

ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

"Invenies me in corde Gertrudis"

"You will find Me in the heart of Gertrude"

4900 Rialto Road, West Chester, Ohio 45069

TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS: Sundays 7:30 AM,
9:00 AM High, 11:30 AM, 5:45 PM

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



Most Rev. Charles J. McGuire, *Pastor*
Rev. Stephen McKenna
Rev. Vili Lehtoranta
Rev. Thomas Simpson
Rev. Anthony Brueggemann



January 26, 2025

EPIPHANY III

ST. POLYCARP, BPM

¶ EPIPHANY III

Today we close the devotion of the Twelve Sundays to the Mother of Good Counsel. Catechism Classes are at 10:40 AM. Vespers with Benediction are at 4:45 PM.

¶ ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

Wednesday is the feast of the Patronal Saint of the Diocese of Cincinnati, St. Francis de Sales, whose meekness and gentle strength are the embodiment of devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Please join us for four special Masses in honor of our Patron: Low Masses at 7 and 8 AM and 5 PM, and Solemn High Mass at 11:25 AM.

¶ FIRST SATURDAY

7:05 AM Confessions & Rosary

7:30 AM Low Mass

8:10 AM Devotions, Meditation

8:20 AM High Mass

First Saturday Intention: Reparation for immodest fashions and sins of the flesh.

¶ DID YOU KNOW?

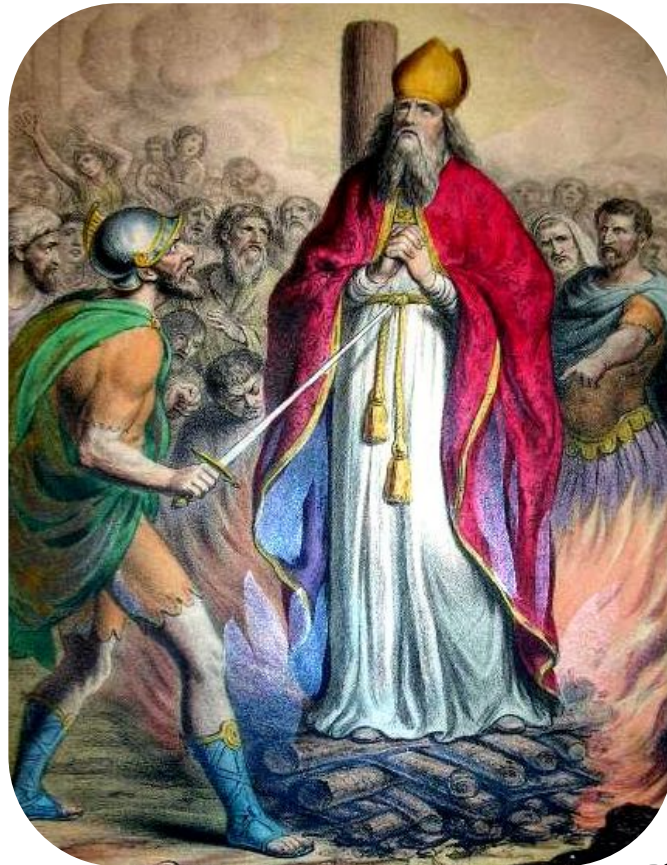
We have a Lost & Found in our social hall. It's beginning to look like a Goodwill donation center. Please take a look today and collect anything that might be yours.

The cabinet of dishes returned from clergy meals is also overflowing. Please pick yours up today!

Collection Report

Sunday, January 19th.....\$10,360.00

Thank you for your generosity. Remember St. Gertrude the Great in your will.



JANUARY: THE MONTH OF THE HOLY NAME OF JESUS & THE HOLY FAMILY

The faithful who, during the month of January, perform some special act of devotion in honor of the Holy Name of Jesus are granted an indulgence of seven years on any day of the month. (Raccolta No. 118.)

The faithful who devoutly invoke the sacred names of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph conjointly, may gain: an indulgence of seven years; a plenary indulgence once a month on the usual conditions, for the daily repetition of the invocation. (St. Pius X, rescript in his own hand, June 8, 1906.)

¶ NEXT SUNDAY: CANDLEMAS

Next Sunday is Candlemas, the feast of Our Lady's Purification, and the closing of the Christmas Season. The "Mass of the Candles" will be at 9:00 AM, followed by a breakfast in Helfta Hall. There will be no Sunday Classes. The Blessing of Religious Articles will be available after all Masses. Vespers of the Purification with Benediction will be at 4:45 PM.



📖 **Set Your Missal:** The Purification, with commemoration and Proper Last Gospel of Epiphany IV. Preface of the Nativity.

¶ LOOK AHEAD

Monday, February 3: Feast of St. Blaise, Blessing of Throats

Friday, February 14: Opening of the Sorrowful Mother Novena

¶ YOUR PRAYERS

Please pray for Gabriella Contreras, Lucia Constantino, and all of the intentions that have been recommended to us.



PRAYING TODAY'S GOSPEL

Jesus, let me learn a lesson from this heathen soldier: a lesson of charity for and sympathy with the sick, especially those who are of my own family; a lesson of humility and moderation in my requests, for I ought to bear my cross with patience. Yet how downcast and discouraged I am in sickness and suffering, instead of submitting with trustful confidence to God's will. But above all, let me learn a lesson of unbounded faith in You, the Divine Physician. As the centurion commands soldiers, so You command maladies which are cured, because You are God's own Son, and all nature is subject to You.

Jesus, increase my faith. I believe that faith is as necessary for my salvation as it was for the cure of the centurion's servant. Since faith is a habit of mind, help me to exercise it constantly lest I lose my taste for the things of God and begin to doubt the truths of my religion. Help me to do so by making acts of faith, by thoughtful meditation on the truths of faith, and by always and everywhere placing my greatest confidence in God.

Jesus, it is at Holy Communion that I hope for a cure for my sick soul. With the faith of the centurion I exclaim: "Lord, I am not worthy that You should come to me...but only say the word, and my soul will be healed by the power of Your sacramental graces." Your Church teaches me that Holy Communion is a remedy whereby I am delivered from daily faults and preserved from mortal sin, a most powerful safeguard in my continual warfare against the world, the flesh, and the devil.

You heal my soul not only by giving me an increase of sanctifying grace in each Holy Communion, God's very life in my soul, but also by bestowing on me actual grace, which gives me the light to see what is evil and the strength to fight

against it. Help me to make Holy Communion the very center of my life, that I may manifest the power of the Eucharist in my every action. I wish to receive It with the deep conviction that It is a most important part of my religion.

— Fr. Lawrence Lovasik, S.V.D.



ACT OF HUMILITY

My God, Thou art my life; if I leave Thee, I cannot but thirst. Lost spirits thirst in hell because they have not God. They thirst though they would fain have it otherwise, from the necessity of their original nature. But I, my God, wish to thirst for Thee with a better thirst. I wish to be clad in that new nature, which so longs for Thee from loving Thee as to overcome in me the fear of coming to Thee. I come to Thee, O Lord, not only because I am unhappy without Thee, not only because I feel I need Thee, but because Thy grace draws me on to seek Thee for Thy own sake, because Thou art so glorious and beautiful. I come in great fear, but in greater love. O may I never lose, as years pass away, and the heart shuts up, and all things are a burden—let me never lose this youthful, eager, elastic love of Thee. Make Thy grace supply the failure of nature. Do the more for me, the less I can do for myself. The more I refuse to open my heart to Thee, so much the fuller and stronger be Thy supernatural visitings, and the more urgent and efficacious Thy presence in me.

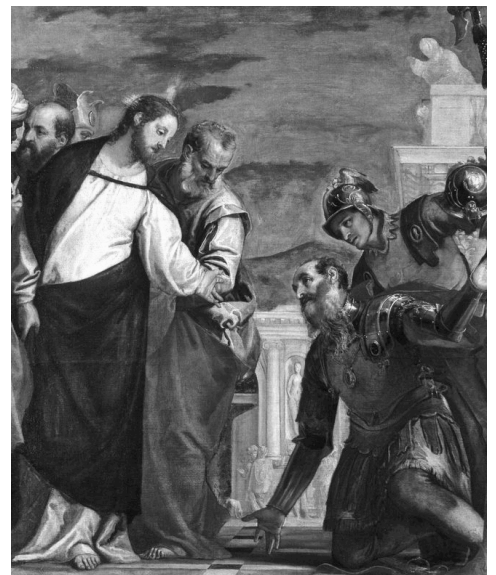
— Cardinal Newman, *"Meditations and Devotions"*

I have read this several times as a Communion thanksgiving prayer, and found it quite moving. You may want to use it as well. — Bishop Dolan, 2014

HUMILITY

Humility is to be still under the weathers of God's will. It is to have no hurt surprise when morning's ruddy promise dies, when wind and drought destroy, or sweet spring rains apostatize in sleet, or when the mind and month remark a superfluity of dark. It is to have no troubled care for human weathers anywhere. And yet it is to take the good with the warm hands of gratitude. Humility is to have place deep in the secret of God's face where one can know, past all surmise, that God's great will alone is wise, where one is loved, where one can trust a strength not circumscribed by dust. It is to have a place to hide when all is hurricane outside.

— Sr. Miriam of the Holy Spirit



"O Lord, I am not worthy"

"See, my children, the first virtue is Humility, the second Humility, and the third Humility... The saints thought themselves nothing, and God gave them all they asked."

— St. John Vianney

✠ THE BISHOP'S NOTE ✠

Fr. Simpson and I have returned from an excellent pastoral visit to sunny, warm Mexico where we visited with several of the clergy in Guadalajara and Colima. The weather, sunny and 80 degrees every day, was a nice break from the cold, snowy, and gloomy Cincinnati winter—though Fr. Simpson says he doesn't really like the hot climates. Ninety Confirmations were done (25 in Colima and 65 in Guadalajara). While in Colima, we also consecrated 4 altar stones in what was a more complicated ceremony than we originally thought it would be. It was done without chant, yet still took an hour and forty-five minutes. The symbolism behind the ceremonies and its prayers is most beautiful. **Fr. McKenna** hopes that one day we will be able to do it here at St. Gertrude's, but with all the chant. I concur, but am not sure what the choir would think of that!

The Colima chapel is just a weekend mission like many of our missions in the United States, while there are three locations that we visited in Guadalajara—St. Joseph's (**Fr. Manuel Odriz's** church where the Confirmations were given), La Immaculada (where young **Fr. Benegas** resides and is doing much good work with the young), and the Monastic House (where **Fr. Sebastian** stays). Guadalajara is much like Cincinnati in that it is home to several different groups of Traditional Catholics. Trento, SSPX, and our priests are located there.

I am thankful to **Fathers Lehtoranta**, McKenna, and **Brueggemann** for taking such good care of things while I was away. Fr. McKenna came down with a little cold, but still headed up to St. Hugh's for the weekend. Fr. Lehtoranta, always so faithful in his duties as professor and who is very reliable for many things here at St. Gertrude's, is again here this Sunday. He has been traveling a bit more since Christmas and doesn't seem to mind at all, though I know it is very difficult to travel on weekends for those priests who have to teach during the week.

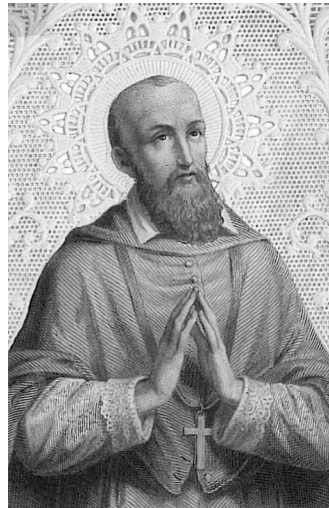
The feast of St. Francis de Sales, patron of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, comes this week, and we will be celebrating it with a Solemn High Mass. Come and pray for the conversion of the Modernists in our once Catholic city, as well as the perseverance of our faithful Catholics. St. Francis was taken by Bishop Dolan as the patron of our group of priests. It was for his pastoral spirit and his mild ways that this great saint was always held out to us for all things pastoral. What a great saint we have!

I am sure there is more news to tell you about, but that is all for now. Please pray for our missions and priests, both here at home, as well as abroad. Be assured that you will be remembered in our prayers.



– **Bishop McGuire**

THE LIFE OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES



The tumultuous years in France after the Protestant Revolt formed the background for Francis de Sales. Born in 1567, he first studied law, but later gave up a promising civil career for the priesthood. As a missionary to the Calvinists, by explaining the true Faith in pamphlets, he converted many thousands to Catholicism. And while he was Bishop of Geneva, that diocese became famous

throughout Europe for its efficient organization, zealous clergy, and well instructed laity.

His fame as writer and spiritual director began with the missionary pamphlets, and grew with his letters and doctrinal works. It still grows in our modern day through his *Introduction to the Devout Life*. This small book has become the classic guide for those looking for Christian perfection as lay men and women, and has helped to establish the "Gentleman Saint" as the Patron of Catholic Writers.

The spirit and reputation of Francis spread rapidly after his death in 1622, soon earning him the title of Saint and Doctor of the Church. His ideals of moderation and charity, of cheerfulness and abandonment to God's will, are pursued today chiefly by the Sisters of the Visitation and the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales. And in his counsels we catch a glimpse of that spirit; his qualities of patience and humility, of confidence; his desire to show to all, in every walk of life, a safe and sure way to Christian perfection.

Lumen Christi

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

Conversion of a relative
(Janice Lobo)

✠ CALENDAR

MON	1/27/25	ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM, BPCD 8:00 AM Low Mass †Kent Maki (<i>Linda Maki</i>) 11:25 AM High Mass †Mary Elaine Browne – 9 th Anniversary <i>(Christopher Browne)</i>
TUE	1/28/25	ST. PETER NOLASCO, C ST. AGNES (THE SECOND TIME) 7:00 AM Low Mass Holy Souls (<i>Levi Giese family</i>) 8:00 AM Low Mass Robert Uhlenbrock (<i>Mary Rose Young</i>) 11:25 AM High Mass †Jean Bischel (<i>KLB</i>) 5:00 PM Low Mass Ben Capetillo – Happy Birthday (<i>Nana & Grandpa</i>) (from 1/23)
WED	1/29/25	ST. FRANCIS DE SALES, BPCD 7:00 AM Low Mass For †Catherine Gardner (<i>Donald Gardner</i>) 8:00 AM Low Mass In honor of St. Joseph for special intentions (<i>TRCS</i>) 11:25 AM Solemn High Mass Bishop McGuire and his intentions (<i>A parishioner</i>) 5:10 PM Low Mass Thou knowest, O Lord (<i>Arlinghaus Family</i>)
THU	1/30/25	ST. MARTINA, VM 7:00 AM Low Mass †Mary MacDonald – 61 st anniversary 1/30 <i>(Tom & Karen Simpson)</i> 8:00 AM Low Mass Benedict Miller – Happy Birthday! (<i>Maria Miller</i>) 11:25 AM High Mass †Fr. James Thielen (<i>Sr. U</i>)
FRI	1/31/25	ST. JOHN BOSCO, C 8:00 AM Low Mass Special Intention (<i>S. Kurtz</i>) 11:00 AM Confessions 11:25 AM Low Mass Agnes Fabaz – Merry Christmas! <i>(Sr. Eulalia)</i> 5:15 PM Confessions & Rosary 5:35 PM Infant of Prague Novena VI 5:45 PM Low Mass For the repose of the soul of †Bishop Daniel Dolan (<i>Paul Hale</i>) 6:30 PM Sacred Heart Novena, Benediction
SAT	2/1/25	FIRST SATURDAY • ST. IGNATIUS, BPM <i>ST. BRIGID, V</i> 7:05 AM Confessions & Rosary 7:30 AM Low Mass Sylvia (<i>KR</i>) (rescheduled from 1/18) 8:10 AM Alma, First Saturday Devotions, Meditation 8:20 AM High Mass Francis Caggese – Happy Birthday (<i>Dad & Mom</i>)
SUN	2/2/25	PURIFICATION OF OUR LADY • CANDLEMAS DAY EPIPHANY IV 7:05 AM Rosary 7:30 AM Low Mass Mr. & Mrs. Damon Harrison & family <i>(Cecilia Brueggemann)</i> (from 1/1) 9:00 AM Blessing of Candles, Procession, High Mass Patrick & Colleen K. (<i>Cora Arlinghaus</i>) 11:05 AM Rosary 11:30 AM Low Mass Holy Souls (<i>Kolenich family</i>) 4:45 PM Vespers & Benediction 5:45 PM Low Mass For the people of St. Gertrude the Great

PASCHAL SACRAMENTS 2025

Please note these important dates:

FIRST CONFESSIONS & TESTING: Saturday, April 26th. (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 (FOR CONFIRMANTS): Thursday, June 5th.

CONFIRMATIONS: Vigil of Pentecost, Saturday, June 7th.

FIRST COMMUNION: Corpus Christi Sunday, June 22nd.

Parents, please note: the Baptismal certificates of children not baptized at St. Gertrude the Great must be submitted to the church office by **Saturday, April 5th**. 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 26th.

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.



SERVERS

FRI 1/31	5:45 PM LOW: F. Caggese, I. Smith BENEDICTION: D. Simpson, M. & F. Caggese, I. & J. Smith
SAT 2/1	7:30 AM LOW: Rabjohns 8:20 AM HIGH: M. Simpson, J. Stewart, M. Kolenich
SUN 2/2	7:30 AM LOW: M. McConnell, Brueggemann 9:00 AM HIGH: MCs: T. Lawrence, C. Richesson, N. McClorey TH: D. Simpson ACs: D. Hudson, N. Kolenich TBs: I. & J. Smith, B. & A. Constantino, V. Horton, M. Kolenich 11:30 AM LOW: Capetillo 4:45 PM VESPERS & BENEDICTION: D. Simpson, I. Smith, P. Caggese, B. Constantino 5:45 PM LOW: P. McClorey