

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



December 28, 2025
THE HOLY INNOCENTS

¶ CHILDREMAS

Blessed Christmas! The Blessing of Children for the feast of the Holy Innocents follows the High Mass, and a little party for the children takes place in Helfta Hall. No Catechism Classes today. Vespers with Benediction are at 4:45 PM.

¶ NEW YEAR'S EVE

On **Wednesday** we have three Masses, Low at 7 & 8 AM, and a High Mass at 11:25 AM. No evening Mass.

¶ NEW YEAR'S DAY

First Thursday, New Year's Day, is the feast of the **Circumcision**, a *holy day of obligation*. Masses are at 7:30, 9, & 11:30 AM. *There are no Vespers or evening Mass.*

¶ 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
5:35 PM Infant of Prague Novena II
5:45 PM High Mass
6:30 PM Sacred Heart Novena

All Night Adoration

First Friday Intention: For our youth: Vocations to the Priesthood & Religious life and for all: Generosity in the practice of the Faith.

Collection Report

Sunday, December 21st.....\$11,229.00
Thank you for your generosity.



¶ FIRST SATURDAY

7:05 AM Rosary,
Confessions

7:30 AM High Mass

8:15 AM Devotions

8:20 AM Benediction

8:30 AM Meditation

8:40 AM Low Mass

First Saturday Intention: Reparation for blasphemies against Our Lady's Divine Maternity, and the refusal of her twin titles of Co-Redemptrix and Mediatrix of Graces.

¶ NEXT SUNDAY

Next Sunday is the feast of the Holy Name of Jesus. Second collection for our Oblates. The **Blessing of Religious Articles** will be available after all Masses. The Little Church will be in the vestibule to receive your alms for poor priests. Sunday Classes resume at 10:40 AM. Vespers with Benediction at 4:45 PM.

📖 **Set Your Missal:** The

Holy Name, second collect Against the Persecutors & Evildoers. Preface of the Nativity. In Low Masses, second collect of the Holy Innocents, third Against the Persecutors & Evildoers.



Poinsettia Memorials

Bishop Daniel L. Dolan
Michael & Catherine Thurlow

Richard VanderRyt, Alan Lotarski
Brendan Lotarski

James & Carol Hesselbrock
Dennis, Anne & Denny Jones
Donna & Dave Jones

Richard & George VanderRyt
Angela Schmidt



Deceased Past Members of SGG Choir
Mike Briggs
AMB



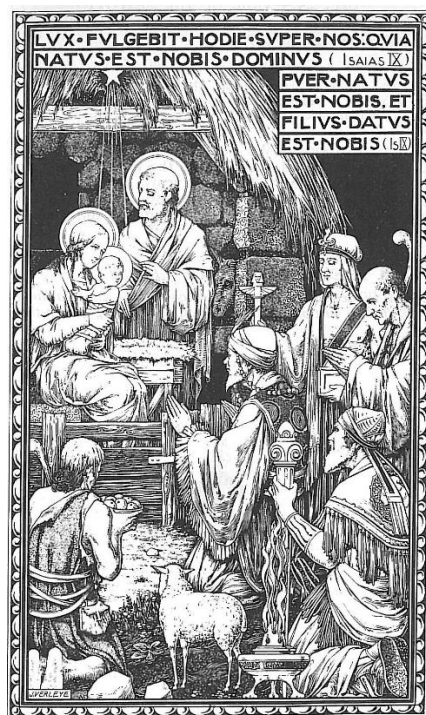
OUR UNION WITH THE HOLY INNOCENTS

Herod Archelaus, who had hunted the Child and would have killed Him, may be compared to the world, which would kill the divine Infant in our souls. From the world we must flee if we would preserve the Child alive within us. Indeed, our own soul is the Child. And when one has fled from the world externally...presently Archelaus rises up and begins to rule interiorly in the soul. It may be that Archelaus can never conquer you; but that is because you shall by the strength of God fortify yourself with great and earnest industry in devout practices; for I assure you that you have many fierce enemies arrayed against you and ready to assail you....

Be sure that if you will ever be blessed you must fly from all this and must, for God's sake, yield yourself up to suffer all things kindly and meekly, whether men treat you justly or unjustly. Leave your vindication to God and the truth and do not defend yourself; and then will the peace of God be born within you, and be spread around you in all patience and love. But if you fail to do this with zeal and earnestness, then is your Archelaus present and he will surely slay the Child, namely, the precious grace of God, within your soul. We know how carefully the humble Joseph enquired, in order to discover if there was anyone near who sought the Child Jesus to kill Him.

And even when all these vices are overcome there yet remain a thousand bands to be broken asunder, and these no one knows but a truly converted man; for Joseph's example teaches us an earnest perseverance in a godly and blessed way of living, together with an ever-growing love of God's will. By such virtues did he most faithfully guard the little Child and His Mother from those who would have killed Him.

— Fr. John Tanler, O.P.



A CHILD IS BORN TO US
THE WORD WAS MADE FLESH.

“A Child is born.” To some He comes on this Christmas Day even in the remorse that follows “There is no room”; to some He comes when their hearts are saddened by a life that has been taken away, and can be gladdened only by a Life that is given; to some He comes when their hearts like conscious mangers cry out “Lord, I am not worthy”; to others He comes as their study of science reminds them that the only star worth studying is the Star that leads to the Maker of the Stars; to others He comes when their hearts are broken, that He might enter in to heal with wings wider than the world; to others He comes in joy amidst the Venite Adoremus of the angels; to others He comes because they are so young they can never remember another Christmas—but to each and every one He comes as if He had never come before in His own sweet way, He the Child Who is born, He...Jesus the Savior, He Emmanuel, He, Christ at Christ's Mass on Christmas—Merry Christmas!!

— Bishop Sheen
“The Fullness of Christ”

THE HOLY INNOCENTS

When Christ was born in Bethlehem,
Fair peace on earth to bring,
In lowly state of love He came
To be the children's King.

And round Him, then, a holy band
Of children blest was born,
Fair guardians of His throne to stand
Attendant night and morn.

And unto them this grace was giv'n
A Savior's name to own,
And die for Him Who out of Heav'n
Had found on earth a throne.

O blessed babes of Bethlehem,
Who died to save our King
Ye share the martyr's diadem,
And in their anthem sing!

Your lips, on earth that never spake,
Now sound th'eternal word;
And in the courts of love ye make
Your children's voices heard.

Lord Jesus Christ, eternal Child;
Make Thou our childhood Thine;
That we with Thee the meek and mild
May share the love divine.

— Laurence Housman



Lumen Christi

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

**Deceased Members of Scanlon/
Tarulli Families (Maureen Scanlon)**

Merry Christmas! This winter feels more like spring, temperature wise. We haven't experienced the "piercing cold" of the midnight stable in Bethlehem this year. But it isn't a white Christmas that brings us true joy, nor presents and stocking stuffers, nor family gatherings, nor Hallmark Christmas shows. It is only Our Lord that can bring true joys. One of the Fathers from Mexico sent me a song just before Christmas. It has more of a modern sound to it, but the message is very good. Throughout the song the question was asked again and again, "Donde ubicaste a Jesus?" The sense of the question is "Where have you put Our Lord in your life?" What place does He hold? It is a song that makes one reflect.

It is nice to be surrounded by people who do try to put Our Lord first in their lives. I was reminded of this by the fact that there were so many people who came to help decorate the church this past Monday. The church was bustling with helpers of all ages! Some of the ladies came the Saturday before last to set up the Nativity scene and it sure does look nice, doesn't it?! I am grateful to all who helped in any way to make this Christmas such a beautiful one—and even more thankful for your edifying example.

The Holy Innocents party is today and it will be nice to see the children again. The church sure is quiet when there is no school, although we have enough to keep us busy around here just with the extra Holy Days, feast days, and celebrations! Fr. McKenna said that we do a lot of fasting around Christmas with the Vigil and the Ember Days—but we more than make up for it during these joyful days of Christmas.

We begin a new year this week. Ask Our Lady of Good Counsel to help you make good resolutions (and to keep them!). All of us have room for improvements, and I am not speaking of just temporal ones, but most importantly the spiritual ones. May we find more time for Our Lord in our lives this year, and may He draw us closer to Himself each and every day. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

— Bishop McGuire



CHRISTMAS IS CHRIST'S MASS

If the mere sight of the place where Jesus was born is capable of inflaming faithful souls with divine love; if the meditation on all that our Infant Savior suffered in the stable of Bethlehem can make hearts overflow with a torrent of holy joy, what should be the delight of our souls at the consideration of the far more wondrous prodigies that take place in the holy Sacrifice of the Mass! There our Savior is born every day in the hands of the priest, by the words of Consecration. The church is His birthplace, the altar is His crib. St. Bernard has well remarked that when the Church reads the martyrology for Christmas day, she uses the present instead of the past tense. At other times she mentions, for instance, the birth of St. John the Baptist, which took place at such a time, or the death of St. Peter, who suffered martyrdom on such a day, but the birth of Our Lord and Savior is proclaimed as taking place now. "*Jesus Christus nascitur in Bethlehem Juda.*" Why this difference of phrase? Because He is every day really and truly born in the holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

An Invitation

Be sure to mark your calendar for
Twelfth Night, Feast of the Epiphany
Tuesday, January 6th

After the 5:30 PM Solemn Mass, all are invited to our parish Christmas party, which honors especially all of our church workers and volunteers. So many hours presented this past year like precious myrrh or fragrant frankincense. God reward the gold of your devotion!



✠ CALENDAR

MON 12/29/25	ST. THOMAS A BECKET, BPM 8:00 AM Low Mass Alfonso T. Capetillo (<i>Nana & Grandpa</i>) 5:30 PM High Mass Christmas Novena V
TUE 12/30/25	RESUMED MASS OF SUNDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE 7:00 AM Low Mass My dear †father – 1 year anniversary of death (<i>Jennifer Richesson</i>) 8:00 AM Low Mass †Kirby Bischel – 1 st Anniversary of Death (<i>Sr. Ulrica</i>) 5:00 PM High Mass Novena VI
WED 12/31/25	ST. SYLESTER I, PC • WITHIN THE OCTAVE VIGIL OF THE CIRCUMCISION • NEW YEAR'S EVE 7:00 AM Low Mass Patrick Caggese – Happy 12 th Birthday (<i>Dad & Mom</i>) 8:00 AM Low Mass †William Egger – 4 th anniversary of death 12/30 (<i>Mary Egger & Lauren Caggese</i>) 11:25 AM High Mass Christmas Novena VII
THU 1/1/26	THE CIRCUMCISION HOLY DAY OCTAVE DAY OF CHRISTMAS • NEW YEAR'S DAY FIRST THURSDAY – PRAY FOR PRIESTS 7:30 AM Low Mass Merry Christmas Godparents (<i>Maria Brueggemann</i>) 9:00 AM High Mass Christmas Novena VIII 11:25 AM Low Mass For the people of St. Gertrude the Great
FRI 1/2/26	FIRST FRIDAY OCTAVE DAY OF ST. STEPHEN • INFANT OF PRAGUE 8:00 AM Low Mass Suzanne Kurtz (<i>Mary Rake</i>) 11:00 AM Confessions 11:25 AM Low Mass, Benediction Vernon Cooley (<i>Doloris Ritzge</i>) 5:00 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 5:15 PM Confessions & Rosary 5:35 PM Infant of Prague Novena II 5:45 PM High Mass Christmas Novena IX 6:30 PM Sacred Heart Novena <i>All Night Adoration</i>
SAT 1/3/26	OCTAVE DAY OF ST. JOHN, APEV FIRST SATURDAY • ST. GENEVIEVE, V 7:05 AM Confessions & Rosary 7:30 AM High Mass †Joseph Belansky (<i>Collin Smith</i>) 8:15 AM Alma, First Saturday Devotions 8:20 AM Benediction 8:30 AM First Saturday Meditation 8:40 AM Low Mass Intentions for Siqueira family – Thank you (<i>Kevin & Phyllis Kiernan</i>)
SUN 1/4/26	THE HOLY NAME OF JESUS OCTAVE DAY OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS, MM 7:05 AM Rosary 7:30 AM Low Mass Innocent victims of war and disasters (<i>Dan & Mary & Family</i>) 9:00 AM High Mass To Our Lady of Guadalupe in Thanksgiving (<i>Joe Druecker</i>) 10:40 AM Catechism Classes

All Night Adoration Guard of Honor January 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: 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

MON 12/29	5:30 PM HIGH: MC: M. Simpson ACS: I. & J. Smith
TUE 12/30	5:00 PM HIGH: MC: S. Richesson ACS: F. & M. Caggese
WED 12/31	11:25 AM HIGH: MC: Seminarian ACS: T. & J. Capetillo
THU 1/1	7:30 AM LOW: Brueggemanns 9:00 AM HIGH: MCS: A. McClorey, D. Simpson TH: M. Simpson ACS: J. Rabjohns, M. Schneider TBS: I. Wright, T. Young, V. Siqueira, J. Smith, B. Constantino, J. Stewart 11:30 AM LOW: Kolenichs
FRI 1/2	11:25 AM LOW: A. & N. McClorey 5:45 PM HIGH: Capetillos
SAT 1/3	7:30 AM HIGH: F. Caggese, B. Constantino BENEDICTION: MCS: D. Simpson, F. Caggese TH: I. Smith ACS: B. Constantino, J. Smith 8:40 AM LOW: I. & J. Smith
SUN 12/7	7:30 AM LOW: M. McConnell, Brueggemann 9:00 AM HIGH: MCS: M. Simpson, N. Kolenich TH: T. England ACS: M. Kolenich, L. Rabjohns TBS: V. Horton, T. Stanislawski, J. Kolenich, Ma. Caggese, A. Constantino, I. Smith 11:30 AM LOW: Capetillos 4:45 PM VESPERS & BENEDICTION: TH: D. Simpson ACS: I. Smith, F. Caggese CROSS: A. Constantino 5:45 PM LOW: D. Simpson

11:05 AM **Rosary**
11:30 AM **Low Mass** The Clergy of SGG (*Tom Gardner*)
4:45 PM **Vespers & Benediction**
5:45 PM **Low Mass** For the people of St. Gertrude the Great

Christmas Poinsettia Memorials

†Kyle & †Mary McGuire
Bishop McGuire

Lorie Mikesell
Michelle Mikesell

John Metz, Leona Wise,
Aunt Annie, Uncle Arnold,
Grandpa Wise & Great
Uncle Joe
Judy Metz

Our Parents:
Paul & Lisa McConnell
Paul & Marlys Arlinghaus
Leo & Katelyn Arlinghaus

Uncle Kenny & Aunt
Regina
Our Grandparents
Leo & Katelyn Arlinghaus

Ralph & Elaine Pawinski
Mr. & Mrs. William H. Young III

Wanda Purcell
Dianne Payne

Lottie Martinez, Mark,
Richard Rentschler, Lucha
Riddering
Lucia Constantino

Alfred Frey
Kathleen Barnett

Peter J. Gebel Jr.
Willa

Paul & Patricia Bender
Dr. Patricia Bender

Deceased Parents
Richard VandeRyt
Mr. & Mrs. Victor Ritze

Mr. & Mrs. Richard
Brueggemann
Mr. & Mrs. Stanley
Schappacher
Anna Brueggemann

Mr. & Mrs. Richard
Brueggemann
Mr. & Mrs. Stanley
Schappacher
Cecilia Brueggemann

Mr. & Mrs. Richard
Brueggemann
Mr. & Mrs. Stanley
Schappacher
Bishop Dolan, Fr. Cekada,
& Fr. Thielen
Dan & Mary Brueggemann

Evelyn Oglesby
Marlene R. Corbin

Margaret & Albert Kinnett
Albert D. Kinnett

Tedd A. Childers
Jane Childers

Helen McDonald
Jason Murray

Frank J. Korzekwinski
Janet Korzekwinski

Eleanor McKeever
Jay McKeever

Fr. James Thielen
Rose, Richard & Steven
Pomaville
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Lotarski

Fr. Francis Finn (1859-1928)
Renee Fernandez

Grandpa & Grandma
Schappacher
Grandpa & Grandma
Brueggemann
Maria Brueggemann

Sean Murray
John & Teresa Boyd

Marko & Zuccaro Families
Bishop Dolan, Fr. Cekada,
Fr. Thielen, Bishop Kelly,
Bishop Williamson and
Faithful of SGG
Dave & MaryAnn Marko

Melvin & Rita Prell
Richard & Elizabeth Smith
Joseph & Elizabeth Prell

Sister Gerard
Stanley & Wilma
Schappacher
Patsy McConnell

Nancy Seyfried
JCS

Our parents Richard &
Martha Brueggemann
Kenneth Gilliam Sr.
Ken & Regina Gilliam

Bishop Dolan, Fr. Cekada &
Katie Bischak
Ken & Regina Gilliam

Fr. Thielen
Fr. Cekada
Stanley & Wilma
Schappacher
Richard & Martha
Brueggemann
John & Julie & Family

Thomas & Mary Lemonda
Thomas & Lois Lemonda

Charlotte & Frank Kiernan
Grace & Michael
Santacroce
Kevin & Phyllis Kiernan

†Wacław and †Zuzanna
Kuzik
Zenon Kuzik

Lillian Cunningham
Brent Keith

For the clergy and the good
people of SGG
Michael & Margaret
Gilmartin Jr.
Peter & Mary Rose
Gilmartin
Dr. Thomas Gilmartin

Patricia Anne Oleksa
Son, Michael Oleksa

My parents:
Barbara & Ernie Stump
Rebecca

Alfredo Sr. & Radigunda
Lourdes Mabutas
Alfredo Mabutas Jr.

Daniel Dismas McCarthy
Elenora McCarthy Larkin

Bishop Dolan
Fr. Cekada
Angelo & Mildred Zurich
Frank & Gizella Kobza
Richard & Eleanor Kobza
David J. Kobza

Frank Breitfeller
Dennis Clappin
Donald Edward Scanlon, Sr.
Maureen Scanlon

James Hanna Jr.
Helen & Michael Oleyar
Jim & Ruth Hanna
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Oleyar

For all the Poor Souls may
they rest in peace
Patrick Bright, Tony
Cooper, & Quinn family
Little Lucy, Little Michael,
Ane, & Joey
Dad, Delores, Quadalupe,
all Moses family
Austine, Ethel, & Maria
AA

Joseph & Marianne
Belansky
Collin Smith

All our family departed
Steven & Victoria Cerise

Deceased Relatives of Our
Family
Mr. & Mrs. C. Simpson

Gene & Ruth Reaux
Constantino Family

Ralph, Patricia & Sharon
Patton
Patton/Moore Family

Henry James (Jimmy)
Connor
Henry (Hank) & Anthony
Cinotti
Irena Uderska

Jim & Edie Phelan (My
Parents)
*James J. Phelan III & Julia
Phelan*

Isabel Brandenburg
The Oblates

Ryan Greenwell & Brian
McMahon
Anne & Denis McMahon
Colleen Greenwell

Bonnie Otten
Bob & Becky Uhlenbrock

†Dennis Hille
J. Hille

Kirby & Jean Bischel, Uncle
Billy Hable, Aunt Monica,
Carl McClorey
The Dean McClorey Family

Quinn Family, and all the
religious
Sister Joseph Marie,
Kathyren, Leo, Jessie, Mr.
Vogel, and all friends

Father William Powers,
Father Stovik, Ernest
Quintana, Marty Lee
Martinez
Penny Ann Quintana