

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

## St. Gertrude Chicago

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Chicago, IL 60660  
773.764.3621

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[www.stgertrudechicago.org](http://www.stgertrudechicago.org)

## Bulletin for Sunday, April 26, 2026 Fourth Sunday of Easter

### Good Shepherd Sunday

On this Fourth Sunday of Easter, often called Good Shepherd Sunday, the Gospel invites us to reflect on Jesus as the shepherd who knows each sheep and calls each one by name.

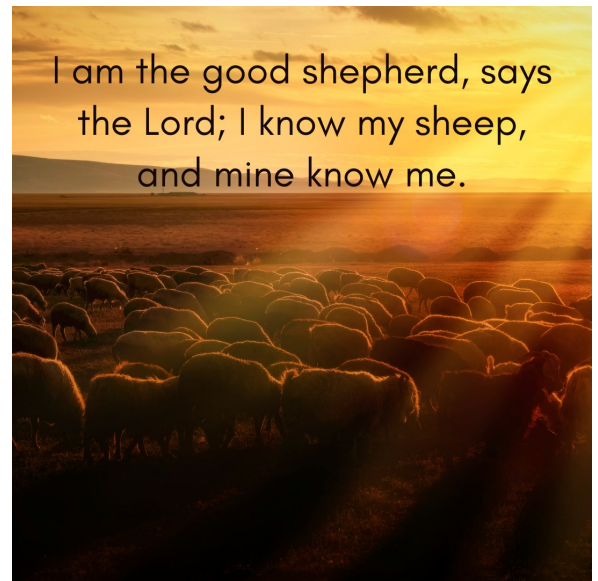
In a world filled with noise and distraction, this image is both comforting and challenging. The Good Shepherd does not lead from a distance but walks with the flock, guiding, protecting, and seeking out those who are lost. The shepherd's voice is steady and trustworthy, but it requires attentive hearts to hear it.

We are reminded that being part of Christ's flock is not passive. To recognize the Shepherd's voice, we must cultivate a relationship with Jesus through prayer, Scripture, and the life of the Church. When we listen deeply, we begin to discern that guidance in daily life—often in quiet, unexpected ways. The promise of the Good Shepherd is not a life free from difficulty, but one rooted in the assurance that we are not alone.

This Sunday also invites us to reflect the love of the Good Shepherd in our own lives. Each person is called to care for others—to accompany, encourage, and stand with those in need. In doing so, we become instruments of Christ's compassion, helping others recognize that presence and hear that voice.

### World Day of Prayer for Vocations

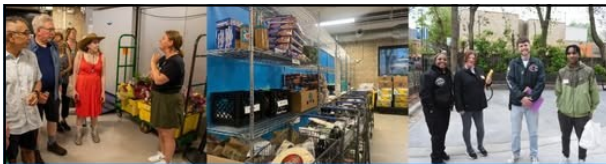
Today is also the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. We pray for young men and women to hear and respond generously to the Lord's call to the priesthood, diaconate, religious life, societies of apostolic life, and secular institutes. May God stir hearts and raise up joyful witnesses to serve with love and dedication.



I am the good shepherd, says  
the Lord; I know my sheep,  
and mine know me.

# Parish Events & Activities

*(Listed in chronological order)*



## Help Us Meet the Need Today!



## Care for Real Collection is This Weekend and Next Weekend

Thank you to everyone who participated in this weekend's collection for Care for Real. Your generosity makes a meaningful difference in the lives of our neighbors. Our next collection drive is scheduled for May 2–3, and we hope you'll consider taking part again.

Federal programs like SNAP play a vital role in reducing food insecurity across the country. However, recent changes to eligibility requirements are creating new challenges for many individuals and families. Seniors, immigrants, refugees, asylum-seekers, and survivors of domestic violence may be

especially impacted. Updated rules requiring 80 hours per month of work or volunteer service—along with reporting those hours—can be difficult to meet, putting essential food assistance at risk.

Because of these changes, Care for Real expects an increased demand for food and basic necessities in the coming months. Community support will be more important than ever in helping meet this growing need.

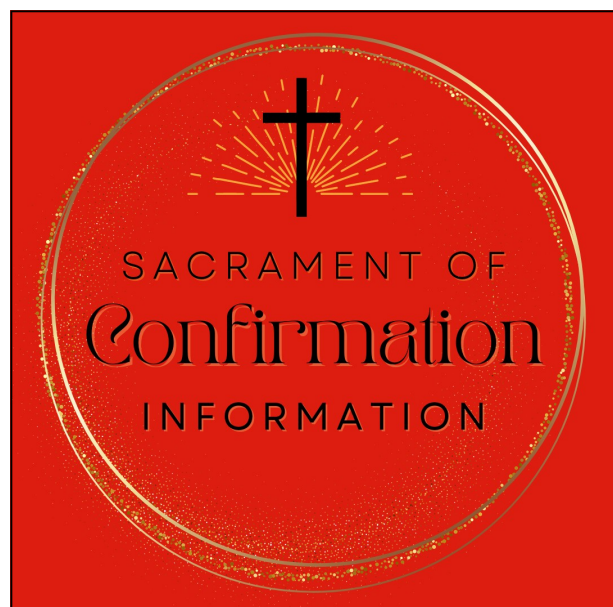
To learn more about how you can help, view current needs, or make a donation, visit <https://linktr.ee/cfrchicago> or follow Care for Real on Facebook and Instagram.

We are deeply thankful for your ongoing support and compassion as we work together to

## Confirmation Information: Second Retreat is This Thursday, April 30

There is a second Confirmation Retreat planned on Thursday, April 30 for students that made their Confirmation earlier this year. It will be in the Social Hall, 1401 W. Granville Avenue, from 6:00-8:00 pm.

Questions? Contact Eloy Escamilla at [eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org). If you or someone you know would like to receive Communion at home, please contact Sr. Susan at [squaintance@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:squaintance@stgertrudechicago.org).



## Join Us for the Rosary at St. Gerts

### Guadalupanos Rosary Group (Grupo del Rosario de Guadalupanos) on Friday Evenings

All are welcome to attend the bilingual weekly Rosary group held on Friday evenings at 7:00 pm in the dining room of the Ministry Center, located at 6214 North Glenwood Avenue.

### Recitation of the Holy Rosary after 7:30 am Mass

Additionally, the Rosary is said every Monday through Friday in the church right after the 7:30 am mass. Please consider joining us in church—we would love to have you!



## Coalition for Spiritual and Public Leadership (CSPL) Meeting Planned for Saturday, May 2; Northside Catholic Community Protection Training on Saturday, May 16

St. Gertrude is a member of CSPL, the faith-based organization that organized the recent People's Mass and Eucharistic Procession to the Broadview Detention Center.

Come together with other parishioners on Saturday, May 2 from 1:30-3:00 pm in the Ministry Center to build community and discuss how to help advance our parish's commitments to social justice, human concerns and faith formation through our participation in CSPL.

All are welcome!

On Saturday, May 16, please consider attending the Northside Catholic Community Protection Training from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm. St. Gertrude Parish, in partnership with St. John XXIII Parish and Loyola University Chicago, will host this event to help community members better support immigrant neighbors. The session will take place at St. Nicholas Church, located at 806 Ridge Ave, Evanston.



# Parent Info: First Communion Is Saturday, May 9—Here's What You Need to Know

First Communion is approaching, and families with students celebrating this sacrament need to know/do several things before this important event takes place.

## Forms and Fees

Some parents have not sent in their child's [Sacramental Request Form](#). Please fill it out and send it to me at [eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org).

If you have not paid the [registration fee for the 2025-2026 catechetical year](#), this is the time to do it. Please note that there is a [sacramental fee](#) as well. All payments can be done by check or online.

**All of these forms and links can be found on our website at [stgertrudechicago.org/religious-education](http://stgertrudechicago.org/religious-education).**

## Schedule

- On Friday, May 8, there will be a First Communion practice in church at 6:30 pm. Please be on time.
- Our parish's First Communion Mass is Saturday, May 9 at 10:00 am. No photos are allowed before and/or during mass, but rather after the service.

## Attire

The attire for First Communion is simple, age-appropriate, and should not distract from the focus of receiving the Sacrament.

- Boys typically wear a suit of any color, or slacks and dress shirt.
- Girls usually wear white dresses, but any color can be worn. Veils are optional, but should not block the child's face. Gloves can be worn, but not while receiving Holy Communion.
- While sitting in the pew (and especially when going up for Communion) children should not hold bibles, rosaries, flowers, etc.

Questions should be directed to [eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org).

~ Eloy Escamilla, Pastoral Associate

## Financial Report for April 18-19

Sunday Collection Envelopes: \$1,641.00	Budgeted: \$10,000.00
Loose Checks: \$240.00	Difference: \$1,109.30
Loose Cash/Coins: \$991.00	YTD Collected FY 2026 : \$440,886.27
Online Donations: \$8,237.30	YTD Budgeted FY 2026: \$550,000.00
Total Collected: \$11,109.30	Difference: -\$109,113.73

## Catholic Charities Mother's Day Appeal and Second Collection is May 9-10

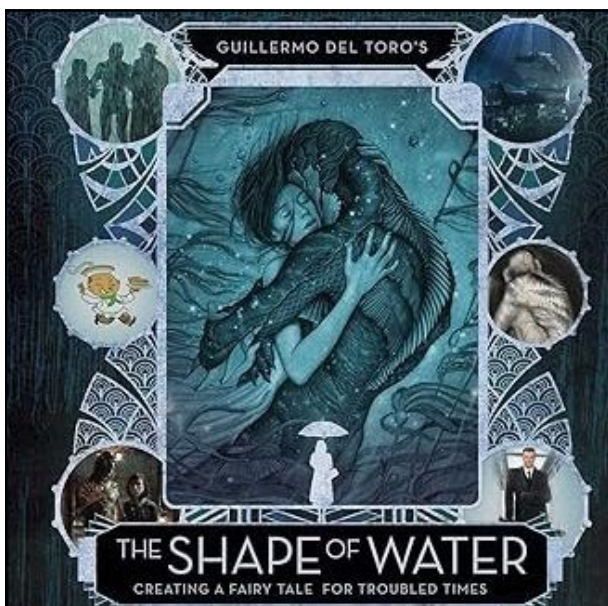
Over 60,000 moms in need come to us each year. At Catholic Charities we provide vital services like food, housing, and diapers for families throughout Cook and Lake counties. Offering support at a critical moment often changes the course of a mom's life. Your gift this Mother's Day gives hope to moms who need it most.

Read about Marisol\*, a mother who turned to Catholic Charities for help: Marisol had always worked hard to care for her daughter. But as prices continued to rise for rent, groceries, and utilities, the mounting financial pressure became almost too difficult to manage. When Marisol turned to Catholic Charities, she found compassionate support at a moment when she needed it most. With financial help meeting urgent needs and guidance towards greater stability, she was able to regain her footing and move from surviving to thriving.

"Every month felt like I was barely holding on. I was exhausted...Catholic Charities helped lift that weight."

Please support the Second Collection on Mother's Day, May 10 or anytime at [catholiccharities.net/mothers](https://catholiccharities.net/mothers)

*\*Name changed to protect privacy*



## Book Club is Tuesday, May 12

Join us for a discussion of *The Shape of Water* by Guillermo del Toro & Daniel Kraus at 6:30 pm at the Ministry Center, 6214 W. Glenwood. New participants are always welcome!

For questions, contact Lea Cloninger (773.213.0509) or Sue Benjamin (773.551.8401).



## Friendship Club is Thursday, May 14

The St. Gertrude Women's Friendship Club meets monthly on the second Thursday of every month in the Ministry Center, 6216 North Glenwood Avenue.

The gathering begins at 11:30 am, and attendees should bring their own (brown bag) lunch.

## St. Gertrude Youth Mission Experience

We're grateful to share that our summer Youth Mission Experience is now full. Thank you to all who registered and helped bring this vibrant expression of our parish community to life.

From June 22–26, parish teens entering seventh grade through high school will serve with organizations across Chicagoland while growing in faith, friendship, and community.

Please pray for the teens as they prepare to volunteer with organizations across Chicagoland, spend time together, and earn service hours as they deepen their connection to one another and to their faith.



## Parish News



## In Need of Communion? Our Ministers of Care Can Help

For those who are unable to attend Mass regularly, our Ministers of Care offer a meaningful connection to parish life. These specially trained parishioners bring Holy Communion along with the prayers and presence of our community to those who are home-bound or ill. If you or someone you know would like to receive Communion at home, please contact Sr. Susan at [squaintance@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:squaintance@stgertrudechicago.org).

## Growing in Faith

*"I am the gate!" — John 10:15*

Some years ago, a friend returning from a trip to Israel told me about spending a day with a shepherd. In preparation for the night, the shepherd made a kind of corral for the sheep, but he left the entrance open—without a door!

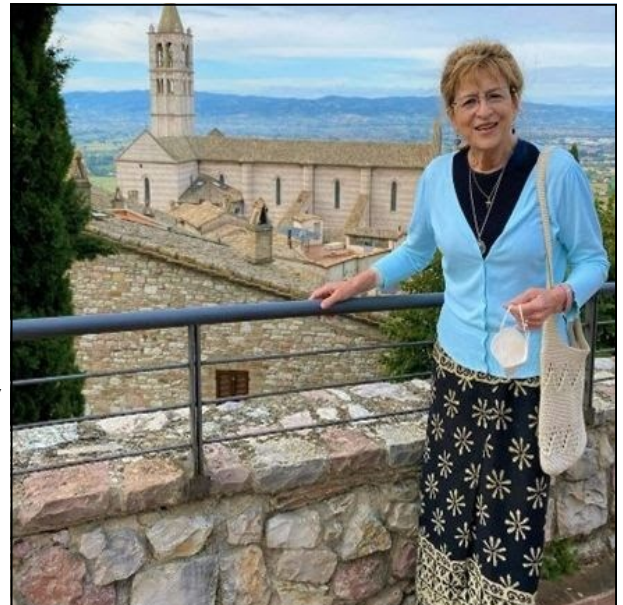
When my friend asked about what looked like a very important missing item, the shepherd smiled and said, "I am the door! I'll sleep right here. The sheep will be safe."

In today's Gospel, Jesus says precisely that: "Amen, amen, I say to you... I am the gate... I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

These days, our social media offers a wide swath of responses to world and local news. Which attitude is wisest? In this image, Jesus presents himself as the entrance to our hearts and minds. He tells the Pharisees, "My sheep hear my voice." In fact, sheep do hear and trust only their shepherd. (I hope you can access this short video I found: <https://bit.ly/GIFshepherdsvoice>)

With the world in so much turmoil, and in the face of so many divisions, Jesus' desire is that in God "there will be one flock and one shepherd" (v. 16).

~ Sister Wendy Cotter, CSJ, Ph.D.



### Meet the 'Cats!

9:00 – 10:30 AM



WEDNESDAY APRIL 15  
THURSDAY MAY 7

Learn more about the upcoming 2026-27 school year at **Northside Catholic Academy** with coffee and conversation. All families and students welcome to attend.

**RSVP at [northsidecatholic.org](https://northsidecatholic.org)**

## Curious About the 'Cats? Come Visit on May 7

Thinking about a school for your family for next year? Join us for coffee and conversation and enjoy a relaxed morning on May 7 where interested families can meet current parents, talk with school leadership, and learn what makes NCA such a special place.

Children are welcome! While parents connect and learn more about the school, students can enjoy a playdate and student-led tour with our NCA ambassadors.

Please RSVP on our website: <https://www.northsidecatholic.org/admissions/meet-the-cats.cfm>

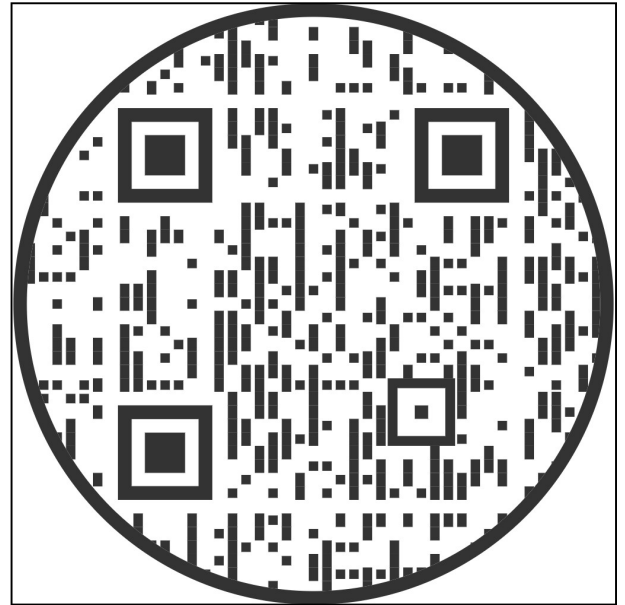
## Parish Directory Update & Orders Available Until May 31

We are finalizing our parish directory! If you did not have your photo taken, we invite you to update your household information to ensure your details are included.

Forms are available at the back of the church, or you may submit your information using the QR code or at <https://bit.ly/StGertsDirectoryUpdateForm>.

If you had your photo taken, a complimentary directory will be provided. For those who did not have a photo taken, you may still purchase a copy of the directory using the same form or online options.

Thank you for helping us create an accurate and complete parish directory!



## Easter Flower Offering Envelopes

- ***In Memory of The Strubbe & Galoney Families from Marie Galoney***
- ***In Honor and Memory of Sr. Maggie McGinn B.V.M. from Marilyn Klein***
- ***In Memory of Lilder and Albert Sherrod from Pamela Sherrod Anderson***
- ***In Memory of Jon Anderson from Pamela Sherrod Anderson***
- ***In Memory of Billy Tobin from Dorothea and Mike Tobin***

- ***Ricardo Binalber***
- ***In Memory of Maria José Ferreira de Souza from Ana Ward***
- ***In Memory of Mr. and Mrs. A. Escara***
- ***In Memory of Warren Meintz from Jacalyn Meier***
- ***In Memory of Jeanette Cordero by Cristina Cordero***

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. The names of those honored will be published in the bulletin during the Easter season.

## Parish Info

### Rest in Peace

- Sister Margaret A. McGinn, BVM

## Schedule for Ministers of the Word, Eucharistic Ministers, & Altar Servers

### Ministers of the Word

- Saturday, April 25 at 8:00 pm - Christine Lincoln, Art Lyons
- Sunday, April 26 at 8:00 am - Jacalyn Meier, Hallie Burhoe
- Sunday, April 26 at 10:30 am - Eric Ameyaw, Theo Fletcher

### Eucharistic Ministers

- Saturday, April 25 at 8:00 pm - Millie Slane
- Sunday, April 26 at 8:00 am - Anthony Myers
- Sunday, April 26 at 10:30 am - Michael Kowalsky, Lisa Scheneider, Troy McMillan

### Altar Servers

- Saturday, April 25 at 8:00 pm - cross bearer: Esteban Campuzano
- Sunday, April 26 at 10:30 am - cross bearer: Carter Dant; acolytes: Jayson Ameyaw, Mathios Paulos

## Please Pray for our Parishioners and Friends

- |                           |                         |                        |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| • Victor Ayes             | • Maria Hertl           | • Joan Ross            |
| • Carlos Barragan         | • Patricia White Holmes | • Rosa Ott Sandoval    |
| • Patrick Barton          | • Gertrude Huisman      | • Willy Spalla         |
| • Zara Bradley            | • Tony Hunter           | • Floret Spalle        |
| • Maggie Callahan         | • John Kahoun           | • Mary Pierce Spalla   |
| • Aida Calvopina          | • Mary E. Kelley        | • Frannie Swaine       |
| • Terrence Carmichael     | • Marilyn Klein         | • Marie Tarallo        |
| • Kathy Catrambone        | • Jim Laczkowski        | • Christopher Thomas   |
| • Cavicke Family          | • Joseph Lambin         | • Elinora E. Tolentino |
| • Mary DeBois             | • Carleen Lorys         | • Joe Touchstone       |
| • David Denegas           | • River Malik           | • Manuel & Norma Viray |
| • Ann Collins Dole        | • James Mann            | • Tayana Wallace       |
| • Renee Elhoumaidi        | • Alex Marks            | • King Wallace         |
| • Mr. and Mrs. Emin Euman | • Theresa McMahan       | • Christian Wallace    |
| • Luke Fitzgerald         | • Nancy Michael         | • Kevin Walsh          |
| • Adolf Gabriel           | • Steve Monti           | • Leon Ward            |
| • Marie Galoney           | • Hilda Mora            | • Janice Wittenberg    |
| • Thomas Hajduch          | • Patti Paul            | • Dawn Wyman           |
| • Anne Marie Hamde        | • Dealina Peon          | • Yyes Yoza            |
| • Rochelle Hernandez      | • Claude Poulsen        | • Joel Pozzi Zio       |
| • Tricia Hernandez        | • Delphine Richert      |                        |

## Upcoming Mass Intentions

- Monday, April 27: 7:30 am - Communion Service
- Tuesday, April 28: 7:30 am - For the sick, dying, suffering, poor, & those who care for them
- Wednesday, April 29: 7:30 am - Deceased parents of St. Gertrude parishioners
- Thursday, April 30: 7:30 am - For priests in crisis
- Friday, May 1: 7:30 am - Eric Vaughn+
- Saturday, May 2: 5:00 pm - Holy Souls in Purgatory
- Sunday, May 3: 8:00 am - Pervis Joseph Balthazar+; 10:30 am - Blanche Thomas+; 10:30 am Gym Mass - People of St. Gertrude

## Mass Times/Rector Office Hours/Reconciliation

- Sunday: 8:00 & 10:30 am Mass in Church, 10:30 am Gym Mass; Monday-Friday: 7:30 am (Monday is a Communion service); Saturday: 5:00 pm; The office is open Monday-Friday from 8:30 am-4:30 pm and is closed on weekends.
- Reconciliation is offered on Saturdays from 4:15-4:45 pm in church or by appointment by calling the Rectory at 773.764.3621.

## Parish Staff and Contact Info

Rev. Sergio Romo, Pastor—[sromo@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:sromo@stgertrudechicago.org)

Patricia Branigan, Events/Room Booking Contact—[pbranigan@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:pbranigan@stgertrudechicago.org)

Janie Carrillo, Parish Secretary—[jcarrillo@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:jcarrillo@stgertrudechicago.org)

Eloy Escamilla, Pastoral Associate—[eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org)

Jonathan Hannau, Music Director—[jhannau@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:jhannau@stgertrudechicago.org)

Laurie Hasbrook, Heart to Heart Lending Closet Manager—call 773.973.5464

Sr. Susan Quaintance, OSB, Heart to Heart Director—[squaintance@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:squaintance@stgertrudechicago.org)

Tracy Shields, Communications Director—[tshields@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:tshields@stgertrudechicago.org)

Eduardo Soto, Director of Parish Management—[esoto@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:esoto@stgertrudechicago.org)

## Heart to Heart/Lending Closet Contact Info

To reach our Heart to Heart director, Sr. Susan Quaintance, OSB, call her at 872.296.2537 or email her at [squaintance@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:squaintance@stgertrudechicago.org). To reach Laurie Hasbrook, our Lending Closet manager, please call 773.973.5464.

## Contact the Parish Pastoral Council

The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) can be reached at [stgertrudeparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:stgertrudeparishcouncil@gmail.com).

## Donate to our Parish

- PayPal link - visit our parish website at [www.stgertrudechicago.org](http://www.stgertrudechicago.org)
- GiveCentral: [www.givecentral.org/location/8/allevnts](http://www.givecentral.org/location/8/allevnts)

## Visit our Parish Website

For the latest parish events, bulletins, staff contact info, details on how to get involved in the parish, information about Heart to Heart, our Medical Lending Closet, sacraments and more, visit our parish's website at [stgertrudechicago.org](http://stgertrudechicago.org).