

**PARISH  
TOWN  
HALL**

Sunday, May 7

## St. Gertrude Chicago

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Chicago, IL 60660

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**May 7, 2023**

**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

### From Fr. Mike Gabriel

Will winter ever leave us, I wondered this week? Lately the weather has been rainy, cloudy, and cold. Here we are now in the month of May, Mother Nature is running her course, and it appears trying to thaw out and let the breath of spring move in.

But before we can pack away our puffy coats and bring out our favorite lawn chairs, let's take the time to make some goals for our spring cleaning. I encourage you to focus on the goals you made at the beginning of the year (you remember those New Year's resolutions?) and the things you want to get rid of before moving forward.

I was walking through the church last week, and I got that itch. You know the one that wants to clean, restore, and wipe down all the surfaces and purge and refurbish the old and embrace the new.

That itch also goes for spring cleaning for our souls. Take inventory of your prayer life, and your call to service and spruce them up. Unplug and get rid of things that distract you from a nurturing relationship to God and others. Go out of your comfort zones and get involved in something that makes all of us better.

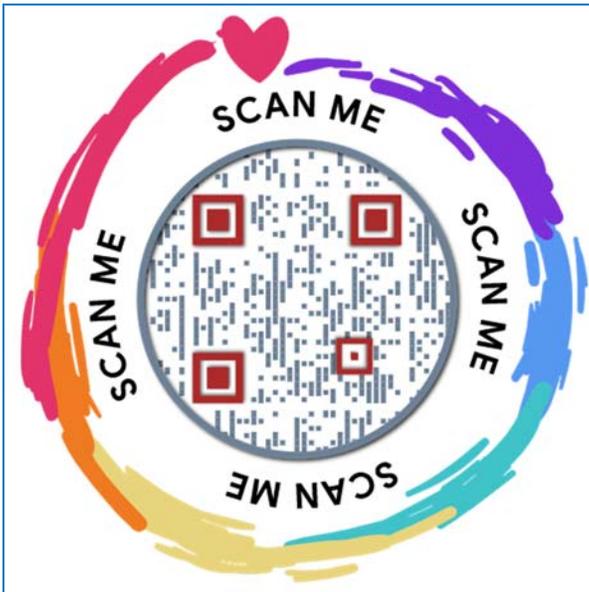
**Parish Town Hall:** Today is the Parish Council Town Hall meeting in the Gym following the 10:30 am Masses. This would be a great time to think about what ways you can get involved here at St Gertrude's to make this a better parish and world. More information is on the next page.

**Congrats to Fr. Dom:** A special shout out for Fr. Dominic Grassi who is celebrating his 50th anniversary as a priest. Thank you, God and Dom, for your ministry. If you'd like to send a card, you are welcome to drop it off at the Rectory. We'll make sure he gets it.

**First Communion and May Crowning:** Next Saturday, May 13, our NCA and Religious Ed students will celebrate their First Communion! Keep them and their families in your prayers.

On Sunday, May 14th, Mother's Day, we will also have our May Crowning during the 10:30 am Mass. Everyone is invited to bring flowers to this Mass.

**Catholic Charities Mother's Day Second Collection:** Next Sunday's second collection is the Catholic Charity Mother's Day collection. Please be as generous as you can to support the many great works Catholic Charity does here in our diocese.



## Town Hall Planned TODAY, Sunday, May 7

On Sunday, May 7th in the Gym after the 10:30 am Masses in the Gym, the Parish Pastoral Council invites you to a town hall discussion on the parish's strategic plan.

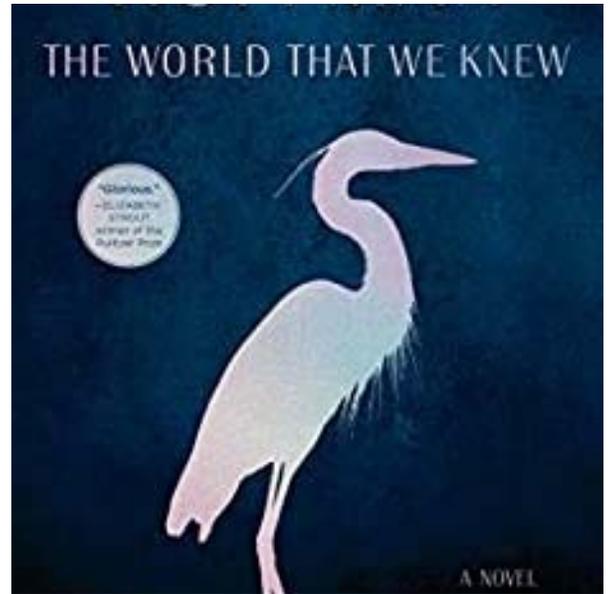
To view a copy of the Strategic Plan, scan the QR code (pictured right) or visit <https://bit.ly/StGertsStrategicPlan>. Hard copies are available in church.

Your attendance is crucial for the future of our parish, please consider coming!

## Book Club: Next Meeting is Monday, May 8

All are welcome to attend the next book club gathering on Monday, May 8! We will meet in the Ministry Center that evening at 7:00 pm and will discuss *The World That We Knew: A Novel* by Alice Hoffman. We would love new voices and opinions.

Contact Lea Cloninger at 773.973.2465 or Sue Benjamin at 773.551.8401 with questions. The gathering may be virtual if the weather is stormy.



## First Communion Next Saturday, May 13/ Rehearsal Information

Please keep children of our parish who are making their First Communion next Saturday in your prayers!

Families of students making their First Communion at St. Gertrude this spring should note that there is a rehearsal for the Sacrament of Communion on Friday, May 12 at 6:30 pm in church. The First Communion Mass is Saturday, May 13 at 10:00 am. Families should arrive early so their children can line up and walk into church together.



## Letter from Cardinal Cupich: Catholic Charities Second Collection on Mother's Day

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Mother's Day is a time dedicated to remembering all of the mothers and mother figures in our lives—the women who have fed, nurtured, taught, and sustained us. Mothers are essential in every generation, in every moment of each day, to the fullness of God's plan for human life and community.

Helping mothers in need is core to our faith, and helping mothers is a central calling for Catholic Charities. As Christ reminds us, we must care for women and children in need, especially mothers raising children alone.

Your generous donation to the Mother's Day Collection for Catholic Charities enables the Church's work on behalf of mothers. Catholic Charities helps tens of thousands of mothers each year with counseling services; food, housing, and utility assistance; adoption support; home-visit parenting support; domestic violence safe-shelter; and so much more.

Your donations are critical to this work of faith. They enable us to be Christ's hands throughout Cook and Lake counties. As the largest provider of human services in our region, the Catholic Church touches thousands of lives daily through the work of Catholic Charities. Catholic Charities relies on the contributions of Catholics who recognize and embrace the call to witness and unite in service, as one Church.

I reach out to our parishes once each year for support of Charities' work. Mother's Day is your chance to make a gift to this central, mighty mission of our Church. Please considering donating either:

- In-person during the second collection on Mother's Day, May 14
- Online at [www.catholiccharities.net/donate](http://www.catholiccharities.net/donate)
- By mail at Catholic Charities, P.O. Box 8275, Carol Stream, IL 60197-8275

Please accept my sincere gratitude for your past support. I encourage you to be as generous as you can again this year, so that together we might witness a message of mercy and hope a world in need—starting with mothers.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Cardinal Cupich  
Archbishop of Chicago





## Combined 10:30 am May Crowning Mass Planned for May 14/No Gym Mass

Our annual May Crowning is Sunday, May 14 at 10:30 am Mass! We will celebrate with a Combined Mass in Church. (No Gym Mass.)

Students who made their First Communion on Saturday, May 6 are invited to attend the 10:30 am Mass in church wearing their First Communion finery.

All are welcome to bring flowers to place before our statue of Mary!

## Registration for 2023 Wildcat Summer Camp is Now Open!

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

Join us for:

- Arts & Crafts
- Snacks
- Sports
- Field Trips
- and MUCH MORE!

Prices:

- \$250/week for campers who registers/attends 4 or more weeks; \$200/week for each sibling.
- \$290/week for campers who registers for less than 4 weeks; \$240/week for each sibling.

For more information, visit [www.northsidecatholic.org](http://www.northsidecatholic.org) or call 773.743.6277. The 2023 Wildcat Summer Camp Flyer is be seen at <https://bit.ly/WildcatSummerCamp>.

We look forward to seeing you this summer!

**WILDCAT SUMMER CAMP 2023**  
JUNE 19 - AUGUST 4  
*Park Explorers!*  
Theme Oriented:  
Arts & Crafts  
Snacks  
Sports  
Field Trips  
and Much More!

## New Parishioner

- Maria Grandas



## This Summer: St. Gertrude's Youth Group Mission Experience

Attention teens in sixth grade through high school! This summer, from July 10-14, the parish youth group will volunteer with a different Chicagoland 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 to get more information, contact Eloy Escamilla at [eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org). Please register before Saturday, May 28.

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## Financial Report from Easter Sunday, April 30

Sunday Collection Envelopes: \$1,714.83  
Loose Checks: \$310.00  
Loose Cash/Coins: \$984.25  
Online Donations: \$2,597.12  
**Total Collected: \$5,606.20**

Budgeted: \$10,730.00  
**Difference: -\$5,123.80**

Year-to-date Collected: \$411,111.75  
Year-to-date Budgeted: \$558,000.00  
**Difference: -\$146,888.25**



## Donate to our Parish

Parishioners can donate to St. Gertrude in various ways:

- 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/allevants](http://www.givecentral.org/location/8/allevants)

Questions? Please reach out to Eduardo Soto, St. Gertrude's business manager, via email [esoto@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:esoto@stgertrudechicago.org) for additional information.

# Easter Flower Offering Envelopes

We are offering an opportunity to celebrate someone in your life, living or deceased, during the Easter season.

Please consider making an Easter Flower offering in their name. Envelopes are available in the back of the Church and may be placed in the collection basket or sent to Rectory.



## In Memory of/Individual who Honored Them

- Kathy Schneider Runstrom ~ *Mary T. Scheider*
- Jon Anderson ~ *Pamela Sherrod Anderson*
- Lilder & Albert Sherrod ~ *Pamela Sherrod Anderson*
- Randy, Lydia & Manuel Cruz ~ *Monica T. Cruz*
- Ma' Araceli Frias ~ *Nona T. Frias*
- Gonzalo & Sulecia Frias ~ *Nona T. Frias*
- Theresa McMahon ~ *Joe McMahon*
- Deceased member of Slane family ~ *Millie Slane*
- Mother and Father ~ *Efrain Cortes*
- Mary Ellen Mellon ~ *Jo Anne Joyce*
- Mary Pat Ross ~ *Steve & Anne Hasselbeck*
- Deceased of the Laczkowski & Glotkowski families ~ *Jean L. Laczkowski*

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## Heart to Heart Information



Our Heart to Heart Ministry has around 30 members and 11 active volunteers, covering Edgewater/Rogers Park areas. Our volunteers provide companionship to our elderly, many of whom live alone and have a limited support network.

There are six dedicated drivers taking members to doctor appointments, grocery shopping and other errands. Three ministry of care volunteers visit people at home or in their care facility. A volunteer does weekly phone visits with many of our members and another sends thank you letters for monetary and medical equipment donations.

In addition, there continues to be a solid group of volunteers working independently making sandwiches for the needy.

Our Heart to Heart/Lending Closet phone number is 773-973-5464.

Pat Sullivan is available on Monday and Thursday for Heart to Heart inquiries. Her email is [psullivan@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:psullivan@stgertrudechicago.org).

Laurie Hasbrook is available on Tuesday and Thursday for Lending Closet inquiries. She can be emailed at [lhasbrook@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:lhasbrook@stgertrudechicago.org).

## Growing in Faith

Today's Gospel (John 14:1-12) has one of the most quoted, perhaps most misinterpreted statements made by Jesus to his disciples: "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

Isolated on its own, this statement could be read as an exclusionary clause in God's contract with us -- There is one way, and one way only, to come into God's kingdom.

Jesus, preparing for his final days on earth, sees his disciples' confusion and terror. "Do not let your hearts be troubled," he comforts them, reminding them that he'd shown them a map for the journey ahead, for the way. Jesus lived the way every day of his public ministry! Jesus' radical acceptance of the people no one pays attention to, the people without earthly power, the people society rejects and vilifies, is the way. Jesus' insistence that sharing with those in need secures abundance for all, is the way. Jesus' total rejection of violence as a way to realize the kingdom, is the way.

In a morning meditation Pope Francis entitled "Never exclude" (2015), he said: "It is by our deeds that Jesus asks us to include everyone, because as Christians we do not have the right to exclude others, nor to judge or close the doors on them. This attitude of exclusion is at the root of all wars, large and small."

We could hardly ask for a Gospel -- or a bit of papal wisdom -- more relevant to our troubling times.

~ Laurie Hasbrook



## Altar Servers, Cantors, Musicians, Ministers of the Word, & Eucharistic Ministers for This Weekend

### Ministers of the Word:

- Saturday, May 6 at 5:00 pm - Joseph McMahon, Roman Reyes
- Sunday, May 7 at 8:00 am - David Sullivan, Kathryn Stimac
- Sunday, May 7 at 10:30 am - Stephen Modde, Rose Karasti

### Altar Servers:

- Sunday, May 7 at 10:30 am - cross bearer - Henry Villareal ; acolytes - Grace Cashman, Henry Jacobson

### Eucharistic Ministers:

- Saturday, May 6 at 5:00 pm - Tim Harrington
- Sunday, May 7 at 8:00 am - Barb Daly
- Sunday, May 7 at 10:30 am - Bob Backis, Annie Hasselbeck, Stephen Hasselbeck

### Cantors & Musicians:

- Saturday, May 6 at 5:00 pm - Jim Manzardo
- Sunday, May 7 at 8:00 am - Denise Goodman
- Sunday, May 7 at 10:30 am - Kate Hibbs Davis

## Mass Intentions

- **Monday, May 8:** 7:30 am - Living & deceased parents of St. Gertrude
- **Tuesday, May 9:** 7:30 am - Sheila McGuire +
- **Wednesday, May 10:** 7:30 am - Laura Linke +
- **Thursday, May 11:** 7:30 am - Communion Service
- **Friday, May 12:** 7:30 am - Living & deceased Torreano family members; 8:30 am - NCA May Crowning
- **Saturday, May 13:** 7:30 am - Purgatorial Society; 10:00 am - First Communion; 5:00 pm - Patricia McKee +
- **Sunday, May 14:** 8:00 am - Living & deceased mothers of St. Gertrude parishioners; 10:30 am Combined Mass in church – Living & deceased mothers of St. Gertrude parishioners

## Mass Times/Reconciliation/Rectorial 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; **There is a Combined 10:30 am Mass in church on Sunday May 14. There is no Gym Mass.**
- 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 Saturday from 9:00 am - 2:30 pm.
- For the most up-to-date information, visit [stgertrudechicago.org](http://stgertrudechicago.org).

## Please Pray for our Parishioners and Friends

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|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| • Zara Bradley     | • Maria Hertl     | • Bernadette Stanis    |
| • Lilly Buie       | • Bernice Kiedysz | • Elinora E. Tolentino |
| • Aida Calvopina   | • Marilyn Klein   | • Manuel & Norma Viray |
| • Claire Conley    | • Patricia Meade  | • Leon Ward            |
| • Ann Collins Dole | • Janet McCulley  | • Tammy Wielgosz       |
| • Luke Fitzgerald  | • Karey Myers     | • Janice Wittenberg    |
| • Gina Heidkamp    | • Richard Seitz   | • Yyes Yoza            |

Contact the Rectory office at 773.764.3621 or email [stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org) if you would like to add a name to the prayer list.

## Parish Staff and Contact Info

Rev. Michael Gabriel, Parish Administrator—[mgabriel@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:mgabriel@stgertrudechicago.org)  
Mary Clare Barker, Minister of Music—[mcbarker@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:mcbarker@stgertrudechicago.org)  
Eloy Escamilla, Pastoral Associate—[eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org)  
Rectory Office Manager—[stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org)  
Laurie Hasbrook, Heart to Heart Lending Closet Manager—[lhasbrook@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:lhasbrook@stgertrudechicago.org)  
Andy Mueller, Parish Buildings Engineer—[stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org)  
Tracy Shields, Communications Director—[stgerbulletin@yahoo.com](mailto:stgerbulletin@yahoo.com)  
Eduardo Soto, Director of Parish Management—[esoto@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:esoto@stgertrudechicago.org)  
Patricia Sullivan, Heart to Heart Director—[psullivan@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:psullivan@stgertrudechicago.org)