



**St. Gertrude Chicago**  
**E-Bulletin for Sunday, September 5**  
**23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Click here for our printed bulletin distributed in church this weekend

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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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**Bulletin for the  
23rd Sunday in  
Ordinary Time**

*September 5, 2021*

NEXT WEEK! We have a special parish event planned for Sunday, September 12! All are welcome! Free will offerings are appreciated to help defray the cost!

[From Father Rich](#)

## **Labor Day**

This Monday, September 6 is Labor Day. Mass on Labor Day will be at 9:00 am in church. (There is no 7:30 am Mass on Labor Day.) In honor of the Labor Day holiday, the Rectory office will be closed the Friday before -- September 3 and on Labor Day, September 6. The Friday holiday is one of three additional holidays the Archdiocese has given to all employees in gratitude for their work and many accommodations during the pandemic.

I hope you have a great holiday -- maybe a great bar-b-que, etc. on Monday. And I encourage you also to consider this holiday, how we got it, and the importance of organizing and unions in our nation's history and in protecting the rights and benefits of employees. Having a job is so much more involved than simply "working" someplace. Our employment partially determines how we will live, what we will eat, how we will meet our health concerns, etc. Today, many people dismiss the importance of unions, apparently unaware that most of the rights and benefits so many workers take for granted have only happened because unions organized large segments of the workforce and through negotiating, striking, walking out, etc. forced the owners and the managers to treat them fairly and justly. This fight is never over!

There is a certain irony in this year's Labor Day. Many of those same legislators who opposed any sort of financial aid to workers as a buffer against the economic hardship caused by the pandemic are now outraged that, at least according to their perception, lots of the workers who received a temporary increase in unemployment benefits, didn't return to the workforce yet. And because of that, not only have many employers not had sufficient workers for their business (e.g. almost any restaurant or health care facility), they are now being forced to offer more than yesterday's

minimum wage! (Which was another of those things many of those same legislators refused to increase!)

It is no accident that every Pope since Leo XIII has written about the value of work, workers, the importance of the rights of workers, and the benefits all workers should be guaranteed. These issues are issues of social justice and equality. These are human rights issues. Have a great Labor Day!

### **Welcome Back Sunday is Next Week!**

Next week, we will celebrate returning to church in this new version of “normal” after 18 months of pandemic AND welcoming all our new parishioners -- especially those who have joined St. Gertrude after the closing of St. Ignatius parish – with a Welcome & Welcome Back Sunday! We will celebrate this at the 10:30 am Mass, followed by hospitality. Originally, we were planning on a pancake breakfast, but the mandates for masks for everyone seemed to indicate that was probably not a good idea -- putting a lot of people into a room for breakfast. In its place, we will have a food truck! The Girl Cupcake Co. will be here with delicious cupcakes and a variety of drinks. After you get your cupcake and drink after Mass, please join us for socializing and live music in the side yard of the rectory or in the courtyard between the church and Ministry Center. Hope to see you then! Special thanks to Fr. Mike Gabriel and his committee for pulling this all together.

### **Fr. Mike Runs for Heart to Heart Again**

Fr. Mike Bradley WILL run another marathon -- to benefit Heart to Heart - on Sunday, October 10. Keep checking for more information!

### **Strength for the Journey**

NCA's theme this year is, “Strength for the Journey”. Spend a moment

considering what strength you need on your life's journey and what strength you can give to others to encourage them on their life journeys.

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## Our Religious Ed Program: Classes Held In-Person on Sunday Mornings

Our 2021-2022 Religious Education Religious Ed classes will begin this month! **The plan this school year is to have in-person instruction on Sunday mornings from 9:15-10:15 am. The first day of class and a parent meeting is planned for Sunday, September 19 at 9:15 am in the Social Hall (1401 West Granville Avenue, the lower level of Northside Catholic Academy's Gym). The full Religious Ed program's schedule is linked [HERE](#).**

**Specific class locations will be shared in the near future. Of course, everything is subject to change due to COVID.**

Applications are available online [HERE](#). Completed forms and any questions about the program should be emailed to Eloy Escamilla

at [eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org).

This school year, fees are \$200 for one child and \$225 for two or more children. An additional sacramental fee of \$60 is required for children making their First Communion, First Reconciliation, or Confirmation. Religious Education class fees and sacramental fees can be paid online at <https://www.givecentral.org/location/8/event/30788>. Please note that students must receive two years of preparation in order to make these sacraments.

### Registration Form for Religious Ed

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## Catechists Needed to Teach Religious Education This School Year

We are looking for catechists to teach in our parish's Religious Ed program! Catechists are usually not professional teachers, just willing parents and parishioners who enjoy kids and want to help them grow in a personal

relationship with God, participate in the sacraments, and develop a mature conscience, and integrate faith in all areas of their lives.

Please consider offering your time and talents to help our young people learn about and grow in their faith. If you have any questions, reach out to Eloy Escamilla, Pastoral Associate, Religious Education and Youth Ministry, at [eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org) or call 773.764.3621.

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## Youth Group Forming

Teens in middle and high school are invited to consider joining our parish youth group! Dates and activities will be shared in the near future.

For more information, contact Eloy Escamilla, Pastoral Associate for Religious Education and Youth Ministry, at [eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org).

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## Benedictine Sisters of Chicago Program: Following the Field of Stars: One Pilgrim’s Journey on “The Camino de Santiago de Compostela”

All are welcome to join the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago on Saturday, September 11 at 3:00 pm for an afternoon of reflection as Oblate Nancy Labiak discusses her 2014 pilgrimage across Northern Spain to the shrine of the Apostle James the Greater. The 500 mile long El Camino de Santiago de Compostela, also known as “The Way of St. James”, would be the most physically challenging ordeal—and the most life-giving accomplishment of her life.

The presentation will be held at St. Scholastica Chapel as well as on Zoom. Registration is required. Visit [www.osbchicago.org/programs](http://www.osbchicago.org/programs) for more information and to sign up.

Nancy Labiak is an Oblate of St. Scholastica Monastery, mother of one amazing son, and resides in the Edgewater community. She divided her career into Ministry to the ElderCommunity and working as an international travel director —leading groups to all seven continents. Now retired, she volunteers in hospice and interfaith relations and --after a pause for the pandemic—continues to explore the world.

[Register here](#)

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## Growing in Faith

As I reflect on this Gospel, my mind goes to healers. Then, I think about my father, who was a doctor by profession. But, more than that, he was a healer. He passed away in 1990 at age 82 of Alzheimer's disease.

So you get the idea of the culture of medicine when he was practicing compared to today. His office was in the small town that we grew up in, and he practiced at two hospitals in the city of Joliet. A man I met years later happened to know of my father. He called my dad a shaman. My dad had saved his cousin's leg after a motorcycle accident. Other doctors were

going to amputate, but he said he didn't think that was necessary.

He often saw patients at his office until 1:00 or 2:00 in the morning after making rounds at the hospitals where he had privileges. People called our home at all hours of the night with all kinds of problems. He even made house calls. It occurs to me that we, my seven siblings and I, often criticized him for being a workaholic.

When I think of all of the people in our town that he helped, how many owed him money that he never collected, and how many folks came to his wake to pay tribute, I feel so proud of him. We heard wonderful stories about the side of our dad that we didn't know.

*~ Maggie Blondis for Growing in Faith*

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Rectory Office Closed on Labor Day; Mass to be Held at 9:00 am on September 6

Monday, September 6 is Labor Day. The Rectory office will be closed. On our national holiday, we will have one Mass at 9:00 am in church. Please join us on Labor Day to thank God for the gift of labor, the right to organize, and all the improvements that have been brought to all workers.

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## Help Wanted - Part-Time Front Desk Staff

We are looking to restart evening hours at the Rectory office and are looking for a part-time worker. The hours are in the late afternoon/evening Monday-Thursday as well as Sunday mornings.

Applicants must be over the age of 18 and undergo a background check and either be Virtus trained or make time to be trained in the near future.

Please email Kevin Chears at [kchears@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:kchears@stgertrudechicago.org) if you are interested!

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## Schedule a Personalized Preschool Tour of NCA Early Learning Center: Full and Part-Time Options Available

Northside Catholic Academy's preschool provides a child-centered learning program where children participate in meaningful play in a stimulating and joyful environment that enables them to make a comfortable transition from home to school.

Our preschool program offers:

- Five full-days per week, Monday- Friday, 8:10 am-3:05 pm (Extended Care available in the morning starting at 6:30 am and after school until 6:00 pm)
- Five half-days per week, Monday-Friday, 8:10 am-11:15 am
- Three half-days per week, Tuesday-Thursday, 8:10 am- 11:00 am (3-year-olds only)

Please email our admissions director, Shakira Morrissette, at [smorrissette@ncaweb.org](mailto:smorrissette@ncaweb.org) or call 773. 743.6277 ext. 207 for more information or to schedule a tour.

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## Donate Your Airline Miles to Miles4Migrants

Have travel limitations during the pandemic left you sitting on a slush fund of frequent flyer miles? You can use them for good right now by donating your airline miles to Miles4Migrants. The nonprofit charity organization accepts donations of frequent flyer miles to fund flights for refugees to their new homes. More details can be found [here](#).

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

We are in need of additional volunteers to assist at Masses, including ushers, greeters, Eucharistic ministers, and ministers of the word. If you are interested, please email Kevin Cheers, Pastoral Associate, at [kchears@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:kchears@stgertrudechicago.org).

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## Heart to Heart Ministry Looking for Wheelchairs

St. Gertrude's Heart to Heart Ministry is looking for wheelchairs to loan to those who need them. Currently, there are none to share.

Contact Laurie Hasbrook at the Heart to Heart office at 773.973.5464 on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 am to 2:30 pm, when she is in her Ministry Center office or call Jane Callahan-Moore at 773.595-9992 Monday through Friday between the hours of 10:00 am and 5:00 pm.

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## Interested in Becoming Catholic?

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a process by which adults learn more about the Catholic Church. This free program begins in the fall and meets until Pentecost.

Many people who begin RCIA are non-Catholics seeking to become Catholic or at least to explore whether Catholicism might be a good home. Those who complete the process and decide to become Catholic are initiated into the Church at the Easter Vigil Mass on Holy Saturday. Others who take RCIA are already Catholic but want a deeper understanding of their faith foundation.

The RCIA process does not ask those who have been baptized in another faith to give up their denominational experiences. Rather, the RCIA process seeks to add new colors and designs to their existing faith life tapestry. In addition to attending Mass, the RCIA process includes weekly gatherings of breaking open the Word of God, sharing our stories, and learning about our faith traditions.

If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about the RCIA process at St. Gertrude, contact me at [kchears@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:kchears@stgertrudechicago.org) or call the Rectory at 773.764.3621.



~ Kevin Cheers, Pastoral Associate

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## Care for our Common Home: Compost Your Way to a Healthier Environment

According to the Composting Council, if everyone in the United States composted all of their food waste, the impact would be equivalent to removing 7.8 million cars from the road.

[This short YouTube video](#) is an excellent resource to learn about composting and caring for our common home.

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## Annual Golden Wedding Anniversary Celebration Planned for September - New Mass Location

The Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass is scheduled to be held on Sunday, September 19, 2021 at 2:30 pm at St. John Brebeuf Parish in Niles. Couples celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary this year are invited to participate and can bring 1-2 family members. This Mass is planned as a live event with participants attending on-site. With the uncertainty of the COVID-19 virus, this Mass may need to be moved to an online liturgy due to ongoing mitigation efforts associated with the pandemic.

Couples interested in participating can register [here](#).

Please contact [familyministries@archchicago.org](mailto:familyministries@archchicago.org) with any questions.

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## Career Transition Services Offers Free Help to Jobseekers

Are you or a loved one unemployed, underemployed, or unfulfilled? Career Transitions Center, founded by Catholic parishes, helps people get jobs. They are currently offering virtual training and support, including a virtual career coaching program.

There are all kinds of virtual information sessions available to help with job searches, networking, how to find programs to be retrained, and more. Visit the [Career Transitions Center](#) for more information.

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## Rest in Peace

- Mary Grover

- Ninette Joseph-Laroche
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## Readings and Music for Sunday, September 6

- [Link to readings for Sunday, September 5](#)
  - [Lyrics for Sunday, September 5](#)
  - Music planned and hymn numbers from Breaking Bread Hymnal:
    - Prelude: TBA
    - Entrance: *Gather us In*, #303
    - Psalm: #146, *Praise the Lord my soul* from Spirit and Psalm
    - Gospel Acclamation: Mass of Endless Mercy
    - Offertory: *Open My Eyes*, #393
    - Mass Parts: Mass of Creation (including Lamb of God from this setting)
    - Communion: *Eye Has Not Seen*, #462
    - Recessional: *This is my Song*, #733
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## Cantors, Musicians, Eucharistic Ministers, and Lectors Planned for This Weekend

Our cantors are:

- Saturday, September 4 at 5:00 pm - Cindy Lawson
- Sunday, September 5 at 8:00 am - Carol Ann Munro
- Sunday, September 5 at 10:30 am - Kate Hibbs Davis

Our Eucharistic ministers are:

- Saturday, September 4 at 5:00 pm - Steve Monti, Kathy Wall
- Sunday, September 5 at 8:00 am - Peter Morin, Hallie Burhoe
- Sunday, September 5 at 10:30 am - Debra Novak, Rafael Melendez, Carlos Barrigan

Our Ministers of the Word are:

- Saturday, September 4 at 5:00 pm - Troy McMillian
  - Sunday, September 5 at 8:00 am - Mark Kollar
  - Sunday, September 5 at 10:30 am - Debra Novak
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## Ways to Help Our Parish: Amazon Smile, Text to Give, GiveCentral, PayPal, and Amazon Smile

Visit [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and select St. Gertrude Parish as your charity of choice. From then on, connect to Amazon through [smile.amazon.com](https://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](mailto:esoto@stgertrudechicago.org).

[Click here to go to GiveCentral](#)

Click here for PayPal (via our website)

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## 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:

**Labor Day, Monday, September 6:** Col 1:24—2:3/Lk 6:6-11

**Tuesday, September 7:** Col 2:6-15/Lk 6:12-19

**Wednesday, September 8:** Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23

**Thursday, September 9:** Col 3:12-17/Lk 6:27-38

**Friday, September 10:** 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14/Lk 6:39-42

**Saturday, September 11:** 1 Tm 1:15-17/Lk 6:43-49

**Sunday, September 12:** Is 50:4c-9a/Jas 2:14-18/Mk 8:27-35

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## Mass Intentions

Next week's intentions are:

**Labor Day, Monday, September 6:** 9:00 am - St. Gertrude parishioners

**Tuesday, September 7:** 7:30 am - Living & deceased parents of St. Gertrude parishioners

**Wednesday, September 8:** 7:30 am - Elizabeth Seitz+

**Thursday, September 9:** 7:30 am - Communion Service

**Friday, September 10:** 7:30 am - Purgatorial Society

**Saturday, September 11:** 7:30 am - For all returning school children and their parents; 5:00 pm ~ Olga Rodriguez+

**Sunday, September 12:** 8:00 am ~ Living & deceased parents of St. Gertrude parishioners; 10:30 am - Galoney Strubbe Family+

*(+ indicates the person is deceased)*

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## 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
- Caloy Desembrana
- Ann Collins Dole
- David Fisk
- Shirley Marie Gonzales
- Felipe Hall and Family
- Lucia Hall
- Gina Heidkamp
- Maria Hertl
- Bernice Kiedysz
- Art Lyons
- Sr. Terri McKenzie
- Molly Morris
- Karey Myers
- Bernie O'Connor
- Tina Piemonte
- Braedon Rimpson
- Charley Scantlebury
- Richard Seitz
- Peggy Stoffel
- The Sullivan family
- Elinora E. Tolentino
- Manuel Viray
- Norma E. Viray
- Ken & Vyes Yoza

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