



APRIL 23, 2023

## The 3rd Sunday of Easter

# St. Gertrude Chicago

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**April 23, 2023**  
**Third Sunday of Easter**

## From Fr. Mike Gabriel

The Easter season is long, and rightfully so. For almost the next two months, we will continue to celebrate in a special way what we

commemorate every Sunday, a "little Easter".

The Easter season continues long after the demise of the last Easter flowers. All of this brings me to the challenge that we all face at this time of the year. How do we maintain Easter joy for almost two months? Right now, it's easy. A few Easter blooms remain, we continue to recall our Baptism with the Sprinkling Rite on some Sundays, and the presence of the Paschal Candle standing in our sanctuary.

But as the weeks go by, especially as we get busy with the annual events of First Communion, Mother's Day, our May Crowning, graduation, and planning for the start of summer, Easter can easily slide into the background.

When Pentecost finally arrives, it comes almost as a surprise, with Easter being a rather distant memory. So, here are just a few suggestions on how to keep the Easter spirit alive. Continue to be attentive to the Scriptures, particularly from the Acts of the Apostles. In Acts, we hear how the Jesus of Easter became a living reality in the lives of the earliest believers. We might also think back to the events of Holy Week, where we received Communion, gazed upon the cross, went to the tomb that Easter Sunday morning, and found it empty. The Lord of Easter is alive and dwelling in our midst!

I cannot say enough thank you to everyone who contributed to our Lenten and Easter season this year. To our Neophytes and our new Catholics who made the journey from ashes to Easter with us for the first time, you inspire us with your faith and persistence to get this moment in your life. We are delighted to have you.

Thanks to Eloy Escamilla and Patricia Sullivan who assisted the RCIA program. Thanks to the lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, and others for assisting in celebrating these Holiest of Days. And especially to all of you who joined us in prayer and who contributed so generously to our Easter collection.

Please mark your calendars for the Parish Council Town Hall on May 7th following the 10:30 am Mass in the Gym. After taking feedback from parishioners at listening sessions a few months ago, the PPC will unveil our strategic plan for St. Gertrude as we move forward.

## From Fr. Mike Gabriel (*continued*)

A few other things are happening around here. As I am writing this, we have finally come to the last day of the carpet work being done. The search committee for a new director of music will be meeting to go over some of the resumes that we received. The youth group is working on the summer's Youth Mission Experience. And I have been interviewing a few other priests to come minister with us here at St. Gertrude's.

Have a great week!

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## Parish Calendar of Events

### Sunday, April 23

- Care for Real Food & Supply Drive in church before/after Masses

### Saturday, April 29

- 7:00 pm - El Pueblo Canta concert at North Shore Baptist Church, 5244 N. Lakewood (in-person and live-streamed)
- 7:30 pm - "Sing Me a Story" Edgewater Singers Concert at Unity Lutheran Church, 1212 W. Balmoral

### Sunday, May 7

- Town Hall in the Gym after the 10:30 am Masses

### Monday, May 8

- 7:00 pm - Book club in the Ministry Center

### Friday, May 12

- 6:30 pm in church - Rehearsal for the Sacrament of Communion

### Saturday, May 13

- 10:00 am in church - Sacrament of Communion

### Sunday, May 14

- 10:30 am Mass - May Crowning

### July 10-14

- Youth group Mission Experience

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## Easter Flower Offering Envelopes

We are offering an opportunity to celebrate someone in your life, living or deceased, during the Easter season.

Please consider making an Easter Flower offering in their name. Envelopes are available in the back of the Church and may be placed in the collection basket or sent to Rectory.

### In Memory of/Individual who Honored Them

- Jon Anderson ~ *Pamela Sherrod Anderson*
- Lilder & Albert Sherrod ~ *Pamela Sherrod Anderson*
- Randy, Lydia & Manuel Cruz ~ *Monica T. Cruz*
- Ma'Araceli Frias ~ *Nona T. Frias*
- Gonzalo & Sulecia Frias ~ *Nona T. Frias*
- Theresa McMahan ~ *Joe McMahan*
- Deceased member of Slane family ~ *Millie Slane*
- Mother and Father ~ *Efrain Cortes*
- Mary Ellen Mellon ~ *Jo Anne Joyce*
- Mary Pat Ross ~ *Steve & Anne Hasselbeck*
- Deceased of the Laczkowski & Glotkowski families ~ *Jean L. Laczkowski*





## This Weekend: Care for Real Food & Supply Drive in Church

This weekend, we are hosting our monthly collection drive for Care for Real.

If you were unable to bring non-perishable goods or personal hygiene items to donate, it's not too late!

You can make a donation online to Care for Real, help with their Amazon Wish list or Chewy Wish List (for pet food), or drop-off your donation at their facility.

Information about all of these options can be found here: <https://careforreal.org/wishlist/>.

## Immigrant Social Justice Concert Planned for Saturday, April 29

The Refugee Ministry will again sponsor *El Pueblo Canta*. This is an immigrant justice benefit concert on Saturday, April 29 at North Shore Baptist Church, 5244 N. Lakewood Ave, with both in person and live-stream options.

Doors open at 5:30 pm, with the concert and live-stream held from 7:00-8:30 pm. Traditional Latino and Middle Eastern food will be available for purchase.

Tickets are \$25 for general admission and \$15 for students and those on a limited income. Children under 12 are free. Visit [crln.org/2023-el-pueblo-canta/](http://crln.org/2023-el-pueblo-canta/) for more information and tickets.



### Sign Up for Emails from St. Gertrude Parish!

If you would like to receive the weekly bulletin, daily reflections, or notices about parish activities via email, or your email address has changed, please let us know!

Send an email to [news@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:news@stgertrudechicago.org) and specify if you would prefer just the weekly bulletin, distributed on Thursday afternoons, or our daily prayer/reflection with notices about upcoming parish events.

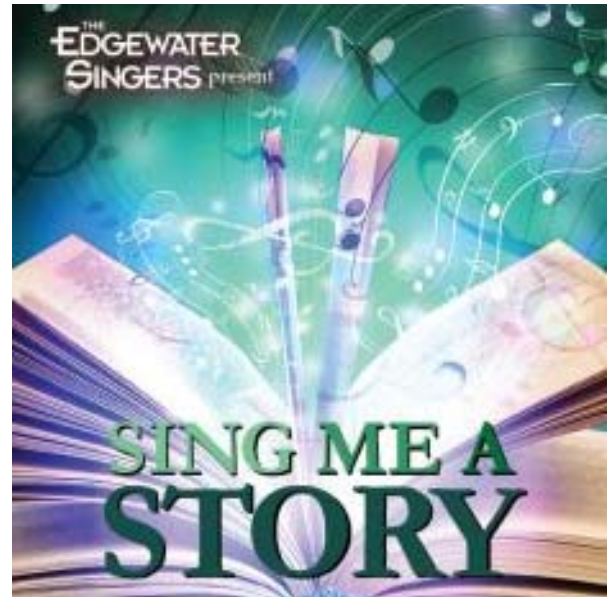
Thank you!

## Edgewater Singers Concert "Sing Me a Story" is Next Saturday, April 29

Let's lighten it up! The past few years have strained everyone's good humor. The Edgewater Singers would like to sing you a story or two and offer some happy endings, some humor, and of course, some love.

Their spring concert is planned for Saturday, April 29 at 7:30 pm. The event will be held at Unity Lutheran Church, 1212 W. Balmoral.

The program will include offerings from musical theater, a salute to Shakespeare and much more. Admission is free; there will be a free will offering at the event.



## Parish Pastoral Council: Town Hall Planned for May 7

The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) will host another town hall on Sunday, May 7 to discuss parish plans. It will be held immediately after the 10:30 am Mass in the Gym.

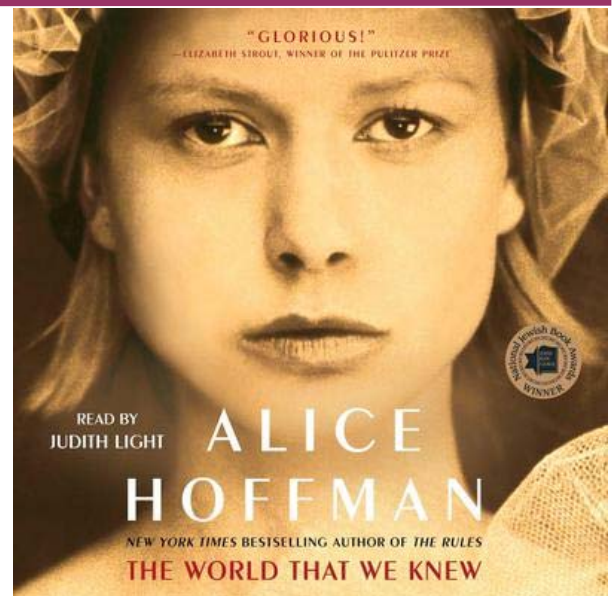
All are welcome to attend!. If you have questions, please email [stgertrudeparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:stgertrudeparishcouncil@gmail.com).



## Book Club: Next Meeting is Monday, May 8

All are welcome to attend the next book club gathering on Monday, May 8! We will meet in the Ministry Center that evening at 7:00 pm and will discuss *The World That We Knew: A Novel* by Alice Hoffman. We would love new voices and opinions.

Contact Lea Cloninger at 773.973.2465 or Sue Benjamin at 773.551.8401 with questions. The gathering may be virtual if the weather is stormy.





## First Communion Information

Families of students making their First Communion at St. Gertrude this spring should keep the following dates in mind:

- Friday, May 12 at 6:30 pm in church - Rehearsal for the Sacrament of Communion
- Saturday, May 13 at 10:00 am in church - Sacrament of Communion
- Sunday, May 14 at 10:30 am Mass - May Crowning (Students who made their First Communion on Saturday, May 6 are

invited to attend the 10:30 am Mass in church wearing their First Communion outfits.)

If you have questions, please contact Eloy Escamilla at [eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org).

## Registration for 2023 Wildcat Summer Camp is Now Open!

Wildcat Camp strives to provide a safe, engaging experience with a variety of recreational, educational, athletic, and fine arts programs at an affordable price!

Join us for:

- Arts & Crafts
- Snacks
- Sports
- Field Trips
- and MUCH MORE!

Prices:

- \$250/week for campers who registers/attends 4 or more weeks; \$200/week for each sibling.
- \$290/week for campers who registers for less than 4 weeks; \$240/week for each sibling.

For more information, visit [www.northsidecatholic.org](http://www.northsidecatholic.org) or call 773.743.6277. The 2023 Wildcat Summer Camp Flyer is be seen at <https://bit.ly/WildcatSummerCamp>.

We look forward to seeing you this summer!

**WILDCAT SUMMER CAMP 2023**  
JUNE 19 - AUGUST 4  
*Park Explorers!*  
Theme Oriented:  
Arts & Crafts  
Snacks  
Sports  
Field Trips  
and Much More!

NORTHSIDE CATHOLIC ACADEMY



## This Summer: St. Gertrude's Youth Group Mission Experience

Attention teens in sixth grade through high school! This summer, from July 10-14, the parish youth group will volunteer with a different Chicagoland organization each day.

This is an excellent opportunity to have fun and earn volunteer hours!

There is a \$100 fee for the week. A \$50 deposit is required at the time of registration. Please note that there are scholarships available!

All participants will receive a t-shirt, water bottle, and a sports drawstring backpack.

To reserve a spot or to get more information, contact Eloy Escamilla at [eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org). Please register before Saturday, May 28.

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## Financial Report from Easter Sunday, April 16

Sunday Collection Envelopes: \$1,624.00  
Loose Checks: \$405.00  
Loose Cash/Coins: \$752.33  
Online Donations: \$4,699.04  
Easter: \$638.00  
**Total Collected: \$8,118.37**

Budgeted: \$10,730.00  
**Difference: -\$2,611.63**

Year-to-date Collected: \$396,453.06  
Year-to-date Budgeted: \$558,000.00  
**Difference: -\$161,546.94**



## Donate to our Parish

Parishioners can donate to St. Gertrude in various ways:

- Text the word *Donate* to 1.773.741.9505.
- PayPal link - visit our parish website at [www.stgertrudechicago.org](http://www.stgertrudechicago.org)
- GiveCentral: [www.givecentral.org/location/8/allevants](http://www.givecentral.org/location/8/allevants)

Questions? Please reach out to Eduardo Soto, St. Gertrude's business manager, via email [esoto@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:esoto@stgertrudechicago.org) for additional information.



## Thank You from the Peace & Justice Ministry!

What a blessing this Lent has been to so many! The Peace and Justice Ministry would like to thank you for participating in various Lenten practices.

The Almoner program collected close to \$8,000, and during Lent, we gave out over \$7,640 in gift cards to those who were in need. The true blessing came to those passing out the gift cards, meeting and learning more about the challenges so many on the street experience.

To all those who distributed the cards, to those who donated so generously, and to those who prayed especially for the hungry and homeless, thank you. Any remaining money will be used to purchase cards to be given to Care for Real or to people who come to social services in need.

Along with the Almoners program, thank you to the many who participated in the anti-racism discussion groups. We learned that every day, each one of us can and should stand up against racial prejudices and disrespectful attitudes towards others.

It wasn't always an easy conversation to have, but ones that were and are greatly needed. We are planning on further discussions and actions that we as a parish can participate in to reduce the impact of the racism that exists in homes and our society.

Let us build a world beyond racism and discrimination where we all can recognize each other sisters and brothers in Christ.

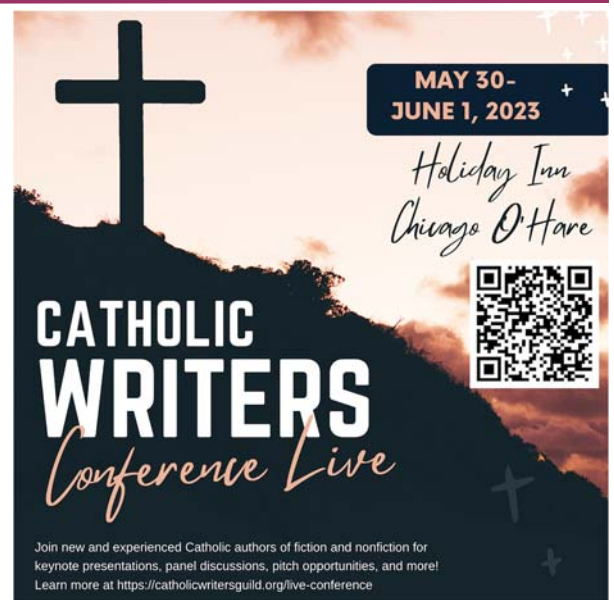
~ Fr. Mike Gabriel

## Catholic Writers Conference

Interested in writing Catholic fiction or nonfiction? Join other Catholic authors at the Catholic Writers Conference Live at the Holiday Inn Chicago O'Hare May 30-June 1, 2023.

Attendees will be treated to presentations and panel discussions by top Catholic authors and editors. Experienced authors will meet with small groups for mentoring. Attendees can also sign up to pitch their book idea to a Catholic publisher or literary agent.

For more information, please visit <http://www.catholicwritersguild.org/live-conference>.



**Visit our Parish Website!** For the latest information about upcoming events, Mass times, staff emails, bulletins, office hours, recent rest in peace notices, and more, please visit St. Gertrude's website at [www.stgertrudechicago.org](http://www.stgertrudechicago.org)!

## Growing in Faith

Broad Street. Bridge Avenue. Swope Parkway.  
Sunset Boulevard. Martin Luther King Drive.  
Via Veneto. Rue de Christophe. La Reforma.  
Route 66. Interstate 80. Pan American Highway.  
Sheridan Road. Loyola Avenue. Clark Street.  
These are some of the long and winding roads I've taken.

This I learned: All roads lead to Emmaus.  
Without Google Search or GPS,  
All roads lead to Emmaus.

This I also learned: "I go before you always."  
God has already gone to Emmaus.  
God is there, waiting to show you another wonder  
Or your next assignment.

This I also learned: Wherever I go, there I am.  
There I am: still near-sighted, far-sighted or blind.  
There I am: still near-hearted, far-hearted or slow hearted.  
There I am: still worried, tired and scared.

All roads lead to Emmaus.  
Go as you are.  
God has gone there before you,  
Already there. Waiting.

~ Maggie Roche



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## NCA Looking for Feedback on Candidates for Their Leadership Team

Northside Catholic Academy is recruiting for an Executive Director and a Principal to lead the school.

Bishop Bartosic has formed a team of stakeholders to interview prospective candidates for the open leadership positions.

The Leadership Transition Committee (LTC) is excited to start meeting with prospective candidates and wanted to give a formal introduction to who we are and our approach to this important work. Visit <https://bit.ly/NCA-LTC> see an outline of the mission of the LTC and who we are.

We also want to hear from you! Visit <https://bit.ly/NCALeadershipSurvey> for a survey where you can provide feedback on the types of candidates you think will best fit the needs of NCA. Also in the survey you can indicate your interest in a group listening session, an opportunity for the LTC to hear directly from you.

NCA has many stakeholders and we want to make sure everyone is heard throughout this process.

Please keep the LTC in your prayers as we move forward.



# Heart to Heart Durable Medical Equipment Lending Closet Report

There is never a dull moment at the Heart to Heart Durable Medical Equipment Lending Closet. Located in St. Gertrude's Ministry Center, we field calls from all over Chicagoland.

Family caregivers, home health aides, physical and occupational therapists, Blue Cross/Blue Shield caseworkers, social workers from CHA senior housing, Stroger Hospital, Rush University Medical Center, Mercy Housing, Thresholds, and The Night Ministry are among the many people reaching out to us.

Recently, we assisted a man recovering from gunshot wounds. Thanks to the generous assistance of parishioner Beth Nelson, a brand-new walker was delivered to Shirley Ryan Ability Lab for this patient.

As many calls as we get asking for help, we get an equal amount offering donations. Wheelchairs, transport chairs, rollators, standard walkers, knee scooters, canes, crutches, shower chairs, tub transfer benches, commodes, toilet seat risers, toilet safety rails, ice machines, sleep apnea machines, assorted medical supplies and incontinence supplies all find a way to us. Because of this ongoing generosity -- by parishioners, community members and local organizations -- we are able to assist the many people seeking our services. We are grateful to parishioner Linda Jeffers who handles all our donation acknowledgement letters. Thank you one and all!

*~ Laurie Hasbrook, Heart to Heart Medical Equipment Lending Closet Manager*



## Altar Servers, Cantors, Musicians, Ministers of the Word, & Eucharistic Ministers for This Weekend

### Ministers of the Word:

- Saturday, April 22 at 5:00 pm - Jennifer Kiedaisch, Millie Slane
- Sunday, April 23 at 8:00 am - Rob Sierzega, Kathryn Stimac
- Sunday, April 23 at 10:30 am - Rose Karasti, Steven Monti

### Altar Servers:

- Sunday, April 23 at 10:30 am - cross bearer - Katie Dunning; acolytes - Dominic Millar, Carter Dant

### Eucharistic Ministers:

- Saturday, April 22 at 5:00 pm - Mary Cook
- Sunday, April 23 at 8:00 am - Barb Daly
- Sunday, April 23 at 10:30 am - Annie Hasselbeck, Stephen Hasselbeck, Ray Sousa

### Cantors & Musicians:

- Saturday, April 22 at 5:00 pm - Bernie O'Connor
- Sunday, April 23 at 8:00 am - Jon Blake
- Sunday, April 23 at 10:30 am - Kate Hibbs Davis

## Mass Intentions

- Monday, April 24: 7:30 am - Antoniette G. Linke +
- Tuesday, April 25: 7:30 am - Living & deceased Torreano family members; 8:30 am NCA Mass
- Wednesday, April 26: 7:30 am - Purgatorial Society
- Thursday, April 27: 7:30 am - Communion Service
- Friday, April 28: 7:30 am - Living & deceased parents of St. Gertrude parishioners
- Saturday, April 29: 7:30 am - Living & deceased Torreano family members; 5:00 pm - Hal Mann +, Dave Pobkete +
- Sunday, April 30: 8:00 am - Phyllis Myers +; 10:30 am – Hermino Santos +; 10:30 am Gym Mass - Jay Einhorn +

## Mass Times/Reconciliation/Rector Office Hours

- Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:30 am in Church, 10:30 am Gym Mass; Monday-Friday: 7:30 am (Thursday is a Communion Service.); Saturday: 7:30 am & 5:00 pm
- Reconciliation is offered on Saturday from 4:15-4:45 pm in Church or by appointment by calling the Rectory at 773.764.3621.
- The Rectory office is open Monday-Friday from 8:30 am-4:30 pm and Saturday from 9:00 am - 2:30 pm.
- For the most up-to-date information, visit [stgertrudechicago.org](http://stgertrudechicago.org).

## Please Pray for our Parishioners and Friends

- |                    |                     |                        |
|--------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| • Zara Bradley     | • Maria Hertl       | • Elinora E. Tolentino |
| • Lilly Buie       | • Bernice Kiedysz   | • Manuel & Norma Viray |
| • Aida Calvopina   | • Marilyn Klein     | • Leon Ward            |
| • Claire Conley    | • Patricia Meade    | • Tammy Wielgosz       |
| • Ann Collins Dole | • Janet McCulley    | • Janice Wittenberg    |
| • Luke Fitzgerald  | • Karey Myers       | • Yyes Yoza            |
| • Fr. Dom Grassi   | • Richard Seitz     |                        |
| • Gina Heidkamp    | • Bernadette Stanis |                        |

Contact the Rectory office at 773.764.3621 or email [stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org) if you would like to add a name to the prayer list.

## Parish Staff and Contact Info

Rev. Michael Gabriel, Parish Administrator—[mgabriel@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:mgabriel@stgertrudechicago.org)  
Mary Clare Barker, Minister of Music—[mcbarker@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:mcbarker@stgertrudechicago.org)  
Eloy Escamilla, Pastoral Associate—[eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org)  
Rectory Office Manager—[stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org)  
Laurie Hasbrook, Heart to Heart Lending Closet Manager—[lhasbrook@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:lhasbrook@stgertrudechicago.org)  
Andy Mueller, Parish Buildings Engineer—[stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org)  
Tracy Shields, Communications Director—[stgerbulletin@yahoo.com](mailto:stgerbulletin@yahoo.com)  
Eduardo Soto, Director of Parish Management—[esoto@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:esoto@stgertrudechicago.org)  
Patricia Sullivan, Heart to Heart Director—[psullivan@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:psullivan@stgertrudechicago.org)