

# St. Gertrude Chicago

1420 W. Granville, Chicago, IL 60660

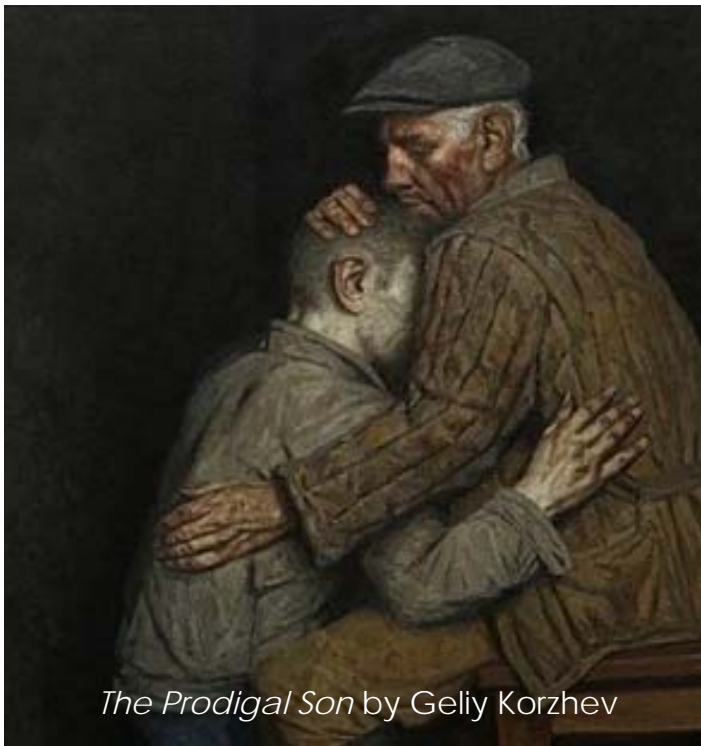
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## Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 27, 2022



*The Prodigal Son* by Geliy Korzhev

## From Fr. Rich

### The Fourth Sunday of Lent

Well into the heart of the Lenten season, in Sunday's scripture readings we hear three passages of the extraordinary things God has done and continues to do for God's people. Namely, reconciliation!

In the first reading, after having cared for the people wandering in the desert for 40 years, and satisfying their nutritional needs by providing manna, Sunday's reading marks the end of the wandering and, for the first time in 40 years, they no longer needed the manna, because their new land provides them with their food.

In the second reading from St. Paul's letter to the Corinthians, St. Paul offers this succinct summation of the reconciliation God offers us through Christ Jesus.

And in the Gospel, the breath-taking story of what we have come to call The Prodigal Son. This parable makes it clear that God holds no grudges, God only wants us back in good relationship with God and always forgives all our sins, holding nothing against us.

I suspect we all have stories and memories of what we might call "partial reconciliations". By which I mean times when we have found our way to forgive or be forgiven for the wrongs done, but still lingering over those supposed reconciliations was the taint of a begrudging cooperation -- we say we forgive and we say we accept the other person's expression of forgiveness -- but still we treat them and ourselves differently. It actually means, that despite our spoken words, we haven't yet been able to embrace and truly accept and live that forgiveness.

But that is not how God forgives! God forgives and holds no grudges. God is not in heaven practicing the "silent treatment" which would let us know God is not at all happy with us. That is simply not God's way. As we see in the Gospel story, the father can barely contain the enthusiasm and joy that accompanies the return of the loved son who has done so much intentional damage to his father and their relationship. He holds on to none of that! Rather, he completely embraces (physically, but also emotionally) this now-returning son, without hesitation, returning him to his status as a loved son, refusing to re-hash any of the sins and betrayals and insults of the past.

We don't know what resurrection looks like in the world. We know his own disciples did not recognize the risen Lord. So perhaps we shouldn't be surprised that is equally true when it comes to the new life reconciliation brings. If it looks and smells and tastes and feels just like

the way things used to be -- big, red "caution" flags should be waving in our faces! When we really practice reconciliation, it is not about what was, but about the new life that is just beginning.

This might be a good week to ask God to help us start letting go of the scars and the wounds and the hurts of yesterdays long gone. God has no desire that we wallow in guilt and shame and emotional self-abuse for what we said or did in the past. Only that we recognize and acknowledge we were wrong, accept forgiveness and move into the new life of this moment.

### **Lenten Reconciliation Service**

Everyone is invited to join in the Parish Lenten Reconciliation Service on Sunday, April 3 at 1:00 pm in church. This is a reflective service, offering music, scripture, and a guided reflection/examination of conscience and then absolution. This service is under an hour and a great time for some quiet reflection in this Lenten season.

### **Holy Week**

It doesn't seem possible Palm Sunday is in three weeks -- ushering us into Holy Week, but it is! As I mentioned in an earlier column, the protocols of Holy Week this year are much less restrictive than the last two years during the pandemic. As things now stand, here's what we expect:

**Palm Sunday Masses** will all have the Blessing of Palms in the courtyard between the church and the Ministry Center (weather-permitting). At the Saturday 5:00 pm and the Sunday 8:00 am Masses, immediately following the blessing, we will process out of the courtyard and into the church through the front doors. At the 10:30 am (Combined) Mass, we will bless palms and then process around the block (weather-permitting) and then into church through the front doors.

**Holy Thursday Mass** of the Lord's Supper will still have some of the pandemic restrictions. The most evident is the limited washing of feet. This year, we will have the candidates for entrance into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil Mass (RCIA Catechumen and Candidates) represent various groups of people that Pope Francis keeps reminding us are on the peripheries, and it is up to us to move them into the center of our church and our lives. The procession of the Blessed Sacrament at the end of Mass returns to its usual format this year.

**Good Friday Service of the Lord's Passion** once again will restrict Veneration of the Cross to only non-touching types of veneration (e.g. a bow, a



genuflection, a brief moment in silence before the cross). The rest of this service should be pretty much as it usually has been before the pandemic.

**Holy Saturday Easter Vigil Mass** -- this year everyone will once again receive a taper on their way into church, which is lit from the newly lighted Paschal Candle, while the Exsultet is sung. We will use the large crystal bowl for baptisms in front of the altar, instead of erecting the pool in the sanctuary. The rest of the Easter Vigil should look pretty much as it did pre-pandemic.

**Easter Sunday Masses** should also pretty much look like pre-pandemic -- with the exception that Communion is still limited to reception in the hand (not on the tongue) and there will be no distribution of the Precious Blood. (Or, as one parishioner recently said to me, "I don't think we're ever going back to having the cup in church." And I suspect that may be true!)

As I have tried to caution before, we won't know any of this as certainty until we are closer to Holy Week. It is frightening that the number of COVID cases has increased in certain parts of the world -- but not yet here in the United States. And while I know we all hope that will be true, we will have to be prudent for our own health and safety and that of everyone with whom we come into contact.

### Parish Pastoral Council

The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) is looking for new members that are more reflective of the diversity in the parish. We are hoping to include NCA school parents, youth group parents, new members from St. Ignatius, and parishioners who may not have been active, but would like to be more involved. Please consider joining the PPC in time for our next scheduled meeting on Thursday, April 28 at 7:00 pm. Email me at [rprendergast@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:rprendergast@stgertrudechicago.org) for details.

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BRING CHICAGO HOME



## Bring Chicago Home Northside Town Hall

on funding homelessness prevention and taking care of our neighbors. Help us put pressure on City Council and the Mayor to pass Bring Chicago Home!

Sunday, March 27th | 2pm

Virtual and in-person options available

RSVP Here: [bit.ly/bchtownhall](https://bit.ly/bchtownhall)



## ONE Northside Town Hall on Sunday, March 27

This Sunday at 2:00 pm, ONE Northside is hosting an in-person (at Unity Lutheran Church, 1212 W. Balmoral) and Zoom Town Hall. Learn about the *Bring Chicago Home* proposal to end the homelessness crisis in our city, meet other people on the

Northside who care about this issue, and help move this campaign forward. Register for the event at [bit.ly/bchtownhall](https://bit.ly/bchtownhall). Joining the event are Alderpeople Andre Vasquez (40), Matt Martin (47), Harry Osterman (48), and Maria Hadden (49).

ONE Northside organizers need as many people as possible showing they support creating a dedicated revenue stream for affordable housing! In other words, they need guaranteed money every year going to fight homelessness, and that money should be coming from those most able to pay taxes - wealthy real estate developers. They need a powerful turnout in order to show City Council and the Mayor *Bring Chicago Home* is needed now!



## Help/Pray for Ukraine

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

### A Prayer for Ukraine

The Rev. Dr. Inderjit Bhogal, Honorary President of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, has written a prayer for use during this time of heightening tensions in the Ukraine.

*Holy God, we hold before you all who live close to war and conflict; and all who live close to the threat of war and violence.*

*We remember especially at this time, people in Ukraine and Russia. We pray for nonviolent and peaceful resolutions of conflict.*

*Give to us all hearts of hospitality and sanctuary, forgive us all our hostility and hatred.*

*Bring all people to the humanity you give us, and to the reconciliation and healing for which you give your life.*


*Strengthen us all to work with you to build justice and peace, reconciliation and healing, in our hearts and homes, in our streets, in all communities, neighborhoods, and nations. Bless all who live lives for the peace and wellbeing of others, and make their service fruitful.*

*In the name of Christ.*

*Amen.*



*Photo courtesy of CRS partner, Caritas Poland.*



## Change, Hope and the Catholic Church

Pope Francis is asking Catholics to talk about our Church. Join us in answering that call when we welcome the national group **Discerning Deacons** and actively engage in the conversation around restoring the female diaconate and once again ordaining women deacons. Be part of the change and let your voice be heard all the way from Beverly to Rome. **The future is bright!**

**Sunday, March 27th 7:00pm**  
**St. Barnabas Church**  
**10134 S Longwood Drive**

**Hosted by St. Barnabas Parish**

## Women in the Church: Change, Hope, and the Catholic Church Discussion Planned

On Sunday, March 27 from 7:00-8:30 pm, St. Barnabas Church, will host the national group [Discerning Deacons](#), whose mission is to engage Catholics in the active discernment of our Church about women and the diaconate.

The gathering will be in St. Barnabas church, 10134 S. Longwood Dr.

## Thomas Dorsey Bio & the History of *Precious Lord*

This For the past several weeks, we have been playing the soulful spiritual, *Precious Lord, Take my Hand* by Thomas Andrew Dorsey as our Lenten meditation piece. Thomas (1899-1993) was born in Georgia and grew up entrenched in the blues and jazz idioms of the day. A composer of hundreds of jazz and blues songs, it was gospel music that spoke to him on the deepest level.



In 1915, he moved to Chicago where he had a successful career as a jazz musician. After recovering from a severe illness in 1926 he became an active member of the Pilgrim Baptist Church in Chicago and served as the church's choir director for forty years.

*Precious Lord* was conceived at one of Dorsey's lowest moments when his wife, Nettie, died while giving birth to their first-born son. After he buried his wife and son, Thomas was overcome with grief and anger at God. "I didn't want to serve Him anymore or write gospel songs," he later recounted. One evening he went back to the piano and remembered an old melody from his boyhood by George Allen (1812-1877) with the text *Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone*. He arranged this hymn with his inimitable style and added his own words, and this is how *Precious Lord* came to be. The tune eloquently captures the grief that not only Dorsey was experiencing but of anyone who has suffered a significant loss.

*Precious Lord* has been recorded numerous times by many famous artists including Elvis Presley, Mahalia Jackson, Roy Rogers, and Tennessee Ernie Ford. It was also a favorite of Martin Luther King Jr. and sung at the funeral of President Lyndon B. Johnson.

~ Mary Clare Barker, Music Minister

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## Heart to Heart Update

### Thinking Globally Acting Locally in February

In addition to responding to local needs, the Lending Closet collaborated in February with Margaret Okodua, a nurse from Rogers Park. Margaret arranges shipments of donated medical equipment and supplies to Home of Mercy & Peace in Uromi, Nigeria. A refuge for former-

ly homeless, abandoned, or isolated seniors, HMP is a pastoral initiative of the Catholic Bishop and Diocese of Uromi, managed by the Sisters of St. Louis.

Thanks to your generosity and donations from our local community, Heart-to-Heart has an abundance of certain items. On a frigid February night, a group of stalwart St. Gert's volunteers loaded two cars full of surplus walkers, commodes, and crutches for Home of Mercy and Peace.

A heartfelt thank you to those volunteers, and to all who make such generosity beyond our borders possible.

~ Laurie Hasbrook

## The Scrutinies/Introduction to the RCIA Group

Over the next two weekends at one of the Sunday Masses, the RCIA group will undergo the Scrutinies, where they will be examined about their own desires to turn away from sin and embrace the gospel of Jesus.

These Rites invite all of us “old Catholics” to do the same in our lives, as we share the common goal of being ready for the celebration of Easter.

We are so pleased they are a part of St. Gertrude and ask that you keep them in your prayers during these final weeks of Lent.

Below is an introduction to one of our RCIA companions, Patricia Sullivan, who is helping guide the group's journey.



Hi, my name is Patricia Sullivan and I recently finished a Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies at the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago. My ministry focus is on incarceration, the criminal justice system and restorative justice. I am a lead volunteer at the Archdiocese of Chicago Kolbe House Jail Ministry, doing in jail service, as well as accompanying men released after incarceration. I am an active participant in the Catholic Prison Ministries Coalition and the Catholic Mobilizing Network organizations.

I joined St. Gertrude during COVID and feel privileged to be a companion on the RCIA journey this year. I am a Minister of Care in St. Gertrude's Heart to Heart Ministry, as well as a participant in the Peace and Justice Ministry. For me growing in faith is a lifelong process moving us to continual and constant development, advancing in spirituality, coming up against social justice issues, and taking action towards improving conditions in our society.

## Why is the RCIA Dismissed?

After the homily, those participating in the RCIA, their sponsors, and members of the RCIA team are dismissed from Mass to engage in reflective

discussions that are meant to deepen the knowledge of God through connecting the scripture readings, the homily, and our lived experiences.

The RCIA has been gathering since September to learn about the faith and our sacred traditions in preparation for the sacraments of initiation that will take place at the Easter Vigil Mass on Holy Saturday night.

Please keep the RCIA group your prayers.



# Synodality: Opportunities to Participate at an Event at St. Gertrude on March 27, via Zoom, and by Submitting Reflections Online

Pope Francis invites the laity worldwide to participate in the 2021-2023 Synod by offering our reflections journeying together as the Universal Church in the areas of Communion, Participation, and Mission.

Synodality is Spirit-filled listening to God's active presence in each of our lives. This is a wonderful way for us to move forward as the Renew My Church consolidation process is coming to conclusion.

The purpose of this Synod is not to produce documents, but to plant dreams, draw forth prophecies and visions, allow hope to flourish, inspire trust, bind up wounds, weave together relationships, awaken a dawn of hope, learn from one another, and create a bright resourcefulness that will enlighten minds, warm hearts, and give strength to our hands.

## Ways to Participate

You are invited to be part of the sharing in three different ways:

- An in-person gathering at St. Gertrude in the church on Sunday, March 27 from 12:00-1:30 pm. This will be an open discussion, with notes taken and sent to the Archdiocese.
- Any or all of the following virtual sessions with laity from other nearby parishes. You can join online by going to [zoom.us/join](https://zoom.us/join) and using the Meeting ID and passcode provided or by calling (312) 626-6799:
  - ♦ Thursday, March 24 at 7:00 pm  
(Meeting ID: 814 3978 3310; Passcode: 820376)
  - ♦ Friday, March 25 at 7:00 pm  
(Meeting ID: 898 9999 0278; Passcode: 852477)
  - ♦ Saturday, March 26 at 7:00 pm  
(Meeting ID: 871 9707 7905; Passcode: 235618)
- Reflections in any language can be entered until Friday, April 1 at [archchicago.org/news-and-events/synod](https://archchicago.org/news-and-events/synod).

The Synod is for everyone, and is meant to include everyone - believers, non-believers, the marginalized, the poor, etc. All are welcome to participate and talk about how the Church is living out its communion, participation, and mission. Please join and actively participate in this process as we journey together guided by the Holy Spirit!

## Join the conversation



Pope Francis has invited people everywhere—and he is specifically reaching out to the LGBTQ+ community—to take part in a conversation about their relationship with the Church, and about its future.

AGLOChicago, the LGBTQ+ outreach for the Archdiocese of Chicago, is working to organize our community's response, and we're inviting you to take part.

**Go to:**

[www.aglochicago.org/synod](https://www.aglochicago.org/synod)

**Questions:**

[synod@aglochicago.org](mailto:synod@aglochicago.org)







## Lenten Faith Activities

All are invited to participate in some Lenten devotions.

**Almoners Program:** These groups will meet on Mondays during Lent at 9:00 am and/or at 6:30 pm in the church for a brief prayer. Participants will then go out to be more compassionate to the less

fortunate by giving alms of \$10 McDonald cards. If you are not able to join us on Mondays, we will have McDonald's cards available in the back of church for you to take and distribute to the needy.

There will be a second collection to support the purchase of the McDonald's cards used by the Almoners program each weekend during Lent.

**Stations of the Cross:** Every Friday during Lent, we will take time from our busy schedules and reflect on the suffering journey of Christ and others in the world. On Friday afternoons at 3:00 pm, we will offer the traditional Way of the Cross and at 6:30 pm we will also have Stations of the Cross - joining Jesus' journey, recognizing the present struggles and crosses that challenge our modern world.

**Anti-Racism Discussion Groups:** Small prayer and discussion groups will be meeting in the morning and evenings using the book *The Spiritual Works of Racial Justice*, by Patrick Saint-Jean, S.J. These groups will offer us the opportunity to see that by taking on an anti-racist position we become all that God calls us to be. A sign-up sheet is available in the back of church.

Please email Father Mike at [mgabriel@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:mgabriel@stgertrudechicago.org) or Maria Garcia at the Rectory office at [stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org) if you would like to sign up or need more information.

## Registration for NCA Summer Camp Now Open

Everyday is a holiday at NCA Summer Camp! Wildcat Camp strives to provide a safe, engaging experience with a variety of recreational, educational, athletic, and fine arts programs at an affordable price.

Wildcat Camp is for NCA students, children of parishioners at our NCA sponsoring parishes, and family and friends. Age specific programs are available for children who are 3 by June 1 through 8th grade.



To learn more, visit <https://bit.ly/NCASummerCampFlyer>! To register, visit <https://bit.ly/NCASummerCamp>! We look forward to seeing you this summer!



## Growing in Faith

When This week is the oh so familiar story of the Prodigal Son. Never one of my favorites, it has nothing new to say to me...until I encountered a poem which begins:

*When he returned a second time,  
the straps of his sandals broken,  
his robe stained with wine,  
it was not as easy to forgive.*

Yes, of course - there was second time, and maybe a third or fourth. It's not as easy to forgive a second time. It's not as easy to reject a second time either.

I find myself thinking about the older son in the parable. While the father seems to have the gift for forgiveness and no appetite for rejection, the older son has hardened his heart against his brother. Perhaps he could not help but do so. It's a challenge to love without limits. Yet to reject his brother means turning away from their loving father. That doesn't feel right either. It's a challenge to reject without limits. This story suddenly feels familiar, not because it's oft-heard but because it's often lived.

Standing in the shoes of the older son, what's called for here? I'll start with prayer for a softening of my heart toward my brother and for understanding that reconciliation doesn't happen all at once. And I'll rely on hope that even though I'm still a long way off (from reconciliation, from forgiveness), my loving father will catch sight of me and come running.

- Madeleine Philbin

Poetry excerpt "The Prodigal's Mother Speaks to God" by Allison Funk heard on WBEZ Poetry Unbound.



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## Teen Summer Mission Trip to Lake Traverse, South Dakota

The youth group's Summer Mission Trip is scheduled for July 17-22. The group will travel to Lake Traverse, South Dakota. All teens in grades 7-12 are welcome to take part in this jam-packed week of service, friendship, and fun! Space is limited.



For more information about the mission trip, please visit the Lake Traverse Youth Mission Trip/ YouthWorks website at <https://youthworks.com/trips/lake-traverse/>.

If you have any questions, please email Eloy Escamilla, Pastoral Associate, Religious Education and Youth Ministry, at [eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org).

# Coming This Spring—St. Gertrude Composting Program

Dear St. Gertrude Compost and Garden Team,

With the promise of warmer temperatures this week, it is time to start thinking about spring and our parish compost and garden projects. I think we had a great year last year and am hoping that many or most of you will return to be involved again this year.



We have some new changes with our compost program this spring. Last year, we had many people drop off their compostable goods; so many in fact that it required a huge labor-intensive effort to move the material from one bin to another bin to speed along the breakdown process. And while Grace and Paul were very helpful in getting us started, they both work full time jobs and manage their own composting project at St. Gregory, so they were often not available.

So, I have decided to go with a different system that is more user friendly and will produce compost at quicker pace. We have purchased a compost tumbler that is actually a large steel drum on its own stand that is totally self-contained with a removable door ( for loading and unloading of compost materials) , air vents and drainage units, and a gear driven spin handle. Simply spin the handle five times before loading your material, and five times afterwards and you are done! This unit is also impermeable for city wildlife to enter which is

very important since we are close to an alley. I highly suggest going to [www.mantis.com](http://www.mantis.com) for more information and watch a short video demonstration.

Because of this new system and the fact that we need to make a few revisions to our Do's and Don't's lists, I think it might be wise to set up a Zoom meeting with our group so I can better inform you of the coming changes and answer any of your questions. This will probably be on a Saturday morning in the near future. We hope to get this system up and running by mid-April.

We sincerely hope you will participate in our project again this year and of course we eagerly welcome any newcomers. Email me at [mcbarker@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:mcbarker@stgertrudechicago.org) if you have any questions.

~ Mary Clare Barker







## Scouting for Food: Pack 3822 to Collect Food in Edgewater on Saturday, April 9

Scouts from the Cub Scout Pack 3822 will hold their annual food drive, hosted by the Pathway to Adventure Council, to help families in need.

On Saturday, April 2 between 10:00 am-1:00 pm, members of Cub Scouts Pack 3822 will be canvassing the neighborhood surrounding St Gertrude and distributing flyers inviting people to donate non perishables.

These donations are to benefit the Greater Chicago Food Depository and

other local food banks. Donations will then be collected/picked up the following Saturday, April 9 from 10:00 am-1:00 pm.

To participate, please contact [PTAC.ScoutingForFood@scouting.org](mailto:PTAC.ScoutingForFood@scouting.org).

## This Weekend's Cantors, Musicians, Ministers of the Word, and Eucharistic Ministers

### Ministers of the Word:

- Saturday, March 26 at 5:00 pm - Millie Slane
- Sunday, March 27 at 8:00 am - Marty McDermott
- Sunday, March 27 at 10:30 am Mass in church - Bob Backis
- Sunday, March 27 at 10:30 am Gym Mass - TBA

### Eucharistic Ministers:

- Saturday, March 26 at 5:00 pm - Kathy Wall
- Sunday, March 27 at 8:00 am - Brian Devarenne
- Sunday, March 27 at 10:30 am Mass in church - Troy McMillian, Debra Novak, Sarah Millar
- Sunday, March 27 at 10:30 am Gym Mass - TBA

### Cantors and Musicians:

- Saturday, March 26 at 5:00 pm - Siobhan O'Neill Meluso
- Sunday, March 27 at 8:00 am - Bernie O'Connor
- Sunday, March 27 at 10:30 am Mass in church - Rob Schroeder; Denise Goodman-clarinet, Jim Szmurlo-violin; Small vocal ensemble: Dana Sullivan-soprano, Justine Aten-alto, Susie O'Toole-alto, Joe Pindelski-tenor, Fran Guenette-bass
- Sunday, March 27 at 10:30 am Gym Mass - TBA



## Mass Intentions

- Monday, March 28: 7:30 am - Jeanette Charpentier +
- Tuesday, March 29: 7:30 am - Cecilia Onyibor +
- Wednesday, March 30: 7:30 am - World peace
- Thursday, March 31: 7:30 am - Communion Service
- Friday, April 1: 7:30 am - Purgatorial Society
- Saturday, April 2: 7:30 am - Living and deceased parents of St. Gertrude parishioners;  
5:00 pm - Parishioners of St. Gertrude
- Sunday, April 3: 8:00 am - Carmen Luna & Juan Garcia +; 10:30 am in Church - Robert Suchy; 10:30 am Gym Mass - St. Gertrude parishioners

(+ indicates the person is deceased)

## Rest in Peace

- Steve Cook, son of parishioner Linda Cook
- Elise Malary
- Marie Ruff
- Victor Melendez, father of parishioner Rafael Melendez

## Please Pray for our Parishioners and Friends

- |                           |                          |                        |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| • Pamela Sherrod Anderson | • Caloy Desembrana       | • Molly Morris         |
| • Helen Banta             | • Ann Collins Dole       | • Karey Myers          |
| • Zara Bradley            | • Christine Frisoni      | • Tina Piemonte        |
| • Sharon Brown            | • Shirley Marie Gonzales | • Charley Scantlebury  |
| • Connie Bueck            | • Gina Heidkamp          | • Richard Seitz        |
| • Lilly Buie              | • Maria Hertl            | • Peggy Stoffel        |
| • Claire Bushey           | • Daniel Hidalgo         | • The Sullivan family  |
| • Maggie Callaway         | • Patricia Irwin         | • Elinora E. Tolentino |
| • Aida Calvopina          | • Bernice Kiedysz        | • Manuel & Norma Viray |
| • KC Conway               | • Dean Mattoni           | • Valerie Williams     |
| • Connie Cool             | • Larry McCauley         | • 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](http://www.stgertrudechicago.org)
- GiveCentral: [www.givecentral.org/location/8/allevnts](http://www.givecentral.org/location/8/allevnts)

Email [esoto@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:esoto@stgertrudechicago.org) for additional information.

## Heart to Heart Office

Our Heart to Heart office is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 am - 2:30 pm. Contact them at 773.973.5464.

## Parish Staff

Rev. Richard J. Prendergast, Pastor  
Rev. Michael Gabriel, Associate Pastor  
Mary Clare Barker, Minister of Music  
Jane Callahan-Moore, Director, Heart to Heart  
Kevin Cheers, Pastoral Associate  
Eloy Escamilla, Pastoral Associate for Religious Education and Youth Ministry  
Maria Garcia, Rectory Office Manager  
Laurie Hasbrook, Heart to Heart Lending Closet Manager  
Samantha Lilly, Rectory Office  
Andy Mueller, Parish Buildings Engineer  
Tracy Shields, Communications  
Eduardo Soto, Director of Parish Management  
Visit [stgertrudechicago.org](http://stgertrudechicago.org) for staff emails.