

# 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)  
parishoffice@sgg.org • bpmcguire@sgg.org  
frlehtoranta@sgg.org • frmckenna@sgg.org  
www.sgg.org • www.SGGResources.org  
traditionalmass.org

EMERGENCY LINE: (513) 509-0424



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



**August 9, 2026**

**PENTECOST XI**

**ST. JOHN VIANNEY, C**

**ST. ROMANUS, M • ST. EMIGDIUS, BPM**



## ¶ TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

Today is Transfiguration Sunday and the 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost. **Please note, there are no Vespers today.**

## ¶ FEASTS THIS WEEK

**Tomorrow** is the feast of great St. Lawrence. Masses at 8 AM and 11:25 AM. **Tuesday** is the wonder-worker St. Philomena's feast, with the Summer Novena. **Wednesday** we have St. Clare, and **Thursday** one of the altar servers' saints, St. John Berchmans. Don't forget the **Fatima Rosary Procession** at 7:15 Thursday evening! **Friday** is the Vigil of the Assumption (**NO evening Mass!**), and **Saturday** the **holy day** itself, with the Blessing of First Fruits & Flowers at **9 AM**, followed by the Pontifical Mass. A truly festive week!

### Collection Report

Sunday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>.....\$7,423.62  
Second Collection.....\$3,653.00

## Wedding Banns

*Second Time: Tyler Wooden & Elisabeth Rabjohns*

## ¶ THE ASSUMPTION

**Saturday** is the beautiful summer feast of Our Blessed Mother, the Assumption. It is a Holy Day of Obligation. Low Masses are at **7:00 & 11:30 AM**. The Blessing of First Fruits & Flowers takes place at the Grotto at **9:00 AM**. Bring some produce, herbs, and flowers from your garden to be blessed. Bring your children to lead the following procession, to represent the angels who filled the sepulchre of Our Lady with beautiful flowers. This procession leads us back into church for the Pontifical High Mass.

Vespers with Benediction are at 4:45 PM. **Please note, there is NO evening Mass.**

## ¶ NEXT SUNDAY

Feast of St. Joachim, Father of Our Lady. Blessing of Expectant Mothers after all Masses. Vespers with Benediction at 4:45 PM.

## 📖 Set Your Missal:

St. Joachim, commemoration and Proper Last Gospel of Pentecost XII. Preface of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

*Almighty and everlasting God, give unto us an increase*

*of faith, hope and charity; and, that we may deserve to obtain that which Thou dost promise, make us to love that which Thou dost command. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## ¶ MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

**Nativity of Our Lady:** Tuesday, Sept. 8.  
Birthday party for Baby Mary!

**Parish Picnic:** Sunday, September 20.

## Lumen Christi

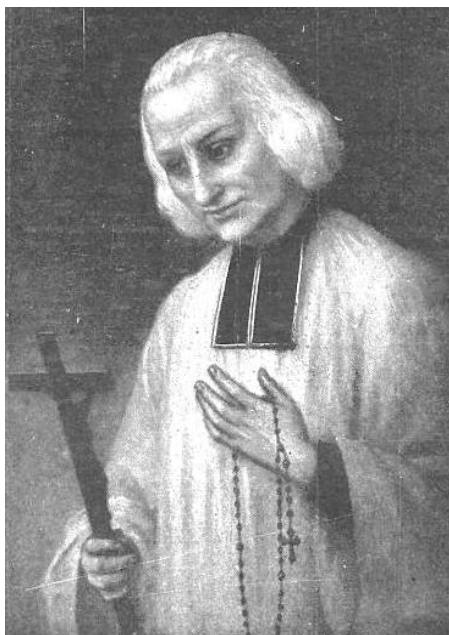
*The Sanctuary Lamp will burn before the Blessed Sacrament during the next fortnight for the following intention:*

**Special Intention**  
(Fields)

*"Receive, O my God, all my thoughts and all I am going to do today, in union with all Thou didst bear out of love for me during Thy life on earth." — St. John Vianney*

What do we see in the greater number of Christians? Alas, a feeble and tepid faith... What use do we make, my brethren, of the precious gifts of our faith, and of the means of salvation which we find in the bosom of the Catholic Church? What connection is there between our manner of living and the sanctity of our religion? Can we say, my brethren, that our life corresponds with the precepts of the Gospel, with the example that Jesus Christ has given us? That is to say, do we love poverty, humiliations, and contempt? Do we prefer Christianity above all honors, and everything which this world possesses and desires? Do we entertain that respect, that longing, and that zeal to draw all the graces we can from the sacraments, which our Lord so lavishly bestows upon us? Let us examine ourselves on this question, my brethren. Alas! how numerous and bitter are the reproaches which we must make to ourselves regarding these questions! ... If you hear the Word of God, listen immediately; be strong in your faith in spite of difficulties, and never allow it to waiver, but preserve it constantly; so that you, with the Wise Men, will have the grace of beholding your God face to face.

— St. John Marie Vianney



*"In your work, offer your difficulties and troubles quite simply to God...and you will find that His blessing will rest upon you and on all you do."* — St. John Vianney



#### ST. PHILOMENA



The tomb of this virgin and martyr, unknown until the first years of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, was providentially discovered in 1802 in the catacombs of Priscilla on the Via Salaria, Rome, Italy. It was covered by stones, the symbols on which indicated that the body was a martyr named St. Philomena. The bones were exhumed, catalogued and effectively forgotten since there was so little known about the person. But God, by many miracles, made the discovery of St. Philomena's body famous and devotion to the young Saint spread everywhere with an extraordinary rapidity. She received such exceptional homage, that she deserves to be placed in the first ranks of the virgin martyrs whom the Church venerates. The Holy Curé of Ars called her his dear little Saint and performed wonders himself by his prayers to her.

#### THE TRIUMPH OF THE CHURCH

Ere Athanasius battl'd error or  
St. Francis laugh'd himself to holy  
tears,  
An even fiercer outbreak of the War  
Instill'd the demon-host with depthless  
fears.

Far later came the Little Flow'r's  
bouquet  
Whose fragrance mortal sin found  
much too sweet;  
St. Philomena brought foul lust to bay  
Long after hell receiv'd this first  
defeat.

'Tis not the Cross that here is hinted  
at,  
For timeless will be, is, and was that  
Time  
When Love thrust down the throne  
where Satan sat  
To once for all atone for Adam's  
crime.

Our Mother Militant could count but  
one  
As hers the day she said, Thy Word be  
done!

— Fr. Lawrence Smith



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## ✠ NOTE FROM FATHER

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Dear Faithful,

Once again, I have found myself in the “dwindling priest” scenario here at St. Gertrude’s. **Bishop McGuire** is still away, and I additionally lost **Fr. Brueggemann** to his own vacation. Friday saw **Fr. Lehtoranta** depart for St. Hugh’s in Milwaukee. And then Saturday, **Fr. Simpson** flew south to the Lone Star state to offer Masses at the St. Anthony Mission...and once again, I found myself all alone. However, all is well and being busy helps keep me out of trouble, or so my mother always told me. In my personal experience, I still manage to somehow find it.

One example of this is contained in our continuing saga of the St. Gertrude’s animal kingdom. Wednesday evening, I was walking up to the house along the same pathway on which I was, only a week ago, attacked by an owl. This time, I faced down a new ground assault. As I was walking along, I reached the narrowest point between the hedges and the woods. There before me was a young skunk, munching away merrily on whatever it is that skunks eat. I approached, it didn’t notice. I then made some deliberate noise and finally it became aware of my presence. However, instead of running away into the safe cover of the nearby woods, as I had hoped, it decided it preferred the “fight” part of the “fight or flight” fear response. The skunk stood its ground and arched its back...staring me down. Not being one to be kicked off my own pathway, I stared right back. Then it lifted its tail high, to warn of a potential spray. (This move I could not, however, mirror). Outgunned, but not deterred, I began a careful slow shuffle along the path, always keeping my front to the skunk. The skunk feigned charging a couple of times, but ultimately, we worked past each other, looking like two gunslingers circling in a standoff, until finally the tension eased as it was apparent I was now moving further away, having arrived at the house side of the standoff’s arch. Never bring a briefcase to a skunk fight.

The Oblates kindly rearranged the books in the office hallway and labeled the shelves, so we know where to find books of various subjects. They seemed to enjoy themselves looking through the plethora of interesting reading material we have, and their work was followed by requests to borrow spiritual books for themselves. I don’t think we are necessarily a lending library back here, but how could I say no to such a pious desire, especially after they had done the work of organizing the books. At least now, they will know which section of the bookshelves to return it to!

In Christ,  
**Fr. McKenna**



### The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

*Join us for three days of special celebration to honor  
Our Lady’s oldest feast.*

#### THURSDAY AUGUST 13TH

**5:45 PM** Low Mass

**7:15 PM** Fatima Rosary Procession

*Our Lady of Fatima implores us to pray the Rosary. The Most Holy Rosary is the key to our salvation.*

#### FRIDAY AUGUST 14TH: VIGIL OF THE ASSUMPTION

**8:00 AM** Low Mass, Opening of Assumption Novena

**11:00 AM** Confessions

**11:25 AM** Low Mass followed by Benediction

**5:45 PM** First Vespers of the Assumption

**NO EVENING MASS**

#### SATURDAY AUGUST 15TH: HOLY DAY

**7:00 AM** Low Mass

**8:30 AM** Confessions

**9:00 AM** Blessing of First Fruits, Herbs & Flowers  
Procession, Pontifical Mass

*You are welcome to bring some produce, herbs and flowers from your garden to be blessed. Be sure to collect your items after Mass. The children lead the procession into church, carrying flowers for Our Lady’s tomb.*

**4:45 PM** Vespers & Benediction



## ✠ CALENDAR

|             |                                                                                                                                  |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| MON 8/10/26 | <b>ST. LAWRENCE, M</b>                                                                                                           |
|             | <b>8:00 AM Low Mass</b> Special intention to the Holy Angels & Saints ( <i>Lucia Constantino</i> )                               |
|             | <b>11:25 AM Low Mass</b> Mary Kunkel ( <i>Angela Schmidt</i> )                                                                   |
| TUE 8/11/26 | <b>SS. TIBURTIUS, M &amp; SUSANNA, VM</b>                                                                                        |
|             | <i>ST. PHILOMENA, VM</i>                                                                                                         |
|             | SUMMER NOVENA AFTER ALL MASSES                                                                                                   |
|             | <b>7:00 AM Low Mass</b> Happy birthday, Alfonso! ( <i>Mom &amp; Dad</i> ) (from 8/12)                                            |
|             | <b>8:00 AM Low Mass</b> My children ( <i>Mary L.</i> )                                                                           |
|             | <b>5:00 PM Low Mass</b> Special Intention ( <i>Bishop McGuire</i> )                                                              |
| WED 8/12/26 | <b>ST. CLARE, V</b>                                                                                                              |
|             | <b>8:00 AM Low Mass</b> Michael Rabjohns ( <i>KR</i> )                                                                           |
|             | <b>11:25 AM Low Mass</b> William Young III – Happy Birthday! ( <i>Your wife</i> )                                                |
|             | <b>5:10 PM Low Mass</b> Special intention ( <i>Karen Simpson</i> )                                                               |
| THU 8/13/26 | <b>SS. HIPPOLYTUS &amp; CASSIAN, MM</b>                                                                                          |
|             | <i>ST. JOHN BERCHMANS, C</i>                                                                                                     |
|             | <i>OUR LADY REFUGE OF SINNERS</i>                                                                                                |
|             | <b>7:00 AM Low Mass</b> Happy Birthday Julie ( <i>Maria Brueggemann</i> )                                                        |
|             | <b>8:00 AM Low Mass</b> Maryann Allen ( <i>The Allens</i> )                                                                      |
|             | <b>5:45 PM Low Mass</b> Happy Birthday, Victoria Cerise ( <i>Phyllis &amp; Kevin Kiernan</i> )                                   |
|             | <b>7:15 PM Fatima Rosary Procession</b>                                                                                          |
| FRI 8/14/26 | <b>VIGIL OF THE ASSUMPTION • ST. EUSEBIUS, C</b>                                                                                 |
|             | <b>8:00 AM Low Mass</b> Happy Easter John & Julie & Family ( <i>Maria Brueggemann</i> )                                          |
|             | <b>11:00 AM Confessions</b>                                                                                                      |
|             | <b>11:25 AM Low Mass</b> †Elaine Perry ( <i>Doloris Ritzge</i> )                                                                 |
|             | <b>Benediction, Sacred Heart Novena</b>                                                                                          |
|             | <b>5:45 PM First Vespers of the Assumption</b>                                                                                   |
| SAT 8/15/26 | <b>THE ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY HOLY DAY</b>                                                                                       |
|             | <b>7:00 AM Low Mass</b> †Elaine Perry ( <i>Patsy McConnell</i> )                                                                 |
|             | <b>8:30 AM Confessions</b>                                                                                                       |
|             | <b>9:00 AM Blessing of First Fruits &amp; Flowers, Procession, Pontifical High Mass</b> For the people of St. Gertrude the Great |
|             | <b>11:30 AM Low Mass</b> †Philip Delicato ( <i>Keith E.</i> )                                                                    |
|             | <b>4:45 PM Vespers &amp; Benediction</b><br><b>NO EVENING MASS</b>                                                               |
| SUN 8/16/26 | <b>ST. JOACHIM, FATHER OF OUR LADY</b>                                                                                           |
|             | <i>PENTECOST XII • ST. ROCH, C</i>                                                                                               |
|             | <b>7:05 AM Rosary</b>                                                                                                            |
|             | <b>7:30 AM Low Mass</b> †Elaine Perry ( <i>Audrey Dunaway</i> )                                                                  |
|             | <b>9:00 AM High Mass</b> Ben Burns ( <i>Joseph &amp; Sarah &amp; family</i> )                                                    |
|             | <b>11:05 AM Rosary</b>                                                                                                           |
|             | <b>11:30 AM Low Mass</b> Reparations to Our Lord crucified ( <i>Elizabeth Prell</i> )                                            |
|             | <b>4:45 PM Vespers &amp; Benediction</b>                                                                                         |
|             | <b>5:45 PM Low Mass</b> For the people of St. Gertrude the Great                                                                 |

## EXCERPT FROM THE LITANY OF ST. PHILOMENA

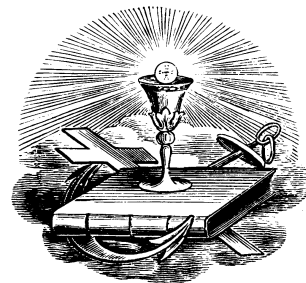
*Composed by St. John Marie Vianney, Curé of Ars*

Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us.  
 Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, hear us.  
 Christ, graciously hear us.  
 God the Father of heaven, have mercy on us.  
 God the Son, Redeemer of the world, have mercy on us.  
 God the Holy Ghost, have mercy on us.  
 Holy Trinity, one God, have mercy on us.  
 Holy Mary, Queen of Virgins, pray for us.  
 St. Philomena, filled with abundant graces from the cradle,  
 St. Philomena, model of virgins,  
 St. Philomena, firm and intrepid before torments,  
 St. Philomena, pierced by a shower of arrows,  
 St. Philomena, consoled in chains by the Mother of God,  
 St. Philomena, who didst convert the witnesses of thy martyrdom,  
 St. Philomena, patroness of the innocent,  
 St. Philomena, health of the sick and infirm,  
 St. Philomena, new light of the Church Militant,  
 St. Philomena, who dost confound the impiety of our age,  
 St. Philomena, who dost re-animate the faith and courage of the faithful,  
 St. Philomena, whose name is glorious in heaven and terrible in hell,  
 St. Philomena, made illustrious by the most splendid miracles,  
 St. Philomena, powerful with God,  
 St. Philomena, who dost reign in glory,

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world, Spare us, O Lord.  
 Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world, Graciously hear us, O Lord.  
 Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world, Have mercy on us.

V. Pray for us, St. Philomena,  
 R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

*Let us pray:* We beseech Thee, O Lord, to grant us the pardon of our sins, by the intercession of St. Philomena, Virgin and Martyr, who was always pleasing in Thy sight by her eminent chastity and by the profession of every virtue. Amen.



## Servers

|          |                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| FRI 8/14 | <b>11:25 AM LOW:</b> A. & B. Constantino                                                                                                                                          |
|          | <b>BENEDICTION:</b> MCS: D. Simpson, I. Smith <b>TH:</b> A. Constantino <b>TBS:</b> B. Constantino, J. Smith                                                                      |
| SAT 8/15 | <b>7:00 AM LOW:</b> Brueggemanns                                                                                                                                                  |
|          | <b>9:00 AM PONT:</b> MCS: M. Simpson, D. Simpson, C. Richesson <b>TH:</b> S. Richesson <b>ACS:</b> F. Caggese, J. Rabjohns <b>CROSS:</b> M. Caggese                               |
|          | <b>MITRE:</b> I. Smith <b>CROZIER:</b> A. Constantino <b>BOOK:</b> T. Capetillo                                                                                                   |
|          | <b>BUGIA:</b> J. Capetillo <b>TRAIN &amp; GREMIALE:</b> B. Constantino <b>TBS:</b> Ma. Caggese, V. Siqueira, J. Smith, W. & T. Young, J. Stewart                                  |
|          | <b>11:30 AM LOW:</b> Kolenichs                                                                                                                                                    |
|          | <b>4:45 PM VESPERS &amp; BENEDICTION:</b> <b>TH:</b> D. Simpson <b>ACS:</b> I. Smith, B. Constantino <b>CROSS:</b> F. Caggese                                                     |
| SUN 8/16 | <b>7:30 AM LOW:</b> Brueggemann, M. McConnell                                                                                                                                     |
|          | <b>9:00 AM HIGH:</b> MCS: Seminarian, D. Simpson <b>TH:</b> N. Kolenich <b>ACS:</b> M. Kolenich, J. Stewart <b>TBS:</b> J. Kolenich, T. & A. Young, B. Constantino, I. & J. Smith |
|          | <b>11:30 AM LOW:</b> Capetillos                                                                                                                                                   |
|          | <b>4:45 PM VESPERS &amp; BENEDICTION:</b> <b>TH:</b> I. Smith <b>ACS:</b> J. Smith, A. Constantino <b>CROSS:</b> B. Constantino                                                   |
|          | <b>5:45 PM LOW:</b> C. Lorenz                                                                                                                                                     |