

STRIVE
to enter through the
NARROW GATE

St. Gertrude Chicago

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Bulletin for Sunday, August 24, 2025

2st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Fr. Sergio Romo to Be Installed as Pastor of St. Gertrude in September

Register We are delighted to announce that Fr. Sergio Romo will be formally installed as Pastor of St. Gertrude Parish on Sunday, September 28, at the 10:30 am Mass, with Bishop John S. Siemianowski presiding. Everyone in the parish is warmly invited to attend.

The Installation Mass is a beautiful sign of stability and unity, marking the beginning of a new chapter of shared ministry. As pastor, Fr. Sergio will continue to lead our parish family in prayer, service, and mission, helping us live out our faith with joy and commitment.

After Mass, everyone is warmly invited to the Social Hall for our monthly hospitality gathering, Brewed at St. Gertrude, as we celebrate this special moment together.



Please join
us for the
**Installation
Mass**

**of Fr. Sergio Romo as
Pastor of
St. Gertrude Chicago**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28
10:30 AM**



Join Our Parish Family! Our parish ministers to the diverse and evolving communities of Edgewater and Rogers Park, drawing upon the creativity, industry, generosity, and compassion of our members in the name of Jesus, teacher, and Lord.

To join our community of faith, scan the QR code and fill out our online form, or visit <https://bit.ly/46l6GMI>.

Events & Activities at St. Gertrude



"Brewed at St. Gertrude" Social Event is This Sunday

Please join us on Sunday, August 24, for another "Brewed at St. Gertrude" parish hospitality event after the 10:30 am mass.

Held in the Social Hall, all are welcome to come for pastries, beverages, and to enjoy each other's company.

Commonweal Action Group to Meet This Sunday

St. Gertrude's Commonweal Action will meet again on Sunday, August 24, in the Social Hall following the 10:30 am Mass and *Brewed at St. Gertrude's* hospitality gathering. The meeting will last approximately 90 minutes.

At our July 20 meeting, we adopted the following mission statement: *To be a passionate voice and face of Christianity that brings Catholic teaching on social justice and love of neighbor to the public square.*

We have launched several projects—and we need the input and energy of many parishioners. Please join us!

Our current initiatives include:

- Drafting a letter in support of Catholic bishops who are opposing the administration's unchristian policies on deportation and the cruel treatment of immigrants.
- Facilitating the attendance of our parishioners at rallies and other protests under a Commonweal Action of St. Gertrude's banner.

We are also planning a forum featuring an expert speaker to discuss the impact of recent healthcare legislation in the United States. All are welcome!





Care for Real Collection This Weekend: Thank You for Your Generosity!

St. Gertrude has its Care for Real collection drive for asylum seekers this weekend! Please place donations in the bins at the back of church before and after mass times.

Missed it? Donations can be dropped off between 12:00-3:00 pm every Monday-Saturday at the entrance of their new home, 5840 N. Broadway, between 1:00-3:00 pm Sunday through Friday.

Care for Real also has an Amazon, Target, and a Chewy wish list for pet food that are updated

regularly with their most needed items. Links can be found at <https://careforreal.org/wishlist/>.

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

Communion Services are now Mondays

Communion services are held on Monday mornings instead of Thursdays.

Thank you for understanding!



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.



Rectory Office Closed on Monday, September 1

The office will be closed on Monday, September 1 for Labor Day.

A communion service will be held at 7:30 am.

Coalition for Spiritual and Public Leadership Planned for Saturday, September 6

St. Gertrude is a member of the Coalition for Spiritual and Public Leadership (CSPL), a faith-based organization that brings together people of different ages, ethnicities/races and socioeconomic backgrounds across the Chicago area to transform racial, economic, social and environmental systemic structures through grassroots coalition building, community organizing and liberative formation.

Their next monthly meeting is planned for Saturday, September 6 from 1:30-3:00 pm in the Ministry Center.



Come together with other parishioners 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 CSPA. All are welcome!

Kids Word Returns at 10:30 am Masses Beginning Sunday, September 7

On Sundays during the 10:30 am Mass in church, children aged 4-7 years-old are invited to attend Kids Word to hear an age-appropriate Gospel message and do fun, scripture-based activities such as coloring or crafts.

Children will be invited by the celebrant to come to the altar before the readings and will return to church before the petitions.

Email eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org for details.

REGISTER FOR RELIGIOUS ED CLASSES

Registration
opens in
August!



**CLASSES
BEGIN IN
SEPTEMBER**



Religious Education Classes Begin on September 7

Register your child for the 2025-2026 Religious Ed school year! Classes are held on Sundays from 9:15-10:15 am on the St. Gertrude campus. They will begin on September 7.

Here's how to sign up for classes:

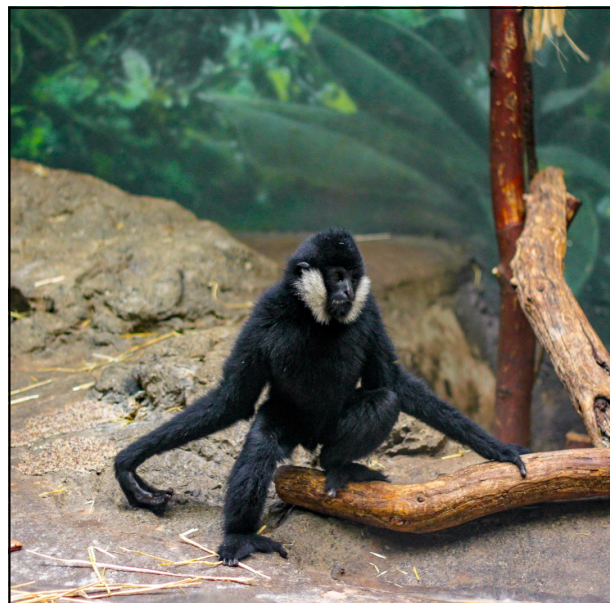
1. Go to <https://stgertrudechicago.org/religious-education-news> and fill out a registration form.
2. Email it to Eloy Escamilla at eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org.
3. Pay the fee for the 2025-2026 school year (\$230 for one child and an additional \$40 for each student from the same family) at <https://bit.ly/StGertsReligiousEd2025-2026>.
4. Please note, children making their First Communion/Reconciliation or their Confirmation will also need to pay a \$75 sacramental fee here: <https://bit.ly/StGertsSacramentalFee2025-2026>.

Looking for more information? A handbook and Religious Ed calendar is available in both English and Spanish. Questions can also be emailed to Eloy Escamilla at the above email address.

St. Gertrude's Youth Group Heads to Lincoln Park Zoo

The St. Gertrude Youth Group is planning an outing to the Lincoln Park Zoo on Saturday, September 13, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. The group will travel together by CTA.

All students in grades 7 and up are invited to join. Email eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org with any questions.



Parish News

The Lending Closet is Going on Vacation!

Though we love being of service to our friends and neighbors in need of durable medical equipment, even Laurie needs a break every once in a while.

She will be out of the office on August 28 and September 2. The Lending Closet will reopen on Thursday, September 4.

We're hoping that you are enjoying all the delights and bounty of summer! Thank you, always, for your support of Heart to Heart and the Lending Closet.



HELP NEEDED



Helping Hands Needed with our Brewed at St. Gertrude Social Gatherings

Brewed at St. Gertrude, our monthly hospitality following the 10:30am Mass, is gearing up for the coming year. Thrilled by the participation of so many parishioners in this gathering, we want to make it a regular event that continues into the near future.

Would you like to join our ministry team? We seek additional volunteers who can help with one or more of the following: set up, serve, bring food, and/or clean up. Our dedicated crew has been making each hospitality welcoming each month, but could

benefit from some more hands!

Those who are interested in giving a little bit of their time each month are invited to meet following the next Brewed at St. Gertrude on August 24th in the Social Hall. Please feel free to reach out to Steven Patzke at stevenjcpatzke@gmail.com with interest or questions.

August 16-17 Financial Report

Sunday Collection Envelopes: \$1,880.00
Loose Checks: \$540.00
Loose Cash/Coins: \$633.03
Online Donations: \$7,783.12
Total Collected: \$10,836.15

Budgeted: \$10,000.00
Difference: \$836.15
Year-to-date Collected FY 2026: \$66,797.47
Year-to-date Budgeted FY 2026: \$550,000.00
Difference: -\$483,202.53

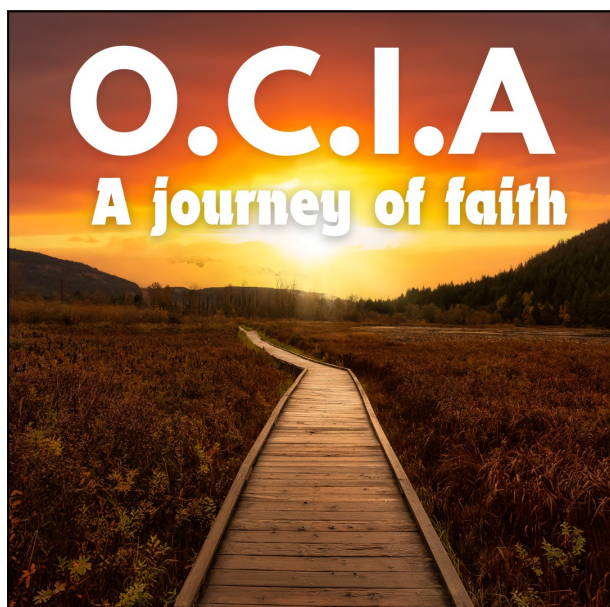
Substitute Catechists Needed to Teach Religious Education This School Year

We are looking for catechists to be substitute teachers in our parish's Religious Ed program and Kids Word! Catechists don't have to be professional teachers.

Most are parents and parishioners who enjoy kids and are willing to help them grow in a personal relationship with God, participate in the sacraments, and 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 Eloy Escamilla, Pastoral Associate, Religious Education and Youth Ministry, at eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org or call 773.764.3621.



Interested in Becoming Catholic?

The OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults, formerly called 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 OCIA are non-Catholics seeking to become Catholic or at least to explore whether Catholicism might be a good home. Others who take OCIA are already Catholic but want a deeper understanding of their faith foundation.

The OCIA process does not ask those who have been baptized in another faith to give up their

denominational experiences. Rather, the OCIA process seeks to add new colors and designs to their existing faith life tapestry. In addition to attending Mass, the OCIA process includes weekly gatherings of breaking open the Word of God, sharing our stories, and learning about our faith traditions.

Contact Eloy Escamilla at eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org for more information.



Growing in Faith

One of my great daily pleasures is filling our birdfeeder each morning with seeds and delicacies for the birds. Some hover at the feeder, strong enough to keep their spot; some flutter around, hoping for an opening at the little feeding stations; and some, like the mourning doves, stay on the ground or handrail, eating what flutters down. Truth be told, I always put another portion on the deck floorboards just for them—the ground feeders.

As it turns out, not only the birds come, but also squirrels, mice, and rats. At first, I was a little taken aback to see the rats and mice on the back porch. But then I thought, "Who am I to judge who gets to come and eat what I've put out?" They were hungry, and they came. And truth be told, they were all getting along, busy eating and not fussing with each other.

Yesterday morning, as I watched this little scene unfold, I was struck by how much it reminded me of this week's Gospel reading: "And people will come from the east and the west and from the north and the south and will recline at table in the kingdom of God. For behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last."

Yes, I meant to put the food out for the "birds," but others came as well—hungry, and perhaps grateful for the little meal set out for them—even the mice and rats! God's love and grace are meant for every one of us, not just a select few. And isn't that a blessing!

~ Maura Neafsey

Another Bountiful Harvest from Our Parish Garden

This week, our parish garden gave generously once again, offering a colorful and plentiful harvest. Bright tomatoes, crisp cucumbers, tender greens, and fragrant herbs were gathered with care by our dedicated volunteers. Each vegetable, lovingly tended from seed to sprout, reflects the hard work and patience of our parish community.

What makes this harvest truly special is not just the bounty itself, but how it has been shared. The fresh produce has gone directly to Care for Real to be shared with our neighbors in need.

In the simple act of planting, tending, and sharing, we are reminded that small seeds can grow into abundant blessings—especially when cultivated with love and shared freely.



Parish Information

Upcoming Mass Intentions

- Monday, August 25: 7:30 am - Communion Service
- Tuesday, August 26: 7:30 am - Apolonia Sia+
- Wednesday, August 27: 7:30 am - Jan Adams+
- Thursday, August 28: 7:30 am - Daniel McCarthy+
- Friday, August 29: 7:30 am - Donald Nydereck+
- Saturday, August 30: 7:30 am - Ricardo Martinez+; 5:00 pm - Daniel McCarthy+
- Sunday, August 31: 8:00 am - John Staggs+; 10:30 am - Julienne Fouche+

Mass Times/Reconciliation/Rectory Office Hours

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

Parish Staff and Contact Info

Rev. Sergio Romo, Pastor—sromo@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—eosorioleon@archchicago.org
Sherl Patterson, Secretary—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/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. To reach Laurie Hasbrook, our Lending Closet manager, please call 773.973.5464 or email her at lhasbrook@stgertrudechicago.org.

Visit our Parish Website

For the latest parish events and information, including our weekly live-stream, bulletins, images from recent events, rectory hours, staff members, funeral announcements, and updates about our various ministries, please visit our website at stgertrudechicago.org.

New Parishioners

- The Sturges family
- Oliva Flores and Michael Gabriel

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

Ministers of the Word

- Saturday, August 23 at 5:00 pm - Joseph McMahon, Roman Reyes
- Sunday, August 24 at 8:00 am - Kathryn Stimac
- Sunday, August 24 at 10:30 am - Rose Karasti, Edie Sheridan

Eucharistic Ministers

- Saturday, August 23 at 5:00 pm - Tim Harrington
- Sunday, August 24 at 8:00 am - Hallie Burhoe
- Sunday, August 24 at 10:30 am - Carlos Barragan, Annie Hasselbeck, Stephen Hasselbeck

Altar Servers

- Saturday, August 23 at 5:00 pm - cross bearer: Owen Craft; acolytes: Sammy Kloster, Ethan Craft
- Sunday, August 24 at 10:30 am - cross bearer: Diarmuid McKeown; acolytes: Carter Dant, Wyatt Dant

Please Pray for our Parishioners and Friends

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

Contact the Parish Pastoral Council

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