

# 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

EMERGENCY LINE: (513) 509-0424

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

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

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traditionalmass.org

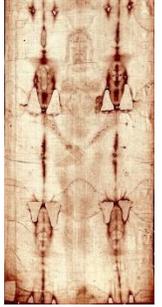


**March 8, 2026**

*The Shroud of Turin*

**LENT III**

**ST. JOHN OF GOD, C**



## ¶ THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Catechism Classes are at 10:40 AM. Have you made it to the **Short Stations** yet this Lent? Every Sunday at **11:15 AM**. Vespers & Benediction at 4:45.

## ¶ FUNERAL FOR †VICTOR RITZE

Please pray for the repose of the soul of longtime-parishioner †Victor Ritze, who died last week. His visitation is **today** (March 8) at Frederick Funeral Home, 2253 Banning Rd., 2 PM-5 PM. His Requiem Mass is on **Monday** at 11:25 AM, with rosary preceding at 11 AM. Burial follows the Mass at Gate of Heaven Cemetery.

## ¶ LADIES' RETREAT

The Ladies' Lenten Retreat is this weekend, **Friday** evening through **Saturday** evening. Those who have registered should arrive for Mass and devotions at 5:15 on Friday, and return Saturday morning at 8:05 AM.

## Congratulations

to Matthew & Leanne Giese on the baptism of their son, Felix Henry, on Sunday, March 1, and to Joshua & Elizabeth Gunsher on the baptism of their daughter, Hilary Everild, on Thursday, March 5.



**NO VAPING IN THE MEN'S ROOM OR ANYWHERE INSIDE THE CHURCH. THANK YOU!**



*St. John of God, pray for us!*

## Lenten Friday Evening of Recollection

**5:45 PM** Low Mass

**6:30 PM** Sacred Heart Novena,

Lenten Supper: *Eggplant Parm, fruit, Caesar salad, bread*

**7:30 PM** Stations, Sermon, Sorrowful Mother Novena, Blessing of the Sick, Benediction

**8:30 PM** (approx.) Holy Communion

## ¶ NEXT SUNDAY: LAETARE

Next Sunday marks the halfway point of Lent, "Laetare" or *Rejoice* Sunday. The Blessing of Expectant Mothers will be available after all Masses. 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 IV, second collect of Our Lady and all the Saints, third for the Living and the Dead. Trinity Preface.

## ¶ VOLUNTEERS 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.

## Lumen Christi

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

**For Pope Pius XII**

*(Patrick Curry)*

## Collection Report

Sunday, March 1st.....\$7,163.00  
Second collection.....\$3,060.00

## BOOKSTORE SPECIAL DEAL

**Buy 2 or more 5" unpainted saint statues at \$12 each**  
(regularly \$15)

**FIND YOUR SAINT TODAY!**

*Painted statues are still \$24*

HOW TO RESIST

We ought to protect ourselves from temptation by assiduous work, by keeping our thoughts fixed upon God, and by continual self-conquest.



In order to hold a fortress against the enemy two things are necessary: (1) Strong fortifications and well-guarded gates; (2) In case of attack, valiant defense. In like manner we must protect our soul, to prevent the entrance of the evil enemy. Our fortifications will be: Continual occupation; this is the surest means of holding temptations aloof. Thieves do not break into a house where work is going on. Idleness is the parent of crime. We shall also find it easy to resist temptation, if we keep our mind fixed on God. A traveler journeying towards a fixed destination meets with few difficulties on his way, whereas the vagrant, wandering hither and thither, is sure to get in trouble. So it is with the Christian who makes God his final end, and one who has no aim in life. Hence Christ exhorts us: "Watch ye and pray, that you enter not into temptation" (*Matt. xxxvi. 41*). Wolves do not approach a watch fire and the devil leaves those alone who are on their guard. When Moses stood with arms uplifted to God, Israel was victorious; but when through weariness he let them fall, that moment the enemy prevailed. The majority of the sins good people commit come from forgetfulness of God's presence; the habit of self-control also greatly helps us to conquer temptation. He who is accustomed to repress his impulses is like a soldier, well-trained in the use of arms before he goes to battle. Practice in self-conquest strengthens the will. But attachments to creatures makes a man an easy prey for the devil; just as one who carries a heavy load cannot run away when robbers attack him.

ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT  
THE MYSTERY OF THE CROSS

The evening of that same day, the saint, mindful of how our Lord left Jerusalem to seek a resting-place with Marth and Mary at Bethany, threw herself at the foot of a crucifix, kissing devoutly the wound in His side and begging Him, by all the prayers which issued from His Sacred Heart, to deign to come into the poor lodging of her soul.

Straightaway came the answer: "I am here; what are you going to give Me?" Gertrude hastened to salute Him saying, "Welcome, O my only good, my all, my salvation, welcome! But alas! I have nothing prepared, wretched that I am, which is worthy to be offered to Thy Divine Majesty. Yet, I give Thee all that I have, begging and beseeching Thee to prepare in me Thyself all that Thou wouldst find well-pleasing to Thee."

"If you really desire Me to be quite at home in your heart," replied our Lord, "give Me the key, so that I can take or arrange everything just as it pleases Me, and find there My rest and refreshment."

"And what is this key, dear Lord?" queried the saint.

"Your self-will," He answered.

Her biographer goes on to say that this word of our Savior made Gertrude understand that if a soul would have Jesus to dwell within her she must abandon herself wholly to His good pleasure and have no will but His, trusting Him to do everything for her good and accepting from Him all that happens. Then will He take full possession of the soul and accomplish therein all that pleases or delights Him.



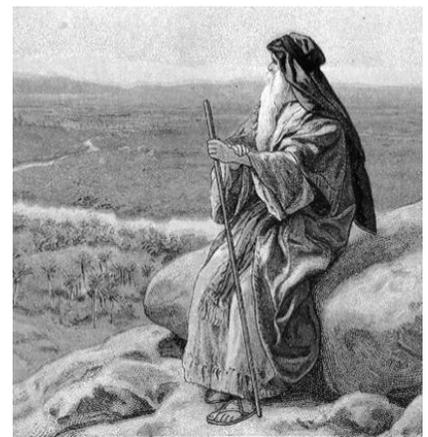
MEEKNESS OF MOSES

Moses, the patriot fierce, became  
The meekest man on earth  
To show us how love's quickening  
flame  
Can give our souls new birth.

Moses, the man of meekest heart,  
Lost Canaan by self-will,  
To show, where grace has done its  
part,  
How sin defiles us still.

Thou who hast taught me in Thy fear,  
Yet seest me frail at best,  
Oh, grant me loss with Moses here,  
To gain his future rest.

— John Henry Newman



ACT OR REACT?

A cordial greeting invites a cordial response and a grievous answer often stirs up anger. We tend to react to situations in the same manner in which we are approached. Instead of being upset and being on the defensive by answering a grouch with an unpleasant remark, it is possible to take the initiative and offer a pleasant comment. In this way we do not react to situations in kind, possibly heaping irritation upon annoyance, but we take the offensive and act as we should. We should not respond in such a way that others determine how we are going to act. Positive actions are better than negative reactions. Who knows how much evil has been overcome with good?

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## ✠ THE BISHOP'S NOTE ✠

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With the melting of the snow and the deluge of rain that we have been getting the church grounds have become, in their usual spots around the Rosary path and up by the rectory, little ponds. It is entertaining to watch the cats tip-toe around all the water and mud. Pretty soon we might be seeing ducks coming over for a swim! Black Cat seems to have hurt himself again. Thankfully, it's not severe, but he is limping a bit. Fat Cat is the same as always. They are good company, but a little annoying at times. Now that they get cooped up indoors during the rain, they sure do fight an awful lot—but I guess it can be the same with people! The forecast calls for sun and warm weather, and getting outdoors will help both animals and rational animals alike. Get outside some this week!

Tomorrow, we have our second funeral in as many weeks. Victor Ritze died the Saturday before last. He was a longtime parishioner, one who loved the Sacred Heart and remained faithful to his post as part of the First Friday Guard of Honor. He had the Holy Hour from 3 to 4 a.m., took a short nap, and then attended the 7:30 Mass. He did this for years! He had a strong constitution. Several times over the years, we thought he was dying. In fact, he was anointed at least four times for different illnesses. Our blessed Lord decided that now was the time for him to enter eternity—and He ensured Victor was well prepared with all of the Sacraments. May he rest in peace!

**Fr. Lehtoranta** has applied for U.S. citizenship. All seems to be going well in that regard. He is traveling to our state capital on Monday after the funeral Mass to complete another step in the process. Father knows more about our country's history than most of us do. I think the Civil War is one of his favorite subjects, but at dinner he often tells the priests some facts about former presidents that none of us knew. Say a prayer that everything goes well and that the citizenship process doesn't take too long.

Mothers, don't forget the CMC retreat this weekend. We had a very good attendance last year, and I hope that this year's will be at least as good. Your vocation doesn't leave you much time to reflect at length or spend much time in prayer, so this will hopefully provide the much-needed time and give your soul the rest and refreshment it needs. There will be a few spiritual talks, Mass, devotions, and of course, plenty of time for quiet prayer. There will also be some time for a little private spiritual direction if anyone requests it.

**Bishop Nkamuke** and his priests are staying quite busy with schools and missions and a seminary. **Fr. Benegas** returned to Mexico from Argentina last Friday. There has been no more news from our priests in Mexico (no news is good news, I suppose). **Fr. Ercoli** says things at our seminary are going well. **Fr. Simpson** is working on getting the siding fixed at the convento, and the church re-roofed, and the cloister floor completed. There was some

rain damage in our bookstore which will soon be fixed. Marlys suggested plans to extend the bookstore by a few feet. It seems like a good idea. The rectory project is moving along at a snail's pace, but progress is being made.

Whew! That is a lot of news. Lent has been extraordinarily busy. Has it been so for you, too? If so, the key to remember is not to get so distracted by the work that you forget to work on your soul! Keep that in mind and you will share in the Easter joys, both in time and in eternity. St. Gertrude the Great, pray for us!

– Bishop McGuire



### MODESTY & FASHIONS Think you know it already? You may still need a refresher!

At Fatima, Portugal in 1917, the Blessed Virgin Mary condemned in advance the pagan fashions of our day, warning us: *“Certain fashions will be introduced that will offend our Lord very much.”* At a later date, Our Blessed Mother made known what standards of modesty in dress she requires of women and girls, through the Holy Father, Pope Pius XI, her Divine Son's Vicar, who set this norm:

**“A dress cannot be called decent which is cut deeper than two fingers' breadth under the pit of the throat, which does not cover the arms at least to the elbows; and scarcely reaches a bit beyond the knees. Furthermore, dresses of transparent materials are improper...”** *By Donato, Cardinal Sbaretti, Pref. of Congregation of the Council; Feast of the Holy Family, Jan. 12, 1930.*

Until this mandate from the Holy See, as to what constitutes modesty in dress, is revised, modified or rescinded by the Holy See itself, **these minimum standards are binding on everyone**, regardless of any opinions to the contrary held by so many people these days—even within the Church.

One hardly needs to add (or perhaps one does?) that tight, or “form-fitting” clothing, is contrary to the very concept of modesty itself, and is not permitted. In doubt, err on the side of caution.

**N.B. Q:** *What about “modest” pants? No mention is made in the above.*

**A:** Pants on women weren't a fashion until after WWII, after the above mandate was made. Certainly given the above standards, pants on women would have been a fashion **not approved** for Christian women. **Yoga pants or leggings worn by themselves are very immodest and are definitely not approved for Christian women.**

**N.B. It seems that tight-fitting pants for men have become “trendy.” But these, too, are immodest and should not be worn at home, or in public—and especially not at church.**

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<b>MON</b>	<b>3/9/26</b>	<b>ST. FRANCES OF ROME, W • ST. DOMINIC SAVIO, C</b>
	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>Low Mass</b> James (KR)
	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>Rosary</b>
	<b>11:25 AM</b>	<b>Requiem High Mass</b> †Victor Ritze <b>Absolution</b> <b>Burial at Gate of Heaven Cemetery</b>
<b>TUE</b>	<b>3/10/26</b>	<b>FORTY HOLY MARTYRS</b>
	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>Low Mass</b> Happy Birthday, Theresa! ( <i>The Fathers</i> ) (from 3/7)
	<b>11:25 AM</b>	<b>High Mass</b> †Katie Bischak ( <i>The Wilker &amp; Stafford Families</i> )
	<b>12:25 PM</b>	<b>Vespers</b>
<b>WED</b>	<b>3/11/26</b>	<b>FERIAL DAY</b>
	<b>7:00 AM</b>	<b>Low Mass</b> Julie Brueggemann – easy delivery & healthy baby ( <i>Cecilia Brueggemann</i> )
	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>Low Mass</b> †Ann Garrison, Birthday Remembrance ( <i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Mark Lotarski</i> )
	<b>11:25 AM</b>	<b>Requiem High Mass</b> Purgatorial Society
	<b>12:25 PM</b>	<b>Vespers</b>
	<b>3:00 PM</b>	<b>Children's Stations, Holy Communion</b>
	<b>5:10 PM</b>	<b>Low Mass</b> †Peter J. Gebel Jr., Happy Birthday ( <i>Willa</i> )
<b>THU</b>	<b>3/12/26</b>	<b>ST. GREGORY THE GREAT, PCD</b>
	<b>7:00 AM</b>	<b>Low Mass</b> †Mrs. Ann Garrison ( <i>Clare Lotarski</i> ) (from 3/11)
	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>Low Mass</b> Jesus & Mary – Thank You ( <i>S. Kurtz</i> )
	<b>11:25 AM</b>	<b>High Mass</b> In honor of our Infant King
	<b>12:25 PM</b>	<b>Vespers</b>
	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>Low Mass</b> In honor of Our Lady Co-Redemptrix ( <i>Smith family</i> )
<b>FRI</b>	<b>3/13/26</b>	<b>FERIAL DAY • THE FIVE HOLY WOUNDS</b>
	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>Low Mass</b> Happy Birthday, Judy! ( <i>Theresa</i> )
	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>Confessions</b>
	<b>11:25 AM</b>	<b>Low Mass</b> Holy Souls in Purgatory ( <i>Horton Family</i> )
	<b>12:25 PM</b>	<b>Vespers</b>
	<b>5:15 PM</b>	<b>Confessions &amp; Rosary</b>
	<b>5:45 PM</b>	<b>Low Mass</b> Our Children ( <i>Collin &amp; Abyssa Smith</i> )
	<b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>Sacred Heart Novena, Lenten Supper</b>
	<b>7:30 PM</b>	<b>Stations of the Cross, Sermon, Sorrowful Mother Novena VII, Blessing of the Sick Benediction</b>
	<b>8:30 PM</b>	<b>(approx.) Distribution of Holy Communion</b>
<b>SAT</b>	<b>3/14/26</b>	<b>FERIAL DAY</b>
	<b>7:05 AM</b>	<b>Confessions</b>
	<b>7:30 AM</b>	<b>Low Mass</b> †Grandparents ( <i>Cecilia Brueggemann</i> )
	<b>8:05 AM</b>	<b>Ave Regina, Sermon, CMC Retreat Begins</b>
	<b>8:15 AM</b>	<b>High Mass</b> Intentions of the CMC
<b>SUN</b>	<b>3/15/26</b>	<b>LENT IV – LAETARE</b>
		<i>ST. CLEMENT MARY HOFBAUER, C</i>
	<b>7:05 AM</b>	<b>Rosary</b>
	<b>7:30 AM</b>	<b>Low Mass</b> †Victor Ritze – Rest in peace ( <i>Dave &amp; MaryAnn Marko</i> )
	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>High Mass</b> Michael & Dominic Simpson – Thank you ( <i>Fr. Brueggemann</i> )



The divine house which Joseph ruled with the authority of a father contained within its limits the scarce-born Church. From the same fact that the most holy Virgin is the Mother of Jesus Christ is she the Mother of all Christians whom she bore on Mount Calvary amid the supreme throes of the Redemption; Jesus Christ is, in a manner, the first-born of Christians, who by the adoption and Redemption are His brothers. And for such reasons the Blessed Patriarch looks upon the multitude of Christians who make up the Church as confided specially to his trust—this limitless family spread over the earth, over which...he holds, as it were, a paternal authority. It is, then, natural and worthy that as the Blessed Joseph ministered to all the needs of the family at Nazareth...he should now cover with the cloak of his heavenly patronage and defend the Church of Jesus Christ....

These are the reasons why men of every rank and country should fly to the trust and guard of the blessed Joseph. Fathers of families find in Joseph the best personification of paternal solicitude and vigilance; spouses a perfect example of love, of peace, and of conjugal fidelity; virgins at the same time find in him the model and protector of virginal integrity. The noble of birth will learn of Joseph how to guard their dignity even in misfortune; the rich will understand, by his lessons, what are the goods most to be desired and won at the price of their labor.

As to workmen, artisans, and persons of lesser degree, their recourse to Joseph is a special right, and his example is for their particular imitation. For Joseph, of royal blood, united by marriage to the greatest and holiest of women, reputed the father of the Son of God, passed his life in labor, and won by the toil of the artisan the needful support of his family. It is, then, true that the condition of the lowly has nothing shameful in it, and the work of the laborer is not only not dishonoring, but can, if virtue be joined to it, be singularly ennobled. – *Pope Leo XIII († 1903)*

**S e r v i c e s**

<b>FRI 3/13</b>	<b>5:45 PM LOW:</b> D. Simpson, M. Caggese <b>STATIONS:</b> C. Richesson, Ma. Caggese, B. Constantino, I. Smith
<b>SAT 3/14</b>	<b>7:30 AM LOW:</b> Rabjohns <b>8:15 AM HIGH:</b> T. Lawrence, Brueggemanns
<b>SUN 3/15</b>	<b>7:30 AM LOW:</b> M. McConnell, Brueggemann <b>9:00 AM HIGH: MCS:</b> D. Simpson, A. McClorey <b>TH:</b> T. England <b>ACS:</b> D. Hudson, A. Constantino <b>TBS:</b> L. Rabjohns, E. Garcia, Ma. Caggese, B. Constantino, I. Smith, V. Siqueira <b>11:30 AM LOW:</b> Capetillos <b>4:45 PM VESPERS &amp; BENEDICTION:</b> <b>TH:</b> D. Simpson <b>ACS:</b> I. Smith, P. Caggese <b>CROSS:</b> J. Smith <b>5:45 PM LOW:</b> C. Lorenz

<b>10:40 AM</b>	<b>Catechism Classes</b>
<b>11:15 AM</b>	<b>Short Stations of the Cross</b>
<b>11:30 AM</b>	<b>Low Mass</b> Reparations for the offenses to the Blessed Virgin Mary ( <i>Boyd family</i> )
<b>4:45 PM</b>	<b>Vespers &amp; Benediction</b>
<b>5:45 PM</b>	<b>Low Mass</b> For the people of St. Gertrude the Great

## Monday in Lent III

**Reflection: (On Despairing Sinners):** Our Lord continued always to pursue sinners with His grace, but above all when they were in their agony, His love made its greatest effort. “When I see those in their agony, who at some time have had some loving remembrance of Me, or who have done some meritorious action before the end, I show Myself so good, tender and kind to them that they repent with their whole heart of having offended Me, and through this repentance are saved. So I would, for this excessive goodness, that My elect should glorify Me, and that with other thanksgivings I should receive a special one for this.”

– *The Love of the Sacred Heart*

**Practice:** Recite the Act of Hope. Offer one decade of the Rosary for your own perseverance; and one decade for those sinners who are near despair.

## Tuesday in Lent III

**Reflection: (Zeal for Sinners):** True zeal makes no exception with regard to what kind of sinner it labors for. The Sacred Heart wills all to be saved and begs fervent prayer for all. Who does not feel sometimes tempted to call down punishment from heaven on persecutors, or at least to exclude them from our prayers? The Sacred Heart would not approve. – *The Love of the Sacred Heart*

**Practice:** Recite the Act of Charity and an Our Father. Pray for the person whom you find it most difficult to forgive.

## Wednesday in Lent III

**Reading:** Purgatory is the porch of heaven, but also an image of hell. They who dwell there taste beforehand the joys of the elect; they love, they are certain of salvation; but they have to bear something of the pain of the lost, for they cannot see God; some are burning in the flames, others are rejected by divine Justice.

If in heaven there are many mansions, so are there in purgatory. Gertrude was allowed to see several of these dwellings—those which are nearest to hell and those which are nearest to heaven. The pains by which these souls were purified were regulated by their debts and blemishes. But what Gertrude noticed in these souls was that, notwithstanding their desire to possess God, they were more anxious to make themselves worthy of possessing Him.

– *The Love of the Sacred Heart*

**Prayer:** Eternal Father, I offer You the most Precious Blood of Your Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the Holy Souls in Purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the Universal Church, those in my own home, and within my family. Amen.

## Thursday in Lent III

**Reflection:** Once, as the Saint was exceedingly troubled about a matter of little consequence, and offered her trouble to God, for His eternal glory, at the moment of the Elevation, it seemed to her that Our Lord drew her soul by the Host as if by a ladder, until

He made it repose on His bosom, and then He spoke thus lovingly to her: “In this sacred couch you shall be exempt from every care; but whenever you leave it, your heart will be filled with a bitterness as an antidote against evil.” – *The Spirit of St. Gertrude*

**Practice:** St. Gertrude’s Prayer to the Sacred Heart: Sanctity of the Heart of Jesus, consecrate my heart. Providence of the Heart of Jesus, watch over my heart. Unchangeableness of the Heart of Jesus, strengthen my heart. Purity of the Heart of Jesus, purify my heart. Obedience of the Heart of Jesus, subjugate my heart. Amiability of the Heart of Jesus, make Thyself known to my heart. Divine attractions of the Heart of Jesus, captivate my heart. Riches of the Heart of Jesus, do ye suffice for my heart. Floods of grace and blessing that flow from the Heart of Jesus, inundate my heart.

O Heart of Jesus! be Thou my joy, my peace, my repose in this world and in the next. O Heart of Jesus! adored in heaven, invoked on earth, feared in hell, reign over all hearts, reign throughout all ages, reign forever in celestial glory. Amen.

## Friday in Lent III

### *The Five Holy Wounds*

**Reflection:** When St. Gertrude had recited the following prayer 5,466 times, in honor of all the Wounds of our Lord Jesus, He appeared to her in vision, having on each Wound a rose flashing with a golden splendor, and greeted her tenderly, saying: “Behold, I will appear to thee, in this refulgent

form at the hour of thy death, and I will cover all thy sins, and adorn thee with a glory, like that with which thou hast adorned My Wounds by thy salutations; and all who use this or any similar devotion shall receive the like favor.” In order to make up this number, and become a partaker of this promise of Christ, you may say the following prayer five times a day for three years, adding the oblation, which our Lord directed to St. Mechtilde to repeat after each division of five.

*Glory be to Thee, most gracious, sweetest, most benign, sovereign, transcending, effulgent, and ever peaceful Trinity, for the roseate Wounds of Jesus Christ, my chosen and only love.*

**Oblation:** *(To be said after each five repetitions.)*  
O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, accept this prayer, with that surpassing love, with which Thou didst endure all the Wounds of Thy most Holy Body. Have mercy on me, and on all sinners, and on all the Faithful, living and departed. Grant them grace and mercy, remission of sins and everlasting life. Amen.

**\*N.B.** Say this prayer just for today as part of your Lenten resolution. You can try this devotion for the full three years if you wish, but do not feel obliged! – *Bishop McGuire*

### Saturday in Lent III

**Reflection:** One day, when Gertrude was weighed down by the thought of some great trial which, she knew, awaited her, Jesus appeared and gave her as a special protectress His own Blessed Mother. Nor was this privi-

lege granted only for this one occasion; but so that she might always find in this Mother of Mercy an assured refuge, and by her intervention obtain relief when she was more than usually tried.

After this, Gertrude often consulted our Lady in her difficulties.

**Practice:** Today and always, in every difficulty, recite confidently the Memorare: Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known, that anyone who fled to Thy protection, implored Thy help or sought Thine intercession was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto Thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To Thee do I come, before Thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in Thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

### Fourth Sunday of Lent

**Reflection:** “...Whenever anyone performs a good action for God—even should it be only to say a *Pater noster* or *Ave Maria*, or any other prayer for the Church—that the Son of God receives it as if it were the fruit of His holy Humanity, and offers it to God His Father, blessing it and multiplying it by this benediction, so that it may be distributed for the good and advancement of the whole Church.

**Practice:** Say five Our Fathers in honor of Our Lord’s Five Wounds, kissing them in spirit, and praying for all sinners who are in the Church, to obtain the remission of their sins and negligences.

## 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*