

St. Gertrude Chicago

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Sunday, November 12, 2023

Celebrating the Feast of St. Gertrude

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

From Fr. Mike Gabriel

Happy Feast Day!

Sending to all of you my warmest greetings on the Feast of St. Gertrude. I want all of you to

know that I pray daily for all of you and am honored to be serving here at St. Gertrude. I know St. Gertrude's is also praying for us.

May we the people of St. Gertrude continue to be thoughtful of others, more compassionate and merciful, more forgiving, more responsible, and never take our blessings for granted.

As we continue the month of November, our focus is remembering those who have died and rest now in the peace of Christ. "The Christian meaning of death is revealed in the light of the Paschal Mystery of the Death and Resurrection of Christ in whom resides our only hope. The Christian who dies in Christ Jesus is 'away from the body and at home with the Lord' (2 Cor 5:8)."

Last Saturday evening, we had our Mass of Remembrance. We not only remembered those who died this past year, but all our beloved ones who have gone home.

I know that, for some, talking about death is difficult. I don't feel the discomfort that I know some do. That may be because I have dealt with so many deaths over the almost 40 years I have been a priest, or because, growing up on the South Side, it felt like if we passed a funeral home, we stopped in, paying our respects to a family regardless of whether we knew them or not.

I also take great consolation in the words from the preface at a funeral. "Indeed, for your faithful, Lord, life is changed not ended, and, when this earthly dwelling turns to dust, an eternal dwelling is made ready for them in heaven."

I think the very same thing as I look at the pictures on our altar of remembrance. As we gather at the altar to celebrate the Eucharist, I am inspired, thinking about how our beloved dead encircle us, looking over our shoulders. We are carrying their legacy of faith. As difficult as it is to talk about and deal with the death of a loved one, it is a reality of life help in that way as well.



From Fr. Mike Gabriel (continued)

As we celebrate this month of November remembering our beloved dead, we are given an opportunity to allow our faith to express our true understanding that we need not fear death, but instead recognize that "life is simply changed, not ended."

As a parish community, the more we can do to be with each other during these difficult and sometimes dark hours, the better we will all be as a family of faith.

Living with Grief Workshop

On that same note, the approaching holiday season can be difficult for people who have lost a loved one in the past year. If you are anxious about the holidays or know someone who might appreciate some support, there is a *Living with Grief Workshop* at the Center for Grief Recovery and Therapeutics Services. This event might help you. It's November 18 at 9:00 am and ideas for handling the holidays will be provided. Info about the event is on page 3.

Giving Tree

Our parish's Giving Tree project begins this weekend. Share in the spirit of giving to others this Christmas season. Again, this year, Care for Real and Refugee Ministries are asking for mostly gift cards. Thanks to John McMahon for heading this up again for us this year.

A thought to ponder

As a people of faith, we are called to build the "Kin-dom" of God by working together for the justice, peace and flourishing of all people and the whole of God's creation.



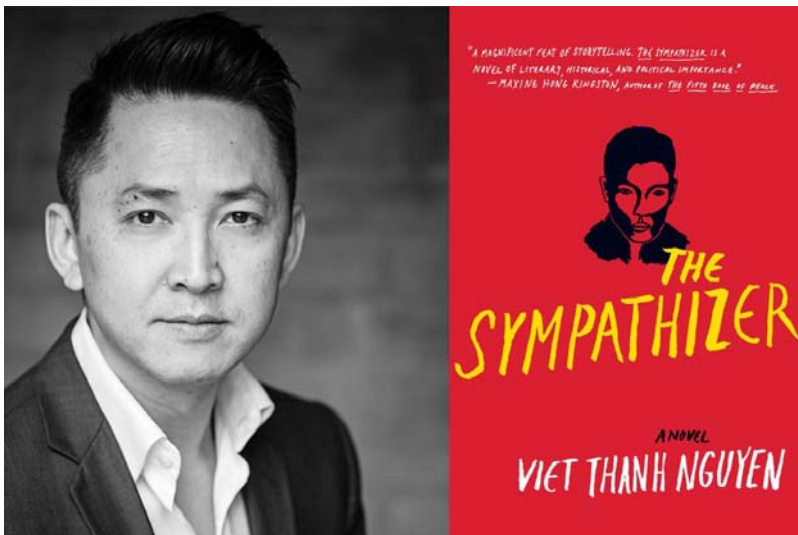
7th & 8th Grade Students Invited to Participate in our Essay Contest



Students in the 7th and 8th grade are invited to take part in our annual essay contest. Participants should write an essay in response to this question: What is your role as a Christian Catholic to obtain world peace?

Entries should be 500-600 words. Spelling and grammar count! The top three winners will receive gift cards and have their essays published online and in the bulletin.

Entries must be submitted by Monday, December 18, 2023. Email essays to eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org or mail them to Eloy Escamilla, 1420 W. Granville, Chicago, IL 60660.



Book Club is Nov. 13

On Monday, November 13, the book club will discuss *The Sympathizer* by Viet Thanh Nguyen at 7:00 pm in the Ministry Center.

Our December book club is planned for Monday, December 11. We'll be discussing *The Vanishing Act of Esme Lennox* by Maggie O'Farrell.

Contact Lea Cloninger at 773.973.2465 or Sue Benjamin at 773.551.8401 with questions.

Parish Pastoral Council Info/Next Meeting is November 15

The parish council continues to meet and discuss the vitality of the parish through its various groups and ministries. We have been referencing the ideas brought forth from the town hall.

The next parish pastoral council meeting is on November 15 at 7:00 pm in the Ministry Center.

If you have anything that you'd like to discuss with the PPC, please email stgertrudeparishcouncil@gmail.com.



LIVING WITH GRIEF WORKSHOP



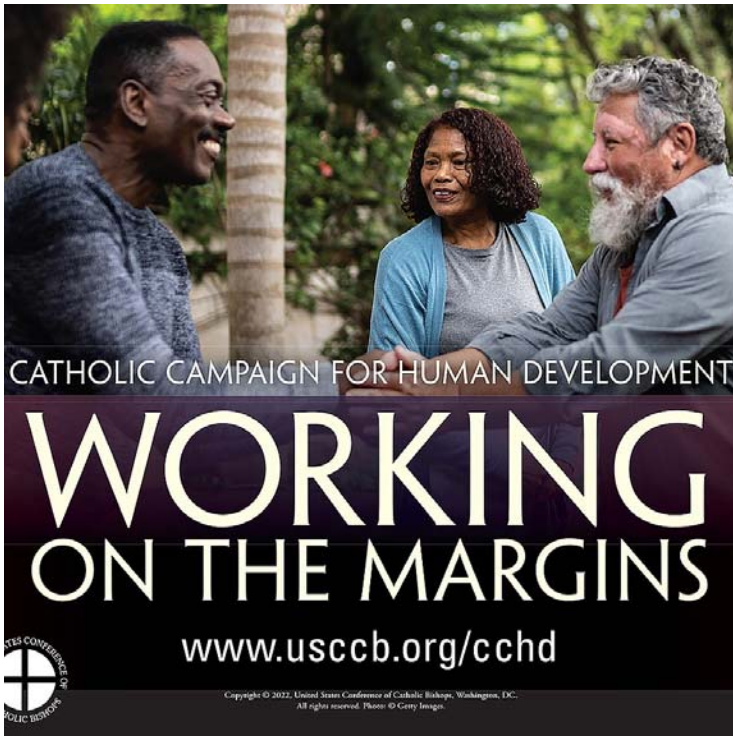
Grieving and Honoring Your Spouse/Partner Amidst Holidays and Celebrations
**SATURDAY,
NOVEMBER
18**

Living with Grief Workshop on Nov. 18

Join others who are also grieving the death of their spouse/partner, in a safe, understanding space.

An in-person grief workshop will be led by parishioner Jim Manzardo, Board Certified Hospital Chaplain and Intern Counselor. The program is Saturday, November 18 from 9:00 am-12 pm at the Center for Grief Recovery and Therapeutic Services, 1261 W. Loyola Ave.

The cost is \$10 and is limited to 20 participants. RSVP to Jim Manzardo at 773.274.4600 or j.manzardo@griefcounselor.org.



Catholic Campaign for Human Development: Second Collection November 18-19

On November 18th and 19th, there will be a second collection for CCHD at all of the masses. Additionally, we will welcome guest speaker Ed Jacobs, who is the former Director of Franciscan Outreach and a long-time volunteer for CCHD.

Ed will speak about the important work and our participation in the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. There are envelopes at the back of Church.

ECRA's Interfaith Thanksgiving Service is November 19

The Edgewater Community Religious Association (ECRA) is an interfaith association of religious organizations who work toward fostering friendships and understanding of other faiths, nurture a thriving and just neighborhood, and create solutions to local problems.



Each year, ECRA hosts an annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service benefiting Care for Real that bring together Catholics, Baptists, Lutherans, Methodists, Presbyterians, as well as our friends from the Jewish, Muslim, and Hindu faith. All are invited to attend this year's service on Sunday, November 19 from 2:00-4:00 pm, hosted this year at Ismaili Jamatkhana Social Hall, 1124 W. Rosemont Ave. St. Gert's choir will sing at the event too!

Attendees are encouraged to share their bounty with the food insecure in our neighborhood. Visit <https://careforreal.org/wishlist/> to see Care for Real's wish list! A reception will follow the service.

Upcoming Office Closures

The rectory office will be closed on Thanksgiving Day, November 23, as well as Friday, November 24.

Other dates the office will be closed are Friday, December 8 (Immaculate Conception), Monday, December 25, and Tuesday, December 26.

WHO WILL FILL THESE SHOES? Vocation event Nov. 24 for high school males

Fr. Vic Ivers passed away in 2014 at age 95. At St. Joseph Parish in Libertyville, as his final Mass was coming to a conclusion, he stopped, took off his shoes, laid them in front of the altar and said, “so now who will fill these shoes?” Then he processed out, leaving the shoes behind with a question that remains for today. The Who Will Fill These Shoes? event has been celebrated in the Archdiocese of Chicago ever since. For more information, visit vocations.archchicago.org.



Care for Real Food & Supply Drive in Late November

Our next donation drive will be before/after the masses on Saturday, November 25 and Sunday, November 26. Items needed for neighbors and asylum seekers include:

- Baby wipes
- Diapers sized 4-6
- Pull-ups
- All toiletries
- Menstrual pads
- Ready-to-eat items like granola bars, tuna or chicken salad cracker packs, individual milk boxes



care for real
FOOD • CLOTHING • SUPPORT

Additionally, you can go to Care for Real's website, <https://careforreal.org/wishlist>, to make a donation, drop off items at 5341 N. Sheridan Road from 12:00-3:00 pm Monday-Friday.

Financial Report from November 4-5

Sunday Collection Envelopes: \$2,371.00
Loose Checks: \$585.00
Loose Cash/Coins: \$868.05
Online Donations: \$4,825.33
Total Collected: \$8,649.38

Budgeted: \$10,000.00
Difference: -\$1,350.62
Year-to-date Collected FY 2024: \$177,189.06
Year-to-date Budgeted FY 2024: \$386,400.00
Difference: -\$209,210.94



Order Your Christmas Trees, Wreaths, & Garland From St. Gertrude's Greenery Sale!

St. Gertrude will once again host our annual Christmas greenery sale, with a limited number of balsam pine trees, wreaths, and garland available for purchase. Our Christmas greenery sale is a great opportunity for parishioners to get ready for the holidays while supporting St. Gertrude ministries.

Each 6' Christmas tree is \$55. Three different sized wreaths are available—the 18" wreath is \$25, the 24" is \$27, and the 36" is \$35. Garland is also available for \$40 per 5' length.

Buyers can purchase items online at <https://bit.ly/ChristmasGreenery> or by scanning the QR code. A paper order form is available at <https://stgertrudechicago.org/christmas-greenery> and on the next page. Forms and checks or cash can be dropped off at the Rectory office, 1420 W. Granville Ave or placed in the mail slot in the side (west) red door next to the Rectory side yard if the Rectory office is closed. Orders can also be sent to NCA to the attention of Eduardo Soto. Checks should be made out to St. Gertrude. Please note "Greenery" in the memo line.

Delivery Available

Deliveries will be offered for a \$6 fee. They will take place on Saturday, December 2 and Saturday, December 9 from 9:00 am-11:00 am, and Thursday, December 7 and Thursday, December 14 from 6:00-8:00 pm. The greenery team will do their best to accommodate your preferred delivery date and will reach out to notify you when to expect your order.

Please note, the boundaries for deliveries are north to Oakton, south to Irving Park, and east of the North Shore Channel.

In-Person Sales

Greenery will also be sold at the playlot on the west side of the Social Hall, 1401 W. Granville Avenue on Sunday, November 26, Sunday, December 3, Sunday, December 10, and Sunday, December 17 from 11:30 am-1:00 pm.

Only cash and checks will be accepted for in-person purchases.

Questions? Contact Eduardo Soto at esoto@stgertrudechicago.org or call the Rectory at 773.764.3621.



*Scan the QR code
to order online.*

Volunteers Needed for Christmas Greenery Deliveries: One benefit parishioners enjoy about the greenery sale is the delivery service. This service will continue, but in order to be successful, we need volunteers. Help is needed on Saturday, December 2, Thursday, December 7, Saturday, December 7, and Thursday, December 14 from 9:00-11:00 am on weekends and 6:00-8:00 pm on weeknights. If you are available to help, please email Eduardo Soto at esoto@stgertrudechicago.org.

ST. GERTRUDE GREENERY ORDER FORM

Name:

Phone:

Email:

Delivery address:

Payment: Cash/Check (circle one)

QUANTITY	ITEM	PRICE	TOTAL
	6' Balsam Tree	\$55.00	
	18" Wreath	\$25.00	
	24" Wreath	\$27.00	
	36" Wreath	\$35.00	
	5' of Garland	\$40.00	
	Delivery Fee	\$6.00	
TOTAL			

DELIVERY DATES	RANK YOUR PREFERRED DELIVERY DATES (1-4)
Saturday, December 2	
Thursday, December 7	
Saturday, December 9	
Thursday, December 14	

The boundaries for deliveries are north to Oakton, south to Irving Park, and east of the North Shore Channel. Deliveries will be made between 6:00-8:00 pm on weeknights and 9:00-11:00 am on weekends. The greenery team will do their best to accommodate you and will reach out to notify you when to expect your order.



Growing in Faith

Below is treasured homily of Pope Francis on Walking the Way of Peace:

"And at this point I ask myself: Is it possible to walk the path of peace? Can we get out of this spiral of sorrow and death? Can we learn once again to walk and live in the ways of peace? Invoking the help of God, under the maternal gaze of the Salus Populi Romani, Queen of Peace, I say: Yes, it is possible for everyone! From every corner of the world tonight, I would like to hear us cry out: Yes, it is possible for everyone! Or even better, I would like for each one of us, from the least to the greatest, including those called to govern nations, to respond: Yes, we want it!

My Christian faith urges me to look to the Cross. How I wish that all men and women of good will would look to the Cross if only for a moment! There, we can see God's reply: violence is not answered with violence, death is not answered with the language of death.

This evening, I ask the Lord that we Christians, and our brothers and sisters of other religions, and every man and woman of good will, cry out forcefully: violence and war are never the way to peace! Let everyone be moved to look into the depths of his or her conscience and listen to that word which says: Leave behind the self-interest that hardens your heart, overcome the indifference that makes your heart insensitive towards others, conquer your deadly reasoning, and open yourself to dialogue and reconciliation."

Two Peoples, One Land: A Prayer for Peace

Two peoples, one land,
Three faiths, one root,
One earth, one mother,
One sky, one beginning, one future, one destiny,
One broken heart, One God.
We pray to You: Grant us a vision of unity.
May we see the many in the one and the one in the many.
May you, Life of All the Worlds, Source of All Amazing Differences help us to see clearly.
Guide us gently and firmly toward each other,
toward peace.



- Rabbi Sheila Weinberg

Parish Information

Baptisms

- Maximilian Louis Pham

Please Pray for our Parishioners and Friends

- Carlos Barragan
- Zara Bradley
- Lilly Buie
- Hallie Burhoe
- Maggie Calloway
- Aida Calvopina
- Claire Conley
- Denise DeBelle
- David Denegas
- Ann Collins Dole
- Connie Engelmohr
- Mr. and Mrs. Emin Euman
- Luke Fitzgerald
- Gina Heidkamp
- Rochelle Hernandez
- Maria Hertl
- Erica Maria Kast
- Marilyn Klein
- Ignacio Lopez
- Matilde Manzardo
- Janet McCulley
- Jack McDermott
- Nancy Michael
- Andy Mueller
- Karey Myers
- Donald Nyderek
- Denise Plunkett
- Claude Poulsen
- Richard Seitz
- Willy Spalla
- Elinora E. Tolentino
- Manuel & Norma Viray
- Leon Ward
- Janice Wittenberg
- Yyes Yoza
- Joel Pozzi Zio

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

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

Ministers of the Word

- Saturday, November 11 at 5:00 pm - Millie Slane, Roman Reyes
- Sunday, November 12 at 8:00 am - Marty McDermott, David Sullivan
- Sunday, November 12 at 10:30 am - Anthony Myers, Eric Ameyaw

Altar Servers

- Sunday, November 12 at 10:30 am - Henry Villareal, cross bearer; Jayson Ameyaw, Xavier Lassus, Acolytes

Eucharistic Ministers

- Saturday, November 11 at 5:00 pm - Kathy Wall
- Sunday, November 12 at 8:00 am - Barb Daly
- Sunday, November 12 at 10:30 am - Troy McMillan, Ray Sousa, Carlos Barragan

Cantors and Musicians

- Saturday, November 11 at 5:00 pm - Eric Mason
- Sunday, November 12 at 8:00 am - Denise Goodman
- Sunday, November 12 at 10:30 am - Kathryn Katherine Viviano

Mass Intentions

- **Monday, November 6:** 7:30 am - Bernice Kiedysz+
- **Tuesday, November 7:** 7:30 am - Purgatorial Society
- **Wednesday, November 8:** 7:30 am - Maggie Callaway
- **Thursday, November 9:** 7:30 am - Communion service
- **Friday, November 10:** 7:30 am - Living and deceased parents of St. Gertrude parishioners
- **Saturday, November 11:** 7:30 am - People of God; 5:00 pm - Hal Mann+
- **Sunday, November 12:** 8:00 am - Living and deceased members of St. Gertrude parish; 10:30 am in church - Delores Marie Winslow+; 10:30 am Gym Mass - Quinn Michael Bringas+

Donate to our Parish

- Text the word *Donate* to 1.773.741.9505.
- PayPal link - visit our parish website at www.stgertrudechicago.org
- GiveCentral: www.givecentral.org/location/8/allevants

Questions? Reach out to Eduardo Soto, St. Gertrude's business manager, via email at esoto@stgertrudechicago.org for additional information.

Mass Times/Reconciliation/Rectory Office Hours

- Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:30 am in Church, 10:30 am Gym Mass; Monday-Friday: 7:30 am (Thursday is a Communion Service.); Saturday: 7:30 am & 5:00 pm
- Reconciliation is offered on Saturday from 4:15-4:45 pm in Church or by appointment by calling the Rectory at 773.764.3621.
- The Rectory office is open Monday-Friday from 8:30 am-4:30 pm and Saturday from 9:00 am - 2:30 pm.
- For the most up-to-date information, visit stgertrudechicago.org.

Parish Staff and Contact Info

Rev. Michael Gabriel, Pastor—mgabriel@stgertrudechicago.org

Fr. Paul Adajà, Associate Pastor—padaja@archchicago.org

Eloy Escamilla, Pastoral Associate—eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org

Kathryn Flynn, Minister of Music—kflynn@stgertrudechicago.org

Sherl Patterson, Office Manager—spatterson@stgertrudechicago.org

Laurie Hasbrook, Heart to Heart Lending Closet Manager—lhasbrook@stgertrudechicago.org

Andy Mueller, Parish Buildings Engineer—stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org

Sr. Susan Quaintance, OSB, Heart to Heart Director—squaintance@stgertrudechicago.org

Tracy Shields, Communications Director—stgerbulletin@yahoo.com

Eduardo Soto, Director of Parish Management—esoto@stgertrudechicago.org

Heart to Heart Contact Info

To reach our Heart to Heart director, Sr. Susan Quaintance, OSB, call her at 872.296.2537 or email her at squaintance@stgertrudechicago.org. To reach Laurie Hasbrook, our Lending Closet manager, please call 773.973.5464 or email her at lhasbrook@stgertrudechicago.org.