



St. Gertrude Chicago E-Bulletin

Bulletin for Sunday, January 17

The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

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](#))

The St. Gertrude parish office schedule can be found [HERE](#). Please review the [Parishioner Guidelines for Visiting the Rectory](#) and call before you come!

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

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

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From Father Rich

***Bulletin for the
Second Sunday in
Ordinary Time***

January 17, 2021

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time -- Vocation

Today, we return to “Ordinary Time” -- all the Sundays of the year that do not fall within one of the major liturgical seasons such as Advent/Christmas and Lent/Easter. These Sundays are less “themed” than the seasonal Sundays in that they explore the teachings and actions of Jesus and are not grouped around penance (in Lent) or salvation (in Easter), but rather the preaching and miracles, etc. during Jesus’ ministry.

The scripture readings during these Sundays can be a little confusing as we read sequentially through an entire epistle.

Most Sundays we read from one of the three gospels, Matthew, Mark, and Luke. This year is Year B in the cycle and the gospel we hear from most often is St. Mark.

The first reading, usually from one of the books of the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament), is selected to reflect the gospel passage chosen for the day.

As we enter into this starting block of Ordinary Time, we hear of the call of God -- what we refer to as a vocation -- but in the broadest sense of that word. In the first reading, we hear the call of Samuel. This wonderful story



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attend weekend
Masses in person!

gives us all sorts of clues about how God calls any of us, even as it is specifically for Samuel. It is not uncommon for God's message to be revealed in a dream. Many times, in our scriptures we hear stories like this one. In the recently completed Christmas season, we heard a number of these -- God's angel (or messenger) speaking to Joseph in a dream about how to keep Mary and the baby safe, in the Epiphany reading when the Magi are warned in a dream to avoid Herod, etc.

It is interesting how much confidence people placed in dreams. We live in a time when we are much less trusting of our dreams. Perhaps to our detriment? Scientists who study sleep and the unconscious remind us regularly how important adequate sleep is to our mental health. In the mysterious ways of our mind, sleep and dreams seem to be a place where situations and conflicts in our life often find a resolution. It is now a common practice, especially when people are deliberately stepping away from the busy-ness of life, such as when they are on retreat, to keep paper and pencil near their beds so if they have vivid dreams they write down what they remember as soon as they are conscious. In other words, this is an opportunity to listen in case this is the voice of God giving us some direction.

The next part of Samuel's encounter has to do with the role of his mentor and teacher, Eli. He is a wisdom-figure whose primary concern for Samuel is only good. So it is not surprising that Samuel goes to him when he hears the voice speaking to him. And although it takes a few tries, Eli finally understands it is no less than God calling out to Samuel. So, he instructs the boy to pay attention and place himself in service to the one who is speaking.

It is important in each of our lives, even when we become the elders

ourselves, to always have a mentor, a wisdom-figure, an elder in our life whom we trust because they only have our best interests at heart. This enables us to speak out loud the whisperings of our hearts. It is in that sacred dialog with the elder that we come to find out if this is a divine summons, or if it is something else. Spiritual directors are one group that provides that important dimension to our life. And it can also be available in counselors, psychiatrists, teachers, neighbors, friends, or co-workers. Wherever we find it, it is a relationship of great importance and sacred trust.

The gospel today has another vocation story -- the call of the first disciples. In this story, it is John the Baptist who identifies to some of his own disciples who Jesus is and so they start following him.

When Jesus notices they are following, he asks what they are looking for. When they inquire where he is staying, he invites them to come along and see. This is an extraordinary invitation. Far greater than any words Jesus might speak, he invites them to come along with him to see how he is actually living and how he interacts with people. He invites them to accompany him. Once again, the relationship is that of a mentor. We might compare it to the old idea of being an apprentice as the best "school" we can attend. We learn best when we are able to observe up close what someone else already knows and is skilled at.

These disciples of John will become fully disciples of Jesus as they stay with him, hear him preach, witness his miracles. To this day, that is always the best way to "preach" the Christian faith! It will not be because of what we say, but of how we live and treat one another that will lead others to follow the same Lord we follow.

Many have said before that when we focus on vocation as a call to religious life or priesthood, we shortchange the true meaning of vocation. Our loving God calls each and every one of us to whatever life will make us most fully be who we were created to be. This can be in how we choose to live our life -- whether as a married person, a single person, a religiously vowed person. But it is also true that we are called by God in so many other ways. Our challenge is always to keep listening. And to use the resources we have to discern God's voice and then to pray for the courage and perseverance to follow that call.

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Tomorrow is our national holiday in honor of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the great non-violent leader in the cause of civil rights and justice in our nation. In light of the recent, horrible events at our nation's capital, it is striking to juxtapose the struggles for civil rights for which Dr. King gave his life, always rejecting the way of violence, and the actions of the predominantly white insurrectionists who besieged our capitol, destroying property, violating the personal offices and belongings of members of our government, stealing both furnishings and personal items. And perhaps the greatest desecration was the waving of the flag of the Confederacy in the great rotunda of the Capitol.

It is my fervent hope and prayer that the lived example of non-violence by Dr. King and the important, and long-overdue strides towards equality and justice he helped make possible, might be lessons to all of us. Violence is always the strategy of the failed powerful. Let us take at least a moment on our national holiday and re-commit ourselves to the path of non-violence in pursuing justice for all people, regardless of race, religion, sex, or any other variety of human existence.

As we have learned from Dr. King, as we have learned from Jesus Christ, there is no power for good greater than love. Let us always choose the creative power of love and reject the always-destructive power of violence. And let us be tireless in pursuing justice for all God's children here in these United States and throughout our world.

January 20 -- Inauguration Day

Finally, let us pray for the peaceful transition of power as Joseph Biden and Kamala Harris are sworn in as the next President and Vice-President of the United States. May God watch over and guide them and all our government officials, that they may be true to their oaths of office to defend our Constitution, uphold our laws, and so safely protect and guide the people of our great nation. May this new administration turn back the excesses and violations of the administration that just ended, being true servant-leaders, concerned first with those in whose name they govern, serving the cause of peace and justice for all people. May God bless them and all of us!



Growing in Faith

“Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.”

In the late 1980s, I attended a National Association of Pastoral Musicians annual meeting where I heard the most powerful reflection on the Old Testament story of the calling of young Samuel (1 Sam 3) appointed for this Sunday's readings.

Chicago-area religious educator/author Elizabeth McMahon Jeep masterfully and poetically broke open this scripture for her listeners. Too often, she said, we were like the priest Eli who could not understand who was waking and repeatedly calling Samuel's name in the middle of the night. "Go back to sleep," he repeatedly told Samuel who, "At that time...was not familiar with the Lord."

It was only after the third time that God awakened the confused, sleepy Samuel that Eli realized the truth. When God revealed God's presence for the fourth time by calling Samuel's name three times, the boy responded with words Eli finally gave him, "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening."

McMahon Jeep urged us to take seriously the spirituality of children and young people like Samuel, to listen to their experiences of the Holy. God *does* speak to the young in ways adults may not perceive. She called on the music ministers to nourish children in their congregations and schools with worthy, rich music. She introduced us to many wonderful songs appropriate for children (and adults) that I used over the course of nine years as the director of a 55-member children's choir. Most of all, though, she reminded me -- and all Servants of God -- to be open to hearing God unexpectedly calling our own names. Are we listening?

~ Eileen D. Crowley for *Growing in Faith*



St. Gertrude Auction 2021 - Fundraiser Friday, February 12-Sunday, February 21

We need your help! We are currently looking for folks to:

- Solicit donations
- Be available to pick up donations
- Donate a bottle of wine (approx \$20 value) for our Wine Spectacular (Binny's in Evanston will give you a 15% discount and store the bottle for us – just mention St. Gertrude Auction 2021 in the store or over the phone. If you order online, please follow up with a phone call so the bottle is stored for us and you get the discount.)

Also, you should have received a letter with a donation form – please consider donating to our auction! You can also upload information about your donation to our auction website [HERE](#).

If you can help or if you have questions, please email us at auction21@stgertrudechicago.org.

Download a Donor Form



Upcoming Second Collection

On Saturday, January 23 and Sunday, January 24, we will take up a second collection for the Church in Latin America. For many in Latin America and the Caribbean, a rising secular culture, difficult rural terrain, and a shortage of ministers all present obstacles to practicing the faith.

Your support for the collection provides lay leadership training, catechesis, priestly and religious formation, and other programs to share our Catholic faith with those who long to hear the Good News of Christ.

To learn more about how your gifts make a difference, visit www.usccb.org/latin-america.



Poinsettia Plants Available

Plants used to decorate the church are available to take home. Please help yourself to them after Mass, they are located in the back of the church.



New Parishioners

John, Kara, and Jacqueline Goodwin
Christopher, Erin, Aidan, Tim, and Maeve O'Brien
Richard, Chenin, Thomas and Nora Kienzler



Baptisms

Ryan Ray Zvonarits, son of Thomas and Christina Zvonarits



Readings and Music for Sunday, January 17

- [PDF of readings for January 17](#)
- [PDF of lyrics, music, and copyright info for January 17](#)
- Music planned and hymn numbers from *Breaking Bread Hymnal*:
 - Entrance: *Gather your People*, #313

- Gloria: Barker
 - Psalm: #40, *Here am I Lord; I come to do your will*; #766
Breaking Bread, #31 Grey hymnal (do not use alternate refrain)
 - Gospel Acclamation Mass of Renewal, verse 4
 - Offertory: *Come, Worship the Lord*, #304
 - Mass Parts: Mass of Renewal, #876; use #878 for Memorial Acclamation (B)
 - Communion: *Here I am Lord*, #383
 - Recessional: *Lead Me, Guide Me*, #398
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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, and Musicians Planned for This Weekend

This weekend, Owen Ruggiero will sub for Mary Clare Barker. Our cantors and musicians will be:

- Saturday, January 16 at 5:00 pm - Siobhan O'Neill Meluso
- Sunday, January 17 at 8:00 am - Paula Dempsey
- Sunday, January 17 at 10:30 am - Matt Heimer

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, January 16 at 5:00 pm - Tim Harrington
- Sunday, January 17 at 8:00 am - Barb Daly

- Sunday, January 17 at 10:30 am - Patrick Robinson

Our readers this weekend are:

- Saturday, January 16 at 5:00 pm - Kathleen Dawson
- Sunday, January 17 at 8:00 am - Hallie Burhoe
- Sunday, January 17 at 10:30 am - Debra Novak

Our set-up/greeter team this weekend is:

- Saturday, January 16 at 5:00 pm - TBA
- Sunday, January 17 at 8:00 am - TBA
- Sunday, January 17 at 10:30 am - TBA

Our clean-up team this weekend is:

- Saturday, January 16 at 5:00 pm - TBA
- Sunday, January 17 at 8:00 am - TBA
- Sunday, January 17 at 10:30 am - TBA

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](#)



[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, January 18: Heb 5:1-10; Ps 110:1-4; Mk 2:18-22

Tuesday, January 19: Heb 6:10-20; Ps 111:1-2, 4-5, 9, 10c; Mk 2:23-28

Wednesday, January 20: Heb 7:1-3, 15-17; Ps 110:1-4; Mk 3:1-6

Thursday, January 21: Heb 7:25 — 8:6; Ps 40:7-10, 17; Mk 3:7-12

Friday, January 22: Heb 8:6-13; Ps 85:8, 10-14; Mk 3:13-19, or any of a number of readings for the Day of Prayer

Saturday, January 23: Heb 9:2-3, 11-14; Ps 47:2-3, 6-9; Mk 3:20-21

Sunday, January 24: Jon 3:1-5, 10; Ps 25:4-9; 1 Cor 7:29-31; Mk 1:14-20



Mass Intentions

Monday, January 18: 7:30 am - For the intention of Brendan McGeary

Tuesday, January 19: 7:30 am - Charles Nankivell+

Wednesday, January 20: 7:30 am - Eileen McGuire+

Thursday, January 21: 7:30 am - Communion service

Friday, January 22: 7:30 am - Edward Mellon+;

Saturday, January 23: 7:30 am - Francisca Rosario+; 5:00 pm - Henry Glotkowski+

Sunday, January 24: 8:00 am - Marie Cristol+; 10:30 am - For Lu Radzicki's 85th birthday

(+ indicates the person is deceased)



Please Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends

- Michael Batza
- Jean Bautista
- Walter Bradford
- Maggie Callaway
- Aida Calvopina
- Geraldine Clark
- Connie Cool
- Lois DiFruscio
- Sara Fighter
- Lucia Hall
- Gina Heidkamp
- Maria Hertl

- Bernice Kiedysz
- Karey Myers
- Braedon Rimpson
- Mickey Resch
- Charley Scantlebury
- Richard Seitz
- Peggy Stoffel
- The Sullivan family
- Elinora E. Tolentino
- Norma E. Viray
- Ken & Vyes Yoza
- Rita Zaug

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