

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE:

In today's gospel, Jesus prepared his disciples for his departure. Family life is a series of departures. As we mature and grow older, we constantly transition from the familiar to the new unknown. Today, Jesus assures us we are not alone in these transitions. "I will not leave you orphans. I will come to you."

MASSES FOR THIS WEEK:

Monday, May 18

8:30 a.m. - Norval & Cecelia
Wannemacher +
Jack Frueh +

Tuesday, May 19

8:30 a.m. - Barb Daley, Susan Daley,
Sharon Daley-Geier +
Mary Rita Doorley +

Wednesday, May 20

8:30 a.m. - Louis Acerro +

Thursday, May 21

8:30 a.m. - Jeff Geise +
Bill Bourk +

Friday, May 22

8:30 a.m. - Thomas Houseworth +
David Steinbrunner +

Saturday, May 23

8:30 a.m. - Gary Tabler +
5:00 p.m. - Tom Gremling +
Jack Wolf, Sr. +

Sunday, May 24

8:30 a.m. - Pete Leugers &
Kathleen Coffee +
Vince Koza +
11:00 a.m. - People of St. Gerard
Parish
1:30 p.m. - Spanish Mass

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH:

Sunday, May 17

Masses at 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. (Online only)
1:30 p.m. - Spanish Mass (Online only)

Monday, May 18

8:30 a.m. - Mass (Online only)

Tuesday, May 19

8:30 a.m. - Mass (Online only)

Wednesday, May 20

8:30 a.m. - Mass (Online only)

Thursday, May 21

8:30 a.m. - Mass (Online only)

Friday, May 22

8:30 a.m. - Mass (Online only)

Saturday, May 23

8:30 a.m. - Mass (Online only)
3:00-4:00 p.m. - Confessions in Church (use social distancing)
5:00 p.m. - Mass (Online only)

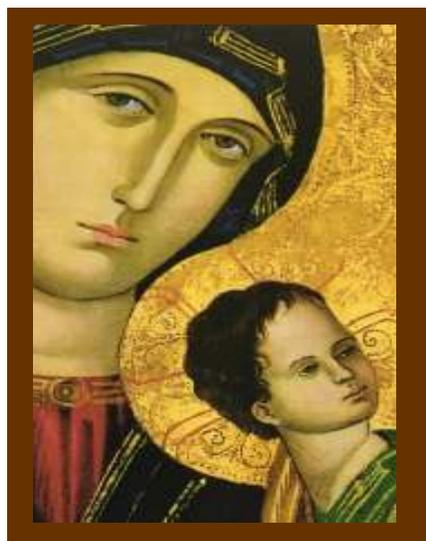
Sunday, May 24

Masses at 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. (Online only)
1:30 p.m. - Spanish Mass (Online only)

FINANCIAL REPORT:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
May, 1st week On-line: \$ 4,092.00	\$ 12,026.40	\$ 10,670.00
# of Envelopes	274	159
YTD Totals:	\$ 488,019.19	\$ 465,476.00

During this time of uncertainty, we ask that you please continue to support St. Gerard Church by sending in your weekly offertory donations, signing up to give online or consider giving a monthly donation. Thank you.



OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP

Our Mother of Perpetual Help is the most widely known icon in the world. The artist that writes the icon strives to illumine the viewer's soul with divine truth. Each element in the icon has a specific meaning.

- The Christ child grasps His mother's hand as though he is frightened by what he sees.
- In His hurry to reach His mother, Jesus has almost lost one of His sandals. He became, human, like us, in all things but sin.
- On Our Lady's left and right, we see the reasons for the child's fear. On the right is the Archangel Gabriel holding a cross and four nails. On the left is the Archangel Michael, holding a lance, a pole with a sponge and a vessel of vinegar. The vision of the instruments of the crucifixion has driven the young Jesus to His mother's protective embrace.
- Yet Our Lady's gaze is fixed on us, her children on earth. She is our constant source of comfort and hope.

ST. GERARD PRAYER REQUESTS:

Requests for prayers can be emailed to: stgprayerchain@gmail.com or called into the Parish Office at 419-224-3080. Requests for prayers are kept confidential and last name need not be given.

HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR MAY: Deacons:

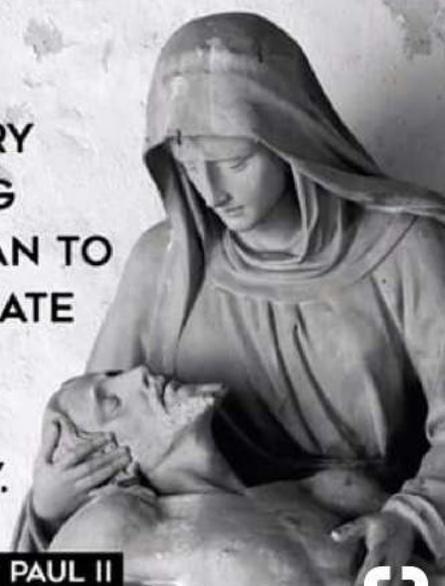
We pray that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church.



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TO RECITE
THE ROSARY
IS NOTHING
OTHER THAN TO
CONTEMPLATE
THE FACE
OF CHRIST
WITH MARY.

POPE ST. JOHN PAUL II



IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THE GRADUAL RESTORATION OF PUBLIC MASSES AND LITURGIES

And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age (Mt. 28: 20).

Having now entered into a new phase of the COVID-19 pandemic in which the State of Ohio is beginning to reopen certain businesses, and after prayerful consideration and consultation with the Bishops of Ohio, our diocesan College of Consultors, Presbyterial Council, and the Worship and Sacraments subcommittee of the Pastoral Reintegration Team, this notice will highlight some of the changes you will see when we publically celebrate Masses beginning on Saturday, May 30th and Sunday, May 31st.

In accord with the most recent decision of the Catholic Bishops of Ohio, a soft opening for public parish Masses is approved to begin with the weekday Mass on **Monday, May 25th**, observing all of the guidelines provided here. During this pandemic, the diocese will continue to foster the common good of all by conducting our public gatherings in a manner that promotes the health and safety of our faithful and those whom they will encounter.

With full realization that the manner and continuance of limited gatherings are subject to change at any moment, the **following guidelines will remain in effect at least until July 1, 2020**, unless we are notified otherwise.

DISPENSATION FROM THE OBLIGATION TO ATTEND SUNDAY MASS:

The faithful of the Diocese of Toledo continue to be dispensed from their Sunday obligation until further notice.

Understanding the desire of so many of the faithful to return to our church, it remains important for those who are at greater risk (the elderly, sick, those with pre-existing conditions) to refrain from returning to public liturgies until such time as they feel comfortable and confident to do so.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THE GRADUAL
RESTORATION OF PUBLIC MASSES AND LITURGIES (CONTINUED)**

PROPER SOCIAL DISTANCING:

- *Other than family/household members who live together, worshippers should be seated six feet apart in all directions.*
- *For the Communion procession, care should be taken to ensure that proper social distancing (6 feet) is maintained. Communion will be distributed in single file.*
- *The Sign of Peace continues to be suspended during this time. Please be reminded that there is to be no physical contact (handholding) during the Lord's Prayer, a gesture that is not prescribed in the Roman Missal. This practice will be permanently discontinued even after the coronavirus pandemic.*
- *The distribution of the Precious Blood from the chalice continues to be suspended during this time.*
- *The reception of Holy Communion on the hand is acceptable. Communion will not be received on the tongue.*
- *You are asked to not congregate following the Mass.*

SAFETY AND SANITIZING PUBLIC SPACES:

- *Baptismal fonts and holy water stoops will remain empty.*
- *All areas of the church will be disinfected before and after each liturgy. (We may be asking for volunteers).*
- *All hymnals and missalettes will be removed and stored for the duration of the pandemic.*
- *No collection will be taken up during the Mass. Collection baskets will be near the entrances/exits of church. Please drop off your contribution on your way in or out of Mass.*
- *Face masks/coverings are highly encouraged for those in the congregation, but are left to your discretion.*

OTHER SACRAMENTS AND LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS:

- *Beginning May 30th, confessions will be held on Saturday from 4-5:00 p.m.*
- *All other devotions (Eucharistic Adoration, First Friday, etc.) will be cancelled at this time. We hope these can resume July 1, 2020.*
- *Confirmation will be held Saturday, June 14th at 5:00 p.m.*
- *First Holy Communion will be held Sunday, June 28th at 4:00 p.m.*

ST. GERARD FESTIVAL:

Please note that the date for our annual parish festival has been changed. Due to COVID 19, we have scheduled our festival for July 31st, August 1st and August 2nd. If anything changes, we will let you know.

INDIVIDUAL PRAYER:

Just a reminder that our church is open from 9:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday for Individual Private Prayer.

VIDEO STREAMING:

Is your family taking advantage of watching Mass online with us? We hope your family is joining us and participating in the Mass. Our webcam is on 24 hours a day.

FACEBOOK:

Social media is so important at this time in our lives. If you have not checked out our Facebook page, please do! Just look up St. Gerard Church and be sure to like us! Brother Dan shares a beautiful daily reflection each day on our facebook page. You will also find and updates concerning St. Gerard on this page.

ONLINE GIVING:

On-line giving is a great alternative to using your envelopes. It's easy to sign-up and you can do so by going to our website at: www.stgerardchurch.org and click on the on-line giving tab.

MUSTARD SEED GIFT SHOP:

The Mustard Seed Gift Shop will resume normal business hours. Please join us in protecting yourself and our community by following all COVID-19 safety guidelines.

**** Please note that the Parish Office is open from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday.****

ST. GERARD CAPITAL CAMPAIGN:

PLEDGES TO DATE

Amount Pledged: \$991,038.52
Amount Paid: \$864,516.68

Outstanding Balance:
\$126,521.84

Goal: \$1,000,000.00

Only \$8,961.48 to go before we reach our goal!

Thank you to those who have sent in their envelope or dropped them off to the Parish Office. We have also had a nice increase of parishioners sign-up for online giving! We greatly appreciate it!

If you would like to mail in your offertory contributions, please send them to:

**St. Gerard Church
1307 N. Main St.
Lima, OH 45801**

A PRAYER DURING COVID 19:

Loving, ever-living and compassionate God, You understand the pain of loss, the heartache of bereavement,

May we hold in our hearts all those whose families or friends have died.

You are a light that shines in the darkest times,

Guide us and heal us in our sickness and sorrow.

You comfort us in times of fear,

May we comfort each other, even as we keep apart.

You console and lead us in times of doubt and confusion,

May we follow the light of your love and spread hope.

You move our hearts to acts of generosity,

May we be led to share what we have with those in need.

God of life,

We thank you for the signs of your light in the midst of our darkness,

May we be signs of your compassion in the heart of your world.

Amen.

Prayer: Linda Jones-CAFOD



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www.stgerardchurch.formed.org



PRAY

Daily Rosary with Dr. Tim Gray

Divine Mercy Chaplet with the Franciscan Friars

Watch Daily Mass video

ENGAGE

Pick a Saint for the day and watch their content!

Choose an audio drama for the whole family to listen along to

Dedicate 1 hour of television time to FORMED



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Learn from Augustine Institute professors in the Faith at Home Collection!

