

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land.

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

St. Gertrude Chicago

1420 W. Granville, Chicago, IL 60660

773.764.3621

stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org

www.stgertrudechicago.org

Bulletin for

January 29, 2023

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

From Fr. Mike Gabriel

Catholic Schools Week

This week is Catholic Schools Week, a time when we remember the great asset we have in our

Catholic schools. We are blessed with excellent schools and faithful families here at NCA School. We want to do all that we can to keep our school strong for the generations to come and to encourage the faith lives of those who will follow us. And thank you to the faculty and staff at NCA for their hard work and loving guidance!

Today, NCA will host their annual Catholic School Week Open House at both campus locations. The Open House will take place next door at the NCA Primary School Campus at 6216 N. Glenwood Ave. from 11:30 am - 1:00 pm. An Open House will also be held at the Middle School Campus at 7318 N. Oakley Ave. from 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm.

All parishioners are welcome to attend!

Refugee & Immigrant Ministry Weekend

Next weekend, we will celebrate and acknowledge the Refugee and Immigrant Ministry. Since 2015, thanks to the support of the parish and donors, the St. Gertrude Refugee and Immigrant Ministry has assisted families from all over the world with rental cost, apartment furnishings, and basic family expenses, while family members seek employment. In addition, ministry members has also helped them find employment and served as friends and mentors.

The second collection on February 4 and 5 will go to help this ministry. And after the 10:30 am Mass, there will be a program with a free simple soup lunch and two speakers. More information about this is available on page 5 of this bulletin!

Annual Catholic Appeal

Next week also begin the discernment process for pledges to the Catholic Appeal. This appeal supports the work our parish, our diocese, and the Catholic Church around the world. The weekend of February 11-12 will be the pledge drive.

NORTHSIDE CATHOLIC ACADEMY



Catholic Schools Week 2023
January 29 - February 4

OPEN HOUSE

VISIT US SUNDAY, JANUARY 29TH!

Student Essay Winners

Congratulations to the three winners of our student essay contest - Gus Berlinghof, Evan Dumstorff, and Dominic Millar!

The essay prompt challenged students to write about the most important contribution that Christians can make to society. The contest was open to all seventh and eight-grade students.

Gus, Evan, and Dominic will receive gift cards as a prize. All three impressive and insightful essays can be read on our parish website at <https://stgertrudechicago.org/student-essay-winners>.

Thank you to all who participated and to our judges!



Growing in Faith

Two words that call out to me in today's readings are "boast" and "blessed." I can boast about myself as a Christian, a member of St. Gertrude Parish, a person involved in its ministries. Perhaps I regard myself, if only secretly, as a person who is spiritual because of my prayerful habits, the people with whom I hang out, or the good that I do.

Saint Paul warns us about our tendencies to measure ourselves with pride on such things as these. Spiritual boasting can be insidious. I hear echoes of Jesus' parable of the Pharisee and the Publican who went to the Temple to pray in Paul's admonition.

Or perhaps I do the opposite of boasting, and in my false humility, do not enter more fully in the life of our parish community. Do I judge myself inadequate and afraid to find myself in over my head, not spiritual enough to serve?

Paul tells us, if you want to boast, boast in the Lord! And if you think you have little to offer, well, that's the condition of those called to serve!

Jesus, with his great understanding of the human condition, tells us that in every circumstance WE ARE BLESSED when we stand in true humility with our eyes focused on the kingdom of God!

The Beatitudes give us everything we need to know about being followers of Jesus. Blessed are the poor in spirit!

~ Nancy Bujnowski



Visit our Parish Website!

For the latest information about upcoming events, Mass times, staff emails, bulletins, office hours, and more, please visit St. Gertrude's website at www.stgertrudechicago.org!



The NCA Soiree 2023

Northside Catholic Academy's annual fundraising gala, the 2023 NCA Soirée, will take place on Saturday, February 25, 2023, at the Ravenswood Event Center.

This is NCA's largest fundraising event, and helps to raise funds to support academic enhancements, facility improvements, and our Guardian Angel Scholarship program. There are a number of ways you can help support NCA in bringing quality Catholic education to students in our community.

TICKETS FOR THE NCA SOIRÉE ARE NOW ON SALE!

All tickets (event, raffle, *Choose Your Own Adventure*, *Sponsor-a-Staff*) can be purchased at ncasoiree.com.

- Enter the **Grand Raffle** for a chance to win \$3,000, \$2,000, or \$1,000! Raffle tickets are \$20 or 6/\$100, and you don't need to be present to win.
- Enter the **Choose Your Own Adventure Raffle** for a chance to win your choice of one of 6 fabulous trips, including an Alaskan Cruise, Barcelona, Napa Valley, Mexico, and more. Tickets are \$100—only 100 tickets will be sold.
- Save \$50 by purchasing the **"All In For 2!" Deal**: includes 2 event tickets, 6 raffle tickets and 1 Choose Your Own Adventure ticket.
- Can't attend the event? Consider sponsoring a ticket for one of NCA's amazing faculty and staff!

OUR ONLINE AUCTION BEGINS SUNDAY, JANUARY 29!

The online auction takes place from January 29th-February 12th. We have lots of great items to bid on—theater and sports tickets, gift cards to local restaurants and businesses, museum passes, and more! Visit ncasoiree.com starting January 29th to view items and place your bids.

LOOKING FOR SPONSORS!

Do you know of an individual or business interested in sponsoring this year's NCA Soirée? We have sponsor levels ranging from \$150-\$2500+. Contact Jackie Blake, jahoffma@hotmail.com, or Leigh Holzman, holzman@ncaweb.org, for more information.

ANGELS AMONG US—THIS WEEK

During Catholic Schools Week (January 29-February 5), you're invited to participate in our Angels Among Us program. In the back of the church, you'll find a board with envelopes numbered \$1-\$100. The idea is simple: you choose an envelope, fill it with the dollar amount written on the front, and return the envelope to the board. All proceeds go to NCA.

Thank you for your continued support of NCA!!

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 this 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.



St. Gertrude Super Bowl Tamale Benefit for Midwest Workers Association: Place Your Orders Next Weekend!

On Saturday, February 4 and Sunday, February 5, Midwest Workers Association (MWA) will be

taking orders of tamales after Mass for their annual Super Bowl Tamale Benefit.

The tamale benefit generates critical support for MWA's Winter Survival Campaign, which includes door-to-door membership canvasses, utility bill advocacy to avert utility shutoffs and restore service, winter-watch phoning, and warm clothing distributions.

If you are interested in ordering tamales, please stop by their table at the main church entrance, or call their office at 773.285.0485. Supporters can place orders by the half dozen, for chicken in green sauce, cheese & jalapeno (vegetarian), or black bean & cactus (vegan). The homemade tamales are available for a suggested donation of \$10 for a half dozen or \$20 for a dozen.

Groups of volunteers are urgently needed to play a role in making tamales from February 6 through February 11, as well as participating on MWA's membership canvasses and benefit advocacy sessions. Speak with an MWA volunteer about how you can play an ongoing role in MWA's Winter Survival Campaign.

Visit our Parish Website! For the latest information about upcoming events, Mass times, staff emails, bulletins, office hours, and more, please visit St. Gertrude's website at www.stgertrudechicago.org!

**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! Youth Group Outing Planned for Saturday, February 11

The parish youth group is getting together for a off-campus outing on Saturday, February 11! Plans will be shared in next week's bulletin.

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

Contact Pastoral Associate Eloy Escamilla at eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org with any questions.

Black History Month Concert Planned for Saturday, Feb. 11

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, bass-baritone, 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 Canebrakes*.

Admission is free. Free will offering gratefully accepted.

We hope to see you there!



In Celebration of Black History Month,
St. Gertrude Parish Presents

A Tribute to

Florence Price

In Instrument & Song

Saturday, February 11 at 7:00 pm

St. Gertrude Catholic Church, 1420 W. Granville, Chicago

Combined Mass in Church on Sunday, February 12

Please note, there is no Gym Mass on Sunday, February 12. All are welcome to join us in the church at 10:30 am for a combined Mass.

Visit <https://bit.ly/GymMass2022-2023> for the Gym Mass schedule for the school year.

No Gym Mass on February 12



Book Club Planned for Monday, February 13

Please join us in the Ministry Center on Monday, February 13 at 7:00 pm. We will discuss *The Silent Patient* by Alex Michaelides, and we would love new voices and opinions.

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

The gathering may be virtual if the weather is stormy.

Hello from the Parish Pastoral Council: Upcoming Meeting on Thursday, Feb. 16

As we embark on the new year, we realize there have been a number of transitions recently. The PPC thanks those who completed the listening surveys and attended listening sessions in the fall. Your input has been helpful and appreciated as we work with Fr. Mike and the Pastoral Staff moving forward.

A reminder that PPC meetings are open to the community. Our next meeting is on Thursday, February 16 at 7:00 pm in the Ministry Center.

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to us at stgertrudeparishcouncil@gmail.com.

We wish you all a Happy New Year and look forward to growing in faith together,

~ Bob Backis, Michelle Nickerson, Jen Reyes, Ellen Buttitta, Denise Goodman, Tim Lacy, Tim Love, and Sean Williams



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/>.

**CATHOLIC
CHARITIES**

Archdiocese of Chicago



Small Effort, Big Difference

Just a small effort on your part can make a big difference for our parish. When you name St. Gertrude Chicago as the Payable on Death (POD) or Transfer on Death (TOD) beneficiary of your investment, checking or savings account, you help to strengthen the Church.

A gift like this won't affect your lifestyle and it will make a tremendous impact on the future of our faith community.

Please contact your financial advisor or banker to facilitate this process. You can also reach out to Eduardo Soto at esoto@stgertrudechicago.org with any additional questions. or the Archdiocese of

Chicago's Planned Giving Team at 312.534.7959 or plannedgiving@archchicago.org for any additional questions.

Request for Heart to Heart Lending Closet Donations

The Heart to Heart Lending Closet is looking for donations of wheelchairs, transport chairs, and rollators to loan to those in need.

If you know of anyone no longer using this equipment, please call 773.973.5464 or email heart2heart@stgertrudechicago.org.



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@stgertrudechicago.org for details or phone the Rectory office at 773.764.3621.

Rest in Peace

- Claude Zajakowski, father of Amy Zajakowski-Uhll (The wake and funeral were held at St. Gertrude on Wednesday, January 25.)



New Parishioners

- Tyler and Elizabeth Fawbush

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

Ministers of the Word:

- Saturday, January 28 at 5:00 pm - Kathleen Dawson, Millie Slane
- Sunday, January 29 at 8:00 am - David Sullivan, Kathryn Stimac
- Sunday, January 29 at 10:30 am - Victoria Healy, Steve Monti

Cantors & Musicians:

- Saturday, January 28 at 5:00 pm - Kate Hibbs Davis
- Sunday, January 29 at 8:00 am - Jon Blake
- Sunday, January 29 at 10:30 am - Michael Callahan

Eucharistic Ministers:

- Saturday, January 28 at 5:00 pm - Maria Ugarte
- Sunday, January 29 at 8:00 am - Barb Daly
- Sunday, January 29 at 10:30 am - Tim Love, Rafael Melendez, Lisa Schneider

Altar Servers:

- Sunday, January 29 at 10:30 am - Cross Bearer - Carter Dant Acolytes - Alise Veleta, Adonai Agdubai

Mass Intentions

- **Monday, January 30:** 7:30 am - Michael Connolly †
- **Tuesday, January 31:** 7:30 am - Living and deceased parents of St. Gertrude parishioners
- **Wednesday, February 1:** 7:30 am - Living and deceased Torreano family members
- **Thursday, February 2:** 7:30 am - Mary Shepeck + (Communion Service)
- **Friday, February 3:** 7:30 am - Sheila McGuire
- **Saturday, February 4:** 7:30 am - Living and deceased Torreano family members; 5:00 pm - Alfredo Lukinskas †
- **Sunday, February 5:** 8:00 am - St. Gertrude parishioners; 10:30 am - Peon Family †; 10:30 am Gym - Quinn Bringas †

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

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