

I am the resurrection  
and the life.

## St. Gertrude Chicago

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773.764.3621

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

**Bulletin for  
Sunday,  
March 22, 2026  
The Fifth Sunday of Lent**

### **A Message from Fr. Sergio: Your Voice Matters—Please Complete the DMI Survey**

St. Gertrude is on a journey to know, love, and serve Christ more deeply—and to grow as a parish community. To help guide us, we are asking for your participation in the Disciple Maker Index (DMI), an anonymous survey that provides insight into our parish's strengths and areas for growth.

At this time, however, our response rate is very low.

I cannot emphasize enough how critical your participation is. Without broad input from our parish community, we cannot form a clear or accurate picture of where we are—or where God is calling us to go next. The strength of this effort depends on hearing from you. Your voice, your experiences, and your hopes for our parish truly matter.

I ask you to take a few minutes to complete the survey before **Palm Sunday, March 29**. The survey is available online by scanning the QR code or visiting <https://bit.ly/DMIsurveyStGerts>. Paper copies are also available in the back of the church.

Please do not assume that others will respond in your place. Each response brings us closer to understanding how we can better serve Christ—and one another—here at St. Gertrude.

Thank you for your time and your commitment to our parish.

With gratitude and prayers,

*Fr. Sergio*



# 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 22

- Almoner's Program Second Collection
- 11:30 am - *Brewed at St. Gertrude* parish hospitality event (SH)
- 12:15 pm - *Catholic Social Teaching in the Past & 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

- 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: Way of the Cross for Our Time
- 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
- Care for Real collection
- 5:00 pm - Third Scrutiny at Mass

### Palm Sunday, March 29

- Care for Real collection
- Almoner's Program Second Collection
- 8:00 am - Mass
- 10:30 am - Combined Mass and Palm Sunday blessing of palms/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/Rectory office 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

### Easter Monday, April 6

- 2 • The Rectory office is closed.

## "Brewed at St. Gertrude" This 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 on 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.

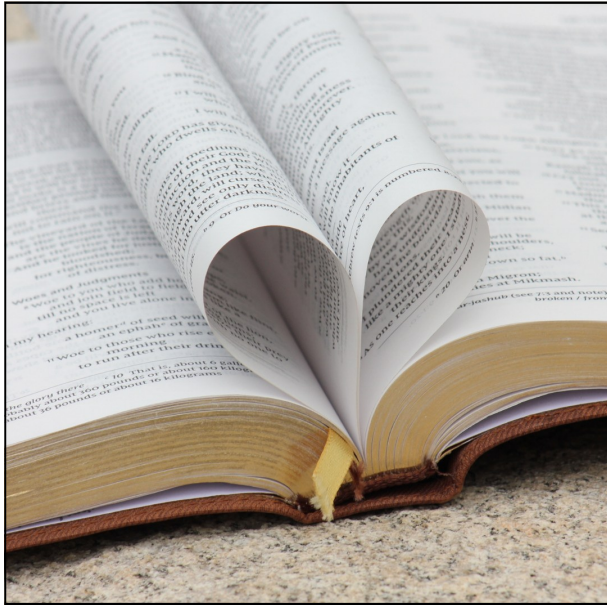
Join us for an afternoon of reflection, dialogue, and inspiration as we consider how the Gospel's call to justice continues to shape our Church and our world today.

## Lenten Communal Sacrament of Reconciliation is This Monday, March 23 (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.





## Lenten Simple Supper and Lenten Spirituality Session - Thursday, March 26

Lent is better together! Join us for a simple meal, meaningful conversation, and community. The final Simple Supper will take place on Thursday, March 26 at 6:00 pm in the Social Hall (1401 W. Granville Ave.) and will be hosted by Northside Catholic Academy.

The final Lenten Spirituality Session will follow from 7:00–8:15 pm in the Social Hall.

We will explore *Almsgiving: The Third Pillar of Lent*. A panel of parishioners—Mary Kate Cahill, Rich

Goode, Krista Chinchilla-Patzke, and Bob Backis—will reflect on what it truly means to practice almsgiving. Is it only about sharing financial resources, or is there a deeper call?

Together, we will consider what almsgiving means in a world where many experience loneliness, fear, and a lack of purpose, love, and community. There will also be time for personal reflection on how this practice shapes our conversion of heart and our role in transforming the world.

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## This Friday: Church Open 7:30 am-7:30 pm for Prayers for World Peace

As conflict in Iran continues to grow, we turn to God in prayer. This Friday, St. Gertrude Parish will again observe a day of prayer for world peace.

The church will be open from 7:30 am to 7:30 pm for prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. The full schedule is:

- 7:30 am – Daily Mass
- 8:00 am – Rosary and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament begins
- 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: Way of the Cross for Our Time)
- 7:00 pm – Bilingual Rosary
- 7:30 pm – Benediction and Closing of Exposition



## Care for Real Collection is March 27-28

SNAP is the most effective way to address food insecurity in the United States. As SNAP eligibility requirements change, many of our neighbors are at risk of losing their benefits. This is especially true for seniors and others who do not have an exemption and are now required to work or volunteer 80 hours per month and report this to the state.

As a result of these new requirements and the difficulty meeting them, Care for Real anticipates an increase in need for their services.

St. Gertrude has a collection drive for our neighbors in need on March 27-28 and again April 4-5. Visit <https://linktr.ee/cfrchicagoforinformation> about donating and links to their Facebook and Instagram pages to see what they are specifically looking for at this time.

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.

We are so grateful for your help supporting Care for Real as they work to provide food and much-needed supplies to our neighbors who are struggling.



## Coalition for Spiritual and Public Leadership Meeting Planned for April 11

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, April 11, 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. All are welcome!

## Curious About Events & Activities at St. Gerts?

Upcoming events are listed on the home page, [stgertrudechicago.org](http://stgertrudechicago.org), and in our [Events calendar](#), found under the News/Programs heading!



## Book Club is Tuesday, April 14

Join us for a discussion of *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian* by Sherman Alexie on Tuesday, April 14 at 6:30 pm at the Ministry Center, 6214 W. Glenwood. New participants are always welcome!

For questions, contact Lea Cloninger (773.213.0509) or Sue Benjamin (773.551.8401).

## Teens Invited to Join St. Gert'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).



## What are the Scrutinies?

At this weekend's Sunday Vigil (Saturday, March 21 at 5:00 pm), 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.

### Growing in Faith

The readings for the Fifth Sunday of Lent speak about belief and trust—something we all have to grapple with in our daily lives. In my own life, as I navigate the challenges of losing loved ones, coping with what I endured while growing up, being a mother, and living in an increasingly cruel world, I have questioned God: Why do we lose our loved ones?

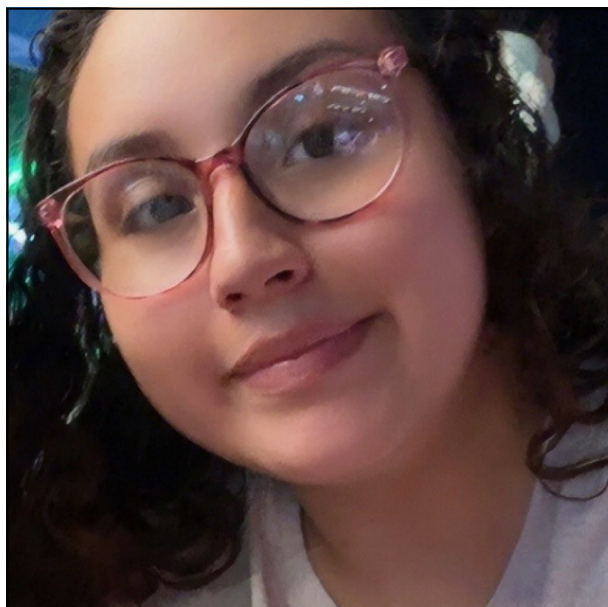
I feel like Martha, who says to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” I am sure we have all asked this question. I know I did when my sister lost her husband to cancer—the hardest thing I have ever seen her go through.

What I have learned is to let God show you the way. This is where belief and trust come in. When it comes to our lives and our relationship with God, we must allow Him to show us the right signs—and we must listen. It can be challenging, because we do not always recognize those signs, but we must not give up.

God has shown me signs to turn my life around: by blessing me with two beautiful daughters, and by giving me a near-death experience that offered me a second chance to be the best mother I can be. We have to seek peace and silence in order to understand the signs God is showing us and to believe in what He is doing.

For God has said, “I have promised, and I will do it!”

~ *Jasmine Ott*



### 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.

### Financial Report for March 14-15

Sunday Collection Envelopes: \$1,560.00  
Loose Checks: \$425.00  
Loose Cash/Coins: \$659.25  
Online Donations: \$3,490.64  
Total Collected: \$6,134.89

Budgeted: \$10,000.00  
Difference: - \$3,865.11  
YTD Collected FY 2026: \$382,693.88  
YTD Budgeted FY 2026: \$550,000.00  
Difference: -\$ 167,306.12  
Almoner's Collection: \$1,110.00

## Parish Info

### Rest in Peace

- **Carolyn Carlson**, mother of Laurel Thomas (Chris)
- **Alice Czech**, mother of Anthony and the late Timothy, wife of the late William; wake at Barr Funeral Home on Monday, March 23 from 3:00-8:00 pm; funeral Tuesday, March 24 at 11:00 am at St. Gertrude
  - **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
- **Marie Isaily**, Mother of Mark A. (Rose Marie) Isaily Catherine (Robert) Shockey, and Michael and Derek Isaily; memorial Mass Saturday, March 28 at 10:00 am at St. Gertrude, visitation begins at 9:15 am

### New Parishioner

- Ezekiel Tsieh

## NCA Events and Info

# Meet the 'Cats!

9:00 – 10:30 AM

UPCOMING  
EVENTS

TUESDAY MARCH 24  
WEDNESDAY APRIL 15  
THURSDAY MAY 7

Learn more about the upcoming 2026-27 school year at **Northside Catholic Academy** with coffee and conversation. All families and students welcome to attend.

**RSVP at [northsidecatholic.org](http://northsidecatholic.org)**

## THINKING ABOUT SWITCHING SCHOOLS?



### Who Can Apply

- Students who attended public school in the prior year
- Families demonstrating financial need
- Preschool and Kindergarten siblings enrolling with an eligible older student



### How to Apply

Start the process with a **FACTS application**

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

\*Based on financial need. All applicants must submit \$30 non-refundable application fee.

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

## Ministers of the Word

- Saturday, March 21 at 5:00 pm - Joseph McMahon, Patrick Reardon
- Sunday, March 22 at 8:00 am - Jennifer Kiedaisch, Hallie Burhoe
- Sunday, March 22 at 10:30 am - Troy McMillan, Theo Fletcher

## Eucharistic Ministers

- Saturday, March 21 at 5:00 pm - Anthony Myers
- Sunday, March 22 at 8:00 am - Kathy Wall
- Sunday, March 22 at 10:30 am - Ellen Pierce, Annie Hasselbeck, Stephen Hasselbeck

## Altar Servers

- Saturday, March 21 at 5:00 pm - cross bearer: Ethan Craft; acolytes: Owen Craft, Ethan Craft
- Sunday, March 22 at 10:30 am - cross bearer: Diarmuid McKeown; acolytes: Carter Dant, Wyatt Dant

## 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 Laczowski      | • 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       |

## Curious About Events & Activities at St. Gerts?

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## Upcoming Mass Intentions

- Monday, March 23: 7:30 am - Communion Service
- Tuesday, March 24: 7:30 am - Alice Czech+; 11:00 am - funeral for Alice Czech
- Wednesday, March 25: 7:30 am - James "Jimmy" Gracey+
- Thursday, March 26: 7:30 am - Caprice Boylan+
- Friday, March 27: 7:30 am - Michael Browne+; 10:00 am -funeral for Michael Browne
- Saturday, March 28: 10:00 am - funeral for Marie Isaily; 5:00 pm - Marie Isaily+
- Palm Sunday, March 29: 8:00 am - the Marren and Gracey family; 10:30 am - Sheridan Gorman

## 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-call 773.973.5464

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.

## 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/allevnts](http://www.givecentral.org/location/8/allevnts)

## Visit our Parish Website

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