



St. Gertrude Chicago

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Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 6, 2022

A Thank You Note to the Parish From Fr. Mike Bradley

Dear Parishioners of Saint Gertrude,

Your outpouring of affection for my retirement celebration was simply amazing! Thank you very much for all your thoughtfulness and kindness. Last weekend's celebrations were both uplifting as well as overwhelming! I will never forget your many expressions of love and appreciation. At some moments over the recent days, I began to wonder if we were celebrating a retirement, or a organizing a petition for canonization! I assure you that I'll never be beatified or canonized, but your good wishes will echo in my heart forever no matter where I go. I hope that you enjoyed the cookies (baked at Misericordia), and I also hope that you'll wear the Saint Gertrude wristband with pride. Please keep me in your prayers, and I assure you that you are in my prayers.

There are so many people I have to thank for all your kindness shown to me, but let me mention especially Father Rich Prendergast, Father Mike Gabriel, Mary Clare Barker, Kevin Cheers, Tim Harrington, Dorothea and Mike Tobin, Jane Callahan-Moore, Eduardo Soto, Eloy Escamilla, and Laurie Hasbrook.

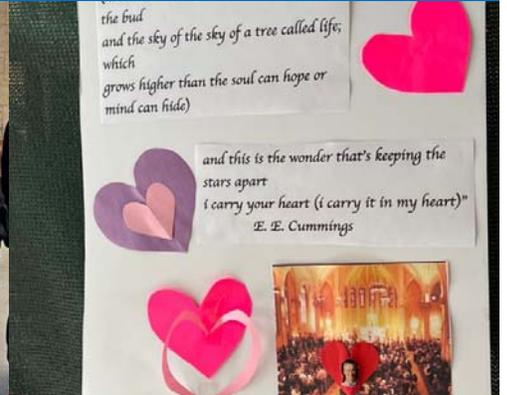
I am grateful to everyone for your incredible thoughtfulness and generosity. For everyone else whom I've not mentioned by name, please accept my heartfelt gratitude. A huge thank you to everyone!

~ Father Mike Bradley P.S. My email address is mbradley@archchicago.org.





Thank You for 15 Beautiful Years, Fr. Mike!



All images from last weekend can be found on the home page of our website, stgertrudechicago.com.



We are so grateful to everyone who came out to bless Fr. Mike Bradley last weekend as he begins the next phase of his life - retirement! The entire weekend was wonderful, so filled with love and heartfelt memories.

We especially would like to thank Dorothea and Mike Tobin, the Confirmation class of 2022, all of our cantors and musicians, all those who wrote reflections, Rogers Park Florist, Tim Harrington, and Misericordia Bakery and for their assistance with making the celebration so beautiful.

Fr. Mike was so touched with the celebration and he leaves St. Gertrude knowing how much he was appreciated and loved. Thank you!

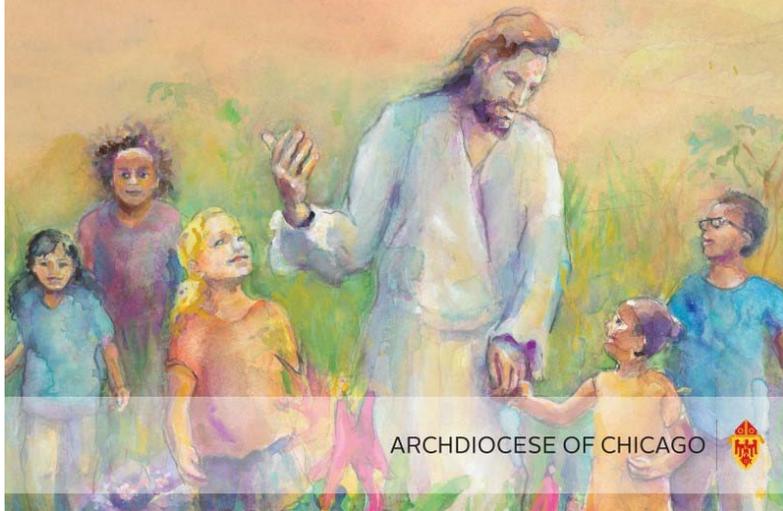




2022 Annual Catholic Appeal

Making all things new...

God's promise and our responsibility



2022 Annual Catholic Appeal

Many families in our parish will be receiving the Annual Catholic Appeal mailing from Cardinal Cupich. On behalf of those served by the ministries, parishes, and schools that receive funding from the Appeal, we thank you for your gifts. Please return your response as soon as possible.

The Annual Catholic Appeal offers a wonderful opportunity to answer the call "Making all things new ... God's promise and our responsibility." In addition to providing for ministries and services throughout the archdiocese, the Appeal also funds services that are of great help here in our parish. For example, training

new Ministers of Care for our Heart to Heart Ministry of outreach to the sick and elderly.

As we contemplate God's many gifts to us, we should also reflect on our gratitude. Your financial support for the work of our parish, our archdiocese, and the Church throughout the world is one way to express this gratitude. Please give what you can to the 2022 Annual Catholic Appeal.

This Thursday, February 10: First Communion Parent Meeting

There is a parent meeting on Thursday, February 10 at 6:30 pm in the Social Hall, 1401 West Granville Avenue, for children who will make their First Communion in May.

Please note our requirements stated in our Religious Ed handbook, "Any student who wishes to receive the Sacrament of Communion in St. Gertrude Church in 2022 must have received the Sacraments of Baptism and Reconciliation, and have completed at least two years of preparation for the reception of the sacrament."

We do ask that parents only attend and thank you in advance for being on time.

~ Eloy Escamilla, Pastoral Associate, Religious Education and Youth Ministry



Free At-Home Rapid COVID Test Kits Available: Every household in the U.S. is now eligible to order four free at-home COVID-19 tests from the government. Visit [COVIDtests.gov](https://www.covidtests.gov) and fill out the contact information and shipping address. Orders are expected to ship in 7-12 days and will be delivered by the U.S. Postal Service.

Place Your Orders This Weekend for the MWA Super Bowl Tamale Benefit

The Midwest Workers Association (MWA) is a free and voluntary membership association of low-income workers in the Chicago area. MWA volunteers will be in the back of church this Saturday, February 5 and Sunday, February 6 after Mass to take orders for their Annual Super Bowl Tamale Benefit.

Tamales will be brought to St. Gertrude next weekend, Saturday, February 12 and Sunday, February 13, for pick-up after Mass. Visit <https://bit.ly/MWATamaleBenefit> for more details.



Want Cash or an Amazing Vacation?

JOIN NCA SOIREE'S GRAND RAFFLE AND CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE FUNDRAISERS!

TICKET
\$5,000 GRAND PRIZE!

NORTHSIDE CATHOLIC ACADEMY

ALL EXPENSE PAID VACATION!
6 CHOICES!

FOR MORE INFO AND TO PURCHASE TICKETS, VISIT NCASOIREE.COM

NCA Soiree 2022

Join NCA parents and alum for a night of casino-themed fun on Saturday, February 26. The 16th annual NCA Soirée will be held at the Theater on the Lake, located at 2401 N. Lake Shore Drive, and will celebrate NCA teachers, staff, and families. Tickets includes food, drink, entertainment, and more!

NCA is currently running two fundraisers for the 2022 NCA Soiree, a grand raffle with a grand prize of \$5,000 dollars and a choose your own vacation with six options!

Log in to NCA's Bidding for Good website at ncasoiree.com to purchase tickets! All proceeds from the 2022 NCA Soirée support the students and programs of Northside Catholic Academy.

NCA Offering Individual Tours

NCA is now registering for the 2022-2023 school year! Thinking of joining Northside Catholic Academy? If so, consider signing up for one of our individual tours!

To come explore our campus or learn more about our curriculum, call 773.743.6277 ext. 207 or contact Jacob Utz at jutz@ncaschools.com.

A graphic with a blue background. On the left, a young girl in a school uniform and pink face mask is shown. In the center is the Northside Catholic Academy logo, which features a cross and a stylized 'N' inside a circle. To the right, the text reads "Thinking of Joining NCA? Schedule an individual tour today!" At the bottom, it says "Learn more at NorthsideCatholic.org or call 773-743-6277 ext. 207" and "Join Us Today!" in a white button.

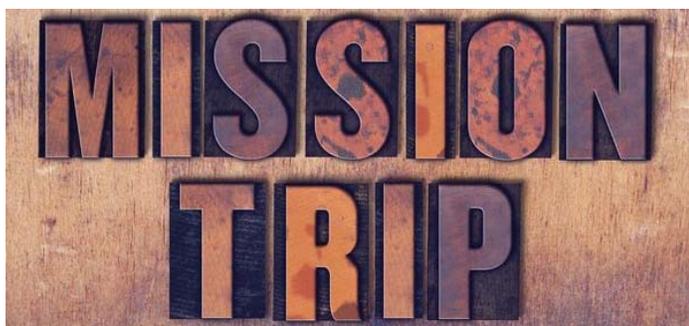
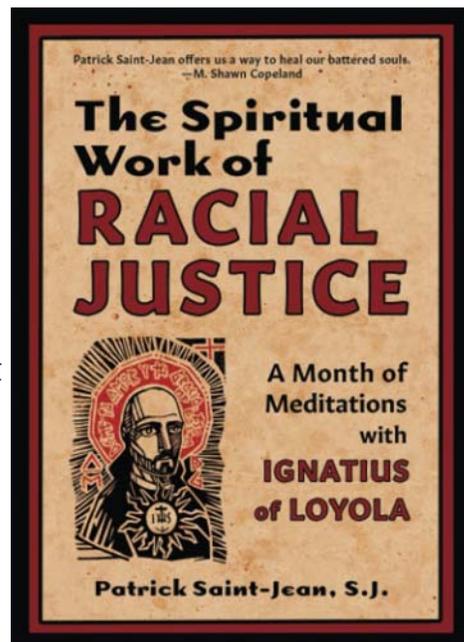
Palms Up for Lent: Additional Lenten Opportunities

With Lent quickly approaching (Ash Wednesday is March 2), the Peace and Justice Ministry invites everyone to participate in social justice focused Lenten devotions that are being offered. As mentioned in previous bulletins, we will be offering Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 6:30 pm in addition to the traditional 3:00 pm. The Almoner's program of McDonald's gift card distribution will be offered again this year.

This week, we are highlighting another option. St. Gertrude's will be offering small prayer and learning groups focused on anti racism. The groups will be using *The Spiritual Works of Racial Justice*, written by Patrick Saint Jean, S.J. His work offers reflections on how taking an anti-racism position is not an optional aspect of a spiritual life, but rather it is essential to becoming all that God calls us to be. This will be an opportunity to come together in reflection and prayer using this resource.

If you would like to sign up and be part of one of these groups, if you are part of an ongoing group that would be interested in exploring this topic during Lent, or willing to be a group leader, please let us know! Sign up by emailing Maria Garcia at the Rectory office at stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org or Father Mike at mgabriel@stgertrudechicago.org.

~ Fr. Mike Gabriel



Deposit Due Next Weekend for Summer Mission Trip to Lake Traverse, South Dakota

The youth group's Summer Mission Trip will be July 17-22. The group will travel to Lake Traverse, South Dakota. All teens in grades 7-12

who attend parish youth group meetings regularly are welcome to take part in this jam-packed week of service, friendship, and fun! Space is limited.

The cost is \$379 per person, not including transportation. **A nonrefundable \$50 deposit is due by Sunday, February 13, 2022.** A nonrefundable half payment of \$100 is due by Monday, February 28. The final payment deadline date will be shared in the future. We are organizing some fundraising events to offset these expenses.

Please consider two factors when deciding about the Mission Trip - the pandemic is likely to still be ongoing in July and we are traveling to and from South Dakota in a passenger van. (A close space considering the pandemic.)

For more information about the mission trip, please visit the Lake Traverse Youth Mission Trip YouthWorks website at <https://youthworks.com/trips/lake-traverse/>. If you have any questions, please email me at eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org.

~ Eloy Escamilla, Pastoral Associate, Religious Education and Youth Ministry



Growing in Faith

There's a wonderful image in this weekend's first reading which starts with Isaiah saying he's doomed because he is "a man of unclean lips." So, God sends an angel with an ember from the altar fire to cleanse Isaiah's lips. That sounds like a pretty painful thing to undergo, and maybe it's a reminder that following God is no picnic.

But it's only part of the lesson, this cleansing of Isaiah's sin. The second part is God asking: "Whom shall I send?" Who will deliver God's message? And the prophet answers: "Here I am. Send me."

A common misunderstanding of saints is to think of them as perfect plaster statues. Not true, as anyone who's ever been called a saint will tell you. We're all sinners — you, me, and everyone else. We're all saints, too. Or, at least, we can choose to act like saints.

Peter knows how flawed he is when, in the gospel, he tells Jesus, "Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man." Paul, in the epistle, has the same message: "I am the least of the apostles."

Yet, Peter was the rock on which Jesus built the Christian community. And Paul was the one who travelled the world to share the good news.

When it comes to being a human being, flaws and imperfections and sin are part of the job description. Well, actually, the job description is to recognize these failings and to find a way to rise above them to do good in the world, to love and be loved.

~ Patrick T. Reardon

Please Consider a Gift to the Church that Pays You Back

As stewards of our faith, you can express your gratitude for God's gifts and help ensure that God's good work on earth continues by considering a gift to the Church that pays you back – a charitable gift annuity.

When you establish a charitable gift annuity with the archdiocese, not only will you receive fixed payments for life, but you can designate our parish, school or ministry – such as the Annual Catholic Appeal – as the remainder beneficiary.

You can schedule payments according to your financial needs, and enjoy immediate and future tax benefits, including a federal income tax deduction for a portion of your gift, if you itemize. Also, a portion of each annuity payment will be tax-free (through life expectancy). The funds remaining after your lifetime will support our parish or school – as designated by you.

For more information, please contact Eduardo Soto at esoto@stgertrudechicago.org or visit giving.archchicago.org/cga.



North Side Community Mask Drive

North Side Community Mask Drive is a community wide effort to collect child-size respirator masks, child-size surgical masks, and cleaning supplies and distribute them to local neighborhood schools facing urgent need.

The NS Community Mask Drive is currently partnering with local businesses, as well as the Edgewater Community Religious Association (ECRA), which includes St. Gertrude parish.

The group is collecting:

- Child-size N95/KN95/KF94 masks (also accepting adult sized masks for older kids)
- Child-size surgical masks
- Clorox/disinfecting wipes
- Hand sanitizer

Items can be dropped off in a marked bin at Edge of Sweetness, 6034 N. Broadway, the Andersonville Chamber of Commerce, 5217 N. Clark, or shipped to/dropped off at Church of Atonement, 5749 N. Kenmore.

Please email NSCommunityMasks@gmail.com with any questions or if you would like to help amplify, join our efforts, or receive supplies.



The **North Side Community Mask Drive** is a parent-and-community driven effort to ensure that the PPE needs of schools and communities are met.

We are accepting donations of:

- ▶ Child-sized N95/KN95/KF94
- ▶ Child-sized surgical masks
- ▶ Cleaning supplies (wipes and hand sanitizer)

SCAN HERE for more information



**DROP OFF SUPPLIES at the Andersonville Chamber of Commerce: 5217 N. Clark
Open Monday thru Friday 7:30am-4:30pm**

Contact

NSCommunitymasks@gmail.com

This Weekend's Cantors, Musicians, Ministers of the Word, and Eucharistic Ministers

Ministers of the Word:

- Saturday, February 5 at 5:00 pm in church - Millie Slane
- Sunday, February 6 at 8:00 am - Kathryn Stimac
- Sunday, February 6 at 10:30 am in church - Steve Moddle
- Sunday, February 6 10:30 am Gym Mass - TBA

Eucharistic Ministers:

- Saturday, February 5 at 5:00 pm in church - Tim Harrington
- Sunday, February 6 at 8:00 am - Marty McDermott
- Sunday, February 6 at 10:30 am in church - Patrick Robinson
- Sunday, February 6 10:30 am Gym Mass - TBA

Cantors:

- Saturday, February 5 at 5:00 pm in church - Jim Manzardo
- Sunday, February 6 at 8:00 am - Paula Dempsey
- Sunday, February 6 at 10:30 am in church - Dana Sullivan
- Sunday, February 6 10:30 am Gym Mass - TBA

Mass Intentions

- Monday, February 7: 7:30 am - James Byrnes +
- Tuesday, February 8: 7:30 am - Purgatorial Society
- Wednesday, February 9: 7:30 am - Living and deceased parents of St. Gertrude parishioners
- Thursday, February 10: 7:30 am - Communion Service
- Friday, February 11: 7:30 am - Glenn Martin +
- Saturday, February 12: 7:30 am - Deceased members of Naughton & Byrnes Families +; 5:00 pm - Hal Mann
- Sunday, February 13: 8:00 am - Ruben Villa-Ignacio +; 10:30 am in church - Betty Taylor +; 10:30 am Gym Mass - St. Gertrude parishioners

Rest in Peace

- Vincent R. Daley

New Parishioner

- Amy O'Keefe

Please Pray for our Parishioners and Friends

- Pamela Sherrod Anderson
- Helen Banta
- Jean Bautista
- Zara Bradley
- Sharon Brown
- Connie Bueck
- Lilly Buie
- Claire Bushey
- Maggie Callaway
- Aida Calvopina
- Connie Cool
- Caloy Desembrana
- Ann Collins Dole
- Christine Frisoni
- Shirley Marie Gonzales
- Gina Heidkamp
- Maria Hertl
- Daniel Hidalgo
- Patti Irwin
- Bernice Kiedysz
- Dean Mattoni
- Larry McCauley
- Molly Morris
- Karey Myers
- Tina Piemonte
- Charley Scantlebury
- Richard Seitz
- Peggy Stoffel
- The Sullivan family
- Elinora E. Tolentino
- Manuel & Norma Viray
- Valerie Williams
- 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/allevnts

Email esoto@stgertrudechicago.org for additional information.

Heart to Heart Office

Our Heart to Heart office is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 am - 2:30 pm. Contact them at 773.973.5464.

Parish Staff

Rev. Richard J. Prendergast, Pastor
Rev. Michael Gabriel, Associate Pastor
Rev. Michael Bradley, Resident Priest
Mary Clare Barker, Minister of Music
Jane Callahan-Moore, Director, Heart to Heart
Kevin Cheers, Pastoral Associate
Eloy Escamilla, Pastoral Associate for Religious Education and Youth Ministry
Maria Garcia, Rectory Office Manager
Laurie Hasbrook, Heart to Heart Lending Closet Manager
Samantha Lilly, Rectory Office
Andy Mueller, Parish Buildings Engineer
Tracy Shields, Communications
Eduardo Soto, Director of Parish Management