



St. Gertrude Chicago

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Bulletin for Sunday, March 2, 2025

*The Eighth Sunday in
Ordinary Time*

From Fr. Mike Gabriel

On March 11, nine parishioners from St. Gertrude will be doing a pilgrimage to Rome. The idea of going on a pilgrimage or journey is really the theme of Lent for all of us. We are all being invited to be on a pilgrimage or journey to accepting the love of God more fully and living the love out.

All our lives are a pilgrimage or journey of faith--moving us from within to expand our love and the ability to forgive.

Like Jesus, we are beginning right here, in our own homes, church, country, and then move beyond our own comfortable familiarity to explore and expand God's love.

Lent is a penitential season--a time for each of us to confront our own sinfulness so we can move beyond the imprisoning limits. Love is about forgiving. It is a choice we must make.

Listed below are numerous opportunities to assist everyone on their journey, including daily mass, Almoners, Lenten booklets, mediation, Sacrament of Reconciliation, and Stations of the Cross, to name of few, and of course, a Lenten attitude!

Let's together start this pilgrimage this Wednesday, March 5, Ash Wednesday.

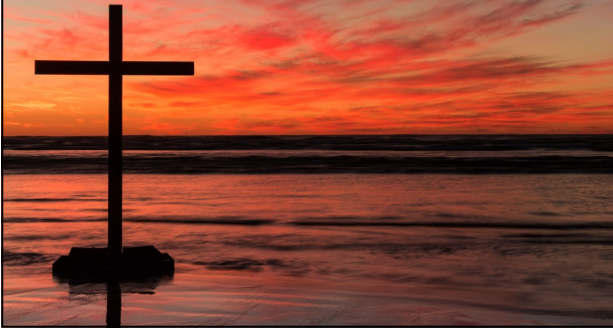
Here are three things to start this pilgrimage with:

1. Abstinence from meat on Ash Wednesday and every Friday in Lent.
2. Fasting on Ash Wednesday, by having only one full meal.
3. Fasting from sarcasm, criticism, negativity, judgmentalism, self-righteousness, cynicism, self-centeredness, self-absorption, and intolerance.



The Season of Lent at St. Gertrude

Lenten Events & Activities



Ash Wednesday, March 5

- 7:30 am - Mass with distribution of ashes
- 8:30 am - NCA Mass with distribution of ashes
- 12:00 pm - Prayer and distribution of ashes
- 6:30 pm - Mass with distribution of ashes

Almoners Lenten Ministry

Our parish's Almoners' Program will be held again. 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.

Sacrament of Reconciliation Opportunities

Every Saturday from 4:00-4:45 pm, private confession is available. There is a communal confession for all the parishes in our deanery (Deanery 2B) on Monday, April 14 (the Monday of Holy Week) at 7:00 pm at the St. Ita campus of Mother of God Parish.

Little Black Books

A limited number of *Little Black Books of Lenten Reflections* have been kindly donated by a parishioner. These small books offer daily six-minute meditations on the Passion.

Lenten Season Mediation Series: *Music, Stillness, Solidarity*

We live in incredibly troubled times. Injustice after injustice and a stream of never ending tragedies show through social media algorithms designed to distract us. It is difficult to digest it all, let alone find a moment of stillness to reflect and potentially act on it.

You are invited to a new series titled *Music, Stillness, Solidarity* every Friday night from March 7 to April 11. From 6:00-6:30 pm, St. Gertrude's will be open as a safe space where ALL are welcome to come, sit, pray, and meditate as we navigate these realities as a community.

Contemplative music will be played through the duration of the time to help guide and promote reflection on the day.

Lenten Simple Suppers & Scripture Study

Simple Supper and Bible Study are returning for Lent on Wednesdays. Beginning March 12, parishioners are invited to meet in the Ministry Center, 6214 N. Glenwood Ave., at 6:00 pm for dinner, followed by bible study at 7:00 pm. Each week, a different parish group will host the event. The schedule is:

- March 12: Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)
- March 19: Northside Catholic Academy (NCA)
- March 26: Men's Basketball
- April 2: Music Ministry
- April 9: Commonweal Dialogue
- April 16: Porch Prayer Group

The Season of Lent (continued)

Stations of the Cross

Each Friday at 3:00 pm during Lent, we will offer a traditional Way of the Cross.

Another Stations of the Cross will be held at 6:30 pm on Fridays after our Lenten Meditation: *Music, Stillness and Solidarity*. These Stations of the Cross will have a social justice theme:

- March 7—Walk the Stations with stories of immigrants
- March 14 - Walk the Stations about social justice
- March 21 - Walk the Stations with the LGBTQ community
- March 28 - Walk the Stations about social justice
- April 4 - Walk the Stations through the eyes of Mary

Daily Mass

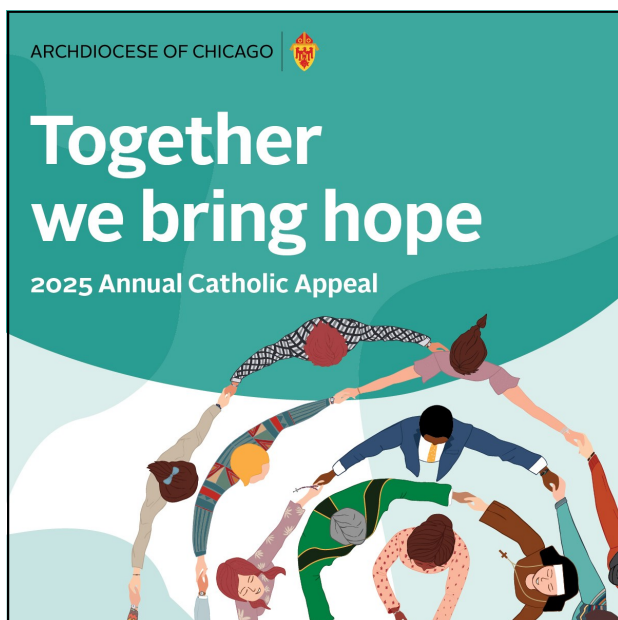
- Daily Mass: 7:30 am - Monday-Saturday
- Sunday Mass: 8:00 am, 10:30 am Church, 10:30 am Gym Mass; 5:00 pm - Saturday (Sunday Vigil)



Lenten Events & Activities

Events & Activities at St. Gertrude

listed in chronological order (*Activities & events at NCA, other parishes, and in Edgewater are listed after parish events, reflections, and news*)



Annual Catholic Appeal: Together We Bring Hope

Our parish is conducting our campaign for the Annual Catholic Appeal. Please remember that the Annual Catholic Appeal is much different than a one-time special collection. It is a pledge campaign where you can make a gift payable in installments.

The new Annual Catholic Appeal theme, "Together we bring hope," is an important theme as we prayerfully consider our support for the Appeal but also important for embracing the life that the Lord wants us to live.

Each pledge makes a difference! All parish communities participate in the campaign and the gifts of many enable our parishes, schools and ministries to deliver needed services.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration and generous response. To make your gift, you can complete the mail-in giving envelope available at church or make a gift online at annualcatholicappeal.com.

Collection for Asylum Seekers is This Weekend

St. Gertrude has its monthly collection drive for our asylum seekers this weekend! Please place items in the bins at the back of church. Items will be donated to Care for Real, who is working hard to help these newly-arrived neighbors.

Missed it? Donations can be dropped off between 12:00-3:00 pm every Monday-Saturday at the back entrance of 5339 N. Sheridan.

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.



Teens are Invited to Register for St. Gertrude's Youth Mission Experience

Parish teens are invited to take part in St. Gertrude's Youth Mission experience this summer from June 23-27. Teens in seventh grade through high school will volunteer with a different Chicago-land organization each day.

This is an excellent opportunity to have fun and earn volunteer hours! There is a \$100 fee for the week. A \$50 deposit is required at the time of registration. Please note that there are scholarships available! All participants will receive a t-shirt, water

bottle, and a sports drawstring backpack.

To reserve a spot or for more information, contact pastoral associate Eloy Escamilla at eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org.

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.

Parish News



The Parish Pastoral Council is Looking for New Members!

The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) is renewing its search for new members. If you are interested in learning more about the PPC or are interested in joining, please complete an interest form at <https://bit.ly/JointhePPC>.

Questions or comments for the PPC can be sent to stgertrudeparishcouncil@gmail.com.

Volunteers Needed

The pastoral staff has been taking on increasing responsibilities, and they have been doing an excellent job. However, they cannot carry this weight alone—they need your help. We need more volunteers to sustain the programs and ministries we currently offer and to continue moving forward.

Here are a few immediate areas where your assistance is needed:

- **Baptismal Preparation:** We offer a monthly class for families having their babies baptized for the first time.
- **Live Streaming:** The 10:30 am Mass is live-streamed to bring the liturgy into the homes of those who cannot attend in person.
- **Choir:** The choir is looking for singers and musicians. Rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm. All voices are welcome.
- **Heart to Heart Ministry:** This outreach program offers aid and support to older adults in need.
- **Church Environment:/Decoration:** As we approach Lent and Easter, there is need for help making the church look beautiful.

If you have any interest in any of these ministries, please reach out to Fr. Mike Gabriel at mgabriel@stgertrudechicago.org.





Growing in Faith: Online Lenten Resources

Looking for ways to make your Lenten journey as meaningful as possible? Here are a few online resources that may help.

IgnatianSpirituality.com: The website offers several Lenten resources including:

- A “read-along” retreat based on Pope Francis’ new book, *On Hope*. From Ash Wednesday through Holy Week, you will be reading and reflecting on the pope’s message of how “God’s love can grace each of us with a lasting and sustaining hope, no matter how dark and confusing our situation.”

- The Ignatian Workout for Lent: An Online Retreat. This program challenges you to become a spiritual athlete, offering weekly prayers and action.
- Living Lent Daily. Inspired by the Jubilee Year theme “Pilgrims of Hope,” this daily email series introduces saints of pilgrimage as examples of faith to encourage your spiritual growth.

Paxchristiusa.org: Connecting the suffering Christ with those who struggle from famine, war and violence, *Return to me with all your heart: Reflections for Lent 2025* features reflections for every day by Ralph McCloud, recipient of Pax Christi USA’s Eileen Egan Peacemaker Award. It is available as a booklet (\$5) or as a download for your e-reader.

Maryknollus.org: At this website, you can sign up for free Lenten Reflection Guides for individuals and for families, available in English or Spanish.

Blessings on your Lenten Journey!

~ Growing in Faith Committee

Virgin de Guadalupe Celebration

The Guadalupanos are thankful and grateful to St. Gertrude and Fr. Michael Gabriel for letting them celebrate the Virgin de Guadalupe mass on December 12th. It brought joy and a sense of togetherness during this celebration.



Events at NCA, Loyola, and in the Archdiocese



Loyola University's The Hank Center: New Envisioning a Livable Future Lecture on Tuesday, March 11

Join Loyola's University for an online serial symposium in collaboration with John Carroll University marking the 10th

anniversary of Pope Francis' encyclical, *Laudato Si'*.

The March 11th event will be held via Zoom from 4:30-5:45 pm CST.

The topic is the Political Economy of Climate Change. A synopsis of the discussion is: *How do we move from what Pope Francis has called an "economy that kills" both people and planet to an economy that is truly sustainable and just? What are the levers of such a system change, and what are the obstacles to it?*

An additional session will be held on Wednesday, April 9. Visit <https://www.luc.edu/ccih/conferences/archive/laudatosiat10series.shtml> for more information and to sign up.

Next NCA Monthly Caregiver-Toddler Playdates on Monday, March 10

Looking after your child/children or caring for a little one? You're invited to our next monthly get together for caregivers and toddlers! The gathering will be held on March 10, as well as April 7 and May 12 at Northside Catholic Academy, 6216 N. Glenwood, from 9:30-10:30 am.

Each hour is filled with story times, crafts, and free play for little ones. Caregivers must attend.

RSVP to gmafatti@ncaschools.com.



Parish Information

Baptisms

- Addison Grace Skokna
- Thomas Francis Sheridan



Financial Report from February 22-23

Sunday Collection Envelopes: \$1,877.00

Loose Checks: \$612.00

Loose Cash/Coins: \$672.10

Online Donations: \$6,579.64

Total Collected: \$9,740.74

Budgeted: \$10,000.00

Difference: -\$259.26

Year-to-date Collected FY 2025:
\$364,439.71

Year-to-date Budgeted FY 2025:
\$550,000.00

Difference: - \$185,560.29

Kids Word Offered at the 10:30 am Masses

Kids Word is offered during the 10:30 am Mass in church. This program provides children aged 4-7 years-old an age-appropriate Gospel message and to do fun, scripture-based activities such as coloring or crafts in the Rectory.

Children are invited by the celebrant to come to the altar before the readings and return to church before the petitions.

Parish Information

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

Ministers of the Word

- Saturday, March 1 at 5:00 pm - Millie Slane, Christine Lincoln
- Sunday, March 2 at 8:00 am - Rob Sierzega
- Sunday, March 2 at 10:30 am - Tim Love, Edie Sheridan

Eucharistic Ministers

- Saturday, March 1 at 5:00 pm - Tim Harrington
- Sunday, March 2 at 8:00 am - Josephine Delgado
- Sunday, March 2 at 10:30 am - Rafael Melendez, Patrick Robinson, Michael Kowalsky

Altar Servers

- Saturday, March 1 at 5:00 pm - cross bearer: Sammy Kloster; acolytes: Carter Dant, Wyatt Dant
- Sunday, March 2 at 10:30 am - cross bearer: Danna Salinas; acolytes: Kora Cunningham, Viviana Love

Please Pray for our Parishioners and Friends

- | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| • Mary Amelse | • Luke Fitzgerald | • Bob Radycki |
| • Victor Ayes | • Adolf Gabriel | • Bill Salek |
| • Andrea Banicki | • Marie Galoney | • Willy Spalla |
| • Carlos Barragan | • Thomas Hajduch | • Floret Spalle |
| • Patrick Barton | • Tricia Hernandez | • Frannie Swaine |
| • Zara Bradley | • Maria Hertl | • Christopher Thomas |
| • Lilly Buie | • John Kahoun | • Elinora E. Tolentino |
| • Hallie Burhoe | • Marilyn Klein | • Manuel & Norma Viray |
| • Aida Calvopina | • Joseph Lambin | • Tayana Wallace |
| • Terrence Carmichael | • River Malik | • King Wallace |
| • Cavicke Family | • Matilde Manzardo | • Christian Wallace |
| • Denise DeBelle | • Nancy Michael | • Kevin Walsh+ |
| • David Denegas | • Steve Monti | • Leon Ward |
| • Ann Collins Dole | • Hilda Mora | • Ron Whitfield |
| • Darlene Durso-Clark+ | • Donald Nyderek | • Janice Wittenberg |
| • Renee Elhoumaidi | • Dealina Peon | • Dawn Wyman |
| • Mr. and Mrs. Emin | • Claude Poulsen | • Yyes Yoza |
| • Euman | • Joan Ross + | • Joel Pozzi Zio |

Contact the Rectory office at 773.764.3621 or email stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org if you would like to add a name to the prayer list.

Contact the Parish Pastoral Council

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

Upcoming Mass Intentions

- Monday, March 3: 7:30 am - Purgatorial Society
- Tuesday, March 4: 7:30 am - People of God
- Wednesday, March 4: 7:30 am - Adolf Gabriel
- Thursday, March 5: 7:30 am - Communion Service - Greg Wall+
- Friday, March 6: 7:30 am - Maria Silva+
- Saturday, March 8: 7:30 am - Jim Ness+; 5:00 pm - Darlene Durso-Clark
- Sunday, March 9: 8:00 am - Mary Lou O'Toole+ & Bobby Udrow+; 10:30 am - Mary Jo Martin+; 10:30 am Gym - Edith Herbin+

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 is closed on weekends.

Donate to our Parish

- 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

Parish Staff and Contact Info

Rev. Michael Gabriel, Pastor—mgabriel@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

Sherl Patterson, Office Manager—spatterson@stgertrudechicago.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 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.

Visit our Parish Website

For the latest parish events and information, including our weekly live-stream, upcoming events, bulletins, rectory hours, funeral announcements, visit stgertrudechicago.org.