
St. Gertrude Chicago E-Bulletin

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 2, 2020

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

Summer Mission Appeal

This weekend is our Summer Mission Appeal. Please be generous to this annual appeal which allows us to reach out and assist missionaries spreading the gospel in parts of the world far and near. Because of the pandemic, no missionaries will be visiting parishes this summer. Instead, we were invited to select from a list of the missionary communities who would have been here this summer. We selected the Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity because of their work with the poor and with vulnerable communities such as immigrants at border locations. You can access more information at their website [HERE](#).

Donations to the Summer Mission Appeal can be placed in the black offertory boxes in church

*Bulletin for the
18th Sunday in
Ordinary Time*

8/2



Click the image to be taken to our video, "What to Expect & Do

When Coming
Back to Church."

IF the envelope is a Summer Mission Appeal envelope or the memo line on the check clearly indicates that's what the gift is for. There is also the brown box set out for this second collection - all contributions for the Summer Mission Appeal can go in the brown box. You may also make donations (using a credit card) online [HERE](#), or through the [GiveCentral site](#) on the parish webpage.

Protocols for reopening parish facilities for meetings, etc.

Just as NCA – and all schools – are working out the guidelines of how they hope to reopen their doors and start a new school year with students back in the classroom, so also are we trying to figure out how the parish campus can reopen in a safe and healthy manner for everyone who will be using any parts of the buildings. (Even as I write this, I am increasingly concerned about the surge in so many states and the threat to our own area. Instead of re-opening, will we be fully closed down again to get the spread of this virus under control once more?) When we consider the possibility of re-opening, what will it mean?

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.

Looking Ahead:

The **Renew My Church** (RMC) process has begun and so far, it's been very smooth. In June and July, the parish representatives from St. Gertrude's, St. Ignatius (including a representative from Loyola University as part of the St. Ignatius Team) and St. Jerome's gathered on one evening each month to pray, share a light meal, and tour the parish campuses. This

also gave us a little time to become familiar with the representatives from the parishes. Also in July, the pastors began meetings with the facilitator. The actual process begins the first week in August when all the RMC representatives of the three parishes come together (probably via Zoom) and begin with presentations about some of the basic data from each parish. We will be meeting about every other week for three hours at a time.

Besides the meeting with the RMC Team, there are also two meetings in August that every parishioner is invited to attend. These will take place after the Sunday 10:30 am Mass in church. The first of these meetings will be on Sunday, August 16. At this meeting, the team will explain the process and vision of RMC, answer any questions, and listen to any feedback. The second meeting will be on Sunday, August 30. This meeting 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. The 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.

I hope you can join in these meetings:

- **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.**

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.

Readings for Sunday, August 2

Reading 1: Isaiah 55:1–3

Thus says the LORD:
All you who are thirsty,
come to the water!
You who have no money,
come, receive grain and eat;
Come, without paying and without cost,
drink wine and milk!
Why spend your money for what is not bread;
your wages for what fails to satisfy?
Heed me, and you shall eat well,
you shall delight in rich fare.
Come to me heedfully,
listen, that you may have life.
I will renew with you the everlasting covenant,
the benefits assured to David.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 145:8–9, 15–16, 17–18

R. (cf. 16) The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs.

The LORD is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and of great kindness.

The LORD is good to all
and compassionate toward all his works.

R. The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs.

The eyes of all look hopefully to you,
and you give them their food in due season;
you open your hand
and satisfy the desire of every living thing.

R. The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs.

The LORD is just in all his ways
and holy in all his works.

The LORD is near to all who call upon him,
to all who call upon him in truth.

R. The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs.

Reading 2: Rom 8:35, 37–39

Brothers and sisters: What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword? No, in all these things we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height,

nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Gospel: Mt 14:13–21

When Jesus heard of the death of John the Baptist, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. The crowds heard of this and followed him on foot from their towns. When he disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, and he cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples approached him and said, “This is a deserted place and it is already late; dismiss the crowds so that they can go to the villages and buy food for themselves.” Jesus said to them, “There is no need for them to go away; give them some food yourselves.” But they said to him, “Five loaves and two fish are all we have here.” Then he said, “Bring them here to me,” and he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, he said the blessing, broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, who in turn gave them to the crowds. They all ate and were satisfied, and they picked up the fragments left over—twelve wicker baskets full. Those who ate were about five thousand men, not counting women and children.



You are Witnesses of These Things ~ Luke 24:48

There is a difference between observing something and being a witness to it. According to the dictionary to observe is to “watch carefully” while to witness is to “give evidence.” You can observe without bearing witness, but you cannot be a witness without first observing. Bearing witness is to actively process the event observed or experienced and allowing yourself to

act. In bearing witness, we are given the opportunity to find the power of our voice in situations that can sometimes be overwhelming and uncomfortable.

The Gospels are full of moments when an observer becomes a witness and spreads the news. What we are not told, but can imagine, is how the stories of what Jesus said and did must have moved from village to village. The power of those observed moments created a responsibility to bear witness, to tell the story.

As a nation, we are at an undeniable turning point involving race and our national identity. As much as we do not like to talk about it, racism is baked into the founding fabric of this country. Ibram Kendi, in his book *Stamped from the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America* talks about the constitutional convention of 1787 and its decision to omit any mention of slavery so as to hide “their racist enslavement policies” (p. 116) which were at odds with the professed statements of equality. It was during this convention that enslaved Black men were defined as 3/5 of a man – effectively sanctioning a belief of Black inferiority. It should also be noted that the same convention let stand other policies regarding the treatment of slaves including that of runaway slaves being considered criminals.

To understand the Black Lives Matter Movement, it is important to understand the history of just how fundamental the concept of inequality is in our nation. Kendi’s work and the work of other historians, sociologists, novelists, etc., provide opportunities to observe the embeddedness of racism in our country. Each of us is left to decide how we will bear witness to this centuries-old stain on our shared humanity.

The list of Black lives lost to racism is long and painful to recall. Just this year alone the deaths of George Floyd, Ahmed Aubrey, and Beronna Taylor have captured the national spotlight and sparked ongoing discourse and ignited a multi-racial movement. My heart breaks for the senseless loss of lives that is the result of misguided concepts of power, authority, and privilege.

Every challenge has within it an opportunity for growth to bring about a new creation. The current moment is challenging us to learn from our history and do the work to reimagine a better future for our nation. Now is the time to have hard conversations. To work to change institutions and systems. To

hold elected officials accountable for their actions. To vote for those who unify rather than divide. To see the founding fathers as flawed men with lofty ideals that still matter and call to us to be better and do better. To be witness to the growth and change that can, in the long run, make this nation a place where everyone is equally respected and welcomed. What can you do to be a witness and not just an observer?

You might find these resources interesting:

- Ibram X. Kendi
 - *Stamped from the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America*
 - *How To Be An Antiracist*
- Fr. Bryan Massingale
 - *Racial Justice and the Catholic Church*
- [The 1619 Project - The New York Times](#)

~ Kevin Cheers



Growing in Faith

Paul reflects today that we *need not choose* to separate ourselves from the love of Christ in the face of “trial, and distress, persecution and hunger.” (I hear “stay at home, no visitors allowed, news of Chicago killings.”)

I can’t find the love of God unless I separate out my experiences, take time to recognize God’s love touching me, my wife Rita, and others. I try to escape being unnerved when I experience people being told they shouldn’t protest, having to deal with my doctor saying my wife and I chance worse

health if we visit his office.

St. Paul says today, *we have a choice* whether or not to separate ourselves from God's love around us or give in to bad news and despair. I am touched by the love of my friend, who for 34 years, changes her daughter various times a day, lifts that daughter out of bed into a wheelchair so they can go outside for air. That friend is the way the love of Jesus hops up before my face, giving me a glimpse into the love of God.

Facing coronavirus, I've called friends, relatives, people with whom I worked. Their lives, struggles, their hopes keep allowing me to glimpse the loving face of Jesus amidst unemployment, the growing number of killings in Chicago, in the face of deaths due to coronavirus. Still, it is not easy to stay tuned and recognize the love of Jesus. Let's continue to help each other (me) recognize the love of Christ!

~ Tomás Bissonnette for *Growing in Faith*



This Weekend- Second Collection: Mission Co-op Appeal -- August 1-2

The summer Mission Cooperation Plan is the annual opportunity for our parish to learn about, take inspiration from, and support missionaries from around the globe. Because of their work with the poor and vulnerable communities we have selected The Society of our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity. This summer, due to the pandemic, it is impossible to have an in-person visitor. Rather we will use a reflection on their work written by their community to learn more about who they are and the work they are engaged in around the world.

Based in Corpus Christi, Texas, The Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity (SOLT) is a community dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Serving together on teams of priests, brothers, sisters, and laypeople. SOLT, founded in 1958, is a missionary community serving in ten different countries around the world, usually in disadvantaged communities. SOLT has hundreds of missionaries serving in the United States, Mexico, Guatemala, Belize, Papua New Guinea, Thailand, Australia, and the Philippines. Part of their charism is to serve the deepest apostolic need of the Church. Therefore, their missions, even in the United States, serve inner-city or other impoverished areas. Their work includes parish and evangelization, schools, an orphanage, drug rehabilitation centers, and several food programs to name a few.

Our collection in support of SOLT will be this weekend, August 1 and 2. If you do not have a donation envelope for the mission appeal, there will be envelopes available in church or you can make a donation online at [GiveCentral](#).

Thank you for your generosity.

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.



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.



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

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](#)

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 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.



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 1 at 5:00 pm - Denise Goodman
- Sunday, August 2 at 8:00 am - Jon Blake
- Sunday, August 2 at 10:30 am - Jay Lamb, George Siegle on trumpet and Nicholas Bussey on trombone

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 1 at 5 pm - Kathleen Dawson
- Sunday, August 2 at 8:00 am - Marty McDermott
- Sunday, August 2 at 10:30 am - Debra Novak

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

- Saturday, August 1 at 5:00 pm - Dorothea Tobin, Debbie Kern
- Sunday, August 2 at 8:00 am - Brigid Cronin, Marty McDermott, Mark Kollar, Joan Dowdle, Peter Morin
- Sunday, August 2 at 10:30 am - Dan Killelea, Ginevra Clark, Mark Huffman, Nancy Kuhn, Michael Kowalsky, Patrick Robinson, Debbie Kern

Our clean-up team this weekend is:

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



St. Gertrude Parish Cloth Mask Project - Masks to be Available for Purchase at the Rectory

We have masks available for purchase at the Rectory. Please keep in mind

the [new safety protocols in place for visiting the Rectory](#) outlined in the above article. They have been sewn by Kadidja, the single mother of two who we've sponsored since she arrived from the Central African Republic, and a gifted seamstress. This is a win-win - she lost her job when we went on lockdown for the pandemic, and we all need masks.

In addition, you can also order directly order from Kadidja, who has committed to creating 30 masks per week on top of the ones for sale at the Rectory. The cloth masks cost \$5 each. If you'd like to place an order, click here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0845a5ab2cab9-cloth>.

Payment can be submitted by check (make payable to Catrine Guzik), Zelle (audraeisin2@hotmail.com), or Venmo *TogetherWeAreStrong*.

You will be called or texted (state in the comments how you want to be contacted when placing your order) when your masks are ready to be picked up.

If you would like some tech support, please contact Pam Horan-Bussey at 773.315.3290.

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.

A number of virtual events have been planned to help in job searches. They include:

- [Developing Your Emotional Intelligence - Friday, July 31 from 9:30-11:30 am](#)
- [Lunch and Learn Event LINKEDIN Q&A Session with Howard Fox - Friday, July 31 from 11:00 am- 1:00 pm](#)
- [Building Skills #1: Knowing Yourself and Where You're Going - Thursday, August 06 from 1:30- 3:30 pm](#)

Events are added weekly.

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.

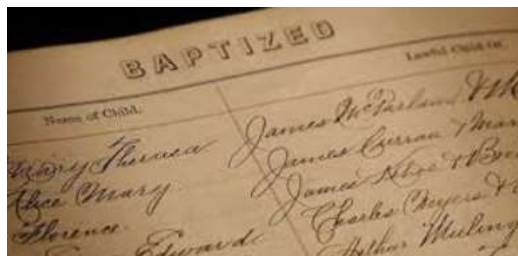
Any Chicago voter may [apply online now to Vote By Mail](#) ahead of the November 3, 2020 Election. No reason or excuse is needed to Vote By Mail. Chicago voters who apply online between now and September 24 will be among the first to receive ballots. Ballot mailings will begin Sept. 24-Oct. 5.

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](#).



Baptisms



Renew My Church: The Journey of Renewal

At the heart of our Renew My Church efforts is the renewal of vital, sustainable parishes that have the leadership, resources, and vision necessary to create an effective culture of evangelization that makes disciples, builds communities and inspires witness. This requires prayerful discernment and challenging conversations on our part. It also necessitates great trust that Jesus, our Good Shepherd, will lead us to where He wants us to go.

As I've shared, our parish is working with St. Ignatius and St. Jerome parishes as one group to discern and provide input into how we can best structure our parishes and ministries to make disciples, build community, and inspire witness. Together, we are working through multiple stages on a shared journey of renewal:

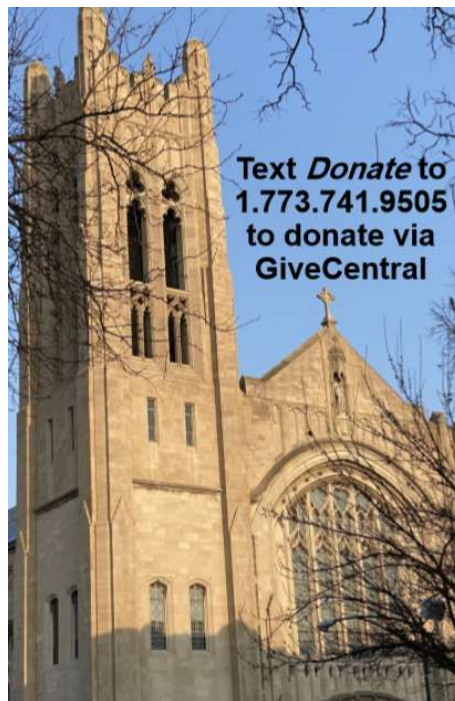
1. **Discernment & Decisions:** This is the phase we are starting now. The Grouping Feedback and Discernment Team (GFDT) will reflect upon potential scenarios of how our local parishes and schools may be organized differently in the future and develop potential ideas to achieve the mission imperatives. This stage concludes when Cardinal Cupich makes his final decisions regarding any structural changes affecting the grouping.
2. **Operations Transition:** Once decisions are made that result in structural/organizational changes to the grouping, a dedicated support team from the Archdiocese works on-site to help pastors manage the transition -

both the pastoral accompaniment to walk with people through this time of change and operational transition to ensure new parishes have strong, sustainable operational foundations, upon which the great work of ministry can be built to achieve our mission imperatives.

3. Building the New Reality: At this point in the process, with the structural, operational, financial, and personnel foundations in place, the grouping will focus its efforts on vibrantly living out the three imperatives. At the core will be a culture of evangelization that supports the work of making disciples, building community, and inspiring witness. This will be a journey over the next several years in our parish.

Along this journey, our Good Shepherd guides our steps. He is with us always and assures us in the Gospel, “My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me.” (Jn 10:27-30). It’s on us to keep our ears open and to listen with our hearts throughout this process.

As always, for more information, visit RenewMyChurch.org, or ask me via email at rprendergast@stgertrudechicago.org.



[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](#) 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.

For more information on text to give or to sign up for online giving, please email Art Blumberg, Director of Parish Management and Facilities, at ablumberg@stgertrudechicago.org. He will be happy to help in any way he can.

[Click here to go to GiveCentral](#)

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

[Donate via the Archdiocese website](#)

[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!



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 3: Jer 28:1-17; Ps 119:29, 43, 79, 80, 95, 102;
Mt 14:22-36

Tuesday, August 4: Jer 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22; Ps 102:16-21, 29,
22-23; Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14

Wednesday, August 5: Jer 31:1-7; Jer 31:10-12ab, 13; Mt 15:21-28

Thursday, August 6: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9;
2 Pt 1:16-19; Mt 17:1-9

Friday, August 7: Na 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7; Dt 32:35cd-36ab,
39abcd, 41; Mt 16:24-28

Saturday, August 8: Hb 1:12 — 2:4; Ps 9:8-13; Mt 17:14-20

Sunday, August 9: 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a; Ps 85:9-14;
Rom 9:1-5; Mt 14:22-33



Mass Intentions

Monday, August 3: 7:30 am - Greg Wall +

Tuesday, August 4: 7:30 am - Frank Joyce +

Wednesday, August 5: 7:30 am - Hiro Vignon Adjahi Agboton + (on what would have been his second birthday)

Thursday, August 6: 7:30 am - Communion Service

Friday, August 7: 7:30 am - Purgatorial Society

Saturday, August 8: 7:30 am - Catherine Rosalie Dreixler; 3:00 pm - Mencarini/Morrissy wedding; 5:00 pm - Bart McKee +

Sunday, August 9: 8:00 am - Parishioners of St. Gertrude; 10:30 am - Bruno and Vincenzia Tassone +

(+ indicates the person is deceased)



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

Lyrics for August 2, 2020

Witnesses by Paul Hillebrand

We will be your witnesses to all the world.

We will be your witnesses to all the world.

Table of Plenty by Dan Schutte

REFRAIN: Come to the feast of heaven and earth! Come to the table of plenty!

God will provide for all that we need, here at the table of plenty.

VERSE: O Come and sit at my table where saints and sinners are friends.

I wait to welcome the lost and lonely to share the cup of my love. (to refrain)

Psalm 145: The Hand of the Lord answers all our needs by Owen Alstott

The hand of the Lord answers all our needs.

The Summons by John, L. Bell

VERSE 1: Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?

Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?

Will you let me love be shown, will you let my name be known,

Will you let me life be grown in you and you in me?

VERSE 2: Ill you leave yourself be hind if I but call yur name?

Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?

Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?

Will you let me answer pray'r in you and you in me?

Taste and See by James Moore

REFRAIN: Taste and See, taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

O taste and see, taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

VERSE 1: I will bless the Lord at all times. His praise shall always be on my lips; My soul shall glory in the Lord for He has been so good to me.

(to refrain)

Take the Word of God with You by Christopher Walker

VERSE 1: Take the word of God with you as you go.

Take the seeds of God's word and make them grow.

REFRAIN: Go in peace to serve the world, in peace to serve the world.

Take the love of God, the love of God with you as you go.

VERSE 2: Take the peace of God with you as you go.

Take the seeds of God's peace and make them grow. (To refrain)

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- **Psalm 145: The hand of the Lord feeds us** by Owen Alstott ©2018 OCP. All rights reserved.
- **Alleluia Give the Glory** by Ken Canedo and Bob Hurd ©1991, OCP Publications. All rights reserved.
- **The Summons**, Text: John L. Bell; Music: Kelvingrove. Traditional Scottish melody.

- **Holy, We Proclaim Your Death, Amen, Lamb of God** from Mass of Glory. Ken Canedo and Bob Hurd ©2009 OCP Publications. All rights reserved.
- **Taste and See** by James E. Moore, Jr. ©1983 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.
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