



St. Gertrude Chicago

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Bulletin for Sunday, January 4, 2026 The Epiphany of the Lord

Thank You From St. Ger't's Staff

As the Christmas season continues and a new year unfolds, we hope you have found moments of grace, rest, and renewal in the days just passed. May the mystery of the Incarnation—God choosing to dwell among us—continue to shape our lives with compassion, hope, and trust in the days ahead.

This weekend we mark the Feast of the Epiphany, a celebration of Christ made known to the world. In the visit of the Magi, we are reminded that God's saving love is not limited or exclusive, but offered freely to all. Epiphany calls us to be attentive to those around us who may feel overlooked or disconnected, and to extend an invitation—through a word, a gesture, or a welcome—back into community and relationship.

We are deeply grateful to the many volunteers and ministers whose time, talent, and quiet dedication made Advent and Christmas so prayerful and beautiful. From those who worked on our Advent events and greenery sale, to those who sang in the choir, played instruments, starred in our Christmas Eve Family Mass, and decorated the church, as well as our Eucharistic Ministers, Ministers of the Word, and altar servers who served so faithfully at the liturgy, your generosity made a meaningful difference. Because of you, our parish celebrations were welcoming, reverent, and filled with joy.

As we continue to celebrate Christmas through next Sunday's Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, may we remain attentive to God's presence among us and committed to living the Gospel in concrete ways. We pray that the year ahead brings growth in faith, generosity of spirit, and a renewed desire to serve others in love.



Parish Events & Activities



Care for Real Collection is This Weekend

Thank you to those who brought items for our Care for Real collection drive. Please drop your donations off in the vestibule before and after mass.

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.

For our January 24 and 25 collection, please 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 that time.

Friendship Club is Thursday, January 8

The St. Gertrude Women's Friendship Club meets monthly on the second Thursday of every month in the Ministry Center, 6216 North Glenwood Avenue. This month, the meeting will be held this Thursday, January 8.

The gathering begins at 11:30 am, and attendees should bring their own (brown bag) lunch.

friend

[frɛnd] noun.

a person known well to another and regarded with **liking, affection, and loyalty**. a friend is a person who knows all about you and still loves you

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!

Coalition for Spiritual and Public Leadership Meeting Planned for January 10

St. Gertrude is a member of CSPL, the faith-based organization that organized the recent People's Mass and Eucharistic Procession to the Broadview Detention Center.

Come together with other parishioners on Saturday, January 10, a week later than usual due to the holidays, from 1:30-3:00 pm in the Ministry Center to build community and discuss how to help advance our parish's commitments to social justice, human concerns, and faith formation through our participation in CSPL.



Midwest Workers Association Super Bowl Tamale Benefit - Order Tamales Next 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.



OCIA Rite of Welcoming and Acceptance is Sunday, January 11

St. 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

There is a new date to take photos for the parish photo directory—Wednesday, January 14. Photos sessions take place 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 another "Brewed at St. Gertrude", 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!



Commonweal Action Healthcare Forum Planned for Sunday, February 1

Healthcare was one of the top concerns expressed by parishioners who responded to the Commonweal Action Survey last spring. In response, 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 the 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.

Please feel free to invite friends. All are welcome.

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.

Parish News

Growing in Faith

Matthew's account of the three wise men arriving at the stable to worship the baby Jesus is one of the most touching scenes in the Bible and one of the most important.

That's because these travelers — these migrants, if you will — are stand-ins for all of us. Jesus was a Jewish boy born of Jewish parents, but he was born for everyone. As Paul notes in his letter to the Ephesians, the Gentiles are "coheirs" in faith of Jesus.

The wise men, also called kings, are searchers, as we are all called to be — searchers for what is right and true and beautiful in life. As James Taylor advises in "Home by Another Way," his song about the magi, "Keep a weather eye to the chart on high," a reference to the star the wise men followed, just as we follow the star of Jesus's own life and teachings.

The title echoes Matthew: "Then warned in a dream of King Herod's scheme, they went home by another way." There is a beautiful depiction of this in the Cathedral of Saint Lazare at Autun, France, sculpted by the 12th-century artist Gislebertus.

It shows the three men, each wearing a crown, in bed together under a richly evoked bedspread. An angel has appeared and, reaching out a right index finger, has gently touched the hand of one king, whose eyes are now wide open, alerted to wake the other two.

Think of this angel as the Holy Spirit who not only warns the magi but also alerts each of us with the gentlest of touches to signal the right road to follow. As Taylor sings: "Maybe me and you can be wise guys too."

~ Patrick T. Reardon



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.

December 27-28 Financial Report

Sunday Collection Envelopes: \$3,661.00
Loose Checks: \$125.00
Loose Cash/Coins: \$594.85
Online Donations: \$9,160.79
Christmas Collection: \$28,574.23

Total Collected: \$42,115.87
Budgeted: \$10,000.00
Difference: \$32,115.87
YTD Collected FY 2026: \$281,546.66
YTD Budgeted FY 2026: \$550,000.00
Difference: - \$268,453.34

Thank You for Attending our Advent Faith Sessions!

Thank you to all who participated in our Advent faith formation sessions, and to our facilitators—Karen Spear, Pat Sullivan, Fr. Sergio, and Jim Neafsey—for generously sharing their time and gifts.

We would love to hear your feedback on these sessions. Even if you were unable to attend, we welcome your suggestions for future adult spirituality and formation offerings. Please send your feedback or ideas to Bob Backis at rjbackis@gmail.com.

Wishing you a blessed Christmas season and a joyful New Year!

~ The Adult Spirituality and Formation Committee



Thank You for Supporting our Greenery Sale!

Thanks so much to those parishioners and neighbors that purchased trees, wreaths, and garland this holiday season. All proceeds went to support St. Gertrude's ministries.

Special thanks to Robert Clark and our other amazing volunteers who generously gave of their time. I am so thankful for their hard work!

~ Eduardo Soto, Business Manager

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.



NCA News & Activities Around the Archdiocese



REGISTER TODAY!

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, January 10

11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

FOR STUDENTS FROM PRESCHOOL – 8TH GRADE

Northside Catholic Academy Open House Next Weekend

NCA will host an Open House on Saturday, January 10 from 11:00 am-1:00 pm at 6216 N. Glenwood Avenue. Take a tour of the school, meet parents and students, and learn more about our community!

Register at <https://forms.gle/2RwfKx23LzacVoWW6>.

All are welcome to attend!

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 3 at 5:00 pm - Joseph McMahon, Christine Lincoln
- Sunday, January 4 at 8:00 am - Jay Cook
- Sunday, January 4 at 10:30 am - Patrick Robinson, Ellen Pierce

Eucharistic Ministers

- Saturday, January 3 at 5:00 pm - Tim Harrington
- Sunday, January 4 at 8:00 am - Hallie Burhoe
- Sunday, January 4 at 10:30 am - Lisa Schneider, Annie Hasselbeck, Stephen Hasselbeck

Altar Servers

- Saturday, January 3 at 5:00 pm - cross bearer: Esteban Campuzano; acolyte: Angel Garcia
- Sunday, January 4 at 10:30 am - cross bearer: Javier ; acolytes: Oscar Lassus, Diarmuid McKeown

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

- Bonita Driscoll
- The Reppen family
- Lori Sifuentes and family

Upcoming Mass Intentions

- Monday, January 5: 7:30 am - Communion Service
- Tuesday, January 6: 7:30 am - Pete Ballard+
- Wednesday, January 7: 7:30 am - Manuel Cruz+
- Thursday, January 8: 7:30 am - Randy Cruz+
- Friday, January 9: 7:30 am - Sheila McGuire+
- Saturday, January 10: 5:00 pm - Arlene Kaspik+
- Sunday, January 11: 8:00 am - Mary Amelse+; 10:30 am - Pat Veccie+; 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/allevants

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—esorioleon@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.