

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)
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EMERGENCY LINE: (513) 509-0424

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

March 1, 2026

LENT II

ST. DAVID, BPC

*The Holy
Lance*



¶ TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

The Second Collection is for our Oblates today. The Blessing of Religious Articles is available after all Masses. The "Little Church" is in the vestibule to receive your alms for priests. Catechism Classes are at 10:40 AM, **Short Stations at 11:15 AM**. Vespers with Benediction at 4:45 PM.

¶ CLASSROOM FOR MOTHERS

The last classroom on the right is reserved for *nursing mothers and their babies*. Fathers, please take note.

In addition, please do not:

- Use it as a social room
- Allow unsupervised children to enter
- Allow them to write on the chalkboards or bang on the keyboard, or mess with our expensive computers and monitors
- Neither children nor adults are allowed in any of the other classrooms
- If your child leaves a mess (ham and cheese, for example) please clean it up, so the teachers don't have to the next day.

¶ VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED!

Almost all the Lenten Friday suppers have been taken. Thank you for your help! Volunteers are still needed for **March 20 & 27**. Sign up on the Lotsa Helping Hands website, or contact the office.

¶ DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

Daylight Saving Time begins next Sunday. Be sure to put your clocks *forward* one hour Saturday night.



¶ FIRST THURSDAY

Holy Hour for Priests at 5 PM, followed by the altar boys' pizza and game night.



Lenten Friday Evening of Recollection

- 5:45 PM** Low Mass
6:30 PM Sacred Heart Novena,
Lenten Supper: *Tuna sandwiches, mac & cheese, fruit*
7:30 PM Stations, Meditation,
Sorrowful Mother Novena,
Blessing of the Sick
8:30 PM (approx.) Holy Communion

¶ FIRST FRIDAY

- 8:00 AM** Low Mass
10:50 AM Confessions
11:25 AM Low Mass, Benediction
12:25 PM Vespers
5:00 PM Exposition
5:15 PM Confessions & Rosary
5:45 PM Low Mass
6:30 PM Sacred Heart Novena, Supper
7:30 PM Stations, Meditation,
Sorrowful Mother Novena
8:30 PM (approx.) Holy Communion
All Night Adoration

First Friday Intention: In reparation for our lukewarm adoration and for false worship.

¶ FIRST SATURDAY

- 7:05 AM** Confessions & Rosary
7:30 AM High Mass
8:10 AM Ave, First Saturday Devotions
8:20 AM Benediction, Meditation
8:40 AM Low Mass
First Saturday Intention: In reparation for blasphemies against the Immaculate Conception.

¶ NEXT SUNDAY

Catechism Classes will be at 10:40 AM, **Short Sunday Stations at 11:15 AM**. Vespers with Benediction at 4:45 PM.
Set Your Missal: Lent III, second collect of St. John of God, third of Our Lady and all the Saints. Trinity Preface.

¶ FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

The cutoff date for First Communion enrollments is fast approaching. Your enrollment form must be submitted to the office by **March 28th**. Contact the office to receive the form and necessary information if you would like your child to be Confirmed and receive First Holy Communion this year.

A KINGDOM UNITED IN CHRIST

...Our Lord was offered, or rather offered Himself, for us to God His Father as an offering, an oblation of sweet odor. What divine fragrance He spread before the Divine Majesty when He instituted the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar, where He so admirably demonstrated to us the greatness of His love! This act of incomprehensible perfection, by which He gave Himself to us who were His enemies and who caused Him His death, was an infinitely sweet fragrance. At the same time, He bestowed on us the means to reach the supreme degree of union which He desired for us, namely, to be made one with Him as He and His Father are one. – *St. Francis de Sales*



HIS HEART

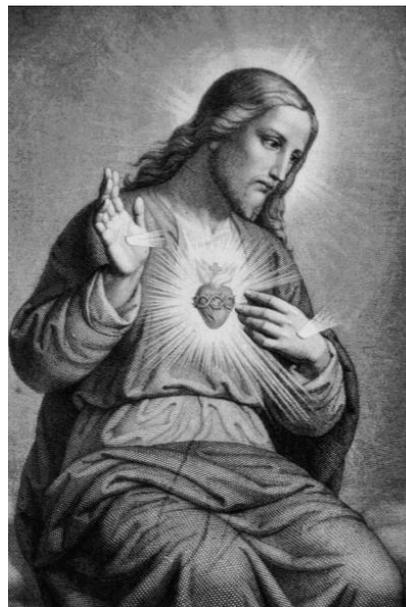
There is a morbid tendency in persons disposed to melancholy, and but little filled with the love of God, to approach Jesus with fear and trembling, as though in the presence of an inexorable and pitiless judge—His Heart, on the contrary, contains such a wealth of compassion for our miseries, that no one will ever be able to exhaust it, for the more wretched we are rendered by sin, the more is He drawn to pity us. St. Paul says that the Pontiff of our faith is not of such a nature as not to be able to feel compassion for us, and is therefore in this far removed from the Pharisees in the Gospel, who laid insupportable and fantastic burdens on the people, which instead of assisting them to advance, crushed them in the way. Experience shows that the most faulty and imperfect souls are always those who expect the most of others, whilst those who are truly full of the love of God are ever loving and compassionate towards their neighbor.

– *Cardinal Schuster*



Our Beloved Dead – March

Lucy G. Meyer	3-03-1988
Eldon Neukam	3-03-2021
Catherine J. Bischak	3-05-2005
Ralph J. Otis	3-08-2022
Claude E. Charles	3-10-1990
John J. Kolb	3-10-2004
Sean Murray	3-12-2022
Robert Duff	3-13-2013
Richard VandeRyt	3-16-2020
Margaret Sandmayr	3-17-2006
Owen M. Zver	3-17-2021
Dorothy B. Spicer	3-18-1986
Marilyn L. Ryan	3-21-1997
Howard Elmlinger	3-22-1990
Williams J. Smith	3-25-2003
Mary Rose Peter	3-26-2017
Margaret Soli	3-30-2017



¶ **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Ladies' Lenten Retreat: Saturday, March 14. Fliers in vestibule!
St. Joseph's Day: Thursday, March 19
Altar Boys Day: Saturday, March 21
Lenten Children's Day of Recollection: Wednesday, March 25

Collection Report

Sunday, February 22nd.....\$7,719.00
 St. Valentine's Bake Sale.....\$803.00
 Thank you for your generosity. Remember St. Gertrude the Great in your will.

A LOWLY HEART

Thy home is with the humble, Lord!
 The simplest are the best,
 Thy lodging is in child-like hearts;
 Thou makest there Thy rest.

Dear Comforter! Eternal Love!
 If Thou wilt stay with me,
 Of lowly thoughts and simple ways
 I'll build a house for Thee.

Who made this beating heart of mine
 But Thou, my heavenly guest?
 Let no one have it, then, but Thee,
 And let it be Thy rest.

– *Lyra Catholica*



MONTH OF ST. JOSEPH

Hail, thou precious month! no need we
 Say why thou art always dear,
 Why, save winsome May, thou'rt
 dearest
 To our hearts, of all the year.

Glorious Patron, dear Saint Joseph!
 Well thou knowest why, to-day,
 We accord thee loving homage,
 And humble tributes pay.

We have culled the spotless lily,
 Placed it at thy sainted feet;
 None, among our springtime
 offerings,
 For thine image seems so meet.

Purer far than e'en its fragrance,
 Whiter than its petals too,
 Was thy human heart, Saint Joseph,
 Holy heart of stainless hue.

✠ THE BISHOP'S NOTE ✠

A week and a half of our Lenten season has already passed. It might have seemed slow, but it will be Passiontide and Holy Week before we know it! Don't let it slip by without doing something extra for Our Lord. Every year we say the same thing during Holy Week: "Lent has gone by so fast and I have let another one pass by without profit to my soul." We all know that feeling of regret and sorrow. History repeats itself unless we stay vigilant and strive to change. We are beginning the second full week of this sacred season and it is not too late to start putting our resolutions into practice. If we do so right now, we can avoid the monotonous rerun in our end-of-Lent discussions and be able to celebrate with more joy the Easter victory with Our Lord.

Lent is a time of grace. It is also a time of trial. Besides the sacrifices that we plan out for ourselves and those which Holy Mother Church makes obligatory, many others come to us unexpectedly. It has always been this way, in my experience. The devil causes all sorts of mischief during this time to distract us from making good use of it. Often enough, his tactic works. We should prepare ourselves for trial, as we were instructed in last Sunday's Gospel. If trial comes, we should not allow it to distract us, but we should strive by God's grace to make good use of it so that it brings us closer to God.

Mexico, the land of Our Lady of Guadalupe, is going through a rough and rocky stretch right now, as I'm sure you have seen in the news. The drug cartels have been setting fires, placing blockades in the highways, and causing all kinds of chaotic disruption. Our priests and their Faithful have not been harmed, thankfully, but the danger is quite close to some of them. **Fr. Benegas** had to reschedule his return from Argentina to Mexico because of the chaos. **Fr. Sebastian** said that the cartel set a bus on fire just a half mile from his rectory and that he could not return to Guadalajara from his mission in Colima because the highways were blocked. **Fr. Martín** said that there is no harm being done in Dos Ríos, but that the nearby town of Orizaba (where he used to lodge Bishop Dolan and now me) is in turmoil. They are very prayerful about this frightening situation and are confident that this will soon die down. May Our Lady watch over our priests and bring all of this to a happy ending.

Fr. McKenna came home from his latest mission trip a little worse for wear. Normally, he isn't significantly affected by long trips. A day to recover when he gets back and he is ready to go. This time required a

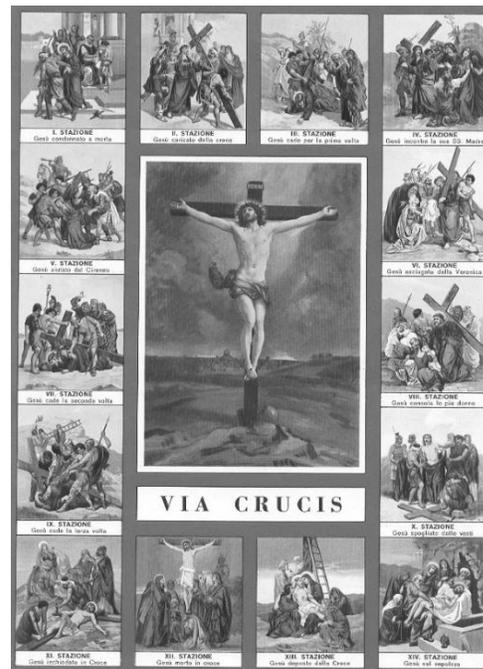
little more time, so he is staying with us this weekend and **Fr. Brueggemann** is replacing him in Dallas. Well, Father does say he is getting old. I kid him about this all the time, but 41 is not old and he still is quite youthful! Young Fr. Brueggemann has spent a lot of time on the road lately. I think he has been gone for the last five Sundays, which is unusual for him.

There is no other significant news to report this week, so I will leave you now, with an assurance of my prayers for a grace-filled Lent. May St. Gertrude, our Lenten patroness, intercede for you...and may we all learn from her example!

— Bishop McGuire



THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS



The pious exercise of the Stations of the Cross is a continued meditation on the passion of Our Lord. To it innumerable indulgences have been annexed by the Sovereign Pontiffs, even the same as those of the Via Crucis in Jerusalem, or other places of the Holy Land, whence it appears

how profitable this exercise must be to the Holy Souls. We read in the life of the Venerable Mary of Antigua that a nun of her convent, having died, appeared to her, and said: "Why is it that you do not offer for me and for the other souls the Stations of the Cross?" The servant of God remained in suspense at these words, when she heard Our Lord say to her: "The exercise of the Way of the Cross is so profitable to the souls in Purgatory that this soul has come to ask it of you in the name of all. The Via Crucis is a suffrage of great importance for these souls. By offering it for them you will have them as so many protectors, who will pray for you and defend your cause before My justice. Tell your sisters to rejoice in this treasure and the precious capital they have in it, that they may profit by it."

Come to Stations!

✠ CALENDAR

MON	3/2/26	FERIAL DAY
	8:00 AM	Low Mass Patty Zwick, Happy Birthday (<i>Love, Mom & Dad</i>)
	11:25 AM	High Mass Healing of Kasia Bernardini (<i>Hanna Mays</i>)
	12:25 PM	Vespers
TUE	3/3/26	FERIAL DAY
	7:00 AM	Low Mass †Tom Simpson – Birthday Remembrance 12/6 (<i>C. Simpson family</i>)
	8:00 AM	Low Mass Poor Souls (<i>Smith family</i>)
	11:25 AM	High Mass For all who cook for us and for our devoted drivers (<i>The Fathers</i>)
	12:25 PM	Vespers
	5:00 PM	Low Mass †Kirby Bischel – 1 st anniversary (<i>Matthew Hardin</i>)
WED	3/4/26	FIRST WEDNESDAY – Pray to St. Joseph ST. CASIMIR, C • ST. LUCIUS I, PM
	7:00 AM	Low Mass Special Intention (<i>S. Kurtz</i>)
	8:00 AM	Low Mass Pedro & Liz DeAraujo (<i>The Kolenich Family</i>)
	11:25 AM	High Mass Special Intention – St. Joseph (<i>Michelle Mikesell</i>)
	12:25 PM	Vespers
	3:00 PM	Children's Stations, Holy Communion
	5:10 PM	Low Mass Alyssa Smith (<i>Collin Smith</i>)
THU	3/5/26	FIRST THURSDAY – Pray for Priests FERIAL DAY
	7:00 AM	Low Mass Teresita Marquez (<i>Maria McConnell</i>)
	8:00 AM	Low Mass In Thanksgiving for answered prayer (<i>Judy</i>)
	11:25 AM	High Mass †David Weber (<i>Rebecca Hinton</i>)
	12:25 PM	Vespers
	5:00 PM	Holy Hour for Priests: Low Mass For the sanctification of priests (<i>Alter Christus Confraternity</i>) Altar Boys' Pizza Party
FRI	3/6/26	FIRST FRIDAY • SS. PERPETUA & FELICITY, MM <i>THE HOLY SHROUD</i>
	8:00 AM	Low Mass Mrs. Richesson – Thank you! (<i>The Oblate Sisters</i>)
	10:50 AM	Confessions
	11:25 AM	Low Mass Brendan Lotarski (<i>Doloris Ritze</i>) Benediction
	12:25 PM	Vespers
	5:00 PM	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	5:15 PM	Confessions & Rosary
	5:45 PM	Low Mass Julie Brueggemann – easy delivery & healthy baby (<i>Anna Brueggemann</i>)
	6:30 PM	Sacred Heart Novena, Lenten Supper
	7:30 PM	Stations of the Cross, Sermon, Sorrowful Mother Novena VI, Blessing of the Sick
	8:30 PM	(approx.) Distribution of Holy Communion <i>All Night Adoration</i>
SAT	3/7/26	FIRST SATURDAY • ST. THOMAS AQUINAS, CD
	7:05 AM	Confessions, Rosary

All Night Adoration Guard of Honor

March 2026

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

FRI 3/6 5:45 PM **LOW:** M. Simpson, A. Constantino

SAT 3/7 7:30 AM **HIGH:** I. Smith, B. Constantino
BENEDICTION: MC: D. Simpson **TH:** A. Constantino **TBS:** I. Smith, B. Constantino
8:40 AM LOW: C. Lorenz

SUN 3/8 7:30 AM **LOW:** M. Schneider, Brueggemann
9:00 AM HIGH: MCS: T. Lawrence, N. McClorey **TH:** M. Simpson
ACS: I. Smith, F. Caggese **TBS:** T. Stanislawski, V. Horton, J. Smith, B. Constantino, I. & D. Wright
11:30 AM LOW: Kolenichs
4:45 PM VESPERS & BENEDICTION: TH: D. Simpson **ACS:** I. Smith, A. Constantino **CROSS:** B. Constantino
5:45 PM LOW: P. McClorey

7:30 AM High Mass Bernardo Siqueira – Happy Birthday! (*Mom & Dad*)

8:10 AM Ave Regina, First Saturday Devotions

8:20 AM Benediction

8:30 AM First Saturday Meditation

8:40 AM Low Mass Gemma Horton – Happy Birthday (*Mom & Dad*)

Sodality of Charity Meeting

SUN 3/8/26 LENT III • ST. JOHN OF GOD, C

7:05 AM Rosary

7:30 AM Low Mass Victor Ritze (*Doloris Ritze*)

9:00 AM High Mass Thou Knowest, O Lord (*Arlinghaus Family*)

10:40 AM Catechism Classes

11:15 AM Short Stations of the Cross

11:30 AM Low Mass Reparations for the offenses to the Blessed Virgin Mary (*Boyd family*)

4:45 PM Vespers & Benediction

5:45 PM Low Mass For the people of St. Gertrude the Great

Monday in Lent II

Reading: By act, not less forcibly than word, did Gertrude manifest the humility of her heart. “Abbess of the monastery for forty years,” writes one of her companions, “she was most faithful in her attentions to the infirm, recreating with them as a mother with her children, and never hesitating to perform the lowest and most menial offices for them. She was first to sweep the house; and for a long time, this part of the manual work she did entirely, until the example of her humility had vanquished the repugnance of the Sisters to share it.”

Thought: Do I take initiative when it comes to the unpleasant chores around the house? Or do I wait to see if someone else will volunteer first?

Resolution: I will do the work that no one likes to do...and without complaining either internally or externally.

Tuesday in Lent II

Reading: Gertrude wished to please the most innocent Heart of Jesus; and she took great pains to preserve the lily of virginity in all its whiteness and fragrance. Those who were best acquainted with her, attest that she never looked upon a man’s face, so that by the countenance alone she could never have recognized even those who visited her most frequently.

Examination: Do I allow my eyes to wander? Do I find it difficult to discipline my eyes? Do I allow myself to look at things forbidden by God’s Commandments?

Resolution: I will practice a modest custody of the eyes today. I will not watch TV or look at social media today.

Wednesday in Lent II

Reading: “Each time that the Sister recited any words referring to the chastity of the Blessed Virgin, such as these: *‘Domus pudici pectoris; clausa parentis viscera,’* etc., all the Saints rose up, and revered her as their Queen and Mistress, returning most fervent thanks to God for all the favors which He had granted to men through her. The Archangel Gabriel appeared also as if arrayed in a new brilliancy each time that the Annunciation was mentioned, which was effected by his ministry; and at the name of St. Joseph, the spouse of the Virgin Mother, all the Saints made a profound inclination to him, testifying, by the serenity and sweetness of their looks, that they rejoiced with him for exalted dignity.”

– *The Life and Revelations of St. Gertrude*

Resolution: I will offer one extra decade of the Rosary in honor of St. Joseph.

Thursday in Lent II

Reading: One day St. Gertrude offered a painful duty to the Eternal Father, saying: “Lord, I offer Thee this action through Thy

only Son, in the power of the Holy Ghost, for Thy eternal glory.” And it was made known to her that this intention gave an extraordinary value and price to her work, and elevated it above a mere human action; and that this offering was very agreeable to God the Father. And even as objects appear green when seen through green glass, or red when seen through red glass, so all that is offered to the Eternal Father through His only Son becomes most pleasing and acceptable to Him.

Resolution: To offer any disagreeable duty to God using St. Gertrude’s words: “Lord, I offer Thee this action through Thy only Son, in the power of the Holy Ghost, for Thy eternal glory.” If you cannot remember the prayer, simply say: “All for Thee, Jesus.”

Friday in Lent II

The Holy Shroud

Meditation: Our Lord said to St. Gertrude: “It would be useful for men to know the advantage they will derive from remembering constantly that I, the Son of the Virgin, stand always before God the Father, so that if they should, through human weakness, commit a sin, I offer God My spotless Heart for them; if they sin again, I offer God My spotless Heart for them; if they sin again, I offer Him My pierced hands; and it is the same for all the other sins they commit; My innocence appeases the Father’s anger. If they remember this, they will repent and without difficulty obtain forgiveness. For this reason I desire that My elect, when they have had their sins

forgiven, should render Me continual thanksgiving because they have been so easily heard.”

Prayer: O Lord Jesus, compassionate Pelican, Who hast cleansed us unclean in Thine own Blood, I give Thee thanks for the sweet and adorable Wound of love which Thou didst receive on the cross, when Thine all-conquering love opened Thy sweet-flowing Side, and wounded Thy most sacred Heart with an arrow of love. Blessed forever be that life-giving stroke and that most hallowed Wound; and blessed be the adorable Blood, and the water of salvation which gushed forth from it, to wash away all our sins! Wash me, unclean, O compassionate Jesus, in that cleansing water; anoint my feeble soul, and quicken it with that sacred Blood; and grant that at my last hour my portion and heritage may be but one drop of that divine stream. O most loving Jesus, by Thy pierced Heart, I pray Thee, wound my heart with that arrow of love; so that nothing of earth may abide in it more, but that it be filled with Thy glowing love alone forever. Amen.

Saturday in Lent II

Reading: Gertrude celebrated Our Lady’s festivals with a joyful heart, and on these days expected special favors from her beloved Mother. Mary herself more than once condescended to associate the humble virgin with her in the joys of her Divine Maternity. From Christmas to Candlemas, Gertrude received so many tokens of love from the

Divine Child and His Blessed Mother that without supernatural aid her heart could scarcely have borne the excess of love and grace.

Resolution: To spend fifteen minutes in meditation on a mystery of the Rosary; to recite five decades of the Rosary; and to receive Holy Communion in reparation for the offenses committed against Our Lady.

Third Sunday of Lent

“Brethren, be ye followers of God, as most dear children; and walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us...” – Today’s Epistle

Reading: The human heart is like a fire beneath a furnace. A perpetual fuel is necessary to keep it burning, a constant draught must always fan it. Gertrude understood this law of love. For this reason she had constant recourse to the Sacred Heart, this divine fire of charity, in order to draw from it new fervor, and on her side she made continual efforts to love more.

Resolution: I will ask the Sacred Heart each day to increase my love for Him, since at the end of our life we will all be judged on charity.

Prayer: Heart of Jesus, burning with love of us, inflame our hearts with love of Thee.
(1 time)

Sweet Heart of Jesus, be my love; Sweet Heart of Mary, be my salvation. *(3 times)*

Lent with St. Gertrude the Great



Daily Thoughts and Prayers Lent 2026

Daily short morning offering for Lent:
“Lord, I offer Thee my actions through Thy only Son, in the power of the Holy Ghost, for Thy eternal glory.” – St. Gertrude