

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



October 11, 2026

MATERNITY OF OUR LADY PENTECOST XX

¶ MATERNITY OF OUR LADY

The **Autumn Bake Sale** takes place after the morning Masses today. Catechism Classes are at 10:40 AM. October Devotions, Vespers, and Benediction are at 4:30 PM.

¶ CANDLELIGHT ROSARY PROCESSION



On **Tuesday**, feast of Our Lady of Fatima, we have our final **Fatima Rosary Procession** of the year. Candles will be distributed for all the participants to carry in the procession. Plan to arrive by about **7:00 PM** to get your candle and line up. The procession will commence promptly at 7:15 PM.

¶ OCTOBER DEVOTIONS

The Rosary is recited on school days at **3:00 PM**. On Wednesdays at 2:45 it is recited before the Blessed Sacrament Exposed, with Benediction and Holy Communion at 3:10 PM.

¶ SODALITY MEETING

The Sodality of Charity meets on **Saturday**, with Mass at **approximately 8:30 AM**.

¶ NEXT SUNDAY: ST. LUKE

Next Sunday is Mission Sunday, and the feast of St. Luke the Evangelist. The Blessing of Expectant Mothers will be available after all Masses. Catechism Classes will be at 10:40 AM. October Devotions, Vespers, and Benediction will be at 4:30 PM.  **Set Your Missal:** St. Luke, with commemoration and Proper Last Gospel of Pentecost XXI. Third collect for the Propagation of the Faith. Preface of the Apostles.



¶ DISHES AND LOST & FOUND

Please collect your belongings from the Lost & Found and the cabinet of dishes returned from clergy meals. Both are located in the social hall. Items not collected by **October 24th** will be considered abandoned goods and will be disposed of.

Please note: From now on, items left for more than a month will be disposed of without further notice.

¶ FORTY HOURS OPENING & CHILI SUPPER

On **Friday, October 23**, our annual devotion of the Forty Hours begins with High Mass at 5:30 PM. Mark your calendars and plan to be with us! A Harvest Chili Supper follows the Mass. Bring your favorite chili (with meat or meatless) to share. The church will provide beverages, "fixin's" and dessert. All those who attend the opening Mass on Friday evening may consider themselves dispensed from the abstinence.

The full Forty Hours weekend schedule will appear in next week's bulletin.

¶ UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Forty Hours Devotion:** Friday to Sunday, October 23-25.
- **All Saints Day:** Sunday, Nov 1. Saint costume presentations and a party follow the High Mass. Parents, help your children prepare a costume and a brief presentation about their chosen saint.
- **All Souls Day:** Monday, Nov 2. Indulgences for the Poor Souls may be gained in church all day.
- **Fall Festival (craft booths only!):** Sunday, November 8.
- **Martinmas Procession & Supper:** Sunday, Nov 15, after 5:45 PM Mass.

¶ YOUR PRAYERS

Please pray for the repose of the soul of †Jane Fitzgibbon, who died this past Thursday. Please also continue to pray for Susan Ackley and Mike Houston.

Collection Report

Sunday, September 27th.....\$9,690.62

HOW OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY RESCUED THE PHILIPPINES

The bishop of Manila declared the victory a miracle. Catholics in the Philippines are profoundly devoted to the Blessed Virgin Mary. They find countless ways to honor her in their daily lives. Among these is a grand celebration held every year on the second Sunday of October, to honor Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary of La Naval de Manila. The first celebration of this feast occurred 373 years ago, on October 8, 1646. And it all started with a statue.

In 1593, Don Luis Perez Dasmariñas was appointed the Spanish governor in the Philippines. Soon after his appointment, his father passed away, and he asked his trusted assistant, Captain Hernando Coronel, to have a sculpture made in his honor. Captain Coronel commissioned an immigrant Chinese artist to do the job. The man was also a convert to Christianity and had a sincere love for the Blessed Virgin.

The sculptor (whose name, unfortunately, has been lost to history) carved the statue out of hardwood. It was four feet, eight inches tall. He crafted the face and hands of the Blessed Virgin and the entire Child Jesus from solid ivory. The features of Our Lady's face and the Child Jesus' face reflect the sculptor's ethnicity.



Governor Dasmariñas loved the statue and dedicated it to his late father. The statue was called *Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary*. Not long after, it was given to the Dominicans, and it was placed in the Church at Santo Domingo.

Some years later, the Dutch Republic wanted to establish a quicker trade route to Asia. The most direct route would be through the Philippines, and so they wanted to conquer the country. This would require a formidable naval fleet, which they formed. The Dutch began their attacks in 1646.

The Filipino forces had only two galleons to go against the enormous Dutch fleet. They prayed before the statue of the Blessed Virgin, requesting that she intercede for them in their impending battle. Having placed themselves under the protection of Our Lady of the Rosary, they began to pray the Rosary over and over. They promised that if they were victorious they would make a barefoot pilgrimage toward her shrine in Santo Domingo church in Manila.

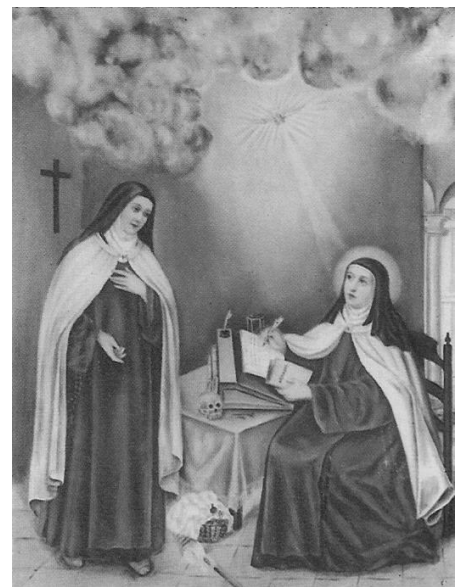
Five major naval battles ensued, and the tiny Philippine naval force, a combination of Spanish and Filipino sailors, turned the Dutch forces back each time. Only 15 members of the Spanish navy were lost. When the Dutch finally surrendered, the remaining Filipino and Spanish sailors, fulfilling the vow they had made, walked barefoot in gratitude to the Shrine of Our Lady in Manila. The Blessed Mother was given the name of La Naval and from then on was known as *Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary of La Naval of Manila*.

On October 6, 1646, the first celebration to honor the great victory was held in Manila. On April 9, 1662, the bishop in the Archdiocese of Manila declared the naval victory a miracle that was owed to the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Included in the declaration was the directive to celebrate, preach about, and hold festivities in remembrance of the miracles brought by "Our Most Blessed Virgin Mary and Her Holy Rosary."

Three popes have honored the statue and the miracles attributed to Our Lady's intercession:

- Pope Leo XIII in 1903.
- Pope St. Pius X, who bestowed a canonical crown on the statue in 1906.
- Pope Pius XII also sent an Apostolic Letter on the occasion of the tricentenary of the Battle of La Naval de Manila on July 31, 1946.

Today the Santo Domingo Church is known as the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary of La Naval de Manila. Prior to the statue's Canonical Coronation more than 310,000 people donated jewels, gems, gold, and silver to adorn the statue. It is considered the oldest ivory carving in the Philippines. The church is the largest in Manila and one of the largest in all of Asia.



FOR TWO SAINTS

Great St. Teresa, stately lily-flower,
Light of the Church in wisdom and in
power,

What did you say, when, bright on
Heaven's sod,
There bloomed the lovely Little Flower
of God?

Little Therese, child of love and prayer,
Did you feel more at home to find her
there?

Gay in the gardens of that heavenly land
I see you walk together hand in hand.

— Alice P. Clark

✠ THE BISHOP'S NOTE ✠

Today is the feast of the Maternity of Our Lady. In the Philippines, this second Sunday of October is also the feast of Nuestra Señora de La Naval. I think of it as the Philippines' own Battle of Lepanto, although it's not nearly as important as the true Battle of Lepanto. You can read about it in today's bulletin. I think you will find this bit of Catholic history very edifying. The Rosary has been the source of so many miracles, not only in battle, but in the lives of so many Catholics. One can never say it enough: Clutch to your beads; pray them daily. Our Lady will never abandon you.

Speaking of praying the Rosary, the last and most beautiful of this year's Fatima processions is this Tuesday evening. The candlelight procession usually draws a greater attendance; I hope that is the case this year. Try to drum up as much enthusiasm as you can among fellow parishioners and family members. Come to Mass beforehand and make an evening of it.

Fr. Lehtoranta and **Fr. Brueggemann** are holding down the fort today, and I am thankful for that. Please say a prayer that the we are able to speed up the process for Fr. Lehtoranta's citizenship. He had the brilliant idea to write to our congressman just before election time. Hopefully, the thought of being re-elected to that office will motivate him to do a kind deed for Father.

Today is the third anniversary of Fred Wood's death. We had his funeral here, but he was buried at Fort Sam Houston Cemetery in San Antonio, Texas, so we have not been able to bless his grave until now. Just this weekend, I flew into San Antonio so that I could bless his grave before meeting up with **Fr. Simpson** for Confirmations in Dallas and Austin.

Fr. McKenna officially departed on Friday. As mentioned last week, he will be in Milwaukee for the weekend and then go to missions in Wisconsin and North Dakota. Then he will begin his long trek to Seattle about mid-week, and should arrive at the seminary sometime next week. May St. Christopher protect him on his journey. We will miss him.

Pope Leo XIII said: "The Rosary is the most excellent form of prayer and the most efficacious means of attaining eternal life. It is the remedy for all

our evils, the root of all our blessings. There is no more excellent way of praying." Enough said.

– Bishop McGuire



Bp. McGuire with Fr. Soliman



Two 1st Communicants - Manila



Confirmands in Manila



Confirmands & Sponsors in Davao City Mission

✠ CALENDAR

MON 10/12/26	RESUMED MASS OF SUNDAY • FERIAI DAY <i>OUR LADY OF EL PILAR • COLUMBUS DAY</i> NO SCHOOL 8:00 AM Low Mass For †Mary McGuire – Happy birthday, Mom! (<i>Erika McKnight</i>) 8:35 PM October Devotions 9:00 AM (approx.) Low Mass †Rob Brockman (<i>Patrick Donadio</i>)
TUE 10/13/26	ST. EDWARD, KING, C • OUR LADY OF FATIMA 8:00 AM Low Mass †Elsa Bowman (<i>Cleo Speckert</i>) 11:25 AM High Mass Poor Souls (<i>Terri Young</i>) 3:00 PM October Devotions 5:45 PM Low Mass Keith Lawrence – his family & intentions – Thank you! (<i>Zver Family</i>) 7:15 PM Candlelight Fatima Rosary Procession
WED 10/14/26	ST. CALLISTUS I, PM 7:00 AM Low Mass Special Intention Deceased (<i>Shawn O'Connor</i>) 8:00 AM Low Mass Conversion of John & Chris Christofferson & family (<i>Terri & Bill Young</i>) 11:25 AM High Mass Gwen Uhlenbrock – happy birthday (<i>Nana & Grandpa</i>) 2:45 PM Exposition, October Devotions, Benediction 3:10 PM (approx.) Holy Communion 5:10 PM Low Mass Amelia Constantino (<i>SGG Choir Members</i>)
THU 10/15/26	ST. TERESA OF AVILA, V 7:00 AM Low Mass †Robbie Brockman (<i>Patsy McConnell</i>) 8:00 AM Low Mass Special Intention Deceased (<i>Shawn O'Connor</i>) 11:25 AM High Mass Thomas Young – Happy Birthday! (<i>Grandma & Grandpa Young</i>) 3:00 PM October Devotions 5:00 PM Low Mass Jason Miller – Final Perseverance (<i>Bishop McGuire</i>)
FRI 10/16/26	ST. HEDWIG, W <i>PURITY OF MARY • ST. GERARD MAJELLA</i> 8:00 AM Low Mass †Beaumanoir Charles (<i>Francesse Luzincourt</i>) 11:00 AM Confessions 11:25 AM Low Mass Poor Souls (<i>Mr. & Mrs. William H. Young III</i>) 3:00 PM October Devotions 5:15 PM Confessions & Rosary 5:45 PM Low Mass Poncho Capetillo (<i>Nana & Grandpa</i>) 6:30 PM Sacred Heart Novena, Benediction
SAT 10/17/26	ST. FRANCIS BORGIA, C 7:05 AM Confessions 7:30 AM Low Mass Our Children, Grandchildren, Godchildren (<i>The Wilker family</i>) 8:05 AM Salve, October Devotions, Simple Benediction 8:30 AM (approx.) High Mass Happy Birthday Levi! (<i>C. Simpson family</i>) Sodality of Charity Meeting

✠ THE POETRY CORNER

THE ROSARY



The gladness of thy Motherhood,
The anguish of thy suffering
Thy glory now that crowns thy brow,
O Virgin-Mother, we would sing.

Hail, blessed Mother, full of joy
In thy consent, thy visit too;
Joy in the birth of Christ on earth,
Joy in Him lost and found anew.

Hail, sorrowing in His agony
The blows, the thorns that pierced His brow;
The heavy wood, the shameful Rood,
Yea! Queen and chief of martyrs thou.

Hail, in the triumph of thy Son,
The quickening flames of Pentecost;
Shining a Queen in light serene,
When all the world is tempest-tost.

O come, ye nations, roses bring,
Culled from these mysteries divine,
And for the Mother of your King
With loving hands your chaplets twine.

We lay our homage at Thy feet,
Lord Jesus, Thou the Virgin's Son,
With the Father and with the Paraclete,
Reigning while endless ages run.

– Augustine Ricchini

Servers

FRI 10/16	5:45 PM Low: A. Constantino, Ma. Caggese BENEDICTION: MCS: F. Caggese, B. Constantino TH: A. Constantino TBS: Ma. Caggese, V. Siqueira
SAT 10/17	7:30 AM Low: Rabjohns 8:30 AM High: F. Caggese, I. & J. Smith
SUN 10/18	7:30 AM Low: M. Schneider, Brueggemann 9:00 AM High: MCS: T. Lawrence, S. Richesson TH: T. England ACS: L. Rabjohns, C. Lorenz TBS: E. Garcia, B. Constantino, T. Stanislawski, Ma. Caggese, I. Smith, N. Hudson 11:30 AM Low: Kolenichs 4:30 PM VESPERS & BENEDICTION: TH: I. Smith, ACS: A. Constanino, J. Smith CROSS: B. Constantino 5:45 PM Low: P. McClorey
SUN 10/18/26	ST. LUKE, EVANGELIST • PENTECOST XXI MISSION SUNDAY 7:05 AM Rosary 7:30 AM Low Mass †Karen Kunkel (<i>Doloris Ritze</i>) 9:00 AM High Mass Mom & Dad – Happy Anniversary (<i>Sr. Ulrica</i>) 10:40 AM Catechism Classes 11:05 AM Rosary 11:30 AM Low Mass Mary Rake 4:30 PM Vespers, October Devotions, Benediction 5:45 PM Low Mass For the people of St. Gertrude the Great