

St. Gertrude Chicago

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www.stgertrudechicago.org

Bulletin for

Sunday, August 14, 2022

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Let us run with perseverance
the race marked out for us,
fixing our eyes on Jesus.
Hebrews 12:1-2

From Fr. Rich

This week the faculty and staff return to Northside Catholic Academy and the students won't be far behind! Hope you all had a great summer and are excited about the prospect

for a great new school year! A special welcome to all our new faculty, staff members, and students!

Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary -- Monday, August 15

Monday, August 15th is the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Masses for the Holy Day are on Monday at 7:30 am and 6:30 pm.

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's scripture readings once again touch upon the challenge of living faithful lives. The challenges to that life are many and frequent. In the Gospel, Jesus is weighed down by the burden of his mission because it brings division. That division is because families are not united in this kind of life, nor are communities, or nations. The challenge of succumbing to the other lures -- power and money and influence - tears us away from what Our Lord has invited us to become.

The epistle reading today from the Letter to the Hebrews encourages us to let go of whatever burdens and sins hinder us in this quest.

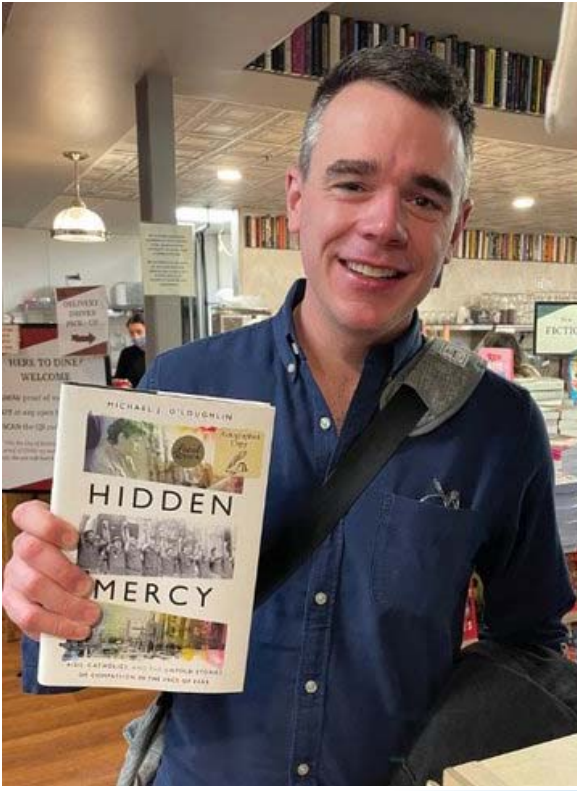
This week, how might I encourage others trying to live faithful lives? And how might I request relief from the burdens and sins that tempt me away from what I want to do in living a faithful life?

Blood Drive Thank You

Many thanks to all those who donated blood, attempted to give blood, and supported the blood drive on July 31. This was our first blood drive since the pandemic, and we are very grateful to those who made it possible. Special thanks to parishioners Pat Knowles and Karen Griebel for all of their work organizing and tending to all the details on our side, and to all the folks at Vitalant for their service!



THANK YOU TO
OUR BLOOD
DRIVE
PARTICIPANTS



Hidden Mercy - A Conversation with the Author Happening in October

Everyone is invited to join a conversation with Michael O'Loughlin, author of *Hidden Mercy: AIDS, Catholics and the Untold Stories of Compassion in the Face of Fear*, on Tuesday, October 18 at 7:00 pm.

This is a jointly sponsored event between St. Gertrude and The Hank Center for Catholic Intellectual Heritage at Loyola University.

The event will be held in Loyola University's McCormick Lounge, located on the first floor of Coffey Hall, 1000 W. Sheridan Rd.

We hope to see you there!

Heart to Heart Update

Volunteers are the backbone of Heart to Heart. There are opportunities for volunteering to service the homebound seniors and disabled individuals in our Edgewater/Rogers Park areas like:

- Home visits, bringing Communion upon request;
- Driving a person to pick up groceries and other errands;
- Taking a shopping list, picking up and delivering groceries; and
- Dropping off individuals for doctor appointments.

If you cannot commit every week to a regular schedule, consider being a backup on call. How about doing phone visits from the ministry center or from your home? Heart to Heart is also looking for someone with geriatric social worker background that could help us make referrals when necessary.

If you desire to be a Minister of Care bringing communion to the homebound, there is training available near the end of September. We are committed to making the Archdiocese of Chicago VIRTUS training an easy requirement to fulfill.

If these volunteer activities are not a fit, consider signing up for the Ministry of Prayer. Each month you will receive a flyer, with petitions to include in your daily prayer from wherever you may be on a given day.

Together, being part of the body of Christ, our faith moves us to service those in need. Help Heart to Heart continue to support the elderly and disabled, so that they may stay in the comfort of their homes.

Contact Pat Sullivan at psullivan@stgertrudechicago.org or call 773.973.5464.

The logo for 'Heart to Heart' features the word 'heart' in a lowercase, black, sans-serif font. To the right of 'heart' is a large, stylized red heart shape. Below 'heart' and the red heart is the phrase 'to heart' in a larger, lowercase, black, sans-serif font. The entire logo is positioned on the right side of the page.

Registration Open for our 2022-2023 Religious Ed Program

Registration is now open for our 2022-2023 Religious Education program! Classes will begin on Sunday, September 18, with in-person instruction held on Sunday mornings from 9:15-10:15 am at Northside Catholic Academy.

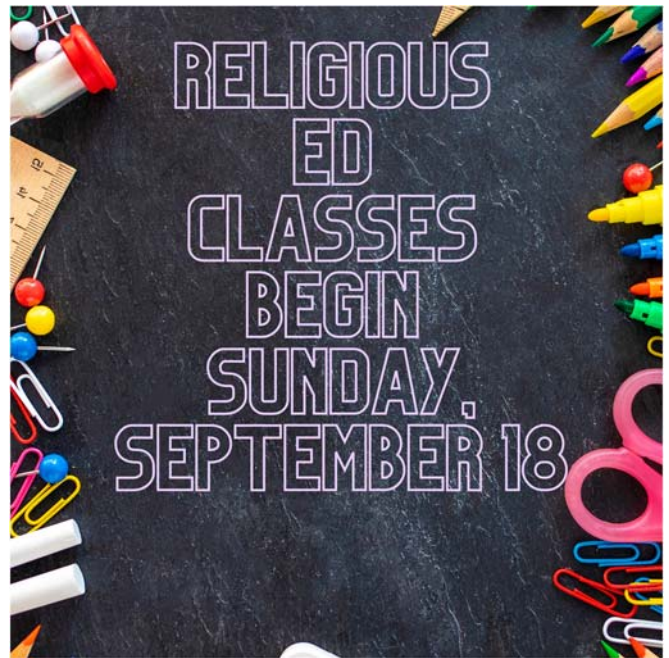
All Religious Ed forms can be found at <https://bit.ly/RelEdForms>, including a Religious Ed registration form, the calendar of classes for the year, and this year's handbook.

Parents of students making their First Communion/Reconciliation or their Confirmation this year should also fill out a sacramental registration form. Confirmation candidates also require additional paperwork, which can be found at <https://bit.ly/ConfirmationForms>, along with the deadlines. Please note that students must receive two years of preparation in order to make these sacraments.

The fees for the 2022-2023 school year are \$210 for one child and an additional \$30 for each student from the same family. Tuition can be paid online at <https://bit.ly/RelEdTuition>.

An additional sacramental fee of \$65 is required for children making their First Communion and First Reconciliation, or their Confirmation. That fee can be paid at <https://bit.ly/SacramentalFee>.

Completed forms and any questions about the program should be emailed to Eloy Escamilla at eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org. Please register before the start date.



Catechists Needed to Teach Religious Education

We are looking for catechists to teach in our parish's Religious Ed program this Fall!

Catechists are usually not professional teachers, just willing parents and parishioners who enjoy kids and want to help them grow in a personal relationship with God, participate in the sacraments, develop a mature conscience, and integrate faith in all areas of their lives.

Please consider offering your time and talents to help our young people learn about and grow in their faith.

If you have any questions, please reach out to pastoral associate Eloy Escamilla at eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org or call 773.764.3621.

Help for Ukraine: If you would like to donate to help the Ukrainian people, please consider making a contribution to Catholic Relief Services for emergency aid to the people in Ukraine at <https://support.crs.org/donate/donate-ukraine>.

Fireside Chat — Discussion on Racism Planned for This Monday, August 15

We will discuss racism and what our faith teaches us about it on Monday, August 15 from 7:00-8:30 pm on the Rectory lawn. Bring your lawn chair, a beverage of your choice and snacks to share, if you choose.

Attendees are asked to be mindful of the rules of engagement and read the two articles. Both are listed/linked below. Questions can be sent to Fr. Mike at mgabriel@stgertrudechicago.org.

Fireside Covenant

As we engage in conversation, please observe the following:

- **Confidentiality** - What's said here, stays here.
- **No preaching** - We speak from our personal experiences, we are not here to judge, we avoid saying "we should" or "you should".
- **No cross talk** - We listen in silence while others are speaking. We do not comment or ask questions about what others say.
- **Respect time** - Our gathering is 90 minutes. Please respect time so we can all share.
- **All are asked to share** - By coming to this gathering, you agree to participate in some way. Even if it's just your name, we ask you to share something.

Readings

- American Magazine: *The Holy Spirit is moving us to act against racism*
<https://bit.ly/FirepitRacism1>
- Medium: *Do You Really Think Black Lives Matter as Much as White Ones?*
<https://bit.ly/FirepitRacism2>



Join our Mailing List
Text STGERTS to 22828 to get started

Combined Bulletin for July 24 & July 31
St. Gertrude Chicago
All are Welcome
1420 W. Granville, Chicago, IL 60660
773.764.3621
stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org
www.stgertrudechicago.org
Click here for a print version of this bulletin

New Parish Email Marketing Platform

This week, the parish e-blast platform switched from MailChimp to Constant Contact.

To join our email communications list (or if you unsubscribed in the past, and now wish to receive emails), text *STGERTS* to 22828. You'll be prompted to enter your email address and will receive our e-reflections and e-bulletins.

Additionally, if you prefer to just receive the weekly e-bulletin, typically emailed on Thursdays, email news@stgertrudechicago.org and your email will be manually added to a separate, e-bulletin-only list.

Parish Potluck Planned for Sunday, September 11

The St. Gertrude Parish Council invites you to join us on Sunday, September 11 for a potluck picnic. We will gather at 11:30 am after Mass in the parish parking lot. The parish will provide fried chicken, but bring your own chair, beverage, and your favorite dish to share. Enjoy an afternoon of music, friends, and fun!

Please RSVP to <https://bit.ly/ParishPotluck> and sign up for a dish to bring.

Are you interested in participating in this gathering, but can't attend an in person event at this time? Please RSVP and in the comments write, "*Can't attend in person*" with your phone number. We will reach out to you about a virtual option.



Upcoming Pastoral Parish Council (PPC) Meeting/Info about PPC Member

The next PPC meeting will be held on Thursday, August 25. Meetings are held in the Ministry Center from 7:00 pm-8:30 pm and are open to parishioners.

Meet Sean Williams, PPC Member

I have been a St. Gertrude altar server, Lector, Eucharistic Minister and Parish Secretary, although I reckon I am most remembered for scoring the winning basket in the St. Gertrude's 5th grade boys' basketball sole victory in the '94 season! ;)

I am now delighted to be on the Parish Council. I work as an ER doctor.

Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass

Couples celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary from across the Archdiocese of Chicago are invited to gather together for the Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass that will be celebrated by Cardinal Cupich on Sunday, September 18 at 2:30 pm.

The Mass will be held at Holy Name Cathedral. For more information and to register, visit <https://pvm.archchicago.org/events/golden-wedding>.





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 the fall 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.

If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about the RCIA process at St. Gertrude, contact me at eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org or call the Rectory at 773.764.3621. The RCIA meeting schedule is available here: <https://bit.ly/RCIACalendar>.

~ Eloy Escamilla, Pastoral Associate

Art & Environment Volunteers Needed

Want to get involved in something? We are looking for parishioners who are interested in being part of an Art and Environment Committee. The team's goal is to create an environment inside and outside the church that enhances prayer and worship according to the liturgical seasons.

A variety of talents are needed. Having a background in art and interior design, woodworking, lighting, sewing, and floral arrangements would be good, but not necessary! The team meets as needed to plan and/or prepare. To get involved, contact Fr. Mike at mgabriel@stgertudechicago.org.



Wanted: Ushers, Eucharistic Ministers, & Ministers of the Word

We are in need of additional volunteers to assist at Masses, including ushers, greeters, Eucharistic ministers, and ministers of the word. If you are interested, please email Eloy Escamilla, Pastoral Associate, at eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org.



Let the Shooting End—A Prayer for Peace

God, our hearts are broken with pain at the senseless deaths caused by gun violence. Families mourn, children live in fear, and some in our nation respond by arming themselves with more guns with greater capacity to end life. Our disconnection and alienation have caused some to turn to guns for protection and safety.

We ask that you touch our hearts with your love, heal our brokenness, and turn us away from violence towards peace. Help us to transform our own hearts, and to seek peaceful ways of resolving our difference.

Let our hands reach out and connect with those who feel alone, those who live in fear, and those suffering from mental illness. Let our voices be raised asking our legislators to enact gun laws to protect all in our society, especially those most vulnerable. Let our pens write messages demanding change while also scripting words of hope and transformation.

We ask this in the name of God who desires that we live together in peace. Amen.

~ *The Sisters of Mercy*

Spots to Enroll Students at NCA are Available

Northside Catholic Academy returns to school on Tuesday, August 23. We are still accepting applications for the 2022-2023 school year.

Schedule a tour and learn more about how NCA educates and nurtures our students intellectually, socially, physically, and spiritually.

Contact Jacob Utz at jutz@ncaschools.com or call 773.743.6277.



Priests' Health and Retirement

Priests have dedicated their lives to the ministry of God's children, serving our needs as Catholics without asking for anything in return. Now, it is our turn to show our love and care for their ever-faithful support. Please consider including a legacy gift for Priests' Health and Retirement to support the healthcare needs of our active priests, as well as the medical and housing needs of our retired priests.

For more information, please call Priests' Health and Retirement at 708.449.8026. If you would like to make a gift,

please visit prmaa.org.



MISERICORDIA
HEART OF MERCY

Sponsorship Opportunities



**FAMILY
FEST 2022** **40**

Celebrating 40 years

In support of Misericordia and its network of services for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities through a full continuum of care.

Misericordia Family Fest Planned for Sunday, September 11

Misericordia will host its 40th annual Family Fest on Sunday, September 11 from 11:00 am-6:00 pm!

The campus at 6300 N. Ridge will bring families, friends, and neighbors together for a fun day of sunshine, smiles, great food and entertainment! All proceeds support Misericordia's programs for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Tickets are available online and at the door. Visit <https://www.misericordia.com/store/fest-tickets/> or call 773.273.2768 for more information.

Volunteers are Needed!

This one-day event takes approximately 2,000 volunteers to pull it off and your help would be greatly appreciated. Volunteer shifts are gener-

ally broken down into 2 ½ -3 hours.

At this time, the state is requiring that all volunteers must be up-to-date with COVID vaccinations. The coordinator for each area will be checking vaccination records as volunteers arrive to their shifts. Please have a digital copy or hard copy of your vaccination record available on the day of the Fest.

For more details about volunteering opportunities, please contact Paul Schwartz at 773.273.4161 or email pauls@misericordia.com.

October PreCana Class at St. Gertrude

If you are an engaged couple planning on getting married at St. Gertrude, or a parishioner planning on getting married anywhere else, attendance at a PreCana is part of the marriage preparation process for all Catholics in the Archdiocese of Chicago.

Our parish-based PreCana will be held on Saturday, October 15.

Please call the Rectory office at 773.764.3621 to register or to request additional information.



Office Hours: The Rectory office will temporarily close at 4:30 pm on weekdays. Weekend office hours may be limited.

Growing in Faith

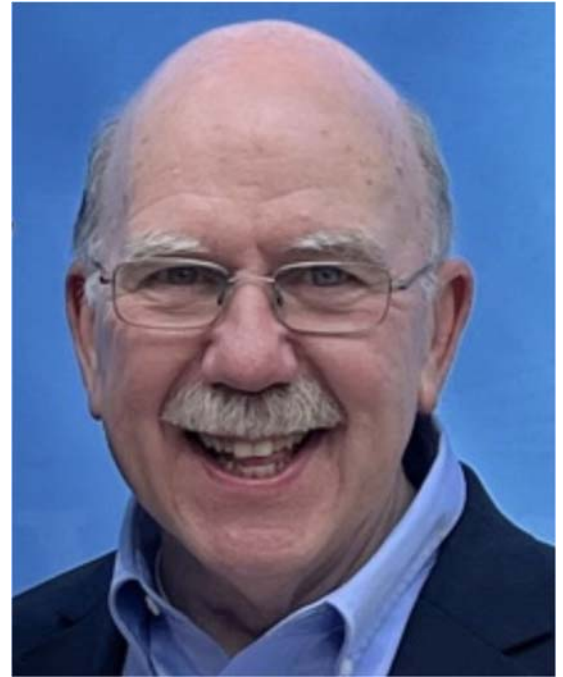
We come to church today to refresh, renew, and share a respite from life's craziness. But what is Jesus' message in Luke today? Division! Don't we have enough division in our society already - pro-choice vs. pro-life, vaxxers vs. anti-vaxxers, Democrats vs. Republicans?

I needed to take a closer look at Jesus' message. Jesus spoke of setting the earth on fire! His message is clear: through him the Kingdom of God, the Kingdom of Love, has broken into our world. God's passionate, fiery love has burst into our midst and pursues us to accept the totality of that love. Acceptance of God's unconditional love is our act of faith! Once touched by this flame of love we willingly let God's love flow through us to others.

Paul reminds us to "keep our eyes fixed on Jesus and no one else" - not even our family members. Jesus is the way. His dedication to God's Kingdom of Love cost him his life. But that was not the end of the Kingdom mission; it was the beginning. Jesus released God's love through the Holy Spirit to all who accepted it.

Have you ever felt the flame of God's love? It is powerful, elusive, transformative, but at times may feel as if it diminishes in the midst of life's craziness. Thankfully we have the gift of the Eucharist. A free and renewing gift of mercy, support and love. We approach communion with open hearts and an Amen that declares God loves us with an unquenchable fire of love. Feel the flame!

~ Ken Brucks



Parish Website: For the latest information about what's happening in the parish, Mass times, details about our Heart to Heart ministry, Religious Education program, the staff, upcoming events, older bulletins, and more, visit stgertrudechicago.org!

Cantors, Ministers of the Word, and Eucharistic Ministers

Ministers of the Word:

- Saturday, August 13 at 5:00 pm - Millie Slane
- Sunday, August 14 at 8:00 am - Hallie Burhoe
- Sunday, August 14 at 10:30 am - Rafael Melendez

Eucharistic Ministers:

- Saturday, August 13 at 5:00 pm - Kathleen Dawson
- Sunday, August 14 at 8:00 am - Marty McDermott
- Sunday, August 14 at 10:30 am - Carlos Barragan, Victoria Healy, Bob Backis

Cantors:

- Saturday, August 13 at 5:00 pm - Denise Goodman
- Sunday, August 14 at 8:00 am - Kate Hibbs Davis
- Sunday, August 14 at 10:30 am - Michael Callahan

Mass Intentions

- **Monday, August 15:** 7:30 am - Catherine Scanlon & George Frey +
- **Tuesday, August 16:** 7:30 am - Ethan Seitzer +
- **Wednesday, August 17:** 7:30 am - Living and deceased Torreano family members
- **Thursday, August 18:** 7:30 am - Communion Service – Norman H. Linke
- **Friday, August 19:** 7:30 am - Purgatorial Society
- **Saturday, August 20:** 7:30 am - Living and deceased parents of St. Gertrude parishioners;
5:00 pm - Daniel Kuhn +
- **Sunday, August 21:** 8:00 am - Florence I. Okoye (Thanksgiving for 70th birthday);
10:30 am - Judy O'Toole +

(+ indicates the person is deceased)

New Parishioners

- The Arseneault Family
- The Hannon/Payos Family

Rest in Peace

- Ted (Thaddeus) Baran
- Tomas Bissonnette
- Gareth Foster, son of Verna & Stephen Foster

Please Pray for our Parishioners and Friends

- Pamela Sherrod Anderson
- Zara Bradley
- Sharon Brown
- Lilly Buie
- Claire Bushey
- Maggie Callaway
- Aida Calvopina
- KC Conway
- Connie Cool
- Caloy Desembrana
- Ann Collins Dole
- Christine Frisoni
- Shirley Marie Gonzales
- Gina Heidkamp
- Maria Hertl
- Daniel Hidalgo
- Bernice Kiedysz
- Marilyn Klein
- Roy Lipscomb
- Sheila McGuire
- Dean Mattoni
- Larry McCauley
- Molly Morris
- Karey Myers
- Richard Seitz
- Peggy Stoffel
- The Sullivan family
- Elinora E. Tolentino
- Manuel & Norma Viray
- Leon Ward
- Ken & Vyes Yoza

Donate to our Parish

Parishioners can donate to St. Gertrude:

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

Email esoto@stgertrudechicago.org for additional information.

Parish Staff

Rev. Richard J. Prendergast, Pastor
Rev. Michael Gabriel, Associate Pastor
Mary Clare Barker, Minister of Music
Eloy Escamilla, Pastoral Associate
Maria Garcia, Rectory Office Manager
Laurie Hasbrook, Heart to Heart Lending Closet Manager
Andy Mueller, Parish Buildings Engineer
Tracy Shields, Communications
Eduardo Soto, Director of Parish Management
Patricia Sullivan, Heart to Heart Director