

# ST. GERTRUDE CHURCH

January 31, 2021 - Catholic Schools Week

#### MASSES AT ST. GERTRUDE

#### Monday, February 1, Weekday

7:00 a.m. †Lillian Durham/Jim & AnnaMaria Spurgin 8:00 a.m. †Charles Lemming/Doug & Robin Postler 11:30 a.m. †Deceased Members of the Dominican Order

#### Tuesday, February 2, The Presentation of the Lord (F)

7:00 a.m. †Ray Meyer/John Knueven 8:00 a.m. †Tim Petric/Kevin & Anne Lynch 11:30 a.m. †George Cook/Laura Ringenbach 7:30 p.m. Intention of the Celebrant

#### Wednesday, February 3, Weekday

7:00 a.m. †Brandon Hepner/Peter & Donna Marcello 8:00 a.m. †Len Sodergren/The Vasquez Family 11:30 a.m. †Mark Poland/The Poland Family

#### Thursday, February 4, Weekday

7:00 a.m. †Tim Jefferies/Carol & Jeff Remenowsky 8:00 a.m. †Robert & Joan Rogers/The Hellers 11:30 a.m. †Shirley Seeger/Tom & Peggy Frank

#### Friday, February 5, St. Agatha (M)

7:00 a.m. †Robert Roberts/Courtney Roberts

8:00 a.m. †Jane Thole/Al Stevenson

11:30 a.m. †Mary Kay Feighery/John Feighery

#### Saturday, February 6, St. Paul Miki & Companions (M)

8:00 a.m. Victor Ibarra Ruiz/Victor & Karisa Ibarra

11:30 a.m. Thien Cao/Thien Cao

#### February 6-7, 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Saturday** †Dennis Imwalle/Anne Elise Smith

Sunday People of St. Gertrude, Living and Deceased

†Philomena Hilgefort/Thomas &

Ann Marie Dierker

†Jim & Margie Ferguson/Terry Ferguson

†Jack Schuler/Patty & Jim Hook

†Fr. Matt Gamber, SJ/Elaine & Jeff Parker

#### **Parish Office Info**

#### Parish Office Hours

Monday-Friday: 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

School Office Hours

Monday-Friday: 7:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Church Hours

Every day: 7:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.

## PUBLIC WORSHIP AT ST. GERTRUDE CHURCH IN TIME OF PANDEMIC

Updated November 1, 2020

The Archbishop dispenses the faithful from the obligation of attending Sunday Mass. Please do not come if you feel sick. Those who are vulnerable may consider coming to a less crowded weekday Mass.

#### HEALTH AND SAFETY MEASURES

- Keep a prudent distance inside the church. Ushers will help ensure safe seating on Sundays.
- We ask that the faithful wear cloth masks for the sake of the common good. People with breathing difficulties and young children should not wear masks.
- Only friars, sisters, novices, lay ministers and a limited number of staff members will be in the sanctuary and sacristy.
- Volunteers will help wipe down high-touch surfaces between Sunday Masses.

#### HOLY COMMUNION

- You are not obliged to receive Holy Communion at every Mass you attend. Consider making a spiritual communion, or receiving at a weekday Mass.
- The faithful who choose to receive Holy Communion will come up to the altar rail, where one or two priests will distribute the sacred host. Keep space in line, and only remove your mask at the rail.
- You may receive in the hand or on the tongue, kneeling or standing. Note: the rail is a high-contact surface.

#### **Mass & Confession Schedule**

#### SUNDAY

8:00 a.m. Mass

10:00 a.m. Conventual Mass

12:00 p.m. Mass 6:00 p.m. Mass

#### WEEKDAYS

7:00 a.m. Mass 8:00 a.m. Mass

11:30 a.m. Conventual Mass

12:00 p.m. Midday Prayer in Church
4:00 p.m. Confessions in Church
7:30 p.m. Confessions in Church
(Wednesdays Only)

(Wednesdays Only)

#### SATURDAY

8:00 a.m. Conventual Mass

11:30 a.m. Mass

3:30 p.m. Confessions in Church4:30 p.m. Mass (Sunday Anticipated)



#### REFLECTING ON THE PARISH SCHOOL

Today is the beginning of Catholic Schools Week, which is an opportunity to reflect upon and celebrate the presence and offerings of a parish school. This is a good reflection for me since I

did not attend a parochial school; but, as pastor of a parish with a school, I have a great interest in our school and its operations.

A parish school fits within the overall mission of a parish to bring persons to an encounter with Jesus and support their friendship with Him as a disciple. Obviously, there is much for children to learn in the entire realm of the arts and sciences and a Catholic school does well to educate in these disciplines. There is

an integrity and coherence in this education because a parish school can communicate to students (and parents) that all truth in every discipline is a reflection of the truth and creative order of God. One might ask what science



has to do with God. A Catholic school can communicate that the laws of nature and the intricate functions of the world around us did not evolve out of nothing, but reflect an intelligent being who orders creation and makes humanity stewards of it. The study of history offers much information, but also teaches that God's Providence is revealed in the unfolding of human events.

A parish school provides a unique context of human formation in virtue. Catholic faith provides a clear teaching regarding the dignity of the human person and the excellence to which every person can achieve. Not only are there natural virtues, but there are also the supernatural virtues that form and strengthen the goodness of a person. As St. Thomas Aquinas teaches, grace builds upon nature and perfects it. Certainly, it is a lifelong process, but a Catholic school education supports the workings of God's grace in each student. Intelligence is formed along with personality and character. Interacting with fellow students are occasions of practicing and perfecting the virtues.

Particularly, a parish school supports parents in their handing on of Catholic faith, doctrine, morality, and service. The school brings parents together with faculty and staff to provide the children with opportunities to encounter Jesus and experience the truths of faith in action. The school day begins and ends with prayer. Classes make devotional visits to the Blessed Sacrament in the school chapel or take a Rosary walk on parish grounds. Each

week, our students gather for the celebration of the Eucharist with their schoolmates. Regularly, our students encounter the loving mercy of Jesus in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The Christmas pageant helps students to know and embrace the gift of the Incarnation.

In short, a parish school affirms the gift of every student as a child of God and strives to promote and support the full development of a child physically, emotionally, and spiritually. This reflection reminds me of the encouragement of St. Paul found in his letter to the Philippians: "Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things" (4:8). We are truly blessed to have a school as a vital expression of our mission as a parish. It is a blessing to see our children learning and growing in many ways. And how beautiful it is to hear and see our children praying to Jesus with childlike love and sincerity. As we

begin the observance of Catholic Schools Week, I invite everyone in the parish to give thanks to God for our parish school, and the administration, faculty and staff who see to its daily operations.



Let us love one another and pray for each other,

Fr. George, O.P.

**COVER IMAGE: PHOTO BY NICK STARESINIC** 

#### FROM THE DIARY OF ST. MARIA FAUSTINA KOWALSKA



I feel certain that my mission will not come to an end upon my death, but will begin. O doubting souls, I will draw aside for you the veils of heaven to convince you of God's goodness, so that you will no longer continue to wound with your distrust the sweetest

Heart of Jesus. God is Love and Mercy. (Diary, #281)







St. Gertrude School invites you to our

## OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, January 31st | 1:00pm - 3:00pm

Please RSVP on our website: www.stgertrudesch.org

Come see how your child will thrive in a loving and supportive environment, where traditional values and modern teaching foster critical thinking, curiosity and collaboration.

#### **NOW ENROLLING FOR 2021-2022**

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#### PERSONAL POSSESSIONS

A parishioner reported her car being broken into and her purse stolen during Mass last week. Please secure all personal belongings during what are difficult times for many people.

#### **GIFT CARD SCAM**

Please note that the Dominican Friars and Sisters, Parish and School Staff, and Parish Volunteers are prohibited from soliciting any type of gift card by email or text. Should you receive such a message, it is not authorized and should be discarded.

#### **UPCOMING VISIT**

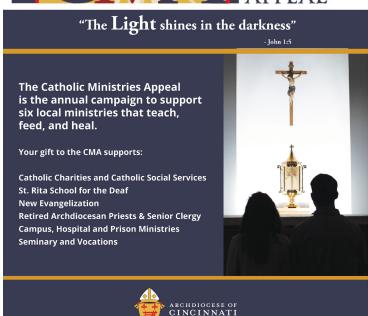


Fr. Ken Letoile, O.P., Prior Provincial for the Dominican Friars and former pastor of St. Gertrude Church will be in Cincinnati February 10-17. His primary purpose is to meet with each Dominican priest and novice, and the community in general. He will celebrate and preach the 10:00 a.m. parish

Mass on Sunday, February 14. He will also meet with lay staff and lay leaders of the parish.







#### **LET US PRAY**

#### PLEASE PRAY FOR...

#### THE SICK:

Anthony Alvarez, Lisa Bertke, Mary Lou Brockman, Bettie Caudill, Larry & Pat Collins, Marguerite Crema, Kylee Dawson, Triset Defonseka, Jean Ellert, Kathy Elsbernd, Bob Gerwin, Andrew Goad, Glenn Grismere, Loretta Holden, Joe Holly, Hummel Family, Michael John, Aiko Kimura, Ed Kinney, Janice Koncius, Carlos LaTorre, Sophia LaTorre, Ann Lukey, Frank Merle, Sandra Munyon, Leo Napuri, Tim Ney, Gerry Patterson, Michelle (Lydon) Ruscher, Jane Sansalone, Terry Scales, Ellen Schaengold, Patricia Scherer, Pegge Schuermann, Richard Seifert, Teddie Slaper, Alex Smithers, Jack Spilker, Jim Spurgin, Patricia Strauss, Judy Sullivan, John Sweeney, Mary Saul, Mary Valker and Bill Van Hise

#### THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES:

Patrick Burke, Cole and Kyle Foster, Dominic Geraci, Daniel Holian, Mike Huber, Aaron Jacobson, Jacob Kramb, John Kramb, Kelly Leugers, John Oscar, Sarah Ries, Dan Roseman, Andrew Shannon, and Ian Tester

#### PRAY FOR THE DECEASED:

Calvin Tanner, Jr. – Father of Lisa Becker Jeffrey Vollmer – Son of Bruce & Molly Vollmer





## CATHOLIC RETREAT: LIVING THE BEATITUDES DURING THIS PANDEMIC

All are welcome and the whole family is encouraged to attend!

When: February 19-20, 2021

Where: Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Center, 5440 Moeller Avenue, Norwood, Ohio 45212

Cost: A Donation – Pray and "do whatever He tells you."

For more information and to register, go to our website at presentationministries.com and scroll down to "Events" or contact Nancy at 513-282-6544 or email pmcoworker@gmail.com.

## **HOPE EMERGENCY PROGRAM**

A Legacy of Hope for Hungry People



#### HOPE EMERGENCY CENTER

The Ladies of Charity will be collecting at the white van in the parking lot the weekend of February 6-7. We will be collecting before and after all Masses, except 6:00 p.m. The collection benefits HOPE EMERGENCY CENTER, an agency in Lynchburg, Ohio, that aids the poor in Adams, Brown, Clinton, Highland and surrounding counties. The center serves about 250 families who are struggling to make ends meet. Everyone that comes for food and clothing receives it. Their greatest needs this month are food, diapers, formula, and baby food. Donations by cash or check are also appreciated. Items needed on a regular basis: nonperishable food, personal hygiene items, practical household items and clean, empty water bottles with lids. Thank you so much for your continued support. Questions? Please call Jean Wilkinson at 513-498-5085.

#### **GET YOUR PIZZA AFTER MASS FOR**



#### THE BIG GAME!



Take 'n Bake Pizzas from Krimmer's Italianette! 2 varieties: Cheese and Pepperoni "Bake 'em up at Home!"

DATES:	Saturday, February 6th after 4:30 p.m. Mass Sunday, February 7th after 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Masses until we run out!
LOCATION:	St. Gertrude – Outside the Church
COST:	Large Cheese Pizza — \$10.00 Large Pepperoni Pizza — \$12.00

Note: credit cards accepted!





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# ASK A PRIEST - WHY ST. THOMAS AQUINAS? BY FR. JOHN MARK SOLITARIO, O.P.

**Q**: Why is St. Thomas Aquinas the patron saint of students?

**A**: Aquinas was one of the most brilliant teachers (and students) of Sacred Theology that the Church ever knew. This is why he earned the title, *Doctor Communis* or "Common Doctor," given his ability to absorb and synthesize the philosophical and theological knowledge of the masters who preceded him and issue his own summaries and conclusions.

How can Aquinas help us as we seek to understand the truth about God and man? Here are some very basic Thomistic insights that this thirteenth century theologian, master-teacher, and holy friar can help teach us as we strive for a holy, happy, and well-informed Catholic life:

#### 1. Everything is for a reason.

Chance is the name given to things without an apparent cause. But God sees from an entirely different vantage point: simple and comprehensive knowledge of everything. Created by God, everything bears the mark of His design and remains in existence only because He wills it to be. The thousand things which we experience in a day are made possible not only because God knows them, but because he cares about us human beings deeply, evil and sin not withstanding: this is the mystery of His Providence.

#### 2. It matters what you think.

I am borrowing this phrase. Because God's creation is marked by intelligibility, we human beings can arrive at definite knowledge about the Creator and His works. The development of human knowledge — science in its broad and more traditional sense — reflects the type of creatures that we are meant to be. Made in God's image and likeness, we desire to know things as deeply and broadly as possible. An accurate grasp of how things really are, i.e. our knowledge of divine, human, animal, and non-animate natures, deeply impacts how we decide to live our lives and whether or not we will choose what leads to our happiness.

3. God could have saved us in many ways, but He chose one way. This refers to Aquinas' teaching on Jesus. Just as St. Thomas acknowledges that God could have created the world in any number of ways, so he acknowledges that salvation could have come to us in whatever way God decided. But He chose one way in particular:

He sent His Son to be our Savior, humbling Himself and taking upon Himself the weight of our sins, even dying a shameful death. The only sufficient reason: love. Everything Jesus said and did reveals God's undying love for each of us. Each episode of His life carried salvific value. Therefore, we should pay attention to and love God's Word-made-Flesh, Jesus Christ.

#### 4. Pray for the wisdom and grace you need.

St. Thomas' moral teaching implies that some things are only achieved with God's help. This is the reason for God's grace, that supernatural gift that lifts our minds and hearts to see and desire what would otherwise be beyond human reach. The gifts of the Holy Spirit in particular — wisdom, understanding, knowledge, counsel, fortitude, piety, and fear of the Lord — are necessary virtues for all who wish to "be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect" (Mt 5:48) and who wish to see faith, hope, and love come to fruition.

## 5. Life is good. Heaven is better.

Aquinas and his teaching can be a big help to anyone seeking to scratch below the surface of life. With some introduction, his teaching is surprisingly clear and refreshingly in-tune with common experience. He also



puts one in touch with a great number of the most significant inquiries and disputes ever asked by human beings. More than this, Aquinas' teaching echoes the biblical affirmation of the fundamental goodness of all that exists. Every creature comes from and points toward a deep, divine wisdom and happiness revealed in the fullness of time in and through Christ. Ultimately, Aquinas wants his students to hope in eternal life and the beatific vision of God. Friendship with God in heaven is the *sine qua non* of all his teaching.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See *Aquinas 101*, a video podcast breaking down the *Summa Theologiae* of Aquinas into bit-sized installments, available for free online by the Thomistic Institute.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Ask a priest" will be a regular format for our Holy Teaching section in the coming months. Submit your own question to <u>bulletin@stgertrude.org</u> for one of our Dominican priests to answer in the bulletin!

Monday, February 1	Tuesday, February 2	Wednesday, February 3	Thursday, February 4	Friday, February 5	Saturday, February 6	Sunday, February 7
Religious Education 3:30 p.m. School Atrium	Children's Choir 3:00 p.m. Parish Center St. Dominic Lobby	Cana Family Training 6:30 p.m. Parish Center St. Joseph Mtg. Rm.	Cana Family 9:30 a.m. Parish Center St. Dominic Lobby		LOC Hope Emergency After 4:30 Mass Sharing Van	LOC Hope Emergency After all Masses Sharing Van
Healing Rosary 7:00 p.m. Church	Religious Education 4:30 p.m. School Atrium	Adult Choir 7:00 p.m. Parish Center St. Dominic Lobby	Regina Veritatis Team Meeting 6:30 p.m. Parish Center Music Room			Religious Education 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. School Cafeteria, Atrium
RCIA 7:00 p.m. Parish Center St. Dominic Lobby	<b>Boy Scouts</b> 7:00 p.m. School Cafeteria	Peer Ministry Meeting 7:00 p.m. School Cafeteria				HSYM Discipleship Cells 7:00 p.m. Parish Center
	Feast of the Presentation of the Lord Mass 7:30 p.m. Church	Benediction 8:50 p.m. Church				

For guidelines about meetings on campus and scheduling information, please visit: stgertrude.org/covid-19-guidelines/.

## **OFFERING**

St. Gertrude Parish Weekly Collection and Budget Report

#### Collection for January 24

Collection	\$	29,532
Wkly Bdgt	\$	38,235
Wkly Deficit	(\$	8,703)

#### Fiscal Year-To-Date (for year ending June 30, 2021)

Fiscal YTD Budget	\$ 1,187,059
Fiscal YTD Actual	\$ 1,207,219
Fiscal YTD Surplus	\$ 20.160

#### **BULLETIN DEADLINE**

Please submit your Mass announcements & bulletin articles to: bulletin@stgertrude.org

6543 Miami Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45243 513.561.5954 | FAX 513.561.7184 | www.StGertrude.org

#### **PARISH DIRECTORY**

#### Parish Staff

Rev. George Schommer, O.P., pastor

Rev. Clement Dickie, O.P., parochial vicar

Rev. John Mark Solitario, O.P., parochial vicar

#### Dominican Friars in Residence

Very Rev. John Langlois, O.P., prior

Rev. Joseph Alobaidi, O.P.

Rev. John Corbett, O.P.

Rev. Paul J. Keller, O.P.

Rev. Michael Mary Dosch, O.P., novice master

#### St. Gertrude School - 513.561.8020

Principal - Sr. Maria Christi Greve, O.P. ext 1101 Vice Principal - Mr. Travis Johnson ext 1101 PTO President - Sarah Schilling 513.315.1053 School Advisory Council

#### Office of Administration - 513.561.5954

Receptionists - Susan Kane & Teri Forlini ext 2101 Business Manager - Don Regan ext 2102 Wedding/Bereavement Coordinator -

AnnaMaria Spurgin amspurgin@stgertrude.org **Bulletin Editor** bulletin@stgertrude.org Sacristan - Sheila Saalfeld ext 2401

Director of Music - Catherine Fishlock

ext 2116

#### Office of Evangelization - 513.561.5954

Executive Director - Brad Bursa, PhD ext 2109 Primary Evangelization: PK-2nd Grade & Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Cindy Wurzelbacher ext 2109 Jr. High Evangelization: 3rd-8th Grade - Bryan Wells ext 2109 Jr. High Youth Ministry: 7th-8th Grade - Bryan Wells ext 2109

High School Youth Ministry - Megan Dickert ext 2109 Executive Assistant - Kristen Eggers 513.561.8369

Aquinas Society of Cincinnati (Adults & Families) -

Rev. Clement Dickie, O.P.

Rites of Christian Initiation (R.C.I.A.) -

Rev. John Mark Solitario, O.P.

#### Corporal Works of Mercy

Helping Hands - Nancy Lucas stgerthh@gmail.com Knights of Columbus - Phil Motz 513-444-5072 Ladies of Charity - Jean Wilkinson 513.498.5085 Parish Health Ministry - Jeanne Palcic 513.317.4123 Pregnancy Center East (for all pregnancy needs) 513.321.3100 Soup Kitchen - Andy Cordier 513.248.1005 St. Vincent De Paul Society - Mark Findley 513.561.5954, ext 2112 Visitation of the Sick - Judy Hartmann 513.984.803

#### **Vocations Directors**

Archdiocese of Cincinnati - Fr. Dan Schmitmeyer 513.421.3131 Dominican Friars -

Fr. Jacob Bertrand Janczyk, O.P. DominicanFriars.org Nashville Dominican Sisters - Sr. Mara Grace, O.P. 615.256.5486

#### Spiritual Works of Mercy

Baptism Team -

Circle of Prayer - Barbara Rose prayercirclesg@gmail.com Communion to Sick - Judy Hartmann 513.984.803 Natural Family Planning - David & Ann Stein 513.561.5751 Pastoral Council - Mark Kosobud 513.469.0852 Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration 513.561.5954 ext 2136 Prayer Ministry for the Dying - Pat Collins 513.265.1897

Regina Veritatis Prayer & Healing - Nealy Mechley 513.505.1740 Respect Life - Debbie Graham 513.984.4766 Rosary Making - Larry Ball 513.831.8572 Unbound Ministry - Nealy Mechley 513.505.1740

#### Liturgical Ministries

Adult Choir - Catherine Fishlock 513.561.5954 Contemporary Music Ensemble - Paul Kindt 513.697.9208 Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion -513.561.5954 513.561.5954 ext 1123 Resurrection Choir - Marty Cunningham 513.891.4226 The St. Anne and the Child Mary Guild -Cristina Genung 513.404.6011 St. Joseph the Worker Society -Rev. Clement Dickie, O.P. 513.561.5954 Ushers - Douglas Postler 513.791.6298 Viri Selecti - Ben Hoffmann pxaw@hotmail.com Youth Choir - Catherine Fishlock 513.561.5954

#### Spiritual Groups

Adult Bible Study -513.561.5954

Amiguitas del Corazón de Jesús -

Nora Klopp-Frias noraklopp08@gmail.com

Angelic Warfare Confraternity -

Rev. John Mark Solitario, O.P. 513.561.5954 Benedictine Oblates - Mark Milliron 513.536.6275 Catholic Men's Fellowship - Paul Rieger 513.885.593

Confraternity of the Most Holy Rosary -

Brian Zappia 513.791.7299

Dominican Laity (Bishop Fenwick) -

Jonathan Ring ringjp@gmail.com

Dominican Laity (OLP) -

Mr. Fred Thomas. O.P. 513.335.1700 or fth5131119@aol.com

FAMILIA/CANA Family For Mothers -

Anita Pappalardo 513.248.8237 513.519.5197

Holy Family Prayer Group - Malissa Frohlich

Special Needs Moms Support Group -

Tina Rolfes tina.rolfes123@gmail.com

True Devotion to Mary - Anne Collins 513.984.4708

#### Parish Groups

Athletic Boosters - Marc Gerwel	513.774.7779
Boy Scouts - Robert Dinga	612.616.8242
Cub Scouts - Chris De Brunner	513.379.1010
Garden Club - Susan Brokaw	513.702.6877
Lenten Fish Fry - Rob Mancini	513.520.6360
Little Flower Library - Susan Santos	513.504.0205
Parish Coffee - Mark Findley	513.417.9227

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