

# St. Gertrude Chicago

1420 W. Granville  
Chicago, IL 60660  
773.764.3621

[stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org)

[www.stgertrudechicago.org](http://www.stgertrudechicago.org)

**Bulletin for  
Sunday,  
March 15, 2026  
The Fourth Sunday of Lent**

Live as children  
of light, for light  
produces  
every kind of  
goodness  
and  
righteousness  
and truth.

*Ephesians 5:8-9*

## Congratulations to Our Newly Confirmed Teens!

On Tuesday, March 10, teens from our Religious Education program and NCA made their Confirmation. We are so proud of their hard work and dedication!

- Enzo Agboton
- Jayson Ameyaw
- Mariano Barragan III
- Isabella Barrera
- Liam Benham
- Lillian Benham
- Ethan Bernal
- Oisin Bhutia
- Braden Blake
- Thomas Burns
- Esteban Campuzano
- Madeleine Carpio
- Mary Kate Cashman
- Fiorella Angelique Chapa
- Murphy Cooper
- Olivia Daleo
- Esteban Diaz
- Colin Flaherty
- Sofia Fuentes
- Margaret Fulkerson
- Alessandra Garcia
- Alexis Garcia
- Angel A. Garcia
- Uri Garcia
- Everett Gray
- Helena Ind
- Agnes Lacy
- Javier Lassus
- Aiden Lew
- Guilayne Lopez
- Vivienne Marinelli
- Maeve McGowan
- Milani C. Medina
- Stella Rose Mikovic
- Jonathan Monroy
- Katherine Montesdeoca
- Frankie Muller
- Adeline Nader
- Maddox Neubauer
- Tri-Lam Nguyen
- Stephanie Nunez
- Audrey Okoye
- Alexis Perez
- Carlos Perez
- Vadhir Perez
- Meg Pyka
- Maria Romero
- Bennett Salvatore
- Vivienne Skukan
- Connor Szafoni
- Enrique Villareal
- Rose Wyman



*Photo courtesy of Jonathan Hannau*

# Parish Calendar

*There is a 7:30 am daily Mass M-F, followed by the Rosary.  
(Locations: MC-Ministry Center; SH-Social Hall, C-Church)*



## Lenten Events & Activities

### **Sunday, March 15**

- Second Scrutiny
- Almoner's Program Second Collection
- No Gym Mass

### **Thursday, March 19**

- 6:00 pm - Simple Supper (MC)
- 7:00 pm - Lenten Spirituality Session (MC)

### **Friday, March 20**

- 8:00 am - Rosary and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament begins
- 3:00 pm - Traditional Stations of the Cross
- 6:00 pm - Music, Stillness, Solidarity (C)
- 6:30 pm - Social justice Stations of the Cross
- 7:00 pm - Guadalupanos Rosary Group (C)
- 7:30 pm - Benediction and Closing of Exposition

### **Saturday, March 21**

- 4:15-4:45 pm - Sacrament of Reconciliation available
- Almoner's Program Second Collection
- Care for Real Collection

### **Sunday, March 22**

- Third Scrutiny
- Almoner's Program Second Collection
- Care for Real Collection
- 11:30 am - *Brewed at St. Gertrude* parish hospitality event (SH)
- After the *Brewed at St. Gertrude* (around 12:15 pm) - "Catholic Social Teaching in the Past and the Present Moment" discussion (SH)

### **Monday, March 23**

- 7:00 pm - Deanery Lenten Reconciliation Service at St. Nicholas campus of St. John XXIII Parish, 806 Ridge Avenue, Evanston

### **Thursday, March 26**

- 6:00 pm - Simple Supper (MC)
- 7:00 pm - Lenten Spirituality Session (MC)

### **Friday, March 27**

- 3:00 pm - Traditional Stations of the Cross
- 6:00 pm - Music, Stillness, Solidarity (C)
- 6:30 pm - Social justice Stations of the Cross
- 7:00 pm - Guadalupanos Rosary Group (C)
- 7:30 pm - Benediction and Closing of Exposition

### **Saturday, March 28**

- 4:15-4:45 pm - Sacrament of Reconciliation available
- Almoner's Program Second Collection

## Looking to Send Content to the Bulletin or to Have an Announcement Made? Use this New Email!

Content for the bulletin should now be sent to [news@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:news@stgertrudechicago.org). Information should arrive 10 days before the Sunday you'd like your announcement to appear (Friday morning before 10:00 am). Early submissions are appreciated, as bulletin size can vary week to week, and both a print and an e-bulletin are produced.

# Holy Week Information

## Palm Sunday, March 29

- 8:00 am - Mass
- 10:30 am - Combined Mass and Palm Sunday procession (No Gym Mass)

## Holy Thursday, April 2

- No morning Mass
- 7:00 pm - Mass of the Lord's Supper
- Special collection for the Catholic Extension Society
- Adoration - church open until midnight

## Good Friday, April 3

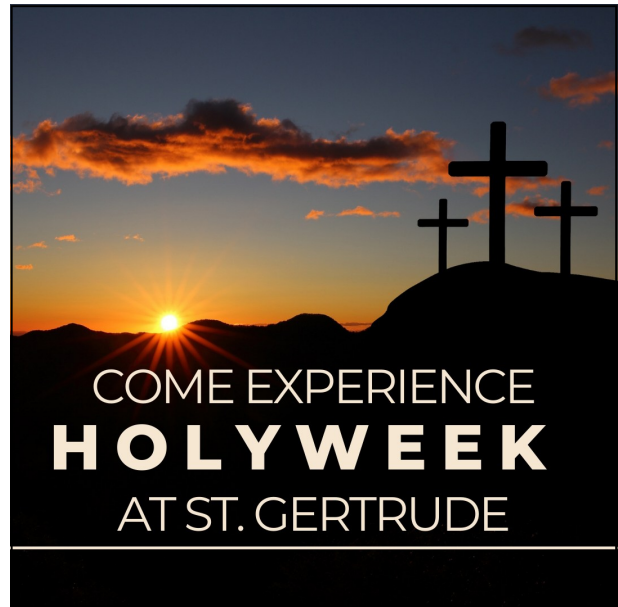
- No morning Mass
- The Rectory office is closed.
- 3:00 pm - Living Stations of the Cross performed by the parish youth group
- 7:00 pm - Commemoration of the Lord's Passion and Veneration of the Cross
- Special collection for the Pontifical Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land

## Holy Saturday, April 4

- No morning Mass
- No Sacrament of Reconciliation
- 11:00 am - Blessing of Easter baskets
- 8:00 pm - Easter Vigil Mass

## Easter Sunday, April 5

- 8:00 am - Mass in church
- 10:30 am - Mass in church
- 10:35 am - Overflow Mass in the Gym



## Info About Events & Activities



### Almoners Lenten Ministry (Sunday and Sunday Vigil Masses)

Our parish's Almoners' Program is held through March 29. Each weekend, a second collection will be held, with funds used to distribute McDonald's cards to those who are in need.

At the end of each Mass, those wishing to participate in distributing cards to the needy will be invited to come forward, receive the cards, and be given a blessing as they go out in this charitable outreach.



## Lenten Simple Supper - Thursdays at 6:00 pm

Lent is better together! Join us on Thursdays at 6:00 pm in the Social Hall (1401 W. Granville Ave.) for our beloved Lenten Simple Suppers.

Each week, a different parish group hosts:

- March 19 – Coalition for Spiritual & Public Leadership (CSPL)
- March 26 – NCA

Come for a simple meal, meaningful conversation, and community. All are welcome—bring a friend!

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## Lenten Spirituality Sessions— Thursdays Immediately After the Simple Supper

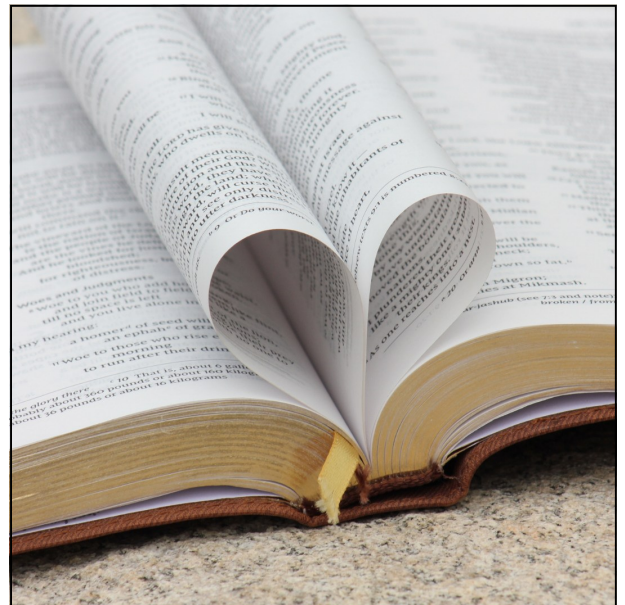
This Lent, the Adult Spirituality and Formation Committee is offering opportunities to explore the mystery of our Lenten journey.

All sessions take place from 7:00 pm – 8:15 pm, following our Simple Supper, which begins at 6:00 pm. You are welcome to attend any or all sessions. Please come to Simple Supper and the Lenten series – and bring a friend!

On Thursday, March 19th, we will explore *Fasting: The Second Pillar of Lent* with Chris Countryman. *Fasting is a spiritual practice that can be found in our Judeo-Christian heritage at least as far back as the Exodus. It is part of many Christian paths today. We will discuss some of these paths and how fasting is part of the journey. We will also discuss the practical experience of fasting and its effects on the lives of those who fast.*

Chris Countryman is a former Pastoral Associate and hospital chaplain. He has fasted one day a week off and on over the last 50 years. Chris brings both a spiritual and a scientific perspective to our reflection on fasting.

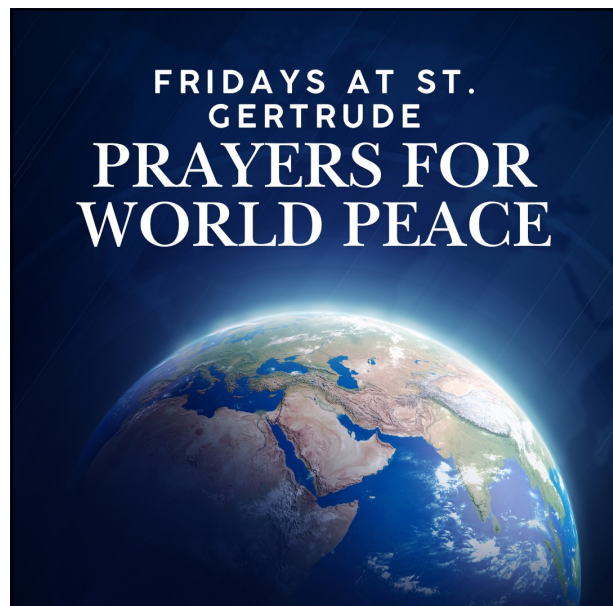
The final session will be on Thursday, March 26. We will discuss *Almsgiving: The Third Pillar of Lent* with a panel of St. Gertrude parishioners.



## **Fridays During March: Church Open 7:30 am-7:30 pm for Prayers for World Peace Activities includes Rosaries, Stations of the Cross, and Musical Mediation**

As hostilities in Iran continue to unfold, these actions have already escalated into a wider conflict with no clear end in sight. In troubling times such as these, we turn to God in prayer.

Throughout the Fridays of March, St. Gertrude Parish will observe special days of prayer for world peace. On these Fridays, the church will remain open from 7:30 am to 7:30 pm so that parishioners may spend time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament.



Our regularly scheduled Lenten activities on Fridays will continue as planned:

- 7:30 am – Daily Mass
- 8:00 am – Rosary and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
- 3:00 pm – Stations of the Cross (traditional)
- 6:00 pm – Musical Meditation: Music, Stillness, Solidarity
- 6:30 pm – Stations of the Cross (social justice-themed: March 20: *Through the Eyes of Mary*; March 27: *The Way of the Cross for Our Time*)
- 7:00 pm – Bilingual Rosary
- 7:30 pm – Benediction and Closing of Exposition

Because someone must be present in prayer during Exposition, we are asking for volunteers to spend 30 minutes or one hour in the church. If you are able to help, please add your name to the sign-up sheet located at the back of the church.

*\*In the event of a funeral, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be temporarily suspended until the funeral has concluded. The church will remain open and accessible for private prayer during that time.*

### **Financial Report for March 7-8**

Sunday Collection Envelopes: \$1,780.00  
 Loose Checks: \$365.00  
 Loose Cash/Coins: \$884.50  
 Online Donations: \$9,788.97  
 Total Collected: \$12,818.47

Budgeted: \$10,000.00  
 Difference: \$2,818.47  
 YTD Collected FY 2026: \$376,558.99  
 YTD Budgeted FY 2026: \$550,000.00  
 Difference: -\$173,441.01  
 Almoner's Collection: \$860.00



## Sacrament of Reconciliation - Saturdays; Lenten Communal Reconciliation Service Next Monday (in Evanston)

Every Saturday from 4:15-4:45 pm, private confession is available. Please note, there is no Sacrament of Reconciliation on Holy Saturday.

There is also a bilingual Reconciliation Services for all the parishes in our deanery on Monday, March 23 at 7:00 pm at the St. Nicholas campus of St. John XXIII Parish in Evanston, located at 806 Ridge Ave.

## "Brewed at St. Gertrude" Gathering on Sunday, March 22

Please join us on Sunday, March 22, for a parish hospitality event, "Brewed at St. Gertrude!" Following the 10:30 am church and gym masses, come to the Social Hall for 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!



## "Catholic Social Teaching in the Past and the Present Moment" Discussion Next Sunday, March 22

All are invited to another discussion of *Catholic Social Teaching in the Past and the Present Moment* next Sunday, March 22. It will be held just after the *Brewed at St. Gertrude* gathering in the Social Hall.



The program will feature parishioners Heidi Schlumpf, senior correspondent for *Commonweal*, and Michelle Nickerson, a Professor of History at Loyola University Chicago.

Join us for an afternoon of reflection, dialogue, and inspiration as we consider how the Gospel's call to justice continues to shape our Church and our world today.

### Growing in Faith

In his letter to the Ephesians, Paul writes, "You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light." These days, it can be hard to see the light — and be the light — and to trust that God is at work. When we're afraid for the state of the world, can the light of our faith guide our hearts?

Several recent experiences remind me that light and God are everywhere:

- During these especially unstable times, I see rich goodness in people who are professing and giving witness to their faith, publicly and quietly. It is their work that makes goodness possible in so many ways. They help awaken all of us.
- At my friend Ed's memorial service, many stories about Ed's faith reminded me that we each find our own path to the Spirit.
- I get support from hearing about people who have a practice or discipline of connecting and relating to other people and of reaching for and praying to God.
- I hear an ongoing call to practice humility. Can I listen with love and openness until I understand people with whom I disagree? We cannot ever stop building connections until God and love are alive everywhere.



Faith requires trust. I feel the power of God's love when I am reassured by those around me that I am who I need to be, even with the darker parts of me. I know I have light and faith and love deep inside me. I need to let them out.

Let's learn to share with each other who we are and let our love grow in the world. Let's stay alive inside and out, and let's not hide our light under a bushel basket.

~ Cathy Shiel-Reardon

### Teens Invited to Join St. Gertrude's Youth Mission Experience

Parish teens are invited to participate in St. Gertrude's Youth Mission Experience, taking place June 22–26. Open to students entering seventh grade through high school, this weeklong experience offers teens the chance to serve alongside Chicagoland organizations while growing in faith, friendship, and community.

The cost for the week is \$125. To reserve a spot or learn more, please contact Pastoral Associate Eloy Escamilla at [eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org).



## Please Take our Parish's DMI Survey Before March 29

St. Gertrude is on a journey to know, love and serve Christ better and thrive---and we want to hear from our parishioners!

The Disciple Maker Index (DMI) is an anonymous survey of parishioners that provides insights into the level of missionary discipleship in the parish in addition to the effectiveness of the Mass experience, preaching, and other aspects of the parish.

The survey assesses our unique strengths and opportunities. Share your perspective now to help

strengthen St. Gertrude and better prepare us for the future!

Access the Disciple Maker Index (DMI) survey link at <https://bit.ly/DMIsurveyStGerts> through March 29 or scan the QR code. Paper copies of the survey are available in the back of church.

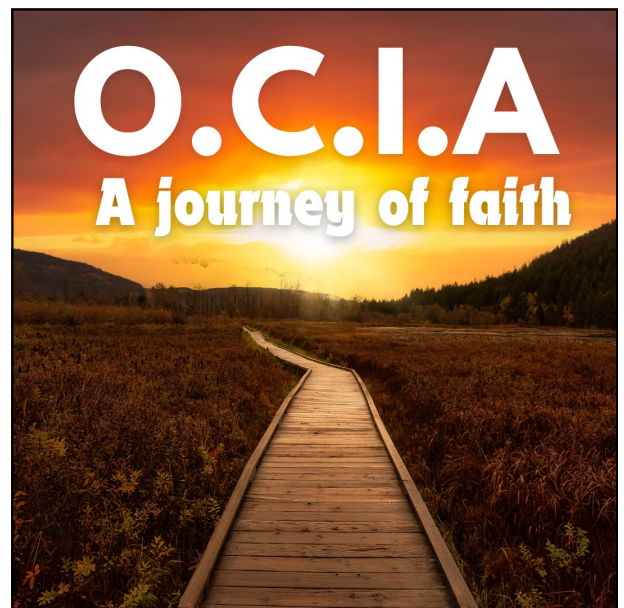
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## What are the Scrutinies?

This Sunday, we continue the "Scrutinies." These are special rites for the women and men who have been meeting weekly to explore their faith and their movement into the Catholic Church on Holy Saturday.

On the third, fourth, and fifth Sundays of Lent each year, we call these candidates and catechumens forward and invite them to reflect upon their past lives and commit themselves to repentance as they continue this spiritual journey to a new life. We celebrate these rites publicly in order for all of us, already baptized and confirmed Catholics, to reflect upon our own lives and how we have or have not lived up to the promises made at our own baptisms.

And, like these searchers, we also are invited to reject whatever has been sinful in our lives, leading us away from the Lord. We ask God's help to cleanse us of our sins and follow the true path of Our Lord's Gospel.



## Parish Info

### Rest in Peace

- [Michael Browne](#), Visitation, Thursday, March 26, from 4:00-8:00 pm at Haben Funeral Home, Funeral, Friday, March 27 at 10:00 am at St. Gertrude

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

### Ministers of the Word

- Saturday, March 14 at 5:00 pm - Millie Slane, Martin Waide
- Sunday, March 15 at 8:00 am - Rob Sierzega, Kathryn Stimac
- Sunday, March 15 at 10:30 am - Liam Benham, Anne-Marie St. G.

### Eucharistic Ministers

- Saturday, March 14 at 5:00 pm - Tim Harrington
- Sunday, March 15 at 8:00 am - Steven Monti
- Sunday, March 15 at 10:30 am - Rafael Melendez, Michael Kowalsky, Troy McMillan

### Altar Servers

- Saturday, March 14 at 5:00 pm - cross bearer: Carter Dant; acolytes: Wyatt Dant, Brennan Robbins
- Sunday, March 15 at 10:30 am - cross bearer: Oscar Lassus; acolytes: Javier Lassus, Adaobi Okoli

## Please Pray for our Parishioners and Friends

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

## Upcoming Mass Intentions

- Monday, March 16: 7:30 am - Communion Service
- Tuesday, March 17: 7:30 am - John and Lillian McCall+
- Wednesday, March 18: 7:30 am - Marty Maurer+
- Thursday, March 19: 7:30 am - Cheryl Veccie+
- Friday, March 20: 7:30 am - Peggy Sue Riordan+
- Saturday, March 21: 5:00 pm - People of God
- Sunday, March 22: 8:00 am - Bob Radycki; 10:30 am - Jack Taylor+; 10:30 am Gym - Michael Browne

## 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. There is a bilingual communal confession for all the parishes in our deanery on Monday, March 23 at 7:00 pm at the St. Nicholas campus of St John XXIII Parish in Evanston, located at 806 Ridge Ave.

## Parish Staff and Contact Info

Rev. Sergio Romo, Pastor—[sromo@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:sromo@stgertrudechicago.org)

Patricia Branigan, Events/Room Booking Contact—[pbranigan@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:pbranigan@stgertrudechicago.org)

Janie Carrillo, Parish Secretary—[jcarrillo@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:jcarrillo@stgertrudechicago.org)

Eloy Escamilla, Pastoral Associate—[eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org)

Jonathan Hannau, Music Director—[jhannau@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:jhannau@stgertrudechicago.org)

Laurie Hasbrook, Heart to Heart Lending Closet Manager—[lhasbrook@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:lhasbrook@stgertrudechicago.org)

Sr. Susan Quaintance, OSB, Heart to Heart Director—[squaintance@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:squaintance@stgertrudechicago.org)

Tracy Shields, Communications Director—[tshields@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:tshields@stgertrudechicago.org)

Eduardo Soto, Director of Parish Management—[esoto@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto: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](mailto:squaintance@stgertrudechicago.org). To reach Laurie Hasbrook, our Lending Closet manager, please call 773.973.5464 or email her at [lhasbrook@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:lhasbrook@stgertrudechicago.org).

## Contact the Parish Pastoral Council

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

## Donate to our Parish

- PayPal link - visit our parish website at [www.stgertrudechicago.org](http://www.stgertrudechicago.org)
- GiveCentral: [www.givecentral.org/location/8/allevants](http://www.givecentral.org/location/8/allevants)

## Visit our Parish Website

Parish info can be found at [stgertrudechicago.org](http://stgertrudechicago.org).