

**INTENTIONS OF THE WEEK****SUNDAY, February 19, 2023**

- 9:00 am** Joan Hoffman (d)  
**11:00 am** Erwin & Norma Erhardt (d)  
**7:00 pm** Thomas Dao (d)

**MONDAY, February 20, 2023**

- 8:30 am** Patrick Gargano (d)

**TUESDAY, February 21, 2023**

*St. Peter Damian, Bishop, Doctor of the Church*

- 8:30 am** Vincent Dao (d)

**ASH WEDNESDAY**

- 6:30 am** Dan Watkins (d)  
**8:30 am** Pat & Dennis Malik (d)  
**5:00 pm** Ed Simon (d)

**THURSDAY, February 23, 2023**

*St. Polycarp, Bishop, Martyr*

- 12:00 pm** Richard Phillips (d)

**3:00 pm-5:00 pm EUCHARISTIC ADORATION****FRIDAY, February 24, 2023**

- 12:00 pm** Norma Erhardt (d)  
**5:00 pm** Stations of the Cross/Holy Mass –  
 John and Lucille Watkins (d)

**SATURDAY, February 25, 2023**

- 4:30 pm** Max Hofmeyer (d)

**SUNDAY, February 26, 2023**

- 9:00 am** Susanna Corcoran (d)  
**11:00 am** Delores Himsel (d)  
**7:00 pm** Deceased of the Hahn Family

**Delhi Barber**

**Victor Fabro, owner**

**402 Greenwell @ Delhi Pike**

**513-823-7132**

**Open: Tues., Weds., Friday 10am – 6pm**

**Thursday Noon – 8pm**

**2 Barbers now. Walk in anytime!**

**All Haircuts \$16.00**

**SERVERS**

**February 25/26**  
 To Be Determined

**LECTORS**

**February 25/26**  
 To Be Determined

**EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

**February 25/26**  
 To Be Determined

February 12, 2023                      \$6,438.02

*Thank You for your Generosity!*

**Vocation View:** ‘Be Holy, for I, the LORD, your God, am holy!’ Embrace the call to holiness, and everyday will bring new adventures of following where Christ leads. (Leviticus 19:2)

**Thought for the Day:** “I only seek in my old age to perfect that which I had not before thoroughly learned in my youth, because my sins were a hindrance to me.”

*By St. Patrick*

**Elder High School Centennial Mass**

**Thursday, March 2, 2023**

**7:00 PM**

**St. Lawrence Church**

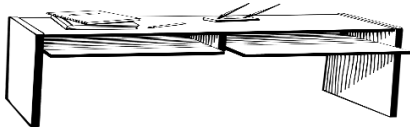
**Celebrant: Rev. Jim Meade, Elder Class of 1966**

Immediately following the Mass, a reception will be held at Elder in the Schaeper Center. Please RSVP to Amy Iori at (513) 921-3422 or [ioriat@elderhs.net](mailto:ioriat@elderhs.net) if planning to attend the reception.



**PLEASE NOTIFY US AT THE RECTORY** when a family member is hospitalized or homebound and would like to receive Holy Communion and/or the Sacrament of Penance.

## The Laurentian



### Fr. Watkins' Desk

*The St. Michael Hymnal Plates* have been placed in the hardbound hymnals in the pews. The middle sections of the nave pews have the hymnals with the plates. The Memorial Plates are still available should you be interested. Information and order forms are found in the middle of the bulletin racks. Fill out a form and place it in the offertory basket with your gift.

*Mass and Way of the Cross, Eucharistic Adoration, Confessions:* On Friday afternoons of Lent, we will have the Way of the Cross beginning at 5:00 p.m. followed immediately by Holy Mass.

Eucharistic Adoration is every Thursday afternoon from 3 – 5 p.m. Holy Mass, the Way of the Cross, Eucharistic Adoration, Confession, fasting, abstinence & almsgiving are excellent ways to deepen our love for the Lord and celebrate His resurrection.

*PTO Fish Fry:* Our PTO Fish Fry is coming up beginning Ash Wednesday & every Friday of Lent (except Good Friday). We are in search of a few volunteers to help on Fridays. Any help is appreciated. If interested, please contact Jen Huiet 513-571-1996.



*Cincinnati Catholic Alumni Club:* Wine and Cheese Gathering, Sunday, Feb 26, 2-5pm, Purcell K of C Anchor Room, 3617 Glenmore Ave. For reservations call Larry 513 -520-1323

*LENTEN REGULATIONS* Ash Wednesday (March 2) and Good Friday (April 15) are days of fast and abstinence. Abstinence means no eating of meat (beast or fowl) and is to be observed by all Catholics 14 years of age and older on Ash Wednesday and on all the Fridays of Lent.

Fasting means limiting oneself to one full meal on a given fast day. Catholics who are 18 years of age but not yet 59 are obliged to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On fast days, two additional smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength. However, two smaller meals together may not equal one full meal. Eating solid foods between meals on fast days is not permitted.

*The Cincinnati Metropolitan Orchestra,* conducted by Dave Allen, is presenting an all-Gershwin concert to celebrate the American composer who wrote some of the most recognized music of all time. The CMO, along with the Metropolitan Singers, will perform excerpts from *Porgy and Bess*, *I got Rhythm*, *An American in Paris* and the Latin inspired *Cuban Overture*. And of course, there couldn't be a Gershwin concert without his most famous composition, *Rhapsody in Blue*, played by pianist Alex Carroll. This free concert will be on March 5th at 3:00 pm in the Seton Performance Hall at 3901 Glenway Ave. For further information visit [www.CMO.org](http://www.CMO.org). Donations are accepted.

*2023 Catholic Ministries Appeal (CMA)*  
Archbishop Schnurr sends his thanks to everyone from St. Lawrence who has pledged to the 2023 Catholic Ministries Appeal. If you have not yet made your pledge, please consider doing so this week. More than anyone in the world, the Catholic Church teaches, feeds, and heals. In our local community, this happens through the Catholic Ministries Appeal. You will find extra pledge envelopes in the back of Church for your convenience this weekend. To make a donation online, please visit [CatholicAOC.org/CMA](http://CatholicAOC.org/CMA). Thank you!



God wills only our good; God loves us more than anybody else can or does love us.

God surrounds us with his loving care lest we suffer eternal damnation: "O Lord, thou hast crowned us as with a shield of thy good will". (Ps.5:13). He is most solicitous for our welfare: "The Lord is solicitous for me." (Ps. 39:18). What can God deny us when he has given us his own son? "He that spared not even his own son, but delivered him up for us all, how hath he not also, with him, given us all things?" (Rom. 8:32). Therefore we should most confidently abandon ourselves to all the dispositions of divine providence, since they are for our own good. In all that happens to us, let us say: "In peace, in the self same I will sleep, and I will rest: Because thou, O Lord, hast singularly settled me in hope." (Ps. 4:9, 10).

Let us place ourselves unreservedly in his hands because he will not fail to have care of us. "Casting all your care upon him, for he hath care of you." (1 Ptr. 5:7). Let us keep God in our thoughts and carry out his will, and he will think of us and of our welfare. Our Lord said to St. Catherine of Siena, "Daughter, think of me, and I will always think of you." Let us often repeat with the Spouse in the Canticle: "My beloved to me, and I to him." (Cant. 2:6).

St. Niles, abbot, used to say that our petitions should be, not that our wishes be done, but that God's holy will should be fulfilled in us and by us. When, therefore, something adverse happens to us, let us accept it from his hands, not only patiently, but even with gladness, as did the apostles "who went from the presence of the council rejoicing, that they were accounted worthy to suffer for the name of Jesus." (Acts 5:41). What greater consolation can come to a soul than to know that by patiently bearing some tribulation, it gives God the greatest pleasure in its power?

Spiritual writers tell us that though the desire of certain souls to please God by their sufferings is acceptable to him, still more pleasing to him is the union of certain others with his will, so that their will is neither to rejoice or to suffer, but to hold themselves completely amenable to his will, and they desire only that his holy will be fulfilled.

If, devout soul, it is your will to please God and live a life of serenity in this world, unite yourself always and in all things to the divine will. Reflect that all the sins of your past wicked life happened because you wandered from the path of God's will. For the future, embrace God's good pleasure and say to him in every happening: "Yea, Father, for so it hath seemed good in thy sight." (Matt. 27:46). When anything disagreeable happens, remember it comes from God and say at once, "This comes from God" and be at peace: "I was dumb and opened not my mouth, because thou hast done it." (Ref.??). Lord, since thou hast done this, I will be silent and accept it. Direct all your thoughts and prayers to this end, to beg God constantly in meditation, Communion, and visits to the Blessed Sacrament that he help you accomplish his holy will. Form the habit of offering yourself frequently to God by saying, "My God, behold me in thy presence; do with me and all that I have as thou pleases." This was the constant practice of St. Teresa. At least fifty times a day she offered herself to God, placing herself at his entire disposition and good pleasure.

How fortunate you, kind reader, if you too act thus! You will surely become a saint. Your life will be calm and peaceful; your death will be happy. At death all our hope of salvation will come from the testimony of our conscience as to whether or not we are dying resigned to God's will. If during life we have embraced everything as coming from God's hands, and if at death we embrace death in fulfillment of God's holy will, we shall certainly save our souls and die the death of saints.

Let us then abandon everything to God's good pleasure, because being infinitely wise, he *knows* what is best for us; and being all good and all loving, having given his life for us, he wills what is best for us. Let us, as St. Basil counsels us, rest secure in the conviction that beyond the possibility of a doubt, God works to effect our welfare, infinitely better than we could ever hope to accomplish or desire it ourselves.

*by St. Alphonsus de Ligouri*

## The Laurentian

*From a sermon by St. Peter Chrysologus, bishop*

There are three things, my brethren, by which faith stands firm, devotion remains constant, and virtue endures. They are prayer, fasting and mercy. Prayer knocks at the door, fasting obtains, mercy receives. Prayer, mercy and fasting: these are one, and they give life to each other.

Fasting is the soul of prayer, mercy is the lifeblood of fasting. Let no one try to separate them; they cannot be separated. If you have only one of them or not at all together, you have nothing. So if you pray, fast; if you fast, show mercy; if you want your petition to be heard, hear the petition of others. If you do not close your ear to others you open God's ear to yourself.

When you fast, see the fasting of others. If you want God to know that you are hungry, know that another is hungry. If you hope for mercy, show mercy. If you look for kindness, show kindness. If you want to receive, give. If you ask for yourself what you deny to others, your asking is a mockery.

Let this be the pattern for all men when they practice mercy: show mercy to others in the same way, with the same generosity, with the same promptness, as you want others to show mercy to you.

Therefore, let prayer, mercy and fasting be one single plea to God on our behalf, one speech in our defense, a threefold united prayer in our favor.

Let us use fasting to make up for what we have lost by despising others. Let us offer our souls in sacrifice by means of fasting. There is nothing more pleasing that we can offer to God, as the psalmist said in prophecy: *A sacrifice to God is a broken spirit; God does not despise a bruised and humbled heart.*

Offer your soul to God, make him an oblation of your fasting, so that your soul may be a pure offering, a holy sacrifice, a living victim, remaining your own and at the same time made over to God. Whoever fails to give this to God will not be excused, for if you are to give him yourself you are never without the means of giving.

To make these acceptable, mercy must be added. Fasting bears no fruit unless it is watered by mercy. Fasting dries up when mercy dries up. Mercy is to fasting as rain is to earth. However much you may cultivate your heart, clear the soil of your nature, root out vices, sow virtues, if you do not release the springs of mercy, your fasting will bear no fruit.

When you fast, if your mercy is thin your harvest will be thin; when you fast, what you pour out in mercy overflows into your barn. Therefore, do not lose by saving, but gather in by scattering. Give to the poor, and you give to yourself. You will not be allowed to keep what you have refused to give to others.

