

St. Gertrude

All Are Welcome

1420 W. Granville Avenue

Chicago, Illinois 60660

www.stgertrudechicago.org

stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org

773.764.3621

Third Sunday of Lent

Bulletin for March 15, 2020

WHOEVER
DRINKS
THE
WATER
I GIVE
THEM
WILL
NEVER
THIRST.
- JOHN 4:14



From Father Rich

Census 2020

Ninety-five percent or about 143 million households in the country will receive an initial invitation to respond to the 2020 census in their mailboxes between March 12 and 20. Households are encouraged to respond when they receive their invitation. Depending on how likely the area is to respond online, households will receive either an invitation encouraging them to respond online or by phone (about 112 million households), or an invitation along with a paper questionnaire (about 31 million households).

All invitations will include a short phrase in English and twelve additional languages inviting people to respond online or by phone in their language. In areas where twenty percent or more of the households need Spanish assistance, the invitations will be in both English and Spanish.

All households receiving an invitation in the mail will receive a second letter in the mail shortly after reminding them to respond. Then, households that still haven't responded will receive a series of additional reminders, including a paper questionnaire in mid-April. Census takers will follow up with households that don't respond to collect responses in person.

I encourage everyone to respond to the 2020 Census. This count is very important in determining our representation in government and the monies our area will receive from many government programs.

Other News

Next weekend, Friday, March 20 and Saturday, March 21, the annual **Spring Play**, *Three Cheers, a Patriotic Celebration of a Veteran!* will be in the Gym at 8:00 pm. Come on out and enjoy a fun night of great singing and dancing and acting! Hope to see you there.

On Sunday, March 22 at 1:00 pm in Church, we will celebrate our **Lenten Parish Reconciliation Service**. This service offers a time for quiet reflection with a guided examination of conscience, some scripture and hymns and a celebration of our sins forgiven. Please plan on joining us.

This week, we celebrate two important Catholic saints' days with **St. Patrick** on Tuesday, March 17, and **St. Joseph** on Thursday, March 19. I'm not sure what effect the coronavirus will have on the usual celebrations of these feasts. Both are usually celebrated with gatherings involving food and drink. But I want to address an often-related topic which isn't an issue this year but will be soon enough. It is the question of what do we do when any kind of celebration falls within the season of Lent, especially when it falls on a Friday and challenges either the Guidelines for Fast and Abstinence, or our own personal Lenten practices of giving something up. Can we still celebrate the event and eat or drink what we have given up? Can we eat meat (this is usually a St. Patrick Day question when it is on a Friday) if it's a Friday? Can we get a dispensation? And the short answer to all those questions is that each of us has to make her/his own decision. It's up to each of us to decide whether or not we want to follow the guidelines and whether or not we are going to take on any personal practices during Lent. And it is up to each of us to decide if whatever feast or event is worthy enough for us to exempt ourselves from those practices on this day for our own reason(s). We decide if we give ourselves a dispensation. To put it another way, it is up to each of us to be responsible for our own lives, our own religious practices, etc.

~ Father Rich



Lent at St. Gertrude Parish

Lenten Reconciliation Service

Next Sunday, March 22 at 1:00 pm

Our Lenten Reconciliation service will be in Church. This service, lasting less than an hour, offers absolution of our sins in preparation for the celebrations of Holy Week and Easter through reflection and quiet prayer.



Stations of the Cross

Fridays During Lent at 3:00 pm

Stations of the Cross will be prayed every Friday during Lent at 3:00 pm in Church.

On Good Friday, April 10, there will be Living Stations of the Cross at 3:00 pm, featuring teens from the parish.

Almoner's Program

Each weekend in Lent after Mass, \$5 gift cards to McDonald's will be distributed by volunteers, with the intention of parishioners sharing them and a conversation with those in need. There will be a second collection after all weekend Masses during Lent to fund this program. Everyone is encouraged to use the moment of the handing over the card as an opportunity to have a brief and humane conversation with the other person, affirming them and wishing them well. This interaction is often more important than the card itself.

Rice Bowls

The CRS program is meant to encourage praying, fasting, learning, and giving.

For more information about using the rice bowls during Lent, visit <https://www.crsricebowl.org/>.

Thank you to all who participated in last weekend's Lenten Food Drive!

The donations were very generous, and Care for Real was grateful for all of the food, personal care items, and sundries. We especially thank our young Confirmation candidates and teens from our youth group for organizing this food drive and for sorting and repackaging the items.



Growing in Faith

The story of Jesus and the woman at the well in today's Gospel is one of those cinematic and very human stories that we find in the Bible. You can see it unfold before your eyes, as if in a movie. In fact, I find it fun and useful to imagine a couple of actors doing the scene.

How, for instance, would the one actor convey that Jesus is tired after his journey? How would the other say her lines to the request of Jesus for a drink? "How can you, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?" What tone would she use? Would she be meek? Argumentative? Sassy?

And, from there, the scene plays out in a lively give-and-take until the woman says something about the Messiah coming, and Jesus delivers the punchline of the scene: "I am he, the one speaking with you."

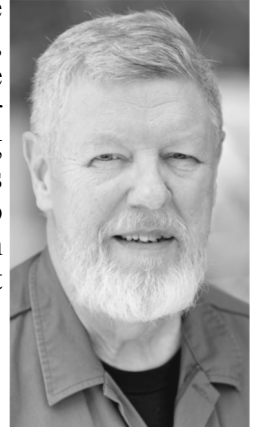
Great literature gives us insight into what it means to be human. In a way, all great literature is sacred-

writing. The Bible is "official" sacred-writing and also great literature.

This resonant exchange between two human beings says something about what it means to be human and what it means to be a believer. It also says something about how we meet God.

Jesus isn't going to be the one who fills my order at Starbucks, but my interaction with the woman behind the counter—or with anyone—is something special and sacred. As Jesus says in Matthew's Gospel, "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

~ Patrick T. Reardon for *Growing in Faith*



Parish Calendar

Sunday, March 15

- Second collection for our Almoner's program
- 10:30 am ~ No Gym Mass
- 10:30 am ~ First Scrutiny of the Elect
- 1:00 pm ~ Canon Law 101 with Father Mike Bradley in the Ministry Center

Monday, March 16

- 7:30 pm ~ Poetry Pilgrims in the Ministry Center

Thursday, March 19

- 6:30 pm ~ Parent meeting for First Communion in Church

Friday, March 20

- 3:00 pm ~ Stations of the Cross in Church
- 8:00 pm ~ Parish Play in the Gym (Doors open at 7:30 pm)

Saturday, March 21

- 10:00 am ~ Minister of the Word training in Church
- 1:00 pm ~ Confirmation practice in Church
- 5:00 pm ~ Second Scrutiny of the Elect
- 8:00 pm ~ Parish Play in the Gym (Doors open at 7:30 pm)

Sunday, March 22

- No Religious Ed classes
- 1:00 pm ~ Lenten Reconciliation Service
- 6:30-8:00 pm ~ WOW teens in the Gym balcony

Monday, March 23

- 2:00 pm ~ Ignatian Volunteer Corps information session in the Ministry Center

Friday, March 27

- 3:00 pm ~ Stations of the Cross in Church

Saturday, March 28

- 1:00 pm ~ Confirmation in Church

Sunday, March 29

- 8:00 am ~ Third Scrutiny of the Elect
- 10:30 am ~ Family Mass hosted by fifth-graders from the parish
- 3:00-5:30 pm ~ Commonweal Conversation in the Ministry Center



Lent 2020: Discovery of Mission Through Prayer – Week III

Christ encounters us to reveal the depth of our need and fills us with love.

Sometimes our prejudices are so ingrained we don't even realize we have them until something unexpectedly happens and we see clearly for the first time how we think and feel about certain things. We encounter the truth! And in that encounter, we not only realize how distorted our thinking had been, but also how strong is our need for truth and the desire for love.

Today's gospel passage of the "woman at the well" is a story that traces that very pattern. In their conversation, it is immediately clear that both Jesus and the woman are speaking from their pre-set understanding of the relations between Jews and Samaritans. But Jesus begins the encounter by cutting through all that when he asks the woman for a drink. We can tell by her response how shocked she is he would even speak with her, let alone ask of her this favor.

In the following exchange, we see what a difference it can make in any life when we deal with the truth of things. The woman's eyes are opened not only to the reality of who Jesus might be, but who she is! And she is much more than just a passerby who happened to be coming to the well at that hour. She soon becomes a messenger of the Messiah, leaving behind her reputation of being many times married in order to bring this truth to her own neighbors.

When we lock ourselves off to reality in order to maintain our own pre-conceived notion of what is, we deny ourselves the opportunity to expand our vision and widen our horizons. Truth becomes elusive because it has to fit within our shrunken world view. But truth, that is the Lord, breaks through and offers us a means of dealing with our deepest need, our desire for love.

Today at the 10:30 am Mass, we celebrate the First Scrutiny with our RCIA candidate, Sean Madden. As he is questioned about his desire to turn away from sin and to live in the fullness of life in the Lord, we ask ourselves those same questions that our faith might be strengthened. This is but the first of three Scrutinies we will celebrate. The opportunity for three is a reminder that the path of conversion is rarely instantaneous. Usually, it requires that we accept the change into our lives in steps or stages. Each step allows us to more fully leave behind our former ways of thinking and acting and incorporate this new truth. And in each step the depth of our love also increases. All of this because the Lord invites us to participate in this new life.

The Lenten Liturgy: During the Lenten season, just as we strive to simplify our lives, we also strive to "unclutter" our liturgy, helping us focus. At each Mass during Lent, the ministers process in as usual, then the Presider moves to a kneeler in front of the Lenten cross. Here he begins the Mass, provides a brief focus-statement and then invites us to kneel for the "Kyrie, eleison. Christe, eleison. Kyrie, eleison." This Penitential Rite during Lent encourages us to call to mind where we have been "missing the mark" and asking God's mercy that we might have the strength to follow Him.

There is no Glory to God during Lent, nor do we sing any Alleluias. These absences help us be aware that this is a Penitential season. After the first and second reading, we take slightly longer pauses to give us a brief time for reflection. The responsorial Psalm we sing is the same throughout Lent, "Let your mercy be on us, O Lord, as we place our trust in you." After the second reading, we sing the Gospel Acclamation, "Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory." After the Eucharistic Prayer, the Lord's Prayer, and Communion, we again pause for a slightly extended period of silence for the post-Communion reflection. On the fifth Sunday of Lent, we will have a very simple musical setting with no piano and quieter instruments leading our singing.



Parish News

TODAY—R.C.I.A.—First Scrutiny of the Elect: At the 10:30 am Mass today, and for the next two Sundays, we will celebrate the Scrutinies with Sean Madden, our Elect, who is preparing for the Sacraments of Initiation at Easter. These prayers ask that he may be freed from anything that keeps him from embracing the Gospel and becoming a disciple of Jesus Christ.

Today, we pray that Sean will find his zeal for the Lord strengthens him to turn away from sin and find his satisfaction in Christ Jesus. Please keep Sean in your prayers as he continues his journey to Easter.

TODAY—Canon Law 101: What is the Code of Canon Law? How did it come into existence? Why do religions have laws? Why does the Catholic Church have laws, requirements, and restrictions?

Today, Sunday, March 15, from 1:00-2:00 pm in the Ministry Center, join Father Mike Bradley for an opportunity to ask questions and discuss a bit of Church history, what Canon Law is and who is it for. Father Mike will review relevant Catholic Church history, shed light on some current issues, and answer a few of your questions about the legal system of the Catholic Church.

Poetry Pilgrims: The next Poetry Pilgrims gathering will be Monday, March 16 at 7:30 pm in the Ministry Center. Please email Mary Grover at mary@marsgrover.com for a list of poems.

First Communion Parent Meeting: Parents of children making their First Communion this May are

required to attend a meeting on Thursday, March 19 at 6:30 pm in Church. Please contact Jim Potthast, our Youth and Family Minister, at 773.764.3621 or jpotthast@stgertrudechicago.org with questions.

Minister of the Word Training: Are you interested in becoming more involved at St. Gertrude? Please consider becoming a Minister of the Word, a reader at Mass. Our next training session is Saturday, March 21 at 10:00 am in Church. Please RSVP to Kevin Cheers, our Pastoral Associate, at kchears@stgertrudechicago.org.

No Religious Ed Classes on March 22: There are no Religious Education program next Sunday, March 22, as NCA is on break. Additionally, there will be no classes over CPS spring break, Palm Sunday, April 5 and Easter Sunday, April 12.

Teen Group Get-Together: WOW teens are invited to gather on Sunday, March 22 from 6:30-8:00 pm in the Gym balcony.

Confirmation Information: The Sacrament of Confirmation will be held on Saturday, March 28 at 1:00 pm in Church. There is a mandatory practice scheduled for Saturday, March 21 at 1:00 pm. Please keep our candidates in your prayers as they get ready to be confirmed.

Family Mass: On Sunday, March 29, there will be a 10:30 am Family Mass hosted by fifth-graders in the Religious Ed program and NCA students from the parish. Please note that hospitality will not be offered after Mass during Lent.

"THREE CHEERS!"



**PATRIOTISM-WELCOME HOME!
CELEBRATION OF A VETERAN!**

Come to Our Parish Play
Friday, March 20
& Saturday, March 21

St. Gertrude's Gym, 1401 W. Granville
8:00 pm ~ Showtime
Doors open at 7:30 pm.

The St. Gertrude Parish Players will
present *Three Cheers, a Patriotic*
Celebration of a Veteran!

Tickets for adults are \$10 each and \$5 per
child. We hope to see you there!

Thank You - Father Mike Gabriel

I would like to thank the people and staff of St. Gertrude for all of your prayers and get well wishes you have been sending my way these last few months. I truly felt these prayers, and they continue to help me in my recovery.

I am also grateful to the knitting group and Carol Clennon for the beautiful blanket given to me! Your thoughtfulness and kindness are deeply appreciated.

Thank you!

~ Father Mike Gabriel



Pictured: Father Mike and Mary Clare Barker with the blanket made for him. Squares were made by our knitting group and laid out and sewn together by Carol Clennon.

Fast & Abstinence Regulations

Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics 14 years old and older on all the Fridays of Lent.

Fasting is to be observed on Good Friday by all Catholics who are 18 years of age but not yet 59. Those who are bound by this may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

Made for More

Where do we come from and where are we going? Join Christopher West and Mike Mangione on Tuesday, March 24 from 7:00-9:30 pm at St. Alphonsus, 1429 W. Wellington Ave., as they weave together live music, movie clips, YouTube videos, and sacred art for an evening of beauty and reflection on the meaning of life, love, and human destiny. To learn more, visit <http://corproject.com/chicagodowntown/>.

Commonweal Conversation

The next meeting of Commonweal Conversation will be on Sunday, March 29 from 3:00-5:30 pm in the Ministry Center.

Our discussion will focus on the upcoming 2020 election. We will explore how Catholic teaching illuminates the issues of the day and how to evaluate candidates in light of that teaching. Refreshments will be served. All are welcome.

Parish Stewardship Report

Collection March 7-8	\$4,761.25
Budgeted Collection	<u>\$7,725.00</u>
Variance	(-) \$2,963.75

Almoner's Program

Cards distributed last weekend	140
Funds collected March 7-8	\$1,144.41
Number of gift cards distributed to date	383
Almoner's collection to date	\$2,248.42

Ignatian Volunteers Corps (IVC)

IVC is a program for retired adults which provides service, spiritual formation, and community. Volunteers are matched with opportunities to serve the poor and marginalized two days each week from September until June. Monthly, they come together for presentations, conversations, and prayer based in Ignatian spirituality. Mass, lunch, and fellowship enrich these gatherings. Individual meetings with a spiritual reflector and an annual, two-night retreat round out this special program. To learn more about Ignatian Volunteer Corps, there is an information session on Monday, March 23 at 2:00 pm in the Ministry Center. Register at www.ivcusa.org or contact Jacqueline Fitzgerald at 312.961.6206 or jfitzgerald@ivcusa.org.



Our Parish at Prayer

Monday, March 16

7:30 am Dragica Boras †

† Indicates person listed is deceased.

Tuesday, March 17

7:30 am Brian Dunne †

Wednesday, March 18

7:30 am Living and deceased mothers and fathers of St. Gertrude parishioners

Thursday, March 19

7:30 am Communion Service

Friday, March 20

7:30 am Peggy Sue Riordan †

3:00 pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 21

7:30 am Purgatorial Society

5:00 pm Bart McKee †

Sunday, March 22

8:00 am Laura Callahan Hazard †

9:30 am Jack Newhall †

10:30 am Regina Lyons †

10:30 am John Conway † (Gym Mass)

1:00 pm Lenten Reconciliation Service

Ministers of the Word

Saturday, March 21

5:00 pm Kathleen Dawson, Pat Reardon

Sunday, March 22

8:00 am Rob Sierzega, David Sullivan

9:30 am TBA

10:30 am Steven Monti, Richard Ashbeck

10:30 am (Gym Mass) TBA

How Do You Find & Contact Your Elected Officials?

Be a voice for change! Contact your elected officials and share your thoughts on gun control, immigration, and more.

Visit usa.gov/elected-officials for contact information for all of your elected officials, including your senators, U.S. representatives, governor, and state legislators.

Readings for the Week

Monday: 2 Kgs 5:1-15b; Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4; Lk 4:24-30

Tuesday: Dn 3:25, 34-43; Ps 25:4-51b, 6, 7bc, 8-9; Mt 18:21-35

Wednesday: Dt 4:1, 5-9; Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20; Mt 5:17-19

Thursday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

Friday: Hos 14:2-10; Ps 81:6c-11ab, 14, 17; Mk 12:28-34

Saturday: Hos 6:1-6; Ps 51:3-4, 18-21ab; Lk 18:9-14

Sunday: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Ps 23:1-6; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41

Eucharistic Ministers

Saturday, March 21

5:00 pm Mary Cook, Kathleen Dawson, Brad Koch, Candace Koch, Tim Harrington

Sunday, March 22

8:00 am Brian DeVarenne, William Mitchell, Peter Morin, Rob Sierzega, Sr. Kathryn Stimac

9:30 am Leon Ward, Forrest Ingram, Ruth Timmons, Rene Elhoumaidi

10:30 am Carlos Barragan, Kathy Dunne, Nancy Merrill, Ruth Ott, Patrick Robinson, Jana Ashbeck, Farrah Healy

10:30 am (Gym Mass) TBA

Altar Servers

Saturday, March 21

5:00 pm Ethan Vargas, Leila Vargas, Grace Cashman

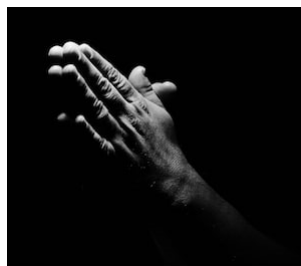
Sunday, March 22

10:30 am Jesse Devitt, Lucas Ashbeck, Mark Ashbeck

Do You Have Questions About Mass Times, Lenten Events, or Rectory Hours?

Visit our website at www.stgertrudechicago.org for a complete listing of events, Mass times, office hours, pictures from our celebrations, bulletins, and more.

Milestones



Please Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends

Walter Bradford
Ester Bugler
Maggie Callaway
Aida Calvopina
Geraldine Clark
Connie Cool
Mary Fitzgerald
Joan Harrington
Gina Heidkamp
Maria Hertl

Bernice Kiedysz
Karey Myers
Margaret O'Sullivan
Don Piven
Charley Scantlebury
David Sierzega
Richard Seitz
Peggy Stoffel
The Sullivan family
Elinora E. Tolentino
Norma E. Viray
Lorraine Walton



New Parishioners

If you are interested in joining our community of faith, please fill out a registration form. They are located in the back of Church, at the Rectory, and online at our parish website, www.stgertrudechicago.org.



Weddings

Interested in getting married at St. Gertrude? Call the Rectory at 773.764.3621 to ask for more info.

Parish Information

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Richard J. Prendergast, Pastor
Rev. Michael Gabriel, Associate Pastor (part-time)
Mary Clare Barker, Minister of Music
Art Blumberg, Director of Parish Management and Facilities
Jane Callahan-Moore, Director of Parish Social Services
Kevin Cheers, Pastoral Associate
Laurie Hasbrook, Office Staff
Jim Potthast, Youth and Family Minister
Tracy Shields, Minister of First Impressions/Communications
Sr. Judith Zonsius, Office Manager

OTHER PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Michael Bradley, Resident
Rev. Dominic Grassi, Retired Pastor
Rev. William Kenneally, Pastor Emeritus
Carol Beatty, St. Gertrude East Music Director

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday: 8:00 am and 10:30 am in Church
9:30 am St. Gertrude East (Sacred Heart School/Sheridan and Granville)
10:30 am in the Gym (1401 W. Granville)
Monday through Friday: 7:30 am (Thursday is a Communion Service.)
Saturday: 7:30 am and 5:00 pm (Sunday Vigil)

LOCATIONS:

Rectory: 1420 W. Granville Ave., Chicago, IL 60660 Phone: 773.764.3621
Website: www.stgertrudechicago.org
E-mail: stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org
Ministry Center: 6214 N. Glenwood Ave., Chicago, IL 60660
Social Services Phone: 773.973.5464
Social Hall: 1401 W. Granville Ave., Chicago, IL 60660

RECTORY BUSINESS HOURS

Monday - Thursday: 8:30 am to 7:30 pm
Friday: 8:30 am to 4:45 pm
Saturday: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Sunday: 8:30 am to 1:00 pm

HEART TO HEART

Senior outreach and social services connection: 773.973.5464
Email: heart2heart@stgertrudechicago.org

PARISH SCHOOL

Northside Catholic Academy: 773.743.6277
www.northsidecatholic.org

BAPTISM

Baptisms take place on the second and fourth Sundays of each month. Additionally, baptisms will be incorporated into one of the weekend Masses each month, with a different Mass having a baptism each month. Call the Rectory to make arrangements to have a child baptized, and to RSVP to attend a parent preparation meeting, held the first Monday of each month at 7:00 pm.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC?

We have an enriching program called the R.C.I.A. (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults). Contact the Rectory for details.

MARRIAGE

Arrangements begin by setting up an appointment with the Pastor. Preparations are to begin at least four months prior to the desired date.

MINISTRY OF CARE AND COMMUNION

Trained ministers will gladly visit and bring communion to those who are sick or homebound. Please call the Rectory to make arrangements.

NEW PARISHIONERS

You are most welcome and are invited to stop in at the Rectory to introduce yourself and register, or register with one of the greeters before or after any Mass. Registration is also available online at www.stgertrudechicago.org.

RECONCILIATION

Individual: Saturday from 4:15-4:45 pm and by request.

COMMUNITY MEETINGS HELD AT ST. GERTRUDE

Al-Anon: Sundays at 7:00 pm in the Ministry Center
Open AA: Tuesdays at 7:30 pm in the Ministry Center, and
Thursdays at 7:00 pm in the school cafeteria.
Caris Pregnancy Center, pregnancy support, free pregnancy tests, and post-abortion help: 312.229.5700.
Makko ho (Japanese yoga): Saturdays at 10:00 am in the Ministry Center

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Parishioners

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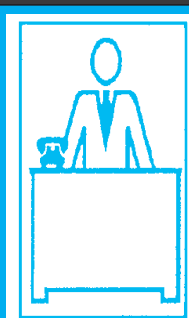


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