



St. Gertrude Chicago

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www.stgertrudechicago.org

Sunday, August 8, 2021

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

From Father Rich

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

As we continue with the six weeks of the Bread of Life scripture selections, today we hear Jesus say, "I am the living bread that

came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever, and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world."

Those who heard him say this were shocked and offended. For whom but God alone could come down from heaven? Because we are used to hearing these words, much of their power is softened. But the strength of those words is every bit as shocking today as it was when he first spoke them!

Literalists are offended because they interpret what he is saying to be some kind of cannibalism. They lack the power of poetic imagination to consider that what he is saying is of far greater impact and importance than simple physical nourishment.

If Jesus is the food we eat, we are not only nourished by him, but we also actually become part of his body and his blood. When that union between Christ and us happens, we then take his life into the world and nourish the world.

This isn't limited to having care and concern for others, it requires we take action to make the world better and the lives of those who are suffering in any way better. Acknowledging pain and suffering, injustice, and indifference is just the first step for Christians who are the Body & Blood of Christ. But once we are aware of the great needs of our sisters and brothers, we must then unite our lives to their lives.

That is part of the reason the Summer Mission Appeal happens at this time of the church year. It reminds us that, as part of God's family, sisters, and brothers of Jesus, we must always be reaching out to those who are in need and to help those who are suffering in any way.

Summer Mission Appeal - August 7-8: Helping Children

This year, our Summer Mission Appeal will benefit the children of [NPH](#) – Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos (Our Little Brothers and Sisters). NPH is fully supporting more than 3,600 boys and

From Father Rich (*Continued*)

in Bolivia, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, and Peru. An additional 3,900 community children receive scholarships, meals, health care, and other support. More than 81,000 services were provided through community outreach programs in 2020.

I encourage you to be generous to the Summer Mission Appeal. Your gift will help raise these children from poverty, provide them with an education, and change their lives forever.

Thank you for your consideration and prayers for this impactful ministry.



<https://nphusa.org/donate/>



Pancake Breakfast - Welcome/Welcome Back!

On Sunday, September 12, we will celebrate welcoming everyone back to church, and a special welcome to new members from the former St. Ignatius Parish, at the 10:30 am Mass, followed by a Pancake Breakfast. I hope you can join us.

As our slogan for this event states, "Pandemics come and go. Our faith is forever!" Please consider volunteering in the planning of this event, in the setting up and taking down, in the cooking and serving, and in the games for kids. There are sign-up sheets on the tables at the church door. Thanks for considering this request!

Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Next weekend, August 14-15, we will celebrate the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This is usually a Holy Day of Obligation. And since it falls on a Sunday, it becomes the feast for all the weekend Masses. So whether you come to church at the Saturday evening 5:00 pm Mass or the Sunday Masses, we will be celebrating the Holy Day.

Newly Updated COVID Mandate: Masks Required Again for Both Vaccinated and Unvaccinated Visitors

Per the new recommendations of the CDC, please wear masks when at Mass, stopping by the Rectory office, or when visiting other indoor Archdiocese spaces. This is required of both vaccinated and unvaccinated visitors.



Visit <https://bit.ly/August2021CovidUpdate> or the parish website at stgertrudechicago.org to read the July 30, 2021 communication from the Archdiocese.



All Hands on Deck Needed for *Welcome Back Sunday*

As Fr. Rich mentioned in this bulletin, as a way to reconnect as a parish and to welcome new parishioners from St. Ignatius, we will host a *Welcome Back Sunday* on Sunday, September 12.

We will have a Welcome Mass at 10:30 am, followed by breakfast, music, and games.

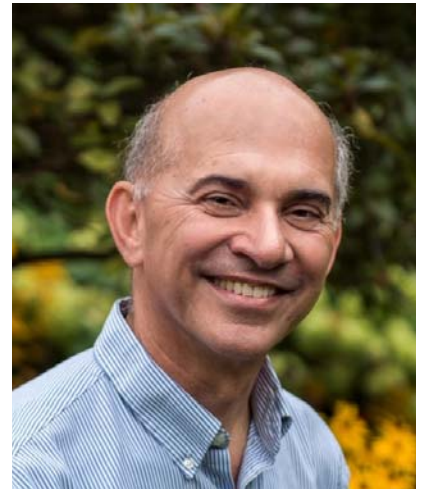
We need help! We need volunteers for everything, from planning, set-up, take down, cooking, serving food, organizing, coordinating games for the kids, and a musician to entertain us.

Sign-up sheets are located at the back of church starting this weekend, or you can contact the Rectory office via email at stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org or by phone at 773.764.3621. Thank you!

Growing in Faith

*"Be kind to one another...so be imitators of God."
~ Ephesians 4:32, 5:1*

I asked my nephew who grew up in Memphis and now lives in New York City if he could generalize about the difference in the people from the two regions. He answered that he found the southerners to be by all appearances nicer but sometimes with an underlying meanness and his Manhattan neighbors to be colder on the surface but often surprisingly kind. I was struck that he made a distinction between niceness and kindness because, reflecting on the passage above, I had just been thinking about the same thing. As far as I know, the scriptures never promote being nice, but they are very big on kindness, an attribute of God that we are called to imitate.



Niceness, though nice, can be nothing more than a mild, deceptive veneer. (The caustic writer Edward Abbey captures the extreme: "'Have a nice day,' says Lady Macbeth.") Kindness, on the other hand, implies concrete caring and considerate action toward others. St. Clare of Assisi sees kindness as something highly charged. Be like God, she advises, "whose kindness electrifies." Every day (how about today!) we have a chance to share in divinity by electrifying our surroundings with our kindness.

Be nice if it suits your temperament, but by all means, be kind.

~ Bob Raccuglia for Growing in Faith

Northside Catholic Academy Accepting Students for 2021- 2022 School Year

At Northside Catholic Academy, we believe no education is complete without addressing the whole child: mind, body, and spirit, providing a rich educational experience rooted in values of inclusion and service for PreK-8th.



Northside Catholic Academy has persevered and prevailed despite the countless obstacles the pandemic has presented. We have provided a safe learning environment with zero Covid transmissions within the school. We not only have kept students academically progressive but have successfully met students' social and emotional needs during this difficult time.

As America continues to fight the new Delta variant, we will do our part and continue to provide the safest and best academic experience for every student. We still have seats available for the 2021-2022 school year.

For more information, please go to NorthsideCatholic.org. If you would like to schedule a private tour, please email Shakira at smorrisette@ncaweb.org or give us a call at 773-743-6277 ext. 207.



Interested in Becoming Catholic?

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a process by which adults learn more about the Catholic Church. This

free program begins in the fall and meets until Pentecost.

Many people who begin RCIA are non-Catholics seeking to become Catholic or at least to explore whether Catholicism might be a good home. Those who complete the process and decide to become Catholic are initiated into the Church at the Easter Vigil Mass on Holy Saturday. Others who take RCIA are already Catholic but want a deeper understanding of their faith foundation.

The RCIA process does not ask those who have been baptized in another faith to give up their denominational experiences. Rather, the RCIA process seeks to add new colors and designs to their existing faith life tapestry. In addition to attending Mass, the RCIA process includes weekly gatherings of breaking open the Word of God, sharing our stories, and learning about our faith traditions.

If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about the RCIA process at St. Gertrude, contact Kevin Cheers, Pastoral Associate, at kchears@stgertrudechicago.org or call the Rectory at 773.764.3621.

Please Welcome Eloy Escamilla!

Eloy Escamilla has joined the parish staff, serving as Pastoral Associate for Religious Education and Youth Ministry. His email is eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org.

Eloy comes to us after six years in a similar position at Our Lady of Guadalupe parish on the southeast side of Chicago. He has received both a Master of Arts in Theology and a Master of Divinity from Catholic Theological Union in Chicago.



Registration Open for our 2021-2022 Religious Ed Classes

Are you interested in signing your child/children up for our 2021-2022 Religious Education classes? Applications are available online at <https://stgertrudechicago.org/religious-education-news>. Additional info about our program will be shared later this month.

Care for Real's 50th Anniversary

Fifty years ago, in 1971, the Edgewater Clerical & Rabbinical Association Episcopal (precursor to today's ECRA) and member congregations came together to organize emergency assistance to residents of Edgewater whose homes had been destroyed by a series of fires. Meant to be a short-term solution to an urgent crisis, it soon became clear that food insecurity went far deeper into the community. Our neighbors needed a safety net, and that safety net evolved into Care for Real.



care for real
FOOD • CLOTHING • SUPPORT

Fifty years later, the number of clients Care for Real serves is only increasing, in both Edgewater and at the new Rogers Park pantry. At this pivotal moment, they need your support to realize their vision for a thriving community where all have access to healthy food and feel supported, respected, and deserving of care.

To honor their anniversary and build resources to serve our neighbors in new and better ways, Care for Real has launched a campaign to raise \$50,000 in 50 Days by August 31. Please consider supporting this effort! To donate, please visit <https://careforreal.org/donate-2/>.

St. Gertrude's Connection to Care for Real

St. Gertrude has been a strong supporter of Care for Real since 1970, providing annual financial support to help Care for Real's goals of providing loving support for our neighbors and acting as a safety net for the entire Edgewater community.



St. Gertrude's Women's Club Summer Potluck: New Parishioners Welcome

Please join us for our Summer Potluck on Thursday, August 12 from 6:00-8:30 pm. This time, we will meet in the lovely new garden space by the Ministry Center. A very special welcome is extended to any

new parishioners.

Bring a drink/dish/or dessert to share (one item is plenty). Please contact Laurie Jacob via email at jacobfamily@sbcglobal.net if you plan to be there or if you have questions.

Care for our Common Home: Let's Take a Green Vacation!

Planning some time off? Consider local ecotourism as a way to Care for our Common Home. Ecotourism is travel intended to support conservation and wildlife, and it is steadily increasing in popularity.

Here are a few ways to practice that locally: visit the Chicago Botanic Garden, kayak down the Chicago River, or hike (or bike!) on one of the trails in our local forest preserves.



RESURRECTION
COMPOST AT
ST. GERTRUDE PARISH

You can make
a difference in
our world

Together, the smallest changes
make the largest impact



Additional Openings Available for our Resurrection Compost Garden Program

There are several openings for people interested in participating in our compost garden program.

Parishioners that wish to join in this program will lease a 5 gallon Resurrection Compost bucket for \$10 and can deposit appropriate materials in the bucket to St. Gertrude's deposit compost bin, which will be used to

fertilize our vegetable garden that feeds patrons of Care for Real and the St. Thomas of Canterbury soup kitchen.

Please read the Do's and Don'ts Composting sheet for information on what can actually be composted on our website here: <https://stgertrudechicago.org/resurrection-compost>.

Interested people should speak with Mary Clare Barker, our Music Minister, after any of the weekend Masses or send her an email at mcbarker@stgertrudechicago.org.



Heart to Heart Needs Wheelchairs

St. Gertrude's Heart to Heart Ministry is looking for wheelchairs to loan to those who need them. Currently, there are none to share.

Contact Laurie Hasbrook at the Heart to Heart office at 773.973.5464 on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 am-2:30 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays or call Jane Callahan-Moore at 773.595-9992 Monday through Friday from 10:00 am-5:00 pm.

Wanted: Ushers, Greeters, Ministers of the Word, and Eucharistic Ministers

We are in need of additional volunteers to assist at Masses, including ushers, greeters, Eucharistic ministers, and Ministers of the Word. If you are interested, email Kevin Cheers at kchears@stgertrudechicago.org. Thank you!



Visit St. Gertrude's website at www.stgertrudechicago.org for the latest parish information, details about our office hours, Mass times, staff contact information, our ministries, phone numbers, sacraments, Religious Ed program, bulletins, and more!

Our Sunday 10:30 am Masses are live-streamed weekly on our parish Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/stgertrudechicago> then posted on our parish's YouTube channel and on the home page of our website.

This Weekend's Cantors, Musicians, Ministers of the Word, and Eucharistic Ministers

Cantors and Musicians:

- Saturday, August 7 at 5:00 pm - Denise Goodman
- Sunday, August 8 at 8:00 am - Dana Sullivan
- Sunday, August 8 at 10:30 am - Matt Heimer; George Siegle-trumpet, Nicholas Bussey-trombone

Ministers of the Word:

- Saturday, August 7 at 5:00 pm - Kathleen Dawson
- Sunday, August 8 at 8:00 am - Mark Kollar
- Sunday, August 8 at 10:30 am - Debra Novak

Eucharistic Ministers:

- Saturday, August 7 at 5:00 pm - Steve Monti, Tim Harrington
- Sunday, August 8 at 8:00 am - Peter Morin, Marty McDermott
- Sunday, August 8 at 10:30 am - Rafael Melendez, Carlos Barrigan, Patrick Robinson

Mass Intentions

- Monday, August 9: 7:30 am - Remington McCaw (on his first birthday)
 - Tuesday, August 10: 7:30 am - Donald Lavine+
 - Wednesday, August 11: 7:30 am - Margaret (Peggy) Wartell+
 - Thursday, August 12: 7:30 am - Communion Service
 - Friday, August 13: 7:30 am - George Heintz+
 - Saturday, August 14: 7:30 am - Purgatorial Society; 5:00 pm ~ Diana Miller+
 - Sunday, August 15: 8:00 am ~ James Seret+; 10:30 am - Nancy Donnelly+
- (+ indicates the person is deceased)*

Baptisms

- Quinn Jordan Nee, daughter of Elizabeth and Thomas Nee

New Parishioners

- Harley Wright

Please Pray for our Parishioners and Friends

- | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| • Pamela Sherrod Anderson | • Ann Collins Dole | • Bernie O'Connor |
| • Helen Banta | • Mary Grover | • Tina Piemonte |
| • Jean Bautista | • Felipe Hall and Family | • Braedon Rimpson |
| • Walter Bradford | • Lucia Hall | • Charley Scantlebury |
| • Sharon Brown | • Gina Heidkamp | • Richard Seitz |
| • Connie Bueck | • Maria Hertl | • Peggy Stoffel |
| • Lilly Buie | • Bernice Kiedysz | • The Sullivan family |
| • Maggie Callaway | • Art Lyons | • Elinora E. Tolentino |
| • Aida Calvopina | • Sr. Terri McKenzie | • Manuel Viray |
| • Geraldine Clark | • Molly Morris | • Norma E. Viray |
| • Connie Cool | • Karey Myers | • Ken & Vyes Yoza |

Donate to our Parish

Parishioners can donate to St. Gertrude:

- Text the word *Donate* to 1.773.741.9505.
- PayPal link - visit our parish website at www.stgertrudechicago.org
- GiveCentral: www.givecentral.org/location/8/allevants

Email esoto@stgertrudechicago.org for additional information.

Our Heart to Heart office is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 am-2:30 pm. Contact them at 773.973.5464.

Parish Staff

Rev. Richard J. Prendergast, Pastor
Rev. Michael Gabriel, Associate Pastor
Rev. Michael Bradley, Resident Priest
Mary Clare Barker, Minister of Music
Jane Callahan-Moore, Director, Heart to Heart
Kevin Cheers, Pastoral Associate
Eloy Escamilla, Pastoral Associate for Religious Education and Youth Ministry
Margie Guadagno, Office Manager
Laurie Hasbrook, Office/Heart to Heart Staff
Tracy Shields, Communications
Eduardo Soto, Director of Parish Management