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# St. Gertrude Chicago E-Bulletin

*19th Sunday in Ordinary Time*

August 9, 2020

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This week, we will continue to offer in-person Masses at 7:30 am Monday-Saturday, at 5:00 pm on Saturday, and at 8:00 am and 10:30 am on Sunday. Reservations are required for all Masses, sign-up for weekend Masses [HERE](#) and our 7:30 am Masses (Monday-Saturday) [HERE](#).

We will still live-stream Mass from St. Gertrude Church at 10:30 am on Sundays, using Facebook Live! Please click [HERE](#) to be connected to our parish Facebook page. After Mass, we will upload the video to [our YouTube channel](#) and post the link [on our website](#).

Mary Clare Barker, our Music Minister, has created a song sheet for use at home with lyrics for music for the 10:30 am live-streamed Mass [HERE](#). All the lyrics are also available at the bottom of this e-mail.

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## From Father Rich

### **Renew My Church**

Please plan on attending - either in-person or via live-stream - our first of two parish sessions for the Renew My Church (RMC) process. At this meeting, the parish team (Denise Goodman, Lisa Erceg, Rob Sierzega, Mark Huffman, Kim McInerney, and Tim Harrington) will explain the process and vision of RMC, answer any questions, and listen for any feedback.

*Bulletin for the  
19th Sunday in  
Ordinary Time*

**8/9**



This first session is next Sunday, August 16 right

after the 10:30 am Mass. (Everyone at the 10:30 am Mass will have to exit church, then everyone coming for the Renew My Church Parish Session will be allowed into church.) We will meet in church, following all the usual health and safety protocols. And the session will also be live-streamed.



Click to view,  
"What to Expect &  
Do When Coming  
Back to Church."

As with all activities in church, you will need to make a reservation for the meeting ahead of time. A sign-up link will be available on our website beginning Tuesday, August 11 or you can make a reservation by calling the Rectory at 773.764.3621.

And please mark your calendar for Session II which will be held on Sunday, August 30 right after the 10:30 am Mass. Session II will allow the RMC team members to present a number of possible scenarios for consideration. These scenarios come from the Archdiocese with input from the pastors and the local bishop (Bishop Bartosic). But we are not limited to these for our consideration. These August parish-wide meetings are an opportunity for any and every parishioner to hear what is being proposed for consideration and to speak up about any of their own views or ideas or questions for the RMC process.

### **Staff Planning Days**

As we do every year, Monday, August 10 and Tuesday, August 11 the parish pastoral staff will be in two days of meetings to plan out the coming year. These days give us the opportunity every year to take a step back from day-to-day operations and consider the broader scope of the parish needs and plans for the coming year. Please keep us in your prayers on these days.

### **Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary – August 15**

This year, because the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (August 15) falls on a Saturday, the Obligation to attend mass for the Holy Day is lifted. If you would like to celebrate Mass for the Holy Day, the 7:30 am Mass will be for the Feast. The 5:00 pm Mass on August 15th is for the 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

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# Readings for Sunday, August 9

## **First Reading: First Kings 19: 9a, 11-13a**

At the mountain of God, Horeb,  
Elijah came to a cave where he took shelter.  
Then the LORD said to him,  
“Go outside and stand on the mountain before the LORD;  
the LORD will be passing by.”  
A strong and heavy wind was rending the mountains  
and crushing rocks before the LORD—  
but the LORD was not in the wind.  
After the wind there was an earthquake—  
but the LORD was not in the earthquake.  
After the earthquake there was fire—  
but the LORD was not in the fire.  
After the fire there was a tiny whispering sound.  
When he heard this,  
Elijah hid his face in his cloak  
and went and stood at the entrance of the cave.

## **Second Reading: Romans 9:1-5**

Brothers and sisters:  
I speak the truth in Christ, I do not lie;  
my conscience joins with the Holy Spirit in bearing me witness  
that I have great sorrow and constant anguish in my heart.  
For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ  
for the sake of my own people,  
my kindred according to the flesh.  
They are Israelites;  
theirs the adoption, the glory, the covenants,  
the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises;  
theirs the patriarchs, and from them,  
according to the flesh, is the Christ,  
who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

## **Gospel: Matthew 14: 22-33**

After he had fed the people, Jesus made the disciples get into a boat  
and precede him to the other side,  
while he dismissed the crowds.

After doing so, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray.  
When it was evening he was there alone.  
Meanwhile the boat, already a few miles offshore,  
was being tossed about by the waves, for the wind was against it.  
During the fourth watch of the night,  
he came toward them walking on the sea.  
When the disciples saw him walking on the sea they were terrified.  
“It is a ghost,” they said, and they cried out in fear.  
At once Jesus spoke to them, “Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid.”  
Peter said to him in reply,  
“Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.”  
He said, “Come.”  
Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus.  
But when he saw how strong the wind was he became frightened;  
and, beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!”  
Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand and caught Peter,  
and said to him, “O you of little faith, why did you doubt?”  
After they got into the boat, the wind died down.  
Those who were in the boat did him homage, saying,  
“Truly, you are the Son of God.”

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## A Letter from Rep. John Lewis: His Final Words

*Mr. Lewis, the civil rights leader who died on July 17, wrote this essay shortly before his death. It was published upon the day of his [funeral](#).*

While my time here has now come to an end, I want you to know that in the last days and hours of my life you inspired me. You filled me with hope

about the next chapter of the great American story when you used your power to make a difference in our society. Millions of people motivated simply by human compassion laid down the burdens of division. Around the country and the world you set aside race, class, age, language and nationality to demand respect for human dignity.

That is why I had to visit Black Lives Matter Plaza in Washington, though I was admitted to the hospital the following day. I just had to see and feel it for myself that, after many years of silent witness, the truth is still marching on.

Emmett Till was my George Floyd. He was my Rayshard Brooks, Sandra Bland and Breonna Taylor. He was 14 when he was killed, and I was only 15 years old at the time. I will never ever forget the moment when it became so clear that he could easily have been me. In those days, fear constrained us like an imaginary prison, and troubling thoughts of potential brutality committed for no understandable reason were the bars.

Though I was surrounded by two loving parents, plenty of brothers, sisters and cousins, their love could not protect me from the unholy oppression waiting just outside that family circle. Unchecked, unrestrained violence and government-sanctioned terror had the power to turn a simple stroll to the store for some Skittles or an innocent morning jog down a lonesome country road into a nightmare. If we are to survive as one unified nation, we must discover what so readily takes root in our hearts that could rob Mother Emanuel Church in South Carolina of her brightest and best, shoot unwitting concertgoers in Las Vegas and choke to death the hopes and dreams of a gifted violinist like Elijah McClain.

Like so many young people today, I was searching for a way out, or some might say a way in, and then I heard the voice of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on an old radio. He was talking about the philosophy and discipline of nonviolence. He said we are all complicit when we tolerate injustice. He said it is not enough to say it will get better by and by. He said each of us has a moral obligation to stand up, speak up and speak out. When you see something that is not right, you must say something. You must do something. Democracy is not a state. It is an act, and each generation must do its part to help build what we called the Beloved Community, a nation and world society at peace with itself.

Ordinary people with extraordinary vision can redeem the soul of America by getting in what I call good trouble, necessary trouble. Voting and participating in the democratic process are key. The vote is the most powerful nonviolent change agent you have in a democratic society. You must use it because it is not guaranteed. You can lose it.

You must also study and learn the lessons of history because humanity has been involved in this soul-wrenching, existential struggle for a very long time. People on every continent have stood in your shoes, through decades and centuries before you. The truth does not change, and that is why the answers worked out long ago can help you find solutions to the challenges of our time. Continue to build union between movements stretching across the globe because we must put away our willingness to profit from the exploitation of others.

Though I may not be here with you, I urge you to answer the highest calling of your heart and stand up for what you truly believe. In my life I have done all I can to demonstrate that the way of peace, the way of love and nonviolence is the more excellent way. Now it is your turn to let freedom ring.

When historians pick up their pens to write the story of the 21st century, let them say that it was your generation who laid down the heavy burdens of hate at last and that peace finally triumphed over violence, aggression and war. So I say to you, walk with the wind, brothers and sisters, and let the spirit of peace and the power of everlasting love be your guide.

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## Growing in Faith

*After the fire, there was a tiny whispering sound.*

*When he heard this,*

*Elijah hid his face in his cloak  
and went and stood at the entrance of the cave.  
~ 1 Kings 19:13*

Elijah didn't find the Lord in the frightening displays of harsh nature: the savage winds, the menacing earthquakes, and the raging fires. Instead, he heard the Lord in a tiny whispering sound.

This passage comforts me so much in these days of physical isolation, as I fight fears of an unchecked virus and an uncertain future. I love this passage because I've naturally sought spiritual solace in the tiny natural beauties of my backyard and nearby native surroundings. It's not as grand here as Mt. Horeb but, when I spend time attending like Elijah, I have a similar chance to spiritually connect.

Natural beauty has always been a place for humankind to find consolation. For me, this has never been more the case. The sounds of the birds outside my window bring joy to me these summer mornings. And I'm more likely now to perch on my back steps at dawn, even for just a moment, and look or listen to what is happening in my yard. It is a chance to allow in the Holy Spirit first before I turn on the radio or television for the daily news.

Several of you may fondly remember Eileen Crowley's course offered years ago at St. Gertrude: ***Photography as a Spiritual Practice***. I didn't have a chance to take it then but discovered that she was offering it at another parish and I've happily taken it on Zoom for the last couple of weeks. This course helps me stay in the mode of Elijah: attending to the quiet beauties around us. If you would like to know more, check out Eileen's website: <http://photogsp.weebly.com>.

~ Claire Conley for *Growing in Faith*

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## One Northside: Tenant Eviction Rights Information

Chances are you're behind on rent, know someone who is, or have heard about the coming eviction crisis. While opposition from the real estate lobby and others blocked [comprehensive responses](#) to the crisis, organizing across the state has produced a patchwork of new rights and



programs. It's not enough, but when used together, tenants can give themselves real leverage to protect their homes.

Here are ways to help yourself or someone else:

- Tenants who live in HUD, CHA, or most subsidized apartments can use [bit.ly/hudchatenants](https://bit.ly/hudchatenants) to enforce those programs' specific rights on back rent/eviction.
- Tenants not in HUD, CHA, or subsidized apartments can fill out [bit.ly/letsorganize](https://bit.ly/letsorganize).
- All tenants can text or voicemail 312.566.8385 if they can't use those links.

Every Tuesday at 6:30 pm, ONE Northside holds a [Tenants Rights & Organizing Session](#) with Northside Action for Justice & Northside Tenant Network. Email [nmoskowitz@onenorthside.org](mailto:nmoskowitz@onenorthside.org) or call 312-566-8385 for the link to join! We welcome anyone who's dealing with a housing problem, organizing their neighbors, or just wants to help.

Illinois' eviction moratorium was recently [extended until 8/22](#). You can apply for rent help [from the City of Chicago until 8/10](#), and from the [State of Illinois after that](#). A new Chicago law [makes landlords negotiate](#) before starting the eviction court process if tenants ask in writing. Lastly, if courts do re-open before the threat of COVID-19 has passed, we can expect the [normal 3-8 month eviction court process](#) to last even longer.

[\*Sign the Petition to Keep Illinois' Eviction Moratorium until COVID-19 is under control.\*](#)

Thank you, and please reach out with any questions.

Noah Moskowitz, Senior Housing Organizer  
312.566.8385 (cell)  
[nmoskowitz@onenorthside.org](mailto:nmoskowitz@onenorthside.org)

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## [Help for Seniors Facing Eviction/Fallen Behind on Mortgage or Rent](#)

The non-profit Center for Disability and Elder Law is now offering free

assistance to people who are facing eviction or have fallen behind on their rent or mortgage payments. Attorneys there will help you evaluate your situation, connect you to financial assistance resources, and negotiate with your landlord or mortgage company to establish payment terms.

For this assistance, please call 312.376.1880 Monday-Friday from 9:00 am-12:00 pm and ask for Cheryl Lipton, CEDL Pro Bono Coordinator. As CEDL is expecting a large volume of calls, please reach out to them today!

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## ONE NORTHSIDE: Fair Tax Constitution Amendment to be on Voted on This November!

### **Register for Fair Tax Day of Action**

Join Jewish Council on Urban Affairs (JCUA), Jane Addams Senior Caucus (JASC), Asian American Midwest Progressives (AAMP), and ONE Northside for a Fair Tax Day of Action, Sunday, August 23 from 1:00-3:00 pm.

This online Zoom program features speakers, music, and poetry, and then voter outreach through texting and calling. Training is provided. There is also an in-person component, including chalking and distributing flyers in our neighborhoods. [Sign up here.](#)

### **Zoom Workshop on Fair Tax Amendment**

There is a workshop on Tuesday, August 25 from 5:30-6:45 pm to learn about this fair tax initiative. [Register here.](#)

### **Sign Up to Phonebank for the Fair Tax!**

Training will be done via Zoom! You'll need a phone and computer with Wifi. Sign up here: [bit.ly/fairtaxphonebank](https://bit.ly/fairtaxphonebank).

Questions? Call Cathy Shiel-Reardon at 773.458.5480.

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## Commonweal Community: Rending/Mending the Seamless Garment: Voting Catholic

**Virtual Conference:**  
**Rendering/Mending the Seamless Garment:  
Voting Catholic**

**Sunday, August 23, 2020, 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm**

*The problem of political partisanship within our Church today,  
and how Catholics can better promote the fullness of Catholic teaching.*

<p><b>* Heidi Schlumpf *</b> Executive Editor, <i>The National Catholic Reporter.</i></p> <p>* Graduate of Garrett Theological Seminary at Northwestern.</p> <p>* Author on religion, spirituality, justice, and women's issues.</p> <p>* Biographer of Elizabeth Johnson.</p>		<p><b>* Jon Nilson *</b> Professor Emeritus of Theology, Loyola University Chicago</p> <p>* Past president of Catholic Theological Society of America.</p> <p>* Consultant to the Chicago Archdiocese on ecumenism.</p> <p>* Proponent of Black Theology.</p>	
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Please request free meeting link from [rendering-mending@e-grapevine.org](mailto:rendering-mending@e-grapevine.org)

The Commonwealth community of St. Gertrude Catholic Church is planning a virtual forum on this topic for Sunday, August 23. Jon Nilson, Professor Emeritus of Theology at Loyola University Chicago, and parishioner Heidi Schlumpf, Executive Editor of *The National Catholic Reporter*, will address the problem of political partisanship within our Church today and how Catholics can better promote the fullness of Catholic teaching. The forum will begin at 2:00 pm and last for about an hour.

There will be an opportunity for questions and discussion. All are welcome. To request a meeting link, please email [rendering-mending@e-grapevine.org](mailto:rendering-mending@e-grapevine.org).



**Semi-Retired? Retired? Open the Doors  
of Your Heart!**

Join the **Ignatian Volunteer Corps!** Members of this Jesuit service program volunteer in poor and marginalized communities two days per week (September-June), grow deeper in their Christian faith by reflecting and praying in the Ignatian tradition, and meet monthly with other IVC members and a spiritual reflector. IVC members serve as tutors, employment counselors, food pantry volunteers, companions to the elderly, and more! Both in-person and virtual opportunities are available. Detailed information is online at [www.ivcusa.org](http://www.ivcusa.org).

Please register in advance to attend an information session to learn more and meet current IVC volunteers at **2:00 pm on Tuesday, August 18** here at **St. Gertrude Ministry Center**. Guidelines for in-person meetings held at St. Gertrude can be found [here](#).

RSVP to Jacqueline Fitzgerald at 312.961.6206 or [jfitzgerald@ivcusa.org](mailto:jfitzgerald@ivcusa.org).

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## Maryville Offers Free Childcare Assistance Available for Families in Crisis Due to COVID-19, Unemployment, Parental Illness, and for Children with Complex Medical Needs

Maryville offers two free programs for families in crisis - from requiring emergency 24-hour childcare to assisting children with complex medical needs and have been released from the hospital but still monitoring.

[Maryville Crisis Nursery](#) is a temporary emergency shelter for newborns through age six, providing free short-term care for children of families who are experiencing a severe disruptive crisis or a family emergency or to prevent that crisis from happening.

Children ages newborn through six years receive round-the-clock childcare, up to 72 hours a stay. This safe and nurturing environment is designed to protect them from harmful experiences and the damaging effects of trauma. Issues that bring families to the Maryville Crisis Nursery include parents working as first responders and essential workers for COVID-19,

unemployment, parental illness or hospitalization, poverty, and homelessness.

[Maryville Children's Healthcare Center](#) provides care for medically fragile and/or technology-dependent children, ages newborn through 21 years. Most children are admitted from a hospital NICU or PICU. This program focuses on patients who no longer require acute care, but who need significant medical attention related to wound therapy, PICC antibiotics, post-surgical care, NG, GJ tube feedings, and ventilator care. The Center is a "home away from home" for medically fragile children and their families.

Their 16-bed facility offers child/adolescent-friendly and welcoming rooms. There are separate rooms for physical therapy, learning, eating, and play, as well as rooms for parents to stay overnight.

For more information, call Maryville's 24-Hour Helpline at 773.205.3637.

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## Call for Blood Donations

Every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood. It is essential for surgeries, cancer treatment, chronic illnesses, and traumatic injuries. Whether a patient receives whole blood, red cells, platelets or plasma, this lifesaving care starts with one person making a generous donation.

There is currently a shortage of blood in the United States, especially in the Chicago area. While we cannot host a blood drive at St. Gertrude parish, please consider making a donation at a different site. Donor centers, hours of operation, and area mobile drives can be found at [Vitalant.org](https://www.vitalant.org).

Use the **Group Code: 591** when you donate to let Vitalant staff know you are donating on behalf of St. Gertrude Parish.

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# The 2020 Census: Importance of the Data

Shape the future of our parish, neighborhood, and community by supporting the 2020 Census. The Census will provide a snapshot of our nation—who we are, where we live, and so much more.

The results of this once-a-decade count determine the number of seats each state has in the House of Representatives. They are also used to draw congressional and state legislative districts.

Over the next decade, lawmakers, business owners, and many others will use 2020 Census data to make critical decisions. The results will show where communities need new schools, new clinics, new roads, and more services for families, older adults, and children.

The results will also inform how hundreds of billions of dollars in federal funding are allocated to more than 100 programs, including Medicaid, Head Start, block grants for community mental health services, and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, also known as SNAP.

The results of the 2020 Census will inform decisions about allocating hundreds of billions of dollars in federal funding to communities across the country—for hospitals, fire departments, school lunch programs, and other critical programs and services.

The 2020 Census will be valuable to businesses, as the results will provide a rich set of data on the communities they serve, including population trends and growth projections.

Business owners rely on census results to make decisions, such as where to open new stores, restaurants, factories, or offices, where to expand operations, where to recruit employees, and which products and services to offer.

The questionnaire will take about 10 minutes to complete. It's safe, secure, and confidential. Your information and privacy are protected.

**Take the Census Today**

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# Parishioner Guidelines for Attending Mass in Church

Registration for weekend Masses must be entered by noon on Saturday.

The church is now open Monday through Saturday for 7:30 am Mass. Weekend Masses are 5:00 pm on Saturdays and 8:00 am and 10:30 am on Sundays.

Here are some pointers everyone will need to be aware of as we return:

- For all church activities, including services/Masses, the only entrance will be the Granville (handicap access) door.
- **Everyone will need a reservation for coming into church.** Sign up for weekday Masses [HERE](#) and weekend Masses [HERE](#) or you can call the Rectory office at 773.764.3621.
- Registrations must be entered at least by 12:00 pm the day before the weekday service/Mass you plan to attend. Registration for weekend Masses must be entered by **noon** on Saturday.
- If your name does not appear on the registration list, you will be asked to wait outside. If fewer than 150 people are in attendance at the beginning of the service, you will be admitted.
- Everyone must wear a mask. If you do not have a mask when you arrive, one will be provided. (Only exceptions are for medical conditions.)
- Leave home early enough to allow for the check-in procedure.
- You must not exhibit any signs of COVID-19 related illness (fever of 100.4 degrees or above, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, chest tightness, extreme fatigue, loss of sense of taste or smell, diarrhea, muscle aches, or headaches) or had exposure to anyone with these symptoms.
- Once you are admitted, your temperature will be taken with a non-touch electronic thermometer and you will have your hands sanitized. Then you will be checked in and an usher or greeter will take you to a seat. (Those living in the same households can sit together.) Everyone in church is expected to maintain safe-distancing protocols by observing the markings on the floor and in the pews which give directions for spacing and traffic flow.
- Weekend Masses take place on Saturday at 5:00 pm and at 8:00 am and 10:30 am on Sunday. Once we are confident we have our

protocols down and things are operating smoothly, we can have from 15-20% of our capacity at any Mass, 125-150 people.

- Even when public Masses start, we will continue to live-stream the 10:30 am Sunday Mass as we have been doing.
- If you are 65 or over, and/or have any health condition that leaves your health in any way compromised, please stay home! As Cardinal Cupich reminds us, during this pandemic time, missing Mass is not a sin!

We very much look forward to welcoming everyone back to church! Please feel free to contact the office or any member of the parish staff with any questions. We remember each of you in prayer every day! Please pray for St. Gertrude parish and all those who are suffering in any way.

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

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

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## Rectory Hours, Parishioner Guidelines for Visiting the Rectory.

The St. Gertrude parish office is open Monday through Saturday from 9:00 am-2:30 pm and 9:00-1:00 pm on Sunday. Please call ahead!

We ask that all visitors follow these regulations:

- The office is open by appointment only. Appointments may be made by email to [stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org) or by phoning 773.764.3621.
- We will accept only one appointment at a time so we can observe social distancing requirements of being six feet apart. There will be social distancing markings in the front hallway. If more than one person needs to be present for the appointment, please inform the office of the number of people so that appropriate social distancing procedures may be observed. We suggest a limit of four people.
- Visitors must not exhibit any signs of COVID-19 related illness (fever of 100.4 degrees or above, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat,



chest tightness, extreme fatigue, loss of sense of taste or smell, diarrhea, muscle aches, or headaches) or had exposure to anyone with these symptoms.

- Visitors must wear masks or face coverings.
- Visitors must use hand sanitizer upon entering and exiting the building. Hand sanitizer will be provided.
- Requests such as new parish registrations, changes in parishioner address or phone numbers, Mass or prayer intentions, scheduling, etc. should be made by phone or email.
- Please make an appointment only if a face-to-face meeting is absolutely necessary. If you are dropping off checks or documents, please put through the mail slot at the Rectory door on the west side of the building between Granville Avenue and the alley. If what you are dropping off is too large to fit through the mail slot, please notify the Rectory to make further arrangements.

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## Protocols for Reopening Parish Facilities for Meetings

We are figuring out how the parish campus can reopen in a safe and healthy manner for everyone who will be using any parts of the buildings.

Based on the pattern of everything we have received from the State of Illinois and the Archdiocese of Chicago thus far, we should expect these kinds of protocols to guide us in all our parish facilities:

- **All spaces should be evaluated for the capacity of the space – then plan on limiting the number of people in any space to 15-20% of the capacity.** (E.g. the church capacity in normal times is about 750 people. Therefore the current limits on how many people can be in the church at any one time is 15-20% of that number, so no more than 150 people.) In figuring out how this will work, imagine everyone is wearing an inner-tube or hula-hoop that creates a six-foot space around them in all directions. That's how you should expect to arrange any chairs or tables.
- **Everyone coming into any meeting in any part of the parish campus will need to wear a mask.** If someone doesn't have a mask, one will be available. Masks are worn the entire time of the meeting or gathering – except when the person is eating or drinking. If

there is a presentation by any individual, that person may remove their mask while they are speaking – as long as they are at least 12 feet away from the closest person in the room.

- **Everyone will have their hands sanitized as they enter the room.** Hand sanitizer will be available in every meeting space.
  - **Everyone attending any meeting/gathering will have to either have made a reservation at which time they gave the rectory office their name, phone number, and email address, or, if there is still space available, give that same information to whomever in the group is keeping the tracking clipboard.** (This is also done for every service in church. This information is being collected for the contact tracking in case of a situation where a number of COVID cases were traced back to a specific time and place. This is a requirement of the State of Illinois. We keep this information for three weeks and then shred the documents.)
  - **Meetings/gatherings should be planned ahead of time so that all business is conducted as quickly as possible. No meeting or gathering should exceed an hour.** Shorter is better! (If your group is not wanting to move things along at a fast clip, please consider having a Zoom or team meeting (virtual) instead.
  - If possible, **windows and doors should be kept open** to provide maximum air circulation.
  - **Each room must be sanitized by the group** using the space at the end of the meeting. There will be cleaning/sanitizing equipment available in each area of the parish campus. Every surface used by anyone must be sanitized. (As we do in church for services, we are looking to have one-use maps of each room so that a group leader could easily identify exactly where and which tables and chairs and other equipment was being utilized. That makes it easier to only have to sanitize what has been used.) Failure to clean up after your use of any space will result in forfeiture of using any parish facilities in the future.
  - **Certain spaces will not be available** because there is no way to protect people in a safe and healthy way from contact. Currently, the gym cannot be used. Certain other meetings/gatherings may also be inappropriate in the lower hall or the cafeteria. Each request for space, once we are able to re-open, will be considered on an individual basis.
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## Lectors, Cantors, 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](#).

This weekend, our cantors will be:

- Saturday, August 8 at 5:00 pm - Lisa Erceg
- Sunday, August 9 at 8:00 am - Carol Ann Munro
- Sunday, August 9 at 10:30 am - Dana Sullivan; Denise Goodman, clarinet

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

Our readers this weekend are:

- Saturday, August 8 at 5 pm - Troy McMillian
- Sunday, August 9 at 8:00 am - Sr. Kathryn Stimac
- Sunday, August 9 at 10:30 am - Debra Novak

Our set-up and greeter teams have been combined. This weekend's schedule is:

- Saturday, August 8 at 5:00 pm - Debbie Kern, Michelle Kuehlhorn, Dorothea Tobin, Nancy Kuhn
- Sunday, August 9 at 8:00 am - Brigid Cronin, Marty McDermott, Mark Kollar, Peter Morin, Hallie Burhoe, Joan Dowdle

- Sunday, August 9 at 10:30 am - Dan Killelea, Ginevra Clark, Mark Huffman, Patrick Robinson, Michael Kowalsky, Allen Stryczek, Debbie Kern

Our clean-up team this weekend is:

- Saturday, August 8 at 5:00 pm - TBA
- Sunday, August 9 at 8:00 am - Debra Novak
- Sunday, August 9 at 10:30 am - Debra Novak

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](mailto:kchears@stgertrudechicago.org) and include your preferred e-mail and telephone number.

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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.

Two virtual information sessions have been planned to help with job searches. They include:

- Career Services Information Session on Monday, August 10 at 11:00 am
- Career Services Information Session on Monday, August 17 at 11:00 am

Please email [Ajenke@ctcchicago.org](mailto:Ajenke@ctcchicago.org) for information.

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## Sign Up to Vote by Mail

Due to COVID-19, voters are encouraged to use *Vote By Mail* or *Early Voting* before Election Day on November 3, 2020.

Any Chicago voter may [apply online now to Vote By Mail](#) ahead of the November 3, 2020 Election. No reason or excuse is needed to Vote By Mail. Chicago voters who apply online between now and September 24 will be among the first to receive ballots. Ballot mailings will begin Sept. 24-Oct. 5.

Chicago voters who apply online to Vote By Mail will receive emails:

- In the days that follow their online application, to confirm that the online application has been received and processed;
- When the ballot is being mailed to the voter -- with a unique link to a system to track the ballot through the US Postal Service;
- When the Vote By Mail "Ballot Return Envelope" is received by the Election Board; and,
- When the Vote By Mail "Ballot Return Envelope" has been approved for counting -- or if there is a question or problem with your Ballot Return Envelope.

If you are unable to apply online, the Election Board also will be sending Vote By Mail applications and postage-paid return envelopes in late July to all voters who have voted in any election(s) since Nov. 2018 and to any voters who have registered for the first time or updated their registrations since March 18, 2020.

For more information about voting by mail, please click [HERE](#).

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[Renew My Church: Our Grouping](#)

# Process Timeline

Creating vibrant parishes requires that we evaluate the business structures (how we operate), buildings, facilities, and financial requirements of existing parishes to assess where we can more prudently apply our resources to support and strengthen key ministry leadership roles, programs, and activities. Ultimately, we must be good stewards of the gifts we have today to ensure they're able to support the faith lives of Catholics both today and in the future.

To that end, the Grouping Feedback & Discernment Team will meet from now through the Fall to discuss and prayerfully discern the ministerial and operational strengths and challenges of the parishes and schools within our particular grouping. Eventually, the team will provide feedback and information about its grouping for archdiocesan leadership to review and present recommendations to Cardinal Cupich so he can make final decisions regarding potential changes to school and parish structures.

Along the way, there will be opportunities for everyone in our own parish to learn about the details of those conversations, ask questions, and share their own points of view on the strengths and concerns of any potential changes.

## **Schedule of Meetings**

Below is our schedule of meetings – note the Parish conversations to which everyone is invited to attend. More details about those will be published in our bulletin and on parish website as those dates approach.

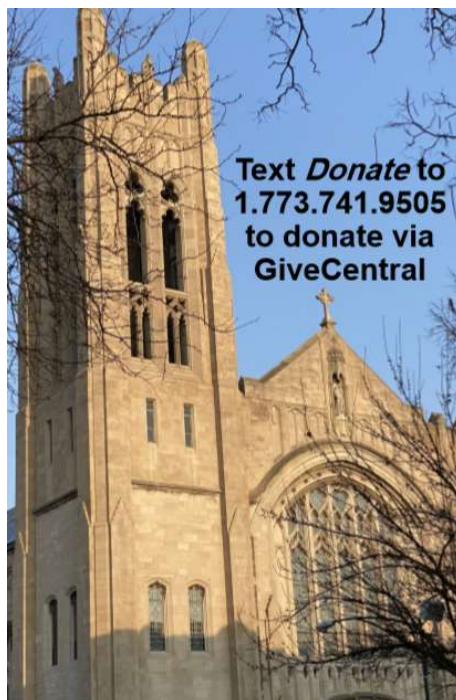
Parish Conversations – for all parishioners to attend. Registration is required and will open Tuesday, August 11 both on our website and by phoning the Rectory office.

- **Parish Session I** – Sunday, August 16, immediately following the 10:30 am Mass – in church & live-streamed.
- **Parish Session II** – Sunday, August 30, immediately following the 10:30 am Mass – in church & live-streamed

As always, for more information, visit [RenewMyChurch.org](https://RenewMyChurch.org), or ask me via email at [rprendergast@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:rprendergast@stgertrudechicago.org).

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

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.

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.

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](mailto:ablumberg@stgertrudechicago.org). He will be happy to help in any way he can.

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[Click here to go to GiveCentral](#)

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

[Donate via the Archdiocese website](#)

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## [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, August 10, 2020:** Psalm 28; Genesis 37:29-36; 2 Peter 2:4-10  
OR Psalm 18:1-19; Genesis 7:11-8:5; 2 Peter 2:4-10

**Tuesday, August 11, 2020:** Psalm 28; Genesis 39:1-23; Romans 9:14-29  
OR Psalm 18:1-19; Genesis 19:1-29; Romans 9:14-29

**Wednesday, August 12, 2020:** Psalm 28; Genesis 40:1-23; Matthew 8:23-27  
OR Psalm 18:1-19; Job 36:24-33; 37:14-24; Matthew 8:23-27

**Thursday, August 13, 2020:** Psalm 133; Genesis 41:14-36; Revelation



15:1-4 OR Psalm 67; Isaiah 45:20-25; Revelation 15:1-4

**Friday, August 14, 2020:** Psalm 133; Genesis 41:37-57; Acts 14:19-28

OR Psalm 67; Isaiah 63:15-19; Acts 14:19-28

**Saturday, August 15, 2020:** Psalm 133; Genesis 42:1-28; Matthew 14:34-36

OR Psalm 67; Isaiah 56:1-5; Matthew 14:34-36

**Sunday, August 16, 2020:** Genesis 45:1-15 and Psalm 133, Isaiah 56:1, 6-8 and Psalm 67, Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32, Matthew 15: (10-20), 21-28

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## Mass Intentions

**Monday, August 10:** 7:30 am - Donald Lavine +

**Tuesday, August 11:** 7:30 am - Tina Piemonte

**Wednesday, August 12:** 7:30 am - Mahti James +

**Thursday, August 13:** 7:30 am - Communion Service

**Friday, August 7:** 7:30 am - Tom and Irene Schmitz +

**Saturday, August 14:** 7:30 am - Nancy Donnelly +; 5:00 pm - George Heintz +

**Sunday, August 15:** 8:00 am - Peter and Mary Tunney +; 10:30 am - Ethan Seitzer +

*(+ indicates the person is deceased)*

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Please Pray for Our Parishioners and

# Friends

- Walter Bradford
  - Ester Bugler
  - Aida Calvopina
  - Maggie Callaway
  - Anne Collins-Dole
  - Geraldine Clark
  - Connie Cool
  - Sara Fighter
  - Mary Fitzgerald
  - Lucia Hall
  - Gina Heidkamp
  - Maria Hertl
- 
- Bernice Kiedysz
  - Eva Kot
  - Addison McClain
  - Karey Myers
  - Don Piven
  - Charley Scantlebury
  - Richard Seitz
  - Peggy Stoffel
  - The Sullivan family
  - Ruth Timmons
  - Elinora E. Tolentino
  - Norma E. Viray

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## Lyrics for August 9, 2020

**Though the Mountains May Fall** by Dan Schutte

REFRAIN: Though the mountains may fall and the hills turn to dust,  
Yet the love of the Lord will stand as a shelter for all who will call on his  
name. Sing the praise and the glory of God.

VERSE 1: Could the Lord ever leave you? Could the Lord forget his love?  
Though a mother forsake her child, he will not abandon you. (to refrain)

**Psalm 85: Lord, Let Us See Your Kindness** by Scott Soper

Lord, let us see your kindness; Lord let us see your kindness. Your kindness and salvation grant us, O Lord.

**Only in God** by John Michael Talbot

VERSE: Only in God is my soul at rest, in him comes my salvation.

He, only, is my rock, my strength and my salvation.

REFRAIN: My stronghold, my savior, I shall not be afraid at all.

My stronghold, my Savior, I shall not be moved.

REFRAIN: Only in God is my soul at rest, in him comes my salvation.

**On Eagles Wings** by Michael Joncas

VERSE 1: You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,

Who abide in his shadow for life,

Say to the Lord: "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!"

REFRAIN: And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,

Bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun,

And hold you in the palm of his hand.

VERSE 2: The snare of the fowler will never capture you,

And famine will bring you no fear: under his wings your refuge,

His faithfulness your shield. (to refrain)

**Blest be the Lord** by Dan Schutte

REFRAIN: Blest be the Lord; blest be the Lord, the God of mercy,

The God who saves. I shall not fear the dark of night,

nor the arrow that flies by day.

VERSE: He will release me from the nets of all my foes.

He will protect me from their wicked hands.

Beneath the shadow of his wings I will rejoice

to find a dwelling place secure. (to refrain)

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