



"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone."

-Isaiah 9:2

St. Gertrude Chicago

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Bulletin for

January 22, 2023

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

From Fr. Mike Gabriel

Decorations are down (at least most of them), the last of cookies and candy have been eaten, Jesus has been baptized, and we are now liturgically

back in Ordinary Time. Wow, it just went so fast!

I must confess, I still have my small fiber optic tree up. I just really like sitting with my first cup of coffee in the dark with just this little tree lit. Guess it just gives me something to hold on to, something that slows me down. A friend reminded me of a song called, "The Gift Goes On", by Sandi Patti. The song is about living Christmas, (the incarnation). You might enjoy checking it out on You Tube (<https://bit.ly/TheGiftGoesOn>).

A Warm Welcome to Fr. Jim Flaherty!

A very special welcome to Fr. Jim Flaherty, S.J. Father Jim, from Loyola University, has offered to join us on weekends to preside at some of our Eucharistic Celebrations. Please take the time to stop and welcome him.

Parish Events & Activities

This weekend, we had Pre-Cana couples who are preparing for their upcoming weddings here at St. Gertrude. Please keep them in your prayers.

This is a very busy week here:

- Monday, January 23rd - There is parent formation meeting for First Communion and Confirmation Candidates in the church at 6:30 pm.
- Also, Monday, January 23rd - The Peace and Justice Ministry will meet at 7:00 pm in the Ministry Center to evaluate past events and look ahead to a few others.
- Tuesday, January 24th - The Finance Board will meet in the Rectory at 7:00 pm.
- Friday, January 28th - It's CABARET NIGHT in the Gym at 7:00 pm.

Catholic Schools Week

Starting next Sunday, NCA will begin a weeklong celebration of Catholic Education. The theme this year is *Catholic Schools: Faith, Excellence, Service*. This celebration begins at all the Masses next weekend. Some families will be giving a reflection. All are all then invited to an Open House at NCA on Sunday, January 29th from 11:30 am-1:00 pm.

We value greatly our students, faculty, staff, and parents! Let us join in this wonderful opportunity to celebrate with them.

Growing in Faith

There's a tendency nowadays – maybe it's in every age – to fear that we're going to hell in a handbasket. In other words, that all is dark, and we're racing for disaster. It's not clear where this phrase "going to hell in a handbasket" started. One theory is that it had something to do with the guillotine used during the French Revolution which, when it did its job, dropped the head of the executed into a basket.

An interesting aspect of the liberal-conservative polarization in politics, religion, and seemingly everything else today is that, as much as the right and the left disagree, they both agree that we're going to hell in a handbasket unless a drastic shift in their direction takes place.

In the reading from Corinthians this weekend, Paul complains that rivalries have popped up within the Christian community. He writes that there should be "no divisions among you." By this, he doesn't mean that all Christians should agree about everything. Disagreements are a key part of human society.

I think what Paul means is that, despite such everyday disagreements, all believers should keep their eyes on the prize – keep striving to follow the example of Jesus, to be better people. In that faith and in the model of love of Jesus, there is deep hope.

The deep hope – the prize – that is described in the first reading from Isaiah this weekend and then quoted by Jesus in the Gospel: "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone."

~ Patrick T. Reardon



Support the Church in Latin America

For over 50 years, Catholic dioceses in the United States have participated in the 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. It is a chance to share the faith with our brothers and sisters in Latin America. You can give at Mass or online at <https://usccb.givecatholictogether.org/organizations/usccb-church-in-latin-america>.

Youth Group Movie & Pizza Afternoon: Sunday, January 22

The parish youth group is getting together this weekend! We plan to watch a movie and eat some pizza on Sunday, January 22 in the Ministry Center after the 10:30 am Mass.

The youth group is open to anyone in grade 7 and up!



Youth Group
Meetup - This
Sunday After the
10:30 am
Masses!

*This
Monday:
Parent
Meeting*



Parent Meeting for First Communion Students/ Confirmation Candidates on Monday, January 23/ Sacrament of Reconciliation Date

On Monday, January 23, there is a mandatory meeting of both parents of students making their First Communion/Reconciliation in 2023 and those making their Confirmation this year too.

Please meet in the church at 6:30 pm.

Contact Pastoral Associate Eloy Escamilla at

eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org with questions.

Peace and Justice Meeting Planned for Monday, January 23

The next Peace & Justice Ministry meeting will be held on Monday, January 23 at 7:00 pm in the Ministry Center. Our agenda will be to plan events for 2023 - to look at past activities and generate some new ones.

New members will be gratefully welcomed. If you aren't sure if you'd like to be a part of this ministry, just come to this meeting and check it out!

If you have any questions, please email Father Mike Gabriel at mgabriel@stgertrudechicago.org.



Volunteers Needed for our Parish Cabaret Night on Saturday, January 28

We are in desperate need of volunteers to help make our Cabaret Night happen! The event is planned for Saturday, January 28 from 7:00-9:00 pm in the Gym.

Set Up: We need strong people to help set up the stage along the west wall of the Gym, as well as set up oblong tables and chairs. Once the stage is set up, then we can set up the sound equipment - keyboard, speakers, mics, music stands, etc.

Bartenders: We will have two bartending stations with two people at each station. Ideally, it would be great if we got eight people to do this so each team would only have to work one hour. We plan on serving beer, wine, and bottled water only. (Coolers will be provided.)

At the end of the night, we will have to put the unused liquor in the concession stand area. We can use the leftovers for the parish play at the end of March.

Decorating: Once the tables and chairs are set up, then we need to people to decorate the tables with paper cloths and bowls of nuts/snack food.

Clean Up: The music should be over by 9:00 pm or 9:15 pm at the latest. Then we need people to break everything down, put the tables and chairs away, probably mop or sweep the floor so it is presentable and clean for the 10:30 am Gym Mass the next morning.

Many hands will make light work! Please consider signing up to help make this Cabaret night possible by contacting Mary Clare Barker at mcbarker@stgertrudechicago.org.

JOIN US FOR OUR PARISH CABARET NIGHT!



SATURDAY, JANUARY 28TH

St. Gertrude's Gym

7— 9 PM

Featuring Parish Musicians

No admission fee but a free will offering will be gladly accepted!

Come join us for a fun night of music, drinks, and fellowship!

(Beverages will be available for sale)

Adults only, 21 and over



NORTHSIDE CATHOLIC ACADEMY



Catholic Schools Week 2023
January 29 - February 4

OPEN HOUSE

VISIT US SUNDAY, JANUARY 29TH!

NCA Open House Planned for Next Sunday, January 29

Northside Catholic Academy will host an Open House on Sunday, January 29 during Catholic Schools Week at both campus locations.

The Open House will take place at the NCA Primary School Campus at 6216 N. Glenwood Ave. from 11:30 am -1:00 pm. An Open House will also take place at the NCA Middle School Campus at 7318 N. Oakley Ave. from 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm.

All parishioners are welcome to attend!

For more information, please contact Jacob Utz at jutz@ncaschools.com or call 773.743.6277 ext. 201.

Reconciliation for First Communion Candidates - Monday, January 30

Please keep the young students of our parish in your prayers as they prepare for their First Reconciliation on Monday, January 30 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.



Help Needed with Baptismal Classes

We are looking for a volunteer(s) for pre-baptismal talks.

A pre-baptismal talk is done once a month and is delivered to those who will be baptized in the Catholic Church, typically parents of babies and young children.

If interested, please contact Eloy Escamilla, Pastoral Associate, at eescamilla@stgertrude.org for details or phone the Rectory office at 773.764.3621.

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 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, call 312.655.7283, or visit <https://www.catholiccharities.net/behavioral-health-programs/loss-loving-outreach-to-survivors-of-suicide/>.



Archdiocese of Chicago

**Refugee Ministry
Weekend is Saturday,
February 4 & Sunday,
February 5
Second Collection,
Information Table in
Church, Free Lunch and
Speaker Program Planned**



Eight years ago, the humanitarian

crisis of mass displacement of refugees was brought to the world's consciousness with the Syrian civil war.

In response, the St. Gertrude faith community came together and stepped up! We established this ministry to work in partnership with Catholic Charities to support new arrivals. And still our work goes on.

We are witness to the continued inhumanity that displaces people in Afghanistan, Ukraine, Latin America, Syria, Africa, and Bangladesh where Rohingya live in large camps. On the Doctors Without Borders website, an article dated June 15, 2022 noted that there are now more than 100 million forcibly displaced persons around the world. You wonder what we can do in the face of such suffering. The answer...A LOT!!

Working with Catholic Charities, our role as a parish is three-fold: (1) we provide tangible support for the initial settling in, with a contribution of \$5,000 to cover security deposit and rent for about three months; (2) we provide a Welcome Pack of all the household goods needed to start off in the apartment, including kitchen stuff and linens; and (3) when a parishioner feels that call we provide accompaniment, regular visits, and support for the initial few months. The goal, though not always reachable, is for families to be settled and self-sufficient within six months of arrival.

And what a difference you've made! We first came together in Fall of 2015. Since then we've sponsored a family roughly every six months, officially sponsoring 11 families so far and offering additional support to four others. We have seen kids grow up and thrive in school, parents get jobs and buy a home, and in some cases have seen deep friendships develop.

We have sponsored several Rohingya families, as well as families from Afghanistan, Central African Republic, Syria, and Guatemala. All of this is thanks to your prayers and generosity. You are the light of the world, bringing the kingdom of heaven to Edgewater.

We will be celebrating our ministry on February 4-5. There will be a second collection at all of the Masses, with information in the back of church, special prayers, and a very special program on Sunday, February 5.

We'll have a free simple soup lunch in the Social Hall starting around 11:45 am and a program from 12:15-1:15 pm featuring two speakers: Emily Parker, the case management supervisor at Catholic Charities, and Sr. Wendy Cotter, who has been spending time at the southern border working directly with migrants.

Please join us, and, as always - thank you!

~ Denise Goodman

Save the Date! Black History Month Concert Planned for Saturday, February 11

St. As part of a celebration of Black History Month in February, St. Gertrude parish will host a recital on Saturday, February 11 at 7:00 pm in church.

Titled *Spirituals of Florence Price in Instrument and Song*, the performances will feature the work of Chicago African-American and award-winning composer, Florence Price.

Coordinated by Mary Clare Barker, our Music Minister, the performance will feature Michael Hawes, tenor, who will sing several of Price's spirituals, accompanied by Eugenia Jeong, (piano chairperson at University of Chicago). Jennifer Dunne, a parishioner and professional violinist, will perform *Three Negro Spirituals for Violin and Piano*.

Mary Clare will play the second movement from Ms. Price's *Piano Sonata in E Minor* and one of her last works, *Dances in the Canebreaks*.

We hope to see you there!



Rest in Peace

- Larry McCauley - Memorial Mass on Saturday, January 28 at St. Gertrude. There will be a gathering at 9:00 am at St. Gertrude, followed by Mass at 10:00 am.

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

Ministers of the Word:

- Saturday, January 21 at 5:00 pm - Susan McKean, Kathleen Dawson
- Sunday, January 22 at 8:00 am - Jacalyn Meier, Wesley Dingman
- Sunday, January 22 at 10:30 am - Sarah Millar, Arthur Lyons

Cantors & Musicians:

- Saturday, January 21 at 5:00 pm - Amir Ghazaleh
- Sunday, January 22 at 8:00 am - Paula Dempsey
- Sunday, January 22 at 10:30 am - Michael Callahan

Eucharistic Ministers:

- Saturday, January 21 at 5:00 pm - Tim Harrington
- Sunday, January 22 at 8:00 am - Brian DeVarenne
- Sunday, January 22 at 10:30 am - Annie Hasselbeck, Bob Backis, Carlos Barragan

Altar Servers:

- Sunday, January 22 at 10:30 am - Cross Bearer - Henry Jacobson; Acolytes - Mariyam Agdubai, Henry Villareal

Mass Intentions

- **Monday, January 23:** 7:30 am - Living and deceased parents of St. Gertrude parishioners
- **Tuesday, January 24:** 7:30 am - Living and deceased Torreano family members
- **Wednesday, January 25:** 7:30 am - Almo Manzardo †
- **Thursday, January 26:** 7:30 am - Communion Service
- **Friday, January 27:** 7:30 am - Purgatorial Society
- **Saturday, January 28:** 7:30 am - Living and deceased Torreano family members; 5:00 pm - Laura & James McGuire †
- **Sunday, January 29:** 8:00 am - Adora Santos; 10:30am - Hugo Alarcon †; 10:30 am Gym - Jeanne Hasbrook †

(† 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 | • Maria Hertl | • Richard Seitz |
| • Sharon Brown | • Mary Horan | • Elinora E. Tolentino |
| • Lilly Buie | • Bernice Kiedysz | • Manuel & Norma Viray |
| • Aida Calvopina | • Marilyn Klein | • Leon Ward |
| • KC Conway | • Patricia Meade | • Yyes Yoza |
| • Luke Fitzgerald | • Karey Myers | |
| • Gina Heidkamp | • John Nardella | |

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. 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
 - GiveCentral: www.givecentral.org/location/8/allevants

Email 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