

St. Gertrude Chicago E-Bulletin

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time September 6, 2020

St. Gertrude Mass times are:

- Monday-Saturday: 7:30 am (9:00 am on Labor Day, Monday, September 7)
- Saturdays at 5:00 pm
- Sundays at 8:00 am and 10:30 am (10:30 Mass is live-streamed on our parish Facebook page)

The St. Gertrude parish office is open Monday through Saturday from 9:00 am-2:30 pm and 8:30-11:30 am on Sunday. Please review Parishioner Guidelines for Visiting the Rectory. Please call before you come!

Click Here to Sign-up for Weekend Masses

Click Here to Sign up for Weekday Masses

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From Father Rich

Labor Day - Monday, September 7th - Mass at 9:00 am

Please join us on Labor Day to thank God for the gift of labor, the right to organize, and all the improvements that have been brought to all workers. We will have one Mass at 9:00 am in church. The Rectory office will be closed. Please remember to register online (by 10:00 am on Sunday) if you plan to attend.

Special Collection for the Holy Land -- Next Weekend, September 12-13

Next week's <u>second collection is for the shrines</u> <u>in the Holy Land</u>. Usually this is taken up on

Bulletin for the 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

9/6



Good Friday, but because of the pandemic, we are still catching up on the special collections postponed since mid-March. Please be generous to help maintain the places of pilgrimage for all Christians. You can make your donation in church or online.



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

Renew My Church Parish Session II

Thanks to all those who participated in Parish Session II last Sunday after the 10:30 mass -- those present in church and those watching on the live-stream feed. If you were unable to ask your question or make your comment, you can still do so. If you were unable to attend, please review the information online. We are interested in your feedback, please fill this online form out to share your thoughts by September 14.

~ Father Rich

Other Parish News: Hymnals Available/Volunteers Needed

Would You Like To Take A Hymnal Home?:

Copies of the *Breaking Bread* hymnal we use in church are available at the tables in the back of church or by stopping by the Rectory office. The hymnals contain the scripture readings for Sundays and the outline of all the daily Masses, as well as the music we use in church. Please note, if you take a hymnal, it then belongs to you, please take it home with you and bring it with you whenever you come to church. But with the pandemic, no repeat-usage materials of any kind may be kept in the church

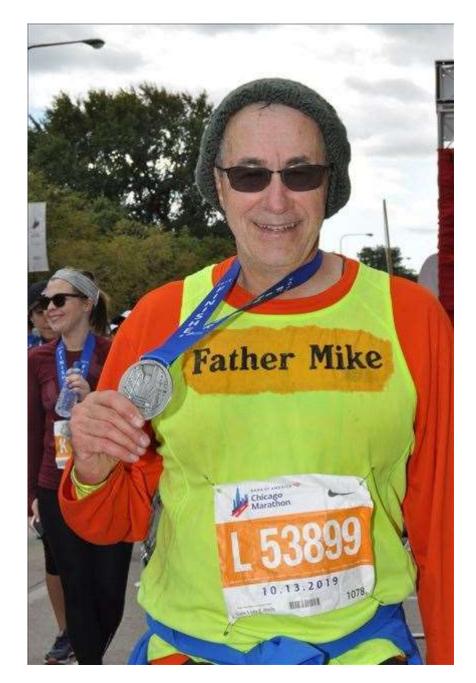
In a few weeks, we will have a program available for anyone who is interested in purchasing next year's hymnal. The start date for using it is the First Sunday in Advent (November 29).

Volunteers: We still need more volunteers, especially for the Saturday 5:00 pm and Sunday 8:00 am Masses. We have the highest need for additional members of the clean-up team which sanitizes the church after every

service. But additional set-up/greeters to help check people in, take their temperatures, sanitize their hands, and lead them to their seats are always welcome!

If you are healthy and able, please consider helping out. Just a reminder, there is no top age limit. If you are healthy, regardless of your age, you are able to be a volunteer. The only condition is for teens under 18., they require the permission of their parents/guardians. Thank you for your consideration.

Please contact Kevin Chears, Pastoral Associate, at kchears@stgertrudechicago.org if you are able to help.



Fr. Mike WILL Run a Marathon for Heart to Heart This Year

Even though the Chicago Marathon will not occur this year, Fr. Mike Bradley WILL run a personal marathon right here in the neighborhood to benefit our Heart to Heart ministry! On Sunday, October 11 at 6:00 am, Fr. Mike will start his run at the front entrance of the Rectory and run the 26.2 miles in a specially designed Edgewater course.

Solicitations for donors to support Fr. Mike and the Heart to Heart Ministry will be going out soon. And there will also be other ways to support Fr. Mike via the parish website. There will be lots more information in future newsletters and ways to donate online and in church.

Please begin thinking about being part of the Fr. Mike Marathon Support Team on October 11. We are looking for parishioners willing to be stationed at specified locations along the route to provide him with water and some nutritious snacks to get him through the run. And we'll be inviting everyone to find a time and a spot on his route where you can be present to cheer him on! As usual, there will be some special t-shirts available for purchase which support him and Heart to Heart!

Please return completed forms and payment for any ordered items to the Rectory office, drop this in the Sunday collection box, or email stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org.

Download a form to help Fr. Mike with snacks and water, by signing up to cheer for him, sponsor his run, or buy a t-shirt or lawn sign

Readings for Sunday, September 6

Reading 1: Ez 33:7–8

Thus says the LORD: You, son of man, I have appointed watchman for the house of Israel; when you hear me say anything, you shall warn them for me. If I tell the wicked, "O wicked one, you shall surely die," and you do not speak out to dissuade the wicked from his way, the wicked shall die for his guilt, but I will hold you responsible for his death. But if you warn the wicked, trying to turn him from his way, and he refuses to turn from his way, he shall die for his guilt, but you shall save yourself.

Reading 2: Rom 13:8–10

Brothers and sisters: Owe nothing to anyone, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; you shall not kill; you shall not steal; you shall not covet," and whatever other commandment there may be, are summed up in this saying, namely, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no evil to the neighbor; hence, love is the fulfillment of the law.

Gospel: Mt 18:15-20

Jesus said to his disciples: "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, so that 'every fact may be established on the testimony of two or three witnesses.' If he refuses to listen to them, tell the church. If he refuses to listen even to the church, then treat him as you would a Gentile or a tax collector.

Amen, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again, amen, I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

Growing in Faith

In the gospel today, Jesus promises, "Wherever two or three are gathered in my name, there I am in the midst of you!" (Matt 19:20). This Labor Day weekend, so many of us will celebrate with family, either person to person, or by Zoom, Skype, phone, and even social media!

Pope Francis reminds us <u>HERE</u> that it is in our family where we first learned to pray! Our Christian lives flow from those first beginnings. As we celebrate this weekend, let us celebrate the love for each other, for God and God's world that we learned as we learned to pray in the heart of our family,

~ Members of Growing in Faith

Click here to read Pope Francis on the Importance of the Family

Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Retreat Offering

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

When the pandemic first began to affect our lives in the month of March, we told ourselves that it would probably be over by summer. But then, as summer drew near, more realistically, we began to hope that things would return to normal by the Fall. However, now Fall is upon us and it has become all too clear that the pandemic is likely to remain with us until next summer, taking a heavy toll on so many aspects of our everyday lives.

Naturally we can easily become discouraged by this new timeframe and begrudgingly accept the multiple constraints it imposes on our lives. But perhaps there is another way to approach this objectively difficult time: a way that allows us to transform this painful period of history into an opportunity for growth and grace. In that spirit, we would like to invite you to consider making the Spiritual Exercises of Ignatius Loyola.

The most traditional way of making the Spiritual Exercises is to stay at a retreat house for thirty days during which time the retreatant makes 5 or 6 "spiritual exercises" every day. Another way of making the very same retreat, while remaining at one's own home, is to commit to making one "spiritual exercise" each day over a period of six months. Then, in addition to the personal daily prayer, once a week, there will be one hour-long, small group meeting (Zoom) briefly to share our experience of prayer.

Everyone who decides to make the Spiritual Exercises will receive the guidebook (which is available both in English and Spanish) that indicates the particular text assigned for prayer each day. While this may sound like a major undertaking, it promises to provide an effective way to create a sacred space in our lives during this difficult time. The fact is: none of us will be exactly the same after this pandemic. The question becomes: will we arrive at the end of this storm simply worn out and worn down or will we have come closer to becoming the persons and disciples God desires us to be?

Please consider this matter carefully. If you are unable or unwilling to carve out an hour for prayer each day, which is a serious commitment, maybe this is not for you. But if you feel that God might be drawing you into a deeper relationship at this time and inviting you to develop life-giving practices of prayer and reflection, please give this retreat some serious consideration.

We will be starting the retreat in the last week of September. Therefore, if

you decide to make the retreat or simply wish to have further information, please contact us no later than September 15 so that we can have the materials available to you. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact either <u>Fr. Dan Hartnett</u>, S.J. (dhartnettsj@gmail.com) or <u>Chris Murphy</u> (cmurphy@archchicago.org).

In Christ,

Deacon Chris and Fr. Dan

St Ignatius Parish



Renew My Church: Discussions Continue

Dear fellow St. Gertrude parishioners,

We are writing as members of the Renew My Church team. We have been working with our counterparts at St. Jerome and St. Ignatius to identify our strengths and challenges and to outline some scenarios by which we can ensure a vibrant and sustainable Catholic community for the northeast corner of Chicago for the foreseeable future. We encourage you to go to the St. Gertrude website where we have posted a wealth of material, including:

- RMC Edgewater Rogers Park Key Data Table
- RMC Parish Session 2 Powerpoint (images of scenarios begins on page 20)
- RMC Scenarios images only
- RMC Scenarios (written out no images)
- Feedback form (downloadable)
- Online feedback form

Now we need you.

Below, you will find a survey outlining the various scenario options.

Basically, they come down to two issues: Will we combine into one or two parishes, and how will the worship spaces, the three church campuses, be used?

This discernment process will be developed into a letter to the Archdiocese (to be delivered by the end of 2020), with the final decision made by Cardinal Cupich.

We hope that you will let us know your thoughts by completing the survey below digitally. Videos of both parish meetings are available on our <u>Facebook</u> page and our <u>YouTube</u> channel, and each of us is available for questions or concerns.

We request you provide your comments by **September 14.** Kindly evaluate the scenarios using the <u>evaluation criteria established by the Archdiocese</u>. Topics to consider include:

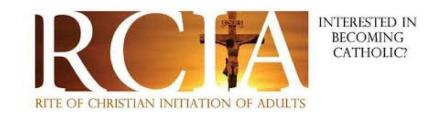
- Spiritual and Ministerial needs of the new parish to be formed
- · Parishioner attendance and mass count
- Pastoral manageability
- [Future] Parish financial stability and facilities

May God grant each of us wisdom and the heart of Jesus in this process. James 1:2-8

Thank you and warm regards,

~ Lisa Erceg, Denise Goodman, Tim Harrington, Mark Huffman, Kim McInerney, Rob Sierzega, Fr Rich Prendergast

Renew My Church Scenario Feedback Form



Interested in Becoming Catholic?

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

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

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

This year, RCIA gatherings will be a mixture of Zoom meetings and inperson gatherings after Mass.

If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about the RCIA process at St. Gertrude, contact me at kchears@stgertrudechicago.org or call the Rectory at 773.764.3621. We can set up a call or a Zoom meeting.

~ Kevin Chears, Pastoral Associate

Additional Parish Information Found on our Website

- Mass Schedule/Links to Sign up for Mass
- Video of What to Expect When Returning to Church
- Parishioner Guidelines for Attending Mass in Church
- What to Expect/Do in Church (photos w/captions)
- Volunteers Needed to Help with Mass
- Parishioner Guidelines for Visiting the Rectory
- Meetings at St. Gertrude
- Volunteer Sign-up Form
- One Northside: Tenant Eviction Rights Information
- Heart to Heart Updated Hours
- Golden Anniversary Mass Info from the Archdiocese
- The 2020 Census: Importance of the Data
- Help for Seniors Facing Eviction/Fallen Behind on Mortage or Rent



Lectors, Cantors, Setup/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, September 5 at 5:00 pm Michael Ruzicki, pianist; Paula Dempsey, cantor
- Sunday, September 6 at 8:00 am Owen Ruggiero, pianist; Kellye Mckay-Guzik, cantor

 Sunday, September 6 at 10:30 am - Owen Ruggiero, pianist; Lisa Erceg, cantor

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, September 5 at 5 pm Jayne Deiters
- Sunday, September 6 at 8:00 am Marty McDermott
- Sunday, September 6 at 10:30 am Debra Novak

Our set-up/greeter team this weekend is:

- Saturday, September 5 at 5:00 pm Michelle Kuehlhorn, Dorthea Tobin
- Sunday, September 6 at 8:00 am Mark Kollar, Peter Morin, and Joan Dowdle, Brigid Cronin, Marty McDermott
- Sunday, September 6 at 10:30 am Dan Killelea, Ginevra Clark,
 Nancy Kuhn, Michael Kowalsky, Patrick Robinson, Mark Huffman

Our clean-up team this weekend is:

- Saturday, September 5 at 5:00 pm TBA
- Sunday, September 6 at 8:00 am TBA
- Sunday, September 6 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 <u>download this form</u> and email it to Kevin Chears at kchears@stgertrudechicago.org and include your preferred e-mail and telephone number.

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 <u>apply online now to Vote By Mail</u> 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 <u>HERE</u>.



Second Collection for the Holy Land Next Weekend

Every year on Good Friday, a collection is taken up in Catholic Churches to support the work of the Franciscans working in the Holy Land. Christians there rely heavily on the help that comes to them from this worldwide collection. This year, since measures to prevent the spread of the coronavirus prohibit gatherings in our churches, the traditional Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land has been postponed to next Sunday, September 13.

The Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land in America is part of a worldwide network of <u>Commissariats of the Holy Land</u> which function as bridges between the Holy Land and Christians all over the world. The Franciscan Monastery in Washington, D.C., coordinates this vital support for the work of the Franciscans who work in the Holy Land.

The Franciscans of the Custody of the Holy Land have the unique responsibility to care for the Holy Places as well as for the "Living Stones," the Christians living there. It is vital that we support Christians living in the Holy Land, in order to maintain a Christian presence in the very land made holy by the life, death, and Resurrection of Jesus.

Faith, Memory & Culture – The Holy Places

Holy Land Franciscans staff and maintain the holy places and shrines. This enables those who live in the Holy Land and those who visit to deepen their faith and their spiritual and cultural connection to salvation history.

Social & Charitable Activities

In order to assist Christians to remain in the Holy Land, including the poor and young couples, the Custody builds thousands of residential units. Additionally, they build senior care facilities. Medical assistance is provided for the needy.

Educational & Scientific Activities

The Franciscans operate and support schools open to all, regardless of religion or nationality. They provide scholarships for young men to answer the call to become Franciscan priests and brothers. Additionally, Franciscan archaeologists pursue ongoing research at the Holy Places.

Pastoral Activities

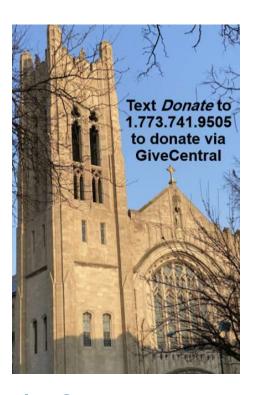
The Franciscans provide pastoral care in 29 parishes in the Holy Land offering worship, Christian formation, and necessary youth and family programs, especially in regions affected by war.

Liturgical, Ecumenical and Communications Programs

The Christian Media Center tells the story of the Holy Land through multimedia distributed throughout the world in more than seven languages. The friars organize liturgical celebrations for local Christians and pilgrims and share with other Christian communities in the Holy Land in ongoing ecumenical cooperation.

Please be as generous as you can!

Donate to the Commissariats of the Holy Land



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 <u>an online giving option via the Archdiocesan website</u>. 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 <u>our parish website</u> and donate from there.

Visit <u>smile.amazon.com</u> and select St Gertrude Parish as your charity of choice. From then on, connect to Amazon through <u>smile.amazon.com</u> 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



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, September 7: 1 Cor 5:1-8; Ps 5:5-7, 12; Lk 6:6-11, or, for Labor Day, any readings from the Mass "For the Blessings of Human Labor," nos. 907-911

Tuesday, September 8: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30; Ps 13:6; Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 [18-23]

Wednesday, September 9: 1 Cor 7:25-31; Ps 45:11-12, 14-17; Lk 6:20-26 **Thursday, September 10:** 1 Cor 8:1b-7, 11-13; Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 23-24; Lk 6:27-38

Friday, September 11: 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27; Ps 84:3-6, 12; Lk 6:39-42 Saturday, September 12: 1 Cor 10:14-22; Ps 116:12-13, 17-18; Lk 6:43-49 Sunday, September 13: Sir 27:30 — 28:7; Ps 103:1-4, 9-12; Rom 14:7-9; Mt 18:21-35

Rest in Peace

Dr. John Lindeman, uncle of Katie Huffman



Mass Intentions

Monday, September 7: 9:00 am - Helen Bayawa + & Brigido Bayawa +

Tuesday, September 8: 7:30 am - Bernice Juris +

Wednesday, September 9: 7:30 am - Living & deceased parents of St. Gertrude parishioners

Thursday, September 10: 7:30 am - Communion Service

Friday, September 11: 7:30 am - Fausto Barranco + & Evelyn Agaard + **Saturday, September 12:** 7:30 am - Purgatorial Society; 5:00 pm - Bart McKee +

Sunday, September 13: 8:00 am - Mary Nyderek +; 10:30 am - Francesco & Angela Emanuele +

(+ 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
- Lois DiFruscio
- Sara Fighter
- Mary Fitzgerald
- Lucia Hall
- Gina Heidkamp

- Maria Hertl
- Bernice Kiedysz
- Eva Kot
- Karey Myers
- Charley Scantlebury
- Richard Seitz
- Peggy Stoffel
- The Sullivan family
- Ruth Timmons
- Elinora E. Tolentino
- Norma E. Viray

Lyrics for September 6, 2020

All are Welcome by Marty Haugen

VERSE 1: Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live, A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.

Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;

Here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

REFRAIN: All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Psalm 95: If Today You Hear God's Voice by David Haas

If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts.

Love One Another, by Bob Dufford, S.J.

REFRAIN: Love one another as I have loved you. Care for each other. I have cared for you. Bear each other's burdens. Bind each other's wounds; And so you will know my return.

Ubi Caritas by Laurence Rosania

REFRAIN: Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est. Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.

VERSE 1: We gather together in the love of Christ; let each one be glad in him and rejoice. Our God is alive, the God of love is near; so love one another with a heart sincere. (to refrain)

VERSE 2: We, the many, become one body as the Spirit binds,

And we seek to be one in Christ and one in heart and mind.

Let all quarrels, all division, all our conflict cease;

Then will Christ truly dwell among us as our Lord of Peace. (to refrain)

VERSE 3: Then, joined with blessed, filled with hope and grace,

Dear Lord, in great glory may we see your face.

Our joy none can measure, joy that knows no end,

Resounding from endless age to age. Amen. (to refrain)

God of Our Fathers by George William Warren

God of Our fathers, whose almighty hand

Leads forth in beauty all the starry band.

Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies,

Our grateful songs before thy throne arise.

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