



St. Gertrude Chicago

E-Bulletin for Sunday, August 8

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Click [here](#) to see a print-friendly PDF of our new, abbreviated bulletin that will be distributed in church this weekend.

St. Gertrude Mass times are:

- Monday-Saturday: 7:30 am
- Saturdays at 5:00 pm
- Sundays at 8:00 am and 10:30 am (The 10:30 am Mass is live-streamed on [our parish Facebook page](#).)

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From Father Rich

*Bulletin for the
19th Sunday in
Ordinary Time*

August 8, 2021

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 girls 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.



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.



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*



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.

Click [here](#) to read the July 30, 2021 communication from the Archdiocese.



Please Welcome our New Pastoral Associate for Religious Education and Youth Ministry.

Eloy Escamilla joined the parish staff on Monday, August 2 as the Pastoral Associate for Religious Education and Youth Ministry here at St. Gertrude.

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.

His email is eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org.



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 [HERE](#). Completed forms should be emailed to Eloy Escamilla at eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.com.

Religious Education at St. Gertrude is for children in grades 1-8 who attend public or non-Catholic private schools and provides a faith community for children and their families as they awaken, nourish, and deepen their awareness of God's presence in all things.

The goal of the Religious Education program at Saint Gertrude is to teach children to listen for and respond to God's invitation to love.

In class, students and teachers work to:

- Understand that everyone is loved and treasured by God.
- Live the lessons of Jesus Christ - loving God with your whole heart and loving your neighbors as yourself.

- Build a deeper personal relationship with God through prayer and reflection.
- Learn to pray as an individual and as part of a community.
- Discover ways to love and serve others in our day-to-day lives.
- Appreciate what it means to be part of a welcoming, loving community that cares for and respects people from all walks of life.
- Deepen their knowledge of the Catholic tradition.

This school year, fees are \$200 for one child and \$225 for two or more children. An additional sacramental fee of \$60 is required for children making their First Communion, Reconciliation, or their Confirmation. Religious Education class fees and sacramental fees can be paid online at <https://www.givecentral.org/location/8/event/30788>.

More information about this year's classes, including the start date and whether they are in-person or online, will be shared later this month.

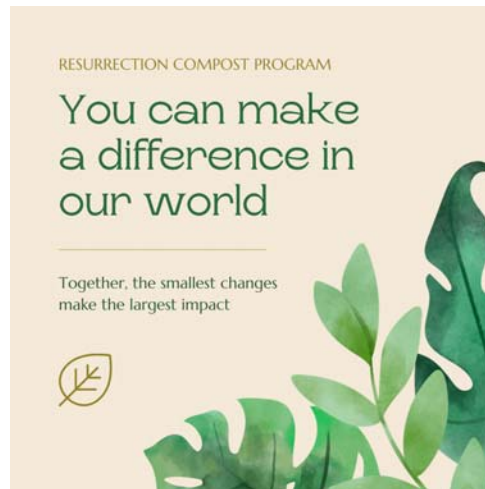
Registration Form for Religious Ed



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](#).



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.

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.



All Hands on Deck Needed for *Welcome Back Sunday*

As Fr. Rich mentioned in this bulletin, on Sunday, September 12, we will have a ***Welcome Back Sunday***.

In the survey that many of you filled out, it was stated, "We need to find ways to reconnect and connect with each other here at St. Gertrude's. As pandemics come and go, our faith lives on." In response to this, we will start by having a Welcome Mass on Sunday, September 12 at 10:30 am, followed by breakfast, music, and games.

We need you! We need volunteers for everything, from planning, set-up,

take down, cooking, 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 by phone at 773.764.3621 or via email at stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org.



Northside Catholic Academy Accepting Students for 2021-2022 School Year

Northside Catholic Academy is a Blue Ribbon School. This honor is awarded to the top 50 private schools in the country that demonstrate exemplary high performance. We believe no education is complete without addressing the whole child: mind, body, and spirit. This guiding principle allows us to create a uniquely unified academic experience. We elevate classroom learning and movement practices by attending to matters of the 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. Do you know a family that could benefit from private education?

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.



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 such as the Episcopal Church of the Atonement and Emanuel Congregation 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.

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 is launching a campaign to raise \$50,000 in 50 days, starting July 12 and running through August 31. Please consider supporting this effort!

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.

Donate to Care for Real



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

Ladies, what a blessing it is to just be able to gather! 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 RSVP to jacobfamily@sbcglobal.net if you plan to be there.

~ Laurie Jacob



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

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, please email Kevin Cheers, Pastoral Associate, at kchears@stgertrudechicago.org.



Heart to Heart Ministry Looking for 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 to 2:30 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays, when she is in her Ministry Center office or call Jane Callahan-Moore at 773.595-9992 Monday through Friday between the hours of 10:00 am and 5:00 pm.



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 me at kchears@stgertrudechicago.org or call the Rectory at 773.764.3621.

~ Kevin Cheers, Pastoral Associate



Annual Golden Wedding Anniversary Celebration Planned for September

The Archdiocese of Chicago's Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass is scheduled to be held on Sunday, September 19 at 2:30 pm at Holy Name Cathedral.

Couples celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary can learn more about the Mass and register [here](#).



Readings and Music for Sunday, August 8

- [Link to readings for Sunday, August 8](#)
- [PDF of lyrics and copyright info for Sunday, August 8](#)
- Music planned and hymn numbers from Breaking Bread Hymnal:
 - Prelude: Nocturne in F# Major, opus 15, #2 by Frederic Chopin (played by George Siegle on the piano)
 - Entrance: *City of God*, #385
 - Psalm: #34 *Taste and See* by James Moore, #331
 - Gospel Acclamation: *Mass of Renewal: Alleluia* by Curtis Stephan
 - Offertory: *Here I am Lord*, #383
 - Mass parts: *Mass of Creation*, #883
 - *Agnus Dei*-chant
 - Communion: *Ubi Caritas*, #477
 - Recessional: *Take the Word of God with You*, #377



Cantors, Musicians, Eucharistic
Ministers, and Lectors Planned for This

Weekend

Our cantors and musicians are:

- 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

Our Eucharistic ministers are:

- 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

Our Ministers of the Word are:

- 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

Baptisms

- Quinn Jordan Nee, daughter of Elizabeth and Thomas Nee
-



New Parishioner

- Harley Wright



Ways to Help Our Parish: Amazon Smile, Text to Give, GiveCentral, PayPal, and Amazon Smile

Visit smile.amazon.com and select St. Gertrude Parish as your charity of choice. From then on, connect to Amazon through smile.amazon.com and St. Gertrude will automatically benefit as your charity of choice.

We have set up a "Text to Give" option through GiveCentral. Parishioners are welcome to text the word **Donate** to 1.773.741.9505 to make a donation via phone.

To access our PayPal link, please visit [our parish website](#) and donate from there. [GiveCentral](#) offers parishioners the option of one-time gifts or weekly contributions.

For more information on text to give or to sign up for online giving, please email esoto@stgertrudechicago.org.

[Click here to go to GiveCentral](#)

[Click here for PayPal \(via our website\)](#)

[Donate via the Archdiocese website](#)



[County Tax Bill Update](#)

According to a statement by Maria Pappas, Cook County Treasurer, property tax bills will be mailed in late August and posted to cookcountytreasurer.com in mid-August. The anticipated due date is

October 1, 2021.

Visit the above website for information on:

- Homeowner Exemptions
- Senior Citizen Homestead Exemptions
- Senior Citizen Assessment Freeze Exemptions
- Persons with Disability Exemptions
- Home Improvement Exemptions
- Property Tax Relief for Military Personnel
- Disabled Veteran Homestead Exemptions
- First Responder's Surviving Spouse Tax Abatements



Daily Scripture Readings

Click [HERE](#) for the daily readings for Masses. Here is the list of readings for this for parishioners that prefer to look them up:

Monday, August 9: Dt 10:12-22/Mt 17:22-27

Tuesday, August 10: 2 Cor 9:6-10/Jn 12:24-26

Wednesday, August 11: Dt 34:1-12/Mt 18:15-20

Thursday, August 12: Jos 3:7-10a, 11, 13-17/Mt 18:21—19:1

Friday, August 13: Jos 24:1-13/Mt 19:3-12

Saturday, August 14: Jos 24:14-29/Mt 19:13-15

Sunday, August 15: Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/1 Cor 15:20-27/Lk 1:39-56

(622)



Mass Intentions

Next week's intentions are:

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)



Please Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends

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