



St. Gertrude Chicago E-Bulletin

Second Sunday of Advent

December 6, 2020

Click [HERE](#) to read the bulletin in a new window

St. Gertrude Mass times are:

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

Registration is now open for in-person attendance for:

- Feast of Immaculate Conception, Tuesday, December 8 - [7:30 am](#), [8:40 am](#), [7:00 pm](#) (two different links, one for 7:30 am and another for the 8:40 am and 7:00 pm)
- Advent Reconciliation Service on Sunday, December 13 at [1:00 pm](#)
- Christmas Masses - [Christmas Eve at 5:00 pm](#), [Christmas Day at 8:00 am and 10:30 am](#)
- New Year's Masses - [New Year's Ever at 5:00 pm](#) and [New Year's Day at 10:30 am](#)

The St. Gertrude parish office is open Monday through Saturday from 9:00 am-2:30 pm and 8:30-11:30 am on Sunday. Please review [Parishioner Guidelines for Visiting the Rectory](#). Please call before you come!

[Click Here to Sign-up for Weekend Masses](#)

[Click Here to Sign up for Weekday Masses](#)

[Click Here to Sign-up for Christmas Masses](#)

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From Father Rich

*Bulletin for the
Second Sunday of
Advent*

Second Sunday of Advent

John the Baptist and Mary, the two central figures in the Advent readings from now until Christmas, are considered the final two great prophets announcing the coming of the Messiah. Today we meet John as the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled in his life and in his words.

Next week, we again hear from John and on the fourth Sunday in Advent, our focus shifts to Mary as the final preparations for the Lord's birth grabs our attention.

12/6



These two pivotal figures in our salvation history also provide us with great opportunities for our own prayerful reflection. How well can we welcome their stories into our own lives? How can we, in word and deed, proclaim the coming of the Lord?

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

This Tuesday, December 8 is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a Holy Day of Obligation. This Feast is also our nation's patronal feast day. Masses on the Feast Day are at 7:30 am, 8:40 am (NCA in church and live-streamed -- but all are welcome!), and 7:00 pm.

Click [HERE](#) to sign up to attend the 7:30 am Mass in person. Please make your reservation [HERE](#) to attend the 8:40 am or the 7:00 pm Masses in

person. Northside Catholic Academy will live-stream the 8:40 am school Mass [on the NCA Facebook page](#). Their broadcast will begin around 8:35 am.

Special Collection for Retired Religious - December 12 & 13

Next weekend's second collection is for the Retirement Fund for Religious. This collection helps fund the health care and retirement for sisters, brothers, and priests from religious communities (e.g. Franciscans, Dominicans, Benedictines, Sisters of Mercy, Sisters of Nazareth, etc.) Please be generous in helping care for those who lived their lives in service to all of us.

Advent Reconciliation Service: Sunday, December 13 at 1:00 pm

Our parish Advent Reconciliation Service is next Sunday, December 13 at 1:00 pm in church. This is a reflective service in which absolution will be given. We will also be following the pandemic protocols and maintain social distance. Please make your reservation [HERE](#). This service will not be live-streamed.

Christmas Giving Tree

The Christmas Giving Tree is here! Because of the pandemic, the need is greater than ever, but coordination more difficult. The solution is in gift cards! [Further down in this newsletter](#) and on [the parish website](#) is the list of what is needed by our neighbors using Care for Real and for the refugees sponsored through our parish Refugee Committee. The information sheet also gives explanations of how this year's Giving Tree works. Gift cards need to be turned in at church before or after Mass at the Giving Tree table or by dropping them/ mailing them to the Rectory **no later than December 16**.

Rite of Welcoming

This Sunday, December 6 at the 10:30 am Mass, we recognize two members of our community who are seeking entrance into the Catholic Church through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA.) At this Mass, we will celebrate the Rite of Welcoming, officially recognizing them as a candidate (someone who is already baptized in another Christian denomination, now seeking reception into the Catholic Church through their Profession of Faith, Confirmation, and First Communion) or a catechumen (someone who is seeking Baptism, Confirmation, and First Communion.)

We are pleased to recognize and accompany Corina Cleja and Jessica Navarro as they make this next step in their faith journey!

First Communions and Confirmation in 2021

As we all anticipate the availability of a COVID vaccine in the coming months, we are also beginning to plan for the sacraments of First Communion and Confirmation.

We recently were notified by the Archdiocese that Confirmations planned in the spring of 2021 will once again be celebrated by pastors. Preparations for First Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation are already underway, and Kevin Cheers, our Pastoral Associate, will be in touch with families preparing for these sacraments after the first of the year.

As these celebrations draw closer, we will figure out whether or not a class celebration is possible or if we will need to schedule multiple celebrations with the candidates broken into smaller groups. Parent meetings will be held in January and we hope to have a little more clarity by that time.

Renew My Church

Thanks to the Renew My Church Parish team and all those who attended last Sunday's parish meeting about Renew My Church. The final document outlining our grouping's recommendations is available [HERE](#), the scenarios the report references can be found [HERE](#), and a video recording of the meeting can be watched [HERE](#).

On Tuesday representatives from the parish teams met with our local bishop, Bishop Bartosic, the Superintendent of Schools, and the Chief Operating Officer of the Archdiocese, to present our recommendations. This completes the work of the Renew My Church team. I am so grateful to them for all their exceptional work!

The recommendations now go to a Committee at the Archdiocese who reviews the materials and makes a recommendation to the Cardinal, who then makes the final decision. We hope to hear that decision by Christmas.

Make Your Reservation for Christmas Masses

Our online reservation system is now available for Christmas Masses. I encourage you to make your reservation as soon as you can. If reservations indicate the need for additional Masses, they will be added as soon as we

can determine whether we need additional Christmas Eve Masses or additional Christmas Day Masses. Please make your reservation [HERE](#).



Growing in Faith

Prepare the way of the Lord... a familiar call in a not so familiar time when uncertainty and confusion abound. We might respond with the question, “How can I prepare the way when I don’t have a clear sense of where I’m supposed to go?” Not unlike Mary’s response to being told that she was to conceive and bear a son who would be called Son of the Most High, “How can this be since I have no relations with a man?”

It was no ordinary time for Mary, nor for Elizabeth, who conceived in her old age. It is no ordinary way we are called to prepare for. But that’s always the case. We often live under the illusion of things being ordinary, even when we are not overwhelmed by the major upheavals of our times—the devastating consequences of COVID-19, racial tensions, political polarization, food insecurity, economic collapse in many sectors, and so on.

Both Mary and Elizabeth let go of their uncertainty and confusion, embracing the mystery of the child growing in each of their wombs. Elizabeth felt the child leap in her womb as she heard Mary’s greeting.

Hopefully, this unsettling time will lead each of us to moments of stillness, of emptiness, when our eyes are opened to see, and our ears are opened to hear—moments when the Spirit overshadows us, moments when we feel something leap inside of us, moving us beyond our uncertainties and

confusion, to a deep sense of the *way* before us.

~ Ginger Carney for *Growing in Faith*



The Feast of the Immaculate Conception - Tuesday, December 8

The Immaculate Conception is a Catholic teaching maintaining that from the moment she was conceived, the Blessed Virgin Mary was kept free of original sin and was filled with the sanctifying grace normally conferred during baptism.

It is a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass will be held at 7:30 am, 8:40 am (NCA school Mass), and 7:00 pm.

- To sign up to attend the 7:30 am Mass, click [HERE](#).
- To register to attend the 8:40 am or the 7:00 pm Masses, click [HERE](#).

Northside Catholic Academy will live-stream the 8:40 am school Mass [on the NCA Facebook page](#). Their broadcast will begin around 8:35 am.



Our Advent Reconciliation Service is Next Sunday, December 13

What do I need to talk to God about? Where do I need forgiveness? Our Advent Reconciliation Service will be held next Sunday, December 13 at 1:00 pm in Church.

Please join us as we spend about 45 minutes in reflective prayer, an examination of conscience, and the forgiveness of our sins. It's a great way to get ready for the celebration of Christmas! Register to attend in person [HERE](#). This service will not be live-streamed.



St. Gertrude's Giving Tree Program: Donate Gifts Cards This Year - Deadline is December 16

This Advent, St. Gertrude Parish's Giving Tree will once again support people in need in our community this Christmas season. Due to the pandemic, our entire collection of gifts will consist of gift cards.

We will be collecting gift cards for Care for Real and the families sponsored by our Refugee Ministry. The gift cards may be brought to church or dropped off/mailed to the Rectory, 1420 W. Granville, Chicago, IL 60660. (Even if the Rectory office is closed, you can always put mail through the mail slot in the side (west) red door next to the Rectory side yard.

Please be sure all gift cards are delivered by December 16. You can note if you prefer your donations to go to Care for Real or the families sponsored by Refugee Ministry. Collections start Thursday, Thanksgiving Day.

Care for Real

Care for Real is requesting that all gifts for their families be in increments of \$20 gift cards from Target. Below is a list of gift ideas that an individual or family might be able to purchase with the gift cards you donate.

One or Two \$20 Gift Cards from Target Could Purchase:

- A toy, board game, or sports equipment for a child
- Books, pajamas, or art supplies for a teen
- Hats, scarfs, and gloves for a child, teen, or adult
- Diapers or baby food for a baby
- Toiletries for a man or woman
- Holiday treats for a family or an individual

Three \$20 Gift Cards from Target Could Purchase:

- A coat or boots for a child
- Clothes for an adult or teen
- Toiletries for a family
- Pantry items for a family or an individual

Four \$20 Gift Cards from Target Could Purchase:

- Shoes or boots for a teen or an adult
- A winter coat for a teen or an adult

Five \$20 Gift Cards from Target Could Purchase:

- An interview/work outfit for an adult
- Groceries for a family

You might also wish to contribute one, two, three, four, or five \$20 gift cards from Target for any unspecified items which are most needed at this time.

St. Gertrude Parish Refugee Ministry

We are also collecting gift cards for the refugee families sponsored by St. Gertrude Parish. For these families, we are requesting gift cards from **Target and Jewel** for gift items, household needs, and groceries.

Our Parish Goal for Donations for our Refugee Families is to Collect:

- Ten \$25 gift cards from Target
- Eight \$50 gift cards from Target
- Four \$75 gift cards from Target
- Ten \$25 gift cards from Jewel
- Eight \$50 gift cards from Jewel
- Four \$75 gift cards from Jewel

Thank You!

Your contributions are most appreciated! Participation in our St. Gertrude Parish Giving Tree is a blessing for all, gift givers and receivers, in this holy season of Advent, and makes the lives of all those who are touched truly filled with Christmas joy!

A flyer is available [HERE](#).



Sign-up to Attend Christmas Masses/New Year's Masses

This year, we will have a family Mass on Christmas Eve at 5:00 pm. On Christmas Day, we will have an 8:00 am Mass and a 10:30 am Mass. Please sign up to attend in person [HERE](#).

We will live-stream the 5:00 pm Mass on Christmas Eve and the 10:30 am Mass on Christmas Day on our [parish Facebook page](#). After these services are over, they will be posted on [our parish's YouTube channel](#).

On New Year's Eve, we will have Mass at 5:00 pm and on New Year's Day, Mass will be held at 10:30 am. Register [HERE](#) to attend in-person. The 10:30 am New Year's Day service will be [live-streamed](#).



St. Gertrude's Virtual Auction - Fundraiser Scheduled for February 2021!

St. Gertrude parish will host a virtual auction in February 2021 which will serve as our major fundraiser. We are planning to offer all sorts of items with lots of fun and interesting categories - and we need your help.

We are currently looking for volunteers to solicit donated items and services. Solicitation can be done by phone, email, or personal contact. If this sounds like something you can do, please email us at auction21@stgertrucechicago.org.



St. Gertrude Refugee Ministry Holiday Pattern Masks

Khadija, the single mother of two we've sponsored since she arrived from the Central African Republic, is a gifted seamstress. At present Kadidja has committed to creating 30 masks per week. The cloth masks cost \$5 each. Please place your orders here: [Holiday Pattern Masks by Kadidja](#).

Payment can be made via Zelle (audraeisin2@hotmail.com), or Venmo (TogetherWeAreStrong), or if needed by check, (payable to Audra Eisin.)

You will be called or texted when your masks are ready to arrange to pick them up. Please indicate in the comment section of the above apps/your check how you want to be contacted when placing your order.

If you would like some tech support, please contact Pam Horan-Bussey at 773.315.3290.



System Glitch with In-Person Mass Registration: Please Double-Check You are Still Signed Up for Masses in December and January.

Due to a system glitch, the registration lists from several Masses were inadvertently deleted. **If you signed up to attend any Masses in December and January, please double-check our SignUpGenius lists to confirm your name is still on the list.**

- Check [HERE](#) to confirm you are signed up for weekend Masses!
- Check [HERE](#) to confirm you are signed up for 7:30 am weekday Masses.

We apologize for the inconvenience.



Religious Ed Update

We look forward to classes this month during this special time of year. Our next break will be over Christmas, with no classes on December 22, December 29, and January 5.

If you still need to pick up your child's books for the school year, please note that the St. Gertrude parish office is open Monday through Saturday from 9:00 am-2:30 pm and 8:30-11:30 am on Sunday. Here are our [Parishioner Guidelines for Visiting the Rectory](#). **Please call before you come!**



St. Gertrude Parish's Annual Balsam Pine Sale: Limited Number of Christmas Trees and 18" Wreaths - Deliveries Available on Sunday!

A limited number of trees and 18" wreaths are available for sale, with proceeds benefiting St. Gertrude's ministries. Garland, the 24" wreaths, and the 36" wreaths have sold out.

All orders are for delivery only and limited to four miles from Glenwood and Granville. There is a one-time \$3 charge for delivery. Please click "yes" on the approved delivery field. To complete your order, please check the delivery box amount of \$3 at the bottom of the page prior to paying.

For sale are:

- 6' tree - \$45 (**limited number available**)
- 18" wreath - \$20 (**limited number available**)
- 24" wreath - \$22 (sold out)
- 36" wreath - \$30 (sold out)

When orders are placed, customers will be asked to select their preferences for deliveries. The Balsam Pine Sale team will try their best to accommodate the preferred options and notify buys when their delivery is scheduled. Dates and times are:

- Saturday, December 5, 9:00 am-1:00 pm ***FULL (new times!)***
- Sunday, December 6, 9:00 am-1:00 pm

Greenery can be purchased with cash or check (payable to St. Gertrude) at the Rectory. Orders with checks can also go to Northside Catholic Academy's office, care of Steve Peavler.

To order online, click [HERE](#). A link to order is also on our website, <https://stgertrudechicago.org/christmas-greenery>. You may also contact Steve Peavler at speavler@gmail.com for an online order form.

Please call the Rectory at 773.764.3621 or email Steve Peavler at speavler@gmail.com with any questions.



Remembrance Altar Items Can be Picked Up in the Rectory.

Thank you for sharing images and memories of your special someone with us during the month of November. If you have not yet picked up your photo or memento, please collect them at the Rectory.

The parish office is open Monday through Saturday from 9:00 am-2:30 pm and 8:30-11:30 am on Sunday. Here are our [Parishioner Guidelines for Visiting the Rectory](#). **Please call before you come!**



Pickup Your Breaking Bread Hymnal Order/Purchase Ones at the Rectory.

Parishioners who purchased Breaking Bread hymnals are asked to pick them up after Mass from Mary Clare Barker, our Music Minister, or collect them at the Rectory during office hours.

Missals are still being sold at a discounted rate of \$7.00 per hymnal and are available only at the Rectory. Checks and cash are accepted. Please have the exact amount ready as no change is available.

Please note, while you may bring your personal missal to St. Gertrude, you **MUST** bring it back home. Any missals left in the church will be discarded.

Contact Mary Clare Barker with any questions at 773.764.3621, ext 22 or mcbarker@stgertrudechicago.org.



Readings for Sunday, December 6

Reading 1: Is 40:1-5, 9-11

Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her
that her service is at an end,
her guilt is expiated;
indeed, she has received from the hand of the LORD
double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

In the desert prepare the way of the LORD!
Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God!
Every valley shall be filled in,
every mountain and hill shall be made low;
the rugged land shall be made a plain,
the rough country, a broad valley.
Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together;
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

Go up on to a high mountain,
Zion, herald of glad tidings;
cry out at the top of your voice,
Jerusalem, herald of good news!
Fear not to cry out
and say to the cities of Judah:
Here is your God!
Here comes with power
the Lord GOD,
who rules by his strong arm;
here is his reward with him,
his recompense before him.
Like a shepherd he feeds his flock;
in his arms he gathers the lambs,
carrying them in his bosom,
and leading the ewes with care.

Reading 2: 2 Pt 3:8-14

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved,
that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years
and a thousand years like one day.

The Lord does not delay his promise, as some regard “delay,”

but he is patient with you,
not wishing that any should perish
but that all should come to repentance.
But the day of the Lord will come like a thief,
and then the heavens will pass away with a mighty roar
and the elements will be dissolved by fire,
and the earth and everything done on it will be found out.

Since everything is to be dissolved in this way,
what sort of persons ought you to be,
conducting yourselves in holiness and devotion,
waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God,
because of which the heavens will be dissolved in flames
and the elements melted by fire.
But according to his promise
we await new heavens and a new earth
in which righteousness dwells.
Therefore, beloved, since you await these things,
be eager to be found without spot or blemish before him, at peace.

Gospel: Mk 1:1-8

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God.

As it is written in Isaiah the prophet:
Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you;
he will prepare your way.
A voice of one crying out in the desert:
“Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths.”
John the Baptist appeared in the desert
proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.
People of the whole Judean countryside
and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem
were going out to him
and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River
as they acknowledged their sins.
John was clothed in camel’s hair,
with a leather belt around his waist.
He fed on locusts and wild honey.
And this is what he proclaimed:

“One mightier than I is coming after me.
 I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals.
 I have baptized you with water;
 he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”



Christmas is Coming - Handmade Gifts Available from Loom

Loom, a Catholic Charities ministry, is a community of refugee women living in Chicago who weave together their creativity and cultural traditions to make and sell beautiful handmade products. These women have fled their country of origin because of a credible fear of persecution on account of their race, religion, political opinion, national origin, or social group.

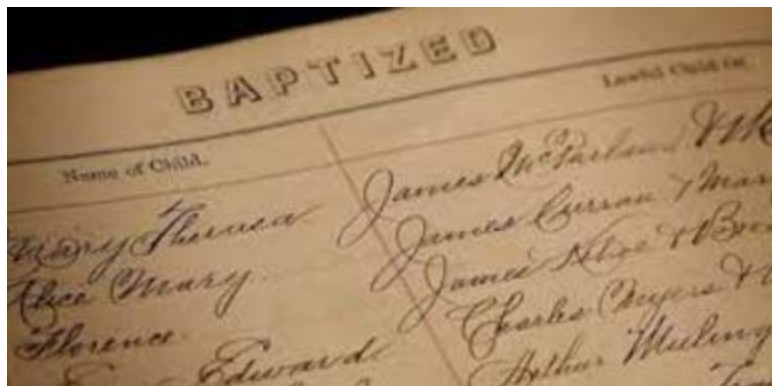
Loom provides an opportunity, at a weekly workshop, to collaborate, develop new skills, earn extra income, and be part of a community of creative, enterprising women. Through the encouragement of the group and skills learned, many women secure part or full-time employment in and outside of the fashion industry.

Loom artisans collaborate with local designers to produce a beautiful selection of handmade products such as jewelry, bags, and home décor. Artisans use a variety of techniques including indigo dye, crocheting, knitting, sewing, embroidery, and weaving inspired by their cultural traditions.

Goods can be purchased online [HERE](#) and at the following shops:

- [Andersonville Galleria](#), 5247 N. Clark St, open 11:00 am-7:00 pm daily
- [Sacred Art](#), 4619 N. Lincoln Ave, open Tuesday-Friday from 12:00-6:00 pm, Saturday and Sunday from 11:00 am -5:00 pm
- [CFT Holiday Pop-Up Shop](#), 2717 N. Clark Street, open November 1-December 24, TBA

We encourage you to shop local this holiday season and purchase gifts from this fantastic local ministry!



Baptisms

Edith Anne Walaszek, child of Erin Walaszek and Amanda Downs
Mael-Emi Hiro Sedjro Agboton, child of Romaric and Jerika Agboton



Rest in Peace

Dorothy Castronova, sister-in-law of parishioner Rose Castronova-Rivers



Additional Parish Information Found on our Website

List of info/articles

- [Mass Schedule/Links to Sign up for Mass](#)
 - [Video of What to Expect When Returning to Church](#)
 - [Parishioner Guidelines for Attending Mass in Church](#)
 - [What to Expect/Do in Church \(photos w/captions\)](#)
 - [Volunteers Needed to Help with Mass](#)
 - [Parishioner Guidelines for Visiting the Rectory](#)
 - [Meetings at St. Gertrude](#)
 - [Volunteer Sign-up Form](#)
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Lectors, Cantors, Eucharistic Ministers, Set-up/Greeters/Clean-up Teams, Musicians, and Music Planned for This Weekend

Mary Clare Barker, our Music Minister, has created a song sheet for use at home with lyrics for music for our live-streamed 10:30 am Mass this Sunday at 10:30 am [HERE](#). Lyrics for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception can be found [HERE](#).

This weekend and on Tuesday, December 8, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, our cantors and musicians will be:

- Saturday, December 5 at 5:00 pm - Lisa Erceg
- Sunday, December 6 at 8:00 am - Jon Blake
- Sunday, December 6 at 10:30 am - Matt Heimer; Dana Sullivan, flute
- Tuesday, December 8 at 8:40 am and 7:00 pm - Mary Clare Barker
(There will not be music at the 7:30 am Mass.)

Please note, we ask that those attending Mass in person do not sing due to concerns that singing may spread germs further than six feet.

Our Eucharistic ministers are:

- Saturday, December 5 at 5:00 pm - Tim Harrington
- Sunday, December 6 at 8:00 am - Barb Daly
- Sunday, December 6 at 10:30 am - Debra Novak
- Tuesday, December 8 at 7:30 am and 8:40 am- TBD
- Tuesday, December 8 at 7:00 pm - Tim Harrington

Our readers this weekend are:

- Saturday, December 5 at 5:00 pm - Jayne Deiters
- Sunday, December 6 at 8:00 am - Marty McDermott
- Sunday, December 6 at 10:30 am - Patrick Robinson
- Tuesday, December 8 at 7:30 am and 8:40 am- TBD
- Tuesday, December 8 at 7:00 pm - Patrick Robinson

Our set-up/greeter team this weekend is:

- Saturday, December 5 at 5:00 pm - Hallie Burhoe, Carol Ann Munro, Michelle Kuehlhorn
- Sunday, December 6 at 8:00 am - Barb Daly, Peter Morin, Marty McDermott, Brigid Cronin, Mark Kollar
- Sunday, December 6 at 10:30 am - Michael Kowalsky, Patrick Robinson, Dorothea Tobin, Nancy Kuhn
- Tuesday, December 8 at 7:30 am - Debbie Kern

- Tuesday, December 8 at 8:40 am - Debbie Kern, Barb Daly, Nancy Kuhn
- Tuesday, December 8 at 7:00 pm - Dorothea Tobin, Michael Kowalsky, Patrick Robinson

Our clean-up team this weekend is:

- Saturday, December 5 at 5:00 pm - TBD
- Sunday, December 6 at 8:00 am - TBD
- Sunday, December 6 at 10:30 am - TBD
- Tuesday, December 8 at 7:30 am, 8:40 am, and 7:00 pm - TBD

We still need other volunteers to fill teams for greeting/set-up and clean-up. For safety reasons, volunteers should be between 18-64 years of age and not have conditions that would put them at risk for negative outcomes from COVID-19 infection (immunosuppressive therapy, heart or lung disease, cancer, etc.)

If you would like to participate on a team, please [download this form](#) and email it to Kevin Cheers at kchears@stgertrudechicago.org and include your preferred e-mail and telephone number.



Ways to Help Our Parish: Amazon Smile, Text to Give, GiveCentral, PayPal, Archdiocese Link, 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.

The Archdiocese has [an online giving option via the Archdiocesan website](#). You simply click on the link and it takes you to the website. Once there, you determine if you want to contribute via a credit card or a checking account. You fill out the form, including selecting the parish to which the contribution is going, and the money will be electronically debited. The site offers options for amounts and the frequency of the contribution.

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 Art Blumberg, Director of Parish Management and Facilities, at ablumberg@stgertrudechicago.org. He will be happy to help in any way he can.

[Click here to go to GiveCentral](#)

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

[Donate via the Archdiocese website](#)



[Second Collection Next Weekend,
December 12-13 for Retired Religious](#)

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

During the weekend of December 13-14, 2020, our parishes will hold the Retirement Fund for Religious collection, an annual appeal that benefits some 30,000 senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests.

In his letter to the Galatians, Saint Paul urges us to remain steadfast in helping others: “Let us not grow tired of doing good, for in due time we shall reap our harvest, if we do not give up” (Gal 6:9). During these unprecedented times, many are hurting and need our assistance, including elderly religious. As we approach the annual Retirement Fund for Religious collection, I encourage your continued support.

As you may know, senior religious were instrumental in establishing Catholic schools, hospitals, and charitable agencies. Often this progress came at great sacrifice, and many older sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for little to no pay.

Today, hundreds of religious communities do not have enough retirement savings and struggle to provide for a growing number of elder members. Covid-19 has only increased the challenge to provide adequate care.

Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious provides vital funding for medications, nursing care, and more. If you are unable to give during Mass, please mail your offertory envelope to your parish or donate through your parish’s online giving platform, if available. You can also send your contributions to:

National Religious Retirement Office

3211 Fourth Street NE

Washington DC 20017-1194

Please make your check payable to Retirement Fund for Religious.

In these difficult days, you may feel as though your generosity has been exhausted. I ask just two things. First, please join me in praying for God’s protection for all our elderly religious. Second, please support the Retirement Fund for Religious collection as you are able—and know that women and men religious across the country hold you and your loved ones in grateful prayer.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Cardinal Cupich, Archbishop of Chicago



Daily Scripture Readings

Our website has links to the daily readings for Masses [HERE](#). (*Scroll down the webpage to see the readings.*)

Here is the list of readings for this for parishioners that prefer to look them up:

Monday, December 7: Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday, December 8: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday, December 9: 7:30 am - Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30

Thursday, December 10: Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9, 10-13ab; Mt 11:11-15

Friday, December 11: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4; Mt 11:16-19

Saturday, December 12: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47, or any readings from the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712

Sunday, December 13: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; Lk 1:46-50, 53-54; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28



Mass Intentions

Monday, December 7: 7:30 am - Sr. Mary Ford+

Tuesday, December 8 - *Feast of the Immaculate Conception*: 7:30 am - Ben Bell+; 8:40 am - NCA school Mass - mothers of St. Gertrude parishioners; 7:00 pm - mothers of St. Gertrude parishioners;

Wednesday, December 9: 7:30 am - Eileen Quinlan+

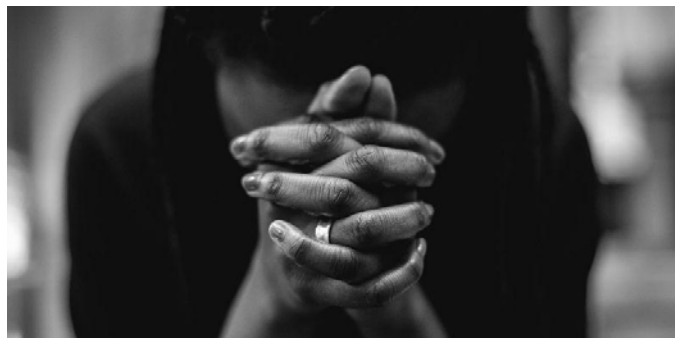
Thursday, December 10: 7:30 am - Communion Service; Living & deceased parents of St. Gertrude parishioners

Friday, December 11: 7:30 am - Peon Family+

Saturday, December 12: 7:30 am - Purgatorial Society; 5:00 pm - Richard Cenar, Sr.+

Sunday, December 13: 8:00 am - Peter+ & Mary+ Tunney; 10:30 am - Parishioners of St. Gertrude

(+ indicates the person is deceased)



Please Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends

- Jean Bautista
- Walter Bradford
- Ester Bugler
- Maggie Callaway
- Maria Hertl
- Bernice Kiedysz
- Karey Myers
- Robert Howe

- Aida Calvopina
- Geraldine Clark
- Connie Cool
- Lois DiFruscio
- Sara Fighter
- Lucia Hall
- Gina Heidkamp
- Mickey Resch
- Charley Scantlebury
- Richard Seitz
- Peggy Stoffel
- The Sullivan family
- Ruth Timmons
- Elinora E. Tolentino
- Norma E. Viray



Hymnal Info & Lyrics for December 6, 2020

Hymnal Information/Number in Breaking Bread

- Entrance: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, #38
- After lighting of Advent Wreath: Rejoice, Rejoice...(chorus to O Come Emmanuel)
- Responsorial Psalm: #85 Lord, Let us See your Kindness (GIA setting)
- Gospel Acclamation: Advent Alleluia by Michael Joncas (GIA), verse 2.
- Offertory: I Have Loved You, #602
- Mass Parts: Missa Emmanuel
- Communion: A Voice Cries Out, #44
- Recessional: Stay Awake, #59

Lyrics

Waiting for Bethlehem's Light by Dale Peterson

Refrain: Waiting for hope, waiting for peace,
Waiting for joy and for God's perfect love.
Advent is waiting, let candles burn bright.
Advent is waiting for Bethlehem's Light.

O Come, O Come Emmanuel, chant

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

Psalm 85: Lord, let us see your kindness by Marty Haugen**I Have Loved You** by Michael Joncas

I have loved you with an everlasting love, I have called you and you are mine.

A Voice Cries Out by Christopher Walker,

Refrain: A voice cries out in the wilderness:

"Prepare a way for the Lord!"

A voice cries out in the wilderness:

"Make straight a highway for God!"

Stay Awake by Christopher Walker

Stay awake (clap, clap) be ready (clap clap)

You do not know the hour when the Lord is coming.

Stay awake (clap, clap) be ready (clap clap)

The Lord is coming soon! Alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord is coming soon.

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