St. Gertrude Catholic Church

THE SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

NOVEMBER 22, 2026



A Season of Gratitude

The Solemnity of Christ the King

This Sunday, we celebrate the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. As we honor Christ as our King, we are reminded that His kingdom is built not on power or riches, but on love, compassion, mercy, and service.

Thanksgiving Blessings

As Thanksgiving approaches, we look forward to time with family and friends, shared meals, and holiday traditions. It is also an opportunity to pause and reflect on the blessings that enrich our lives.

At St. Gertrude, we are especially grateful for:
The gift of faith: Our faith gives us strength, hope, and guidance through every season of life. Through prayer, the Eucharist, and one another, we are reminded that we never walk alone.

The people who share our journey: Family members, friends, neighbors, and those who support us along the way bring love, encouragement, and meaning to our lives. We give thanks for the many ways they make our days brighter.

Our St. Gertrude community: We are blessed to belong to a parish where we gather in faith, care for our neighbors, welcome others, and work together to make a difference. Each person contributes to the spirit of our community and our shared mission to love and serve.

As we celebrate this Thanksgiving, may we carry an attitude of gratitude beyond the holiday and find ways to share our blessings with others.

Thanksgiving Schedule

The Rectory office will be closed on Thursday, November 26 and Friday, November 27. On Thanksgiving Day, Mass will be celebrated at 10:00 am. There is no 7:30 am Mass that morning.



DONATIONS

We offer multiple ways to support our parish financially. You can give a regular Sunday offering in church or use our online giving tools to set up recurring or one-time donations.

Scan the QR Code or visit us online at **www.stgertrudechicago.org/donate** to learn more information



CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND

Answer Pope Leo's call to offer signs of hope to the poor by supporting the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD), whose annual collection in many dioceses equips people experiencing poverty to address the needs in their own communities and strengthens both local and national anti-poverty efforts. The CCHD is the national anti-poverty program of the U.S. Catholic Bishops, working to carry out the mission of Jesus Christ "... to bring glad tidings to the poor ... liberty to captives ... sight to the blind, and let the oppressed go free." (Luke 4:18)

The belief that those who are directly affected by unjust systems and structures have the best insight into knowing how to change them is central to CCHD. CCHD works to break the cycle of poverty by helping low-income people participate in decisions that affect their lives, families and communities. CCHD offers a hand up, not a hand out.

We will participate in this additional collection at all Masses this weekend. Your generosity to this collection not only supports nation-wide anti-poverty efforts, but 25% of the collection remains in our diocese to support local initiatives. If you would like to contribute, you will find a giving envelope in the church or donate online at https://pvm.archchicago.org/human-dignity-solidarity/catholic-campaign-for-human-development



WHAT'S SO GREAT ABOUT ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT?

THIS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22 AFTER THE 10:30 AM MASSES IN THE SOCIAL HALL

As part of our parish celebration of the feast day of our patron saint, St. Gertrude the Great, the Adult Spirituality and Faith Committee is sponsoring a presentation by Jim Neafsey, focusing on the life and spirituality of St. Gertrude.

This hour-long session will begin with a brief look at when and where St. Gertrude lived and why she is the only woman in the history of the church (so far!) to have been given the title "Great" for her deep spirituality and learning.

The session will also explore spiritual practices Gertrude used to deepen her intimate friendship with Christ and on how we can adapt these and other practices to our own daily lives.

ECRA'S INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22 AT 3:00 PM

Join Edgewater's annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service at Emanuel Congregation, celebrating gratitude and our diverse faith community. Registration is required: https://bit.ly/3WBEbwF.

Food and cash donations will benefit Care for Real. Visitors and bags will be screened upon arrival.

BRING HOME THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT

OUR GREENERY SALE HAS BEGUN!

Get ready for the holidays with fresh balsam pine trees, wreaths, and garland! Shop our annual sale and support St. Gertrude's ministries.

Greenery and Pricing:

- 6' Christmas Trees: $55
- 18" Wreaths: $25
- 24" Wreaths: $27
- 36" Wreaths: $35
- Garland (5' length): $40

In-Person Sales: Visit the playlot on the west side of the Social Hall (1401 W. Granville Avenue) on November 29, December 6, December 13, or December 20 from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. Cash and checks only.

Online and Paper Form Orders: To order online, visit bit.ly/StGertsChristmasGreenery.

Paper forms are available in the the back of church or stgertrudechicago.org/christmas-greenery

Delivery: Home delivery is available for $6, with dates to be announced. Delivery boundaries are Oakton Street (north), Irving Park Road (south), and the North Shore Channel (east).

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





GIVING TREE PROGRAM

NOVEMBER 28-DECEMBER 27

This Advent, St. Gertrude will once again collect gift cards to support RefugeeOne and Centro Romero, organizations that serve refugees, asylum seekers, and immigrants. Gift cards allow families the dignity and flexibility to purchase what they need most. Donations in $20 increments are especially appreciated.

Gift cards may be placed in the collection boxes near the statue of St. Teresa of Ávila at the front of the church. The collection begins the first weekend of Advent, Saturday, November 28, and continues through Sunday, December 27.

Gift cards from any retailer are welcome, but Target, Jewel, Walmart, Aldi, and Ventra cards are especially helpful.

For questions, contact Eloy Escamilla at eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org.

GYM MASS

November Schedule

Please join us in the Social Hall, 1401 W. Granville, on November 29 for our Gym Mass.

Check the weekly e-bulletin or our website for the most current schedule.

Discover the Beauty of St. Gertrude's Stained-Glass Windows

Sunday, December 6

St. Gertrude's stained-glass windows are among the most beautiful in the city, yet we often pass by without taking a moment to appreciate their artistry and meaning. Join us at 11:45 am in church for a one-hour highlights tour exploring the stories behind the windows and the symbolism of the central images featured in several of them.

Created by the Franz Mayer Studio in Munich, Germany, in 1930–31 at a cost of $33,000, these remarkable windows are truly priceless treasures today.

Sponsored by the Adult Spirituality and Formation Committee, this tour offers a wonderful opportunity to discover more about the beauty and history of our church. We hope to see you there!





ADVENT 2026: YEARNING FOR THE PROMISED ONE

During the Season of Advent, the Adult Spirituality and Formation Committee is offering three opportunities for us to explore the richness, beauty, and meaning of this sacred time. In this busy season, take the time to reflect, to renew, and to restore your spirit.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel": Pondering the Advent 'O' Antiphons
Thursday, December 3 at 7:00 pm in the Social Hall
Have you ever wondered about where the verses of "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" originate? Each verse is one of the 'O' Antiphons that have been sung for centuries in monasteries during Advent. Come learn more about these ancient prayers, sing a little, and ponder the Antiphons using Lectio Divina.

Advent in the Spirit of Taize
Sunday, December 13 at 2:00 pm in church
Take some time to sit, ponder, and reflect as Jonathan Hannau invites us to be still and to listen, through reflective music and readings, for the Holy One coming to birth within us. Repetitive, calm, and beautiful, immersing ourselves In this meditative music will draw us more deeply into the mystery of Advent.

Son of God in Flesh and Blood, Paint and Canvas
Thursday, December 17 at 7:00 pm in the Social Hall
The Mystery of the Incarnation has captivated the minds of artists throughout the centuries. Explore with Fr. Sergio the history of religious art, with special attention given to what artists have communicated about Jesus' humanity and divinity in their artwork.

Thank You for Celebrating our Parish's Feast Day with Us!

Thank you to everyone who joined us in celebrating the Feast of St. Gertrude! Whether you gathered with us at Mass or stopped by the Cub Scouts Pancake Breakfast, we are grateful you were part of this special parish celebration.

Days like these remind us what a blessing it is to be part of a faith community that comes together in prayer, fellowship, and service. We are thankful for the many people who make St. Gertrude such a welcoming and vibrant parish. Your presence, generosity, and continued support strengthen our community and bring our shared faith to life.

Thank you for being part of the St. Gertrude family!





The Rosary

Weekdays and Fridays

The bilingual Guadalupanos Rosary Group meets weekly in the Ministry Center (6214 N. Glenwood Ave.). The Rosary is also prayed Monday through Friday in church after the 7:30 am Mass or Communion service.



Need Event Info?

See our Online Calendar

Visit our online calendar and click on each activity to get a detailed description of each event, along with the time and location.

https://stgertrudechicago.org/events-calendar-1!



Remembrance Altar

Month of November

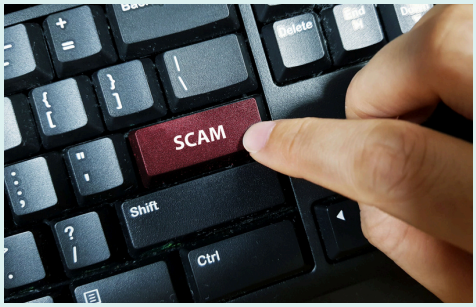
Thank you to everyone who participated in our Altar of Remembrance. If you placed a photo on the altar, please remember to pick it up this weekend.



Contemplative Prayer Group

Wednesdays at 9:00 am

Deepen your Advent prayer life with St. Gertrude's Contemplative Prayer Group. Join us in the Ministry Center for a brief reflection followed by 20 minutes of silent prayer. All are welcome, and guidance is provided for beginners. For more information, contact Karen Spear at kspear@marian.edu.



Scam Alert: GiveCentral

Beware of fraudulent emails claiming a GiveCentral payment has failed and requesting updated banking information through an email form.

GiveCentral will never request financial information this way. Do not click links or submit information. Log in directly to your GiveCentral account or contact GiveCentral using the phone number on its official website if you have questions about a contribution.



Reconciliation

Saturday Afternoons and Mon., Dec. 14

Reconciliation is offered on Saturday afternoons from 4:15-4:45 pm in Church and is available by appointment by calling the Rectory at 773.764.3621.

There is also a communal confession for all the parishes in our deanery (Deanery 2B) on Monday, December 14 at 7:00 pm at St. Ita's, located at 5500 N. Broadway.



GROWING IN FAITH

Thus is the man blessed who fears the Lord!

Some of you may remember my dear family friend, Father Dominic Grassi. He was pastor here at St. Gertrude's following the beloved Father Bill Kenneally.

During the final years of his life, Dom suffered many illnesses. He made numerous trips to the Northwestern Emergency Room and spent some time at Alden Rehab in Evanston. This part of his journey was very difficult for him, but he never lost his passion for his priesthood. In fact, when he was in rehab just a few months ago, he was asked to anoint an elderly woman resident. He told me, "She was very afraid of dying, but I was able to assure her of God's love. I was grateful that I'm still a priest able to bring comfort to folks who are hurting." Her family told Dom she peacefully passed the next day.

The night before Dom died, my wife, Mary, and I were able to visit him at Northwestern. When Mary left to get him some ice water, I asked him, "How are you really doing?" His response was, "I'm afraid!"

I said, "You know why? Because you're human, and that's OK. Now you have to remember what you taught so many of us during your fifty-three years of priesthood: 'Don't be afraid. God loves you.'"

The next morning, I received a phone call from Dom.

"I had the best night's sleep in a long time, and I've turned the corner!"

He passed that afternoon, hopefully remembering: You, Dominic, are blessed because you feared and 'loved' the Lord!

Mark Teresi

GIVING TUESDAY: MAKE A DIFFERENCE AT ST. GERTRUDE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1

This Giving Tuesday, we invite you to support St. Gertrude Parish and the many ministries that bring our faith to life through service, compassion, and community.



Your generosity helps sustain our liturgical and music ministries, religious education, youth programs, faith formation, and outreach efforts that serve our neighbors in need.

One special example is Heart to Heart, our senior outreach ministry, which helps older adults maintain their independence through transportation, friendly visits, and other assistance. Heart to Heart also operates our Medical Lending Closet, providing wheelchairs, walkers, crutches, and other essential medical equipment to individuals and families throughout Chicagoland.

From caring for our homebound parishioners and welcoming refugees to supporting families in need and promoting social justice, your gifts help St. Gertrude share Christ's love in meaningful ways.

Please consider making a Giving Tuesday donation to St. Gertrude. Every gift makes a difference and helps our parish continue its mission of faith, service, and community. To donate or learn more about our ministries, scan the QR code in the image or visit stgertrudechicago.org. Thank you for your generosity!



JOIN OUR PARISH FAMILY

Whether you are new to the neighborhood or looking for a spiritual home, we welcome you to join the St. Gertrude parish family! Our diverse and vibrant community is rooted in faith, service, and compassion. Visit stgertrudechicago.org to learn more about our parish and how to register.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

"'When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?' And the king will say to them in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of the least brothers of mine, you did for me.'" - Mt 25:38-40

Jesus speaks to us today about his identity as our King and Judge. He separates those who inherit the kingdom from those who do not. The King explains, "Whatever you did for one of the least brothers of mine, you did for me" (Matthew 25:40). His judgment hinges on willingness to participate in love. Heaven is not a prize imposed at the end of life. It is a life freely chosen and engaged. Hell is not a destination prepared for human beings, but a terrible and sad acknowledgment of an opting out which God never intends for us.

Jesus' role as judge proclaims to us: "Heaven only works if you actually want to love." How do we know if we want it? How we serve the hungry, the sick, the imprisoned, and the forgotten. These acts of mercy are not arbitrary tests. They are the very shape of divine life. There is no better game to play than this. We ought to begin playing it right now. The King will come to judge us.

Father John R. Muir

Parish Information

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, November 23: 7:30 am - Communion Service
Tuesday, November 24: 7:30 am - Grace V. Cabrera+
Wednesday, November 25: 7:30 am - Sheila McGuire+
Thursday, November 26: 7:30 am - Lydia Cruz+
Friday, November 27: 7:30 am
Saturday, November 28: 5:00 pm - Deceased members of Edward and Mathilda Groeninger Family
Sunday, November 29: 8:00 am; 10:30 am - Norman H. Linke+

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR NOV. 14-15

Sunday Collection Envelopes: $2,940.00
Loose Checks: $390.00
Loose Cash/Coins: $820.00
Online Donations: $3,278.03
Total Collected: $7,428.03
Budgeted: $10,000.00
Difference: -$2,571.97
YTD Collected FY 2027: $184,800.89
YTD Budgeted FY 2027: $550,000.00
Difference: -$365,199.11

LOOKING FOR THE INTENTIONS, MINISTRY SCHEDULE, OR THE *PRAY FOR* LIST?

Due to printing limits, please see our e-bulletin for additional content or visit our website.



CONTACT INFORMATION

ST. GERTRUDE CHURCH & RECTORY

1420 W. Granville Avenue, Chicago, IL 60660
(773) 764-3621
www.stgertrudechicago.org
stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org
Office hours: Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm

MASS TIMES

Sunday: 8:00 & 10:30 am Mass in Church
10:30 am Gym Mass (*This schedule is determined week by week as we work to secure additional priest coverage. Check the weekly e-bulletin or our website for the most current information.)*
Saturday: 5:00 pm
Monday-Friday: 7: 30 am (*Monday is a Communion service.*)

SOCIAL MEDIA

facebook.com/stgertrudechicago
instagram.com/stgertrudeinchicago

HEART TO HEART/LENDING CLOSET

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.

PARISH STAFF

FATHER SERGIO ROMO

Pastor · *sromo@stgertrudechicago.org*

PATRICIA BRANIGAN

Events Contact · *pbranigan@stgertrudechicago.org*

JANIE CARRILLO

Parish Secretary · jcarillo@*stgertrudechicago.org*

ELOY ESCAMILLA

Pastoral Associate · *eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org*

JONATHAN HANNAU

Music Director · *jhannau@stgertrudechicago.org*

LAURIE HASBROOK

Heart to Heart / Lending Closet Manager · (773) 973-5464

SR. SUSAN QUAINTANCE, OSB

Heart to Heart Director · *squaintance@stgertrudechicago.org*

TRACY SHIELDS

Comms Manager · *tshields@stgertrudechicago.org*

EDUARDO SOTO

Business Manager · *esoto@stgertrudechicago.org*

CONTACT THE PARISH COUNCIL

stgertrudeparishcouncil@gmail.com