



St. Gertrude Chicago

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Bulletin for Sunday, April 27, 2025 *Second Sunday of Easter/ Divine Mercy Sunday*

From Fr. Mike Gabriel

The Beauty of Holy Week & Easter

Last Saturday evening, a truly glorious event took place around the world and here at St. Gertrude. As the day came to a close and the sun set, we celebrated the Easter Vigil of the Lord's Resurrection, the most solemn celebration of the year.

The Easter Vigil always begins after dark, perhaps revisiting the darkness that fell over the earth at 3:00 pm on that first Good Friday. As the day turned into night, we gathered to rejoice in a Service of Light, a recalling of our faith story from the Scriptures, a rededication of our baptismal promises, and of course, the celebration of Eucharist, which had not taken place anywhere in the world since Thursday night.

As sunset continued its journey across the globe, so too did the celebrations of light, life, and Christ's victory over death. One by one, churches around the world joined in proclaiming the hope that shines in the darkness — a hope that marched across the earth in joyful procession.

When we gathered here at St. Gertrude's after sunset, we joined with Catholics everywhere in celebrating the most glorious moment in history: the Resurrection of our Crucified Lord. The Risen Christ was present among those gathered around the world — and He was truly present among us, here in our parish family. Christ is risen from the dead! He is risen indeed! And His light continues to shine in the darkness, offering us hope.

We warmly welcome and congratulate our newly initiated members: Cynthia, Glen, Ann Marie, Gloria, George, Graciela, Olivia, and Dani.





From Fr. Mike (continued)

Your journey of faith has been an inspiration. Thank you to Eloy for guiding these eight through the past year and preparing them for this glorious night.

Special thanks to Jonathan, our choir, cantor, and musicians for leading us in music that lifted our hearts and voices to the glory of a renewed Church. And thank you to everyone who participated in our Triduum celebrations — your devotion and presence made these days deeply meaningful.

New Pastor Selected: Fr. Sergio Romo!

Another joyful announcement: we are pleased to welcome our new pastor, Fr. Sergio Romo. Father Sergio currently serves as pastor of St. Andrew Parish and will be transitioning to St. Gertrude's in the coming weeks.

Please keep him in your prayers as he prepares for this new chapter. I will be meeting with him this week to help ensure a smooth transition.

More details will be shared soon.

Pope Francis

These past few days have felt like a roller coaster of emotions. Easter brought overwhelming joy and a vibrant spirit to our parish. And on Monday, we reflected on the passing of Pope Francis, who celebrated his own resurrection in Christ.

Pope Francis was truly one of the great shepherds of our time — a protector, guide, and bold challenger of injustice. He returned the Church to its roots as a voice for the powerless and reminded us to open our hands and hearts in welcome when the world tempts us to turn others away.

He was everyone's shepherd. Everyone's Pope. Everyone's friend.

May he rest in eternal peace. Lord, grant him your everlasting light.

~ Fr. Mike



Holy Week & Easter at St. Gertrude



Thank you to all who attended our services during Holy Week and on Easter both in-person and online! What a joy it was to get together and celebrate God's unending love for us.

The past few weeks have required extra time and energy from so many of our volunteers in order to rehearse and then serve at all the services of Holy Week and Easter! Thank you to all of our wonderful and generous cantors, our choir, musicians, and corps of liturgical ministers. They did a magnificent job!

Great churches don't just happen: they are created and nurtured by active, engaged, and generous parishioners. We appreciate you sharing your time at Church, your talents and helping hands at Mass and parish events, your stewardship, and your prayers.

We are grateful to have you as part of our St. Gertrude family!

Thank You from our Director of Music

I want to take a moment to extend my deepest gratitude to each of you for your incredible dedication, passion, and hard work during Holy Week and Easter.

You brought an unwavering energy to the liturgy starting with Holy Thursday and kept it up all the way to the celebration of Resurrection Sunday. Your voices and spirits helped bring the message of Christ's love and sacrifice to life in a powerful way.

Your commitment to excellence—through rehearsals, extra services, and everything in between—did not go unnoticed. You sang not just with skill, but with heart, which embodies the fundamental principle of why we make music. Many in the parish shared how moved they were, and that is a direct reflection of your faithfulness and the love you pour into every note.

Thank you for giving so much of yourselves during this sacred season. It is truly an honor to serve alongside you in this ministry.

With heartfelt appreciation,

Jonathan Hannau



Events & Activities at St. Gertrude



Sacrament Collection for Care for Real is April 26-27

Care for Real is urgently seeking donations of hand and toe warmers, gently used coats (all sizes), new socks and underwear, diapers in sizes 4-6, shampoo, hand soap, and adult incontinence briefs.

Our collection drive for Care for Real is always the fourth calendar weekend every month, and our asylum seekers' collection is the first weekend of each month.

We are so grateful for your help supporting Care for Real as they work to provide food and much-

needed supplies to our neighbors who are struggling.



Cradles to Crayons Clothing Drive in Church After Mass

One of our parish teens is hosting a clothing drive benefiting Cradles to Crayons from April 27-May 18. A collection bin will be in the church foyer.

Cradles to Crayons aims to alleviate the nationwide issue of childhood poverty by addressing the clothing insecurity problem in the U.S. right now.

Clothing insecurity is not one of the three insecurities covered by government safety programs, but it is an important insecurity to recognize. Without adequate or appropriate clothing, children can face barriers to participating

in life and can feel unvalued. They don't have shoes that fit, or coats warm enough to get through the Chicago winter, or clothes that fit them right.

Any children's clothing or child-appropriate adult-sized clothing in good condition is welcome. The most-needed items are:

- NEW underwear and sock in all sizes
- Boys pants in all sizes
- Girls t-shirts in all sizes

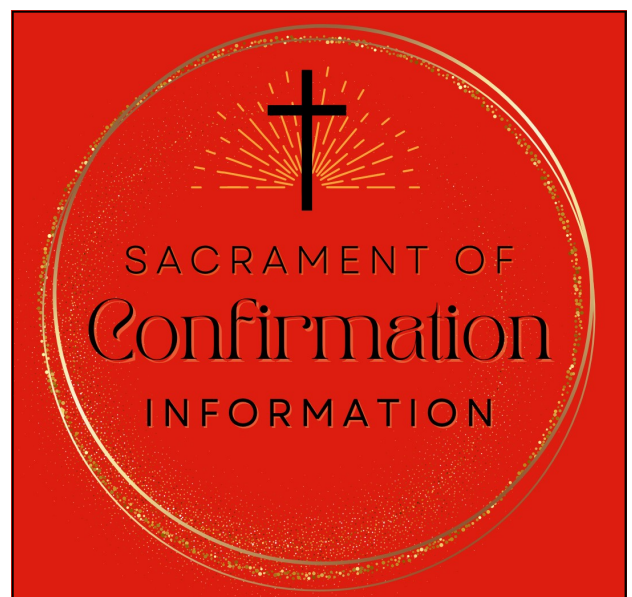
Help us get kids the clothing they need in order to feel safe, warm, and valued by donating!

Questions? Email annastecky22@gmail.com.

Confirmation Information: Second Retreat is Thursday, May 1

There is a second Confirmation Retreat planned on Thursday, May 1 for students that made their Confirmation in March of 2024. It will be in the Social Hall, 1401 West Granville Avenue, from 6:00-8:00 pm.

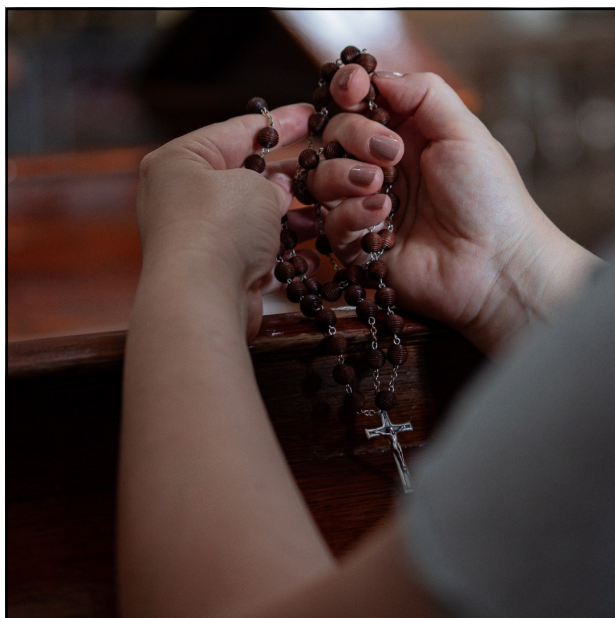
Questions? Contact Eloy Escamilla at eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org.



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

All are welcome to attend the weekly Rosary group held on Friday evenings at 7:00 pm.

The bilingual gathering is held in the dining room of the Ministry Center, located at 6214 North Glenwood Avenue.



The Coalition for Spiritual and Public Leadership (CSPL) at St. Gertrude: May 3rd Monthly Meeting and June Congress

St. Gertrude is a member of the Coalition for Spiritual and Public Leadership (CSPL), a Catholic social justice network.

On Saturday, May 3, the monthly meeting of the Coalition for Spiritual and Public Leadership (CSPL) Network will be held in the Ministry Center from 1:30-3:00 pm.

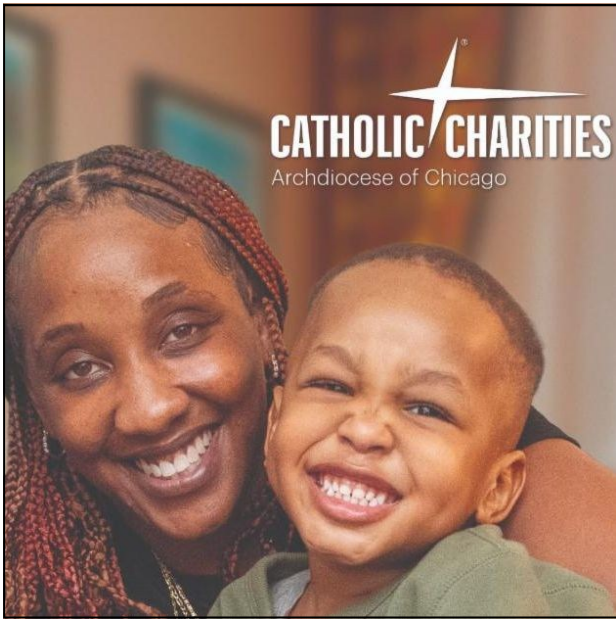
All are welcome to discuss and plan how to maximize St. Gertrude's social justice efforts through the parish's membership in the Coalition for Spiritual and Public Leadership.

Learn more about CSPL at <https://www.csplaction.org/>.

CSPL's annual Congress is a three-day retreat that brings together people from across Chicagoland and the Midwest for theological formation, organizing workshops, leadership trainings, relationship building, strategic planning and collaboration in a direct action related to our campaign goals.

This retreat will be held from June 6-8 at Loyola University Chicago's Lakeshore Campus from June 6-8. Registration closes on May 2.

Sign up at <https://www.csplaction.org/>.



Catholic Charities May 11th Mother's Day Collection

Your support today can create stability for generations! Make your gift to the 2025 Mother's Day Appeal today to support mothers and children across Cook and Lake counties. Your generosity helps us serve more than 61,000 moms and families every year with supports that promote long-term growth and well-being.

Read about Kay, a participant in Catholic Charities' New Hope Apartment program: Kay's decision to leave an unhealthy relationship was a vital first step on her journey to become the mom she wanted to be. But for months after leaving, she

and her children had nowhere to live.

That changed when Kay connected with Catholic Charities. We provided rental assistance and other support. Now Kay is a nurse and ready to buy a house. She's proud of the example she's setting for her children. "I'm grateful," Kay says. "This made me a stronger person. My children have seen me do it. I tell them, 'Go to school, get your education. You can do it, too.'"

Please support the Second Collection on Mother's Day, May 11, or anytime at catholiccharities.net/mothers.

Youth Mission Experience

Parish teens are invited to take part in St. Gert's Youth Mission experience this summer from June 23-27. Teens in seventh grade through high school will volunteer with a different Chicago organization each day. There is a \$100 fee for the week. A \$50 deposit is required at the time of registration. Participants will receive a t-shirt, water bottle, and a sports drawstring backpack.

To reserve a spot or for more information, email eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org.

ST. GERTRUDE'S

**YOUTH
MISSION
EXPERIENCE**

Open to teens
in 7th grade
through high
school



JUNE 23-JUNE 27, 2025

Kids Word Offered at the 10:30 am Masses

Kids Word is offered during the 10:30 am Mass in church. This program provides children aged 4-7 years-old an age-appropriate Gospel message and to do fun, scripture-based activities such as coloring or crafts in the Rectory. Children are invited by the celebrant to come to the altar before the readings and return to church before the petitions.

Growing in Faith: *Divine Mercy Sunday*

Certainly, the Psalm that sings that God's mercy is everlasting and the demonstration of mercy afforded to the sick and the lame in the Acts of the Apostles are clear and easy inclusions to the readings connected with this Sunday when we celebrate Divine Mercy. But why include the initial passages of the apocalypse written by John or the story of Thomas, the gospel's favorite twin?

John is the evangelist that uniquely chooses the washing of the feet rather than the Eucharist as the heart of the last supper. John completes his ministry as a visionary and poet removed to an island, a caregiver to an elderly Mary. John is gifted with divine madness, the very stuff of wondrous visions as well as the gift of caregiving. It is right that the giver of these gifts is also the granter of divine mercy. He who is so gifted is deserving of divine mercy.

I don't think that Jesus scolds Thomas. Nor do I think He chastises Thomas by comparing him unflatteringly with those who "believe even though they have not seen." Rather, He understands that Thomas is blessed because he has the need to connect intimately with the wounds and the suffering of his lord. It is a need born of privilege – the privilege of an intimate who walked and breathed the same air as Jesus. Privilege begs for mercy, as the privileged know that favor is fleeting. Jesus shows mercy on Thomas as He invites him into the intimacy of a shared suffering.

Every gift from God is at once a call to God's mercy.

~ Mark Kollar



Easter Flower Offerings

***In memory of Mary A. Pierce and John A. Pierce
from Ellen Pierce***

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.



Heart to Heart News: Ministry of Prayer

Did you know that despite your being homebound or physically inactive, there is a special and valued ministry here at St. Gertrude which we invite you to consider?

There are no meetings, no dues or calls required; yet as a participant you will have a valued connection to the parish life by enriching others and yourself through your own dedicated, daily prayer time!

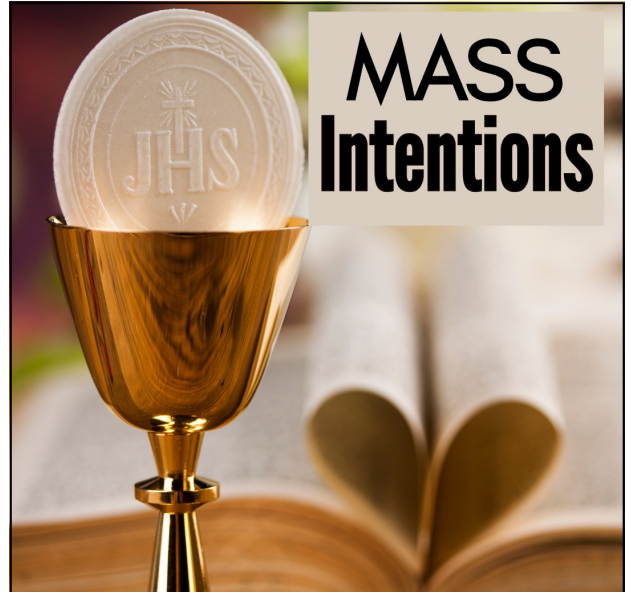
It works like this: We provide you with a monthly prayer sheet that has some of the prayer petitions taken from the "Prayer Wall" in the back of our church. As one of our prayer angels, you will include these petitions in your daily prayers; thereby becoming an unseen blessing for so many!

Please contact Sr. Susan Quaintance at Heart to Heart at 773.973.5464 or squaintance@stgertrudechicago.org. We welcome your interest in this caring ministry.

The 2026 Mass Intentions Book is Open

If you would like a mass intention said in 2026 for a person that needs prayers or in memory of someone who has died, please email stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org or stop by the Rectory during office hours.

We'll help you find an available Mass and prepare a card for you to give to the person or family of the intention. A \$20 donation is suggested.



Visit our Parish Website

For the latest parish events and information, including our weekly live-stream, upcoming events, bulletins, rectory hours, funeral announcements, visit stgertrudechicago.org.

The Parish Pastoral Council is Looking for New Members!

The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) is renewing its search for new members. If you are interested in learning more about the PPC or are interested in joining, please complete this at <https://bit.ly/JointhePPC>.

Questions or comments for the PPC can be sent to stgertrudeparishcouncil@gmail.com.



Financial Report from April 19-20

Sunday Collection Envelopes: \$11,162.00

Loose Checks: \$3,985.00

Loose Cash/Coins: \$3,450.17

Online Donations: \$5,962.72

Total Collected: \$24,559.89

Budgeted: \$10,000.00

Difference: \$14,559.89

Year-to-date Collected FY 2025: \$451,302.26

Year-to-date Budgeted FY 2025: \$550,000.00

Difference: -\$98,697.74

Holy Thursday Collection: \$ 952.83

Holy Land Collection: \$ \$ 889.00

St. Gertrude will use *To Teach Who Christ Is* funds to repair and paint bathrooms in the Rectory. Labor, materials, and supplies will cost \$900.00.

Volunteers Needed!

We need more volunteers to sustain the programs and ministries we currently offer! The list includes help with baptismal preparation classes, live-streaming our 10:30 am Mass in church, our Heart to Heart Ministry, and church environment/decoration, and joining our choir.

If you have interest in any of these ministries, please reach out to Fr. Mike Gabriel at mgabriel@stgertrudechicago.org.

Parish Information

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

Ministers of the Word

- Saturday, April 26 at 5:00 pm - Roman Reyes, Patrick Reardon
- Sunday, April 27 at 8:00 am - Mary Clare Barker, Jay Cook
- Sunday, April 27 at 10:30 am - Rose Karasti, Anthony Myers

Eucharistic Ministers

- Saturday, April 26 at 5:00 pm - Tim Harrington, Stephen Modde
- Sunday, April 27 at 8:00 am - Josephine Delgado
- Sunday, April 27 at 10:30 am - Bob Backis, Patrick Robinson, Michael Kowalski

Altar Servers

- Saturday, April 26 at 5:00 pm - cross bearer: Esteban Campuzano; acolytes: Addison Regan
- Sunday, April 27 at 10:30 am - cross bearer: Mary Kate Cashman; acolytes: Sammy Kloster, Dominic Rubino

Please Pray for our Parishioners and Friends

- | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| • Mary Amelse | • Luke Fitzgerald | • Joan Ross + |
| • Victor Ayes | • Adolf Gabriel | • Willy Spalla |
| • Andrea Banicki | • Marie Galoney | • Floret Spalle |
| • Carlos Barragan | • Thomas Hajduch | • Frannie Swaine |
| • Patrick Barton | • Tricia Hernandez | • Christopher Thomas |
| • Rose Mary Bradley | • Maria Hertl | • Elinora E. Tolentino |
| • Zara Bradley | • John Kahoun | • Arsenia Tumliuan+ |
| • Lilly Buie | • Paul Kapczuk | • Manuel & Norma Viray |
| • Hallie Burhoe | • Marilyn Klein | • Tayana Wallace |
| • Aida Calvopina | • Joseph Lambin | • King Wallace |
| • Marta Carlson | • River Malik | • Christian Wallace |
| • Terrence Carmichael | • Alex Marks | • Kevin Walsh+ |
| • Cavicke Family | • Nancy Michael | • Leon Ward |
| • David Denegas | • Steve Monti | • Ron Whitfield |
| • Ann Collins Dole | • Hilda Mora | • Janice Wittenberg |
| • Darlene Durso-Clark+ | • Donald Nyderek | • Dawn Wyman |
| • Renee Elhoumaidi | • Dealina Peon | • Yyes Yoza |
| • Mr. and Mrs. Emin Euman | • Claude Poulsen | • Joel Pozzi Zio |

Contact the Parish Pastoral Council

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

Rest in Peace

- Donald Hasselbeck
- Rev. Wilfred Harrington, O.P.

New Parishioners

- Diana Iocco & family
- Anne-Marie St. Germaine

Upcoming Mass Intentions

- Monday, April 28: 7:30 am - Rev. Wilfred Harrington, O.P.+
- Tuesday, April 29: 7:30 am - Donald Hasselbeck+
- Wednesday, April 30: 7:30 am - Pete Ballard+
- Thursday, May 1: 7:30 am - Communion Service
- Friday, May 2: 7:30 am - People of God
- Saturday, May 3: 7:30 am - Joseph "Terry" & Carol Shields+; 5:00 pm - St. Gertrude Class of 1950
- Sunday, May 4: 8:00 am - Patricia Messbarger+; 10:30 am - Patricia Gabriel+; 10:30 am Gym - Mary Elizabeth Buttitta+

Mass Times/Reconciliation/Rector Office Hours

- Sunday: 8:00 & 10:30 am Mass in Church; 10:30 am Gym Mass (1401 W. Granville Ave.); 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 Rector at 773.764.3621.
- The Rector office is open Monday-Friday from 8:30 am-4:30 pm and is closed on weekends.

Donate to our Parish

- PayPal link - visit our parish website at www.stgertrudechicago.org
- GiveCentral: www.givecentral.org/location/8/allevnts

Parish Staff and Contact Info

Rev. Michael Gabriel, Pastor—mgabriel@stgertrudechicago.org
Patricia Branigan, Events/Room Booking Contact—pbranigan@stgertrudechicago.org
Eloy Escamilla, Pastoral Associate—eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org
Jonathan Hannau, Music Director—jhannau@stgertrudechicago.org
Laurie Hasbrook, Heart to Heart Lending Closet Manager—lhasbrook@stgertrudechicago.org
Edgar Osorio Leon, Maintenance Director—esorioleon@archchicago.org
Sherl Patterson, Office Manager—spatterson@stgertrudechicago.org
Sr. Susan Quaintance, OSB, Heart to Heart Director—squaintance@stgertrudechicago.org
Tracy Shields, Communications Director—stgerbulletin@yahoo.com
Eduardo Soto, Director of Parish Management—esoto@stgertrudechicago.org

Heart to Heart 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. To reach Laurie Hasbrook, our Lending Closet manager, please call 773.973.5464 or email her at lhasbrook@stgertrudechicago.org.