

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

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



August 31, 2025

PENTECOST XII

ST. RAYMOND NONNATUS, C

ST. AIDAN, BPC

¶ PENTECOST XII

Vespers with Benediction are at 4:45 PM.

¶ SUNDAY CATECHISM ENROLLMENTS TODAY!

Fr. Lehtoranta will be in the church office after the morning Masses today to receive enrollments for Sunday Catechism Class. Classes begin on Sunday, September 14. Parents, it is of utmost importance that our young ones be fully armed in the rudiments of the Faith.



¶ LABOR DAY

Labor Day marks the end of summer and back to work for all of us in some sense, as we start the fall season. Come to Mass tomorrow morning to honor St. Joseph, patron of laborers.

¶ ST. PIUS X

First Wednesday is the feast of great Pope St. Pius X. Come to Mass to honor him and to pray especially for the Church. But don't forget St. Joseph!

¶ HOLY HOUR

There will be a holy hour for priests at 5 PM on **First Thursday**, followed by the Altar Boys' Pizza Party.

¶ SEPTEMBER MARIAN FEASTS

Envelopes are in the vestibule to submit your intentions for the September Marian Feasts. Return them in the collection basket, bookstore, or office.



¶ MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Nativity of Mary: September 8. Blessing of Seeds and Seedlings after the High Mass, followed by a birthday party for Baby Mary.

Parish Picnic: Sunday, September 21. Winton Woods, Butterfly Bluff Shelter.

Rosary Sunday: October 5

¶ FIRST FRIDAY

8:00 AM Low Mass

11:00 AM Confessions

11:25 AM Low Mass, Benediction

5:00 PM Exposition

5:15 PM Confessions & Rosary

5:45 PM Low Mass, Novena

All Night Adoration

First Friday Intention: In reparation to the Sacred Heart, and for God's blessings upon our new school year.

¶ FIRST SATURDAY

7:05 AM Rosary, Confessions

7:30 AM High Mass

8:10 AM Salve, Devotions

8:20 AM Benediction, Meditation

8:40 AM Low Mass

First Saturday Intention: In reparation for the outrages against Our Lady's perpetual virginity.

¶ NEXT SUNDAY: FALL FEST

The second collection will be taken up for our Oblates during the Offertory next Sunday. The Blessing of Religious Articles will be available after all Masses. Vespers with Benediction will be at 4:45 PM.

The **Fall Festival** takes place next Sunday. Plan to stay and enjoy the festivities! **The Bookstore will be closed** due to the Festival.

📖 **Set Your Missal:** Pentecost XIII, second collect of Our Lady & the Saints, third at the choice of the priest. Trinity Preface.

Collection Report

Friday, August 15 th	\$3,333.00
Sunday, August 17 th	\$8,008.00
Sunday, August 24 th	\$7,206.00

WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR?

See, a medicine is prepared for you; the wound of sin must first be healed, and it is alleviated in this way: put wine and oil in it, the oil of trust in the Lord's Passion, the wine of remorse in your grief, and mix well.

— St. Thomas Villanova

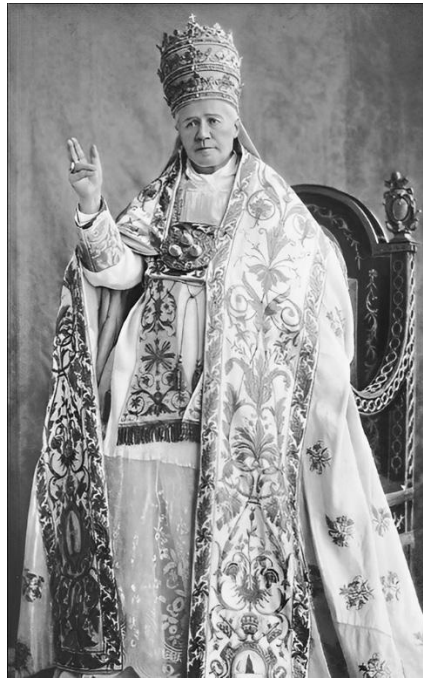
The parable of the Good Samaritan, while reminding us what our own charity towards our neighbor, whoever he is, should be, also shows us what Christ's charity was in our place. He is the Good Samaritan who bent over humanity to heal its wounds and entrust it to the care of His Church until He comes again.

It is the joy of the Church to be able to continue, in the Name of Christ, this ministry of goodness, for she can heal the wounds of sin and spread abroad the divine Love. This ministry is also a ministry of glory, greater than that of Moses, for it bestows the true holiness, which Christ, its one and only source, came to bring us.

It should be our joy, too, to give help and support to anyone who needs them, from love of Christ Who so loved us and made it our duty to join to our love of God the generous and disinterested love of our neighbor.



To obtain the protection of our Blessed Lady in our most urgent wants, it is very useful to say, "Virgin Mary, Mother of God, pray to Jesus for me." When we make this prayer to our Blessed Lady, we give her every possible praise, because we call her by her name of Mary, and give her those two great titles of Virgin, and Mother of God, and then name Jesus, the fruit of her most pure womb. — St. Philip Neri



"Vain is our hope of attracting souls to God by unwise zeal. Rough correction of vices often does more harm than good. Charity is called for: a patient and benign charity which will have to reach out, too, to those who are against us or are our persecutors. Perhaps they seem worse than they really are. Living with others, prejudice, bad example, counsel from others and an ill-advised shame have dragged them on the side of the wicked, but their will is not depraved as they themselves try to make us believe.

"Why should we not hope that the flame of Christian charity will drive away the darkness from their minds and bring to them the light and peace of God? Sometimes the fruit of our labors may well be slow in coming, but charity never tires of waiting, remembering that God has prepared His reward not according to the results of our exertions but according to our good intentions."

— Pope St. Pius X



THE ROYAL RENDEZVOUS

'Tis sweet at early morn to see
The faithful ones and true,
Who daily at the Fount of Love,
Their strength of soul renew;
From poverty and wealth alike,
From boulevard and slum,
In youth and age, disease and health,
To meet the King they come.

The maimed, the halt, the blind are
here,
The grandsire and the child,
He who another Christ will be,
And she, a handmaid, mild.
Some forms are bent by cruel toil,
Some hearts by grief are torn,
And some 'neath placid smile conceal
Deep sorrow, bravely borne.

Oh, not in vain they come to Him
Whose yoke so sweet they wear,
For now refreshed, they journey on
Their burdens bravely bear.
In summer, and in winter too,
In rain, or hail, or snow,
They come to Him so yearningly,
So satisfied they go.

You proud ones of the world, who
scorn
The humble and the meek,
But ashes, dust and tinsel are
The baubles that you seek.
No thrones, no crowns, no earthly
gold,
No glory man e'er knew,
Can lure the hearts of those who keep
The Royal Rendezvous.

— Anonymous



✠ THE BISHOP'S NOTE ✠

Fr. McKenna gave me a little news of the goings on at St. Gertrude's, but was careful not to include too much in the way of work-related topics. The cats are doing fine even though Father admitted he does not feed them as well as their respective owners do. He is of the opinion that they should eat once or twice a day and stay healthy. My thought is that they should eat a third meal if they ask for it. After all, cats don't get to go to heaven so they might as well have what they want here in their short span of existence. Oh well! Father always wins out when I'm not around. Fluffy, the Sisters' cat, has been longing for them to get back, Father says.

Fr. Lehtoranta, Dr. Stanislawski and the teachers met on Thursday to discuss the upcoming school year which begins this week. We will be very happy to see the children again! The summers keep us quite busy at St. Gertrude's, but it just isn't the same without our students. The school year brings back more regularity for our schedule, too, which we are looking forward to having back. Please say a prayer for a successful and a grace-filled year for all who are involved with our school.

Miss Mikesell kindly agreed to work in the office while Theresa was away last week. Thank you, Miss Mikesell! Each one of our faculty members needs to take a break from time to time, but perhaps more this year than ever. Things have picked up pace quite a bit as there is always something or other going on...a little something for everyone. The young Fathers meet with the Knights of the Sacred Heart almost every Monday, the Sodality of Charity meets monthly, as does the St. Monica Club and the Catholic Mothers' Consortium. Soon, the St. Martin's Men's Group will begin meeting monthly. The servers come to the First Thursday Holy Hour for Priests each First Thursday and have a little pizza party after the Mass and Benediction. The Guard of Honor attend to adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every First Friday. The choir has its weekly practice on Wednesday evenings while the kids play outside, and some of the parishioners have recently started up a sort of tailgate party in the parking lot on Friday evenings. Our parish has grown quite significantly, thanks be to God. My hope is that, while St. Gertrude's grows in numbers, each soul grows in fervor. The numbers mean nothing if we are not increasing in the love of our Faith and the practice of supernatural virtue. Life is not about keeping busy, it is about growing in supernatural charity towards God and man and thus meriting our eternal reward. God grant that we do just that.

Fr. McKenna came down with a head cold just in time for last week's Sunday spent here alone covering four Masses himself. He pulled through and is on the mend.

Fr. Brueggemann paid a visit to Joseph Murphy last Wednesday. Then he made a stop at my childhood home to pick up the last of the old St. Clare items and some of my parents' religious items. It is the last of the things to be done before finally putting the old home on the market to sell. It's funny, up to now the thought of getting rid of it never bothered me, but it is a sad event. My family moved there when I was three or four and I grew up there, leaving when I was just about to turn 18. We owned a small ranch style house, just one floor with a crawl space underneath. It wasn't much, but it was home. We had 8 acres of land including 5 acres of wooded area. My siblings and I spent much of our time outdoors, sometimes playing in the creek at the bottom of the hill (although my brother and I got in trouble for that since there were copperheads living in it). Yeah, the bishop wasn't always the best behaved as a kid! Well, the memories come flooding in now that we are about to sell home. Thanks for letting me talk a little about it. It's good, though, to be getting rid of it. After all, we all have to move on, never looking back at what once was. God wants us to focus on the "now," giving our all to the duty of the present moment, and to keep our eyes on heaven. And we can't take our childhood homes with us.

I was touched that one of our families, passing through the Chillicothe area, made it a point to visit my parents' grave. I myself have not been there in over a year, and am not sure if I have been there since Mother's death two years ago. Certainly, my parents' sufferings were relieved by the prayers of that kind family.

Slowly, we are making headway with some of our projects at church. All in God's own time. Most especially, we are getting somewhere with the Rectory project, though this will not be visible to you for a bit longer. Along with this project, we have decided to begin increasing the financial support of the Oblates. Up to now, their families have been carrying this burden, except for a few minor things. You have been most generous in your donations for the Sisters and we have collected enough for a good start in supporting them. However, we will be counting on you to help us keep it going, especially as we get closer to the time when they will move into the Convento. Thank you for your past and future generosity!

It is the month of Our Lady's Seven Sorrows. Console Our Lady, so saddened at what our sins have done to her Divine Son. Console her by your prayers of reparation, and most of all by practicing supernatural virtue in your daily life.

– Bishop McGuire



SODALITY FALL FESTIVAL



Looking for some fun?

The Sodality of Charity is hosting the Fall Festival after the morning Masses

Sunday September 7th

There will be several games, food, drinks, music, items for sale, and a pie contest!

Pie Contest

All ages are welcome!

- You can enter up to three pie entries but they must be different flavors.
 - The pies will then be sliced and one piece will be presented to the judges.
 - The remaining pieces will be individually sold.
 - The judging will take place after the 11:30 Mass.
 - First prize: \$50 cash
Second Prize: Gift Basket
Third Prize: \$10 cash
- The pies can be delivered on the Saturday before or the day of the event.



Fundraising Games

Win prizes by playing these different games

Punch a cup
Knife Throwing
Dual
Darts
Spider Fling
Dunk Booth

COME FOR
PARISH
FALL
FUN

Vending

There will be Texas Chili, Hot Dogs, pumpkin spice lattes, and (of course) pie for sale!

Don't forget to check out the craft booths!

Questions? Contact Cora Arlinghaus at 17penguinfun@gmail.com or text 859-655-5533



TO ST. JOSEPH

St. Joseph, when the day was done
And all your work put by,
You saw the stars come one by one
Out in the violet sky.

You did not know the stars by name,
But there sat at your knee
One who had made the light and
flame
And all things bright that be.

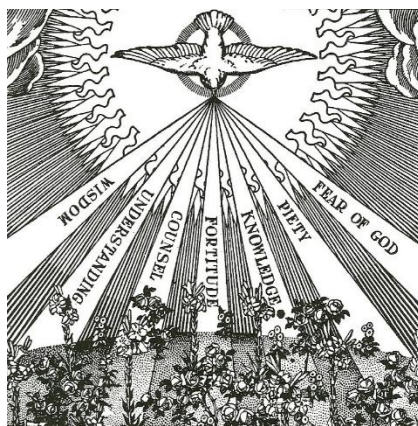
You heard with Him birds in the tree
Twitter “Good-night” o’erhead,
The Maker of the world must see
His little ones to bed.

Then when the darkness settled
round,
To Him your prayers were said;
No wonder that your sleep was
ground
The angels loved to tread.

— Charles L. O'Donnell, C.S.C.



O glorious Patriarch St. Joseph, humble and honest workman of Nazareth, to all Christians, but especially to us, thou hast given the example of a life of perfection, a life unremitting in toil, a life lived in blessed union with Mary and Jesus. Help us, as Catholic workers, to find in our daily tasks a means of giving glory to God, of increasing in holiness, of being useful to our fellow men. Amen.



THE FRUITS OF THE HOLY GHOST: If Only Lemons Could Be Gentle

There is something deceiving about a lemon. The color is attractive, the size is fitting, the shape is even appealing, and yet the first bite into a lemon tells us that something has gone drastically wrong—it's bitter, harsh, and sour.

The fruits of nature can help us better understand the fruits of the Holy Ghost, as long as we never forget that the fruits of the Spirit are always supernatural. By God's grace, we can be forgiving, loving, and peaceful—even though when left to ourselves we too, like the lemon, can be bitter, harsh, and sour.

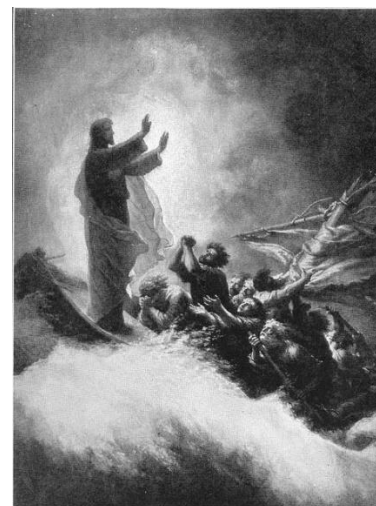
The fruit of the Holy Ghost that can counter our own “lemon-like” qualities is Mildness. This divine gentleness is not a softness or the avoidance of difficulty. Rather, the gift of gentleness is a firmness that enters into difficulties when necessary and brings with it the balm of Christ's healing Presence.

Imagine how the conflicts in our lives could be handled and perhaps even resolved if we asked for mildness from the Holy Ghost in regard to the argument with the neighbor, the family feud that just won't go away, the ongoing disagreement with one's spouse. Biting into a lemon is always a harsh experience, but we can be made gentle by the gift of the Holy Ghost. — Rev. J.M. Sullivan

HOW TO SHARE IN THE RESOLUTENESS OF OUR LORD

Always begin all your prayers with an act of the presence of God because, sometimes, for want of doing so, an action will cease to be pleasing to Him. Just consider...that although we do not yet see God, faith teaches us that His holy presence is everywhere, and this is one of the means which we should propose to ourselves. I mean, this presence in all places, penetrating all things and even our hearts to their very depths. This is even more true than the thought that we are all here present, because our eyes may deceive us, but the truth that God is in all places will never deceive. Another means of placing ourselves in the presence of God is to imagine ourselves before the most Blessed Sacrament of the altar. It is there...that we receive the dearest proofs of His love. Let us love Him dearly and remember that He said when on earth: “Whoever loves Me, We will come to him,” where He speaks of the Father and the Holy Ghost, and souls will be guided by His holy providence as a ship by its pilot.... The good thoughts which God gives you in prayer are relics. Gather them carefully together in order to translate them into acts and you will gladden the Heart of God. You will then be the joy of God and all the saints will hold high festival.

— St. Vincent de Paul



✠ CALENDAR

MON	9/1/25	ST. GILES, AB TWELVE HOLY BROTHERS, MM LABOR DAY 8:00 AM Low Mass Special intention deceased (KR) 9:00 AM Low Mass Sue Kurtz – Healing (<i>Sue Kurtz</i>)
TUE	9/2/25	ST. STEPHEN, KING OF HUNGARY, C SUMMER NOVENA AFTER ALL MASSES 7:00 AM Low Mass Sebastian Smith (<i>Dominic Simpson</i>) 8:00 AM Low Mass Thank you St. Anthony – Prayer Answered! (<i>N.A.</i>) 5:00 PM Low Mass †Jean & Kirby Bischel (<i>Patton/Moore Family</i>)
WED	9/3/25	ST. PIUS X, PC FIRST WEDNESDAY – PRAY TO ST. JOSEPH MOTHER OF THE DIVINE SHEPHERD SCHOOL BEGINS 7:00 AM Low Mass In Thanks to St. Joseph for prayers answered (<i>Phyllis Rampulla</i>) 8:00 AM Low Mass Special Intention (<i>Joseph & Elizabeth Prell</i>) 11:25 AM Votive High Mass of the Holy Ghost Liam, Adam, & Gavin – Congratulations on your Confirmation! (<i>Sr. Magdalen</i>) 5:10 PM Low Mass Claire Mathers (<i>Sister Eulalia</i>)
THU	9/4/25	FIRST THURSDAY – PRAY FOR PRIESTS FERIAL DAY ST. ROSE OF VITERBO 7:00 AM Low Mass For more holy priests & religious (<i>Smith family</i>) 8:00 AM Low Mass Fr. Simpson (<i>The Ballesteros Family</i>) 11:25 AM Requiem High Mass Purgatorial Society 5:00 PM Holy Hour for Priests: Low Mass For the sanctification of priests (<i>Alter Christus Confraternity</i>) Altar Boys Pizza Party
FRI	9/5/25	FIRST FRIDAY ST. LAWRENCE JUSTINIAN, BPC 8:00 AM Low Mass †Susan Brookbank (<i>Joseph & Elizabeth Prell</i>) 11:00 AM Confessions 11:25 AM Low Mass, Benediction Elizabeth Young – Happy Birthday! (<i>Grandma & Grandpa Young</i>) 5:00 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 5:15 PM Confessions & Rosary 5:45 PM Low Mass †Rita Vinski – 28 th anniversary of death (<i>Mary Egger & Lauren Caggese</i>) 6:30 PM Sacred Heart Novena, First Friday Devotions All Night Adoration
SAT	9/6/25	FIRST SATURDAY OUR LADY'S SATURDAY 7:05 AM Confessions, Rosary 7:30 AM Votive High Mass of the Immaculate Heart Dad & Mom (<i>Maria Brueggemann</i>) 8:10 AM Salve, First Saturday Devotions 8:20 AM Benediction 8:30 AM First Saturday Meditation 8:40 AM Low Mass The William H. Young IV Family (<i>Mom & Pop</i>)

All Night Adoration Guard of Honor September 2025

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM: David Swinney, Joseph Vines
8:00 PM - 9:00 PM: Tim Giese, Jim Phelan
9:00 PM - 10:00 PM: Collin Smith, Justin Soeder
10:00 PM - 11:00 PM: Anthony Caggese, Jim Stanislawski
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, Dan Stanislawski
2:00 AM - 3:00 AM: Dan & Philip Brueggemann
3:00 AM - 4:00 AM: McConnell Brothers
4:00 AM-5:00 AM: Matthew Giese, Bruno Siqueira
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.



Servers

FRI 9/5	5:45 PM LOW: M. Simpson, Capetillo
SAT 9/6	7:30 AM HIGH: I. Smith, F. Caggese 8:40 AM LOW: Rabjohns
SUN 9/7	7:30 AM LOW: M. Schneider, Brueggemann 9:00 AM HIGH: MCs: N. & A. McClorey TH: C. Richesson ACs: L. Rabjohns, J. Hudson TBs: V. Siqueira, P. Caggese, J. Smith, V. Horton, B. & A. Constantino 11:30 AM LOW: Capetillos 4:45 PM VESPERS & BENEDICTION: TH: D. Simpson ACs: I. & J. Smith, F. Caggese 5:45 PM LOW: P. McClorey

SUN 9/7/25	PENTECOST XIII • ST. CLOUD, C FALL FESTIVAL AFTER MORNING MASSES 7:05 AM Rosary 7:30 AM Low Mass †Rosa Barre (<i>Karen Simpson</i>) 9:00 AM High Mass Thou Knowest, O Lord (<i>Arlinghaus Family</i>) 11:05 AM Rosary 11:30 AM Low Mass Happy Birthday – Joann Wilker (<i>Stafford Family</i>) 4:45 PM Vespers & Benediction 5:45 PM Low Mass For the people of St. Gertrude the Great
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Mass offered privately by Bishop McGuire:

In Honor of God the Holy Ghost for Fr. G. Kasik (*Regina Gilliam*)