

St. Gertrude

All Are Welcome

1420 W. Granville Avenue

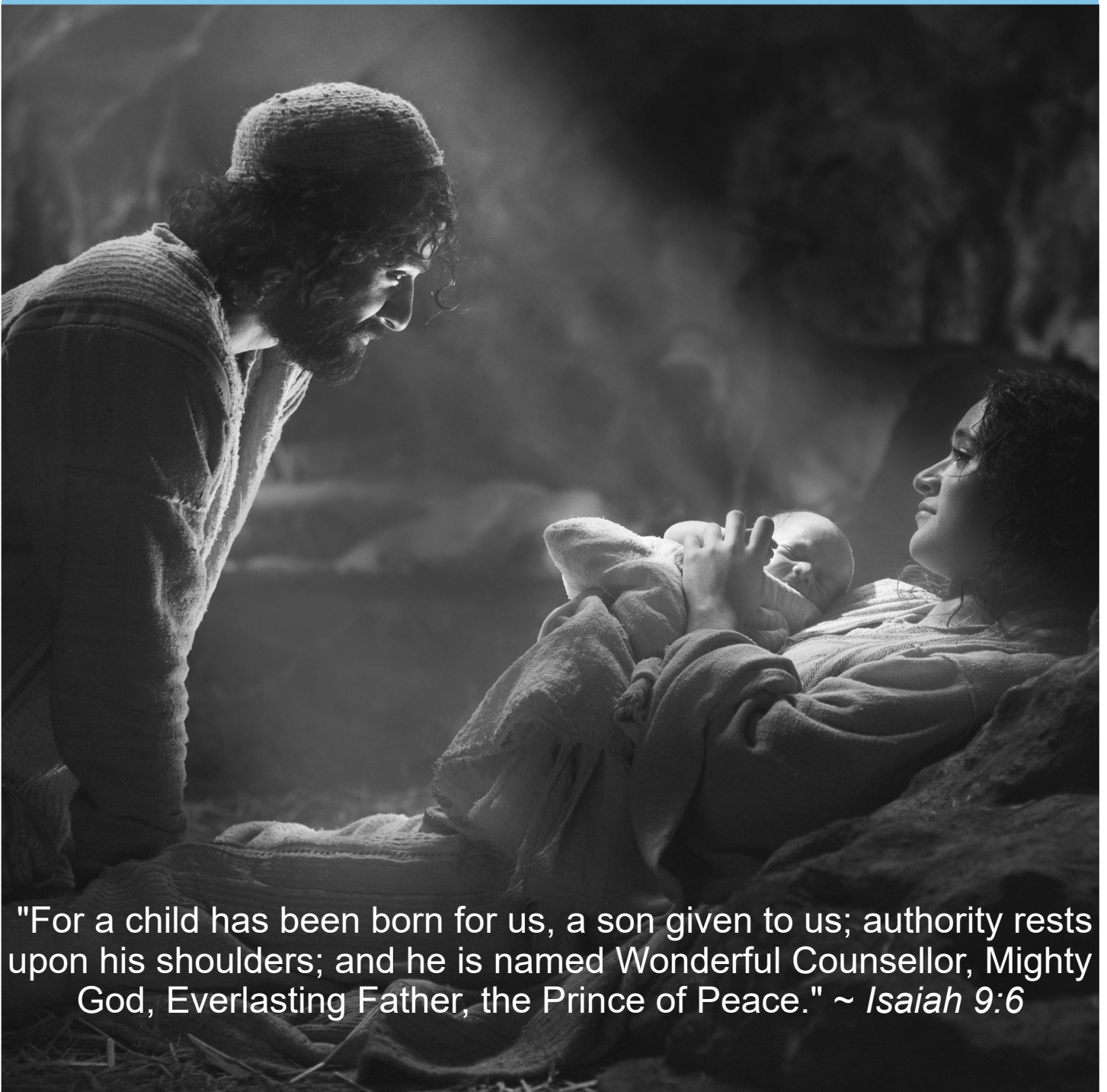
Chicago, Illinois 60660

www.stgertrudechicago.org

stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org

773.764.3621

**Fourth Sunday of Advent & The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
Bulletin for December 22 & 29, 2019**



"For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace." ~ *Isaiah 9:6*

From Father Rich

Thanks to Gail Smith and all those who helped with the Giving Tree. Thanks to all those who participated by taking an ornament and buying a gift for someone in need. Thanks to those who made sure the gifts got to their recipients. Each year, I am amazed at the generosity of so many in this outreach! Nor can I think of any better way to celebrate Christmas than in sharing what we have that others might know in some small measure God's love for us!

On behalf of the entire parish staff, Merry Christmas to you and all those who are dear to you! May the spirit and the generosity of this season extend in



each of our lives throughout the year, spreading the message of Our Lord's birth every day of the year!

This bulletin is a "holiday two-week" bulletin, covering many feasts! During these fourteen days, we will celebrate the fourth Sunday of Advent and the conclusion of the Advent season; the Feast of Our Lord's birth at Christmas; the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph; and the Feast of Mary, Mother of God, which is also New Year's! (The complete schedule of services during this time is also inside this bulletin.)

As anyone with children knows, from the time a couple discovers they are expecting a child, everything in life changes! The promise of the new life on its way fans into flame the hope in our hearts that makes life full and joyous. But nothing compares to the reality of that new life coming into our homes and our lives. Love gobsmacks us, emanating from this completely vulnerable little human being and draws love forth from us in amounts we didn't even know we had within! And in families where this is not the first child to be welcomed, the ever-changing shifting in relationships binds us in new ways to one another through this new life.

But in this particular child born on Christmas Day, an even greater miracle occurs—God becomes one with us that we might become one again with God! The mind-bending truth that Mary, a human being, is now the Mother of God explodes all our preconceived notions of the limits of God's love for us. God lets nothing stand in the way of letting us know we are loved. Let us greet the New Year with the renewed hope and love of this season.

No matter what challenges we face as individuals or families, as communities or nations, we are in God's hands. We are sisters and brothers of the Lord! Let us share the good news of our salvation in how we live out each and every day of this coming year! Happy New Year!

A Christmas Blessing

Lord, in this holy season of prayer and song and laughter, we praise you for the great wonders you have sent us: for shining star and angel's song, for infant's cry in lowly manger. We praise you for the Word made flesh in a little Child. We behold his glory, and are bathed in its radiance.

Be with us as we sing the ironies of Christmas, the incomprehensible comprehended, the poetry made hard fact, the helpless Babe who cracks the world asunder. We kneel before you shepherds, innkeepers, wise men. Help us to rise bigger than we are. Amen.

*Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year to
you and your loved
ones!*

*~ Father Rich
and the St. Gertrude
parish staff*



Christmas Mass Schedule



Please join us for Mass on Christmas Eve & Christmas Day!

Tuesday, December 24 ~ *Christmas Eve*

- 5:00 pm ~ Family Mass and Christmas Pageant
- 8:30 pm ~ Christmas Carols in Church
- 9:00 pm ~ Christmas Vigil Mass

Wednesday, December 25 ~ *Christmas Day*

- 8:00 am ~ Mass in Church
- 9:30 am ~ Mass at St. Gertrude East
- 10:30 am ~ Mass in Church
- There is no Gym Mass.

Parish Calendar

Sunday, December 22

- 12:30 pm ~ Christmas pageant dress rehearsal in Church (Children should go to the Rectory at noon to change into costumes.)
- No Kids Word
- No Religious Ed classes

Tuesday, December 24 ~ *Christmas Eve*

- 12:00 pm ~ Rectory closes

Wednesday, December 25 ~ *Christmas Eve*

- The Rectory is closed.

Thursday, December 26

- 7:30 am ~ Communion Service
- The Rectory is closed.

Sunday, December 29

- No Kids Word
- No Religious Ed classes
- There is no Gym Mass.

Tuesday, December 31 *Vigil - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God*

- New Year's Eve
- 12:00 pm ~ Rectory closes
- 5:00 pm ~ Mass

Wednesday, January 1 ~ *Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God*

- Holy day of obligation
- New Year's Day
- 10:00 am ~ Mass

- The Rectory is closed.

Thursday, January 2

- 7:30 am ~ Communion Service
- The Rectory is closed.

Sunday, January 5

- Religious Ed resumes
- Kids Word resumes

Monday, January 6

- 7:00 pm ~ Baptismal parent preparation class in the Rectory

Sunday, January 12

- 10:30 am ~ Family Mass in Church hosted by second graders and their families

Please note the Heart to Heart office will be closed through Monday, January 6. Contact Laurie Hasbrook at the Rectory at 773.764.3621 or via email at stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org if pastoral services such as anointing of the sick or communion are needed.



Growing in Faith

And she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them in the inn. ~ Luke 2:7

As Catholics, we understand that Advent and Christmas are about creating space, inner space, to house the child Jesus in our hearts and souls. We reject the limitations of the seemingly callous innkeeper. History is not kind to the man who couldn't find safe space for Jesus and his family.

For me, with age and through work as a trauma therapist, the desperate flesh and blood needs presented in the nativity story speak to me and compel my focus outward. Jesus, like all children, needed to be welcomed, protected, sheltered, fed and comforted. There are an estimated two thousand children in detention facilities at the border with these needs. Please consider a donation to the charity that would do the work you would do at the border.

Save the Children or the ACLU Foundation, just to mention two, work to provide justice and basic care for these children.

Seven children, that we know of, have died in detention. The most recent fatality was Carlos Hernandez Vasquez, 16, from Guatemala. Carlos died alone on the filthy concrete floor of a quarantine cell with nothing but a foil sheet. The others are Darlyn Cristabel Cordova-Valle, 10; Mariee Juarez, 1; Jakelin Caal Maquin, 7; Felipe Gomez Alonzo, 8; Juan de Leon Gutierrez, 16; and Wilmer Josue Ramirez Vasquez, 2½.

They are also named Jesus. We remember them.

~ KC Conway
for *Growing in Faith*



Advent 2019: "God is always with us...Let us walk in the light of the Lord."

The Fourth Week of Advent: Peace

Finally, peace! As we come to the conclusion of the Advent season, we hear from St. Matthew's Gospel the announcement of how the birth of Jesus came about.

In this Gospel passage, and in today's epistle reading from St. Paul, Jesus is both the source of peace and the way to peace in our lives and in our world. This peace is the "Shalom" of the prophets. Not merely the absence of war and violence, but far beyond that, the well-being, the wholesomeness, the profound sense of belonging and being loved. It is all caught up in this one event which fulfills God's promise and invites us to walk in the way of the Lord that we might live this peace every day of our lives.



Perhaps in the coming Christmas season each of us can more fully open our minds and our hearts to the Lord Jesus, that we might truly know and live in His peace and bring that gift to all those we encounter!

~ Father Rich

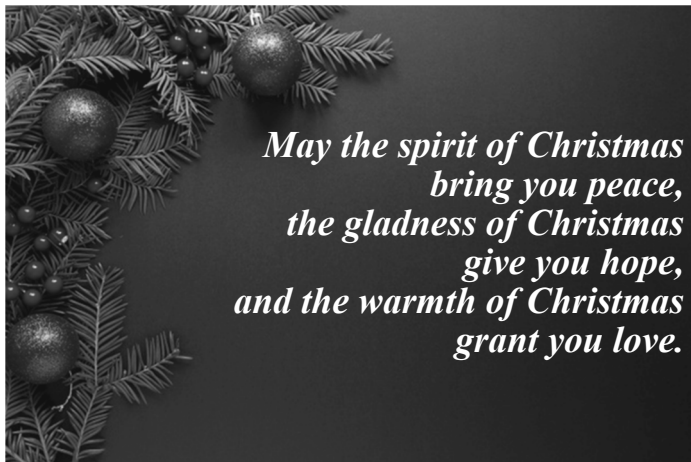
Parish News

Christmas Pageant Rehearsal Info: There will be a dress rehearsal on Sunday, December 22 at 12:30 pm in the Church. Kids and parents should come to the Rectory at 12:00 pm to dress in their costumes. The rehearsal will last for about forty-five minutes. Please contact Mary Clare Barker at mcbarker@stgertrudechicago.org with questions.

Heart to Heart Office Closed: The Heart to Heart offices will be closed until Monday, January 6. Please contact Laurie Hasbrook at the Rectory at 773.764.3621 or via email at stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org if pastoral services such as anointing of the sick or communion are needed. The Lending Closet will be available by appointment only during this period.

Christmas Masses: On Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24, there will be a Family Mass at 5:00 pm, featuring a Nativity Pageant during the Gospel starring children from our parish. There will also be a Christmas Vigil Mass at 9:00 pm, with Christmas carols beginning at 8:30 pm.

On Christmas Day, Mass will be held in Church at 8:00 am and 10:30 am and at 9:30 am at St. Gertrude East. There will not be a Gym Mass.



Religious Ed and Kids Word Schedule: There will be no Religious Education classes or Kids Word on Sunday, December 22 and Sunday, December 29. Both will resume on Sunday, January 5.

Rectory Holiday Hours: The Rectory will close at 12:00 pm on Tuesday, December 24. It will be closed on Wednesday, December 25 and Thursday, December 26.

The Rectory will close at noon on Tuesday, December 31, New Year's Eve. The Rectory will be closed on Wednesday, January 1 and Thursday, January 2.

Gym Mass Info: There will not be a Gym Mass on Sunday, December 29.

New Year's Mass Schedule: The Feast of the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God is Wednesday, January 1 and it is a holy day of obligation. Masses for this holy day will be on Tuesday, December 31, New Year's Eve, at 5:00 pm, and on Wednesday, January 1, New Year's Day, at 10:00 am.

Baptismal Preparation Class: The next class will be held on Monday, January 6 at 7:00 pm in the Rectory. Please call the Rectory office at 773.764.3621 to register for the class.

Upcoming Family Mass: On Sunday, January 12, there will be a Family Mass in Church at 10:30 am, hosted by second-grade students and their families. There will be hospitality offered after Mass.

Thank You for Helping with the Giving Trees! A very special thanks to all who helped in any way with our Giving Trees. Items went to support Care for Real, Heartland Alliance, Courage, Catholic Charities Toy Shower, the Refugee Ministry at St. Gertrude, and other refugee families in our community. Thank you for your generosity!

Parish Stewardship Report

"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone. You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing, as they rejoice before you as at the harvest." ~ Isaiah 9:1-2

Our thanks to all who have contributed in so many ways to St. Gertrude. All that we do comes through your support, your love, your time, your prayers. As we rejoice at the birth of the Savior, let us remember those of us who dwell in the gloom, who feel they are walking in darkness. Let us reach out at this season where joy is abundant and yet eludes so many.

Happy New Year!

Thank you for choosing to be a part of St. Gertrude parish and helping to making 2019 such a wonderful year! Great churches don't just happen, they are created and nurtured by active, generous parishioners. We are so grateful for each and every person in our community of faith. Happy New Year to you and your loved ones and may 2020 be filled with blessings and joy!



Our Parish at Prayer for December 23-29

Monday, December 23

7:30 am Bart McKee †

† Indicates person listed is deceased.

Tuesday, December 24 *Christmas Eve*

7:30 am Peter Tunney †

5:00 am Glenn and Mary Jo Martin †

9:00 pm Joseph and Isabelle Laczkowski †

Wednesday, December 25 *Christmas Day*

8:00 am Lillian and Michael Nyderek †

9:30 am Joseph "Terry" Shields †

10:30 am Nguyen family †

Thursday, December 26

7:30 am Communion service

Friday, December 27

7:30 am Purgatorial Society

Saturday, December 28

7:30 am Parishioners of St. Gertrude

5:00 pm Jenny and Austin Wyman †

Sunday, December 29 *Feast of the Holy Family*

8:00 am Living and deceased mothers and fathers of St. Gertrude parishioners

9:30 am Virginia Burke Jackson

10:30 am Francis Anthony and Angela Emanuele †

There is no Gym Mass on Christmas Day or Sunday, December 29.

Ministers of the Word

Tuesday, December 24 *Christmas Eve*

5:00 pm Sarah Millar, Donna Whalley

9:00 pm Victoria Healy, David Sullivan

Wednesday, December 25 *Christmas Day*

8:00 am Hallie Burhoe, Marty McDermott

9:30 am Pat Riley, Barbara Rossi and Leon Ward

10:30 am Rafael Melendez, Troy McMillan

Saturday, December 28

5:00 pm Pat Reardon, Jayne Deiters

Sunday, December 29 *Feast of the Holy Family*

8:00 am Mark Kollar, Marty McDermott

9:30 am Pat Riley, Barbara Rossi and Leon Ward

10:30 am Steven Monti, Rose Karasti

There is no Gym Mass on Christmas Day or Sunday, December 29.

Readings for December 23-29

Monday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66**Tuesday:** 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79**Wednesday:** (Day) Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]**Thursday:** Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22**Friday:** 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8**Saturday:** 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7cd-8; Mt 2:13-18**Sunday:** Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Ps 128:1-5; Col 3:12-21 [12-17]; Mt 2:13-23

Eucharistic Ministers

Tuesday, December 24 *Christmas Eve*

5:00 pm Kathy Dunne, Brad Koch, Candace Koch, Patricia Norcik, Rose Marie Anichini, Sarah Millar, Bob Backis

9:00 pm Farrah Healy, Patrick Robinson, Karen Griebel, Sharon Brown, Michelle Kuehlhorn

Wednesday, December 25 *Christmas Day*

8:00 am Hallie Burhoe, Marty McDermott, Mary Wyler, Barb Daly

9:30 am Pat Riley, Barbara Rossi and Leon Ward

10:30 am Kathy Wall, Carlos Barragan, Nancy Merrill, Rafael Melendez, Troy McMillan, Richard Ashbeck, Jana Ashbeck

Saturday, December 28

5:00 pm Kathleen Dawson, Mary Cook, Tim Harrington, Kathy Wall, Patricia Norcik

Sunday, December 29 *Feast of the Holy Family*

8:00 am Hallie Burhoe, Peter Morin, William Mitchell, Mary Wyler

9:30 am Pat Riley, Barbara Rossi and Leon Ward

10:30 am Carlos Barragan, Kathy Dunne, Debra Novak, Patrick Robinson, Ruth Ott, Sharon Brown, Karen Greibel

There is no Gym Mass on Christmas Day or Sunday, December 29.

**Altar Servers, please contact Steve Monti
for the schedule.**

Our Parish at Prayer for December 30-January 5

Monday, December 30

7:30 am Grace Cabrera †

† Indicates person
listed is deceased.

Tuesday, December 31 *Vigil - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God*

7:30 am Purgatorial Society

5:00 pm Geraldine Clennon †

Wednesday, January 1 *Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God/Holy Day of Obligation*

10:00 am Bruno and Vincenzia Tassone †

Thursday, January 2

7:30 am Communion service

Friday, January 3

7:30 am Maria Y-Nhu Tran †

Saturday, January 4

7:30 am Purgatorial Society

5:00 pm Theresa Myles †

Sunday, January 5 *Feast of the Epiphany*

8:00 am Patricia D'Elia †

9:30 am Parishioners of St. Gertrude

10:30 am Ken McCurry †

10:30 am Ethan Seitzer † (Gym Mass)

Ministers of the Word

Tuesday, December 31 *Vigil - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God*

5:00 pm Rafael Melendez, Steve Matre

Wednesday, January 1 *Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God/Holy Day of Obligation*

10:00 am Hallie Burhoe, Troy McMillan

Saturday, January 4

5:00 pm Kathleen Dawson, Bob Backis

Sunday, January 5 *Feast of the Epiphany*

8:00 am Marty McDermott, Jacalyn Meier

9:30 am Pat Riley, Barbara Rossi and Leon Ward

10:30 am Pat Reardon, Steve Matre

10:30 am TBA (Gym Mass)

**Altar Servers, please contact Steve Monti
for the schedule.**

Readings for December 30-January 5

Monday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13;
Jn 1:1-18

Wednesday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8;
Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28

Friday: 1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6;
Jn 1:29-34

Saturday: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42

Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13;
Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

Eucharistic Ministers

Tuesday, December 31 *Vigil - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God*

5:00 pm Rafael Melendez, Karen Griebel, Sharon
Brown

Wednesday, January 1 *Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God/Holy Day of Obligation*

10:00 am Mary Wyler, Hallie Burhoe, Troy
McMillan

Saturday, January 4

5:00 pm Mary Cook, Kathleen Dawson, Bob
Backis, Roman Reyes, Tim Harrington

Sunday, January 5 *Feast of the Epiphany*

8:00 am Marty McDermott, Brian DeVarenne,
Mary Wyler

9:30 am Pat Riley, Barbara Rossi and Leon Ward

10:30 am Nancy Merrill, Carlos Barragan, Lina
Peon, Gail Smith, Rafael Melendez, Jana
Ashbeck, Richard Ashbeck

10:30 am TBA (Gym Mass)

Do You Have Questions About Mass Times, Events, or Holiday 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
Ed & Ester Bugler
Jane Callahan-Moore
Maggie Callaway
Aida Calvopina
Geraldine Clark
Mary Ferguson
Mary Fitzgerald
Joan Harrington
Gina Heidkamp

Maria Hertl
Bernice Kiedysz
Karey Myers
Don Piven
Charley Scantlebury
Richard Seitz
Peggy Stoffel
Elinora E. Tolentino
Norma E. Viray
Lorraine Walton



New Parishioners

All are welcome to join our faith community! To register as a parishioner, forms are available in the back of Church, at our Rectory, or you can register online at www.stgertrudechicago.org.



Weddings

Interested in getting married at St. Gertrude? Call the Rectory office at 773.764.3621 to ask for more information or visit www.stgertrudechicago.org/marriage.

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, 10:30 am
9:30 am St. Gertrude East (Sacred Heart School/Sheridan and 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 *(Our holiday hours are on page three.)*

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 *(The office is closed until Monday, January 6.)*

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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