



St. Gertrude Chicago

Sunday, July 18, 2021

16th 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

Welcome, Eloy Escamilla

Last week, Eloy Escamilla accepted the position

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of Pastoral Associate for Religious Education and Youth Ministry here at St. Gertrude. Eloy will be joining the parish staff in August and will have the primary responsibility for our Religious Education and Sacramental Preparation programs, and the parish Youth Ministry.



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. Please join me in welcoming Eloy when he joins us in a few weeks.

And a special thanks to Kevin Cheers, who took on the responsibilities for this year's Religious Education program and sacramental prep!

Gun Violence in Chicago

In this edition of our parish newsletter is [a letter from Cardinal Cupich](#) on violence - especially gun violence -- in Chicago. As we all know from the news and from incidents right here in Edgewater, this has become its own epidemic in Chicago and throughout our nation. Oftentimes, we feel

powerless to do anything about this reality in our lives, even as we feel threatened, fearful, and unsafe. In his letter, the Cardinal offers some practical suggestions for all people of goodwill. I encourage you to spend a few minutes reading his letter and considering your own possible responses.

Care for our Common Home: A Few Suggestions

(This is from a series of reflections and follow-ups to Pope Francis' Encyclical, Laudato Si.)

Caring for our country is reflected in the way we protect the planet. Here are a few easy ways to be more environmentally-friendly and care for our common home:

1. Shop with reusable bags.
2. Turn off water during teeth brushing.
3. Water your lawn only in the morning - and for no more than one hour.
4. Use refillable bottles for your daily water consumption.
5. Challenge yourself to fill your recycling bin before your garbage can each week.

Also, one way to care for our common home this summer is to plan "green activities" for you and your family. [Click here](#) for some activities that will help our environment in the summer heat.

Summer Mission Appeal - August 7-8: Helping Children

Each year in summer, every parish in the Archdiocese of Chicago celebrates a Summer Mission Appeal weekend. In past years, we have welcomed speakers from various missionary societies or causes. But because of the pandemic this year and last year, we chose an organization to present for our consideration in sharing our prayers and our financial resources for their important work. Our selection this year is [NPH USA](#).

NPH USA transforms the lives of vulnerable children in Latin America and the Caribbean by supporting the homes, health services, and educational programs of Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos (NPH, Spanish for “Our Little Brothers and Sisters”). They help children overcome poverty and become leaders in their own communities.

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.

NPH USA is the fundraising arm and coordinator of volunteer programs for the homes of Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos. On the weekend of August 7-8, please be generous in this year’s Summer Mission Appeal for the orphan children of NPH.

Pancake Breakfast - Welcome/Welcome Back!

The parish staff has been talking about a way to celebrate the wind-down of the pandemic and the return to our new normal. And we wanted, as well, to welcome new members of the parish -- especially those joining us from St. Ignatius. We settled on a celebration on Sunday, September 12 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!”

You will be seeing articles inviting volunteers to come forward to help with this event in the newsletter. We are charging an admissions fee -- just to cover expenses. And we ask everyone to purchase tickets to the pancake

breakfast ahead of time, so we have an idea of how many people to plan for. Hope you can join us for our celebration! *(Special thanks to the coordinators of the Gym Mass. We asked them to delay the re-start of the Gym Mass by one week to make room for this event.)*

St. Ignatius

On July 1, St. Ignatius Parish ended its long history. While the parish itself no longer exists, weekend Masses will continue until the final mass on Saturday, July 31 - the Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola. Bishop Bartosic will preside at the final liturgy. Please continue to keep the parishioners of St. Ignatius in your prayers and welcome all those who are seeking a new parish home in the coming weeks.

As I mentioned in some previous columns, with the closing of St. Ignatius Parish, the boundaries of both St. Jerome and St. Gertrude have been extended to include the geographic boundaries of the former St. Ignatius. And the campus of St. Ignatius Parish is now part of St. Gertrude Parish.

There may be some special Masses/services at St. Ignatius in the coming months - especially services such as funerals. In the next twelve months, discussions will continue about the possibility of a Mission Center hosted jointly by St. Jerome and St. Gertrude Parishes. Recently, in a meeting with Bishop Bartosic, representatives of St. Ignatius Parish, and Loyola University clarified that, at this time, the University will not be able to be partnering in this possible venture. What will happen to the campus of the former parish has yet to be determined.



Letter from Cardinal Cupich on Gun Violence in Chicago

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

In Chicago, in the metro area, and even more widely across our nation, we face a profoundly painful moment in our life together. So many families are grieving the loss of loved ones to violence, and those loved ones include babies and small children. The grief is compounded by the senselessness of the loss. Fear accompanies many of us as we go about our daily lives. We are afraid of becoming a victim of gun violence, or a carjacking, or an assault. And we are afraid not only for ourselves but also for the people we care for.

As we recover from the pandemic and embrace a more familiar way of life, the comfort of normalcy we had hoped for is being spoiled by a menacing violence that threatens all of us.

Understandably, we want this horrifying situation resolved without delay. Government leaders and community activists have offered many ideas, for example: more effective policing, reforming the criminal justice system, stemming the flood of illegal guns, dismantling gangs, investment in historically disadvantaged neighborhoods, strengthening education and shoring up family life. I cannot claim special expertise in all these matters. But as a pastor, I can point to the underlying spiritual crisis that this violent and unstable situation has provoked.

When violence prompts grief, fear, and a loss of hope, as it always does, people feel alienated from one another. On one level, the fractures appear to be along the lines of race, ethnicity, economic class, and political affiliation. But it runs much deeper than that. We seem unable or unwilling to comprehend that we are inextricably connected with each other. Yet we truly are *fratelli tutti*, as Pope Francis put it — all brothers and sisters to each other. If we lose that sense of interconnectedness, we also lose our sense of compassion, empathy and responsibility for each other. And that counts as an incalculable spiritual loss, with profound consequences for how we live together as neighbors, as members of the same human family. In this light, I recall the prophetic words of Dr. Martin Luther King in 1964: “We must learn to live together as brothers [and sisters] or perish together as fools.” (St. Louis, March 22, 1964)

The challenge, especially for believers, rests at the very center of the Church’s identity. At the beginning of the Second Vatican Council’s *Constitution on the Church*, we see powerful and defining words: the Church is in the manner of a sacrament, that is, an effective sign of the unity of all humanity in God. If we, the people of God, are to remain faithful to our identity and our calling, we must respond to the challenge to human solidarity that violence has provoked. At the same time, we can legitimately ask ourselves: What can we do? What difference can we make? How can we bridge the divides that separate us?

Faith does not give us ready-made solutions to complex problems. Faith does give us hope that with God’s help we can move forward, and that we *ought* to move forward as best as we can. With that in mind, I want to propose to Catholics and to all people of good will five steps that we can take:

1. **Ask questions:** Explore our experience and seek understanding, but in asking questions, also be prepared to authentically listen, even when what we are hearing proves painful.
2. **Dialogue:** Seek honest exchanges with people of different backgrounds. No one person or group has all the answers, and when we speak with and listen to those who have experiences and expertise that differs from our own, we begin to move toward understanding. We cultivate empathy.
3. **Pray:** Ask for enlightenment, place struggling people in God's hands, and imagine Jesus walking with us, because he is.
4. **Follow the prompts:** If we truly open ourselves to God and to each other, and if we remain attentive, we will begin to identify where God is leading us. This is discernment.
5. **Stay connected:** The great temptation during a time of crisis is to retreat to what we consider a safe space. In fact, what we most need is to go out of our comfort zones and accompany one another, even when that calls for effort and even some risk.

For people of faith, no matter the severity of the crisis, the last word is trust in God. The stirring words of Psalm 91 have consoled me and strengthened my resolve these days:

*He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High
and abides in the shade of the Almighty
says to the Lord: "My refuge,
my stronghold, my God in whom I trust."*

*It is he who will free you from the snare
of the fowler who seeks to destroy you;*

*he will conceal you with his pinions
and under his wings you will find refuge.*

*You will not fear the terror of the night
nor the arrow that flies by day,
nor the plague that prowls in the darkness
nor the scourge that lays waste at noon.*

*A thousand may fall at your side,
ten thousand fall at your right,
you, it will never approach;
his faithfulness is buckler and shield.*

And finally, in the words of Pope Paul VI: “If you want peace, work for justice.”

God bless you and your loved ones and keep you safe.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Blase Cardinal Cupich, Archbishop of Chicago



Help Wanted from Parishioners to Assist with St. Ignatius' Final Mass and Celebration on July 31

On July 31, 2021, St. Ignatius will be celebrating our last Mass as a parish. The bilingual mass will begin at 4:00 pm, followed by the Feast of Ignatius schoolyard celebration.

We are looking for our neighbors from St. Gertrude's and St. Jerome's to help volunteer at the event. We have several different volunteer shifts throughout the day and during the event. Please email feastofignatius@gmail.com if you are interested in signing up for a volunteer shift! We appreciate your support!

~ Jeanne Wrenn, St. Ignatius Parish



Growing in Faith: Our Parish as the Good Shepherd

Early on in the child-rearing enterprise, my wife Nancy and I realized that

we didn't have enough love within us to raise our children alone. Our hearts were full of gratitude and determination, but we quickly found that we needed every bit of the support that flooded our way: smiles, encouragement, meals, babysitting offers. We discovered that a fully formed person needs hours of listening to and loving, of "atta girl's and "no means no's, that couldn't possibly all come from just us. Our children needed grandma, Uncle Buster, friends, teachers, and parish, too, in order to discover who they are and how to move confidently into the wider world.

We soon discovered the effect community had on our children. From first grade on, they start coming home with words, jokes, concepts that clearly came from somewhere beyond the supper table. What a blessing, then, to have St. Gertrude as the larger incubator within which our children grow. We're a parish of people who know the value of gathering – to celebrate and educate, to lighten the burden of tragedy and loss, and to prolong our joys. We call each other into a sense of belonging, beyond the boundaries of kin, which hopefully translates across generations.

As parents, we appreciate the affection and correction you've bestowed upon them so that they can leave with a spirit of adventure and be met upon their return with a genuine word of welcome and interest in what the world has taught them. God bless St. Gertrude, Good Shepherd.

~ Peter Buttitta for Growing in Faith

This column was initially shared in 2009.



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.



Resurrection Compost Garden: Our First Harvest!

The very first fruits from our garden have been shared with both Care for Real and the St. Thomas of Canterbury soup kitchen! The donations included fresh green beans, green peppers, and several herbs. Both organizations were extremely thankful and appreciative.



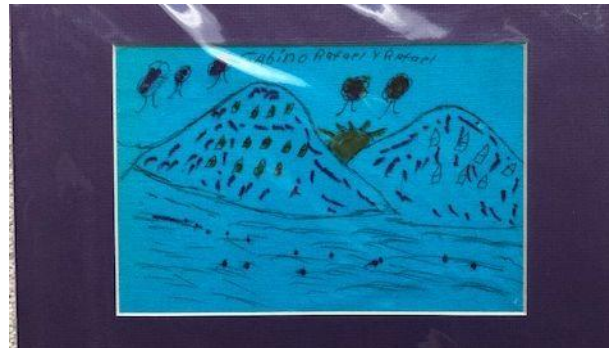
Heart to Heart News: Workshop by the Center for Disability and Elder Law to be Hosted at St. Gertrude On Friday, August 6

The Center for Disability and Elder Law (CDEL) provides free legal services to low-income seniors and persons with disabilities.

Attorneys from CDEL will host a workshop at St. Gertrude on Friday, August 6. They will assist participating parishioners with creating Powers of Attorney, Living Wills, and Wills.

Please call 312.376.1882 to schedule services and be sure to mention your interest in an in-person appointment at St. Gertrude Parish.

Due to the pandemic, in-person activities will be restricted to small interactions by appointment only. Documents will be completed prior to the meeting and finalized at the in-person appointment.



Parishioner-Organized Children's Art Exhibit at the Admiral Retirement

Community

Children's drawings from Santa Cruz la Laguna, Solala, Guatemala, a village in the mountains surrounding Lake Atitlan, are on exhibit at the Admiral Retirement Community (929 W. Foster) through the end of July.

In 1995, parishioner Alice Czech built the school there at the request of Santiago Tautou Salog, the head teacher. Alice now lives at the Admiral and invites you to see this exhibit of sweet drawings, put together with Maggie Roche. Call Alice at 773.433.1800 to schedule your visit.



Ignatian Volunteer Corps: Morning of Reflection Planned for Thursday, July 29

In celebration of the Feast Day of St. Ignatius Loyola, the Ignatian Volunteer Corps will host a morning of reflections on Thursday, July 29 from 9:30 am-1:00 pm. The event will be held at St. Ignatius College Prep, 1076 Roosevelt Rd. with Mass said at the Church of the Holy Family.

The keynote speaker is Father Richard Baumann, SJ, who will discuss *The Desire to Serve*. **Pre-registration is required.** Go to

www.ivcusa.org/chicago and click the *Morning of Reflection* registration button.

Fr. Richard Baumann entered the Society of Jesus in 1964 and was ordained in 1975. He has served as vocation director, novice director, pastor, and provincial superior. More recently he worked in Africa for fourteen years: six years as director of Ignatian programming and faculty member at the Jesuit First Studies Philosophy/Humanities program in Harare, Zimbabwe, and eight years as co-director of a Tertianship program (a renewal program for Jesuits before they pronounce final vows) located in Ghana and now in Nairobi, Kenya. He is currently based in Ann Arbor and works as a regional vocation director for the Midwest Province.



Readings and Music for Sunday, July 18

- [Link to readings for Sunday, July 18](#)
- [PDF of lyrics and copyright info for Sunday, July 18](#)
- Music planned and hymn numbers from *Breaking Bread Hymnal*:
 - Entrance: *Come Worship the Lord*, #304

- Psalm: 23: *Shepherd Me O God*
 - Gospel Acclamation: *Mass of Renewal*, verse 2
 - Offertory: *Sacred Silence*, #547
 - Mass Parts: *Mass of Creation*, #883
 - *Agnus Dei*: Chant- Acappella
 - Communion: *Christ the Good Shepherd*, #168
 - Recessional: *Sing a New Church*, #420
-



Cantors, Eucharistic Ministers, and Lectors Planned for This Weekend

Our cantors are:

- Saturday, July 17 at 5:00 pm - Siobhan O'Neill Meluso
- Sunday, July 18 at 8:00 am - Carol Ann Munro
- Sunday, July 18 at 10:30 am - Matt Heimer

Our Eucharistic ministers are:

- Saturday, July 17 at 5:00 pm - Steve Monti, Tim Harrington, Kathy Wall

- Sunday, July 18 at 8:00 am - Marty McDermott, Brian DeVarenne, Hallie Burhoe
- Sunday, July 18 at 10:30 am - Rafael Melendez, Carlos Barrigan, Debra Novak

Our Ministers of the Word are:

- Saturday, July 17 at 5:00 pm - Pat Reardon
- Sunday, July 18 at 8:00 am - Marty McDermott
- Sunday, July 18 at 10:30 am - Debra Novak



New Parishioners

- Abel Patino and Dulce Perez, daughters Dayna and Kimberly
 - Bill and Toni Schneider, son William
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Legacy Planning

Many have drawn spiritual and academic life from our parish and school. Please consider a gift through your will or trust to continue the work of our parish and school.

Prepare or update your will or trust today by contacting an attorney. For sample bequest language, please contact Eduardo Soto at esoto@stgertrudechicago.org or Krystina M. Campbell, Planned Giving Officer, Archdiocese of Chicago, at 312.534.5404 or kcampbell@archchicago.org.



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



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, July 19: Ex 14:5-18/Mt 12:38-42

Tuesday, July 20: Ex 14:21—15:1/Mt 12:46-50

Wednesday, July 21: Ex 16:1-5, 9-15/Mt 13:1-9

Thursday, July 22: Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

Friday, July 23: Ex 20:1-17/Mt 13:18-23

Saturday, July 24: Ex 24:3-8/Mt 13:24-30

Sunday, July 25: 2 Kgs 4:42-44/Eph 4:1-6/Jn 6:1-15



Mass Intentions

Next week's intentions are:

Monday, July 19: 7:30 am - For St. Gertrude parishioners

Tuesday, July 20: 7:30 am - For living and deceased parents of St. Gertrude parishioners

Wednesday, July 21: 7:30 am - For those who have suffered COVID-related losses

Thursday, July 22: 7:30 am - Communion Service

Friday, July 23: 7:30 am - Parishioners of St. Gertrude parish

Saturday, July 24: 7:30 am - Purgatorial Society; 5:00 pm ~ Teresita & Alfredo Ocular+

Sunday, July 25: 8:00 am ~ Fred Diaz+; 10:30 am - Natalie Gramata+

(+ 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
 - Jane Elwood
 - Mary Grover
 - Felipe Hall and Family
 - Lucia Hall
 - Gina Heidkamp
 - Maria Hertl
 - Bernice Kiedysz
 - Art Lyons
 - Molly Morris
 - Karey Myers
 - Bernie O'Connor
 - Tina Piemonte
 - Lu Radzicki
 - 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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