

St. Gertrude Chicago

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First Sunday of Lent

March 6, 2022

From Fr. Rich

The First Sunday of Lent

Perhaps the most frightening part of this Sunday's Gospel is the closing line, "When the

devil had finished every temptation, he departed from him for a time." It wasn't over! He was taking some time to regroup!

Like Lent, conversion is a process. It has a beginning and a middle and even an end. But that doesn't mean it is something we do once and are then all finished! Like life itself, conversion is messy, and it is a life-long process. For Jesus, the process only finished when he was hanging upon the cross and, looking to heaven, breathed his final breath saying, "It is finished."

So, it is helpful to remind ourselves throughout this 40-day process that this isn't a sprint, this is a marathon, and we need to pace ourselves. We need to be neither complacent about the task, nor obsessing over our not being able to reach perfection.

Modified Pandemic Liturgy - New Mask Policy

As of Monday, February 28, with the guidance of the CDC, the State of Illinois Department of Health, and the City of Chicago Health Department, wearing of masks in any public setting is now optional. We will follow those regulations. But we also want to encourage everyone in church to consider wearing your mask -- especially if you have not received your vaccination shots. Priests and Ministers of Communion will continue to wear their masks while they are distributing Communion. And Communion will continue to be distributed only in the hands. Some of the services in Holy Week will also still have some restrictions on how they are celebrated. All that information will be shared closer to Holy Week.

A "First Response" to the War in Ukraine/Catholic Relief Services/Prayers for Ukraine

A recent publication of a collection of sayings by Ety Hillesum, a Dutch Jewish woman who was killed at Auschwitz, offers this perspective on how to deal with the horrors of violence and human beings' mistreatment of their brothers and sisters: "I really see no other solution than to turn inward and to root out all the rottenness there. I no longer believe that we can change anything in the world until we have first changed ourselves. And that seems to me the only lesson to be learned from this war. That we must look into ourselves and nowhere else."

Or, as it might also be summarized, "Love your enemies. And do so by working to change yourself, not them."

Catholic Relief Services (CRS) is preparing to help across Ukraine and in bordering countries with safe shelter, hot meals, hygiene supplies, fuel to keep warm, transport to safe areas, counseling support and more. Please consider donating to the CRS' effort in Ukraine at <https://support.crs.org/donate/donate-ukraine> if you are able.

Throughout the Lenten season, we will have some special prayers for the people of Ukraine and for peace between Russia and Ukraine. We will sing the traditional chant Our Father, and we will all pray the Hail, Mary before the Final Blessing, just as our predecessors in these pews prayed during times of violence, peril, and war in previous generations. Additionally, sunflowers, the national flower of Ukraine, have been added to Mary's altar.



Parish Pastoral Council

The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) has resumed meeting. Our top priority is to encourage parishioners to consider becoming members of the PPC in the next few weeks, in time for our next scheduled meeting on Thursday, April 28 at 7:00 pm. We would like to see members more reflective of the diversity in the parish, including NCA school parents, some youth group parents, some of our new members from St. Ignatius, and parishioners who may not have been active, but would like to be more involved.

Why Serve on the Parish Pastoral Council?



Join our
Parish
Pastoral
Council!

In response to the above question, a previous PPC member noted, "Probably because, in one way or another, each one of us was chosen by the creator of the universe to serve in the church and to ultimately make a difference in the world. Each of us was called by name and chosen to this leadership role in a parish. We heard the call and now we accept it."

Another Council member wrote, "I am very aware that my call was not as dramatic as the call of Moses. Mine at best was a tiny whisper. Many times I had to say, " Are you calling me, Lord? Are you sure you want me? I have nothing special to offer." Then I realized that God had chosen Peter and the first group of "ministers" personally—and they weren't any great shakes! Jesus was the most gifted teacher in the world, yet the apostles kept asking, " What are you talking about?" They were slow to get the message. Still Jesus had patience with them."



Why I am a Member of the Parish Pastoral Council by Mike Tobin

I am a member of the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) because I care deeply about our parish, and I want to help us grow in love, faith, and service as a community. My family have been members of St. Gertrude for over 45 years. My wife Dorothea and I sent seven kids through St. Gertrude and NCA. All seven received their First Communion and Confirmation here. Four of our daughters were married at St. Gertrude, and our son Billy's wake and funeral were here.

We love the faith community and feel affinity and support for NCA (even though our last kid graduated about 14 years ago). We find meaning in the liturgical/spiritual and social life of the Parish,

and we have beloved friends here. By participating on the PPC, I hope to help us discern the direction of the Holy Spirit for St. Gertrude's present and future. I would encourage anyone with similar interest to join the PPC.

Growing in Faith

I confess—as liturgical seasons go, Lent has never been my favorite. Growing up, the focus of Lent always seemed to be on sacrifice and suffering. Giving up. Going without. Lent felt like a burden to bear simply for the sake of proving you could.

Lent, though, was never really the problem. The focus was just misdirected somehow. Lent, as I consider it now, was never meant to be the end game. It's a practice. And yes, depending on where I find myself, that practice may look like giving something up, to create more room for spirit. Or praying more, to reconnect with my source. Or fasting, from consumption that contributes to climate change or unjust labor practices. Or sharing more of what I have with those who are without. It is about sacrifice, but in the service of realizing something better, more sacred.

The famous Lenten question of “what” I should give up feels increasingly irrelevant, if I can't also name the “why” or “to what end”. Lent, as a practice, is an opportunity to re-connect to my “why”, so that when confronted with the challenges and temptations of life, as Jesus was during his time in the desert, I might be able to act, as Jesus did, not out of a personal need to prove or vindicate myself, but out of the deep knowing and desire to further our divine connection and our shared humanity, and to create a more sacred space for Easter joy to be realized.

~ Jackie Blake



Lent 2022: Harden Not Your Hearts

Lent is always about conversion. That is change. And if we haven't learned it yet, that is always difficult and requires a lot of attention for the desired good to become part of our daily lives.

This year, we are invited to, "Harden not your hearts." Even more specifically, we are invited to consider the role of racism in our lives and how it causes decay to our spiritual lives. Using the book, *The Spiritual Work of Racial Justice*, we will be considering how we can move into a more positive stance which is anti-racist.

We begin by following the same steps Jesus took -- into the desert. In this case, it is to look at ourselves, our nation, and our church. How are we living true to the Gospel? And how are we not living true to the Gospel? We will need to face the big lies -- of exceptionalism, of self-dependence, of superiority, of exalted morality, and, like ancient Israel, of spiritual pride.

Perhaps one of the most important movements in this Lenten journey is to find our way to mercy. This is made easier if we have experienced mercy ourselves, and it is far more difficult if we are unaware of ever being treated mercifully. Practicing mercy is practicing being God's children. Mercy makes possible the initial truth that I am not perfect, I have harmed others and myself, and continue to consider others of less value than myself. If I have experienced mercy, I may be more likely to be merciful. All of us need mercy, for none of us is perfect. And just as we need God's mercy, we also need to practice mercy with each other so that we might move forward.

Racism and anti-racism are very hot-button topics. And our first reaction is often to deny, refute, feel embarrassed, even ashamed, if it is being mentioned. All are honest feelings, but none are helpful until we can move beyond them.

The beginning of any conversion process is the acknowledgement that where I am right now is not good enough. I can be better. And, with God's help, I deserve to be better so that my sisters and brothers can also be better.

Lent always begins with Jesus being led out to the desert for forty days and forty nights to be tempted by the devil. As we begin this Lent, especially in light of the work of anti-racism, we need to ask, how am I being tempted by the devil? What are the seductive whispers that keep me from doing the real work of conversion? Perhaps it is the quiet comparisons, as in, "Well, even if I am a little racist, I'm nowhere near as bad as..." Or perhaps it is the seductive questioning, "Really? After two years of a pandemic, now I am supposed to feel guilty for 40 days?!"

The work of the devil is simply to provide a crutch to not do what it is I need to do so I can follow Our Lord more closely. It is important to listen to the temptations. Only by confronting them can we move beyond them.

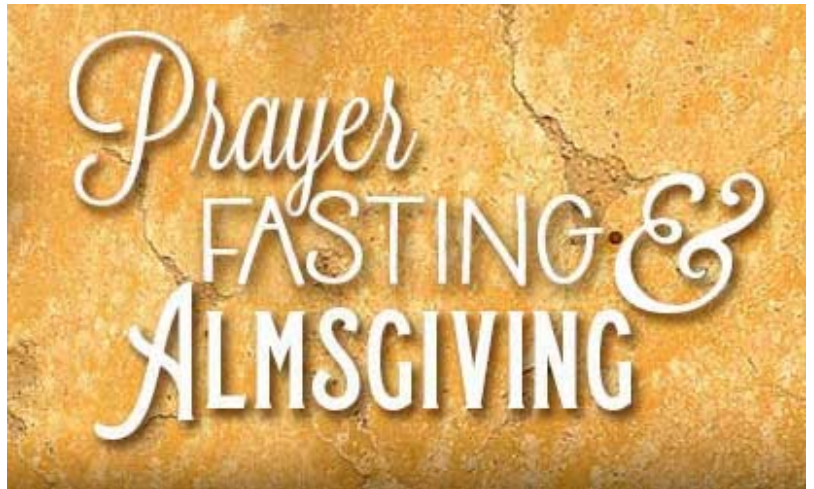
In this first week of Lent, what is the hardest thing I need to look at within and about myself that is difficult? Spend some time with that difficulty. And let us not be afraid to ask God's help to turn away from sin and be faithful to the gospel.

~ Fr. Rich



The Three Lenten Disciplines: Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving

As we hear in the scripture readings on Ash Wednesday every year, the three penitential practices we follow in Lent are Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving. These three help us to let go of our control over everything we think we have control over in order to place our trust in God. This letting go allows God to help us be transformed.



Prayer

There is no secret to prayer. It is simply a word that means we are spending time with God. Everything that follows is because others before us have shared their own experiences of prayer as a gift to help those who follow.

Like all good relationships, communication requires of us the ability to quiet ourselves in order to listen to the other person. For most of us, this is the hardest part of prayer. No sooner do we find a time and place to be quiet than we become aware of all the chattering in our own minds. That awareness is a good place to start – for that chattering is our life – and that is exactly what we want to bring to the Lord.

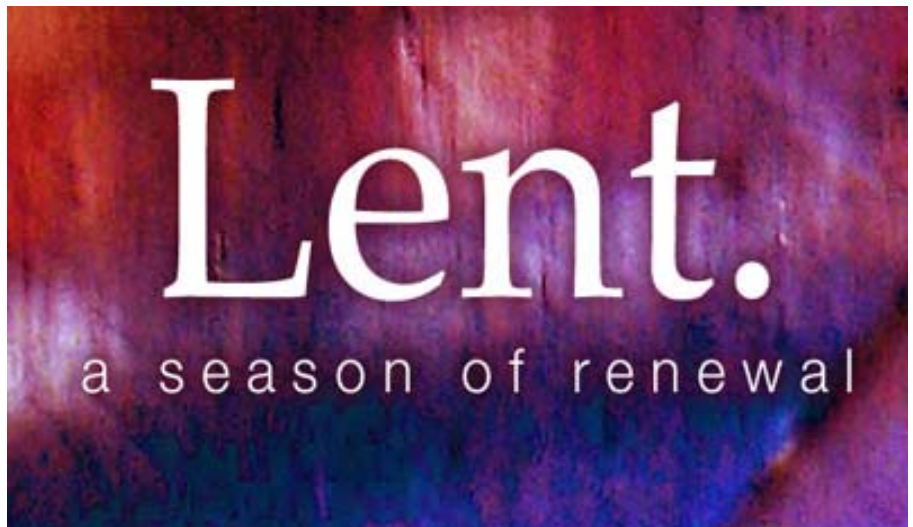
Over many centuries, people of faith have stumbled upon many disciplinary practices that they have found helpful in their own prayer life. The list is quite lengthy! Here are some suggestions for a variety of prayer you might consider during this Lenten season:

- Attend Mass every Sunday in church or via our live-stream. This connects us to God and our worship with our primary faith community
- Attend one daily Mass every week. Sometimes we segregate our prayer-life from our work-life from our home-life, and so on. Coming to mass during the week reminds us of the interconnectedness of all parts of our life and that all parts are holy – no matter what day of the week it is.
- Daily scripture readings. Whether we decide to read through one or more books of the Bible or choose the daily scripture readings for each day in Lent, God's Word is always a place of comfort and challenge.
- Faith-sharing groups. Often our spirituality is enriched when we simply share our experiences with others. Speaking out loud about what we treasure in our hearts can bring greater clarity to our hearts and souls.
- Five minutes daily in silence with the Lord. This one is perfect for everyone! Find, borrow or steal five minutes of silence in a quiet setting. God will do the rest.
- Use the Sacred Space app. The same devices that can distract us can also be used to focus us! Apps such as Sacred Space invite us into a few moments for reflection.
- The Little Black Book for daily reflection. This is a little treasure that provides us with the outline for a few minutes with God, focused on a short scripture passage and a brief reflection.
- Attend Stations of the Cross in church on Fridays at 3:00 pm (traditional text) or 6:30 pm (social justice texts).

The Three Lenten Disciplines *(Cont.)*

Fasting

There All the world's great religions have stumbled onto certain universal truths. Fasting is one of those truths. One way of summing up all religious truth is to say that all religion is about one thing – allowing us the ability to freely choose to love God with all our mind and heart and soul.



Fasting is about addressing the freedom part of that endeavor. Not unlike our clothes closets and garages and basements, without quite knowing how or when it got that way, we discover that we have accumulated lots of stuff that was meant to enhance our well-being, but over time, and collectively, have now become burdensome, leaving us unable to act as free agents.

Periodic fasting allows us to step clear of whatever is burdening us. Sometimes it is stuff. Sometimes it is behaviors. Sometimes it is hidden desires in our hearts and souls. For many centuries, the Church has established a set of regulations on food which can lead us to how we can address all aspects of our lives.

When we fast and abstain from certain parts of our regular diet, for even a few weeks, we become aware of how we become “prisoners” of certain things. Some of what we consume can even become addictive when we are unable to control how much of a certain thing we may partake in. These insights gained from our diet point the way, as well, to other behaviors that can assist us in being freed from other encumbrances. Besides the Lenten Regulations for Fast and Abstinence, here are some other possibilities for this Lenten discipline:

- Turn off all electronic devices for at least 30 minutes every day.
- Behavioral fasting from criticism, anger, negativity, judgmentalism, resignation, know-it-all-ness, self-righteousness, cynicism, provincialism, self-absorption, divisiveness, intolerance, violence in thought, word or deed, excess pride, criticism, bitterness, despair, and hatred.
- Limiting television watching on certain days or certain times during Lent.

Almsgiving

That “Life is not fair” is hardly news. But as old as that truth is, equally old is the Judeo-Christian teaching which informs us that life is also lacking in justice and righteousness. While no one of us can make life universally fair, each one of us has an obligation to do our part to help restore justice and re-establish righteousness.

Giving to those in need helps that re-ordering. Feeding our hungry brothers and sisters produces justice. The practice of almsgiving during Lent is a way to help us, throughout the entire year, work on justice. In a nutshell – we not only have more than we need, but our excess is also, at least in part, what is missing from the lives of our poor sisters and brothers.

The Three Lenten Disciplines (Cont.)

Almsgiving is a way of softening our hearts to be more human and more humane.

Here are a few possibilities for your consideration this Lent:

- This year we will have a weekly second collection for the Almoner's Program. The funds raised from that collection will be used to purchase \$10.00 McDonald gift cards which parishioners can then pick up after any of the weekend Masses and bring them to the homeless as they encounter them in their daily commute. This year, there are also opportunities for small groups to go out on Mondays to distribute cards to those in need.
- Save and donate one hour's wages every week to the charity of your choice.
- Contribute to the Lenten Food Drive.
- Take part in Catholic Relief Service's Operation Rice Bowl.
- Secretly provide assistance to a neighbor or relative or co-worker.

Lenten Liturgy

During the Lenten season, we try to simplify all we are doing, including our communal prayer, in order to more keenly focus on what is asked of us and what help we are asking from God in our repentance and reformation.

At the beginning of each of our Sunday liturgies, we start the Penitential Rite with a simple statement outlining our focus that week.



We are then invited to kneel (the posture of repentance) for a brief time of silent, personal reflection, then we listen and echo back the song Lord, have mercy....Christ, have mercy. We then stand for the prayer of absolution and then the Opening Prayer.

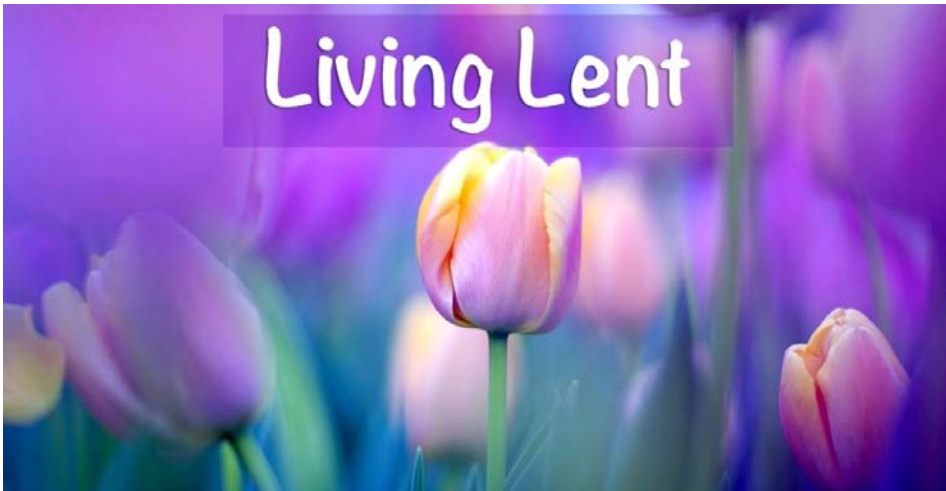
After each of the scripture readings, we have a brief period of silence in which we are invited to collect ourselves in prayer, turning to and relying upon God's help.

Our Seasonal Psalm after the First Reading each week is Psalm 95 whose refrain is, "If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts."

The Gospel Acclamation (replacing the Alleluia) is "Glory to You, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ."

Throughout Lent we will also have a Communion meditation offering variations on Thomas Dorsey's *Precious Lord, Take My Hand*.

The sung Mass parts will be from the Schubert's Deutsche Mass.



Living Lent

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 beginning February 26 and 27 and then 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 we 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. Books are available for \$15 after Mass this weekend. A sign-up sheet is available in the back of church.

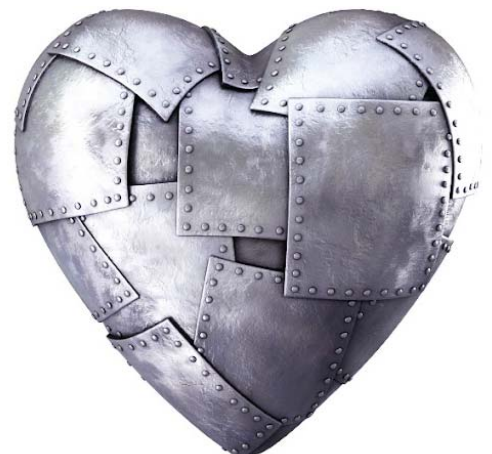
Please email Father Mike at mgabriel@stgertrudechicago.org or Maria Garcia at the Rectory office at stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org if you would like to sign up or need more information.

Little Black Books of Lenten Reflections and parish prayer cards are available in Church.

The Armored and the Stone Hearts

Our prayer card this Lent features the Lenten theme, "Harden not your hearts", with two icons of hearts. The first is an "armored" heart in which the artist portrays the well-defended heart, covered in traditional armor, ready to fend off anyone who might want to get to the softer core. The second is a stone heart, also trying to hold off any softening that might make it vulnerable to whatever pain and suffering life may throw at it.

Each of us has probably carried one or both of those kinds of hearts within our chests at different times. The truth in both cases is that we learn to "armor" our heart, or let it turn to stone, because we have been harmed by one or more relationships. Having learned



The Armored and the Stone Hearts (*cont.*)

the pain that a vulnerable heart can bring, oftentimes we move away from any possibility of being soft-hearted and open to that vulnerability. Of course the price we pay for that well-defended heart is our humanity! The same humanity Jesus embraced and showed us just how valuable it is.

Our hearts are tender, delicate things. We do not recover quickly when someone(s) we have trusted with our very soul breaks our heart. It puts us on guard to be more protective, more wary of what else might come our way. The temptation to shut down our humanity is understandable and strong. But that is not what God asks of us. Instead, God requires of us that we harden not our hearts; that we continue to be fully human and open to the humanity that surrounds us.

God never expects from us anything other than living fully as human beings. We can only do that when our hearts are open and vulnerable. And that means to all other sisters and brothers.

This Lent, spend some time with your heart. Do not be afraid to look at the places where your heart is armored or turned to stone. Examine those losses and brush against the pain those broken or destroyed relationships have brought to you. But don't stop there! Recall as well the great joy and wonder and fulfillment you found, for at least a time, in those same relationships. Be grateful for those moments and seasons in your life. And remembering those satisfying times, ask God to help you follow his instructions and once again let your heart be open and tender, not simply tolerating the gifts of others, but welcoming them into your life, into your heart.

Let us trust God as we prepare for the new life which is the gift of Easter!



Interfaith Climate Summit

On Sunday, March 13 at 3:00 pm, Lincoln Park Presbyterian Church will host an Interfaith Climate Summit, bringing together representatives from the Baha'i, Buddhist, Sikh, Protestant, Jewish, and Catholic faith communities to talk about issues related to climate change.

The free event will be held at Lincoln Park Presbyterian Church, 600 W. Fullerton Pkwy, and also will be live-streamed on the church's YouTube channel at <https://bit.ly/InterfaithClimateSummit>. Visit lppchurch.org for more details.

Care for Our Common Home: Did you know ...?

Pope Francis is not the first Catholic leader to emphasize care for the planet. In fact, every pope for the past half-century — except John Paul I, who died after just one month in office — has addressed environmental issues in his official publications. So next time you pick up a piece of trash or recycle a plastic bottle, remember you are in good company when you Care for our Common Home! Learn more at <https://www.ncronline.org/news/earthbeat/catholic-tradition-care-environment-dates-back-centuries-pope-francis>.

St. Gertrude Refugee Ministry Updates

New Family Sponsored/Help Requested

The Refugee Committee welcomed a new family at the beginning of this month, a family of five from Syria - parents and three kids ages 14, 12, and 9. They are settling in and, thanks to your generosity, their apartment is set up and beginning to look like home!

Also thanks to your generosity and our recent fundraising, we are in good shape to welcome another family. This is especially important with the continued expected influx of families from Afghanistan.

This gets me to my first request - we've been in good shape to provide material support for these families, including rent, a Welcome Pack of household goods, or both. I'm asking if you can give the gift of accompaniment. This is where you visit the family at some regular interval, providing friendship and a familiar face. You don't have to have any "official" skills (Catholic Charities takes care of job training, health needs, etc.) but instead you might just visit, or show them how to use the library or the CTA, or anything else.

If you are curious, please reply to me at dmg321@comcast.net or email Jim Manzardo at jbmanz@att.net. We will connect you with Catholic Charities. You will be required to complete Virtus training, so there is a bit of investment even before you are connected with the family. Please give this some thought, prayer, and discernment.



El Pueblo Canta will be an In Person & Live Streamed Concert.

Find more details at - www.waucc.org

13th Annual
El Pueblo
Canta الناس يغنون
the people sing
Saturday, March 26, 2022

El Pueblo Canta

Next, I'm delighted to say that the Refugee Ministry will again sponsor El Pueblo Canta. This is an immigrant justice benefit concert on March 26 at North Shore Baptist Church, 5244 N. Lakewood Ave, with both in person and live-stream options. Performers include El Wadi Ensemble, Wanda Pabellon-Garcia, Dare 2 Dream Centro Romero Youth Choir, VOICES, LeRob K. Rafael, the Wellington Community

Choir, and more.

Doors open at 5:30 pm, with the concert and live-stream held from 7:00-8:30 pm. Traditional Latino and Middle Eastern food will be available for purchase.

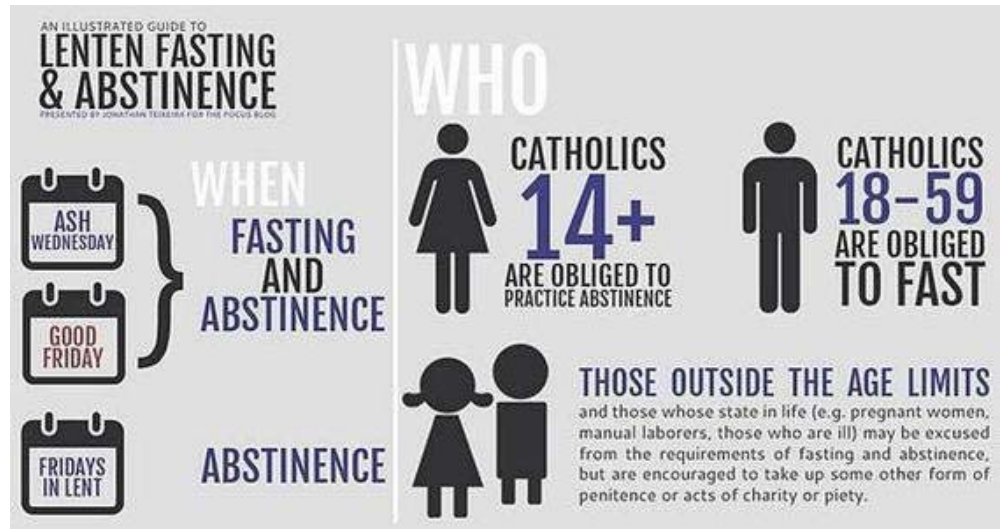
In-person attendance is limited to 100 people, but an unlimited number can watch the live-stream. Tickets are \$25 for general admission and \$15 for students and those on a limited income. Children under 12 are free.

Even if you cannot attend, you can make a donation and help us spread the word. Visit <http://waucc.org/2022-el-pueblo-canta/> to purchase tickets, be a sponsor, or donate. All proceeds support the immigrant justice work of Centro Romero, CRLN, and Wellington UCC.

~ Denise Goodman

Fasting & Abstinence During Lent

- Abstinence from meats is to be observed by all Catholics 14 years old and older on all the Fridays of Lent.
- Fasting is to be observed on Good Friday (and encouraged for Holy Saturday) by all Catholics who are 18 years of age but not yet 59. Those who are bound by this may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary, to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.



By the threefold discipline of fasting, almsgiving, and prayer, the Church keeps Lent from Ash Wednesday until the evening of Holy Thursday. All of the faithful and the catechumens should undertake the serious practice of these three traditions. Failure to observe penitential days totally or a substantial number of such days must be considered serious.

Our U.S Bishops issued in 1966 this statement on penitential observance: "On weekdays of Lent, we strongly recommend participation in daily Mass and self-imposed observances of fasting. In light of grave human needs which weigh on the Christian conscience in all seasons, we urge particularly during Lent, generosity to local, national, and world programs of sharing of all things needed to translate our duty to penance into a means of implementing the right of the poor to their part of our abundance."

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

Ministers of the Word:

- Saturday, March 5 at 5:00 pm - Millie Slane
- Sunday, March 6 at 8:00 am - David Sullivan
- Sunday, March 6 at 10:30 am Mass in church - Sarah Millar
- Sunday, March 6 at 10:30 am Gym Mass - TBA

Eucharistic Ministers:

- Saturday, March 5 at 5:00 pm - Steve Monti
- Sunday, March 6 at 8:00 am - Brian Devarenne
- Sunday, March 6 at 10:30 am Mass in church - Carlos Barragan, Debra Novak, Rafael Melendez
- Sunday, March 6 at 10:30 am Gym Mass - TBA

Cantors:

- Saturday, March 5 at 5:00 pm - Paula Dempsey
- Sunday, March 6 at 8:00 am - Jon Blake
- Sunday, March 6 at 10:30 am Mass in church - Dana Sullivan plus small vocal ensemble: Kate Hibbs Davis-soprano, Justine Aten-alto, Joe Pindelski-tenor, Fran Guenette -bass
- Sunday, March 6 at 10:30 am Gym Mass - TBA

Mass Intentions

- Monday, March 7: 7:30 am - Purgatorial Society
- Tuesday, March 8: 7:30 am - Living and deceased parents of St. Gertrude parishioners
- Wednesday, March 9: 7:30 am - Kathleen Naughton +
- Thursday, March 10: 7:30 am - Communion Service
- Friday, March 11: 7:30 am - Thomas Howe +
- Saturday, March 12: 7:30 am - Parishioners of St. Gertrude; 2:00 pm - Confirmation; 5:00 pm - Grace Pulido, Daniel & Nenita Karganilla+
- Sunday, March 13: 8:00 am - St. Gertrude's 2022 Confirmation class; 10:30 am in Church - Maria Gariffo +; 10:30 am Gym Mass - World peace

Baptisms

Joseph Johannes-Prest Ruscheinski, son of Paul and Melaina Prest Ruscheinski

Rest in Peace

Daniel Koss

Please Pray for our Parishioners and Friends

- Pamela Sherrod Anderson
- Helen Banta
- Jean Bautista
- Zara Bradley
- Sharon Brown
- Connie Bueck
- Lilly Buie
- Claire Bushey
- Maggie Callaway
- Aida Calvopina
- Connie Cool
- Caloy Desembrana
- Ann Collins Dole
- Christine Frisoni
- Shirley Marie Gonzales
- Gina Heidkamp
- Maria Hertl
- Daniel Hidalgo
- Patricia Irwin
- Bernice Kiedysz
- Dean Mattoni
- Larry McCauley
- Molly Morris
- Karey Myers
- Tina Piemonte
- Charley Scantlebury
- 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/allevants

Email esoto@stgertrudechicago.org for additional information.

Parish Staff

Rev. Richard J. Prendergast, Pastor
Rev. Michael Gabriel, Associate Pastor
Rev. Michael Bradley, Resident Priest
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

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.