

"This is my
beloved Son.
Listen to him."

St. Gertrude Chicago

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773.764.3621

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www.stgertrudechicago.org

**Bulletin for Sunday,
February 25, 2024**
Second Sunday of Lent

From Fr. Mike

Here we are at the second week of Lent. The sanctuary has three crosses in the middle of

our worship space; these will remain there all the days of Lent as a reminder of both the suffering and salvation that has been won for us.

The cross is rich in symbolism, representing not just an instrument of torture and death, but also a beacon of hope, redemption, and love.

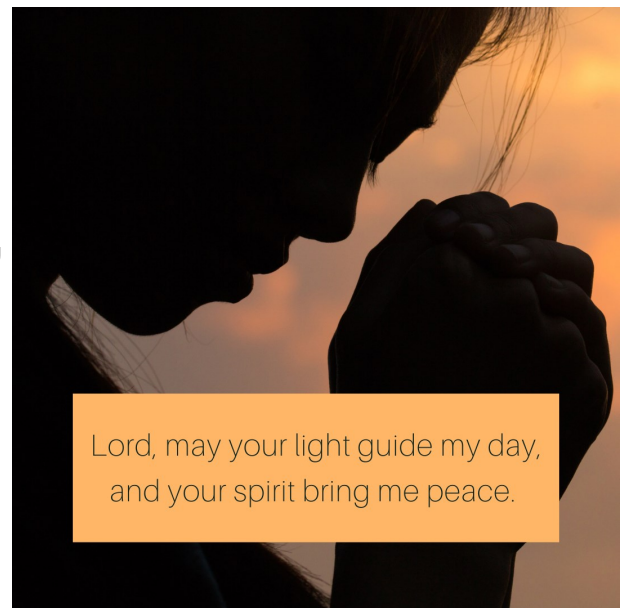
At its core, the cross embodies the ultimate sacrifice made by Jesus Christ for the salvation of humanity. It serves as a reminder of the unfathomable love of God, who sent His only Son to suffer and die on behalf of every of every human heart.

In my private prayer, I started sitting with a cross on my lap. In those moments, I make every effort to clear my mind of my agenda and just allow the feel of the wood, the shape of the corpus to speak to me as I run my hands over the cross.

I will admit, I am not always successful as my mind gets cluttered with the thoughts of the day, the things that need to get accomplished or things that I forgot to do. But a good bit of the time, the silence, the stillness and stirring of God's spirit offers profound thoughts of God's love for me. I urge you to try this homespun spiritual practice and see what fruit it might bear in your own life.

As we continue into this season of Lent, may the crosses that stands in this holy place, the cross that hangs on the wall of your home, the one attached to your rosary, or that runs through your fingers in you moments of quiet prayer be a reminder not only of the suffering and death, but especially the depth of God's love and the lengths to which God is willing to go to reconcile you to God's very self.

Know of my prayers for each of you during this holy season of Lent.



Lord, may your light guide my day,
and your spirit bring me peace.

Lenten Events & Activities



Lent at St. Gertrude Parish

Fridays: Eucharistic Adoration and Two Stations of the Cross

Each Friday during Lent, there is Eucharistic Adoration from noon until 3:00 pm.

Mark your calendars so that you can participate in Stations of the Cross each Friday. Walk in the footsteps of Jesus and be reminded of God's love for us and the sacrifice that was made to save us.

At 3:00 pm, we offer a traditional Way of the Cross. Another Stations of the Cross is held at 6:30 pm on Fridays with a social justice theme. On Good Friday, March 29, our Youth Group will lead a Living Stations of the Cross.

Wednesdays: Simple Suppers and a Lenten Bible Study

Every Wednesday during Lent, including this Wednesday, February 28, there is a special Lenten Retreat/Bible Study series, led by Father Paul. The title is *The Silence of God: Finding God in a Void*. There is both a morning session at 10:00 am and an evening session at 7:00 pm in the Ministry Center.

This Wednesday, there is a Simple Supper at 6:00 pm. More information about both of these activities appears on page 3.

Sacrament of Reconciliation Opportunities

If it has been a while since you have last celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation, every Saturday from 4:00-4:45 pm, private confession is available. There is a communal parish reconciliation service on Sunday, March 17 at 1:00 pm; another for all the parishes in our deanery (Deanery 2B) is on Monday, March 25 (Monday of Holy Week) at 7:00 pm at the St. Ita campus of Mother of God Parish.

Almoners Lenten Ministry

Our parish's Almoners' Program will be held again. Each weekend, a second collection is held, with funds used to distribute McDonald's Cards to those who are in need. At the end of each Mass, those wishing to participate in distributing cards to the needy will be invited to come forward, receive the cards, and be given a blessing as they go out in this charitable outreach.

Loyola Event This Tuesday

This Tuesday, February 27, 2024, Loyola's Hank Center will host the annual Newman Lecture from 7:00-8:30 pm in the McCormick Lounge, Coffey Hall, LSC. This event is free and open to the public

This year's Newman Lecturer is Professor Jason Blakely from Pepperdine University. His lecture is entitled, "Atheist!: A Story of Conversion."

2024 Annual Newman Lecture featuring Jason Blakely

Atheist!: A Story of Conversion

February 27, 2024
7:00 - 8:30 PM CDT
McCormick Lounge,
Coffey Hall, LSC



This year's Newman Lecturer is **Professor Jason Blakely** from Pepperdine University, a political philosopher and leading scholar of contemporary "communitarian" and post-liberal thought. Please join us to hear his story!





Lenten Simple Supper Planned for February 28

All are welcome to join us during Lent for Simple Suppers, offered weekly in the Ministry Center at 6:00 pm. On Wednesday, February 28, St. Gertrude's Music Ministry will host the second Simple Supper.

Additional dates and hosts are:

Wednesday, March 6 - the Men's Basketball League

Wednesday, March 13 - the Prayer Porch Ministry

Wednesday, March 20 - TBD

Wednesday, March 27 - the Gym Mass

Thank you to those who joined us last week!

Lenten Bible Study Each Wed.!

Please join Fr. Paul Adajà for a special Lenten Bible study, ***The Silence of God: Finding God in a Void!*** The sessions will be held twice on Wednesdays, at 10:00-11:00 am and again from 7:00-8:00 pm. Here are the dates, topics, and the readings:

- **February 28** - Habakkuk: *Habakkuk 1:1-14; 3: 1-19*
- **March 6** - Elijah on Horeb: *1 Kings 19: 1-18*
- **March 13** - The Syrophenician Woman: *Mark 7: 24-30*
- **March 20** - Jesus on the Cross: *Mark 14: 32-42; 15:33-41; Psalm 22*

The programs will be held in the Ministry Center. The evening sessions will be live-streamed on our

Facebook page, [facebook.com/stgertrudechicago](https://www.facebook.com/stgertrudechicago). Questions? Email Fr. Paul at padaja@stgertrudechicago.org.



Wednesday Evening Rosaries for Immigration Reform

All are welcome to join in the 2024 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 <https://bit.ly/lenten-rosary>. The group meets every Wednesday at 6:00 pm during Lent through March 27 via Zoom (Meeting ID: 84967379237) or Facebook Live at <https://www.facebook.com/pastoral.migratoria/>.





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.

Collection for Asylum Seekers is Next Weekend

Thank you to those who brought items for this weekend's food and supply drive for Care for Real!

Next weekend, March 2-3, is our food and supply drive for asylum seekers. Care for Real has requested the following for asylum seekers:

Protein bars	Juice boxes	New underwear
Ramen/instant noodles	Fruit cups	Shampoo/conditioner
Snack size chips and crackers	Menstrual pads	Body wipes
	Gloves, no other winter wear	Bar soap



Join us at the **19th annual Soiree** on **Saturday March 2, 2024** at Loyola University!

Live & silent auctions, raffle prizes, music, dancing, dinner & drinks

7:00 – 11:00 p.m. • 1020 West Sheridan Road

SCAN HERE TO BUY TICKETS OR SUPPORT NCA



- Buy a Grand Raffle ticket (prizes up to \$3,000!)
- Choose your Own Adventure experience
- Sponsor a Teacher to attend the Soiree
- Donate to NCA or provide an auction item
- Bid on auction items starting February 14

Save the Date! NCA's Soiree is Next Saturday, March 2

The 2024 NCA Soiree will be held on Saturday, March 2 at Loyola University with food, drinks, dancing and a live auction.

Tickets can be purchased at ncasoiree.com, where we're also selling tickets for the Grand Raffle. Three winners of the Grand Raffle will receive either \$1,000, \$2,000, or a \$3,000 prize. The buyer does not need to be present at the event to win.

Checks accepted & made payable to: NCA Soiree
(Attn: Leigh Holzman) 6216 N. Glenwood Ave., Chicago, IL 60660



PreCana Class Offered at St. Gertrude on Saturday, March 2 and Saturday, September 7

PreCana classes at St. Gertrude are primarily intended for couples getting married at St. Gertrude. Before registering, you must speak with Father Mike Gabriel about your planned wedding at St. Gertrude or receive consent to attend if you are getting married at a different parish.

These full day, in-person gatherings on Saturday, March 2 and Saturday, September 7 are dedicated to considering your life together as a

married couple. Led by a facilitator couple from St. Gertrude, each session begins at 9:00 am and features presentations, prayers, and discussions with your partner and 5-10 other couples. Lunch and snacks are provided.

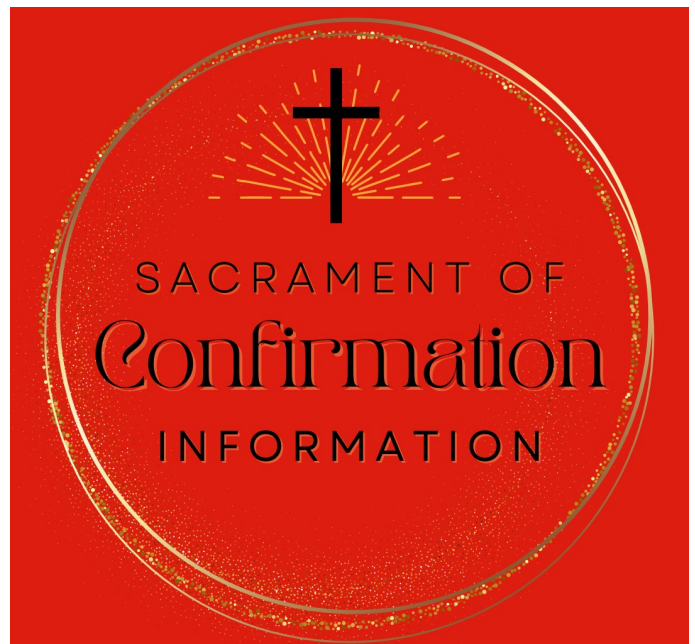
Couples can register for either session by calling the Rectory office at 773.764.3621 or by filling out an online PreCana registration form at <https://stgertrudechicago.org/marriage>. If a sufficient number of couples do not sign up for a specific date, the session will be canceled and you will be provided with information to sign up somewhere else.

The cost of PreCana is covered by the church fee couples planning a wedding at St. Gertrude are charged.

Confirmation Information: Important Dates

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

- **Sunday, March 10** - After the 10:30 am Mass in Church, there is a rehearsal for Confirmation.
- **Tuesday, March 12** - 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.
- **Thursday, April 25** - There is a second Confirmation Retreat planned in the Ministry Center from 6:00 - 8:00 pm.



Next Book Club is Monday, March 11

Please join the book club in the Ministry Center on Monday, March 11 at 7:00 pm. We will discuss *The Diamond Eye* by Kate Quinn, and we would love new voices and opinions. There are 22 copies of the book available at the Chicago Public Library.

On Monday, April 8, our group will talk about *The Man Who Broke out of Auschwitz to Warn the World* by Jonathan Freeland. The library has 26 copies of the book.

Contact Lea Cloninger at 773.973.2465 or Sue Benjamin at 773.551.8401 with questions.



Teens are Invited to Register for St. Gertrude's Youth Mission Experience

This summer, from July 22-26, parish teens are invited to take part in St. Gertrude's Youth Mission Experience! Teens in sixth grade through high school will volunteer with a different Chicagoland organization each day. This is an excellent opportunity to have fun and earn volunteer hours!

There is a \$100 fee for the week. A \$50 deposit is required at the time of registration. Please note that there are scholarships available!

All participants will receive a t-shirt, water bottle, and a sports drawstring backpack.

To reserve a spot or for more information, contact pastoral associate Eloy Escamilla at eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org.

Sign Up for Emails from St. Gertrude Parish!

If you would like to receive parish bulletins/emails from our parish or your email address has changed, please let us know!

Send an email to news@stgertrudechicago.org and specify if you would prefer just the weekly bulletin, distributed on Thursday afternoons, or our daily prayer/reflection with notices about upcoming parish events.



Almoners Lenten Ministry

Each weekend during Lent, we will have a weekly second collection for the Almoner's Program. The funds raised are used to purchase \$10.00 McDonald gift cards which parishioners can pick up at the weekend Masses and shared with those in need.

Last weekend we collected **\$1,1108.75!** Thank you for your generosity!

Holy Week: Looking for New Choir Members

We are looking for additional singers to join our choir for Holy Thursday and our Easter Vigil services.

Rehearsals will take place each Thursday from 7:00-9:00 pm in church. There is no rehearsal on February 28.

Please contact Kathryn Flynn, our Music Director at kflynn@stgertrudechicago.org with questions!



APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN!

☎ (773) 743-6277

💻 northsidecatholic.org

📍 6216 N. Glenwood Ave., Chicago, IL 60660



NCA: Be a Part of Something Greater

The best way to learn about Northside Catholic Academy and to see if it's the right fit for your family is to walk through our halls and visit our classrooms. We encourage prospective parents to discover first-hand what makes NCA a Blue Ribbon School. We accept applications up to one year in advance.

Private admissions tours are available by appointment. Please contact Brad Gschwendtner at bgschwendtner@ncaschools.com or 773.743.6277 with any questions about our admissions process or to schedule a tour.

Growing in Faith

Abraham and Sarah, raising the son God gave them in their old age, probably protected Isaac carefully. God's irrational directive to sacrifice Isaac tested Abraham's obedience. Tested, he found God to be compassionate.

I sense that we will likely never have a rational relationship with God. "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord in Isaiah. Do we feel God's presence most when we are in the middle of chaos, tragedy, depression, and endless tears? My answer to that is a resounding, "YES!"

When my mother died I knew immediately that I had lost the most important person in my life. I felt as if I could not survive this huge loss. I swept my hands across her shoulders, telling her, "I love you" for the last time. Then I walked out of the hospital into the most beautiful snowfall I have ever seen. Weeks passed full of tears and insomnia. Then, when I was alone one day, I felt a soft wind and a hand touching my shoulder with a force beyond shadow, chilling and comforting me at the same time. I knew that I would never be able to rationally translate into this experience in mere words.

Does God's presence come through when we think we cannot make it through the circumstances that are handed to us? Yes, I believe it does!

~ Margy Skelly



Financial Report for February 17-18

Sunday Collection Envelopes: \$2,094.00

Loose Checks: \$430.00

Loose Cash/Coins: \$840.00

Online Donations: \$2,181.12

Total Collected: -\$5,545.12

Budgeted: \$10,000.00

Difference: -\$4,454.88

Year-to-date Collected FY 2024: \$372,002.54

Year-to-date Budgeted FY 2024: \$386,400.00

Difference: -\$14,397.46

How to Watch our Live-Streamed Masses

Our Sunday 10:30 am Masses are live-streamed weekly on our parish Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/stgertrudechicago/live/>, then posted on our parish's YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/@saintgertrude1117/videos>.

Parish Information

New Parishioners

- Brandon, Myriam Elijah, Kiyomi, and Kyllian Dziubanek
 - Byran & Cari Pyka

Rest in Peace

- Erica Maria Kast, daughter of Maggie Kast
- Karey Myers

Please Pray for our Parishioners and Friends

- | | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| • Carlos Barragan | • Luke Fitzgerald | • Andy Mueller |
| • Patrick Barton | • Tim Giles | • Donald Nyderek |
| • Zara Bradley | • Gina Heidkamp | • Dealina Peon |
| • Lilly Buie | • Rochelle Hernandez | • Claude Poulsen |
| • Hallie Burhoe | • Maria Hertl | • Charley Scantlebury |
| • Maggie Callaway | • Erica Maria Kast | • Richard Seitz |
| • Aida Calvopina | • Marilyn Klein | • Willy Spalla |
| • Claire Conley | • Ignacio Lopez | • Elinora E. Tolentino |
| • Barb Daly | • Carleen Lorys | • Manuel & Norma Viray |
| • Denise DeBelle | • Matilde Manzardo | • Leon Ward |
| • David Denegas | • Janet McCulley | • Ron Whitfield |
| • Ann Collins Dole | • Nancy Michael | • Yyes Yoza |
| • Mr. and Mrs. Emin Euman | • Daniel Moore | • Joel Pozzi Zio |

Contact the Rectory office at 773.764.3621 or email stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org if you would like to add a name to the prayer list.

Cantors, Musicians, Ministers of the Word, Eucharistic Ministers, & Altar Servers for This Weekend

Ministers of the Word

- Saturday, February 24 at 5:00 pm - Joseph McMahan, Roman Reyes
- Sunday, February 25 at 8:00 am - Jennifer Kiedaisch, Kathryn Stimac
- Sunday, February 25 at 10:30 am - Eric Ameyaw, Joe Dunne

Eucharistic Ministers

- Saturday, February 24 at 5:00 pm - Michelle Kuehlhorn
- Sunday, February 25 at 8:00 am - Barb Daly
- Sunday, February 25 at 10:30 am - Maria Ugarte, Carlos Barragan, Lisa Schneider

Altar Servers

- Sunday, February 25 at 10:30 am - Carter Dant, cross bearer; Wyatt Dant, and Jayson Ameyaw, acolytes

Cantors and Musicians

- Saturday, February 24 at 5:00 pm - Katherine V. & Malia H.
- Sunday, February 25 at 8:00 am - Kathryn Flynn
- Sunday, February 25 at 10:30 am - Rob Schroeder

Mass Intentions

- **Sunday, February 25:** 8:00 am - Betty McKee+; 10:30 am in church - Robert Nelson+; 10:30 am Gym Mass - David Sierzega+
- **Monday, February 26:** 7:30 am - Feliza Velasquez+
- **Tuesday, February 27:** 7:30 am - Feliza Velasquez+
- **Wednesday, February 28:** 7:30 am - Feliza Velasquez+
- **Thursday, February 29:** 7:30 am - Communion Service
- **Friday, March 1:** 7:30 am - Feliza Velasquez+
- **Saturday, March 2:** 7:30 am - Feliza Velasquez+; 5:00 pm - Jo Ann Joyce+

Donate to our Parish

- 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/allevnts
- Questions? Reach out to Eduardo Soto, St. Gertrude's business manager, via email at esoto@stgertrudechicago.org for additional information.

Mass Times/Reconciliation/Rector 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 Rector at 773.764.3621. **There is a communal parish reconciliation service on Sunday, March 17 at 1:00 pm.**
- The Rector office is open Monday-Friday from 8:30 am-4:30 pm and Saturday from 9:00 am - 2:30 pm. For the most up-to-date information, visit stgertrudechicago.org.

Parish Staff and Contact Info

Rev. Michael Gabriel, Pastor—mgabriel@stgertrudechicago.org

Fr. Paul Adajà, Associate Pastor—padaja@archchicago.org

Eloy Escamilla, Pastoral Associate—eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org

Kathryn Flynn, Minister of Music—kflynn@stgertrudechicago.org

Sherl Patterson, Office Manager—spatterson@stgertrudechicago.org

Laurie Hasbrook, Heart to Heart Lending Closet Manager—lhasbrook@stgertrudechicago.org

Andy Mueller, Parish Buildings Engineer—stgertrude1420@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.