Simpson, I. Smith 5:45 PM LOW: P. McClorey

11:05 AM	Rosary
11:30 AM	Low Mass Robert & Aubrey Uhlenbrock – Happy Anniversary (<i>Bob & Becky Uhlenbrock</i>)
4:45 PM	Vespers, Benediction
5:45 PM	Low Mass For the people of St. Gertrude the Great