

**A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE:**

*Failure to forgive blinds us to another's goodness. Lent provides an opportunity to wash away our blind spots in the pool of forgiveness. Listen to Jesus in today's gospel: "Go wash and see."*

**MASSES FOR THIS WEEK:**  
(Masses can be viewed online at [www.stgerardchurch.org](http://www.stgerardchurch.org). Please click on the Live Webcast icon).

**Monday, March 23**

8:30 a.m. - Hunter Sherrick +

**Tuesday, March 24**

8:30 a.m. -

**Wednesday, March 25**

8:30 a.m. - Vince DeVita +

For our Priests, Brother & Novices of St. Gerard

**Thursday, March 26**

8:30 a.m. - Barb Daley +

Sharon Daley-Geier +  
Susan Daley +

**Friday, March 27**

8:30 a.m. -

**Saturday, March 28**

8:30 a.m. -

5:00 p.m. - Richard Casey +  
Living & Deceased of the  
Hunt family

**Sunday, March 29**

8:30 a.m. - Jeff Geise +

Jan Dillon +  
Living & Deceased of the  
Hunt Family

11:00 a.m. - People of St. Gerard

1:30 p.m. - Spanish Mass

**THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH:**

**Sunday, March 22**

Masses at 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. (Online only)

9:00-10:30 a.m. - NO RCIA classes in the Cafeteria

9:30 - 10:45 a.m. - Parish School of Religion classes CANCELLED

1:30 p.m. - Spanish Mass

6:00-7:30 p.m. - NO Youth Group Meeting in the Parish Hall

**Monday, March 23**

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

**Tuesday, March 24** - Mass at 8:30 a.m. - (Online only)

6:00-7:30 p.m. - **NO DVD SESSIONS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

**Wednesday, March 25**

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

**Thursday, March 26**

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

**12:00 - 6:30 p.m. - NO Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

**Friday, March 27**

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

**6:00-7:30 - Lenten Stations of the Cross CANCELLED**

**Saturday, March 28 - Engaged Couples Conference CANCELLED**

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

4:00-4:30 p.m. - Confessions CANCELLED

Mass at 5:00 p.m. - (Online only)

**Sunday, March 29**

Masses at 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. (Online only)

9:00-10:30 a.m. - NO RCIA classes in the Cafeteria

9:30 - 10:45 a.m. - Parish School of Religion classes CANCELLED

1:30 p.m. - Spanish Mass

**FINANCIAL REPORT:**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
March, 2nd week On-line: \$1,391.00	\$ 11,712.98	\$ 10,748.71
# of Envelopes	261	246
<b>YTD Totals:</b>	<b>\$ 398,356.38</b>	<b>\$ 391,346.44</b>

**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.**

## CATHOLIC CONFERENCE OF OHIO

March 16, 2020

For Immediate Release

For Information: Carolyn Jurkowitz, Executive Director  
614-224-7147

### **RE: Catholic Bishops of Ohio Suspend All Publicly Celebrated Masses/Liturgies**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

After serious consideration of the grave health risk involved in public gatherings and in order to curb the spread of the Coronavirus, the bishops of Ohio have decided, **effective immediately**, to suspend temporarily all publicly celebrated Masses/liturgies, at least through the celebrations of Holy Week and Easter. The bishops of Ohio dispense the Catholic faithful who reside in their respective dioceses and all other Catholics currently in Ohio from the obligation of attending Sunday Mass through Easter Sunday.

This decision is not taken lightly and, as your bishops, causes us great sadness. However, after consultation with the governor and health officials we are convinced that this is the most prudent and necessary action.

Science has proven that participation in public gatherings significantly increases the risk of contagion. This poses a serious danger to those especially most vulnerable.

As Catholics, in every Sunday Mass we celebrate the passion, death and resurrection of our Lord. The Holy Eucharist is the source and summit of our faith. In this moment, we are experiencing in a unique way the passion of our Lord as this pandemic prevents us from gathering for the Sunday Eucharist. In this very difficult time, we encourage the faithful to turn to the Church's treasury of prayer. Sunday remains a holy day, and we encourage the faithful to pray using the rich resources of our faith, including praying as a family or individually the rosary, divine mercy chaplet, the Liturgy of the Hours, stations of the cross, etc. We also urge you to participate in prayer by way of radio broadcast or televised or live-streamed Mass and make a spiritual communion.

Please join us in praying for all who are suffering from illness or disease of any kind, for all health care workers, and for an easing of the anxiety and tension caused by this situation. Relying on the Motherly care of Our Lady, we unite our sufferings to those of Our Lord Jesus Christ, who is our healing and our hope.

Most Rev. Robert J. Brennan  
Bishop of Columbus

Rev. Donald P. Oleksiak  
Diocesan Administrator of Cleveland

Most Rev. Jeffrey M. Monforton  
Bishop of Steubenville

Most Rev. Daniel E. Thomas  
Bishop of Toledo

Most Rev. George V. Murry, S.J.  
Bishop of Youngstown

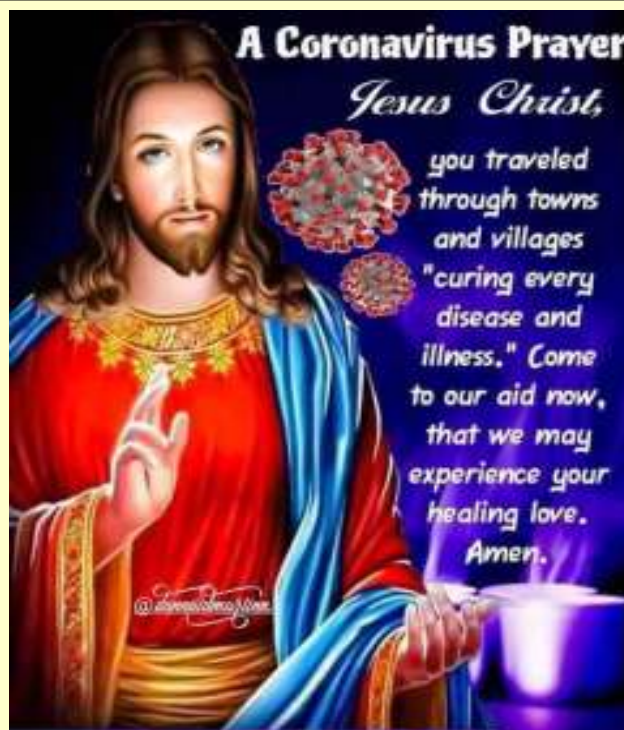
**A PRAYER IN THE TIME OF THE CORONAVIRUS:**

Almighty and All-loving God Father, Son and Holy Spirit we pray to you through Christ the Healer for those who suffer from the Coronavirus Covid-19 in the United States and across the world.

We pray too for all who reach out to those who mourn the loss of each and every person who has died as a result of contracting the disease.

Give wisdom to policymakers, skill to healthcare professionals and researchers, comfort to everyone in distress and a sense of calm to us all in these days of uncertainty and distress.

This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.



**ST. GERARD PRAYER REQUESTS:**

Requests for prayers may be emailed to: [stgprayerchain@gmail.com](mailto:stgprayerchain@gmail.com) or called into the Parish Office at 419-224-3080. A team of prayer warriors will pray daily for all the requests for 30 days. Requests for prayers are kept confidential and last name need not be given.



Pictured are candidates: **Jason Davis, Steven Shutt, Monsignor William J. Kubacki, Steven Urban; Redemptorist Novice, Catechumens: Whitney Allen and Taylor Kervin.**

**RCIA PRAYER:**

*Lord, we pray for those in the RCIA process who journey to you. Strengthen their faith. Open their hearts to the fullness of your love. Deepen their understanding. Set their hearts on fire for the Kingdom of God. We ask this through Jesus, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life for all. Amen.*

**YEARLY ENVELOPES:**

Our yearly envelopes are here and can be picked up in the back of church near the gathering space. Please pick them up as soon as possible. These envelopes are more than just a way to receive your generous gifts. Here are a few reasons for everyone to use their envelopes:

- Participation in our parish. By using your envelope when you come to Mass, signifies to us your active participation in the Parish. This is also a way for us to be able to track your attendance.
- By using your envelopes, we can give you credit and post the contributions to your account. This is vital for reporting your contributions for tax purposes.
- Status updates: So many times people move or their information changes. By making these changes to your envelopes, we can keep our system up-to-date.

**Thank you for picking up your envelopes and using them!**

**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](http://www.stgerardchurch.org) and click on the on-line giving tab.

- **Safety.** In times when there are concerns about exposure to disease or spreading of a virus, Online Giving is a convenient option to continue to support your church and its mission.
- **Forget your envelope?** Use Online Giving to keep up on offertory. Go to our church website and click on the Online Giving link, it's quick and easy.
- **Make giving easier.** Visit your church website on your mobile device, click the Online Giving link, and begin giving.
- **Manage gifts.** Another easy way to manage your church giving is with Online Giving. You can manage your giving or give a one-time gift right from your phone.

**Your support during the year helps sustain our church.**

**ST. GERARD CAPITAL CAMPAIGN:**

**PLEDGES TO DATE**

Amount Pledged: \$983,708.52  
Amount Paid: \$844,700.97

Outstanding Balance:  
\$139,007.55

**Goal: \$1,000,000.00**

Only \$16,725.48 to go before we reach our goal!

**LENTEN PARISH MISSION:**

A Parish Mission featuring speaker, *Rich Curran*, that was slated for March 22, 23 & 24 at Ft. Jennings' St. Joseph church from 6-8 each night has been cancelled.

**CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS:**

We have printed our 2019 year-end statements. If you would like a copy of your 2019 donations, please call the parish office at 419-224-3080.

**PRAYER CLOTHS:**

Pray cloths are available in the Parish Office, as well as the gathering area in church. Feel free to pick one up and give to someone who needs healing in mind or body.

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

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

**SAVE THE DATE:**



**It's a Celebration of Teaching of 55 years!**  
**Miss Evalynne Smith** and a Reunion of her former students and staff members.

Come on Sunday, April 5, 2020 from noon to 3 p.m.  
at St. Gerard Parish Hall, 1311 N. Main St. in Lima, Ohio.



**ROSARY/ALTAR NEWS:**

The ladies of the Rosary/Altar Society has cancelled their March 24th meeting.



**Easter Bake Sale & Bazaar HAS BEEN CANCELLED:**

The annual Bake Sale & Bazaar that was scheduled for Sunday, April 5th has been cancelled.

**LCC TASTE TOUR BOOKS:**

Taste Tour Books are now on sale. The books are \$20 and include over 130 coupons from 60+ area restaurants. Please call 419-223-2411 or stop by the LCC Business Office to purchase yours today.



**HOLY NAME NEWS:**

The St. Gerard Holy Name Society would like to thank all those parishioners who submitted dues during the month of February. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

Anyone who would still like to contribute may do so at any time. Simply place your envelope, addressed to St. Gerard Holy Name Society, in the offertory basket or at any Mass.

A special "thank you" to the families of Pete Leugers and Steve Dotson who made contributions to the Society in their names.

As we move forward, please know that all are welcome to participate in the Society as there is always a need for fresh faces and new ideas as we work to help improve our Parish community.

**A PRAYER AS WE FACE THE CORONAVIRUS:**

*Living God,*

*In our hour of need we turn again to you, for we have nowhere else to turn. We put our faith in you, because you have proved your faithfulness time and time again. We reaffirm our love for you because you have never let us go. We thank you that you are not distant from us, but have drawn near, in your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ.*

*He has shared our life, tasted our death and defeated it; He understands our worries and our fears. Help us to respond as your children now. We pray for this pandemic spreading across our world, remembering all who have lost loved ones and praying for those seriously ill at this time. We pray for doctors and nurses and all in the caring professions, who work to help support people as best they can.*

*Help us to live by faith and not by fear; to build bridges not barriers. Strengthen us, by your Spirit so that we may carry on our lives as best as we are able, looking out for others, showing love in action, being faithful in prayer and bringing encouragement, hope and peace, always trusting in you.*

*Amen.*

**PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR  
REDEMPTORIST VOCATIONS:**

Send forth Your Spirit, Lord, into the hearts of Your faithful people, that we may be conscious of our vocation to holiness and service to others. Grant that many of us may dedicate ourselves to You through the priesthood, religious life, and lay ministries.



We pray for the needs of our parish and diocese. Grant that we may always have sufficient good and holy priests and deacons, dedicated sisters and brothers, and committed lay ministers to serve our communities.

We pray too for the Redemptorists, that generous men may join them to become zealous missionaries, preaching the Gospel in word and action to the most abandoned, especially the poor.

We make this prayer through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Redeemer. Amen.