

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



May 5, 2024

EASTER V ST. PIUS V, PC

¶ EASTER V

The second collection for our Oblates is taken up during the Offertory today. The Blessing of Religious Articles is available at the Communion Rail following all Masses. You will find the “Little Church” in the vestibule today to receive your alms for poor priests. Catechism classes are at 10:40 AM. Vespers, May Devotions and Benediction are at 4:45 PM.

¶ THE ROGATION DAYS

Each year on the three days preceding Our Lord’s admirable Ascension, the Church gathers up all of her needs and petitions and solemnly presents them to Our Lord so that He Himself will take them to the Father when He goes home to heaven. This is the idea of the Rogation, or *asking*, Days. The Rogation Days Processions are a beautiful part of the Church’s liturgy and draw down much needed grace upon ourselves, our Church, and our country. Join our school children in this powerful prayer at **11:00 AM** on **Monday, Tuesday** and **Wednesday**, followed by Holy Mass.

OUR LADY’S COURT

We congratulate the following children who received an “A” from Fr. Lehtoranta on their First Communion test:

St. Catherine Award:

Jane Stanislawski, who crowns our Lady.
Attendant: Abigail Scholer.

St. Thomas Aquinas Award:

David Capetillo, who is crown bearer.
Attendant: Mark Drevanak.



¶ THE ASCENSION

Thursday is the feast of the **Ascension**, a *holy day of obligation*. All Catholics are bound to attend Mass under pain of mortal sin. Masses are at 7:00 (workers’ Mass) and 9:00 AM, and 5:45 PM.

Lumen Christi

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

Thanksgiving for God’s blessings
(Joshua McElhatten)

¶ PENTECOST NOVENA

On **Friday** we open our annual and most ancient Novena for Pentecost with the chanting of the **Veni Creator** after the school Mass.

¶ MAY DEVOTIONS

Please check the Calendar for the daily May Devotions, a short but sweet service to show our love for Our Lady.

¶ NEXT SUNDAY: MAY CROWNING

Catechism classes will be cancelled next Sunday, but the children should come instead to the **May Procession and Crowning** at approximately **10:30 AM**. **First Communicants are obliged to attend the May Crowning.**

Come back to church for May Devotions, in the afternoon after 4:45 PM Vespers, and receive the Eucharistic Benediction of Mary’s Son.

📖 **Set Your Missal:** Sunday Within the Octave of the Ascension, second collect of Ss. Nereus & Companions, third of the Ascension. Preface and Communicantes of the Ascension.

¶ THE CHURCH’S MAY CALENDAR

5/13, Monday: First Fatima Rosary Procession

5/16, Thursday: Confirmands’ Day of Recollection (for children only)

5/18, Saturday: Confirmations

5/19: Pentecost Sunday

5/26: Trinity Sunday (*last day to make one’s Easter Duty!*)

5/30, Thursday: Corpus Christi

Collection Report

Sunday, April 28th\$7,569.00
Thank you for your generosity.

TODAY'S MASS

It is the Gospel which gives character to the whole of this day's liturgy. It expresses the deep love of Our Lord for His own,—a love ever-increasing, now that His hours on earth are numbered. He bestows upon His children His parting gift—the precious gift of prayer. "Hitherto you have not asked anything in My Name. Ask and you shall receive, that your joy may be full." "Amen, amen, I say to you," He solemnly declares, "if you ask the Father anything in My Name, He will give it to you."

What a wonderful legacy is this! He could hardly do more than leave them this immense boon, this unfailing source of blessings—prayer. Though He Himself will no longer tread this earth with them, He will be ever near. They can commune with Him; they can tell Him of their love for Him; they can cry out for help in need, for comfort in distress, for relief in pain and weariness. And because they love Him the Eternal Father loves them, and His ear is ever open to their cry. Anything they ask in Christ's Name—i.e., in intimate union with Him by faith and love, for something which He Himself would pray for—the Father will give for love of His Son.

MAY OFFERINGS



The custom of offering flowers to the Blessed Virgin exists in all Catholic countries as expressive of her children's loving gratitude. May,

the month of flowers, has in modern times been especially dedicated to her; flowers decorate her altars, and little girls crown her statue with them. Don't forget your home May Altar!

LAST WEEK'S SAINTS SPEAK OF
THE SACRIFICE FOR SIN:
THE MASS



Let us hear what Pope Alexander I says concerning this sacrifice of propitiation: "By the offering of this victim the Lord is appeased, and forgives all, even the most grievous sins." The holy pope and martyr Julius writes: "All sins and iniquities are blotted out by the offering of this oblation." What comfort these words bring to the heart of the sinner, assuring him, as they do, that all sins, without exception, may be purged away by holy Mass! Again, St. Athanasius says: "The offering of the unbloody sacrifice is the expiation of our crimes." Passages of this kind from the fathers might be multiplied, but we will content ourselves with the pronouncement of holy Church on the subject: "The holy Synod teaches that this sacrifice is truly propitiatory, and if one draw nigh unto God, contrite and penitent, He will be appeased by the offering thereof, and, granting the grace and gift of penitence, forgive even heinous crimes and sins." (Sess. xxii ch. 2.) Words of solace, which show us what blessings and graces flow to us from this noblest of sacrifices! What praise and gratitude we owe to Christ for having given us so efficacious a means of propitiating an offended God!

St. Alexander, pope and martyr, was one of the seven sons of St. Felicitas. He it was who prescribed the highly expressive ritual of the tiny drop of water added to the wine of the chalice. (May 3)

THE CORONET

When for the thorns with which I
long, too long,
With many piercings wound,
I seek with garlands to redress that
wrong,
Through every garden, every mead,
I gather flowers (my fruits are only
flowers)
Dismantling all the fragrant towers*
That once adorned my Shepherdess's
head.
And now when I have summoned up
all my store,
Thinking (so I myself deceive)
So rich a chaplet thence to weave
As never yet the King of Glory wore,
Alas, I find the Serpent old
That, twining in his speckled breast,
About the flowers disguised does fold,
With wreaths of fame and interest.
Ah, foolish man, that would'st debate
with them,
And mortal glory, Heaven's diadem!
But thou who only could'st the Serpent
tame,
Either his slippery knots at once untie,
And disentangle all his winding snare,
Or shatter too with him my curious*
frame;
And let these wither, so that he may
die,
Though set with skill and chosen out
with care.
That they, while thou on both their
spoils dost tread,
May crown thy feet, that could not
crown thy head.

— Andrew Marvell

**towers*: high head-dresses; *curious*: elaborately wrought

¶ YOUR PRAYERS

Please pray for Rick Woods, Gerard Ritze, John Fields and the repose of the soul of †Peter Busalacchi.

¶ MOTHERS DAY ENVELOPES

You can find envelopes in the **vestibule** for Mothers Day. Please fill these out and return them, via the collection, bookstore, or office, by Friday, May 10.

✠ NOTE FROM FATHER ✠

May, the month of Our Lady, has begun, as well has our daily Marian May Devotions with the school. As is fitting, the Queen of Heaven gets a truly beautiful month to call her own. The flowers are in bloom (including the wonderful lilacs outside my office window), the sun shines warmly, the birds chirp and fix their nests, and the animals roam about our grounds happily. The other day, I even saw a possum just inside the wood line. The cats, for their part, are much more interested in being outside than inside, especially because the bunny population has dramatically increased, and the cats must do their job of trying to ensure the bunnies do not become too comfortable around here.

In preparation for the month of May, we had a wonderful Saturday where the Sodality of Charity came in and did great work around the property here at St. Gertrude's. First, they helped Sr. Eulalia by cleaning all the candle followers from their usage during Holy Week. Afterwards, they set off outside to test out their little green thumbs. Our young ladies worked hard to clean up and beautify our grotto, the procession pathway with its outdoor stations of the cross, and finally the little garden area outside the priest's offices, where the girls pulled weeds and laid down fresh mulch. The day was capped off finally with a living Rosary, where different groups of girls brought up and presented fresh flowers to the Blessed Virgin Mary at the start of each decade. Brava, young lassies!!

This upcoming week, we have the Rogation Days on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Each day before our school Mass, we process around the church and the outdoor procession route while chanting the Litany of the Saints. Rogation comes from the Latin verb *Rogare*, which means "to ask", and they are days in which we petition heaven for deliverance from calamities and to appease Divine anger. In today's world, there are many worries from which we must pray to be delivered, and a plethora of offenses for which we can make reparation. If you are able to come for this powerful public prayer, please join us!

The three Rogation Days lead us to Ascension Thursday. This is a Holy Day of Obligation. It is also a good reminder that we are nearing the end of the time during which every Catholic is obliged to make their Easter Duty. The Easter Duty requires every Catholic to make a worthy reception of Holy Communion between Ash Wednesday and Trinity Sunday, which is on May 26th, in order to remain a Catholic in good standing. If you haven't yet made your Easter

Duty, be sure to do so and also avail yourself of the Sacrament of Penance, if necessary, beforehand. There are many opportunities for confessions scheduled during the week. If you need extra time to make a thorough confession, you can also contact the office to schedule a time with one of the priests too.

This weekend, I headed north to St. Hugh's, with its First Friday and First Saturday ceremonies, as well as the Masses on Sunday. Fr. Simpson left Saturday to begin his journey through our three Texas missions.



– Fr. McKenna

ROGATION DAYS: THE MINOR LITANIES



This solemnity, which began in France, soon spread over all Europe. The province of Vienne was afflicted with divers plagues: there were frequent conflagrations and earthquakes, apparently threatening the whole world with speedy destruction. The sole explanation of these calamities was that they were the vengeance of an angry God. It began to be feared that the catastrophe of Sodom would be repeated. It was Paschal time. On Easter Eve, the great church, occupying the highest site in the city, was surrounded by a furious conflagration while the faithful were assembled within it. Every member of the congregation, fearing that his own dwelling would become a prey to the flames, fled from the building. Alone, the Bishop, St. Mamertus, remained intrepidly at the foot of the altar; and by the fervor of his prayers, accompanied with tears, obtained from Heaven the cessation of the fire and the preservation of the church. At this news the faithful hurried back to the sacred edifice and found no other flame than that of the holy candles. That same night the saintly Bishop conceived the design of establishing the Rogations, to thank God and to prevent similar misfortunes in the future. He fixed the first celebration for the days preceding the feast of the Ascension. They took the form of processions lasting three days.

– St. Avitus

✠ CALENDAR

MON	5/6/24	ST. JOHN BEFORE THE LATIN GATE ROGATION DAY 8:00 AM Low Mass Poor Souls (<i>M.A.</i>) 11:00 AM Rogation Day Procession 11:25 AM High Mass Special Intention (<i>S. Kurtz</i>) 3:10 PM May Devotions
TUE	5/7/24	ST. STANISLAUS, BPM ROGATION DAY 7:00 AM Low Mass Holy Souls (<i>Kolenich family</i>) 8:00 AM Low Mass Poor Souls (<i>M.A.</i>) 11:00 AM Rogation Day Procession 11:25 AM High Mass Special intentions (<i>Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Giese</i>) 3:10 PM May Devotions 5:00 PM Low Mass †Ralph Patton Birthday Remembrance (<i>Patton</i>) (from February)
WED	5/8/24	APPARITION OF ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL VIGIL OF THE ASCENSION ROGATION DAY <i>OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART</i> 8:00 AM Low Mass Special intention deceased (<i>Sr. Eulalia</i>) 11:00 AM Rogation Day Procession 11:25 AM High Mass Thanksgiving for Prayers Answered (<i>Doloris Ritze</i>) 3:10 PM May Devotions 5:10 PM Low Mass Family & Friends – living & dead (<i>Cora Arlinghaus</i>)
THU	5/9/24	ASCENSION OF OUR LORD <i>HOLY DAY</i> ST. GREGORY NAZIANZEN, BPCD 7:00 AM Worker's Mass For our Godparents & Godchildren (<i>Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Giese</i>) 9:00 AM Solemn High Mass †Bishop Dolan (<i>Collin Smith</i>) 4:45 PM Vespers, May Devotions, Benediction 5:45 PM Low Mass For the people of St. Gertrude the Great
FRI	5/10/24	ST. ANTONINUS, BPC SS. GORDIAN & EPIMACHUS, MM PENTECOST NOVENA I 8:00 AM Low Mass My son Jay's health, faith (<i>H.Y.</i>) 11:00 AM Confessions 11:25 AM Low Mass †Robert Fitzpatrick (<i>The Richesson Family</i>) 3:10 PM May Devotions 5:15 PM Confessions, Rosary 5:45 PM Low Mass Special intention – In honor of Our Lady of Good Counsel (<i>A.M.B.</i>) 6:30 PM Sacred Heart Novena, Benediction
SAT	5/11/24	WITHIN THE OCTAVE PENTECOST NOVENA II 7:10 AM Confessions 7:30 AM Low Mass Happy Birthday Mom (<i>The Brueggemann Family</i>) Regina Coeli, May Devotions 8:20 AM Sermon, High Mass Frs. Ojeka, Okerulu, Simpson, & Brueggemann – Ordination Anniversary (<i>C. Simpson family</i>)

PRAYER AGAINST ENVY

My Jesus, keep me, I beseech Thee, from that shameful fault into which even those who sincerely desire to serve Thee are in danger of falling, of being envious and jealous of others. Preserve me from yielding to any sentiment of displeasure when others are praised, of discontent when others are preferred before me, or of sorrow and regret for the good which I see in men. Let me, on the contrary, rejoice with all my heart in any good which comes to others.

Teach me to search my soul for the hidden motives of my actions so that if I am inclined to envy others, to criticize them, to misinterpret their actions or to belittle their achievements, I may sternly check myself and force my soul to rejoice in all that Thou givest to others as though it were given to myself. Make me realize that we are all brothers and sisters in Thy great family, and whatever one receives from Thy bounty is given to us all. Teach me to discover and root out the least trace of envy from my heart, and to make that poor heart in every way like Thine in the fullness of generosity and love to all mankind. Amen.



Servers

FRI 5/10	5:45 PM LOW: P. Caggese, B. Constantino
SAT 5/11	7:30 AM LOW: L. & J. Rabjohns 8:20 AM HIGH: D. Simpson, J. Stewart, F. Caggese
SUN 5/12	7:30 AM LOW: M. McConnell, Brueggemann 9:00 AM HIGH: MCS: T. Lawrence, S. Richesson TH: T. England ACS: C. VanderPutten, D. Simpson TBS: J. & I. Smith, V. Horton, M. Caggese, L. & J. Rabjohns 11:30 AM LOW: Capetillos 4:45 PM VESPERS & BENEDICTION: D. Simpson, I. Smith 5:45 PM LOW: C. & J. Plucker

SUN 5/12/24	SUNDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE ASCENSION • SS. NEREUS & COMPANIONS, MM MOTHER'S DAY • PENTECOST NOVENA III
7:05 AM	Rosary
7:30 AM	Low Mass †Bishop Clarence Kelly – rest in peace (<i>Dave & MaryAnn Marko</i>)
9:00 AM	High Mass Happy Mother's Day, Mommy! (<i>The Kolenich Kids</i>) May Crowning Procession
11:30 AM	Low Mass Mary Rose Young – Thank you (<i>Love, Mom</i>)
4:45 PM	Vespers, May Devotions, Benediction
5:45 PM	Low Mass For the people of St. Gertrude the Great