



St. Gertrude Chicago

Sunday, May 2, 2021

Fifth Sunday of Easter

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

Updated COVID Protocols

Every parish in the Archdiocese recently received an update on protocols for the coronavirus. Mostly, these won't have an effect on anyone coming to worship. But they will take some of the burden from the volunteers who are cleaning.

Based on the new CDC guidelines, the church only needs to be cleaned once a day, not after every service. And the solutions used for cleaning no longer need to be sanitizers, but regular soapy water. This is a result of the CDC's investigation which found that the virus does not survive on hard surfaces. This will reduce the number of volunteers we need, especially on the weekends.

It is also important to remember that the rest of the protocols remain in place: wear a mask, get your temperature checked, sanitize your hands, and maintain social distance.

Finally, a reminder that everyone should be vaccinated for their own health

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*Click [HERE](#) to
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reservation to
attend weekend
Masses in person!*

and the health of anyone with whom they may come into close contact.

After the Pandemic

With the arrival of the nice weather and the spring blossoms, everyone wants to get out and find out how soon we can resume our normal activities. I am one of those “everyone.”

But the unfolding of the pandemic in these past thirteen months was not just a battle of a virus versus humankind. It was also a very different way of working and playing, a different way of exercising and praying. It was, in a word, a different way of living.

Part of the vast difference most of us experienced was a slower pace, with a lot fewer unexpected interruptions. And I think conversations have already begun into what we have learned from this unique time, and how we can apply the positive stuff we learned into how we can choose to live our lives as we slowly progress out of the pandemic and into whatever the new reality is going to look like.

Organizations have begun asking certain fundamental questions such as do people need to be in a central office space in order to work well together? For many singles, and more than a few married or partnered people, the questions of how to deal with the experiences of being alone, working at home, and encountering the strong sense of loneliness that creeps in, uninvited and unwelcomed? It was often difficult before the pandemic to separate work life from home life, and now, working from home, it has become inseparable. These people have discovered they do not want to spend time “sheltering in place.” They much prefer the distance that working anyplace but home provides. How can healthy boundaries be created so work can be “turned off” and home “turned on”?

Family life has been another area of conversation. While it is true that the pandemic brought families into more regular contact, for some families this was a surprise and a delight they do not want to lose. But for others, it was a new level of stress they were unprepared for and do not know how to stop or “fix.” I have heard from many people who were delighted to discover they really like their family members! It wasn’t so much they didn’t like them before, as it was that they hadn’t spent that much time together for such an extended period. They were pleasantly surprised by how much they enjoyed it. In many cases, this led some people to reconsider how many hours they are working each week. They enjoy their family time in a whole new way and don’t want to lose that new awareness. But for some, it is very much the opposite.

Here in church, we also have had a wide breadth of experiences in these thirteen months. With protocols requiring shutting down many of the regularly scheduled activities, our focus became very clear. It is all about praying together in the best ways we possibly can -- for some virtually via live-stream, for others, actually being in church. With all meetings not allowed for health and safety reasons, the “traffic” at the Rectory door and on the phone has been greatly reduced. This, along with most of the rectory staff working from home, resulted in fewer office hours. All of which has caused me to wonder if perhaps this is an opportunity to consider what we are doing and what is it we think and feel we should be doing to live the gospel message? How can we best live out our mission as followers of Jesus?

I don’t have the answer to that question. I just think this is the opportune time to begin addressing it. What I am certain of is that there are several dynamics that so many people have articulated in the past few months. The

first is that they want to be able to worship God and receive Holy Communion. And the second is that they want to see their friends doing the same, and even if they don't know some names, they want to see the familiar faces in church that make this a community. And I am pretty certain a third dynamic would be that we find ways to reach out to those who are suffering, impoverished, hungry, lonely and alone, sick and suffering, victims of discrimination, the homeless, the unemployed, and others who are bearing an unbearable burden made more difficult because of the pandemic.

So, this is an invitation. I encourage you to have conversations about this with your family members, friends, and neighbors. The pandemic has broken the argument that "we have always done it this way." In fact, for the past year, we have done nothing the way we always did it. This can frighten us, or it can challenge us to find new and better ways of doing so many things. Questions that come to mind are:

- How do we want to do church as we begin to emerge from the pandemic?
- Or, to put it another way, IF we were designing this for the first time, what are the parts we want to be sure get included?
- And what are the parts that just don't seem all that important to the mission of living and spreading the gospel?

Please send me an email or a letter with your own insights, desires, and hopes for the future of this parish, for your family, and for your work. And I would appreciate it if you gave me permission to share some of those with the parish through our newsletter (which replaced the hard copy bulletin). Whether or not you want to be identified is up to you.

The pandemic has caused over a half million deaths in this country. It has

forced us into ways of living that we could never have imagined and lots of other unpleasant things. But the pandemic has also been a masterful teacher. Does anyone still doubt that it is not a good idea to fool with Mother Nature? Fourteen months ago, had you ever considered your own internal strength and what you could put up with if you had to? Regardless of whether you consider yourself an introvert or an extrovert, when was the last time you were so aware of the importance of normal human interactions in your life?

Just as the pandemic has been a unique moment in our history, now we have a unique opportunity to challenge ourselves to be the best people we can as we reshape and renew and rehabilitate how “we are church.”

Please contact me at rprendergast@stgertrudechicago.org.

Upcoming Events

- **Saturday, May 1** - 10:00 am and 1:00 pm - Sacred Heart First Communion
 - **Sunday, May 2** - 3:00 pm - Sacred Heart Confirmation
 - **Saturday, May 8** - 10:00 am - First Communion
 - **Sunday, May 9** - Mother’s Day - 10:30 am Mass - May Crowning (with First Communicants and other children welcome)
-



Growing in Faith

The history of the early church, which we hear about in the accounts of Acts during the Easter season, vividly recounts the struggles and clashes of personalities at the time. This all makes the stories come alive for me and enhances my appreciation of what these early believers must have gone through.

In the first reading for this Sunday, we learn about Barnabas intervening on behalf of Saul, who becomes Paul after his conversion. The disciples know of Saul's reputation as an enemy and persecutor of the early Christians. So, their fear of him kept Saul at a distance and not welcome within the community of disciples in Jerusalem.

“Then Barnabas took charge of him...” What a great line! Barnabas becomes the great connector between the future Paul and the disciples of Jerusalem. Barnabas knew that the conversion of Saul was real and that he was one with the community and a true believer. And, thanks to Barnabas, the disciples embraced Saul and welcomed him into the fold.

In our time, perhaps we need more people who intervene and speak up for others, like Barnabas. People, who see the truth, recognize genuine faith and act on behalf of bringing forth a community that is more interconnected. People who “take charge” to ensure that others might be brought to spiritual

insights and clarity in the face of skewed publicized stories and manufactured identities.

Barnabas shows us the way. Amen.

~ Claire Conley for Growing in Faith



First Communion Key Dates

First Communion will be held on **Saturday, May 8 at 10:00 am**, and we have a number of activities beforehand. This **Saturday, May 1 at 10:00 am**, Father Mike Gabriel will lead a Zoom retreat for kids and families. Fr. Mike will talk about the symbols of baptism and give the First Communicants a chance to talk about their banners.

There will be an in-person rehearsal for First Communion on **Thursday, May 6 at 6:30 pm in the church**. Lasting about an hour, the kids will practice the processional, recessional, and how to come forward for Communion. Families are asked to bring the banner they made, it will be hung on the pew reserved for your Communicant and family. The banners

will stay at church until after the First Communion Mass.

Our First Communion Mass is at capacity. Email Kevin Cheers at kchears@stgertrudechicago.org with questions.

Please note, this Mass will be live-streamed on [our parish Facebook page](#) then posted on [our parish's YouTube channel](#).



May Crowning on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 9

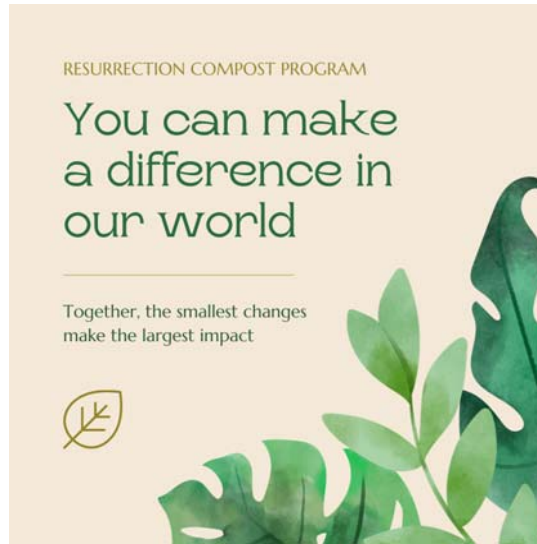
On Mother's Day, our annual May Crowning will take place at the 10:30 am Mass. Families are encouraged to bring flowers for our altar. Children who made their First Communion on Saturday, May 8 are welcome to wear their dresses and suits to Mass.



Catholic Charities Collection on Mother's Day

After spending years in a Nepali refugee camp, the Jha family arrived here with nothing. Catholic Charities met them at the airport and took them in hand, helping them learn English, find work, enroll in school, and get medical care. They were among the 469 refugees resettled last year.

Please give to Catholic Charities on Mother's Day to help refugees build a new and hopeful life. Learn more at www.catholiccharities.net.



Resurrection Compost Program

I am excited to inform you of a new composting/gardening project that we are starting at St. Gertrude this spring. Working in partnership with a composting team from St. Gregory, we will build three new composting bins. Parishioners can donate their composting materials to a specific bin before or after coming to church. The composting material then becomes a natural fertilizer, which we will use to grow a vegetable garden. Once the vegetables are ready for harvest, they will be donated to St. Thomas of Canterbury's soup kitchen to feed the poor and the hungry.

This is a win-win program in every facet and is rooted in the principles of *Laudate Sí*. Pope Francis tells us, "As stewards of God's creation, we are called to make the earth a beautiful garden for the human family." The Resurrection Compost Program is a full circle project bringing new life to discarded debris and using that new life to grow food to help feed the needy and marginalized people in our community.

Of course, a program of this size will need many volunteers. I am hoping that some of the many gardeners in our parish will wish to lend their talents to this project. It will also be an ideal format for students looking for service hours.

In the coming weeks, there will be detailed instructions on how this program works and to what aspects parishioners can lend their talents. Please be on the lookout for these updates that will contain information on how to sign up and get involved. Information will be posted in our weekly e-bulletin and also on our parish website.

I look forward to implementing this program at our parish and bringing to life the ideas of *Laudate Sí*.

Please email me at mbarker@stgertrudechicago.org if you'd like to be part of this initiative or if you have any questions.

~ Mary Clare Barker



Congratulations to St. Gertrude
Parishioner & Musician George Siegle

Congratulations to George Siegle for recently winning the inaugural Aspiring Artist Scholarship Award from Merit School of Music this year. George is currently a senior at Jones College Prep HS and has shared his abundant musical talents with the St. Gertrude community over the past eight years whether playing piano or trumpet.

When the pandemic and lock down began over a year ago, George used his extra time to practice two hours every day (and still continues to do so). He would frequently practice on the beautiful Bechstein concert grand piano in church while preparing for college auditions and treat the staff to a free concert with a gorgeous array of classical music from all periods.

His outstanding work ethic and discipline have garnered him this prestigious award from Merit. He is the only recipient of this award this year and will receive \$1,000 to go towards further academic studies.

We applaud George and are extremely grateful for his many contributions to the music ministry programs at St. Gertrude. We know he will be a success wherever he goes.

~ Mary Clare Barker



Father Bill Kenneally's 60th Ordination Anniversary: Cards Requested

Father Bill Kenneally, pastor of St. Gertrude for 22 years, is celebrating the 60th anniversary of his ordination this year on May 1. Currently, Fr. Bill is residing at St. Benedict's nursing home in Niles, a retirement home for priests.

Anniversary greetings can be sent to him (anytime in May) here:

Rev. Bill Kenneally
c/o Ascension Living St. Benedict Village
6930 Touhy Ave.
Niles, IL 60714

Please consider including a photograph with your name(s) on the back and date.



Mother's Day Cards

Mother's Day cards for honoring living and deceased mothers during the Masses said on Mother's Day and throughout the year are available at the check-in table at Church.

Please complete the information on the large (outer) envelope, place your donation in the envelope, and drop it in the Sunday collection or at the Rectory. Take the card and envelope with you to give to your mother or for your own remembrance.



Please Welcome our New Parish
Business Manager, Eduardo Soto

Please welcome Eduardo Soto to our parish team! Eduardo began at St. Gertrude this week and will work 32 hours handling our parish needs, continuing to serve as the part-time business manager at St. Mark Parish until the parish closes on June 30.

On Thursday, July 1, he will be a 40-hour per week St. Gertrude employee, which will actually mean 32 hours per week for St. Gertrude and eight hours per week for the former St. Ignatius Parish.

He can be reached at esoto@stgertrudechicago.org.



Renew My Church: Prayer for New Members

God, you have made us your guests in this world, the earth you created for all. We remember how you sent your angels to Abraham and Sarah to be received as guests. By their hospitality, Abraham and Sarah received a message of hope and life.

Bless us and our hospitality. May our guests be a blessing to us and reveal your presence to us. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Golden Wedding Anniversary Celebration Planned for Sunday, September 19, 2021

The Archdiocese of Chicago's Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass is scheduled to be held on Sunday, September 19, 2021 at 2:30 pm at Holy Name Cathedral. Couples celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary this year are invited to participate. Please note, this Mass is planned as a live event with participants attending on-site.

With the uncertainty of how the COVID-19 virus will be this fall, this Mass may need to be moved to an online liturgy due to ongoing mitigation efforts associated with the pandemic. More details on the Mass, including location and relevant COVID-19 precautions, will be available in early summer 2021. Couples interested in participating can register [here](#). Please contact familyministries@archchicago.org with any questions.



Readings and Music for May 2

- [Link to readings for Sunday, May 2](#)
 - [PDF of lyrics and copyright info for Sunday, May 2](#)
 - Music planned and hymn numbers from *Breaking Bread Hymnal*:
 - Prelude: *No Greater Love* (piano solo)
 - Entrance: *All the ends of the Earth* #551 (Bob Dufford)
 - Gloria: Mass of Renewal-sprinkling rite
 - Psalm: 22: *I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people* (from Respond and Acclaim)
 - Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia give the glory*, #897
 - Offertory: *Love One Another*, #486 verse 6
 - Mass Parts: *Mass of Glory*, #899
 - Communion: *Taste and See* (James Moore), #331
 - Recessional: *They'll Know we are Christians*, #583
-



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](#)



Lectors, Cantors, Eucharistic Ministers, and Set-up/Greeters/Clean-up Teams Planned for This Weekend

This week, our cantors will be:

- Saturday, May 1 at 5:00 pm - Siobhan O'Neill Meluso
- Sunday, May 2 at 8:00 am - Jon Blake
- Sunday, May 2 at 10:30 am - Jay Lamble

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, May 1 at 5:00 pm - Kathleen Dawson
- Sunday, May 2 at 8:00 am - Barb Daly
- Sunday, May 2 at 10:30 am - Patrick Robinson

Our readers this weekend are:

- Saturday, May 1 at 5:00 pm - Jayne Deiters
- Sunday, May 2 at 8:00 am - Hallie Burhoe
- Sunday, May 2 at 10:30 am - Bob Backis

Our set-up/greeter team this weekend is:

- Saturday, May 1 at 5:00 pm - Carol Ann Munro, Peter Cashman, Sheila Cashman, MaryLou Carroll
- Sunday, May 2 at 8:00 am - Barb Daly, Peter Morin, Marty McDermott, Brigid Cronin, Mark Kollar

- Sunday, May 2 at 10:30 am - Michael Kolwalski, Michelle Wielgosz, Dorothea Tobin, Nancy Kuhn

Our clean-up team this weekend is:

- Saturday, May 1 at 5:00 pm - TBA
- Sunday, May 2 at 8:00 am - TBA
- Sunday, May 2 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.



Rest in Peace

Richard L. Martin, father of Rich Martin



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 stgertrude1420@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, May 3: 1 Cor 15:1-8/Jn 14:6-14

Tuesday, May 4: Acts 14:19-28/Jn 14:27-31a

Wednesday, May 5: Acts 15:1-6/Jn 15:1-8

Thursday, May 6: Acts 15:7-21/Jn 15:9-11

Friday, May 7: Acts 15:22-31/Jn 15:12-17

Saturday, May 8: Acts 16:1-10/Jn 15:18-21

Sunday, May 9: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17



Mass Intentions

Next week's intentions are:

Monday, May 3: 7:30 am - Roger Moldovan+

Tuesday, May 4: 7:30 am - Living & Deceased parents of St. Gertrude

Wednesday, May 5: 7:30 am - Peter Hertl+

Thursday, May 6: 7:30 am Communion Service

Friday, May 7: 7:30 am - Ethna Nolan+

Saturday, May 8: 7:30 am - Purgatorial Society; 10:00 am ~ First Communion Mass; 5:00 pm ~ Living & deceased Mothers of St. Gertrude Parish

Sunday, May 9: 8:00 am and 10:30 am - Living & deceased Mothers of St. Gertrude Parish

(+ indicates the person is deceased)



Please Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends

- Helen Banta
- Rosemary Barrett
- Jean Bautista
- Walter Bradford
- Sharon Brown
- Connie Bueck
- Lilly Buie
- Maggie Callaway
- Aida Calvopina
- Geraldine Clark
- Connie Cool
- Mary Grover

- Diane Gulczynski
- Lucia Hall
- Gina Heidkamp
- Maria Hertl
- Bernice Kiedysz

- Art Lyons
- Mike Meier
- Karey Myers
- Bernie O'Connor
- Tina Piemonte
- Lu Radzicki
- Braedon Rimpson
- Ann Marie Robinson
- Charley Scantlebury
- Richard Seitz
- Peggy Stoffel
- The Sullivan family
- Elinora E. Tolentino
- Manuel Viray
- Norma E. Viray
- Ken & Vyes Yoza

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