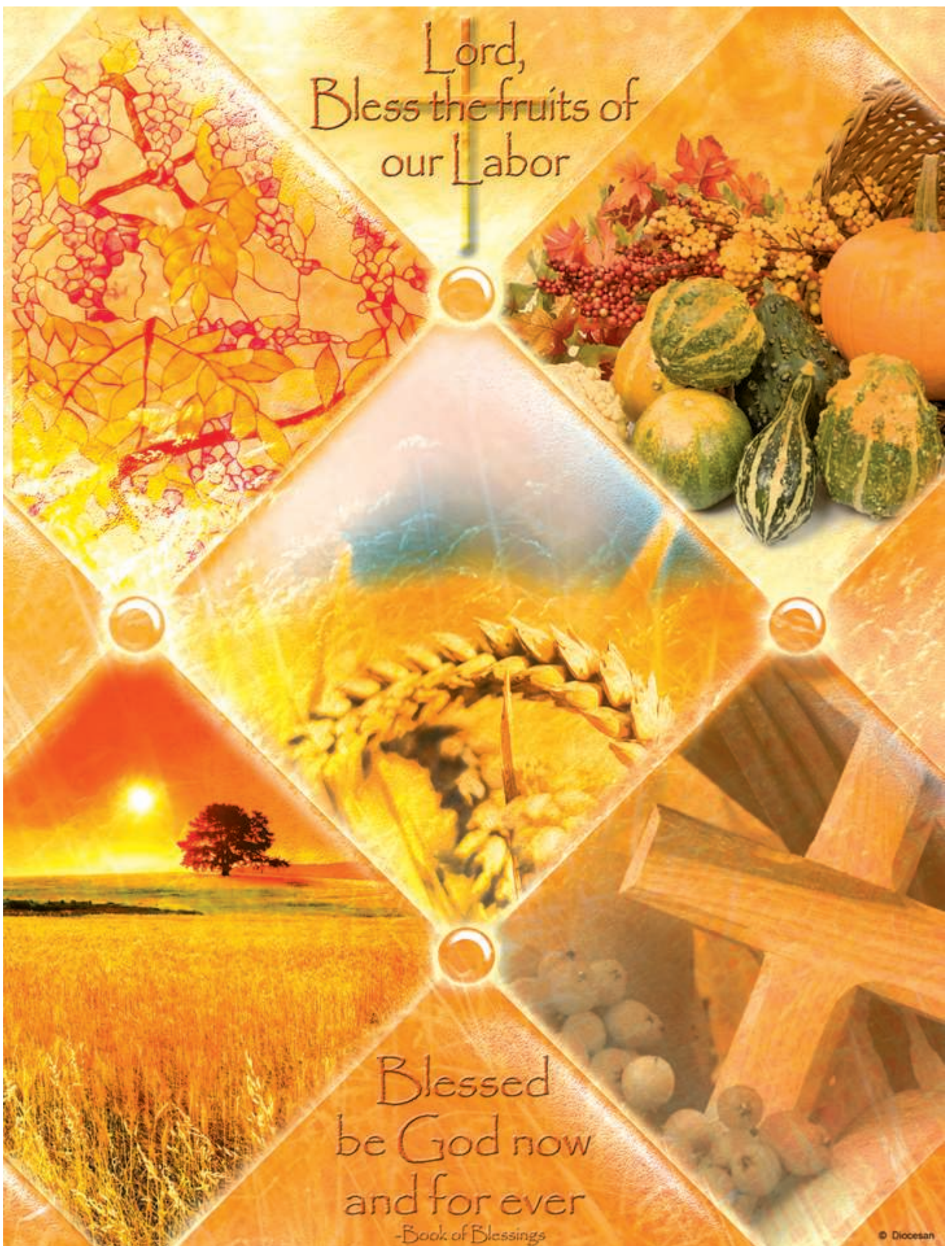


Lord,
Bless the fruits of
our Labor



Blessed
be God now
and for ever

-Book of Blessings



MISSION STATEMENT

St. Gertrude is a Roman Catholic Parish in the Dominican heritage of prayer, preaching, and teaching. Under our Lady's mantle, gathered as the Body of Christ, we celebrate Him in Sacraments, Sacred Scripture and in Catholic education. Serving our brothers and sisters in the New Evangelization, we seek to grow in love as we journey with Jesus to God the Father.

PARISH STAFF

Dominican Friars	<i>Pastor:</i> Rev. André-Joseph LaCasse, O.P. <i>Prior:</i> Very Rev. Allen Moran, O.P.
Parochial Vicars	Rev. Gabriel Torretta, O.P. Rev. Clement Dickie, O.P.
In Residence	Rev. Paul J. Keller, O.P. Rev. Joseph Alobaidi, O.P. Rev. Giles Dimock, O.P. Rev. Michael Mary Dosch, O.P. (Novice Master)
Parish Office/561-5954	(parishoffice@stgertrude.org)
Receptionists	Susan Kane and Teri Forlini
Business Office	Mike Muse /ext 2102
Asst. Business Mgr. & Safe Environ./Child Protection	Mary Tappel/ext 2103
Music Director	Catherine Fishlock/ext 2116
Bulletin Coordinator	(bulletin@stgertrude.org) Gayle Bibisi
Office of Evangelization:	
Director of Adult Evangelization/Pastoral Services	Lawain McNeil/ext 1123
Director of Primary Youth Evangelization	Shari Siebert/561-8369
Director of Jr. High Youth Evangelization	Bryan Wells/ext 2110
Director of High School Youth Evangelization	Megan Dickert/ext 2109
Wedding/Bereavement Coordinator	AnnaMaria Spurgin/ext 1124
St. Gertrude School/561-8020	(stgertrudesch.org) Sr. Mary Aquinas, O.P.
Vocation Directors	
<i>Archdiocese of Cincinnati</i>	Fr. Dan Schmittmeyer/421-3131
<i>Dominican Friars</i>	Fr. Benedict Croell, O.P., DominicanFriars.org
<i>Nashville Dominican Sisters</i>	Sr. Peter Marie, O.P./615-256-5486

PARISH MINISTRIES

<i>Athletic Boosters/Sports Leaders</i>	Marc Gerwel/774-7779
<i>Baptism Coordinators</i>	Mike & Mary Clare Peck/497-4783
<i>Benedictine Oblate</i>	Clyde & Pat Dorn/791-0988
<i>Catholic Men's Fellowship</i>	Chris Nachtrab/312-7841
<i>Choir</i>	Catherine Fishlock/561-5954
<i>Cincinnati Frassati Fellowship</i>	John Dumas IV/ contact@cincinnatiassati.com
<i>Circle of Prayer</i>	Barbara Rose/ prayercirclesg@gmail.com
<i>Communion to the Sick</i>	Judy Hartmann/984-8003
<i>Dominican Laity: Bishop Fenwick</i>	Jonathan Ring/ ringjp@gmail.com
<i>Dominican Laity: Our Lady of Peace</i>	Patty Connelly/793-2246
<i>Ex. Ministers of Holy Communion</i>	Rob Lockwood/319-0543
<i>Familia</i>	Anita Pappalardo/248-8237
<i>Ferro Acuitur</i>	Rick Sammons/675-1122
<i>Finance Council</i>	Tim Paulin/248-0441
<i>Gertie Moms</i>	Leslie Stahlberger/250-8480/ jstahlbergerfam@att.net
<i>Holy Family Prayer Group</i>	Malissa Frohlich/519-5197
<i>Knights of Columbus</i>	Tom Hahn/702-9354
<i>Ladies of Charity</i>	Jean Wilkinson/498-5085
<i>Lectors</i>	Casey Huber/675-7375
<i>Little Flower Library</i>	Susan Santos/504-0205
<i>Mater Filius Queen City</i>	Maria Resendiz/260-8055
<i>Natural Family Planning</i>	Dave & Ann Stein/561-5751
<i>Parent/Teacher Organization</i>	Sarah Holt/677-2122
<i>Parish Health</i>	Jeanne Palcic/317-4123
<i>Pastoral Council</i>	Dwight Stephenson/351-1769
<i>Perpetual Adoration</i>	561-5954, ext. 2136
<i>Prayer Ministry for the Dying</i>	Pat Collins/265-1897
<i>R.C.I.A.</i>	Rev. Gabriel Torretta, O.P./561-5954
<i>Regina Veritatis Healing Prayer</i>	Cornelia Mechley/340-4586
<i>Respect Life</i>	Debbie Graham/984-4766
<i>Rosary Makers</i>	Larry Ball/646-8523
<i>School Advisory Council</i>	Leah Naumann/260-5441
<i>Scouts</i>	Jim Pappalardo/248-8237
<i>Soup Kitchen</i>	Andy Cordier/248-1005
<i>St. Vincent de Paul</i>	Larry Ball/646-8523
<i>Stewardship Committee</i>	Brad Schueler/386-8935
<i>Ushers</i>	Douglas Postler/791-6298
<i>Website</i>	Sal Forlini/831-9265
<i>Women's Group</i>	Anne Marie Schmidt/859-486-3183
Pregnancy Center East (for all pregnancy needs)	321-3100

MASS, CONFESSION AND DEVOTION SCHEDULE

Monday, November 20, Weekday

7:00am	Joseph Novajosky/Bob & Nancy Hoye
8:00am	Dr. Thomas Dugan/Luiso Family
11:30am	Deceased Members of the Order of Friars Preachers
12:00pm	Midday Prayer
7:00pm	Healing Rosary

Tuesday, November 21, The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (M)

7:00am	Catherine Abele/Mary & Jim Tappel
8:00am	Nicholas Vogel/Anne Collins
11:30am	Daniel LaCasse/Stewardship Committee
12:00pm	Midday Prayer

Wednesday, November 22, St. Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr (M)

7:00am	Marjorie Schirmer/Joe Schirmer
8:00am	Patsy Scalo/Jim & Darla Wainscott
11:30am	Don Heuberger/Ed & Linda Witte
12:00pm	Midday Prayer
7:00pm	Vocations, Holy Hour, Confessions, & Benediction

Thursday, November 23, Thanksgiving Day

9:30am	People of St. Gertrude, Living and Deceased
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Friday, November 24, SS. Ignatius Clement Delgado, O.P., Bishop, Vincent Le Quang Liem a Pace, O.P., Priest, and Dominic Pham Trong (An) Kam, O.P., Husband, and Companions, Martyrs in Vietnam (M)

7:00am	Traci-Ann Wise/Family
8:00am	James Finnegan/Dell 'Aira Family
11:30am	Susan Castleberry/Elaine & Jeff Parker
12:00pm	Midday Prayer

Saturday, November 25, St. Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin and Martyr

8:00am	Tom Queenan/Tartaron Family
10:30am	Confessions
11:30am	Meg Crall/Fran & Mel Lipari
3:30pm	Confessions

Nov. 25-26 Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (S)

Sat. 4:30pm	James Meiners/Joyce Meiners
Sun. 8:00am	People of St. Gertrude, Living and Deceased
9:30am	Daniel LaCasse/Mike & Ellie Kenny
11:00am	Mel Burbrink/Pam Farrell & Family
12:30pm	Rick Schweitzer III/Elaine & Jeff Parker
6:00pm	Bubba Hctor/Hctor Family

BULLETIN DEADLINE

December 3 bulletin • Wednesday, November 22 Noon

Please submit your Mass announcements and bulletin articles to: bulletin@stgertrude.org
6543 Miami Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45243
(513) 561-5954 • FAX (513) 561-7184 • www.stgertrude.org

New landscaping around the Parish Center

Lots of parishioners have been asking about the new landscaping that is being constructed around the Parish Center. I have mentioned this before in my past Pastor's columns, but once again to let everyone know what is going on, and a little more information.



First of all I want our parishioners to know that the expense for these projects has been donated to the parish by generous benefactors.

The first project was the landscaping around the gym entrance. We installed a new retaining wall, seating, and a walkway. This was needed for added safety for our kids coming and going from gym class.

The second landscaping project is a seat retaining wall where the Children's Garden used to be. This "serpentine" seat wall will be accompanied by a Jubilee Memorial marking the pastors from St. Gertrude's who have celebrated their 25 and 50 Jubilees of Ordination.

The third landscaping project will be a new Pro-Life Knights of Columbus Plaza Entrance. The Knights of Columbus are known for their great work for the sanctity of life. This plaza will have a Pro-Life Monument reminding us to keep praying and working for the sacredness of life, new seating areas, and a new entrance for the Knights of Columbus.

I am grateful for the generosity of the Knights of Columbus and two other families who have generously given for all these projects. It should be very nice by the time it is finished. In the spring of 2018 the trees, shrubs, and plantings will be done in all three areas. There will be opportunities for you to donate in memoriam at that time.

Mass Offerings, Part II

What it means to have a Mass "offered" for someone.

The Church has always taught that the Mass brings about certain fruits. This includes effect upon the living members of the Church as well as the poor souls in purgatory. The special ministerial fruits of the Mass are applied to the particular intention of the Mass, often referred to as that "for whom the Mass is offered." There are also special personal fruits from the Mass that benefit the celebrating priest who acts in the person of Christ, as well as the people who are in attendance and participate in the Mass.



A person may ask a priest to offer a Mass for a particular intention. Typically, a stipend is given to the priest for offering the Mass, which thereby in justice creates an obligation which must be satisfied. This particular intention is sometimes called a "stipended intention." Whereas the intention normally goes to the priest, in the case of religious with vows of poverty, such as the Dominicans, the stipend goes to the community or the parish.

The Code of Canon Law clearly acknowledges that the offerings of the faithful for Mass intentions are a laudable practice. The Code revised in 1983 deliberately chose the term "offering" in preference to the traditional term "stipend." This communicates that any offering given for the celebration of a Mass is to be freely given, as well as the fact that the poor and needy are never to be denied the celebration of a Mass for their intentions because of their inability to provide a customary offering (c. 945). Canon 946 states, "Christ's faithful who make an offering so that Mass can be celebrated for their intention, contribute to the good of the Church, and by that offering they share in the Church's concern for the support of its ministers and its activities."

This practice dates back to the early Church and has clear pastoral value. When we face the death of someone, even a person who is not Catholic, to have a Mass offered for the repose of his soul and to offer our prayers are more beneficial and comforting than any other sympathy card or bouquet of flowers. To have a Mass offered on the occasion of a birthday, anniversary or special need is appropriate, beneficial and appreciated.

The priest always has the particular intention in mind, even if it is not announced. During formation, priests are instructed to form a habitual intention of always remembering the particular intention. Sometimes it is not even known to the priest, such as when someone asks for a Mass to be offered for "a special intention."

A Blessed Week to All,

Rev. André-Joseph LaCasse, O.P.

Rev. André-Joseph LaCasse, O.P., Pastor

OFFERING

Offering for Sunday, November 12, 2017

Collection:	\$39,110.09
Year to Date (starting July 1):	\$725,748.30
Year to Date Budget:	\$727,000.00
Offering Deficit:	(\$1,251.70)
Children's Collection:	\$3.13

The year to date totals include stock and other large donations.

PLEASE PRAY FOR ...

The Sick

Anthony Alvarez, Lisa Bertke, Lynne Blake, Mary Lou Brockman, Bettie Caudill, Frank Cianciolo, Marguerite Crema, Triset Defonseka, Agnes Dryer, Kathy Elsbernd, Peggy Eshman, Ronald Gunn, Joe Holly, Hummel Family, Erin Kelly, Peggy Kindt, Cecilia Lemming, Ann Lukey, Linda Merkley, Leo Napuri, Marlene Ney, Bill Quattrone, Therese Rieger, Jane Sansalone, Richard Seifert, Patricia Scherer, Joe Schirmer, Pegge Schuermann, George Sullivan, Judy Sullivan, John Sweeney

Those in the Armed Forces

Chris Babcock, Adam Benvie, Patrick Burke, Cole Foster, Dominic Geraci, Daniel Holian, Mike Huber, Aaron Jacobson, Jacob Kramb, John Kramb, John Oscar, Drew Pearson, Ian Tester

The Deceased

Jeanne Stephens, wife of Christopher

If you know of anyone who should be added or removed from the Prayer Column, please contact: bulletin@stgertrude.org.

Ladies of Charity Christmas Giving Tree Sign Ups

Annual Christmas Giving Tree sign ups are the weekends of November 18-19 and 25-26. Many families throughout our area have a very special Christmas because of our parishioners generosity. Please stop by the Christmas Giving Tree and pick a tag off the tree and help us fulfill the wishes of some very special people. Drop off for the gifts is December 2 and 3.

Rosary in Sharonville

Please join your fellow parishioners and the Knights of Columbus in a prayerful remembrance of those lost to abortion by praying the rosary for life in Sharonville on **Saturday, November 25 at 9:00am**. Rides will be available for those who would like to carpool. For information, please contact Tom Hahn at 831-2386.

**Adoration Chapel Closing for Thanksgiving**

The Adoration Chapel will be closed for Thanksgiving, beginning at 9:00pm on Wednesday, November 22, and will reopen on Friday, November 24 at 9:00am.

URGENT — Adorers Needed!

Wednesdays from 12:00-1:00am and 1:00-2:00am; Saturdays 10:00-11:00am; and Saturdays from 12:00-1:00am and 1:00-2:00am. To sign up for these hours, please contact Anita Pappalardo at 248-8237 or pappacinci@gmail.com.

**WEEKLY SCHEDULE****Monday, November 20**

- 6:00pm SportsLeader: School Library
- 7:00pm Healing Rosary: Church
- 7:00pm RCIA: St. Dominic Lobby
- 7:00pm PHM Health Cabinet Meeting: St. Joseph Room
- 7:00pm Boosters: School Library

Tuesday, November 21

- 3:00pm Children's Choir: PC Music Room
- 7:00pm Boy Scouts: School Cafeteria

Wednesday, November 22

- 8:30am Resurrection Choir: St. Joseph Room
- 5:30pm Mater Filius Prayer Group: Church
- 7:00pm Adult Choir Practice: PC Music Room

Thursday, November 23 — PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

- 10:30am Thanksgiving Parish Coffee: PC Gym

Friday, November 24 — PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

- 12:00pm Eagle Scout Reunion: School Cafeteria

Saturday, November 25

- 7:30am Catholic Men's Fellowship: School Cafeteria
- 4:30pm Ladies of Charity Giving Tree Sign Ups: St. Dominic Lobby

Sunday, November 26 — PARISH LIBRARY CLOSED

- 8:00am Ladies of Charity Giving Tree Sign Ups: St. Dominic Lobby
- 1:45pm Baptisms: Church

Catholic Men's Fellowship of Greater Cincinnati

The 2017 annual Catholic Men's Advent Retreat, sponsored by the St. Gertrude Men's Fellowship, will be Friday (12/1 evening) and Saturday (12/2) at Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Center, 5440 Moeller Avenue. Space is available on a "1st Come — 1st Served" basis.



Fr. Martin Martiny, O.P. will serve as our Retreat Master. Our theme is the miracle of "The **REAL** Presence" of Christ in the Eucharist. Fr. Martin Martiny, O.P., a native of New Orleans, is a retired Naval Officer who served in the Vietnam war and Operation Desert Storm. He taught at the U.S. Naval Academy and served at the Department of State in Washington, DC. Following ordination, he was a missionary for 14 years in Eastern Africa and parish priest in Zanesville, OH and Louisville, KY. Fr. Martin is now Chaplain at the University of Louisville.

The full \$85.00 registration includes the Friday night sleeping room and three meals ("Day Tripper" charge is \$50.00 and includes all meals) and must be paid by November 27 to facilitate meal planning (no refunds for guaranteed meals after November 27).

Checks should be made out to St. Gertrude Church (note "Men's Retreat" in the Memo section). Send your payment to Stan Lloyd, 10489 Hopewell Hills Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45249, 513-289-5268.

STEWARDSHIP

Marriage Enrichment Program

St. Gertrude Parish is pleased to again offer “Discovering our Deepest Desire” or DoDD. This program is to promote and strengthen one of the church’s most fundamental Sacraments and enrich marriages in our parish community and beyond. DoDD has two key tenets: First, it helps couples renew their understanding of what their Sacramental Marriage means, and secondly, to rediscover each other by making their relationship and covenant a higher priority in the midst of busy lives. The weekly sessions can be a *date night* comprising of lecture, small group activities and one-on-one time with your spouse. The series is written by Greg Schutte, MSW, LISW-S. Greg is a Catholic husband, father and the Director of Marriage Works! Ohio. This year we are blessed to have the seminar presented by Mary LeGouellec, M.Ed., LPC, Andrea and Jon Patch, and Mary Kay and Jim Hochhausler. DoDD is comprised of 12 weekly sessions that begin on Thursday, January 4, 2018, and will continue every Thursday evening through March 22, 2018. The sessions are held in the St. Gertrude School cafeteria from 7:00 to 9:00pm. Class size is limited to 15 couples, so early registration is critical as we have a waiting list each year. There is no cost to attend, but we will collect a free-will offering at the end of the seminar. To learn more about DoDD, our Couple presenters, Andrea and Jon Patch, will give a brief presentation before all of the Masses on December 2 and 3. Registration will open after the 4:30pm Mass and continue through December 3 (after all Masses) at the DoDD registration table in the St. Dominic Lobby. You can also register online beginning December 3. Please see future bulletin announcements for online registration instructions. If you have additional questions, contact AnnaMaria Spurgin, Wedding Coordinator, at amspurgin@stgertrude.org or 561-5954, ext. 1124.



Thank You from 40 Days for Life

Thank you to all who took the time and stood in the rain to pray in Sharonville as part of the 40 Days for Life Campaign! It was a peaceful witness to all who work at the clinic and perhaps offered a loving solution to the women who face life altering decisions. Thank you again for taking the time for this important ministry! — *Debbie Graham*



The good news of today’s Gospel is the extravagance of what is being given us. All we need do is be faithful in “small matters.” The cost of fidelity has no comparison to the reward given. When you give the furniture, household items, and clothing you no longer use to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, you are sharing God’s extravagant love.

Saint Vincent de Paul is an organization dedicated to helping those in our community who are less fortunate than ourselves. We accept donations of non-perishable food items in a blue barrel located inside the sacristy entrance. We also accept clothing donations in a large container in the school parking lot adjacent to the maintenance building.



ST. GERTRUDE SCHOOL

Academic Excellence in the Dominican Tradition



NURTURING INTELLIGENT & VIRTUOUS LEADERS

A loving and supportive environment, where traditional values and modern teaching foster critical thinking, curiosity and collaboration.

NOW ENROLLING FOR 2018-2019

Visit us to discover what makes St. Gertrude such a special place
Find out more at www.stgertrudesch.org or visit us on Facebook
6543 Miami Ave. Cincinnati, OH | 513.561.8020

Baptism

Please congratulate Sebastian and Michelle Misleh upon the baptism of their son, Michael Sebastian, on Sunday, October 29, 2017 at St. Gertrude Church.



Thanksgiving Proclamation

Issued by President George Washington, at the request of Congress, on October 3, 1789

By the President of the United States of America, a Proclamation.

Whereas it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor; and — Whereas both Houses of Congress have, by their joint committee, requested me “to recommend to the people of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness:”



Now, therefore, I do recommend and assign Thursday, the 26th day of November next, to be devoted by the people of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being who is the beneficent author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be; that we may then all unite in rendering unto Him our sincere and humble thanks for His kind care and protection of the people of this country previous to their becoming a nation; for the signal and manifold mercies and the favorable interpositions of His providence in the course and conclusion of the late war; for the great degree of tranquility, union, and plenty which we have since enjoyed; for the peaceable and rational manner in which we have been enabled to establish constitutions of government for our safety and happiness, and particularly the national one now lately instituted; for the civil and religious liberty with which we are blessed, and the means we have of acquiring and diffusing useful knowledge; and, in general, for all the great and various favors which He has been pleased to confer upon us.

And also that we may then unite in most humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of Nations, and beseech Him to pardon our national and other transgressions; to enable us all, whether in public or private stations, to perform our several and relative duties properly and punctually; to render our National Government a blessing to all the people by constantly being a Government of wise, just, and constitutional laws, discreetly and faithfully executed and obeyed; to protect and guide all sovereigns and nations (especially such as have shown kindness to us), and to bless them with good governments, peace, and concord; to promote the knowledge and practice of true religion and virtue, and the increase of science among them and us; and, generally, to grant unto all mankind such a degree of temporal prosperity as He alone knows to be best.

Given under my hand at the City of New York the third day of October in the year of our Lord 1789.

Go. Washington

Mother/Daughter Ornament Exchange Party

We still have a few openings for the Mother/Daughter Ornament Exchange Party, Friday, December 8, \$20 per family. Hosted by: Leah Naumann. If interested in attending, please contact Cathy at 290-3391.



Fresh-Cut Christmas Trees: Boy Scout Troop 18

BoyScoutChristmasTrees.com

For the 52nd consecutive year, Troop 18 will be selling fresh-cut Christmas Trees daily beginning **Saturday, November 25** at noon, until Christmas, *or* until they are sold out. All varieties: Scotch Pine, Frazier Fir, Balsam, White Pine, and Douglas Firs. Pine roping and wreaths. The tree lot is located at St. Savior Church, Plainfield Road. Hours: **Saturdays and Sundays: 9:00am-9:00pm; and weekdays: 3:00-9:00pm.**



Christmas Trees for the Less

Fortunate: Troop 18 is again offering Christmas Trees for the less fortunate. If you would like to donate to this worthy cause, you can do so through our website: BoyScoutChristmasTrees.com, at the tree lot, or by sending a check made out to “Troop 18” to Troop 18 C/O 6249 Kenwood Hills Drive; Cincinnati, OH 45227. No donation is too small; any amount is appreciated. If you donate an entire tree and would like to be acknowledged, we will place a gift card with your name on the tree.

Lunch With The Lord

Join St. Peter in Chains Cathedral for their Advent Lunch with the Lord on Mondays, November 27, and December 4, 11, and 18, from 12 Noon-1:00pm in the Synod Hall. The speakers will guide you on an Advent meditation of the Joyful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary. Monsignor Frank Lane will provide the historical and theological background of these Mysteries, while Dr. Ceil Dorger will take you on a journey through the Mysteries as depicted in sacred art. The sessions are free and open to the public. Bring a friend and a lunch and enjoy this lovely meditation as a way to prepare your heart for the coming of our Lord.

St. Faustina's Diary

O Prisoner of Love, I lock up my poor heart in this tabernacle, that it may adore You without cease night and day. I know of no obstacle in this adoration, and even though I be physically distant, my heart is always with You. Nothing can put a stop to my love for You.

No obstacles exist for me. O my Jesus, I will console You for all the ingratitude, the blasphemies, the coldness, the hatred of the wicked, the sacrileges. O Jesus, I want to burn as a pure offering and to be consumed before the throne of Your hiddenness. I plead with You unceasingly for poor dying sinners. (*Diary*, #80)

