



**"There comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe, nor politic, nor popular, but he must take it because conscience tells him it is right."  
- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**

## St. Gertrude Chicago

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**Bulletin for Sunday,  
January 14, 2024**

*Second Sunday in Ordinary Time*

### From Fr. Mike

I hope this new year is off to a great start for you all, and since we have officially

concluded the Christmas season, your lives are renewed with a greater sense of light, hope, and joy because Christ has been born for you and in you.

I want to say thank you again to all who worked so hard to help us celebrate these days so well. So many gave so much to enable us to reach out to those less fortunate. And so many others shared their precious gift of time, talent, and treasure all year to empower us to continue the mission of Christ and to spread the Good News that He lives among us.

Thank you to all who were so generous to me personally, to our staff, and our parish with many acts of love and support. We appreciate you for all you do for us!

This has been a wonderful Christmas. Praise God! The days are getting longer. Christ has brought us light and new life.

### **NCA News**

As many of you may already have heard, before Christmas, the NCA community announced that they will be consolidating their two campuses to one. St Gertrude's campus was chosen as the site to remain open. They are doing this to use their resources more wisely to have a stronger program.

This news of consolidating has sparked both positive and negative responses from school families and parishioners. I must state this, their planning did not include me or any representative of St. Gertrude.

We will work with NCA for a smooth transition, and in no way will this consolidation affect our Strategic Parish Plans, Direction, or Finances.

A letter from NCA principal Teresa Black and a link to a survey about the consolidation is available on page 5.

### **Upcoming Parish Event: Night of Romance**

This is the weekend to register for this event! The evening is a wonderful opportunity for you and your partner to reconnect and socialize with other couples. More information can be found on page 4.

## Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is Monday, January 15

The words of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. are as timely and to-the-point now as they have ever been. Below is one of his many beautiful prayers he wrote during his short life.

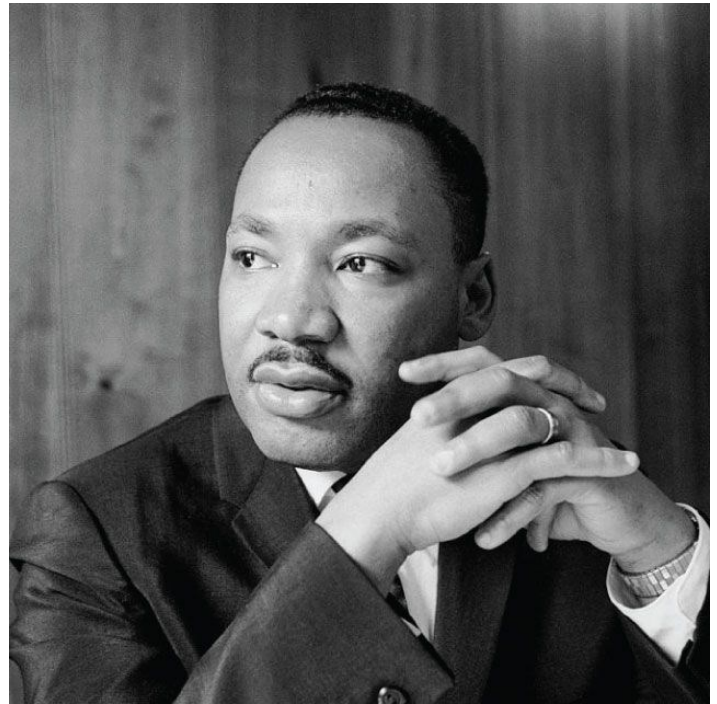
*Thou Eternal God, out of whose absolute power and infinite intelligence the whole universe has come into being, we humbly confess that we have not loved thee with our hearts, souls and minds, and we have not loved our neighbors as Christ loved us.*

*We have all too often lived by our own selfish impulses rather than by the life of sacrificial love as revealed by Christ. We often give in order to receive. We love our friends and hate our enemies. We go the first mile but dare not travel the second. We forgive but dare not forget.*

*And so as we look within ourselves, we are confronted with the appalling fact that the history of our lives is the history of an eternal revolt against you.*

*But thou, O God, have mercy upon us. Forgive us for what we could have been but failed to be. Give us the intelligence to know your will. Give us the courage to do your will. Give us the devotion to love your will. In the name and spirit of Jesus, we pray. Amen.*

Please note, the Rectory office will be closed on Monday, January 15.



Join our  
weekly  
bilingual  
Rosary  
group

### 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.



## No Gym Mass Next Sunday, January 21

Next weekend, there will be combined 10:30 am Mass in church.

There is no Gym Mass.

**There is a combined 10:30 am Mass in church next Sunday!**

## Parent Meeting for First Communion Students/ Confirmation Candidates Planned for Monday, January 22

On Monday, January 22, there is a mandatory meeting of both parents of students making their First Communion in 2024 and those making their Confirmation this year too.

Please meet in the church at 6:00 pm.

Contact Pastoral Associate Eloy Escamilla at [eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org) with



## Care for Real Food & Supply Drive is January 27-28

Our next donation drive will be before/after the masses in two weeks, on Saturday, January 27 and Sunday, January 28. Below are the most needed items for each category.

### Baby Care:

- Size 3, 4, 5, and 6 diapers
- Baby wipes
- Pull ups (all sizes)

### Personal Care:

- Menstrual pads
- Body wipes
- Bar soap
- Body wash
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Toilet paper
- Toothbrushes/toothpaste

## Reconciliation for First Communion Candidates is Monday, January 29

Please keep the young students of our parish in their prayers as they prepare for their First Reconciliation on Monday, January 29 at 6:30 pm in church.

Contact Eloy Escamilla, Pastoral Associate, at [eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org) if you have questions.



JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF LOVE, REFLECTION,  
AND FUN AS YOU CELEBRATE, RENEW, AND  
STRENGTHEN YOUR SACRED COMMITMENT TO YOUR  
LIFE PARTNER.

# A Night of Romance

Saturday, February 10

**ST. GERTRUDE CHURCH & SOCIAL HALL**

5:00 PM: MASS AND RENEWAL  
OF COMMITMENT

6:00 PM: COCKTAILS AND  
APPETIZERS

7:15 PM: DINNER

8:15 PM: SHORT PRESENTATION,  
DANCING, SOCIALIZING

8:30 PM -10 PM: DANCING AND  
SOCIALIZING

## You're Invited to An Evening of Romance

Save the date! St. Gertrude's Marriage Ministry is planning a special evening for couples on Saturday, February 10. The night will celebrate, renew, and strengthen your sacred commitment to your life partner. All couples are welcome, but space is limited!

The night will start off with Mass, followed by cocktails, appetizers, dinner, and dancing. Dim lighting, romantic decorations, and great food will set the mood for an evening for you and your partner to reconnect and socialize with other couples in the Social Hall.

The cost is \$125 per couple and includes dinner, beer, and wine. Tickets are available at the rectory. Gift certificates are available!

For more information, contact Fr. Mike at [mgabriel@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:mgabriel@stgertrudechicago.org) or Sherl Patterson at [spatterson@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:spatterson@stgertrudechicago.org).

## Northside Catholic Academy Consolidation Survey



## Parishioner Survey: NCA Consolidation Questions

Dear Parishioners of Holy Child Jesus; Mary, Mother of God; St. Gertrude; and St. Jerome:

As you may know, the leadership of Northside Catholic Academy has decided to consolidate our school from two campuses to one. Beginning next school year, Northside Catholic Academy will be located on our Edgewater campus at St. Gertrude. We will, however, remain a regional school -- the Catholic school for our four parishes. You may read the consolidation notice on our website at <https://bit.ly/NCAannouncement>.

We know that some of you have questions about the consolidation and what the future

looks like for NCA. We are still working out many details; however, we want to hear your questions and provide answers to you as we are able. How we will communicate answers is yet to be decided and may vary parish by parish.

Thank you for your interest in Northside Catholic Academy. Catholic education is critical to the mission of the Church, and your concern is appreciated by all of us at NCA.

Yours in Christ,

*Terese Black, Principal, Northside Catholic Academy*

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## This Summer: St. Gertrude's Youth Group Mission Experience

Attention teens in sixth grade through high school! This summer, from July 22-26, the parish youth group 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 to get more information, contact Eloy Escamilla at [eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org).





## Growing in Faith: An Excerpt from Pope Francis' 2013 Homily about Today's Readings

“The Gospel account (cf. Jn 1:35-42) showed us John the Baptist who points out Jesus as the Lamb of God to his disciples. First, there is the moment of *listening*. The two disciples listened to the witness of the Baptist. You too, have listened to those who have spoken to you about Jesus.

The second moment is the *encounter*. The two disciples encounter the Teacher and stay with him. After having encountered him, immediately they notice something new in

their hearts: the need to transmit their joy to others, that they too may meet him. Andrew, in fact, meets his brother Simon and leads him to Jesus. It reminds us that God did not create us to be alone, closed in on ourselves, but in order to be able to encounter him and to open ourselves to encounter others.

The last part of the narrative is *walking*. The two disciples walk toward Jesus and then walk a stretch of the road together with him... Faith is a walk with Jesus. Remember this always: faith is walking with Jesus; and it is a walk that lasts a lifetime.

Certainly, at some moments on the journey we feel tired and confused. But the faith gives us the certainty of Jesus' constant presence in every situation, even the most painful or difficult to understand. We are called to walk in order to enter ever more deeply into the mystery of the love of God, which reigns over us and permits us to live in serenity and hope.”

## Financial Report for January 6-7

Sunday Collection Envelopes: \$1,690.00

Loose Checks: \$1,315.00

Loose Cash/Coins: \$652.00

Online Donations: \$6,481.65

**Total Collected: \$10,138.65**

Budgeted: \$10,000.00

**Difference: \$138.65**

Year-to-date Collected FY 2024: \$326,023.29

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

**Difference: -\$60,376.71**



# Parish Information

## Rest in Peace

- Raymond Sousa, service 1/20 at 11 am

## Baptisms

- Ettie Cecilia Luth

## New Parishioners

- Gerry & Gunars Kulans
- Kirstie Salvatierra & Royce Tolledo
- Wildaline Serin & Manuel Ballester Matito

## Please Pray for our Parishioners and Friends

- |                           |                      |                        |
|---------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| • Carlos Barragan         | • Luke Fitzgerald    | • Karey Myers          |
| • Zara Bradley            | • Gina Heidkamp      | • Donald Nyderek       |
| • Lilly Buie              | • Rochelle Hernandez | • Denise Plunkett      |
| • Hallie Burhoe           | • Maria Hertl        | • Claude Poulsen       |
| • Maggie Calloway         | • Erica Maria Kast   | • Charley Scantlebury  |
| • Aida Calvopina          | • Marilyn Klein      | • Richard Seitz        |
| • Claire Conley           | • Ignacio Lopez      | • Willy Spalla         |
| • Barb Daly               | • Matilde Manzardo   | • Elinora E. Tolentino |
| • Denise DeBelle          | • Janet McCulley     | • Manuel & Norma Viray |
| • David Denegas           | • Jack McDermott     | • Leon Ward            |
| • Ann Collins Dole        | • Nancy Michael      | • Ron Whitfield        |
| • Mr. and Mrs. Emin Euman | • Andy Mueller       | • Yyes Yoza            |

Contact the Rectory office at 773.764.3621 or email [stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto: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, January 13 at 5:00 pm - Patrick Reardon, Susan McKean
- Sunday, January 14 at 8:00 am - Kathryn Stimac, Jay Cook
- Sunday, January 14 at 10:30 am - Rafael Melendez, Rose Karasti

### Altar Servers

- Sunday, January 14 at 10:30 am - Xavier Lassus, cross bearer; Mary Kate Cashman and Mathios Paulos, acolytes

### Eucharistic Ministers

- Saturday, January 13 at 5:00 pm - Tim Harrington
- Sunday, January 14 at 8:00 am - Hallie Burhoe
- Sunday, January 14 at 10:30 am - Bob Backis, Annie Hasselbeck, Stephen Hasselbeck

### Cantors and Musicians

- Saturday, January 13 at 5:00 pm - Kathryn Flynn
- Sunday, January 14 at 8:00 am - Jon Blake
- Sunday, January 14 at 10:30 am - Kristina Vragovic

## Mass Intentions

- **Sunday, January 14:** 8:00 am - Raymond Collins+; 10:30 am in church - Raymond Sousa+; 10:30 am Gym Mass - Quinn Bringas+, Paul Rapp+
- **Monday, January 15:** 7:30 am - Living and deceased parents of St. Gertrude parishioners
- **Tuesday, January 16:** 7:30 am - Pete Ballard+
- **Wednesday, January 17:** 7:30 am - Purgatorial Society
- **Thursday, January 18:** 7:30 am - Communion Service
- **Friday, January 19:** 7:30 am - Pete Ballard+
- **Saturday, January 20:** 7:30 am - Raymond Sousa+; 5:00 pm - Michael Signa+

## Donate to our Parish

- 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/allevnts](http://www.givecentral.org/location/8/allevnts)
- Questions? Reach out to Eduardo Soto, St. Gertrude's business manager, via email at [esoto@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto: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.
- The Rector office is open Monday-Friday from 8:30 am-4:30 pm and Saturday from 9:00 am - 2:30 pm. **The office will be closed on Monday, January 15.**
- For the most up-to-date information, visit [stgertrudechicago.org](http://stgertrudechicago.org).

## Parish Staff and Contact Info

Rev. Michael Gabriel, Pastor—[mgabriel@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:mgabriel@stgertrudechicago.org)

Fr. Paul Àdajà, Associate Pastor—[padaja@archchicago.org](mailto:padaja@archchicago.org)

Eloy Escamilla, Pastoral Associate—[eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org)

Kathryn Flynn, Minister of Music—[kflynn@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:kflynn@stgertrudechicago.org)

Sherl Patterson, Office Manager—[spatterson@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:spatterson@stgertrudechicago.org)

Laurie Hasbrook, Heart to Heart Lending Closet Manager—[lhasbrook@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:lhasbrook@stgertrudechicago.org)

Andy Mueller, Parish Buildings Engineer—[stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org)

Sr. Susan Quaintance, OSB, Heart to Heart Director—[squaintance@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:squaintance@stgertrudechicago.org)

Tracy Shields, Communications Director—[stgerbulletin@yahoo.com](mailto:stgerbulletin@yahoo.com)

Eduardo Soto, Director of Parish Management—[esoto@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto: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](mailto:squaintance@stgertrudechicago.org). To reach Laurie Hasbrook, our Lending Closet manager, please call 773.973.5464 or email her at [lhasbrook@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:lhasbrook@stgertrudechicago.org).