

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE:

The owner of the fig tree was impatient because the tree did not live up to his expectations. In families, there are those who don't live up to our expectations. Imitate the gardener and give them more time and help. Don't cut them out of your life. Love asks us to be connected, not productive.

MASSES FOR THIS WEEK:

Monday, March 25

8:30 a.m. Vincent DeVita,
Katherine & Lorenz
Ganshirt, Ida Ganshirt +

Tuesday, March 26

8:30 a.m.

Wednesday, March 27

8:30 a.m.
7:00 p.m. Jack Frueh +

Thursday, March 28

8:30 a.m.

Friday, March 29

8:30 a.m.

Saturday, March 30

8:30 a.m.
5:00 p.m. Cresentia Reyes +
Living & Deceased of
the Singian & Reyes
families

Sunday, March 31

8:30 a.m. Eusedio Reyes +
Living & Deceased of
the Reyes & Singian Families
Bill Martin +
11:00 a.m.
1:30 p.m. Spanish Mass

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH:

Sunday, March 24

Masses at 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
9:00 - 10:30 a.m. - RCIA Classes in the Cafeteria
9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. - Parish School of Religion
1:30 p.m. - Spanish Mass

Monday, March 25

Mass at 8:30 a.m.

Tuesday, March 26

Mass at 8:30 a.m.
6:00 p.m. - Genesis to Jesus DVD Series in the Parish Hall

Wednesday, March 27

Mass at 8:30 a.m.
1:00 p.m. - OLPH Novena
6:00 p.m. - Rosary followed by Mass at 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 28

Mass at 8:30 a.m.
12:00 Noon-5:00 p.m. - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday, March 29

Mass at 8:30 a.m.
6:00 p.m. - Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 30

Mass at 8:30 a.m.
Mass at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 31

Masses at 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
9:00 - 10:30 a.m. - RCIA Classes in the Cafeteria
9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. - Parish School of Religion
1:30 p.m. - Spanish Mass
3:00 p.m. - Blessed Seelos Healing Mass in church

FINANCIAL REPORT

<u>DATE</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
March 2nd week On-line: \$ 1,420.00	\$ 10,258.50	\$ 11,712.98
# of Envelopes	245	261
YTD Totals:	\$ 408,875.21	\$ 398,356.38

ONLINE GIVING:

Have you considered giving on-line? It's simple and easy to do. Just go to our website at: www.stgerardchurch.org and click on the "On-line Giving Tab".

ST. GERARD CAPITAL CAMPAIGN:

As many of you know, we have now completed Phase I and Phase II of our Building Project. Now we are focused on securing the contract for the addition of classrooms to our school. Together, we can make this a reality!

To help us reach our goal, we are asking every family to participate. Every gift, no matter how large or small, is truly appreciated.

Pledge cards are available in the church or at the parish & school offices. You may also give online by visiting our website at: www.stgerardchurch.org and clicking on the On-line Giving tab. **Please remember that the second collection at each of our weekend Masses during Lent will be for our Capital Campaign.** In order to post these contributions to your account, please either write a check or put your cash contributions in the envelopes in the pews with your name clearly written on the envelope.

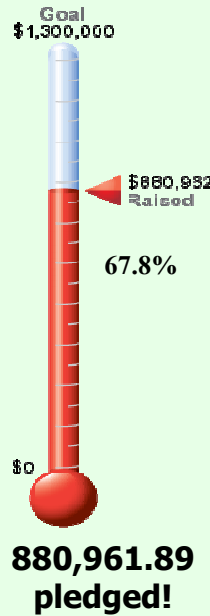
Please, prayerfully consider supporting this most important project.

Thank you to all who are supporting this building campaign.

PLEDGES TO DATE

Amount Pledged:	\$880,961.89
Amount Paid:	\$595,841.56
Outstanding Balance:	\$285,120.33

3/17/19 Second Collection: \$1,163.76



FRIDAY'S OF LENT SERIES:



"Walking The Way of The Cross With Christ and With Each Other."

**St. Gerard Church
6:00-7:00 p.m.**

We walk with Christ along the way of the Cross and listen to speakers who lead us into a deeper understanding of the deep love of Christ who calls us to love and serve and walk with each other.

MARCH 29

Speaker: Sr. Yvonne Fischer
THE GOOD SHEPHERD WAY OF THE CROSS:

An intense look into the suffering of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, who laid down His life for us. Keen insights into the experience of Christ, our own experience and that of our world.

FEET WASHING:

We are looking for twelve volunteers to have their feet washed at the Holy Thursday services. If you would be willing to do this ,



please call the parish office at 419-224-3080.



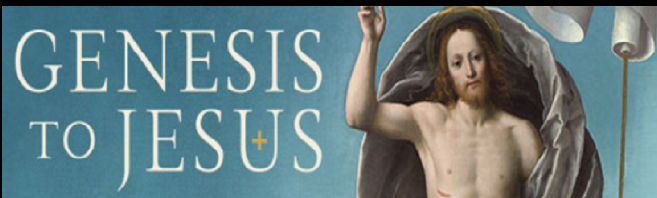
What are you doing for Lent?

Jesus beckons us to come,
to be in His presence;

He does truly speak to our souls when
we give Him an opportunity.

Come visit Him in adoration, and
receive graces to be able to keep your
Lenten purposes and sacrifices.

Lent IS A TIME TO
GROW
CLOSER TO JESUS



*Please join us for our
Lenten DVD Series
Tuesday, March 26th at 6pm
in the Parish Hall*

**HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER
INTENTIONS FOR MARCH:**



UNIVERSAL: That Christian
communities, especially those
who are persecuted, feel that
they are close to Christ and have their rights
respected.

**10 THINGS TO DO WHEN
YOUR LENT PLAN FAILS**



ACCEPT IT
ACCEPT IF AND
HOW YOUR PLAN
HAS FAILED



**GO TO
CONFESSION**
MAKE AN
EXAMINATION OF
CONSCIENCE AND
START OVER



GET BACK UP
REMEMBER YOUR
LENTEN
RESOLUTIONS
AND BEGIN AGAIN



**WHAT WENT
WRONG?**
PONDER ON THE
SERIES OF
EVENTS THAT
LED YOU HERE



PRAY
PRAYER HELPS
YOU REVIVE YOUR
SOUL. LISTEN TO
GOD'S VOICE



DVD SERIES AVAILABLE:

We have had people ask if they could view the DVD's that the Spiritual Formation has been presenting. We are making these DVD's available to sign out for up to 30 days so that you can view them. You would need to come to the parish office to sign them out.

The DVD's we have in inventory consist of: CATHOLICISM by Word on Fire, THE PIVOTAL PLAYERS, by Word on Fire and Theology of the Body, by Christopher West.

HEALING MASS:

We will be offering a Healing Mass on Sunday, March 31, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. invoking the intercession of Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, a Redemptorist priest who lived and worked in America. He is known for his powerful intercession for the sick. The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick and a blessing with the relic of Blessed Seelos will be offered. All who need healing of mind, body and spirit are invited and are encouraged to attend. Please note that this Mass will fulfill your Sunday obligation.



NOSF:

A faith-based education is not out of reach with a scholarship from the Northwest Ohio Scholarship Fund.

Need-based Scholarships worth up to \$1,500 per child are available for private schools or \$500 for homeschooling expenses for students who reside in Allen and surrounding counties for grades K-8th for the 2019-2020 school year. For example, a family of five with a household income of \$79,434 is eligible. To apply online or for more information about the program visit www.nosf.org or contact the Northwest Ohio Scholarship Fund office at (419) 720-7048. The deadline to apply is Friday, April 26, 2019.

ROSARY/ALTAR SOCIETY NEWS:

THANK YOU:

The parish would like to thank the *Rosary/Altar Society* for purchasing the new chalice and altar cloths for the parish. A very special thanks to *Carol Helmig* for her time and sewing skills in making the new altar cloths.



ROSARY/ALTAR BAKE SALE:

Save the date ~ the Rosary/Altar Bake Sale and Raffle will be held on Sunday, April 14th after all the Sunday Masses. Please start baking your brownies and baked goods now and freeze them. More information will be coming soon ...

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER'S SCHEDULE:

Saturday, March 30:

5:00 p.m. *W. Peebles, J. Stewart, D. Santini,
L. Taylor, M. & M. Hinegardner, L. Makley,
M. DeVita, J. Wolff, V. Bigelow*

Sunday, March 31:

8:30 a.m. *C. Wright, T. Sroufe, J. Sroufe, B. Pinney,
C. Altenbach, L. Hahn, P. Huffman,
G. Merkel, M. Mays, S. Martin*
11:00 a.m. *S. Morrissey, K. Wreede, S. Young,
J. Kahle, M. Ayers, R. Carder, C. Coleman
S. Dew, R. Karbowiak, R. Vegedes*

LECTOR'S SCHEDULE:

Mar. 30: 5:00 p.m. - *M. Hinegardner*

Mar. 31: 8:30 a.m. - *T. Parker*
11:00 a.m. - *S. Cira*

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE:

Mar. 30: 5:00 p.m. - *H. Chambers, N. Chambers,
G. Langhals*

Mar. 31: 8:30 a.m. - *D. Martin, E. Martin, A. Dackin*
11:00 a.m. - *M. Sutton, G. Sutton, C. Raines*

SACRISTY WORKERS - MARCH

*J. Blackburn, J. Wolff, L. Dodge, M. Hickey,
M. Dew, S. Dew*

USHERS SCHEDULE:

Mar. 30: 5:00 p.m. - *G. Keil, D. Watkins*

Mar. 24: 8:30 a.m. - *B. Birkmeier, J. Simindinger,
T. Fischer*
11:00 a.m. - *T. DeRose, J. Reaman,
S. Harkenrider*

**CHURCH
ENVELOPES:**

Don't forget to pick up your church envelopes in church. They are located at the back of the center aisle and need to be picked up as soon as possible. Thank you.



SPIRITUAL CARE

VOLUNTEERS:

The Spiritual Care Department of St. Rita's Medical Center is looking for dedicated, faithful volunteers to aid in the spiritual care ministry offered to the patients and families who seek care at their medical center.



We are looking for people who have a deep faith, a warm heart and a passion for serving others. If you think this is something you may be interested in, please attend one of the following sessions:

Location: Café Conference Room

Time/Date: 6:30-8:30 pm

April 25, May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 and June 7

Please RSVP to Janice Burns-Watson at: Jbburns-watson@mercy.com or call (740) 417-6584.

SERRA CLUB:

Serra Club of The Lima Area welcomes you to be their guest on Thursday, March 28 at LCC, starting at 5:45 with Mass, dinner and talk. Fr. Daniel Schmitmeyer, Vocations Director of the Cincinnati Archdiocese will be sharing his unique perspective on the current state of vocations. The Serra Club exists to promote and support vocations to the priesthood and religious life. For more information, or to make a reservation, please call Marilyn Schmerge at 567-204-4745. Please continue to pray for vocations.



Office of the Bishop
Diocese of Toledo

PLEASE READ

16 March 2019

Dear Priests, Deacons, Pastoral Leaders, Consecrated Religious, and Lay Faithful of the Diocese of Toledo,

Since its earliest days, our Diocese has been blessed by the witness, prayer, and service of countless religious, both men and women, representing a variety of communities and charisms.

One of those religious communities of men has been the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer (“the Redemptorists”), who have served in the diocese for over 100 years, principally at Saint Gerard Parish in Lima.

It is with heartfelt joy that I announce that the Redemptorists will be expanding their presence in the Diocese of Toledo by moving their North American novitiate to the campus of Saint Gerard in Lima. This transfer will take place this coming summer and will bring two additional Redemptorist priests to Saint Gerard’s for a total of five priests, three of whom will be dedicated to parish ministry and two of whom will be dedicated to formation of novices.

Further, at my invitation, the Redemptorists have agreed to provide a full-time pastor for Saint Mary Parish in Bluffton, who will reside at St. Gerard, as well as to undertake campus ministry for the Catholic students at Bluffton University. This change will be effective August 1, 2019. Sister Carol Inkrott, OSF, will conclude her service as Pastoral Leader of Saint Mary Parish at that time. I am so grateful to Sister Carol who has served with great dedication in this role since 2002, and I sincerely thank her for these many years of faithful and generous commitment. I also wish to acknowledge and thank Father John Stites, who has so generously served as Presbyteral Moderator and Chaplain for Saint Mary Parish for the past three years.

The new pastor for Saint Mary Parish will be announced sometime in June. Saint Mary Parish, although entrusted to the pastoral care of the Redemptorists, remains a diocesan parish.

Please join me in thanking the Lord for the generosity of the Redemptorists of the Baltimore Province and their increased presence and ministry in our diocese. Please continue to pray with me that more consecrated men and women will come to serve in our Diocese. Lenten Blessings!

Sincerely yours in Christ Jesus,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads “+ Daniel E. Thomas”.

Most Reverend Daniel E. Thomas
Bishop of Toledo