

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

November 16, 2025
ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT
PENTECOST XXIII

¶ ST. GERTRUDE

Blessed feast of St. Gertrude the Great! The Blessing of Expectant Mothers is available at the Communion Rail today. There are no Catechism Classes. Solemn Vespers of St. Gertrude with Benediction are at 4:45 PM.

¶ THIS WEEK

The St. Monica Club meets after the 11:25 AM Mass on **Thursday**.

The Knights of St. Martin meet in the evening, also on **Thursday**, with Mass at 5:30 PM.

Friday is the feast of the **Presentation of Our Lady**. A good opportunity to make reparation!

The Sodality of Charity meets on **Saturday** after the 8:30 AM High Mass.



¶ NEXT SUNDAY

Next Sunday marks the end of the Liturgical Year. Catechism Classes will be at 10:40 AM. There are no Vespers. We have our indulgenced Rosary Procession at Gate of Heaven Cemetery at 3:00 PM.

📖 **Set Your Missal:** Last Sunday After Pentecost, second collect of St. Gertrude, third of St. Clement, fourth of St. Felicity. Trinity Preface.

¶ YOUR PRAYERS

Please pray for James Kern, Terri Young, Ann Garrison, and all of our sick and shut-in.



¶ DON'T FORGET!

- **Monday, December 1:**
Feast of St. Andrew the Apostle. Christmas Novena begins.
- **Sunday, December 7:** St. Nicholas will be visiting the children after the morning Masses.
- **Monday, December 8:** The Immaculate Conception, a holy day of obligation.

Collection Report

Sunday, November 9th.....\$7,522.00
Thank you for your generosity. Remember St. Gertrude the Great in your will.

Lumen Christi

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

Ave Maria!
(Paul Mugar)

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY GROUP WINNER:

Rosie Hudson & Maria Brueggemann,
as Ss. Perpetua & Felicitas.

Servers

FRI 11/21: 5:45 PM LOW: Capetillos
BENEDICTION: MCS: D. Simpson, J. Capetillo **TH:** T. Capetillo **TBS:** I. & J. Smith

SAT 11/22: 7:30 AM LOW: Rabjohns
8:15 AM HIGH: D. Simpson, J. Stewart, I. Smith

SUN 11/23: 7:30 AM LOW: M. McConnell, Brueggemann

9:00 AM HIGH: MC: Na. McClorey **TH:** J. Rabjohns **ACS:** L. Rabjohns, F. Caggese **TBS:** T. Stanislowski, J. Smith, V. Horton, J. Stewart, T. England, D. Hudson

11:30 AM LOW: Kolenichs

5:45 PM LOW: Brueggemanns

ST. GERTRUDE

Our Lord once said that if anyone wished to find Him, he should look for Him in the heart of St. Gertrude. He then explained that He found delight in being in her heart because there He encountered no obstacles. It is perhaps with this thought in mind that the Church prays on her feast: "O God, who in the heart of the blessed virgin Gertrude, didst provide for Thyself a dwelling very pleasing in Thy sight: through her merits and intercession mercifully wash the stains from our hearts and grant that we may enjoy fellowship with her."

St. Gertrude was a Cistercian nun in Germany during the thirteenth century. At the age of 30 she was elected superior of the convent at Rodarsdorf and was later elected superior at Helfta where she guided the nuns for over 40 years. She had a great love for the Passion and for the Blessed Sacrament, and used to shed copious tears out of gratitude for them. Jesus Himself gave our Lady to her as her Mother and guardian. She is outstanding for her devotion to the Sacred Heart. Daily, she offered many prayers and sacrifices for the conversion of souls and those in purgatory.



Vera Effigie di S. Gertrude detta la Magna Abadessa dell' Ordine di S. Benedetta, secondo l'esemplare di Isidoro minucolo dipinto G. Foglietti fecit.



THANKSGIVING FOR GRACES BESTOWED ON ST. GERTRUDE

To implore favors through her merits

God revealed to St. Gertrude that those who should thank Him for the graces bestowed upon her would participate in her merits, and would obtain their petition provided it were for their eternal welfare.

O most sweet Lord Jesus Christ, I praise, extol, and bless Thee, in union with that heavenly praise which the Divine Persons of the Most Holy Trinity mutually render to each other, and which thence flows down upon Thy sacred Humanity, upon the Blessed Virgin Mary and upon all the angels and saints. And I give Thee thanks for all the graces Thou didst lavish upon Thy beloved spouse, St. Gertrude. I thank Thee especially for that ineffable love wherewith Thou didst pre-elect her from all eternity, didst enrich her so highly, didst draw her so sweetly to Thyself by the strongest bonds of love, didst unite her so blissfully to Thyself, dwell with such sweet delight in her heart, and crown her life with so blessed an end. I recall to Thee now, O most compassionate Jesus, the promise Thou didst make to Thy beloved spouse, that Thou wouldst most assuredly grant the prayers of all who come to Thee through her merits and intercession, in all matters concerning their salvation. I beseech Thee, by Thy most tender love, grant me the grace (*mention it*) which I confidently expect. Amen.

THE BRIGHT DOMAIN

The Lamb of God will be our light
In heaven's fair domain;
And Mary blest will shine all bright
Amidst her glittering train.
'Tis not the pageant of a day;
This scene will ne'er decay.

Sweet bliss! Dread death will be no
more,
Nor pain, nor fear, nor wail;
For all these things that were before
In earth's dark sinful vale
Will pass away. Ecstatic love
And joy will reign above.

— Rev. John J. Rauscher, S.M.



GOD'S ELECT

This soul was pure; preserved,
through grace,
From poisons gendered in the dank,
Pest-ridden fens of earth.
From noisome sin it quickly shrank;
The odor sweet of sanctity it sought
And prized beyond all thought.

It shunned the broad and beaten
road
That leads, through regions gay and
bright,
The haunts of sin, unto the gate
Of ebon hue where dwells the night
Of everlasting woe. It trod
The narrow path that leads to God.

It toiled for Christ. It sowed its seed
In sorrow, shedding bitter tears,
Working for richest harvest-yield
Through long, laborious years.
Nor toiled in vain;
It reaped full, heavy sheaves of
gold—
Peace, glory, joy ineffable,
On earth unheard, untold.

— Rev. John J. Rauscher, S.M.

✠ THE BISHOP'S NOTE ✠

Today is the feast of our dear patroness, St. Gertrude the Great. She has been good to us over the years and I trust that she will continue to intercede on our behalf until each and every one of us has reached eternal beatitude. Blessed feast day to all of you!

Today also marks 22 years since this church was dedicated and I remember it well. I was just a seminarian and our young priests would have been around First Communion age, I believe. The parking lot was muddy and the hallways covered in dry mud from the workers' boots. The cloister was not built yet and the convento was still being worked on. The ladies were on their hands and knees scrubbing the social hall floor. Everything came together nicely, though, in time for the beautiful ceremonies. Those were different times. We certainly have seen a lot of changes in these last 22 years—but most of all, we have received many graces during this time.

Fr. Lehtoranta has been a priest for 14 years today, and he has done much good work over these years. Father, as you know, has always been a teacher in our school, and has more recently taken on a role as a seminary professor. Be sure to wish him a happy anniversary today and say an extra prayer for him. Today is also my 20th priestly anniversary.

The Forty Hours Devotion in Nigeria, which started on Friday, ends today. **Bishop Nkamuke** gave a good news report. Among other things, His Excellency blessed two ships, oil rigs, to be more precise. The owner named them “Deo Juvante” and “Deo Servante.” You can look up the Latin translation.



Tomorrow is the feast day of St. Hugh of Lincoln, the patron of our Milwaukee chapel. The parishioners

have done so much good over the years. The work they have done on the chapel is amazing. They themselves even built the choir loft and installed the wooden cross beams in the ceiling. We clergy have always been amazed at how much this small congregation has done and continues to do. They manage to do many of the same ceremonies as we do here, with a lot less people. Holy Week, Vigil of Pentecost, Candlemas, and many others. They even do Forty Hours! What is most edifying is that they do forty consecutive hours and manage to have at least one adorer for each hour. That is quite a feat for such a small parish with so many of the parishioners living rather far away. A blessed feast day to everyone at St. Hugh's!

I leave on Friday to visit Fr. Arnoldo Villegas and his chapels in Tijuana and Mexicali, where Confirmation will be administered. Say a prayer for safe travels and a successful apostolate there. Be assured that you are being remembered in my prayers.

– Bishop McGuire

It is said in the Mass of St. Gertrude:

“Thou hast prepared a home for Thyself in her heart;” one idea of a home is a place where everyone loves, everyone trusts, where there are no dark secrets, no rooms shut off. In a home we may leave our things about, we may come and go as we please. If our hearts are a home for our Lord, He is a guest who comes, not to go again. He can go in and out, every place is His own; He can, so to speak, leave His things there—leave His intentions, His joys and sorrows there; He knows they will be taken care of.

Had we but the generous heart of Gertrude! She trusted our Lord, she took Him literally. Aubrey de Vere has said of her: “What we profess, she believed, what we believed, she saw.” It is in our power, at any rate, to take our Lord's words literally, by thinking of them and by passing them over and over in our minds. Someone has said that the only thing necessary for sanctity is to take Our Lord's words literally...

– Mother Stuart



✠ MARY, THE CO-REDEMPTRIX & MEDIATRIX OF ALL GRACES ✠



The following is from Fr. Ojeka's article, "The Co-Redemptrix: Truth Misunderstood and Rejected." It is a very excellent and simple explanation of Our Lady's title of Co-Redemptrix.

— Bishop McGuire

The word "Co-Redemptrix" is derived from the Latin words "cum" and "redimere."

The preposition **cum** means "**with**." Oh that this sticks!

When prefixed to another word, it denotes **union, accompaniment, or cooperation**, not equality or independence.

A number of other English words derived From Latin roots makes the point:

- **Cooperate** (cum + operari) "To work with" With the actual English meaning: to act jointly toward a common end. The one who cooperates is not equal to the principal agent, but helps.
- **Coexist** (cum + existere) "To exist with"; meaning to exist at the same time as another The beings coexist together, not as one equal entity.
- **Coauthor** (cum + auctor) "With an author"; meaning a secondary writer who works with the main author. The co-author is not the author's equal, but a collaborator.
- **Coworker** (cum + operarius) "With a worker"; meaning a fellow laborer, not a boss. Again, shared work, not shared rank.
- **Coheir** (cum + heres) "Heir with"; One who shares in an inheritance, dependent upon the principal testator.
- **Companion** (cum + panis) "With bread" One who eats bread with another — a friend or associate, denoting closeness, not equality of office.
- **Collaboration** (cum + laborare), "To labor with": To work together toward an end The labor is shared, but not the identity of the worker.
- **Cooperation** (cum + operari) "To operate with": to take part in someone's work. The prime agent retains authority; the cooperator joins under it.
- **Comrade** (cum + gradus) "One who walks with"; a companion on the same path. One walks with another, not as another.
- **Consubstantial** (cum + substantia) "Of one substance with", used in the Creed for the divine Persons. Even here, note: the cum denotes unity, not competition.

Thus, by the same linguistic law, Co-Redemptrix (cum + redimere) means "She who redeems with."

That is: Mary redeems with the Redeemer—not beside Him as His equal, but under Him, by His grace, and through His merits.

Just as a coworker works with his employer but under his direction, Mary cooperated with Christ but under His power and merit.

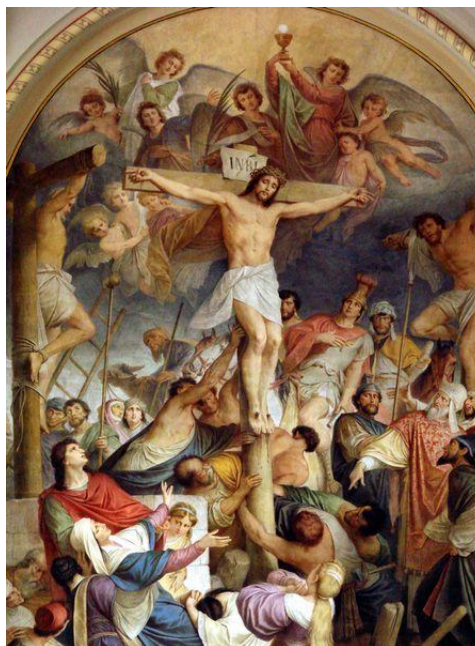
That's the key distinction the Modernist misses, so also their comrades outside the walls, whom they fear to offend for Ecumenical reasons.

To call Mary Co-Redemptrix is to say, simply and beautifully, that she was with the Redeemer in the work of our salvation—with Him at Bethlehem, with Him in exile, with Him in Nazareth, and supremely, with Him on Calvary.

When the new Adam was redeeming the world upon the tree, the new Eve stood beside Him, not as a rival, but as a mother offering her Son, as a handmaid consenting to the sacrifice.

Her heart was nailed spiritually where His Body was nailed physically; her tears flowed where His Blood was shed; her will was united to His in one great offering to the Father.

MARY, MEDIATRIX OF ALL GRACES



It would appear that the doctrine of Mary's universal mediation is capable of being defined as a dogma of the faith, for it is implicitly revealed in the different titles which Tradition gives Mary—that of Mother of God, most powerful in intercession with her Son, that of the new Eve intimately associated with the Redeemer, that of Mother of all men. Besides, it is a doctrine explicitly and formally affirmed by the morally unanimous consent of Fathers and Doctors of the Church, of preaching throughout the Church, and of the Liturgy.

Leo XIII, after having stated that we receive nothing except through Mary, goes on to say that 'as no one can come to the Father except by the Son, in much the same way no one can come to the Son except by Mary.' Pius X calls her 'the dispensatrix of all the graces which Jesus acquired for us by His Blood.' Benedict XV gave his approval to the same doctrine when he instituted the universal feast of Mary, Mediatrix of All Graces.

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Mary's universal mediation appears then to be capable of definition as a dogma of faith: it is at least implicitly revealed and it is already universally proposed by the ordinary magisterium of the Church.

— The Mother of the Saviour and Our Interior Life

(Continued from last week)

THE TEST OF PRACTICAL FAITH

SOUL-MURDER

But for the Catholic father who, without episcopal sanction, sends his child to the public school, when he could enter him at a Catholic institution, there is no excuse in heaven or on earth. He has begun the career of Herod; it will be no fault of his if he is not guilty of soul-murder. Let the Catholic father whose child is in the non-Catholic school, or who is minded to place him there, commune with his conscience. The day will come, perhaps very soon, when God will require these children at his hands.

Is he willing to stand before the Eternal Judge in the day of His great assizes, with this plea: "I might have sent my children to a Catholic school, but...I sent them to the non-Catholic school. I might have put them under the charge of consecrated men and women who taught that the first duty of every human being was to know, love and serve Almighty God. But I gave them to teachers who dared not assert that an adorable God even existed. I might have brought them to halls in which every head was bowed in silent reverential adoration at the very mention of the Name of Jesus. But I took them to schools from which the Savior of the world would have been excluded, had He entered to teach His doctrine of

humble, unwavering acceptance of Him, and of service and love. I knew the plain law of the Church, and I disobeyed it. I might have given good example, but I scandalized my weaker brethren by inducing them to follow where I had led. I knew what my duty was, but I was deaf to the warning and to the pleading of those set to rule me in God's place. I consulted my own desire, and I laughed at authority, and I said that the Catholic school was no place for the brethren of a family so refined and cultured, of a father so wealthy and influential as myself."



Dare any Catholic enter that plea before the judgment-seat of any omniscient and omnipotent God? If not, let him not file it in time by sending his children to a non-Catholic school. Let him not call himself a practical Catholic because he goes to Mass on Sundays, and to the Sacraments occasionally, but for five days a week entrusts his children to a system which the Church forbids him to approve. Let the test of his practical acceptance of the teachings of the Catholic Church be made in this question, "Are his children in a Catholic school?" For *the man who sends his children to the public school when he could obtain for them the blessings of a Catholic education is not a practicing Catholic, even though he goes to Mass every morning* and by his silence touching the necessary matter in Confession, is absolved every night.

Assuredly, God will hold the Catholic parent responsible for his fulfillment of this most serious obligation to secure for his children to the best of his ability a moral and religious education. If he can do this while sending his children to a non-Catholic school, well and good, provided the Bishop gives his approval. But in not one case in a million can he secure, without the aid of a Catholic school, the training which the law makes imperative. God has given these children into his keeping, and how can he answer for them, unless he places them in a Catholic school?

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In these evil days the world has risen up against God and His Christ; in philosophy, in science, in literature, in the market-place, in the amusements of the people, above all, in the school. In God's dear Name, let Catholics, at least, be willing to see that their little ones, redeemed by the Precious Blood of the Son of God, may be brought to the Heart of Christ through the sure portals of a Catholic school.

— Fr. Paul L. Blakely, S.J.
The Catholic Mind, September 22, 1921

MON	11/17/25	ST. GREGORY THAUMATURGUS, BPC <i>ST. HUGH OF LINCOLN, BPC</i> <i>BL. PHILIPPINE DUSCHENE, V</i>
		8:00 AM Low Mass For all who cook for us and for our devoted drivers (<i>The Fathers</i>)
		11:25 AM Low Mass Emily & Poncho Capetillo – Happy Anniversary (<i>Bob & Becky Uhlenbrock</i>) (from 11/9)
TUE	11/18/25	DEDICATION OF BASILICAS OF SS. PETER & PAUL
		7:00 AM Low Mass For our fallen-away children (<i>St. Monica Club</i>) (From October)
		8:00 AM Low Mass In Thanksgiving (<i>Michael Simpson</i>)
		11:25 AM High Mass In thanksgiving to St. Anthony – prayers answered! (<i>Sister Eulalia</i>)
		5:00 PM Low Mass Ann Garrison (<i>Michael Rabjohns</i>)
WED	11/19/25	ST. ELIZABETH, W • ST. PONTIANUS, PM
		7:00 AM Low Mass Renee Fernandez (<i>ENR</i>)
		8:00 AM Low Mass Happy Birthday, Sr. Eulalia (<i>Theresa</i>)
		11:25 AM High Mass Special Intention – St. Joseph (<i>Michelle Mikesell</i>)
		5:10 PM Low Mass Eddie & Renee Fernandez (<i>Sister Magdalen</i>)
THU	11/20/25	ST. FELIX OF VALOIS, C
		7:00 AM Low Mass For our fallen-away children (<i>St. Monica Club</i>)
		8:00 AM Low Mass †Judy Partlett – 2 nd anniversary of death (<i>Sister Eulalia</i>)
		11:25 AM Requiem High Mass Purgatorial Society St. Monica Club Meeting
		5:30 PM Low Mass Alfonso T. Capetillo (<i>Nana & Grandpa</i>) Knights of St. Martin Meeting
FRI	11/21/25	THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LADY
		8:00 AM Low Mass Philip, Matthias & Vincent – Thanks for helping with the grotto (<i>Fr. B</i>)
		11:00 AM Confessions
		11:25 AM High Mass Bishop McGuire (<i>Sandberg Family</i>)
		5:15 PM Confessions & Rosary
		5:45 PM Low Mass Isaac Vines – birthday blessings (<i>Your Godparents</i>)
SAT	11/22/25	6:30 PM Sacred Heart Novena, Benediction
		ST. CECILIA, VM
		7:05 AM Confessions
		7:30 AM Low Mass Dale & Debbie Wilker (<i>The Stafford Family</i>)
		8:05 AM Salve
SUN	11/23/25	8:30 AM High Mass Happy Birthday, Michael! (<i>Levi Giese family</i>)
		Sodality of Charity Meeting
		LAST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST ST. CLEMENT, PM • ST. FELICITY, M
		7:05 AM Rosary
		7:30 AM Low Mass 40 th Wedding Anniversary (<i>Mark & Joan Lotarski</i>)

ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT

Gertrude's love of God was eminently practical, leaving its impress on her daily life. One feast of St. Matthew, after offering the chalice during the Elevation in thanksgiving for all God's favors to her, she reflected that her offering would be of little value if she did not prepare herself to endure all kinds of sufferings for Christ. So, ready to renounce her spiritual favors for God's sake, she offered herself to endure all that might promote His glory. Often, after this, she would interrupt her private hours of prayer to go and help her Sisters in their various needs, or to give advice and consolation to those who sought her from outside.

Overcome with weariness one morning during Mass, she was aroused by the Elevation bell and saw our Lord planting a mervellous tree in her heart. She understood that to make it more fruitful she must pray for one who had been unkind to her, and she asked God to let her feel over again all the pain she had experienced so the person who had hurt her might have more abundant graces.

At the hour of None on the same day our Lord again appeared to her, this time to ask her to gather for Him the fruit of the tree, teaching her thereby that it is not sufficient to suppress our dislike of those who displease or annoy us, but that we must actively seek occasions of doing them good.



Oblation: Accept, O compassionate Jesus, this my prayer with that exceeding love wherewith Thou didst endure a bitter Death, and didst offer it, together with all the fruit of Thy most sacred Humanity, to God the Father on the day of Thine ascension; and by the depth of those Wounds which scarred Thy flesh and pierced Thy hands and feet and Heart, I beseech Thee, raise me up, who am steeped and sunk in sin, and render me well-pleasing to Thee in all things. Amen.

9:00 AM	High Mass Special Intention (<i>Eddie Fernandez</i>)
11:05 AM	Rosary
11:30 AM	Low Mass The Hudson Family & their intentions (<i>The Zver Family</i>)
3:00 PM	Rosary Procession: Gate of Heaven Cemetery
	NO VESPERS
5:45 PM	Low Mass For the people of St. Gertrude the Great