

Here is my servant whom
I uphold, my chosen one
with whom I am pleased,
upon whom I have put
my spirit; he shall bring
forth justice to the
nations, not crying out,
not shouting, not making
his voice heard in the
street.

Isaiah 42:1

St. Gertrude Chicago

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Bulletin for Sunday, January 11, 2026 *The Baptism of the Lord*

News From St. Gertrude

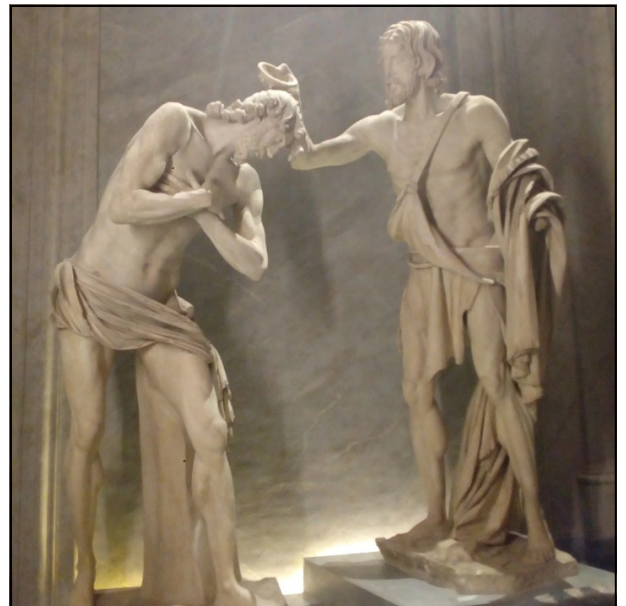
This Sunday we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, which brings the Christmas season to a close and marks the beginning of Jesus' public ministry.

As Jesus comes to the Jordan River to be baptized by John, he stands in solidarity with humanity, choosing to enter fully into our human condition. Though sinless, Jesus steps into the waters to show us the path of humility and obedience to God's will.

At Jesus' baptism, the mystery of the Trinity is beautifully revealed. The Son is baptized, the Holy Spirit descends upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father proclaims, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." This moment affirms Jesus' identity and mission and prepares him to proclaim the Kingdom of God.

The Baptism of the Lord also invites us to reflect on our own baptism. Through the waters of baptism, we were claimed as God's beloved children, freed from sin, and welcomed into the life of the Church.

As we begin Ordinary Time, this feast reminds us that our baptism is not just a moment from the past, but a lifelong call to live as disciples—listening for God's voice, trusting in God's love, and bringing Christ's light into the world.



Parish Events & Activities



Midwest Workers Association Super Bowl Tamale Benefit - Order Tamales This Weekend!

On Saturday, January 10, and Sunday, January 11, volunteers from the Midwest Workers Association (MWA) will be taking tamale orders after Mass for their annual Super Bowl Tamale Benefit.

Tamales will be delivered on Sunday, February 8, after the 8:00 am and 10:30 am Masses. Those who attend Saturday Mass are asked to come on Sunday to pick up their tamales.

This tamale benefit supports MWA's Winter Survival Campaign, which provides critical assistance to families during the cold months. The campaign includes door-to-door membership canvassing, utility-bill advocacy to prevent shutoffs and restore service, winter-watch phone calls, warm-clothing distribution, emergency food support so families don't have to choose between heating and eating, and use of MWA's office as a warming station throughout the season.

To place an order, visit the MWA table at the main church entrance or call their office at 773.285.0485. Tamales are available by the half dozen in chicken in green sauce, cheese and jalapeño (vegetarian), or black bean and cactus (vegan).

There is a suggested donation of \$10 per half dozen or \$20 per dozen.

MWA also urgently needs volunteers to help make tamales from February 2–7, as well as to assist with membership canvassing and utility-benefit advocacy. Speak with an MWA volunteer to learn how you can be part of the Winter Survival Campaign.

Join Us for the Rosary at St. Gerts

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.

Recitation of the Holy Rosary after 7:30 am Mass

Additionally, the Rosary is said every Monday through Friday in the church right after the 7:30 am mass. Please consider joining us in church—we would love to have you!





OCIA Rite of Welcoming and Acceptance is Sunday, January 11

On Sunday, January 11 at the 10:30 am Mass, our church will celebrate the Rite of Welcoming and Acceptance for OCIA members (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults):

- Antonio Knudsen
- Santiago Quintana
- Antony Moyalan
- Montserrat Villasenor
- Luis Felipe Adan
- Ashley Faye Minning Kirby
- David Martinez

Through the Rite, the church welcomes those who have been baptized in another faith or baptized Catholic as a child but never catechized in the Catholic faith, into the process of full communion with the Church.

The Rite of Acceptance recognizes the Catechumen's decision to begin the process of becoming a member of the Catholic Church through Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation.

New Parish Photo Directory Date Added: Slots Available on January 14

The remaining parish photo directory session date is Wednesday, January 14. Photos sessions are held in the Social Hall, located on the lower/basement level of 1401 W. Granville.

Appointments can be made online at schedule.ucdir.com (Church code: IL457, Password: *photos*).

Parishioners for whom this date is not suitable or having issues booking a session are invited to email Jen Reyes at stgertrudeparishcouncil@gmail.com.

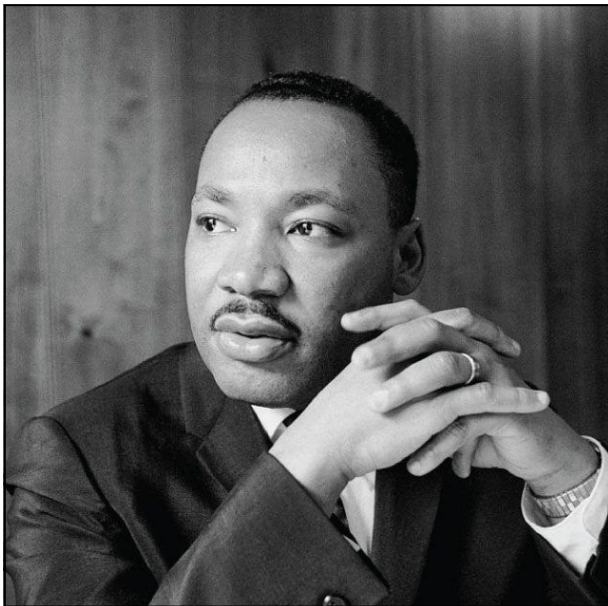


"Brewed at St. Gertrude" is January 18

Please join us on Sunday, January 18 for the first "Brewed at St. Gertrude" of 2026, our monthly parish hospitality event!

These gatherings are held following the 10:30 am church and gym masses in the Social Hall and feature pastries, coffee, tea, and hot cocoa.

All are welcome: new and long-time parishioners, families, and visitors! We would love for the entire parish to be there!



Rectory Office Closed on January 19 for MLK Day

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is Monday, January 19. There will be no Religious Ed classes on Sunday, January 18.

The Rectory office will be closed on Monday, January 19. Mass will be held at 7:30 am.

Our Online Events and Activities Calendar

Upcoming events are listed on the home page and in our [Events calendar](#), found under the *News/Programs* heading! The calendar also lists mass times and weekly activities.

Wondering about some of our [social activities](#) or [prayer groups](#)? Our *Parish Ministries* page, found under our *Get Involved* heading, shares various ways to get involved in the parish, and our [Contact Us page](#) has details on each member of our staff.

Support the Church in Latin America: Second Collection Scheduled for January 24-25

For over 50 years, Catholic dioceses in the United States have participated in the bishops' special annual collection for the Church in Latin America as a sign of solidarity and unity with Catholics in Central and South America and the islands of the Caribbean. For many living in Latin America and the Caribbean, a rising secular culture, difficult rural terrain, and a shortage of ministers make it difficult for people to practice the faith.



Parishioner donations to this collection have supported pastoral ministries like evangelization and catechesis, family ministries, lay ministry training, and the education and formation of priests, deacons, and religious brothers and sisters.

A second collection for the Church in Latin America will take place this weekend, Saturday, January 24 and Sunday, January 25. It is a chance to share the faith with our brothers and sisters in Latin America. You can give at Mass or online at igivecatholic.org/story/USCCB-CLA.



Care for Real Collection Drive is January 24-25

Our next Care for Real collection drive is January 24-25 before and after masses.

Visit <https://linktr.ee/cfrchicago> for information about donating and links to their Facebook and Instagram pages to see what they are specifically looking for at this time.

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



Reconciliation for First Communion Candidates is Wednesday, January 28

Please keep the young students of our parish in their prayers as they prepare for their First Reconciliation on Wednesday, January 28 at 6:30 pm in church.

Contact Eloy Escamilla, our Pastoral Associate for Religious Education and Youth Ministry, at eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org if you have questions.

Youth Group Bowling Outing

All youth in 7th grade and up are invited to join us for a fun bowling outing on Saturday, January 31. We will depart from St. Gertrude at 11:00 am.

Come enjoy a great day of fellowship, friendly competition, and fun with friends. The cost is \$10 per person, and space is limited.

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



Healthcare Forum Planned for Sunday, February 1

Commonweal Action will host a Healthcare Forum at noon on Sunday, February 1, following the 10:30 am Mass. The event will be held in the Social Hall, located on the lower/basement level of 1401 W. Granville.

Speakers will include a representative from Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky's office and a local medical practitioner. They will discuss recent changes to Medicare, Medicaid, the Affordable Care Act, and vaccination policies.

Coffee and snacks will be served in the Social Hall before the forum begins. The program will last

approximately one hour and will include time for questions and discussion.

Growing in Faith

Jesus is a fully adult man when he is baptized by John. He hasn't said or done anything yet, but the Gospel elsewhere says, "Jesus grew in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man," a person fully human.

I love these baptism stories because they show the absolute necessity of how Jesus' maturity and ministry—like our own authentic spiritual journey—have to begin with an experience of God's all-embracing and complete love for us. The theologian Henri Nouwen called it "beginning as beloved," meaning our spiritual journey starts from a place of inherent worth and unconditional love from God, not from striving to earn love or fix flaws. It's about realizing we are already fully loved, which becomes the foundation for growth, courage, and purpose.



In Jesus' experience, before he can have anything to say or do, he has to know that he is beloved by God—pleasing to God. Jesus is plunged into the depths of life and death and suffering and love, and is brought out to fully encounter God "coming upon him" and saying, "You are my Beloved! In you I am so pleased." From that assurance, he now knows where to begin. How can we, in our own lives, better believe in and accept the immense love and delight God has for us? We need those people in our lives who believe in us, take delight in us, affirm us, and call us beloved.

Once we have that straight, nothing can stop us, and no one can take it away from us. And we need to be those words and signs to others—ultimately, our most essential task is to proclaim that eternal message of God that initiates everything good on this earth: we are beloved children of God!

~ Jim Zajakowski Uhl

Saturday Morning Mass Schedule Change

Please note that there are no longer Saturday morning Masses. We thank you for your understanding and invite you to join us at our other regularly scheduled Mass times.

January 3-4 Financial Report

Sunday Collection Envelopes: \$6,933.00
Loose Checks: \$735.00
Loose Cash/Coins: \$1,009.00
Online Donations: \$11,474.54

Total Collected: \$20,151.54
Budgeted: \$10,000.00
Difference: \$10,151.54
YTD Collected FY 2026: \$301,698.20
YTD Budgeted FY 2026: \$550,000.00
Difference: -\$248,301.80



Volunteers Needed to Help with Live-Streaming Sunday Masses

We are looking for assistance with live-streaming our 10:30 am Sunday masses. The process is simple, you do not have to have a technical background, a special camera or phone, just a willingness to help.

Email pastoral associate Eloy Escamilla at eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org for more information.

Activities Around the Archdiocese

Walk with the Ignatian Spirituality Project - Chicago Winter Walk Planned for February 8

As Join the Ignatian Spirituality Project (ISP) at the Chicago Winter Walk on Sunday, February 8 at Humboldt Park at 9:15 am — a citywide event raising awareness and funds to end homelessness.

ISP walks alongside people rebuilding their lives after homelessness and addiction. Through retreats and spiritual companionship, participants encounter God's love, find supportive community, and discover that their stories are sacred and their lives have purpose.



Together, we help provide the spiritual and relational foundation that makes lasting recovery possible.

Please register for the event at grco.de/ww26-isp. Once registered, please go to your dashboard and click "Join, Create or Claim a Team," then choose "Join a team." Search for "Jesuit Friends and Family" and click "Join."

Walk with us — in hope, in community, in God's love.

Parish Information

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

Ministers of the Word

- Saturday, January 10 at 5:00 pm - Patrick Reardon, Millie Slane
- Sunday, January 11 at 8:00 am - Jacalyn Meier
- Sunday, January 11 at 10:30 am - Rafael Melendez, Anne-Marie St. G

Eucharistic Ministers

- Saturday, January 10 at 5:00 pm - Kathy Wall
- Sunday, January 11 at 8:00 am - Kathryn Stimac
- Sunday, January 11 at 10:30 am - Troy McMillan, Lisa Schneider, Patrick Robinson

Altar Servers

- Saturday, January 10 at 5:00 pm - cross bearer: Sammy Kloster; acolyte: Bradley Phelps
- Sunday, January 11 at 10:30 am - cross bearer: Dominic Rubino; acolytes: Adaobi Okoli, Angel Garcia

Please Pray for our Parishioners and Friends

- | | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| • Mary Amelse | • Anne Marie Hamde | • Joan Ross |
| • Victor Ayes | • Rochelle Hernandez | • Willy Spalla |
| • Carlos Barragan | • Tricia Hernandez | • Floret Spalle |
| • Patrick Barton | • Maria Hertl | • Mary Pierce Spalla |
| • Zara Bradley | • Tony Hunter | • Frannie Swaine |
| • Maggie Callahan | • John Kahoun | • Nancy Tarallo |
| • Aida Calvopina | • Mary E. Kelley | • Christopher Thomas |
| • Marta Carlson | • Marilyn Klein | • Elinora E. Tolentino |
| • Terrence Carmichael | • Jim Laczkowski | • Joe Touchstone |
| • Kathy Catrambone | • Joseph Lambin | • Manuel & Norma Viray |
| • Cavicke Family | • Carleen Lory | • Tayana Wallace |
| • Mary DeBois | • River Malik | • King Wallace |
| • David Denegas | • James Mann | • Christian Wallace |
| • Ann Collins Dole | • Alex Marks | • Kevin Walsh |
| • Renee Elhoumaidi | • Nancy Michael | • Leon Ward |
| • Mr. and Mrs. Emin Euman | • Steve Monti | • Ron Whitfield |
| • Luke Fitzgerald | • Hilda Mora | • Janice Wittenberg |
| • Adolf Gabriel | • Patti Paul | • Dawn Wyman |
| • Marie Galoney | • Dealina Peon | • Yyes Yoza |
| • Thomas Hajduch | • Claude Poulsen | • Joel Pozzi Zio |
| | • Delphine Richert | |

New Parishioners

- Yanina Lypovetska, Roman Lypovetskyi, and Nikol Lypovetska

Upcoming Mass Intentions

- Monday, January 12: 7:30 am - Communion Service
- Tuesday, January 13: 7:30 am - Mary Guinness+
- Wednesday, January 14: 7:30 am - Kathleen Marsh
- Thursday, January 15: 7:30 am - Joe McMahon
- Friday, January 16: 7:30 am - Randy Cruz+
- Saturday, January 17: 5:00 pm - Joseph Battaglia+
- Sunday, January 18: 8:00 am - Mary Shepeck+; 10:30 am - Bernadine Dressel+; 10:30 am Gym - Cheryl Stanton+

Mass Times/Rectory Office Hours/Reconciliation

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

Donate to our Parish

- PayPal link - visit our parish website at www.stgertrudechicago.org
- GiveCentral: www.givecentral.org/location/8/allevnts

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

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.

Contact the Parish Pastoral Council

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