

St. Gertrude

ALL ARE WELCOME

1420 W. Granville Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60660

www.stgertrudechicago.org • 773.764.3621

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time • March 3, 2019



Return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning. Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the LORD, for God is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love.

~ Joel 2:12-13

The schedule for Ash Wednesday is:

- 7:30 am ~ Mass (Ashes distributed during Mass.)
- 8:30 am ~ NCA's school Mass (Ashes distributed during Mass.)
- 6:00-6:45 pm ~ Ashes distributed.
- 7:00 pm ~ Mass (Ashes distributed during Mass.)

*Stations of the Cross are prayed every Friday during Lent
at 3:00 pm in the Church.*

From Father Rich

Wednesday is Ash Wednesday, the start of the Lenten season. Ashes will be blessed and distributed at the 7:30 am and 8:30 am Masses, at 6:00 pm, and at the 7:00 pm evening Mass.

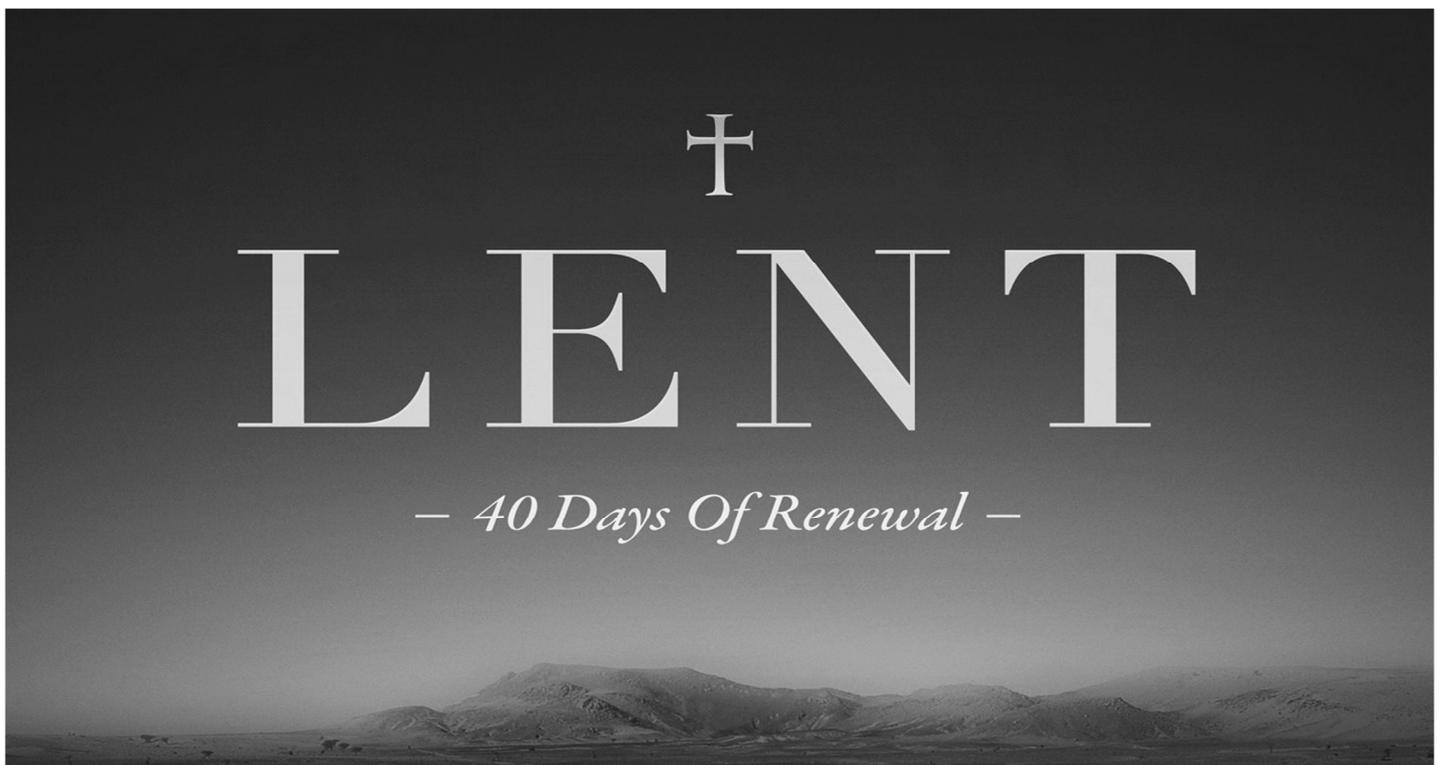
This is the final weekend of the Annual Catholic Appeal commitment drive. If you haven't already completed one of the Commitment envelopes, they are available in the pews and on the tables in the back of church. I encourage you to contribute to this important appeal which helps us reach out beyond our own local community to assist those in need and to assist the Archdiocese help other parishes in need.

As we enter into the Lenten Season this Wednesday, our Lenten focus is ***Lent 2019: Our Invitation to a Second Chance***. At the outset, it is important to frame the very idea of the second chance—of forgiveness and reconciliation. Sometimes we confuse true forgiveness with merely setting a trap, handing out justice, determined to “even the score” or impose a fitting punishment on someone who has “done us wrong.” That’s not forgiveness and that is never the second chance God is giving each and every one of us.

True forgiveness means letting go of our hope for a better yesterday! We have to put that stuff behind us. We have to live in this present moment, even allowing that we might get betrayed again by the same person in the same way! And as the scriptures make so clear over and over again, it is exactly the way we measure out to others that we ourselves will be measured out! The basis for the Golden Rule becomes so important—“Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.” We have to let go of whatever the hurt and the pain and the suffering was. Second chances only truly come when we do that.

Perhaps as we begin this new Lenten season we can spend a little time focusing on that and trying to put aside our desire for revenge or justice. The overriding principle at work isn't justice, but mercy! Mercy is shared because we choose to love, not to be the executors of someone's definition of justice. As we struggle to make this part of our own life, we begin to see how much we need others to treat us this same way. And it is abundantly clear this is how God treats us every moment of our lives.

~ *Father Rich*



Ash Wednesday Schedule

Ash Wednesday is March 6: Please note, our schedule for Ash Wednesday is:

- 7:30 am ~ Mass (Ashes distributed during Mass.)
- 8:30 am ~ NCA's school Mass (Ashes distributed during Mass.)
- 6:00-6:45 pm ~ Ashes distributed.
- 7:00 pm ~ Mass (Ashes distributed during Mass.)



Growing in Faith

Practicing *Visio Divina*: For many years, as a professor, I have been encouraging people to stop, to look and to be open to seeing what they had previously passed by unexamined.

How? I have asked them to take walks with their camera, to pay attention to what catches their eye, to really take time to see, to carefully compose their photos, to give thanks to God for whatever they might be encountering, and to share their photos with others. I call this *Photography as a Spiritual Practice*. Instructions for how to do this group practice can be found online at www.photogsp.weebly.com.

But why do it at all? Because taking the time to see, to really pay attention to something, and to permit ourselves to be amazed by what we see is a form of *visio divina*, "divine seeing." This Lent, you might consider trying this simple spiritual practice, with or without a camera in hand.

~ Eileen Crowley for *Growing in Faith*

Parish Calendar

Sunday, March 3

- 9:00 am-12:00 pm ~ Cub Scout Pack 3822's annual pancake breakfast in the Social Hall
- After the 10:00 am, 10:30 am, and 11:30 am Masses ~ NCA's book fair in the NCA cafeteria
- 7:00-8:00 pm ~ Jay Cook performance at Davenport's, 1383 N. Milwaukee Ave.
- 7:00 pm ~ WOW gathering in the Gym balcony

Monday, March 4

- 7:00pm ~ Baptismal prep class in the Rectory

Tuesday, March 5

- 9:00am ~ 2020 Mass intentions book opens

Wednesday, March 6 *Ash Wednesday*

- 7:30 am ~ Mass (Ashes distributed during Mass.)
- 8:30 am ~ NCA's school Mass (Ashes distributed during Mass.)
- 6:00-6:45 pm ~ Ashes distributed.
- 7:00 pm ~ Mass (Ashes distributed during Mass.)

Saturday, March 9

- After 5:00 pm Mass ~ Representatives from the Catholic Cemeteries of the Archdiocese in the back of Church

Sunday, March 10

- After all the Masses ~ Representatives from the Catholic Cemeteries of the Archdiocese in the back of Church
- 6:00-7:00 pm ~ Living stations practice in Church

Wednesday, March 13

- 7:00 pm ~ Refugee Ministry meeting in the Ministry Center
- 7:00 pm ~ Knitting in the Ministry Center

Sunday, March 17

- Lenten Food Drive in the back of Church
- 10:00 am ~ Family Mass hosted by eighth grade students and WOW youth group members
- 6:00-7:00 pm ~ Living Stations practice in Church
- 7:00 pm ~ WOW gathering in the Gym balcony

Please note, a list of Lenten activities & events is located on page 5.

Fast & Abstinence Regulations

Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics 14 years old and older on Ash Wednesday and on all the Fridays of Lent.

Fasting is to be observed on Ash Wednesday by all Catholics who are 18 years of age but not yet 59. Those who are bound by this may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

Almoner's Program

Beginning next Sunday, March 10, we will once again incorporate the Almoner's Program as part of our Lenten opportunities. Named after the office in charge of almsgiving at the Vatican, this program is meant to help connect us with those on the periphery while we also pursue our works of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving during Lent.

Here's how it will work: each Sunday during Lent we will have a second collection exclusively for this program. The money from that collection will be used to purchase McDonald gift cards with \$5.00 pre-loaded on the card. Each Sunday during Lent a volunteer will be in the back of Church after Masses with the gift cards. Everyone is invited to take as many pre-loaded gift cards as they think they will likely use during the week to give to people in need that they encounter on their usual routine (maybe on the bus or el, or when you are stopped at certain intersections, etc.)

As part of this Lenten outreach, everyone is encouraged to use the moment of the handing over the card as an opportunity to have a brief, humane, and human conversation with the other person, affirming them and wishing them well. This interaction is often more important than the card itself.



Lent 2019: Lenten Opportunities

Our Invitation to a Second Chance Lenten Opportunities

Prayer

- Attend mass every Sunday.
- Attend one daily mass every week.
- Spend time with the daily scripture readings.
- Join a faith-sharing group.
- Spend five minutes daily in silence with the Lord.
- Use the *Sacred Space* app available at the iTunes App Store or Google Play.
- Use *The Little Black Books* for daily reflection.
- Pray the Stations of the Cross at 3:00 pm on Fridays.

Fasting

- Turn off electronic devices for 30 minutes daily.
- Behavioral fasting from criticism, negativity, judgmentalism, resignation, self-righteousness, cynicism, know-it-all-ness, provincialism, self-absorption, divisiveness, intolerance, violence in thought, word or deed, excess pride, blindness to my own involvement in sin, criticism, anger, bitterness, despair, and hatred.

Almsgiving

- Take part in the weekly Almoner's Program for outreach to those in need.
- Save and donate one-hour's wages every week to the charity of your choice.
- Contribute to the Lenten Food Drive.
- Take part in Catholic Relief Service's Rice Bowl.

RCIA Information

Why is the RCIA dismissed at Mass? After the homily, those participating in the RCIA, their sponsors, and members of the RCIA team are dismissed from Mass to engage in reflective discussions that are meant to deepen their knowledge of God through connecting the scripture readings, the homily, and their lived experiences.

The RCIA group has been gathering since September to learn about the faith and our sacred traditions in preparation for the sacraments of initiation that will take place at the Easter Vigil Mass on Holy Saturday. Please keep the RCIA group in your prayers.

Faith Sharing Groups & Lenten Activities

Faith Sharing Groups

Women Only

Tuesdays from 7:00-8:30 pm at 1400 W. Hood;
March 12-April 9

Facilitated by Mary Ann O'Connor

Focus: Reflection on scripture from the preceding Sunday with a focus on the Gospel reading.

Thursday Morning Group

Thursdays from 8:30-9:30 am in the Ministry Center; March 7, 14, 21 and 28

Facilitated by Kevin Cheers

This ongoing group is inviting others to join them for Lent.

Focus: The Women in the Gospel of Luke.

Women's Scripture Study

Thursdays at 7:15 pm at the Stryczek residence (1244 W. Granville Ave.); March 7-April 11

Facilitated by Suzanne Stryczek

This ongoing group is inviting others to join them during Lent.

Focus: Reading and reflection on scripture for the coming Sunday.

Sheridan Road Faith Sharing Group

Thursdays at 7:30 pm, please arrive at 7:15 pm, at 6121 N. Sheridan Road (call the Wards at 773.338.1862 from the lobby); March 12-April 11

Facilitated by Leon and Ana Ward

Focus: Reading and reflection on Scripture from the previous Sunday.

Thursday Evening Reflection Group

Thursdays 7:00-8:30 pm in the Ministry Center; March 14, 28 and April 11

Facilitated by Christopher Alt

Focus: Brief meditation, followed by "ups and downs/highs and lows" of the week.

Men's Group

Fridays from 6:30-8:00am in the Ministry Center March 8-April 12

Facilitated by Allen Stryczek

This ongoing group is inviting others to join them during Lent.

Focus: Reading and reflection on Scripture using "Sauntering Through Scripture" by Sister Genevieve Glen, OSB.

Family Lenten Faith Sharing Group

Saturdays from 10:00-11:00 am in the NCA Cafeteria; March 16, 30, and April 6

Facilitated by Jim Potthast

Focus: Interactive faith forming activities for families with children ages 0-6.

Other Lenten Activities

Simple Suppers: All are invited to participate in faith-focused reflections while sharing a meal of soup and bread. Various parish groups will host these meals in the Social Hall from 6:00-7:30 pm.

- Wednesday, March 27, hosted by the Commonweal Conversation group
- Wednesday, April 3, hosted by the NCA Preschool
- Wednesday, April 10, hosted by the Parish Pastoral Council

Stations of the Cross: Stations of the Cross will be prayed every Friday during Lent at 3:00pm in Church.

Lenten Food Drive: A food drive for Care for Real will be held on Saturday, March 16 and Sunday, March 17.

Lenten Reconciliation: A reconciliation service will be held Sunday, April 7 at 3:00 pm in Church.

Refugee Committee Postcard Event: A postcard writing event will be held on Sunday, April 7 after the 10:00 am, 10:30 am, and 11:30 am Masses.

Rice Bowls: Catholic Relief Services' rice bowls are available in the back of Church.

Almoners Program: Each weekend in Lent, gift cards to McDonald's will be distributed, with the intention of parishioners sharing them and a conversation with those in need. For more details, please see page 4.

Lenten Resources

- Use the *Sacred Space* app available at the iTunes App Store or Google Play.
- Listen to *The Examen* podcast with Fr. James Martin, S.J.
- *The Little Black Book* for Lent (available in the back of Church.)
- Carry and use the prayer cards (available in the back of Church.)

Parish News

TODAY—Pancake Breakfast: Cub Scout Pack 3822 are hosting their annual pancake breakfast today, Sunday, March 3 in the Social Hall from 9:00 am-12:00 pm. We hope to see you there!

Upcoming Youth Group Meetings: Our WOW youth group is meeting today, Sunday, March 3, and again on March 17 from 7:00-8:00 pm in the Gym balcony. Living Stations practice will be held on Sunday, March 10, 17, 31, and April 7 from 6:00-7:00 pm in Church. Dinner will be provided.

March Baptismal Class: The next baptismal prep class will be held on Monday, March 4 at 7:00pm in the Rectory. Call 773.764.3621 to register.

Mass Intentions in 2020: The Mass Intentions book for 2020 will open on Tuesday, March 5 at 9:00 am. Intentions are limited to one per Mass. There is a \$20 suggested offering.

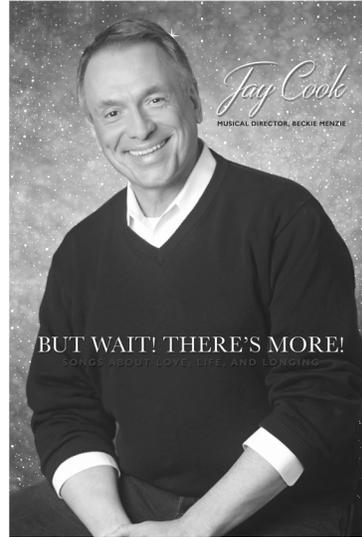
Knitting Group: The Knitting Group invites all knitters and crocheters to join us for fun and blanket square-making! We'll meet on Wednesday, March 13 at 7:00pm in the Ministry Center.

Refugee Ministry: The next meeting is Wednesday, March 13 at 7:00 pm in the Ministry Center.

Donations of Grocery Bags Needed: We are preparing for our annual Lenten Food drive, scheduled for Sunday, March 17. Donations of empty brown grocery bags are needed. These empty bags will be distributed to parishioners the weekend of March 9-10 to fill with donations and returned on March 17. Bags can be dropped off in the back of Church after Mass or brought to the Rectory through Saturday, March 9.

Microphone Donation: Are you hearing things better in church these days? Parishioner and sound expert, Jones Brobbey, arranged for our altar microphone to be upgraded to a more efficient and powerful model through his employer, Shure. We are so grateful for Jones' efforts and expertise in matters of sound, as well as Shure's generous donation. Thank you, Jones!

Upcoming Parish Benefit



All are invited to attend ***But Wait! There's More!***, a Cabaret featuring Jay Cook at Davenport's, 1383 N. Milwaukee Ave.

Sunday, March 3
from 7:00-8:00 pm

Jay will perform songs of love, life, and longing. The cost is \$20/person with a two-drink minimum.

General seating, no reserved seats. Doors to the cabaret room open 30 minutes prior to the show.

Jay has offered to donate the cover charge to our parish for anyone who identifies themselves as a St. Gertrude parishioner to their server. We are so grateful for his generosity.

Parish Stewardship Report

"Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters, be firm, steadfast, always fully devoted to the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain." ~ 1 Corinthians 15:58

We labor for a heavenly reward. Yet while our labor on earth will not buy our way into heaven we know that what we do on earth does matter. Our goal is that through our work, we may bring the kingdom of Heaven closer to fruition on earth, even as it may be one very small step at a time.

Sunday Collection February 23-24	\$4,829.63
Budgeted Collection	<u>\$7,725.00</u>
Underage	(-) \$2,895.37

*~ Art Blumberg,
Director of Parish Management
and Facilities*

NCA News

TODAY—Book Fair at NCA: Don't miss the chance to explore new titles and purchase popular reads at NCA's annual Spring Book Fair today, Sunday, March 3. The Dino-Mite Book Fair will be held in the NCA primary campus lunchroom, after the 10:00 am, 10:30 am, and 11:30 am Masses.

All proceeds benefit NCA's primary and middle school teachers, classrooms, and libraries.

Playdate for Kids Ages 2-5: All are welcomed to bring their 2-5 year-old children to our yoga and aerobics playdate on Saturday, March 16 from 12:00-2:00 pm in the the Gym, 1410 W. Granville!

Children will be able to participate in fun yoga and aerobic activities with Be Yoga Andersonville and Orange Theory Fitness. Parents will also have the opportunity to learn about Northside Catholic Academy's early learning program.

Please RSVP to this link: <https://goo.gl/forms/tbD5e5JubbVyoIGA2>.

Care for our Common Home



Lest finding the splinters in our own eyes, or despairing at what we judge to be rotten fruit grown by others, become too depressing, Pope Francis assures us in chapter six of *Laudato Si'*,

“All is not lost. Human beings, while capable of the worst, are also capable of rising above themselves, choosing again what is good, and making a new start, despite their mental and social conditioning.” (par. 205)

This final chapter is filled with hope and practical suggestions—well worth a read! For more suggestions, contact georgetully82@gmail.com and learn about the NCA Green Team.

~ NCA Green Team

Catholic Burial Info

Representatives from the Catholic Cemeteries of the Archdiocese will be present at our parish Masses March 9-10 in the back of Church.

They can answer any questions you may have on burial arrangements, including cremation burial options, the availability of adjoining family burial locations, and extended no-interest purchase programs.

Senior Resource Fair

The 48th Ward is hosting their annual free senior resource fair on Monday, March 18 from 10:00 am-1:00 pm at Broadway Armory Park, 5917 N. Broadway.

Over 50 vendors will offer information on health and wellness topics, social services and government resources. A light lunch will be offered, along with entertainment and a raffle.

For more information, contact Ginger Williams at ginger@48thward.org.

CCHD Faith and Justice Internship

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development is offering an internship for Catholics within the Archdiocese of Chicago who are passionate about faith-based social justice and seek experience working in solidarity with those in poverty.

The intern will assist with promotions and fundraising, the grant application process, outreach and education, communications, and other administrative projects. The internship is paid at a rate of \$12/hour and requires 14-15 hours of work per week. Applications for the 2019-2020 academic year internship are due by March 25. More information can be found at <https://pvm.archchicago.org/human-dignity-solidarity/catholic-campaign-for-human-development/education>.

Our Parish at Prayer

MONDAY, MARCH 4

7:30 am Allan † and Rita Chartrand †

TUESDAY, MARCH 5

7:30 am Murray † and Sharon Bradshaw †

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6 *Ash Wednesday*

7:30 am Johnny Outlaw †

8:30 am NCA school Mass

6:00-6:45 pm Ash distribution

7:00 pm Sr. Agnes Kelly, OSB †

THURSDAY, MARCH 7

7:30 am Communion Service

FRIDAY, MARCH 8

7:30 am Purgatorial Society

3:00 pm Stations of the Cross

† Indicates
person listed
is deceased.

SATURDAY, MARCH 9

7:30 am Living and deceased mothers & fathers of
St. Gertrude parishioners

5:00 pm Mary Jane Pecoraro †

SUNDAY, MARCH 10

8:00 am Mary Weck †

9:30 am Parishioners of St. Gertrude

10:00 am Mary Lou O'Toole † & Bobby Udrow †

10:30 am Deceased members of the Calero family †

11:30 am Matthew Huddlestun †

Ministers of the Word

SATURDAY, MARCH 9

5:00 pm Pat Reardon, Steve Matre

SUNDAY, MARCH 10

8:00 am Rob Sierzega, Marty McDermott

9:30 am Pat Riley, Barbara Rossi, Leon Ward

10:00 am Ann White, Debra Novak

10:30 am TBA

11:30 am Victoria Healy, Jana Ashbeck

Support the Archdiocese of Chicago Domestic Violence Outreach

Donations may be made at

[https://www.givecentral.org/location/132/
event/12645.](https://www.givecentral.org/location/132/event/12645)

Readings for the Week

Monday: Sir 17:20-24; Ps 32:1-2, 5-7;
Mk 10:17-27

Tuesday: Sir 35:1-12; Ps 50:5-8, 14, 23;
Mk 10:28-31

Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-6ab, 12-14, 17;
2 Cor 5:20 -- 6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 9:22-25

Friday: Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-6ab, 18-19;
Mt 9:14-15

Saturday: Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-6; Lk 5:27-32

Sunday: Dt 26:4-10; Ps 91:1-2, 10-15;
Rom 10:8-13; Lk 4:1-13

Eucharistic Ministers

SATURDAY, MARCH 9

5:00 pm Mary Cook, Roman Reyes, Kathleen
Dawson, Brad Koch, Candace Koch

SUNDAY, MARCH 10

8:00 am Barb Daly, Brian DeVarenne, William
Mitchell, Rob Sierzega, Mary Wyler

9:30 am Pat Riley, Barbara Rossi, Leon Ward

10:00 am Bob Backis, Carlos Barragan, Christine
Curran, Nancy Merrill, Debra Novak,
Ruth Ott, Gail Smith

10:30 am TBA

11:30 am Jana Ashbeck, Richard Ashbeck, Chris
Lincoln, Steve Monti, Lina Peon

Altar Servers

SATURDAY, MARCH 9

5:00 pm Ephraim Curenton, Josephine Stoltz,
Isabel Stoltz

SUNDAY, MARCH 10

10:00 am Henry Villareal, James Casey, Jack Casey

11:30 am Claire McCarthy, Isabella Brobbey,
Nordon Bhutia

Milestones



Rest in Peace

Johnny Outlaw



Please Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends

Carlene Lorys
Anthony Susin
Geraldine Clark
Helen Stryczek



New Parishioners

Avao Benth
James Howard, Keng Nei
(Joanna) Wu, & Maxwell
Howard

If you have been thinking of becoming a member of our Parish community, please consider registering.

Applications to register as a parishioner are available in the back of Church, at the Rectory, or online at www.stgertrudechicago.org.

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Richard J. Prendergast, Pastor
Brenda K. Arreola, Heart to Heart Office Staff
Mary Clare Barker, Minister of Music
Art Blumberg, Director of Parish Management and Facilities
Jane Callahan-Moore, Director of Parish Social Services
Kevin Cheers, Pastoral Associate
Laurie Hasbrook, Office Staff
Amanda Kvasnica, Office Staff
Jim Potthast, Family Minister
Tracy Shields, Minister of First Impressions/Communications
Sr. Judith Zonsius, Office Manager

OTHER PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Michael Bradley, Resident
Rev. Dominic Grassi, Retired Pastor
Rev. William Kenneally, Pastor Emeritus
Carol Beatty, St. Gertrude East Music Director

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 11:30 am
9:30 am St. Gertrude East (Sacred Heart School/Sheridan and Granville)
10:30 am Mass in the Gym (except summer months)
Monday through Friday: 7:30 am (Thursday is a Communion Service.)
Saturday: 7:30 am and 5:00 pm (Sunday Vigil)

LOCATIONS:

Rectory: 1420 W. Granville Ave., Chicago, IL 60660 Phone: 773.764.3621
Website: www.stgertrudechicago.org
E-mail: stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org
Ministry Center: 6214 N. Glenwood Ave., Chicago, IL 60660
Social Services Phone: 773.973.5464.
Social Hall: 1401 W. Granville Ave., Chicago, IL 60660

RECTORY BUSINESS HOURS

Monday - Friday: 8:30 am to 7:30 pm
Saturday: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Sunday: 8:30 am to 1:00 pm

HEART TO HEART

Senior outreach and social services connection: 773.973.5464

PARISH SCHOOL

Northside Catholic Academy: 773.743.6277
www.northsidecatholic.org

BAPTISM

Baptisms take place on the second and fourth Sundays of each month. Additionally, baptisms will be incorporated into one of the weekend Masses each month, with a different Mass having a baptism each month. Call the Rectory to make arrangements to have a child baptized, and to RSVP to attend a parent preparation meeting, held the first Monday of each month at 7:00 pm.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC?

We have an enriching program called the R.C.I.A. (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults). Contact the Rectory for details.

MARRIAGE

Arrangements begin by setting up an appointment with the Pastor. Preparations are to begin at least four months prior to the desired date.

MINISTRY OF CARE AND COMMUNION

Trained ministers will gladly visit and bring communion to those who are sick or homebound. Please call the Rectory to make arrangements.

NEW PARISHIONERS

You are most welcome and are invited to stop in at the Rectory to introduce yourself and register, or register with one of the greeters before or after any Mass. Registration is also available online at www.stgertrudechicago.org.

RECONCILIATION

Individual: Saturday from 4:15-4:45 pm and by request.

COMMUNITY MEETINGS HELD AT ST. GERTRUDE

Al-Anon: Sundays at 7:00 pm in the Ministry Center
Open AA: Tuesdays at 7:30 pm in the Ministry Center, and
Thursdays at 7:00 pm in the school cafeteria.
Caris Pregnancy Center, pregnancy support, free pregnancy tests, and post-abortion help: 312.229.5700.
Makko ho (Japanese yoga): Saturdays at 10:00 am in the Ministry Center