

# Ash Wednesday

is February 22



Ashes will be distributed in church  
between 12:00–1:00 pm.

## Mass Times:

- 7:30 AM
- 8:30 AM
- 6:30 PM

## St. Gertrude Chicago

1420 W. Granville, Chicago, IL 60660  
773.764.3621

[stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org)  
[www.stgertrudechicago.org](http://www.stgertrudechicago.org)

*Bulletin for*

**February 19, 2023**

*Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time*

## Parish News

### Annual Catholic Appeal

This is the final weekend of the Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA). The brochure explaining the

good work accomplished because of the ACA, the Pledge Cards and pencils are at the end of the pews and on the tables in the back of church. If you haven't already done so, please consider making a pledge to the ACA.

### Ash Wednesday

This Wednesday, February 22 is Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the Lenten season. Mass times are 7:30 am, 8:30 am, and 6:30 pm. From 12:00-1:00 pm, there will be distribution of ashes (only) in church. There will also be a second collection for Aid to the Church in Central and Eastern Europe at all Masses.

### Lenten Regulations for Fast & Abstinence

Abstinence from meats is to be observed by all Catholics 14 years old and older on Ash Wednesday and on all the Fridays of Lent. Fasting is to be observed on Ash Wednesday by all Catholics who are 18 years of age but not yet 59. Those who are bound by this may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

By the threefold discipline of fasting, almsgiving, and prayer, the Church keeps Lent from Ash Wednesday until the evening of Holy Thursday. All of the faithful and the catechumens should undertake the serious practice of these three traditions.

## Lenten Activities

This weekend, we will have a Lenten resource table in church with resources to help make this Lent a prayerful and holy one. We hope that these, along with the many Lenten programs we have in place, will make this a well-spent Lent.



## Lenten Activities (*continued*)

### **Almoners Lenten Ministry: Second Collection Begins This Weekend**

Starting this weekend, we will have a weekly second collection for the Almoner's Program and then each weekend during Lent. The funds raised will be used to purchase \$10.00 McDonald gift cards which parishioners can pick up at the weekend Masses and distribute to the needy encountered on the streets of our city.

Distribution of the gift cards will begin next weekend.

### **Lenten Study: *The Crucible of Racism* by Patrick Saint-Jean, SJ - First Meeting This Thursday**

The Lenten book study this year will continue the work begun last year on racism. We will be reading *The Crucible of Racism*, the second book by Patrick Saint-Jean, author of the book we shared together last year, *The Spiritual Work of Racial Justice*. In this book, Saint-Jean shows how Ignatian Spirituality and faithful hope can, in fact, change us, the Church, our nation, and the world.

We have copies of the book available for \$20. Study groups will meet in the Ministry Center on Thursday mornings at 9:00 am and Thursday evenings at 7:00 pm beginning February 23 and ending March 30. Each meeting is about one hour. Sign-up sheets are on the tables in the back of the church. For further information, email Fr. Mike Gabriel at [mgabriel@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:mgabriel@stgertrudechicago.org).

### **Stations of the Cross: Starting This Friday, February 24th**

Every Friday during Lent, we will take time from our busy schedules to reflect on the suffering journey of Christ and others in the world. On Friday afternoons at 3:00 pm, we offer the traditional way of the Cross.

At 6:30 pm, we will also have stations of the Cross joining Jesus' journey recognizing the present struggles and crosses that challenge the modern world.

### **Join our Choir**

One way to deepen your Lenten experience is through music. Please consider joining the choir and singing at the 10:30 am Sunday Masses during Lent and Holy Week. All are welcome and in particular we are looking to add some male voices. We practice on Thursday nights from 7:00-8:15 pm in the church and usually gather about 9:30 am on Sunday mornings before Mass to go over the music of the day. Email Mary Clare Barker at [mcbarker@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:mcbarker@stgertrudechicago.org) if interested.

### **Mystic Path in Song**

On Wednesday, March 15th, we will have a special evening in the Church. Titled "*The Mystic Path in Song*", the evening will feature Gerry Digman. It will be a time of reflection on the spiritual journey of the great saints and the ups and downs they faced in their own life.

Gerry will provide brief commentary for each of the eight stages of the Path, followed by songs that bring us to prayerful contemplation, deepening our understanding of the presence of God in the lives of the saints as well as in our own life. The presentation will last about an hour.





## Rectory Office Closed on Monday, February 20

Presidents Day is celebrated on Monday, February 20. The Rectory office will be closed.

The office will reopen on Tuesday, February 21 at 8:30 am.

## The NCA Soiree is Next Weekend!

Northside Catholic Academy's annual fundraising gala, the 2023 NCA Soirée, will take place next Saturday, February 25, 2023, at the Ravenswood Event Center.

This is NCA's largest fundraising event, and helps to raise funds to support academic enhancements, facility improvements, and our Guardian Angel Scholarship program. There are a number of ways you can help support NCA in bringing quality Catholic education to students in our community.



**Tickets Available!** All tickets (event, raffle, *Choose Your Own Adventure*, and *Sponsor-a-Staff*) can be purchased at [ncasoiree.com](https://ncasoiree.com).

- Enter the Grand Raffle for a chance to win \$3,000, \$2,000, or \$1,000! Raffle tickets are \$20 or 6/\$100, and you don't need to be present to win.
- Enter the *Choose Your Own Adventure* Raffle for a chance to win your choice of one of 6 fabulous trips, including an Alaskan Cruise, Barcelona, Napa Valley, Mexico, and more. Tickets are \$100—only 100 tickets will be sold.
- Save \$50 by purchasing the "All In For 2!" Deal: includes 2 event tickets, 6 raffle tickets and 1 *Choose Your Own Adventure* ticket.
- Can't attend the event? Consider sponsoring a ticket for one of NCA's amazing faculty and staff!

## Request from Heart to Heart

The Lending Closet is looking for donations of wheelchairs, transport chairs, and rollators to loan to those in need. If you know of anyone no longer using this equipment, please email [heart2heart@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:heart2heart@stgertrudechicago.org) or call 773.973.5464.



## Care for Real Food Drive in Church Next Saturday, February 25 and Sunday, February 26

*If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one. ~ Mother Teresa*

Welcome to the season of love. Love of God, love of your own goodness (a child of God), and love of your neighbor (all children of God, without exception).

As we celebrate our blessings given in love, perhaps consider sharing your gifts and donating to the St. Gertrude monthly food donation benefiting Care for Real. The first donation opportunity will be February 25-26 in the back of the Church.

Care for Real currently serves more than 1,300 families per week (almost double the need from one year ago), while its share of food donations from the Chicago Food Depository has declined dramatically (from 7,500 lbs. per week to 5,200 lbs. per week).

Please see the list of requested items in the above image. Show some love and care, for real.

### Help St. Gertrude Support Care for Real

*With a Monthly Continuous Food and Supply Drive!*

Let's help families in need all through the year!

Please fill our bins for Care for Real outreach in our community



#### Donations Needed:

Canned goods

Non-perishable foods

Rice, cooking oil, flour, pasta, peanut butter,

Personal hygiene products are desired, especially:

diapers size 4, 5 and 6, underwear. Full size toiletries like shampoo, toothpaste, body wash, etc.

**Drop off location: Bins in back of the church**

For more information contact:

[mcbarker@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:mcbarker@stgertrudechicago.org)



## Confirmation Information: First Retreat is Saturday, March 4

The Sacrament of Confirmation will take place next month. We ask that families of these students please note these important dates:

- **Saturday, March 4** - There is a Confirmation Retreat planned in the Social Hall from 9:00 am to noon.
- **Sunday, March 12** - After the 10:30 am Mass in Church, there is a rehearsal for Confirmation. Confirmation students are invited to stay after the rehearsal for a board game day and pizza.
- **Tuesday, March 14** - The Sacrament of Confirmation will take place at 7:00 pm in Church. Confirmation candidates are expected to attend a meeting with Bishop Bartosic at 6:30 pm in the Ministry Center.



## Thank You to our *Tribute to Florence Price* Performers and Attendees

Thank you to our musicians who performed last weekend at our Black History Month concert! We are so grateful for Mary Clare Barker, Michael Hawes, Eugenia Jeong, and Jennifer Dunne, who generously shared their talents and gave a beautiful and touching concert.

And thank you to those that attended this special event! More than 100 people came out to enjoy the event. We also appreciate all who contributed to the free will donation box, those funds will go to support St. Gertrude's ministries.

This event was sponsored by the Music Performance Trust Fund, which is part of the Chicago Federation of Musicians.

*Photos courtesy of John Floeter, Chicago Federation of Musicians.*



## A Note From Bishop Bartosic About NCA

Recently, Northside Catholic Academy learned of the need for leadership change at the end of this academic year. Parents, teachers and clergy were invited to a meeting earlier this month to discern a new path forward.

The goal is to grow a robust, diverse, urban Catholic school serving the North side of Chicago. The wellbeing of children, the stability of the school, and a shared vision for a bright, sustainable future are of paramount importance as this community embarks on the journey of change.

Our first step is to assemble a collaborative team of people to serve on a committee to select a leader. I am looking for volunteers from NCA teachers, school administrators, parents of current NCA students, Board of Specified Jurisdiction members, clergy from sponsoring parishes, members of sponsoring parishes, and community partners (business, education, government).

If you are interested in serving on this committee, please speak to your pastor, who has a tool that will help me learn more about you. I will keep you informed of our progress.

With humility, I ask that you pray for the process, trust in it, and offer suggestions aimed at a bright future for Catholic education in our neighborhood.



## Growing in Faith

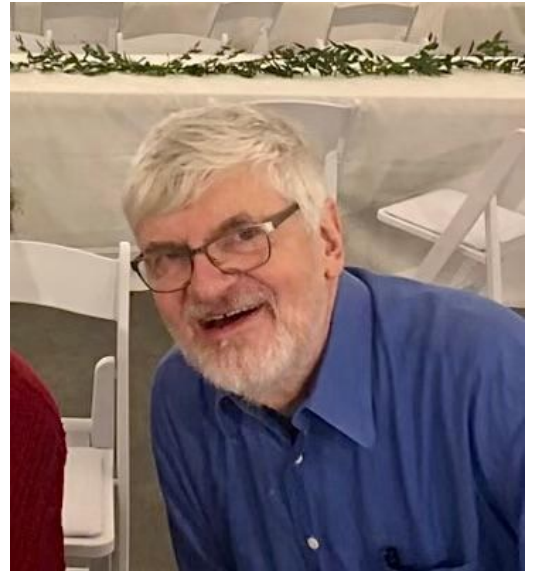
"Nothing is as it appears." OK, that is confusing. However, I am told that this is what quantum mechanics instructs us, as does – apparently – much of the rest of modern science. Our five senses are not the truest guides to what is. Common sense may well betray us, especially the deeper you inquire.

Jesus in today's reading from Matthew 5:38-48 says something similar to me about the realm of human conduct: our "common sense" may not be the truest guide. "You have heard that it was said, You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I say to you ....". Here, too, the deeper you go, the less you can rely on common sense.

Now, do I really understand this? Or live my life accordingly? Of course not, or mainly not. I rarely turn the other cheek or walk the extra mile or love my enemy and pray for those who persecute me.

But, like the good non-scientist that I am, I accept – as best I can – the insights of physicists and microbiologists, etc. Likewise, in the quite different realm of the spiritual, I can sense – as best as I can – the overwhelming importance of this new understanding or Good News, both of self and of neighbor, that Jesus has taught. While I can't be sure where today's readings are leading me...I am prepared to follow where they lead.

- John Williams



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## Loving Outreach to Survivors of Suicide (LOSS) Group

Catholic Charities' Loving Outreach to Survivors of Suicide Loss (LOSS) offers in-person and online support groups for adults who are grieving the loss of a loved one to suicide.

Since 1979, LOSS has helped guide individuals and families through this



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challenging grieving process. Our individual and group sessions provide safe, nonjudgmental environments where survivors can share their feelings and experiences.

Participants receive information and hope from veteran facilitators who help new members realize that they are not alone, and that they will not feel this confusion and deep sadness for the rest of their lives.

LOSS groups are also supported by licensed mental health professionals who meet survivors wherever they are in the grieving process.

For more information, email [loss@catholiccharities.net](mailto:loss@catholiccharities.net), call 312.655.7283, or visit <https://www.catholiccharities.net/behavioral-health-programs/loss-loving-outreach-to-survivors-of-suicide/>.



## Pastoral Migratoria

### LENTEN CAMPAIGN

## 40 Days of Prayer, Fasting and Action for Immigration Reform

Join us live via Zoom (Meeting ID: 87423832789) or Facebook Live

Every Wednesday in Lent at 6 p.m. CST | 7 p.m. EST | 4 p.m. PST

Starting Ash Wednesday, February 22 through Holy Week, April 5

All are welcome to join in the 2023 Multilingual Lenten Campaign for Immigration Reform. The campaign provides the opportunity to share one's faith through prayer, fasting and acts of mercy to raise awareness of the need for immigration reform.

Please register at [bit.ly/lenten-rosary](https://bit.ly/lenten-rosary). For more information, please visit [pvm.archchicago.org/immigration-lenten-campaign](https://pvm.archchicago.org/immigration-lenten-campaign). Contact Mauro Pineda at [mpineda@archchicago.org](mailto:mpineda@archchicago.org) or 312.534.8103 or Huguet Gonzalez at [mdgonzalez@archchicago.org](mailto:mdgonzalez@archchicago.org), with any questions and/or if you would like to pray a decade in your native language.



### New Parishioners

- Marc Sycip & Elizabeth Wilson

### Rest in Peace

- There will be a memorial Mass at St. Gertrude for Phyllis Mahoney on Saturday, February 25 at 10:00 am.

### Baptisms

- Nicholas and Nicolette Gomez, children of Andres and Danielle Gomez

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

### Ministers of the Word:

- Saturday, February 18 at 5:00 pm - Millie Slane, Jennifer Kiedaisch
- Sunday, February 19 at 8:00 am - Jacalyn Meier, Hallie Burhoe
- Sunday, February 19 at 10:30 am - Rafael Melendez, Rose Karasti

### Cantors & Musicians:

- Saturday, February 18 at 5:00 pm - Amir Ghazaleh
- Sunday, February 19 at 8:00 am - Jon Blake
- Sunday, February 19 at 10:30 am - Dana Sullivan

### Eucharistic Ministers:

- Saturday, February 18 at 5:00 pm - Kathleen Dawson
- Sunday, February 19 at 8:00 am - Kathryn Stimac
- Sunday, February 19 at 10:30 am - Annie Hasselbeck, Steven Hasselbeck, Lisa Schneider

### Altar Servers:

- Sunday, February 19 at 10:30 am - Cross Bearer - Carter Dent; Acolytes - Adonai Agdubai, Mariyam Agdubai

## Mass Intentions

- **Monday, February 20:** 7:30 am - James Corbett †
- **Tuesday, February 21:** 7:30 am - Living and deceased Torreano family members
- **Ash Wednesday, February 22:** 7:30 am - Mary Jo Martin †; 8:30 am - St. Gertrude parishioners; 6:30 pm - St. Gertrude parishioners
- **Thursday, February 23:** 7:30 am - Communion Service
- **Friday, February 24:** 7:30 am - Purgatorial Society
- **Saturday, February 25:** 7:30 am - Living and deceased parents of St. Gertrude parishioners; 5:00 pm - Thomas Harrison †
- **Sunday, February 26:** 8:00 am - St. Gertrude parishioners; 10:30 am - Calero Family †; 10:30 am Gym Mass - Living and deceased Torreano family members

(† indicates the person is deceased)

## Mass Times/Reconciliation/Rectory 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.

## Please Pray for our Parishioners and Friends

- |                    |                   |                        |
|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| • Zara Bradley     | • Gina Heidkamp   | • John Nardella        |
| • Lilly Buie       | • Maria Hertl     | • Richard Seitz        |
| • Aida Calvopina   | • Bernice Kiedysz | • Elinora E. Tolentino |
| • KC Conway        | • Marilyn Klein   | • Manuel & Norma Viray |
| • Ann Collins Dole | • Patricia Meade  | • Leon Ward            |
| • Luke Fitzgerald  | • Karey Myers     | • Yyes Yoza            |

If you would like to add a name to the prayer list, please contact the Rectory office at 773.764.3621 or email [stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org). Names will remain on the list for three weeks. After that time, please renew the name using same contact information.

## 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](http://www.stgertrudechicago.org)
- GiveCentral: [www.givecentral.org/location/8/allevants](http://www.givecentral.org/location/8/allevants)

Email [esoto@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:esoto@stgertrudechicago.org) for additional information.

## Parish Staff

Rev. Michael Gabriel, Parish Administrator  
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 Director  
Eduardo Soto, Director of Parish Management  
Patricia Sullivan, Heart to Heart Director