

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

August 23, 2026
PENTECOST XIII
ST. PHILIP BENEIZI, C



¶ PENTECOST XIII

Vespers with Benediction are at 4:45 PM.

¶ FEASTS THIS WEEK

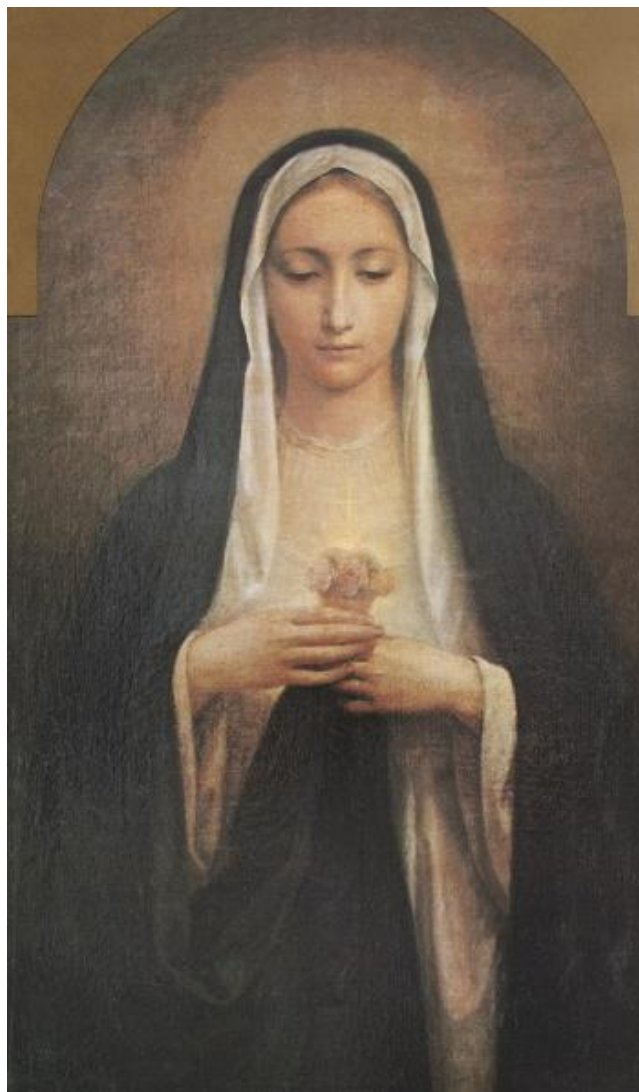
St. Bartholomew, Apostle, has his feast **tomorrow**. St. Louis, King of France, comes **Tuesday** with the Summer Novena. On **Wednesday** we honor Our Lady of Czestochowa. **Friday** is the feast of the great St. Augustine. The week closes with the Beheading of St. John the Baptist and Our Lady, Health of the Sick on **Saturday**.

¶ OFFICE HOURS

Please note that the church office will only be open from **11 AM to 2 PM on Monday and Tuesday**. For emergencies only, call the emergency number listed at the top of the bulletin. Regular office hours resume on Wednesday.

¶ MEN'S GROUP

The Knights of St. Martin meet on **Thursday**. Mass at 5:30 PM.



Lumen Christi

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

Special Intention
(Ankica Senjak)

¶ NEXT SUNDAY

The Blessing of the Sick will be given after all Masses next Sunday, in honor of Our Lady Health of the Sick. Vespers with Benediction will be at 4:45 PM.

📖 **Set Your Missal:** Pentecost XIV, second collect of St. Rose of Lima, third of Ss. Felix & Adauctus. Trinity Preface.

¶ UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Parish Picnic: Sunday, September 20.

¶ MARIAN FEASTS

Envelopes are in the vestibule for the September Quadriduum in Honor of Our Lady. Submit your intentions for these four great Marian feasts. The envelopes can be returned in the collection, bookstore, or office.

¶ YOUR PRAYERS

Please pray for Jason Miller, who has been diagnosed with cancer.





The First Joy: The first of the seven joys of Mary was the Annunciation, which the Franciscans express in these words: “The Immaculate Virgin Mary joyfully conceived Jesus by the Holy Ghost.” In the first chapter of St. Luke, read the account, clear, brief and uplifting, how the Angel Gabriel came from God and told the Virgin Mary that she was to be the Mother of God. Imagine the joy in the heart of Mary to learn from the messenger of the Almighty that she, who was willing to be but a handmaid or servant in the household of the Lord, that she was to really be the Mother of God. What joy and happiness at the greeting of the angel. What joy to know that now, within her womb, she carried the Son of God.

The Second Joy: The second great joy of Mary was the Visitation. “The Immaculate Virgin Mary joyfully carried Our Lord visiting St. Elizabeth.” Charity and love inspired this visit. How happily our Blessed Mother must have made her way over the hills to the distant home of her cousin St. Elizabeth, who also was with child, the future John the Baptist. Mary wanted to tell her cousin and share in the joys of an expectant mother. What an inspiration and joyful example to all the mothers in the world.

The Third Joy: The third of the seven joys of Mary's life was the Nativity. “The Immaculate Virgin Mary joyfully brought Jesus into the world.” Everyone who has ever experienced the bliss of Christmas has had just a faint echo of Mary's joy when she gave birth to Christ. Every mother shares that joy. Mary experienced it in all her innocence and sweetness. She experienced the holy happiness of bringing into the world the Son of God, who was to be the Redeemer and Savior of all men.

The Fourth Joy: The fourth joy of Mary was that of the Epiphany, which we might express in these words: “The Immaculate Virgin Mary joyfully exhibited Jesus to the adoration of the Magi.” Every mother is happy when she can show her child to others. Every mother is joyful when friends or acquaintances, or even chance visitors comment about her child, praise him, and even bring him gifts. That was Our Lady's happy experience when the three Wise Men came from thousands of miles away to adore and honor her child and bring Him gifts.

The Fifth Joy: The fifth of the seven joys of Mary, our Blessed Mother, is what she experienced when she finally found Jesus after His three-day loss in the temple. “The Immaculate Virgin Mary joyfully found Jesus in the temple.” To have her child with her is a mother's joy. But to find a child that is lost is a greater joy because of the contrast to the sorrow of separation. Our Lady experienced such bliss when she found Our Lord in the temple teaching and listening to the doctors, the learned professors of the law.

The Sixth Joy: The sixth great joy of the Blessed Mother was the one she experienced upon seeing Jesus after His resurrection. “The Immaculate Virgin Mary joyfully beheld Jesus after His resurrection.” Words are absolutely inadequate to express the happiness of the Mother of God when she saw her Son risen from the grave, saw Him in the full beauty of manhood, saw the Boy whom she had brought into the world, had reared and trained and taken care of for thirty sublime years. Her joy, by way of contrast with the grief of the first Good Friday, was supreme.

The Seventh Joy: The seventh of the seven joys of Mary, and the crowning joy, was that Mary had when she was taken up into heaven and crowned Queen of Heaven and Earth. “The Immaculate Virgin Mary was joyfully received by Our God and Lord Jesus Christ into heaven, and there was crowned Queen of heaven and earth.” No pen can express, no paintbrush could capture the joy in Mary's heart when she was finally reunited with her Son in the bliss of the beatific vision.

THE ECHO

I prayed and prayed and prayed for
things to gain,
And all that I received was lack and
pain.
It seemed as if my prayers just went
astray
To merge with nothing in some far
away.

My life grew drab and drear; no
mellow song
Of man or bird inspired—all was
wrong!
In dark despair, I thought to slay
myself.
“Destroy myself” I cried, “Destroy
myself!”

My words were echoed from a garden
wall,
And floated back refined—a Godlike
call:
“Deny thyself,” Deny thyself?” I
heard.
The silence—that was all—no other
word.

My heart grew peaceful, and I knew
the way:
“Deny thyself,” and then for others
pray;
For He who said these words Himself
denied,
And prayed for others, *even as He died.*

— U. Stanley Aultman



✠ THE BISHOP'S NOTE ✠

It was nice to see the sun again this week. It is amazing what a difference the sun makes. Well, along with the sun, the skunks came out. Right after having written about Fr. McKenna's showdown with the St. Gertrude skunk, I had a run in with the little critter. I was walking hurriedly across the bridge leading to the bishop's garden, not looking where I was going, when out of the corner of my eye I saw black and white. At first I thought it was Black Cat, but no...it was the skunk, already prepared to spray if I did not back down. Unlike Fr. McKenna, I did not have a showdown but instead chose to give our smelly friend the right of way. He went under the bridge and I went around the bridge and we both had a happy day.



Fr. McKenna has been out on the missions and is due to come back this evening. He has been busy preparing for Confirmations in the different chapels. There will only be two Confirmations at St. Hugh of Lincoln this year, and one of them is coming down from Canada. A small class, but still quite worth the trip. I am looking forward to seeing everyone again. There should be a handful of confirmands in Park Falls and at St. Teresa of Avila Mission in Grand Forks. The same for Holy Face Mission in Effingham, Illinois. I am departing this Thursday to visit each of these missions and to give the Sacrament of Confirmation. Please pray for a safe trip and a fruitful apostolate. Before being consecrated, I used to travel to Milwaukee and the missions quite a lot, but I haven't traveled as much over the last four years. I hope I haven't been overenthusiastic in planning this trip. That is a lot of miles to drive!

Fr. Lehtoranta took one of the seminarians and a parishioner on an outing to Marion, Ohio, where they saw President Harding's tomb and other historical sites. Father knows much more about the history of the United States than perhaps most Americans do. I am glad that he likes to share this knowledge with others.

The convento roof has been completed, or at least the worst part of it. The school roof is still being worked on at the time of this writing. We are hopeful that work on the corner of the church will begin this week. Plans for the rectory addition are moving along, too. Later this week, the last of our vacationers will have returned and teachers will come in for their beginning of the year meeting. It will be nice to return to a normal schedule and see the children once again. It has been a very busy summer.

Our Lady's octave of the Assumption was a relatively quiet one. I pray that it has brought you closer to Our Lady. She plays such an important part in our redemption

and must play a big part in the salvation of each one of us. Go to her for everything, Rosary in hand, and confidence in your heart. She is your Mother and you are her child. As long as you remain devoted to her all will be well. Queen assumed into Heaven, pray for us!

– Bishop McGuire

OUR LADY OF CZESTOCHOWA

According to tradition, the icon of Jasna Góra (Bright Mountain) was painted by Luke the Evangelist on a tabletop built by Jesus Himself and the icon was discovered by St Helen, mother of Emperor Constantine and collector of Christian relics in the Holy Land. The icon was then enshrined in the imperial city of Constantinople, where it remained for the next 500 years.

In 803, the painting is said to have been given as a wedding gift from the Byzantine emperor to a Greek princess, who married a Ruthenian nobleman. The image was then placed in the royal palace at Belz, where it remained for nearly 600 years.

History first combines with tradition upon the icon's arrival in Poland in 1382 with a Polish army fleeing the Tartars, who had struck it with an arrow.

Legend has it that during the looting of Belz, a mysterious cloud enveloped the chapel containing the image. A monastery was founded in Częstochowa to enshrine the icon in 1386 and soon King Jagiello built a cathedral around the chapel containing the icon.

However, the image soon came under attack once again. In 1430, Hussites (pre-Reformation reformers) attacked the monastery, slashed the Virgin's face with a sword, and left it desecrated in a puddle of blood and mud.

It is said that when the monks pulled the icon from the mud, a miraculous fountain appeared, which they used to clean the painting. The icon was repainted in Krakow, but both the arrow mark and the gashes from the sword were left and remain clearly visible today.

The miracle for which the Black Madonna of Częstochowa is most famous occurred in 1655, when Swedish troops were about to invade Częstochowa. A group of Polish soldiers prayed fervently before the icon for deliverance and the enemy retreated. In 1656, King John Casimir declared Our Lady of Częstochowa "Queen of Poland" and made the city the spiritual capital of the nation.



✠ CALENDAR

MON 8/24/26	ST. BARTHOLOMEW, AP 8:00 AM Low Mass Friends who helped us and prayed for Hugh – Thank you! (<i>Dan & Diane Stanislowski</i>) 11:25 AM Low Mass For the conversion of all our relatives & friends (<i>Mr. & Mrs. William H. Young III</i>)
TUE 8/25/26	ST. LOUIS, KING, C SUMMER NOVENA AFTER ALL MASSES 7:00 AM Low Mass Intentions of Faith Ballesteros (<i>C. Simpson family</i>) 8:00 AM Low Mass Thank you St. Anthony! (<i>Mr. & Mrs. Fernandez</i>) 5:00 PM Low Mass Veronica Siqueira – Happy Birthday 4/27 (<i>Mom & Dad</i>)
WED 8/26/26	ST. ZEPHYRINUS, PM OUR LADY OF CZESTOCHOWA 8:00 AM Low Mass Happy Birthday, JP Zwick (<i>Phyllis & Kevin Kiernan</i>) 11:25 AM Low Mass Ballesteros family's intentions (TRCS) 5:10 PM Low Mass Special Intention – In Honor of St. Matthew (<i>Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Prell</i>)
THU 8/27/26	ST. JOSEPH CALASANCTIUS, C SEVEN JOYS OF OUR LADY LITTLE ST. HUGH OF LINCOLN, M 7:00 AM Low Mass Nick Nett – Thank you! (<i>Patsy McConnell</i>) 8:00 AM Low Mass Special Intention (<i>Cleo Speckert</i>) 5:30 PM Requiem High Mass Purgatorial Society Knights of St. Martin Meeting
FRI 8/28/26	ST. AUGUSTINE, BPCD • ST. HERMES, M 8:00 AM Low Mass Pamela Gray (KR) 11:00 AM Confessions 11:25 AM Low Mass †Rose Beckerich (<i>Doloris Ritzge</i>) 5:15 PM Confessions & Rosary 5:45 PM Low Mass Billy & Mary Rose Young & family – Thank you! (<i>Sister Eulalia</i>) Sacred Heart Novena, Benediction
SAT 8/29/26	BEHEADING OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ST. SABRINA, M • OUR LADY HEALTH OF THE SICK 7:05 AM Confessions 7:30 AM Low Mass In honor of the Poor Souls for prayers for my family (<i>Regina Gilliam</i>) 8:05 AM Salve, Sermon 8:15 AM High Mass Conversion of relatives (<i>Ball Family</i>)
SUN 8/30/26	PENTECOST XIV ST. ROSE OF LIMA, V • SS. FELIX & ADAUCTUS, MM 7:05 AM Rosary 7:30 AM Low Mass Deceased Family (<i>Scott Pepiot</i>) 9:00 AM High Mass Thank you Mr. & Mrs. Arlinghaus (<i>Michael Simpson</i>) 11:05 AM Rosary 11:30 AM Low Mass Tim Capetillo – happy birthday (<i>Nana & Grandpa</i>) 4:45 PM Vespers & Benediction 5:45 PM Low Mass For the people of St. Gertrude the Great

✠ THE IMMACULATE HEART

August is the month set aside for devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. We honor Our Lady's Heart as the symbol of her complete and entire faithfulness to God.

An account of Mary's inner life can be taken from the Gospels. Mary was constantly attentive to the presence of God in her soul. Her spirit of recollection is seen in the words: "Mary kept all these words in her Heart, pondering over them." Our Lady's loyalty to her duty to God is an example of what Jesus meant when He said "Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it."

Her modesty, love of God above all things and the trust given to her by Our Lord from the cross when He said "Mother, behold thy son" set the background of the devotion to the Immaculate Heart since the early days of the Church.

From her own words, mainly recorded by St. Luke, we can tell of the state of her Heart at the Annunciation, at the loss of the child Jesus in the temple, at the marriage feast of Cana, and above all in the glorious Magnificat spoken before Elizabeth.

Devout souls have grown to admire and love the Immaculate Heart which prompted them. In the words of St. Louis de Montfort, "Whoever then wishes to advance along the road to holiness, and be sure of encountering the true Christ, should take up devotion to Mary."



Servers

FRI 8/28	5:45 PM Low : A. & B. Constantino BENEDICTION : MCS: F. Caggese, A. Constantino TH : I. Smith TBS : B. Constantino, J. Smith
SAT 8/29	7:30 AM Low : Brueggemanns 8:15 AM High : MCS: Capetillos
SUN 8/30	7:30 AM Low : M. McConnell, Brueggemann 9:00 AM High : MC : T. Lawrence TH : M. Simpson ACS : B. Constantino, I. Smith TBS : J. Kolenich, T. Young, V. Siqueira, E. Garcia, J. Smith, L. Rabjohns 11:30 AM Low : Capetillos 4:45 PM VESPERS & BENEDICTION : TH : D. Simpson ACS : I. & J. Smith CROSS : A. Constantino 5:45 PM Low : P. McClorey