



# 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 • 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  
Rev. Vili Lehtoranta • Rev. Thomas Simpson • Rev. Anthony Brueggemann



March 24, 2024

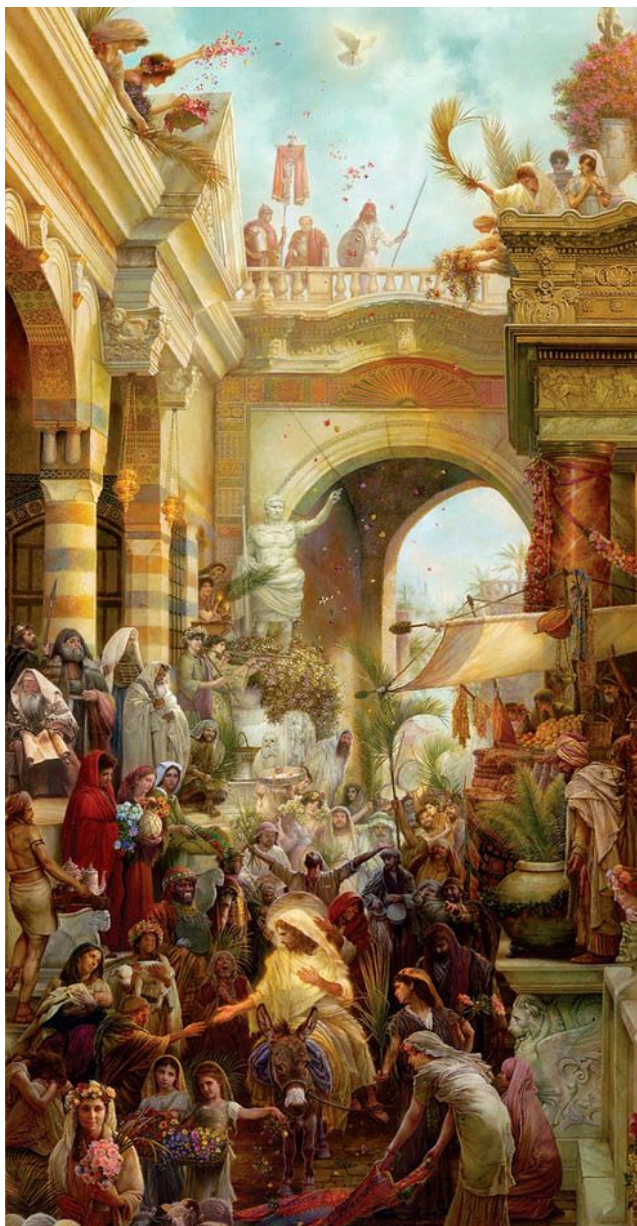
PALM SUNDAY • ST. GABRIEL, ARCHANGEL

¶ **PALM SUNDAY:** Blessed palms are available at every Mass today. Feel free to take extra palms to bring home or to a shut-in. Remember to return your Easter Memorial Flower offering envelopes today, so your memorials may be included in the Easter bulletin. Envelopes for the Easter Novena of Masses are also available. The Novena will be said daily beginning Easter Sunday.

Confessions will be heard before and during the morning Masses. Sunday Classes are on a brief vacation and resume on Low Sunday. Vespers and Benediction are at 4:45 PM.

¶ **MAUNDY THURSDAY:** Holy (Maundy) Thursday is *the day* of the year to hear Mass and receive Holy Communion. **Mass** begins at **9:00 AM**. Bring the whole family to experience the “Birthday of the Mass” with bells and clackers; the Blessing of the Holy Oils; the Pange Lingua as Our Lord leaves the church; the sorrowful Stripping of the Altars. **Parents, bring your children to walk in procession to the beautiful Altar of Repose, dropping rose petals along the way to show Him love and adoration.** A little luncheon follows the Mass. Please do come, and stay for the Maundy.

The **Maundy** is a rich Sacramental of the Church, performed on Holy Thursday, in honor of Our Lord Who washed the feet of His Apostles. This service is an ideal one for mothers with little ones, as it is short, and children



can sit so as to see the ceremony. Come **Thursday at 1 PM.**

**The Blessed Sacrament will be in the side chapel** at the beautifully decorated

Altar of Repose, or Sepulchre, for 24 hours, and should not go unvisited, or be left unattended. The **Men of the Guard of Honor** are asked to keep their hours for All Night Adoration to guarantee that Our Lord is not left unprotected during the hours of the night.

¶ **GOOD FRIDAY:** You may make a visit to the Blessed Sacrament all morning long. **Stations** begin at **11:25 AM**, followed at **12:00 noon** by the traditional Tre Ore (“three hours”), with the chanting of the Passion, solemn prayers, the unveiling and adoration of the Cross, and finally the mystic rites of the Mass of the Presanctified. A sermon and devotions take us to **3 PM**, when the relic of the True Cross is venerated. **Confessions** are heard starting at **3 PM**.

¶ **HOLY SATURDAY:** The **Easter Vigil** begins at **8:00 AM** on **Saturday** with the Blessing of the Fire and the Prophecies, with the **Mass** commencing closer to **10:30 AM**. The **Blessing of Easter Baskets** takes place at the Communion rail after the Mass. All are then invited to a luncheon, and an Easter Egg Hunt for the children.

¶ **NEXT SUNDAY: EASTER.** The Easter Sunrise Office of Matins & Lauds is at **5:45 AM**. No Sunday Classes. Please note, there will be

**no 5:45 PM Mass on Easter Sunday.** Easter Vespers are at 6 PM. **Set Your Missal:** Easter; Sequence, Preface of Easter with special *Communicantes* & *Hanc Igitur*.

¶ THIS WEEK: TENEBRAE

Tenebrae, Latin for "darkness," is the chanting of the Divine Office of Matins and Lauds of the following day. The mood is somber, quiet and reflective; its dramatic features are the gradual extinction of a 15-branch candelabra in the sanctuary, as the Church contemplates the temporary triumph of the prince of darkness over the world, and a loud noise at its conclusion, suggesting the earthquake described in the Passion narratives. Tenebrae is at **6:30 PM** on **Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.**

Tenebrae is a popular service (but not good for very little ones, because the silence is important), especially for its dramatic ending when you finally get to make noise. Translations provided.

¶ EASTER EGG HUNT!

Holy Saturday is right around the corner. We would love for you to come out and be a part of the parish with all the ceremonies and festivities later in the day. Find the full schedule in the bulletin. The egg hunt is open to children and will take place after the Easter luncheon. The cloister area is for little ones up to age 4. There will be a larger area for the older children. This is a popular activity after the quiet ceremonies in church. Pray for good weather so the kids can run. See you then.



¶ OFFICE CLOSED

Please note: The office will be closed from Holy Thursday, March 28, through Easter Tuesday, April 2. It will reopen on Easter Wednesday, April 3.

**Wedding Banns**

*Third time: John Brueggemann  
& Julie Hudson*

Collection Report

Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup> .....\$7,329.00

Easter Sunday Ashers

**7:30 AM:** Scott Pepiot, Paul McConnell, Alexander McConnell, Christopher Brueggemann

**9:00 AM:** Paul Arlinghaus, Sam Arlinghaus, Philip Brueggemann, Christopher Brueggemann, Mark Lotarski

**11:30 AM:** Bob Uhlenbrock, Paul Puglielli

*Our Beloved Dead - March*

Lucy G. Meyer	3-03-1988
Eldon Neukam	3-03-2021
Catherine J. Bischak	3-05-2005
Ralph J. Otis	3-08-2022
Claude E. Charles	3-10-1990
John J. Kolb	3-10-2004
Sean Murray	3-12-2022
Robert Duff	3-13-2013
Richard VandeRyt	3-16-2020
Margaret Sandmayr	3-17-2006
Owen M. Zver	3-17-2021
Dorothy B. Spicer	3-18-1986
Marilyn L. Ryan	3-21-1997
Howard Elmlinger	3-22-1990
Williams J. Smith	3-25-2003
Mary Rose Peter	3-26-2017
Margaret Soli	3-30-2017



*By nothing else except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ has death been brought low: The sin of our first parent destroyed, hell plundered, resurrection bestowed, the power given us to despise the things of this world, even death itself, the road back to the former blessedness made smooth, the gates of paradise opened, our nature seated at the right hand of God and we made children and heirs of God. By the cross all these things have been set aright...It is a seal that the destroyer may not strike us, a raising up of those who lie fallen, a support for those who stand, a staff for the infirm, a crook for the shepherded, a guide for the wandering, a perfecting of the advanced, salvation for soul and body, a deflector of all evils, a cause of all goods, a destruction of sin, a plant of resurrection, and a tree of eternal life.*

— St. John Damascene

**Lumen Christi**

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

**To survive these hard times**  
(Tomasz Marcin Oraczewski)



**PALM SUNDAY**

Astride the colt and claimed as King  
That Sunday morning in the spring,  
He passed a thornbush flowering red  
That one would plait to crown His head.

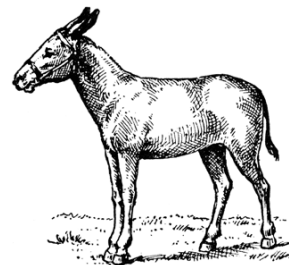
He passed a vineyard where the wine  
Was grown for men of royal line  
And where the dregs were also brewed  
Into a gall for Calvary's rood.

A purple robe was cast His way,  
Then caught and kept until that day  
When, with its use, a trial would be  
Profaned into a mockery.

His entourage was forced to wait  
To let a timber through the gate,  
A shaft that all there might have  
known

Would be an altar and a throne.

— Marie J. Post



**CHRIST'S BITTER PAIN**

How bitter, Lord, the pain that Thou  
didst know,  
As on that way of sorrow Thou didst go,  
The pain that boundless love its anguish  
lends,  
When Thou were thus forsaken by Thy  
friends! — S.M.R.

Things are ramping up for Holy Week here at St. Gertrude's. Everyone has an idea of how busy it gets in the sacristy, choir, and sanctuary, but there is a lot more to it than even that. The secretary is plenty busy with all of the extra programs and bulletins, phone calls and emails, and the special Easter Memorials that keep coming in. The Gieses have kindly offered to clean our rugs in the vestibule. Ian Ford et al made the cloister yard look nice, and the lawn mowing company is out cleaning up the grounds. Our Holy Week cooks are all lined up and the Easter Egg hunt has been well planned. There is excitement in the air as everyone looks forward to this most sacred time of the liturgical year!

We clergy were discussing how edified we were at the amount of people who came to attend the Masses on the feast of St. Joseph! Your devotion is a good example to all! The blessed Hot Cross buns were a hit, though we forgot to have the coffee and juice ready! Thanks, Mrs. Lotarski, for making the Hot Cross buns; and thanks, **Fr. McKenna**, for blessing them! Next year, we will try to remember to have a little more to offer in the way of refreshments!

**Fr. Brueggemann** is back from his monthly seminary visit where they had a solemn High Mass for St. Joseph's feast day. **Fr. McMahon** and **Fr. Romero** took part in it, while **Fr. Ercoli** helped with the singing. One of our seminarians served as MC and our very own Poncho Capetillo played the organ to accompany the chant. I had heard comments from some of the parishioners of Holy Redeemer that they had never seen a Solemn High Mass out there. Comments like that remind us that these sorts of ceremonies are rather rare in our day. Oh! may we never grow weary of the sacred liturgy, the true worship of God!

Great news from Nigeria arrived earlier this week. One of the new Fathers will be doing his first Holy Week in one of the missions, while in another, **Bishop Nkamuke**, **Fr. Ojeka**, and **Fr. Okerulu** will be performing solemn ceremonies. Both Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday will be done pontifically, while the other three days will be Solemn High Masses. Gabriel Nkamuke (His Excellency's father) has been in the hospital since last May and had to have an amputation. Please say an extra prayer for him today (today is the feast of St. Gabriel the Archangel, although it is not celebrated this year due to Palm Sunday). Illness is one of those evils in life that God often uses to bring about a greater good. That is just what happened in Mr. Nkamuke's case, as it led him to convert from the

Novus Ordo. Now he receives the sacraments from his own son, a bishop of the Catholic Church. Fr. Ojeka's father, once a prominent catechist in the Novus Ordo, also converted and now attends the true Mass. So many graces are being sent to the souls in Nigeria, and it is truly awesome to see how well they are cooperating with these graces.

I will be having a chat with your guardian angels this week, asking them to urge you to come to the beautiful Holy Week ceremonies. So if the thought comes to you that you should try to come, just do it, because it is probably your angel talking to you. Don't ignore him. You might think I am exaggerating, but truly I am not. This is exactly how it works with the angels. They are such amazing creatures of God. I hope you have grown in devotion to them. After all, they are so devoted to us! May the Holy Angels keep you!

– **Bishop McGuire**

P.S. The eggs have hatched and we now have baby snails!



**The Archangel Gabriel** addresses our Blessed Lady with these words: "Hail full of grace." Often repeat this salutation. Many have it on their lips every hour of the day; others repeat it daily in reciting the beads or in passing by a statue of the Immaculate Virgin. Undoubtedly you do not neglect this pious practice. But pay attention that you salute Mary with a pure heart and with reverence. The Archangel says to the holy Virgin: "Fear not, for thou hast found grace with God." Learn from this, that if you are in the state of grace, you need fear nothing; for the Almighty is your friend. But if you lose sanctifying grace by a mortal sin, you have everything to fear; for you are in the enmity of God. If, therefore, you have reason to suppose yourself in the favor of God, strive to retain it; but if you have lost this infinite treasure, immediately exert every effort for its recovery by true penance. The Blessed Mother can be of immense service in this, if you only invoke her. St. Bernard exhorts us with these words: "Let us seek grace, but let it be through Mary; for what she seeks, she finds; she can always find grace, and it is grace alone that we need." The Mother of God he addresses thus: "Thou hast no aversion for the sinner, however guilty he may be; when he sighs to thee, and invokes thy assistance with a contrite heart." St. Bonaventure likewise writes: "If you wish to obtain grace from God, turn with confidence to Mary, for, being the Mother of Mercy, she cannot refuse your request." – *Fr. Francis Xavier Weninger*

## ✠ THE HOLY WEEK CALENDAR ✠

**MON 3/25/24 MONDAY IN HOLY WEEK FAST**  
**8:00 AM Low Mass** Thank you St. Anthony & Poor Souls  
*(Arlinghaus Family)*  
**11:25 AM High Mass** Thou knowest O Lord *(Arlinghaus Family)*  
**12:25 PM Vespers**

**TUE 3/26/24 TUESDAY IN HOLY WEEK FAST**  
**7:00 AM Low Mass** Cora Arlinghaus – Thank you *(KLB)*  
**8:00 AM Low Mass** Thank you St. Anthony & Poor Souls  
*(Arlinghaus Family)*  
**11:25 AM High Mass** †Mary Rose Peter – 7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
*(C. Simpson family)*  
**12:25 PM Vespers**

**WED 3/27/24 SPY WEDNESDAY • ST. JOHN DAMASCENE, CD**  
**7:00 AM Low Mass** Thou knowest O Lord *(Arlinghaus Family)*  
**8:00 AM Low Mass** Holy Souls *(Kolenich family)*  
**9:15 AM High Mass** †Anna Valentine Pomaville *(Mr. & Mrs. Mark Lotarski)*  
**followed by Vespers**  
**6:30 PM The Office of Tenebrae**

**THU 3/28/24 MAUNDY THURSDAY FAST**  
**9:00 AM Pontifical High Mass** For our priests, living and deceased, and our seminarians *(Alter Christus)*  
**Blessing of the Holy Oils, Procession to the Altar of Repose, Vespers, Stripping of the Altar**  
*Adoration continues at the Sepulchre until 12:00 PM on Good Friday*  
**12:00 PM Potluck Luncheon**  
*(Please bring a meatless dish to share)*  
**1:00 PM The Maundy (Washing of the Feet)**  
**6:30 PM The Office of Tenebrae**

**FRI 3/29/24 GOOD FRIDAY FAST**  
**11:25 AM Stations of the Cross**  
**12:00 PM Tre Ore**  
*It is a fine tradition to keep silent from Noon to 3:00 PM today*  
**12:15 PM Mass of the Presanctified, Reading of the Passion, Adoration of the Cross**  
**2:15 PM Tre Ore Devotions and Sermon**  
**3:00 PM Blessing with the Relic of the True Cross**  
**3:00 PM Confessions**  
**3:15 PM Vespers**  
**6:20 PM Sacred Heart Novena**  
**6:30 PM The Office of Tenebrae**  
**8:30 PM Church Decorating for Holy Saturday**  
*Come when you can, leave when you must.*

**SAT 3/30/24 HOLY SATURDAY FAST TILL NOON**  
**8:00 AM Easter Vigil: Blessing of Fire, Prophecies, Blessing of the Font, Baptisms, First Mass of Easter** For our choir and servers, sacristans and workers *(Bishop McGuire)*  
**Vespers, Blessing of Easter Food**  
*A complimentary Easter Luncheon follows Mass—all are invited*  
**4:00 PM Confessions (till 5 PM)**

**SUN 3/31/24 EASTER SUNDAY**  
**5:45 AM Easter Matins & Lauds**  
**7:05 AM Rosary**  
**7:30 AM Easter Sunrise Low Mass** †Margaret L. Soli – 7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary *(Jim Soli)* (from 3/30)  
**9:00 AM Pontifical High Mass** Easter Novena I  
**11:30 AM Low Mass** For the people of St. Gertrude the Great, **Benediction**  
**6:00 PM Vespers**  
**No 5:45 PM Mass**

### All Night Adoration Holy Thursday Guard of Honor

**7:00 PM - 8:00 PM:** David Swinney, Joseph Vines  
**8:00 PM - 9:00 PM:** Kirby Bischel, Quentin Gorton  
**9:00 PM - 10:00 PM:** Collin Smith, Justin Soeder  
**10:00 PM - 11:00 PM:** Nathan McClorey, Tim Giese  
**11:00 PM - 12:00 AM:** James Kolenich, Paul Puglielli  
**12:00 AM - 1:00 AM:** Levi Giese, Alfonso Capetillo  
**1:00 AM - 2:00 AM:** Keith Elflein, Pierce Kiernan  
**2:00 AM - 3:00 AM:** Dan & John Brueggemann  
**3:00 AM - 4:00 AM:** McConnell Brothers  
**4:00 AM - 5:00 AM:** Matthew Giese, Nathaniel Arnold  
**5:00 AM - 6:00 AM:** Joseph Simpson, Bill Herman  
**6:00 AM - 7:00 AM:** John Riggs, Robert Rosendale

☞ If you cannot make your hour, please contact the church office immediately: (513) 645-4212.

☞ If you have finished your hour but no one has arrived to relieve you, please call Fr. Brueggemann (513-378-2705) or Fr. Simpson (513-378-2870) to substitute.

Holy Thursday—March 28, 2024—1:00 PM

### THE MANDATUM

**ALBERT D. KINNETT, JOHN SEYFRIED, JOSEPH BAYER, LEVI GIESE, TIMOTHY GIESE, BOB UHLENBROCK, BEN CAPE-  
 TILLO, TIM CAPETILLO, BRENDAN LOTARSKI, DANIEL  
 STANISLOWSKI, DOMINIC CAGGESO.**

*The above listed men should arrive no later than 12:45 PM and report to the sacristy to prepare and receive instructions.*

Servers: SEE SACRISTY BULLETIN BOARD FOR SERVING SCHEDULES

**SUN 3/31 7:30 AM LOW:** M. McConnell, Brueggemanns  
**11:30 AM LOW & BENEDICTION:** Capetillos



## MONDAY IN HOLY WEEK

If the holy angels do all that can be done for the service of men, men on their part are bound not to spare themselves, but to make use of all possible means, within the order of God, for the augmentation of their glory; and since not only the angels of the lowest choir, but the angels of all the hierarchies, lovingly watch over us, our gratitude to them ought to be as comprehensive as our duties towards them. — *Devotion to the Nine Choirs of Angels*

**Prayer to say each day of Holy Week:** Oh! all ye angels of heaven, who were witness to Our Lord's betrayal, His Passion and Death, assist me and all my fellow Catholics throughout the world as we honor the sacred mysteries of our Redemption. May we be as faithful to Our Lord as you were. May we never betray Him by mortal sin, but merit to contemplate the sovereign beauty of the Heavenly Father, and to occupy the place of some one of those stars which through their pride have fallen from Heaven.

## TUESDAY IN HOLY WEEK

It is, then, the Dominations who communicate the commands of God, and make known to us His holy will. Oh, happy we, if we could well discriminate between the Divine will and our own! How often does the love of ourselves and of creatures, the invariable effect of which is to darken the mind, deceive us, and cause us to mistake our will for that

of God!... Now devotion to the Dominations is a great remedy thereto, since it is the special office of these spirits of light to make known to us the commands of God; they are, so to say, the secretaries of state of the great King Jesus.

— *Devotion to the Nine Choirs of Angels*

**Prayer:** Ye glorious Dominations, make known to men...the will of God concerning them.



## SPY WEDNESDAY

"As He was yet speaking, behold a multitude; and he that was called Judas, one of the twelve, went before them, and drew near to Jesus for to kiss Him. And Jesus said to him: Judas, dost thou betray the Son of man with a kiss?"

When we see storms gathering either in the Church or in the State, combinations to resist those who are working for the glory of God, extraordinary conspiracies to defeat some great good which is being planned in dioceses, towns, country districts, and provinces—then it is that we ought to perform frequent devotions in honor of these Powers of Heaven, that they may overturn and destroy all the might and miserable plottings of hell.

— *Devotion to the Nine Choirs of Angels*

**Prayer:** Ye sacred Principalities, rule all hearts, possess them, that you may subject them to the empire of Jesus and Mary; **ye admirable Powers**, confound the devils, who oppose themselves thereto, defeat the designs of hell, and the malice of all sorcerers and magicians, and other enemies of God.

## MAUNDY THURSDAY

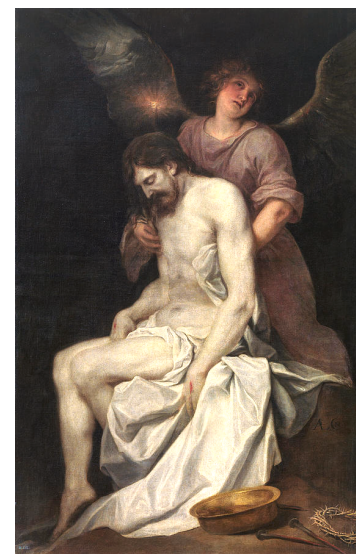
Our churches, and even altars, have angels who guard them; and **they gather in troops** around the tabernacles where reposes the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar, to pay their court to their Sovereign. Many Saints have beheld them paying their adoration to their great King and ours. A holy hermit was told by an angel himself that he had the guardianship of an altar, and that he had never left it since its consecration. It is to these angels we ought often to have recourse, that they may supply for our negligences, our tepidity, and our want of respect in presence of a God of Infinite Majesty in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

— *Devotion to the Nine Choirs of Angels*

**Practice:** On this, the birthday of the Holy Mass and of the institution of the Holy Eucharist, I will unite in prayer with the troops of holy angels who surround the Altar of Repose, adoring Our Lord Who awaits His Passion.

## GOOD FRIDAY *The Unveiling of the Cross on Good Friday*

There is [a] teaching embodied in this ceremony of holy Church. By this gradual unveiling of the Cross, she would express to us the contrast of the Jewish and the Christian



view. The one finds nothing in Christ Crucified but shame and ignominy: the other discovers in Him *the power and the wisdom of God*. (1 Corinthians 1:24) Honor, then, and veneration to His Cross! The veil is removed by Faith. Unveiled let it be upon our Altar, for He that died upon it is soon to triumph by a glorious Resurrection! Yea, let every Crucifix in our Church be unveiled, and every Altar beam once more with the vision of the glorious Standard! – *The Liturgical Year*

**Practice:** Invoke the Archangel charged to watch over Israel. “Let us pray also for the perfidious Jews; that the Lord God would withdraw the veil from their hearts, that they also may acknowledge our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son.” “O Almighty and Eternal God, who deniest not Thy mercy even to the perfidious Jews; hear our prayers which we pour forth for the blindness of that people; that by acknowledging the light of Thy truth, which is the Christ, they may be brought out of their darkness. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.”

– *The Liturgical Year*



## HOLY SATURDAY

The first Psalm (of the last night of Tenebrae) is one which the Church daily recites in her Compline, because it expresses the confidence where-with the Christian takes his rest. She uses it in today's Tenebrae, to remind us of the Rest taken by

Christ in His Sepulcher, where He sleeps with the assurance of waking to a glorious Resurrection.

*Antiphon:* In peace, in the selfsame, I will sleep, and I will take my rest. – *The Liturgical Year*

The Lord, says the Scripture (Ps. lxxv. 3), has chosen His abode in peace. In time of war, then, let your devotions be offered to the Thrones, to obtain that peace which the world cannot give. Beseech of them that you may enjoy it with yourself, with God, and with your neighbor.

– *Devotion to the Nine Choirs of Angels*

**Practice:** All ye amiable Thrones, establish in our inmost hearts that peace which our Lord hath left us.



## EASTER SUNDAY

“An angel of the Lord descended from heaven; and, going to the stone, rolled it back and sat upon it, alleluia, alleluia.” – *Antiphon of Easter Vespers*

**Practice:** Take some quiet time today to join this angel before the empty tomb. What marvels this angel saw! Ask him, in your own words, to give you a share in the joys of Our Lord's Resurrection.

## Tent with the Angels



## Daily Thoughts and Prayers

Tent 2024

### DAILY PRAYER

Angel of God and well-beloved brother, I trust myself to your beneficence and implore thee humbly to intercede for me with my Savior so that He may forgive me my sins, strengthen me in well-doing, help me by His grace to correct my faults, and lead me to Paradise, there to taste the fruition of His presence and to possess eternal life. Amen. – *St. Lydwine of Schiedam*