



St. Gertrude Chicago

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Bulletin for
Sunday, July 19, 2026
16th Sunday in
Ordinary Time

This Week's Readings

It can be discouraging to look at the world and see so much division, violence, and injustice. We often wonder why God allows evil to exist and why those who cause harm seem to flourish.

Jesus speaks directly to that question in today's Gospel. In the parable of the wheat and the weeds, the servants want to remove the weeds immediately. But the landowner tells them to wait, knowing that pulling up the weeds too soon could also destroy the wheat. God's perspective is different from ours. Where we are quick to judge or act, God is patient, always allowing room for growth, healing, and conversion.



The first reading reminds us that God's strength is revealed through mercy. Unlike human power, which often seeks control or revenge, God's authority is rooted in compassion and love. Paul adds that even when we struggle to know what to pray or how to respond to life's challenges, the Holy Spirit is already at work within us.

Rather than focusing on the weeds around us, Jesus calls us to cultivate the good. Every act of kindness, forgiveness, and welcome helps God's kingdom grow. We may not be able to change the whole world, but we can choose each day to reflect God's mercy in our own corner of it.

The kingdom of heaven grows one faithful act at a time. By trusting God's wisdom, extending grace to others, and allowing the Spirit to guide us, we become part of the harvest God is patiently bringing to life.

Parish Events & Activities



Wednesday Mornings: Resting in God's Presence

Take time each Wednesday to pause, pray, and reflect. Our contemplative prayer group meets at 9:00 am in the Ministry Center Chapel (6214 N. Glenwood Ave.) for silent prayer, Scripture reflection, and spiritual reading.

Whether you're new to contemplative prayer or have years of experience, all are welcome.

For more information, contact Karen Spear at kspear@marian.edu.

Care for Real Collection is Next Weekend

Please support our neighbors in need by bringing nonperishable food and other essential items to our Care for Real collection after all Masses on July 25–26.

For the most up-to-date list of needed items and links to Care for Real's social media pages, visit linktr.ee/cfrchicago. Thank you for your generosity!



Join Us for the Rosary at St. Gerts

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 masses/Communion services. Please consider joining us in church—we would love to have 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.

A Courtyard Conversation: What is My Relationship with God? August 18th – 7:00 to 8:30 pm

Please consider joining in a thoughtful, reflective conversation with others as we reflect upon God's presence and, perhaps, God's absence in our lives.

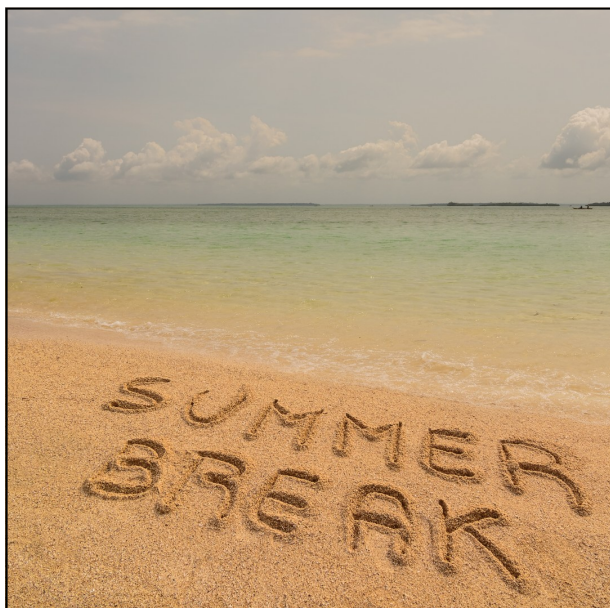
Are you satisfied with your relationship with God? Have there been times when that relationship has been a source of comfort and peace? Have there been times when God has seemed absent?

Are you always doing the talking/asking or do you take time to be still and quiet, to listen to what God is saying to you? What ways have you found to deepen your relationship with God?

Each of us has their own answer to these and to similar questions. Come and share your insights, your struggles, and your hopes as we listen and learn from one another.

We will gather in the courtyard between the church and Ministry Center on Tuesday, August 18 from 7:00 – 8:30 pm. If you are able, please bring your own chair. In the event of rain, the event will be held in the Ministry Center Chapel.

~ Sponsored by the Adult Spirituality and Formation Committee

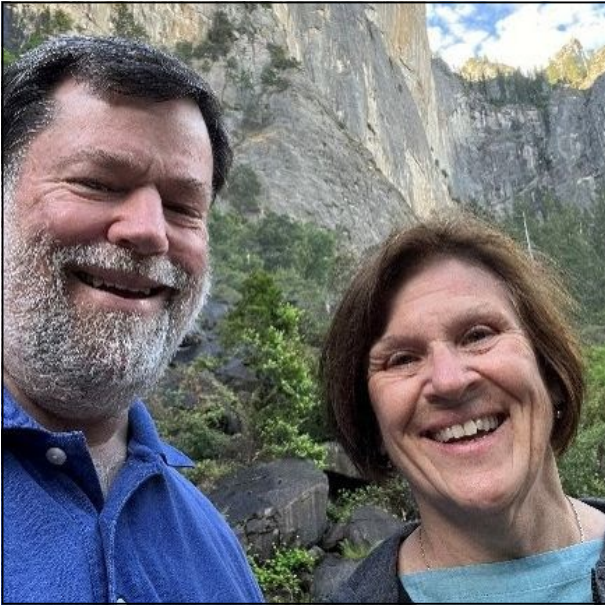


Brewed at St. Gertrude Returns in September

Brewed at St. Gertrude will take a summer break during July and August. We look forward to gathering again for coffee, conversation, and fellowship after the 10:30 am Mass beginning in September.

Have a wonderful summer, and we'll see you then!

Parish News



Growing in Faith

How do I ever forget this? The Holy Spirit, who hovered over the dawn of creation (Genesis 1:2) and who delves even the deep things of God (1 Corinthians 2:10), who hovered over Jesus in the waters of Baptism (Matthew 3:16), also lives in us, is our advocate (1 Corinthians 3:16), and teaches us how to pray as we ought, interceding for us with inexpressible groanings according to the perfect will of God (Romans 8:26–27). Wow!

I failed as a host for quite a while. I didn't say, "Good morning!" I didn't say, "What shall we do today?" Now I welcome the Holy Spirit as a guest, and we're developing a relationship that has another dimension added to worshipping the Spirit of God. Now I read Scripture more often, pray and listen more intently for a response, and acknowledge throughout the day the gentle nudges that bring better outcomes.

I find the Holy Spirit filling my heart with love and courage and driving out fear, as the Spirit did at Pentecost. I find myself using my gifts to build up the Body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12). For the times I have no words, for the painful mysteries of death and suffering, for the remorse of my sin, and for deep joys like marriage and children, I look to the Spirit to intercede with inexpressible groanings according to God's will (Romans 8:26–27).

~ Bernie O'Connor

2027 Mass Intentions Book Now Open

The 2027 Mass Intentions book is now open. If you would like to request a Mass intention for a loved one, please call, email (jcarrillo@stgertrudechicago.org), or come to the office (1420 W. Granville) during regular business hours.

A suggested donation of \$10 per Mass intention is requested. To provide as many families as possible the opportunity to schedule intentions, requests are limited to 10 Mass intentions per household each year.



REGISTER FOR RELIGIOUS ED CLASSES

Registration
opens in
August!

**CLASSES
BEGIN IN
SEPTEMBER**



Religious Education Registration Opens in August

Registration for the 2026–2027 Religious Education program opens in August! We welcome children and families to grow in faith together through engaging classes, prayer, and community.

Classes meet on Sundays from 9:15–10:15 am on the St. Gertrude campus and begin in September.

Tuition for the 2026–2027 school year is \$230 for the first child and \$40 for each additional child from the same family. Families registering a child who was baptized at another church should provide a copy of the child's baptismal certificate.

Registration may be completed online or in person by appointment.

For questions, please contact Eloy Escamilla at eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org.

Interested in Becoming Catholic or Completing Your Sacraments?

Registration for the 2026–2027 Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) process will open in August.

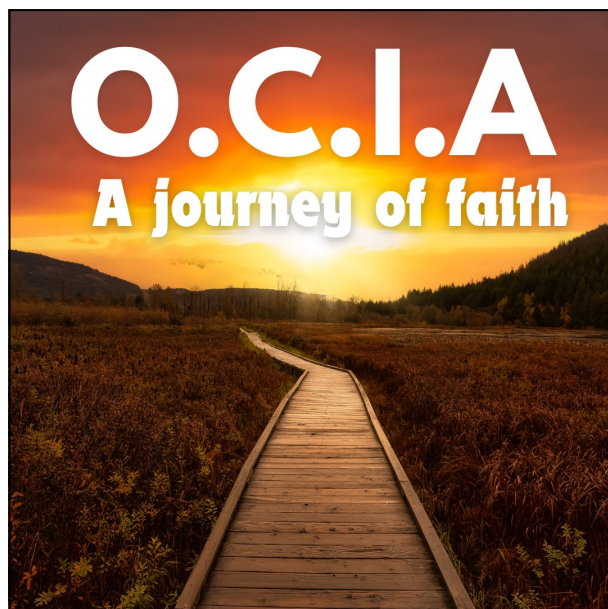
OCIA (formerly known as RCIA) is the process through which adults learn about the Catholic faith and discern whether they are called to become members of the Catholic Church.

Many participants are people who have never been baptized or who were baptized in another Christian tradition and are interested in exploring the Catholic faith. Others are baptized Catholics who have not yet received the Sacraments of Eucharist or Confirmation, or who simply want to deepen their understanding of their faith.

The OCIA journey is one of prayer, learning, reflection, and community. Through weekly gatherings, participants explore Scripture, share their faith stories, learn about Catholic beliefs and traditions, and participate in the life of the parish. Those who are ready to enter the Catholic Church receive the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil.

Classes will begin in September.

If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about OCIA at St. Gertrude, contact Eloy Escamilla by calling the Rectory at 773.764.3621 or emailing eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org.



Summer Mass Parts:

Gloria: Mass of Joy and Peace #249

Gospel Acc: Celtic Alleluia #373

Eucharistic Acclamations:

Land of Rest #411

Lamb of God: Holy Cross Mass #436

Music for Mass This Summer

This graphic outlines the Mass parts we will be using throughout the summer to help everyone participate with confidence.

The opening, offertory, communion, and closing hymns will continue to be posted on the hymn board before Mass and announced as the liturgy begins. Thank you for joining in prayer and song as we worship together each week.

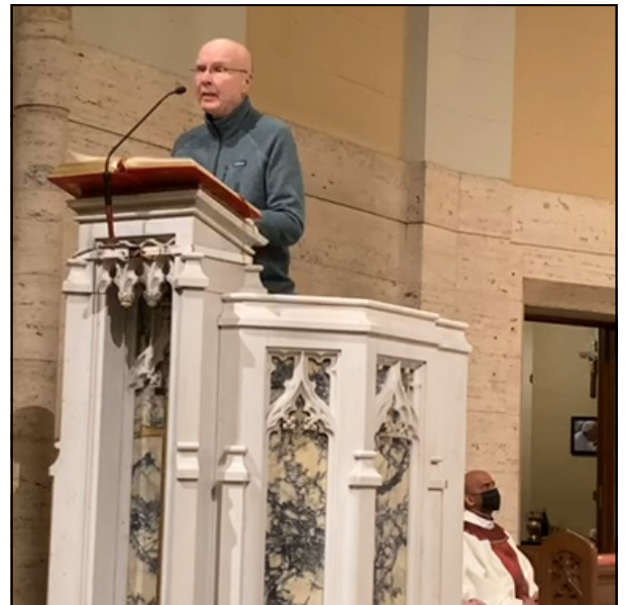
Liturgical Ministry Training This September

Share your gifts and become more involved in the celebration of the Mass by serving in one of our liturgical ministries.

Training for Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers will be held on Monday, September 21, at 6:30 pm in the church. Youth and adults are invited to attend.

Altar Server training will take place on Monday, September 28, at 6:30 pm in the church. Students in 4th grade and older are welcome.

To learn more, contact Eloy Escamilla at eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org.



Financial Report for July 11-12

Sunday Collection Envelopes: \$1,452.00

Loose Checks: \$215.00

Loose Cash/Coins: \$845.13

Online Donations: \$6,880.74

Total Collected: \$9,392.87

Budgeted: \$10,000.00

Difference: -\$607.13

YTD Collected FY 2027: \$16,884.39

YTD Budgeted FY 2027: \$550,000.00

Difference: -\$533,115.61

New Parishioners

- Jasmine Moore and Liliana Hernandez
- Nicole Sotelo and David Heimann

Baptisms

- Robin Sigismund Preston, son of Rory Preston & Sydney E. Smith
- Violet Balderas, daughter of Jose R. Balderas Hidalgo & Georgiana Moise

Rest in Peace

- Heneill R. Fitzpatrick, funeral Saturday, July 25 at 10:00 am
- Eileen Schrager, funeral Saturday, August 15 with visitation at 9:00 am and Mass at 11:00 am

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

Ministers of the Word

- Saturday, July 18 at 5:00 pm - Joseph McMahon, Patrick Reardon
- Sunday, July 19 at 8:00 am - Jacalyn Meier, Mary Clare Barker
- Sunday, July 19 at 10:30 am - Ellen Pierce, Eric Ameyaw

Eucharistic Ministers

- Saturday, July 18 at 5:00 pm - Kathy Wall
- Sunday, July 19 at 8:00 am - Anthony Myers
- Sunday, July 19 at 10:30 am - Bob Backis, Rafael Melendez, Sarah Millar

Altar Servers

- Sunday, July 19 at 10:30 am - cross bearer: Jason Ameyaw; acolytes: Angel Garcia, Wyatt Dant

Please Pray for our Parishioners and Friends

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

Upcoming Mass Intentions

- Monday, July 20: 7:30 am - Communion Service
- Tuesday, July 21: 7:30 am
- Wednesday, July 22: 7:30 am
- Thursday, July 23: 7:30 am
- Friday, July 24: 7:30 am - 7:30 am - JoAnne Joyce+
- Saturday, July 25: 5:00 pm
- Sunday, July 26: 8:00 am; 10:30 am

Mass Times/Rector Office Hours/Reconciliation

- Sunday: 8:00 & 10:30 am Mass in Church, (The Gym Mass is on summer break.); Monday-Friday: 7:30 am; Saturday: 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.

Parish Staff and Contact Info

Rev. Sergio Romo, Pastor—sromo@stgertrudechicago.org

Patricia Branigan, Events/Room Booking Contact—pbranigan@stgertrudechicago.org

Janie Carrillo, Parish Secretary—jcarrillo@stgertrudechicago.org

Eloy Escamilla, Pastoral Associate—eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org

Jonathan Hannau, Music Director—jhannau@stgertrudechicago.org

Laurie Hasbrook, Heart to Heart Lending Closet Manager—call 773.973.5464

Sr. Susan Quaintance, OSB, Heart to Heart Director—squaintance@stgertrudechicago.org

Tracy Shields, Communications Director—tshields@stgertrudechicago.org

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. **The Lending Closet is closed until July 16.**

Contact the Parish Pastoral Council

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

Donate to our Parish

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

Visit our Parish Website

For the latest parish events, bulletins, staff contact info, details on our Medical Lending Closet, sacraments and more, visit our parish's website at stgertrudechicago.org.