

St. Gertrude Chicago

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Combined Bulletin for

June 26 & July 3, 2022

13th & 14th Sundays in Ordinary Time

From Fr. Rich

Weekend of June 25-26: 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

There is a question in today's Gospel that we might want to inscribe in every place of public

gathering for as long as it takes to heal some of the great divisions in the country and church.

Having encountered a group of believers of a different faith, who will not welcome Jesus in their town because his destination is Jerusalem, his disciples ask the knee-jerk question that too easily slips into all our minds and hearts when we meet those with whom we disagree, "Lord, do you want us to call down fire from heaven to consume them?"

Talk about an overreaction! But it is part of what we have witnessed in the January 6th investigation. Nor is a surprise to anyone who deals regularly with those of far differing political persuasions in both our nation and our church.

That it is timely is without question. But that only increases the need to hear, reflect upon and follow the Lord's response, "Jesus turned and rebuked them, and they journeyed to another village." We might say in today's idiom, "Back off!" Whenever our self-righteousness rears its ugly head, we need to remind ourselves immediately, "Back off!" We are all different, we are all human, and none of us has a lock on "the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth."

Perhaps the wisdom of the ages is appropriate to these situations that are not going to away until we learn some important lessons from them. In the meantime, as the wise have told us for years, "When you are in serious disagreement with another person, rather than condemning them, say a prayer for them." This strategy both lowers the temperature, and it puts us back in touch with God at the center of our lives and the lives of others.

Weekend of July 2-3: 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

As we celebrate our nation's Independence Day on July 3 and 4, I want to "cheat" and instead of reflecting on this weekend's scripture readings, I want to go back to June 26th's Epistle reading from St. Paul's letter to the Galatians.

The opening lines are, "Brothers and sisters: for freedom Christ set us free; so stand firm and do not submit again to the yoke of slavery. For you were called for freedom, brothers and sisters. But do not use this freedom as an opportunity for the flesh; rather, serve one another



From Fr. Rich (cont.)

through love.” There is an epidemic of confusion around the notion of freedom. Some people mistakenly think that freedom means we can do whatever we want whenever we want wherever we want. That is not freedom. In fact, that is the greatest form of enslavement.

The image of a person about to step out on a journey captures the way real freedom actually works. As we stand at the beginning of a new journey, we have before us all options. But until we make a positive decision to go one way or another, we are prisoners to our possibilities. We only become truly free when we make a decision, choose a direction, and set out. In that moment, we no longer are bound up, but become free to move in a specific direction, doing a specific task, etc.



Making decisions and living by them are part of what some call the “freedom from” activity of our lives. We are freed from indecision and uncertainty and are able to move. Which brings us to the second part, the “freedom for”. Only after we make a decision are we free to move forward. It doesn’t mean we will never make a mistake, revise, or change what we once decided, but it gives us the ability to live a certain way, doing something with our lives.

As St. Paul clarifies, “For the whole law is fulfilled in one statement, namely, You shall love your neighbor as yourself. But if you go on biting and devouring one another, beware that you are not consumed by one another.”

What a great reminder of the true, divine purpose in the freedom we have been given: we are to love one another.

As we celebrate our national holiday, let us make every effort to bring the best of our Christian faith into how we live as active citizens of our nation.



Peter's Pence Collection - June 25-26

The Peter's Pence collection is a gesture of solidarity through which every member of the faithful can participate in the activity of the Pope as Pastor of the universal Church. The faithful's offerings to the Holy Father through the Peter's Pence Collection are destined to Church needs, to humanitarian initiatives and social

promotion projects, as well as to the support of the Holy See.

For more information on Peter's Pence, please visit the Vatican's Peter's Pence website: www.obolodisanpietro.va/en.html.



Summer Mission Appeal— Weekend of July 2-3

Each year, every parish in the Archdiocese hosts a speaker on behalf of a missionary group during the summer months. This year, we will welcome Fr. Arnel Lagman, OFS, from the Roman Catholic Prelature of Isabela de Basilan in the Philippines (pictured left).

The Prelature is composed of ten parishes and five convents, also served by four different congregations of religious sisters. The proceeds from the Summer Mission Appeal make possible the continued work of the church in that part of the world. Please be generous in the second collection that weekend.



Priests' Convocation

As happens every few years, all the priests in the Archdiocese will be away at a Presbyteral Convocation Monday, June 27 - Thursday, June 30.

We are hoping to line up a priest for the morning Masses that Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, and there will be the regular Communion Service on Thursday.

Summer BULLETIN SCHEDULE



Summer Bulletin Schedule

Bulletins will be sent out/distributed on June 25-26, July 9-10, and July 23-24. We will resume our weekly bulletin schedule on August 6-7.

Information for the bulletin must be submitted to stgerbulletin@yahoo.com by the Friday that is ten days before the date the bulletin will be published. Information for the August 6-7 bulletin is due by July 22.

Ministry Appreciation Weekend - All Volunteers to be Honored June 25-26

Every week, dozens and dozens of parishioners volunteer their time and talent as ministers and volunteers here at St. Gertrude.

These are the ministers we see in church -- Lectors, Ministers of Communion, and Ushers. There are the Ministers of Care visiting the sick and homebound and there are couples involved in providing the Pre-Cana and FOCCUS (pre-marital inventory) segments of marriage preparation.

There are members of the RCIA Team preparing new members for reception into the church. There are parishioners who every week pray for those in need for a variety of reasons. There are the volunteers who count the weekend Offertory collections.

There are the catechists who share their faith with the students in Religious Education. There are the volunteers who help with the Youth Group. There are members of the Refugee Committee helping families who had to flee their own homeland settle into their new lives in Chicago.

There are parishioners who serve in leadership roles in the Parish Pastoral Council and Parish Finance Committee. There are the volunteers who set up and take down for the Gym Mass. There are cantors and choir members and instrumentalists helping provide music in our liturgies. There are book and poetry groups and Blood Drive volunteers.



I have undoubtedly forgotten some -- so please forgive me! But we want to acknowledge and thank all of our wonderful ministers and volunteers for their great service to the parish.

At the Masses on the weekend of June 25-26, we will have a special blessing of gratitude at the end of Mass and will share hospitality afterwards in the back of church. Please join us!

~ Fr. Rich

Growing in Faith

What does it mean to say yes? Saying yes means 100% commitment to taking on a new obligation and all the unexpected trouble that the new commitment entails. Saying yes does not mean “yes, but.” If I have ever existed in a state of grace, that is taking up a temporary dwelling in the Kingdom, I have only done so when I have taken on my obligations with everything I have, and without regrets, and without looking for vestiges of what I left behind in what I have taken on.

Jesus isn't making a moral statement as much as he is making an existential one. It's not, “you should not look back.” Rather it's, “you can't look back and move forward at the same time.”

The saying, “comparisons are the death of the spiritual life” could be paraphrased to “regret is the death of the spiritual life.” Regret is a type of comparison, comparing the past to the present, and, consequently, the future. If God really is the future of man, then that future cannot coexist with regret and half-hearted commitment by me to taking on my God-given obligations.

~ Marty Butzen



Rectory Office Closed on July 4/Info About Regular Office Hours

The Rectory office will be closed on Monday, July 4. Mass will be held at 7:30 am.

The office will temporarily close at 4:30 pm on weekdays. Weekend office hours may be limited. We apologize for the inconvenience.

Take Advantage of Higher Payout Rates! Charitable gift annuity payout rates have increased – allowing you the opportunity to benefit more from your giving and to help ensure that God's good work continues. When you establish a charitable gift annuity with the archdiocese, not only will you receive fixed payments for life, but you can designate our parish as the remainder beneficiary. You can schedule payments according to your financial needs, and enjoy immediate and future tax benefits, including a federal income tax deduction for a portion of your gift, if you itemize. Also, a portion of each annuity payment will be tax-free (through life expectancy). The funds remaining after your lifetime will support our parish or school – as designated by you. For more information, contact Eduardo Soto at esoto@stgertrudechicago.org or visit giving.archchicago.org/cga.

Commemoration of the 125th Anniversary of the Death of Venerable Augustus Tolton - Virtual Celebration on Friday, July 8 at 6:30 pm

Join the Tolton Guild and Bishop Joseph Perry, postulator for the cause for canonization for Father Augustus Tolton, for an evening reflecting on the life and legacy of Father Tolton. This online event will be Friday, July 8 at 6:30 pm.

Panelists C. Vanessa White from Catholic Theological Union and Father Claude Williams, OPraem, will deliver brief remarks on the life and legacy of Father Tolton.

A Q & A discussion will moderated by Father David Jones from St. Benedict the African Parish in Chicago. Closing remarks will be delivered by Father Michael Penn of the Diocese of Jefferson City.

Please register in advance to receive the livestream link and materials for reflection at bit.ly/tolton-7-31.



YOUTH GROUP COOKOUT



**SUNDAY, JULY 10
AFTER THE 10:30 AM MASS IN
THE BACK OF THE RECTORY**

Save the Date! Youth Group Cookout Planned for July 10!

Join the St. Gertrude Youth Group for food, friends, fun, and faith! Teens in 7th grade and older are invited to the parish youth group cookout, planned for Sunday, July 10 after the 10:30 am Mass in the back of the Rectory.

Additional youth group gatherings have been planned for August 20, September 11, October 15, November 6, and December 10.

For more information, contact Eloy Escamilla, Pastoral Associate, at eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org.



Edgewater Garden Walk is Sunday, July 10

We Edgewater Glen's 48th Annual Garden Walk will be held Sunday July 10, 2022 from noon to 5:00 pm starting at 1420 W. Glenlake (6100 North).

This is your chance to see creative gardening efforts in smaller city spaces in this easily walkable route of the 1200 & 1300 blocks of Norwood, Glenlake, Hood, and the south side of Granville.

There is a suggested donation of \$5 per adult and no charge for children. Visit <http://edgeglen.com> for more details.

United Power for Action and Justice Event on Sunday, July 17

"Do something. Do it now!" - The President of the United States

Teens Even the Good Samaritan eventually had to stop pulling people out of a ditch and organize to make the road safe from Jerusalem to Jericho. So let's organize with residents of all communities and ethnicities and religions in Chicagoland. Therefore, let us "go and do likewise."

What can we at St. Gertrude's do that might be effective on so many of the seemingly intractable issues facing all of us in Chicago, in Illinois, and throughout the country? Let's get 25 of our parishioners to "Do Something" together on Sunday, July 17 to help make our world more like the Kingdom of God that Jesus preached.

Want to act on injustice and fight for systemic change in housing priorities, economic inequity, mental health, criminal justice, gun violence? Be part of St. Gert's organized people power by grabbing your face mask and getting "on the bus" to the United Power for Action and Justice action on Sunday July 17 at 3:00.

Experience real democracy in action. Join over 2,500 people from 100 member organizations from across the six-county Chicagoland area as we meet with top officials from industry: local, state, and federal government, and religious leaders to get at the root causes of these and other issues.

Let's travel together, leaving St. Gert's promptly at 3:00 pm on Sunday, July 17, for a 4:00 pm action at the House of Hope, 752 E 114th Street, Chicago. Or meet us there (plenty of parking is available). You'll be home before 6:30 pm.

Contact parishioners Kate Hibbs Davis at 434.989.6976 or kate.hibbs.davis@gmail.com or Greg Pierce at 773.590.3801 or gfapierce@aol.com to learn more or to sign up for a ride.



Peace and Justice Ministry: Fireside Chats Planned—First One Scheduled for Monday, July 18

Bring your lawn chair, a beverage of your choice and snacks to share, if you choose, and join with fellow St. Gertrude's around a firepit on the Rectory lawn.

The Peace and Justice Ministry will be hosting three opportunities to discuss and explore how our Christian faith informs how we feel about social issues. They are:

- Monday, July 18, 7:00 -8:30 pm—Gun Violence
- Monday, August 15, 7:00-8:30 pm—Racism
- Monday, September 19, 7:00-8:30 pm—The Seamless Garment (sanctity of life, conception to natural death)



Watch the bulletin for further information and links to articles on the upcoming topics.



Catechists Needed to Teach Religious Education

We are looking for catechists to teach in our parish's Religious Ed program this Fall!

Catechists are usually not professional teachers, just willing parents and parishioners who enjoy kids and want to help them grow in a personal relationship with God, participate in the sacraments, and develop a mature conscience, and integrate faith in all areas of their lives.

Please consider offering your time and talents to help our young people learn about and grow in their faith.

If you have any questions, please reach out to

Eloy Escamilla, Pastoral Associate, Religious Education and Youth Ministry, at eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org or call 773.764.3621.

Interested in Becoming Catholic?

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a process by which adults learn more about the Catholic Church. This free program begins in the fall and meets until Pentecost.



Many people who begin RCIA are non-Catholics seeking to become Catholic or at least to explore whether Catholicism might be a good home. Those who complete the process and decide to become Catholic are initiated into the Church at the Easter Vigil Mass on Holy Saturday. Others who take RCIA are already Catholic but want a deeper understanding of their faith foundation.

The RCIA process does not ask those who have been baptized in another faith to give up their denominational experiences. Rather, the RCIA process seeks to add new colors and designs to their existing faith life tapestry. In addition to attending Mass, the RCIA process includes weekly gatherings of breaking open the Word of God, sharing our stories, and learning about our faith traditions.

If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about the RCIA process at St. Gertrude, contact me at eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org or call the Rectory at 773.764.3621.

~ Eloy Escamilla, Pastoral Associate



Our Parish Garden is Blooming!

St. Gertrude's garden is blooming, thanks to the hard work of all of our volunteers.

If you wish to pitch in with weeding and watering the garden throughout the summer, please reach out to Mary Clare Barker at mcbarker@stgertrudechicago.org.

Tax Credit Scholarship Program

Looking for a way to decrease your Illinois state income tax liability? What if you could decrease what you owe to the state and potentially increase your state tax refund, while also helping fund scholarships for low-income students to attend the Catholic school of their choice?

More than 30 children are on the waitlist for Northside Catholic Academy. Help fund a child's future and donate to the Archdiocese Tax Credit Scholarship Program.

Every contribution to the Tax Credit Scholarship Program is eligible for a 75 percent credit on state income taxes. Help a child attend NCA today. Learn more at archchicago.org/tcs.

Care for Our Common Home: How-To Video

Because creation is a gift from God, we are asked to steward it. The book of Genesis asks us to keep and till the natural world. How can you help steward our resources and care for our common home?

Watch this short video to learn more: <https://bit.ly/CareforCreationEnglish>.



For a Spanish version, visit: <https://bit.ly/CuidadodelacreacióndeDios>.



Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass – September 18

Couples celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary from across the Archdiocese of Chicago are invited to gather together for the Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass that will be celebrated by Cardinal Cupich on Sunday, September 18 at 2:30 pm.

The Mass will be held at Holy Name Cathedral. For more information and to register, visit <https://pvm.archchicago.org/events/golden-wedding>.

Help for Ukraine

If you would like to donate to help the Ukrainian people, please consider making a contribution to Catholic Relief Services for emergency aid to the people in Ukraine at <https://support.crs.org/donate/donate-ukraine>.



Pictured: Refugees from Mykolaiv, Ukraine being helped by Catholic Relief Services in Poland.



Best Wishes to Pastor Fred of Unity Lutheran Church & ECRA!

A big thank you to Pastor Fred Kinsey, who has lead both Unity Lutheran Church and ECRA (Edgewater Community Religious Association) for many years.

We are grateful for his time and wisdom over the years, particularly during the pandemic, and wish the best for him in retirement.

New Parishioners

- Patricia O'Neal
- Travis and Samantha Rich

Baptisms

- Rumi Sarah, child of Kevin & Mari Bray
- Christopher Ayden, child of Amber & Yoselin Garcia
- Frederick Lee IV, child of Frederick III & Mary Hill
- Bauer Elizabeth, child of Katheryn & Raven Krupalshaan
- Ishaan Jacob Mascarenhas, son of Rohan & Priyanbka Mascarenhas

Rest in Peace

- Connie Burke
- Valerie Williams

Cantors, Ministers of the Word, and Eucharistic Ministers for June 25-26 & July 2-3

Ministers of the Word:

- Saturday, June 25 at 5:00 pm - Kathleen Dawson
- Sunday, June 26 at 8:00 am - Marty McDermott
- Sunday, June 26 at 10:30 am - Troy McMillian
- Saturday, July 2 at 5:00 pm - Millie Slane
- Sunday, July 3 at 8:00 am - Kathryn Stimac
- Sunday, July 3 at 10:30 am - Steve Monti

Eucharistic Ministers:

- Saturday, June 25 at 5:00 pm - Kathy Wall
- Sunday, June 26 at 8:00 am - Barb Daly
- Sunday, June 26 at 10:30 am - Bob Backis, Carlos Barragan
- Saturday, July 2 at 5:00 pm - Tim Harrington
- Sunday, July 3 at 8:00 am - Hallie Burhoe
- Sunday, July 3 at 10:30 am - Rafael Melendez, Victoria Healy, Bob Backis

Cantors and Musicians:

- Saturday, June 25 at 5:00 pm - Paula Dempsey
- Sunday, June 26 at 8:00 am - Denise Goodman
- Sunday, June 26 at 10:30 am - Cindy Lawson
- Saturday, July 2 at 5:00 pm - TBA
- Sunday, July 3 at 8:00 am - TBA
- Sunday, July 3 at 10:30 am - TBA

Mass Intentions

- Monday, June 27: 7:30 am - Mary McGuinness
- Tuesday, June 28: 7:30 am - Purgatorial Society
- Wednesday, June 29: 7:30 am - Noreen Tierney +
- Thursday, June 30: 7:30 am - Communion Service - Nancy Quinn Jaskowiak +
- Friday, July 1: 7:30 am - Gonzalo Frias +
- Saturday, July 2: 7:30 am - Living & deceased parents of St. Gertrude parishioners; 5:00 pm - Alphonsus Saldanha +
- Sunday, July 3: 8:00 am - Parishioners of St. Gertrude; 10:30 am in Church - Living & deceased members of St. Gertrude Class of 1950
- Monday, July 4: 7:30 am - Paciencia & Robert Cabrera +
- Tuesday, July 5: 7:30 am - Edith Lutz +
- Wednesday, July 6: 7:30 am - Purgatorial Society
- Thursday, July 7: 7:30 am - Communion Service
- Friday, July 8: 7:30 am -Peggy Wartell +
- Saturday, July 9: 7:30 am - James Hand +; 5:00 pm - Peter Odon
- Sunday, July 10: 8:00 am - Glenn Martin +; 10:30 am in Church - Fr. John Lynch + *(Fr. Lynch was associate pastor of St. Gertrude from 1982 -1992, and returned for a year in 1984. July 10 is the tenth anniversary of his passing.)*

Please Pray for our Parishioners and Friends

- Pamela Sherrod Anderson
- Helen Banta
- Zara Bradley
- Sharon Brown
- Connie Bueck
- Lilly Buie
- Claire Bushey
- Maggie Callaway
- Aida Calvopina
- KC Conway
- Connie Cool
- Caloy Desembrana
- Ann Collins Dole
- Christine Frisoni
- Shirley Marie Gonzales
- Gina Heidkamp
- Maria Hertl
- Daniel Hidalgo
- Patricia Irwin
- Bernice Kiedysz
- Marilyn Klein
- Sheila McGuire
- Dean Mattoni
- Larry McCauley
- Molly Morris
- Karey Myers
- Tina Piemonte
- Richard Seitz
- Peggy Stoffel
- The Sullivan family
- Elinora E. Tolentino
- Manuel & Norma Viray
- Valerie Williams
- Ken & Vyes Yoza

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/allevnts

Email esoto@stgertrudechicago.org for additional information.

Parish Staff

Rev. Richard J. Prendergast, Pastor
Rev. Michael Gabriel, Associate Pastor
Mary Clare Barker, Minister of Music
Eloy Escamilla, Pastoral Associate for Religious Education and Youth Ministry
Maria Garcia, Rectory Office Manager
Laurie Hasbrook, Heart to Heart Lending Closet Manager
Andy Mueller, Parish Buildings Engineer
Tracy Shields, Communications
Eduardo Soto, Director of Parish Management