

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



April 14, 2024

EASTER II

ST. JUSTIN, M • SS. TIBURTIUS & COMPANIONS, MM

¶ GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

Catechism classes are at 10:40 AM, Vespers and Benediction at 4:45.

ATTENTION: SOME DOS & DON'TS

1. The vestibule is not a playroom.

Please do not allow your children to run around unsupervised. Nursing mothers should go to the room specially made up for you. There is a livestream set up so that you can see the Mass until you are able to return to the church.

2. Please watch where you walk.

We have lots of candles and vases of flowers by the shrines. We also have plenty of room to walk. If you walk modestly and quietly in church, you should be able to avoid our shrines. ☺

3. Turn your phones OFF before entering the church.

4. Please leave the back pews for families with small children, on weekdays as well as Sundays.

5. Please do not leave “donated items” in our social hall without the express approval of Bishop McGuire.

6. Areas of the church grounds are off-limits, such as the Bishop’s garden and the areas around the rectory and above the grotto. Children should not be permitted to “free range” on church grounds, and should be taught to respect church property, indoors and out—preferably before someone falls from the top of the grotto! Thank you for your cooperation.

– Bishop McGuire



¶ NEXT SUNDAY: EASTER III, SOLEMNITY OF ST. JOSEPH

The Blessing of Expectant Mothers will be available at the Communion Rail following all Masses. Catechism classes will be at 10:40 AM. Vespers with Benediction will be at 4:45 PM.

📖 *Set Your Missal:* **Low Masses:** Easter III, second collect of St. Anselm, third of St. Joseph. Preface of Easter. **High Mass:** Solemnity of St. Joseph, commemoration and Proper Last Gospel of Easter III. Preface of St. Joseph.

¶ ALTER CHRISTUS

\$425 was received this month for Masses for poor priests. May God reward your generosity.

¶ YOUR PRAYERS

Please pray for Shirley Donovan and Pat Basham.

¶ LOST & FOUND

There are presently many items in the Lost & Found in the social hall. Please check today to see if any of it belongs to you. Tomorrow, it will be gone.

Those who have cooked for the clergy: Please pick up your dishes today. Tomorrow they will be gone.

PASCHAL SACRAMENTS

Please note these important dates:

Children’s Day of Recollection: Thursday, May 16

Confirmations: Pentecost Vigil, Saturday, May 18

First Communion: Corpus Christi Sunday, June 2

¶ SOLEMNITY OF ST. JOSEPH



Wednesday is the Solemnity of great St. Joseph. A special High Mass is sung at 11:25, Low Masses at 7 AM, 8 AM, and 5:10 PM. St. Joseph Cords will be blessed at the High Mass.

Collection Report

Sunday, April 7th\$9,138.00

Second Collection.....\$3,152.00

Thank you for your generosity.

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

We must not overlook the emphatic personal note struck by every formula of the beautiful liturgy of this Sunday. Again and again it is impressed upon us that Our Lord is mindful of His creatures, not as in a confused flock, but as distinct individuals. This is apparent in the choice of the term “shepherd”; for in those Eastern lands the shepherd knows each sheep, and calls each by name, and the sheep recognize his call. St. Paul brings home to us this personal love of Our Lord: He “loved me and delivered Himself for me.” It is the realization of this truth which will render our service worthy of so loving a Lord. But it is not so easy to realize it as it might at first sight appear.

If we believe that Jesus Christ is God, we are bound to believe that **He has always known each of us in a personal way, and does so still.** He came “to seek and to save.” No man seeks out a person for whom he does not feel a special desire. As our Good Shepherd, He sought each of us. Bethlehem, Nazareth, Egypt, Judea, Jerusalem, Calvary,—all give evidence of the intense interest Our Lord had, and still has, for man. “I know Mine,” He says. Each one is to Him as though no other being existed; for each He would have come to earth and died. He knows our sorrows, our pains, our weakness; and He sympathizes with us in all. He knows our sins, and yet bears with us and desires earnestly our salvation. It is impossible to **meditate** thus upon Our Good Shepherd’s loving care without being impelled to give Him our whole heart’s love.



WEDNESDAY: SOLEMNITY OF ST. JOSEPH, PATRON OF THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH



On March 19 we celebrated a feast in memory of St. Joseph’s sanctity and holiness. Today he is presented to us as the patron and protector of the Church. On this day we should thank this mighty protector and renew our faith in him. This day should bring us renewed confidence in the efficacy of his help and protection. This should spur us on to seek his help in the many dangers that threaten us. “Go to Joseph.”

St. Joseph is the protector and patron of Holy Mother the Church. In 1870, when the church was in great peril, Pius IX selected St. Joseph as the patron of the universal Church; the Holy Family of Nazareth has become the family of God, the Church Universal.

The duties which Joseph once performed for Jesus and Mary he now performs for Holy Mother the Church and all her children. He performs these functions for us with the same love, the same fidelity, the same strength which he once displayed with respect to Jesus and Mary.

FINDING YOUR TRUE SELF

Whether I know myself or not, whether I like my life or not, I and my life will be judged on the single issue of conformity. Am I one with God’s will? Have I conformed to the pattern of God’s love?...

I can be happy only when I have found myself, never when I am lost, and seldom when I am in doubt. Wanting what God wants is the only true peace, the only happiness worth having. If I want to be someone whom God has not thought of as me, I am heading away from happiness and peace. I am heading away from my true self.

— “How to Find God,”
by Dom. Hubert van Zeller

“IT IS I. DO NOT BE AFRAID.”

When I sink down in gloom or fear,
Hope blighted or delay’d,
Thy whisper, Lord, my heart shall cheer,
“Tis I; be not afraid!”

Or, startled at some sudden blow,
If fretful thoughts I feel,
“Fear not, it is but I!” shall flow,
As balm my wound to heal.

Nor will I quit Thy way, though foes
Some onward pass defend;
From each rough voice the watchward goes,
“Be not afraid!... a friend!”

And oh! when judgment’s trumpet clear
Awakes me from the grave,
Still in its echo may I hear,
“Tis Christ; He comes to save.”

— John Henry Newman



There are thousands to tell you it cannot be done,
There are thousands to prophecy failure;
There are thousands to point out to you, one by one,
The dangers that wait to assail you.
But just buckle in with a bit of a grin,
Just take off your coat and go to it,
And start in to sing as you tackle the thing
That “cannot be done”—and you’ll do it.

— Edgar A. Guest



Bishop Dolan frequently wrote some pretty good anecdotes about the cats, much to everyone's amusement. Well, the cats pretty much do the same things over and over again—they are great companions, but need to do more newsworthy things if they wish to get back in this bishop's notes. The foxes and birds, on the other hand, do some pretty interesting things around here! I didn't know it, but there is a fox that has been here the last couple of nights. The first night he was spotted up high in a tree. I didn't know dogs could climb trees, but I guess certain ones do! There is a robin that has been hanging around the bishop's garden the past few days, and keeping me quite entertained as it keeps flying straight into my office window. It's been doing that every few hours for several minutes at a time. I suppose this is the true description of the term "bird brain!"

The sun eclipse was on most everyone's mind last week, but it was really very edifying to see so many of you at the Annunciation Mass that day. We guessed there to be over a hundred parishioners present for the three public Masses. This Wednesday, don't forget, is St. Joseph's Solemnity, and we will be offering a Solemn High Mass in the late morning. Come if you can! St. Joseph Cords will be blessed in the morning, as well. May Our Lady and good St. Joseph grant you perseverance in your loving devotion to the Mass and our Faith.

What with St. Hermenegild's feast day on Saturday and the Good Shepherd today, I cannot help but think of the SSPX these days. Oh! I know I caught your attention just by merely mentioning their organization! Many love the controversial subject, others regard it all as mere politics, others don't care one way or the other, while some regard the broaching of the topic as something which is necessary—a sort of necessary evil, if you will. I fall within this latter group. So many people, otherwise good Catholics, will go to the SSPX Mass out of "devotion" to the holy Mass. I do not see how this can be true devotion to the Mass. After all, placing the name of a heretic in the Canon of the Mass is most offensive to God. At best, the SSPX's insertion of the name of Bergoglio into the Canon is a lie; at worst, it is schismatic. Take your pick, either way it is not good. It is to take what is most sacred (the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, which is the sacrifice of God the Son to His Heavenly Father) and to stain it by offering it in union with a heretic. This cannot, objectively speaking, be called devotion. Devotion to the Mass requires one to protect it from such insults, even at great sacrifice—even death itself, if necessary. St. Hermenegild had a deep devotion to the Holy Eucharist, yet when offered Holy Communion from an Arian bishop, he refused. He would not receive

the Holy Eucharist because it was offered in the Mass of Arian heretics—a perfectly valid Mass and Holy Eucharist, mind you! It would have been offensive to God for St. Hermenegild to do any differently than he did. The same may be said of the "una cum" Mass of the SSPX.

May God grant us a deeper devotion to the Mass and the Faith of the Ages.

– Bishop McGuire



THE CORD OF ST. JOSEPH

Devotion to the cord of St. Joseph began in 1637, in the town of Antwerp, Belgium. An Augustinian nun named Sister Elizabeth was suffering from a painful illness. The doctors who examined her concluded that this condition would likely lead to her death.

Sister Elizabeth had a special devotion to St. Joseph, and, seeing no hope for relief by natural means, she turned to her patron. She had a cord blessed in honor of St. Joseph and girded herself with it. After a few days of fervent prayer to St. Joseph, Sister Elizabeth's pain disappeared. Multiple doctors, including a Protestant doctor, examined her and proclaimed the cure to be miraculous.

Devotion to the cord of St. Joseph spread in the 1800s, and Pope Pius IX approved a special formula for the blessing of the cord. The cord itself is a white cord with seven knots in honor of the seven joys and sorrows of St. Joseph. The faithful who wear it are to recite the Glory Be seven times a day for this reason. There are five main graces attached to the faithful wearing of the cord and recitation of its corresponding prayers: 1) St. Joseph's special protection; 2) Purity of soul; 3) The grace of chastity according to one's station; 4) Final perseverance; 5) Particular assistance at the hour of death.

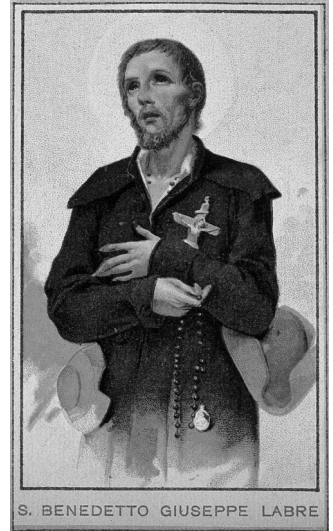
The wearing of a cord or girdle in honor of a saint is an ancient custom. An early known example is St. Monica, who received a black leather belt from the Blessed Virgin Mary. St. Francis wore a rough cord in honor of the cord which bound Jesus during His Passion, and St. Thomas Aquinas, upon conquering a temptation against holy purity, received a girdle from angels and afterwards had no similar temptation ever again. All these girdles have their own confraternities of those who wear similar girdles and practice corresponding devotions.

In our own times, holy purity is relentlessly attacked, as well as all other virtues. Not only is this so, but the very visibility of virtue and our holy Faith is clouded over by veritable mountains of vice and confusion. Let us be intimately devoted to the saints, girding ourselves daily with treasures of the Faith passed down to us by God's faithful friends. If we desire aid, we need only ask. If we seek, we shall find. – *Levi Giese*

MON	4/15/24	FERIAL DAY 8:00 AM Low Mass Doris Ritze (<i>Mary & Joe Kunkel</i>) (rescheduled from 4/12) 11:25 AM Low Mass Happy 1 st Wedding Anniversary Jen & Duane (<i>Mr. & Mrs. William Oleyar</i>)
TUE	4/16/24	FERIAL DAY • ST. BENEDICT JOSEPH LABRE, C 8:00 AM Low Mass †George Hagle (<i>Mike Hagle</i>) 11:25 AM High Mass Repose of the soul of †Pat Patton (<i>Rebecca Stump</i>) 5:00 PM Low Mass Souls entrusted to my care (<i>Collin Smith</i>)
WED	4/17/24	SOLEMNITY OF ST. JOSEPH • ST. ANICETUS, PM 7:00 AM Low Mass †George Hagle (<i>Mike Hagle</i>) 8:00 AM Low Mass Judy Metz – in thanksgiving (<i>Joachim & Lisa Zver</i>) 11:25 AM Solemn High Mass Happy Birthday Dad & Mom (<i>Simpson children</i>) Blessing of St. Joseph Cords 5:10 PM Low Mass “Thou knowest, O Lord!” & my apostate friends (<i>Renee Arlinghaus</i>)
THU	4/18/24	WITHIN THE OCTAVE 7:00 AM Low Mass †Joseph Belansky (<i>Collin Smith</i>) 8:00 AM Low Mass †Jean Bischel (<i>Payne family</i>) 11:25 AM High Mass †Carol Bollinger – Rest in peace (<i>The Hudson Family</i>) 5:00 PM Low Mass Ruby Schultz (<i>Collin Smith</i>)
FRI	4/19/24	WITHIN THE OCTAVE 8:00 AM Low Mass Special intention to St. Anthony & St. Joseph (<i>Payne family</i>) 11:00 AM Confessions 11:25 AM Low Mass Doris Ritze (Happy Birthday Mom!) 9/17 (<i>J. Hille</i>) 5:15 PM Confessions, Rosary 5:45 PM Low Mass Special Intentions (<i>Chad McGinnis</i>) 6:30 PM Sacred Heart Novena, Benediction
SAT	4/20/24	WITHIN THE OCTAVE 7:10 AM Confessions 7:30 AM Low Mass Kate & Leo – Congrats! (<i>Lucia McConnell</i>) 8:10 AM Regina Coeli, Sermon 11:30 AM Nuptial Mass John Brueggemann & Julie Hudson
SUN	4/21/24	EASTER III • ST. ANSELM, BPCD WITHIN THE OCTAVE 7:05 AM Rosary 7:30 AM Low Mass †Ruth M. Hanna – 11 th anniversary (<i>Mr. & Mrs. Bill Oleyar</i>) 9:00 AM High Mass Special Intentions (<i>Chad McGinnis</i>) 10:40 AM Catechism Classes 11:05 AM Rosary 11:30 AM Low Mass Special intention JTD (<i>Joseph Druecker</i>) 4:45 PM Vespers, Benediction 5:45 PM Low Mass For the people of St. Gertrude the Great

ST. BENEDICT LABRE

Benedict Joseph Labre was born at Amettes in the diocese of Boulogne in the year 1748; he was the son of a shopkeeper. After making unsuccessful trial of the religious life in several orders, he at the age of twenty-two finally left his home and spent the remainder of his days as a beggar and a pilgrim, wandering from shrine to shrine all over western Europe. His clothing was in rags; his bed the ground; food, such scraps as he might pick up. If alms were given him, he shared them with the poor. He showed no interest in the places through which he passed. He spoke little, and only when necessity or charity required; he was indifferent to bodily cleanliness, to contempt of himself, to blows. All he cared about was prayer and the things of God. He spent the last nine years of his life in Rome going from church to church by day, sleeping in the Colosseum at night. Wherever the Forty Hours was being observed, Benedict was there, so that people called him “The poor man of the Forty Hours.” His love of Mary was great, and the words “Mary, O my mother” would often burst from his lips. Though only thirty-five, he had at length to accept the hospitality of a shelter for old and infirm men; on Wednesday in Holy Week in 1783 he was found dying on the steps of the church of Santa Maria dei Monti. The fame of “the beggar of Rome” soon spread throughout Christendom.



Benedict before the Blessed Sacrament was so devout, his body, head and eyes fixed upon it, so motionless, that people compared him to a statue, while others said that he did not seem like a man praying but like an angel adoring or a person in ecstasy. In the presence of Jesus the fire of his heart shone in his face, ordinarily so pale and worn but then lit up and animated with love for his Lord and Master, whose life of poverty and dependence he had so faithfully sought to follow.

Servers

FRI 4/19	5:45 PM LOW: A. Constantino, F. Caggese
SAT 4/20	7:30 AM LOW: J. & L. Rabjohns
SUN 4/21	7:30 AM LOW: M. McConnell, Brueggemann 9:00 AM HIGH: MCS: D. Simpson, N. McClorey TH: A. McClorey ACS: T. England, M. Caggese TBS: V. Horton, B. Constantino, I. Smith, Me. Caggese, N. & J. Hudson 11:30 AM LOW: Kolenichs 4:45 PM VESPERS & BENEDICTION: D. Simpson, I. Smith 5:45 PM LOW: P. McClorey