

St. Gertrude Chicago

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www.stgertrudechicago.org

Sunday, November 26, 2023

*Our Lord Jesus Christ,
King of the Universe*

From Fr. Mike Gabriel

Feast of Christ the King

Today we end the Church's liturgical calendar with the Feast of Christ the King. It

seems to me that this feast has lost some of its luster. I have been pondering this lately. Maybe it is because of the title "king" and "queen"; kings and queens are better known through storybooks and fairy tales.

I think we saw this with the coronation of King Charles in England this past year. They scaled down the pageantry. More and more people are questioning the relatability and need for a royal family.

The Feast of Christ the King is more than a fairytale. It is interesting that Christ the King in Matthew's Gospel is portrayed as a stern king and judge, but the image shouldn't be over-emphasized. Ezekiel, in the first reading, has a gentler image, that of a good shepherd who, while caring for his sheep in his flock, shows particular care for the weak and wounded ones. This image Christ himself used to describe his person and mission. As followers of Christ, let us show who our King is by giving service to others.

Synod Event on November 28

We have a special event this Tuesday, November 28 about the Church's Synod of Synodality. Heidi Schlumpf, Senior Correspondent at the *National Catholic Reporter*, will be interviewed by Michelle Nickerson, a Loyola professor. More information is outlined in an article about the event on page 3.

Giving Tree

Donations for Christmas are being accepted now. Boxes are set up by the Blessed Mother altar. Please see the article in the bulletin for more information.

Relic Missing

On a sad note, in putting away relics that St. Gertrude's has had on display since November 1, we discovered that one of the relics has disappeared. If anyone knows anything or knows where it might be, please let us know.





St. Gert's Greenery Sale: Place Orders Online, Via Paper Forms, or at our In-Person After Sunday's Mass

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's 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>. A paper order form is available at <https://stgertrudechicago.org/christmas-greenery> and in church. 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.

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. Contact Eduardo Soto at esoto@stgertrudechicago.org or call the Rectory at 773.764.3621 with questions.

Giving Tuesday is This Week!

This Tuesday, November 28 is Giving Tuesday, a global day dedicated to giving back. People all over the world celebrate the true reason behind this holiday season, showing generosity, compassion, and love to those less fortunate.

If you are inspired to take part in this day-long donation campaign, please consider supporting St. Gertrude and making a donation at <https://www.givecentral.org/location/8/allevants>. Every donation will make a difference!



Let's Talk about the Synod! Discussion Planned for This Tuesday, November 28

St. Gertrude Parish is hosting an educational event for members interested in learning more about the *Synod on Synodality* that took place last month at the Vatican.

Michelle Nickerson, a history professor at Loyola, will interview fellow parishioner, Heidi Schlumpf, about the gathering in Rome, which Schlumpf covered as Senior Correspondent at the *National Catholic Reporter*. Q and A and discussion will follow.

All are welcome to join them on Tuesday, November 28th in the Social Hall at 7:00 pm. Wine and cheese will be served.



DISCUSSION ON THE SYNOD
WITH HEIDI SCHLUMPF &
MICHELLE NICKERSON
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28 AT 7:00 PM



Thank You for your Donations to Care for Real! Supply Drive for Asylum Seekers is Next Weekend

Thank you to those parishioners who were able to bring items in for Care for Real!

Next weekend, December 2-3, is our supply drive for asylum seekers at the Broadway Armory, who are also being helped by Care for Real.

The top request from CFR is winter gear: stretchy gloves, hats, scarves, hand warmers, and new/gently used coats.

Their clients also are in desperate need of:

Toiletries

- Shampoo/conditioner
- Body wash
- Body wipes

- Deodorant
- Toothbrushes
- Hand soap
- Razors
- Lotion

Baby care items

- Diapers (all sizes)
- Pull ups (all sizes)
- Baby wipes

ECRA Thanksgiving recap: About 375 hope-filled people shared in the 2023 Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Celebration sponsored by the Edgewater Community Religious Association (ECRA) last weekend. This year, it was hosted at the Ismaili Jamatkhana at Rosemont and Broadway. The event was a marvelous community-building gathering and as always served to help raise support for Care for Real.



RCIA Rite of Welcoming and Acceptance - Sunday, December 3

On Sunday, December 3 at the 10:30 am Mass, our church will celebrate the Rite of Welcoming and Acceptance for RCIA members:

- Jenna Marie Rawski
- Adrean Alexis Herrera
- Ilse Alejandra Vielma
- Victoria Anne Braucher Bussey
- Salwa Fadhil

Through the Rite, the church welcomes those who have been baptized in another faith or baptized Catholic as a child but never

catechized in the Catholic faith, into the process of full communion with the Church.

The Rite of Acceptance recognizes the Catechumen's decision to begin the process of becoming a member of the Catholic Church through Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception - Friday, December 8: Mass Times/ Office Will be Closed

We will celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception on Friday, December 8.

Mass will be held on:

- Thursday, December 7 at 6:30 pm
- Friday, December 8 at 7:30 am
- Friday, December 8 at 8:30 am
- Friday, December 8 at 6:30 pm

The rectory office will be closed.



Financial Report from November 18-19, 2023

Sunday Collection Envelopes: \$2,2375.00

Loose Checks: \$425.00

Loose Cash/Coins: \$653.30

Online Donations: \$6,107.31

Total Collected: \$9,422.61

Budgeted: \$10,000.00

Difference: -\$577.39

Year-to-date Collected FY 2024: \$198,604.30

Year-to-date Budgeted FY 2024: \$386,400.00

Difference: -\$187,795.70



Next Youth Group Activity is Saturday, December 9

Teens in the parish in 7th grade and up are invited to attend our next parish youth group event on December 9 at 1:00 pm in the Ministry Center!

We will make Christmas cards for the vulnerable. Snacks will be served!

Questions? Email Eloy Escamilla at eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org.

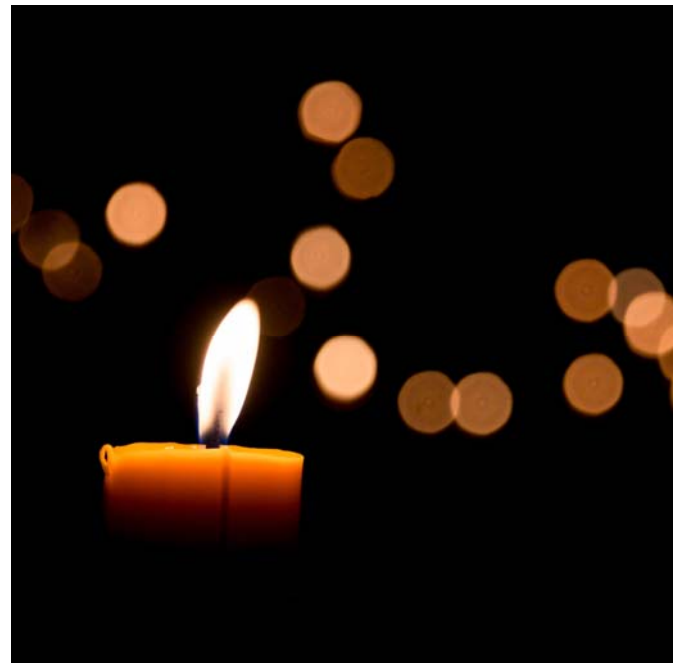
Worldwide Candle Lighting for the Loss of a Child on Sunday, December 10

The Elizabeth Ministry of Queen of All Saints parish will host the annual Compassionate Friends Worldwide Candle Lighting service on Sunday, December 10 at 6:45 pm in the basilica, 6280 N. Sauganash Avenue, Chicago.

The Compassionate Friends is an organization supporting grieving families in all fifty states and across thirty countries. Every second Sunday in December, families and friends around the globe unite in lighting candles to honor the memories of children of any age who have died, at any time, for any reason.

Everyone is welcome to participate in this non-denominational service of prayer and music as we remember children who have gone too soon. The service will also be live-streamed at www.qasparish.org. Email elizabethministry.qas@gmail.com with questions, or to request the name of a loved one to be read during the service.

Find more information about The Compassionate Friends organization and grief support at compassionatefriends.org.



Altar of Remembrance Items: As we continue to remember those who have died, we ask that pictures displayed and candles for those who passed away in the past year on our altar of remembrance be taken back as we soon will be approaching our Advent season.

PPC News: Greeters Wanted/ Next Mtg. is December 13

The parish council is getting a Welcoming Committee up and running to foster a sense of hospitality, ensuring that every parishioner, both longstanding and new, feels a genuine connection to our faith community.

We are starting the committee by looking for GREETERS to welcome those into church. If you are interested, please contact Tim Love at tim.1love@gmail.com.

The next parish pastoral council meeting will be on Wednesday, December 13 at 7:00 pm in the Ministry Center.



Meet our New Parish Pastoral Council Member, Krista Chinchilla- Patzke!

As I have been a parishioner at St. Gertrude since moving to Rogers Park with my family. I am originally from Guatemala and was raised in Southern California. My husband and I met on the East Coast, where we both studied theology and ministry.

Having prayed at many parishes across the country, St. Gertrude instantly became the community we could call our spiritual home. We fell in love with the Sunday liturgy: the energy, preaching, music, and other parishioners gave us a sense of belonging.

As a member of the Parish Pastoral Council, I hope to continue creating spaces where each parishioner and member of the neighborhood can grow around the table of the Lord. Outside of my ministry at St. Gertrude, I serve as the Liturgy Coordinator at Old St. Pat's.

***Holy Ground* Documentary Premiere is December 14 (and Fr. Paul Adaja is Interviewed!):**

The documentary *Holy Ground* is a history of Catholics in Chicago from the discovery of the area, all the way into the post-World War II era. The film looks at the role Billy Caldwell (a.k.a. Chief Sauganash) had in helping Chicago become settled, into the first immigrants to the Grosse Pointe area. *Holy Ground* features engaging historians, and showcases dozens of parishes, including St. Gert's associate pastor, Fr. Paul Adaja!

There is a free screening of the film on Thursday, December 14 at Landmark Glen, 1850 Tower Dr. in Glenview. Tickets are available at the box office for 5:30 pm and 8:00 pm.

Our Giving Tree Program

The Giving Trees are in the back of Church. We will again be asking for gift cards, rather than gifts. This allows flexibility for individuals to get what they need. The benefactors of the Giving Tree collections will be Care for Real and the St. Gertrude Refugee and Immigrant Ministry.

Care for Real is asking for gift cards in \$20.00 increments to Target, Jewel, and Walmart. They are also asking for Ventra passes. The Refugee Ministry is requesting \$20 gift cards to Target. We are also asking for \$10 McDonald's gift cards to provide immediate meals for those who request them.

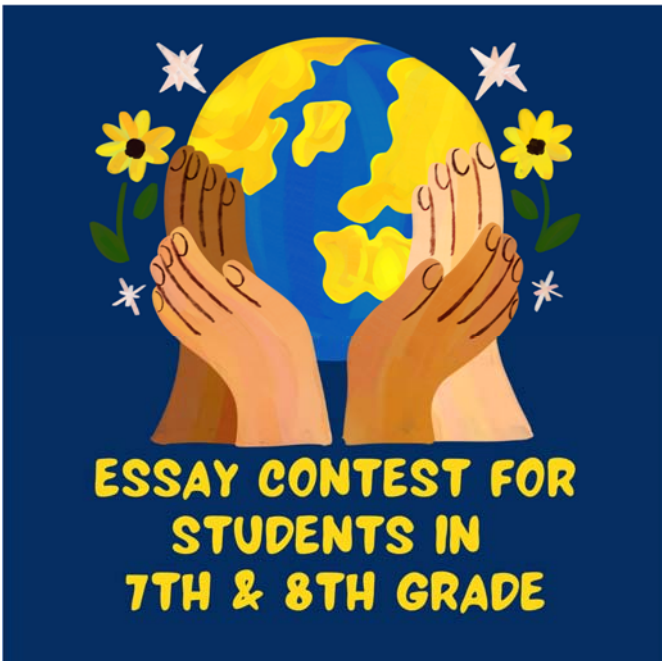
There are two boxes at the front of church, by the statue of Mary. One will be for Care for Real and one for the Refugee Ministry. Please place your gift cards into whichever organization you would like to support. The McDonald's gift cards can be placed in either box. The last chance to donate gift cards will be Sunday, December 17 at noon.

We hope that in this most joyous of seasons you will be able to support the Giving Tree program. Each gift card will allow others to be able to have a blessed and happy Christmas celebration.

If you have any questions, please reach out to the Giving Tree Program coordinator Joe McMahon at jpmgmu@aol.com or at 708.525.5051.



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.



Growing in Faith

So, are you a sheep or a goat?

Each time I read and reflect on Matthew's rich and profoundly moving parable of the Last Judgment, I find myself wondering where I will find myself "when all the nations will be assembled." Of course, I want to be identified as a sheep. Only in popular culture today, does someone want to be a G.O.A.T. (Greatest of All Time.)

What separates the sheep from the goats? From a reading of the Gospel passage, neither the sheep nor the goats see that it is Jesus whom they are encountering when they either reach out to or turn away from those who are broken, hurting, alienated, marginalized, imprisoned, or

oppressed. Both the sheep and the goats reply, with an element of surprise and wonder, in their shared blindness.

Gerard Manley Hopkins, the Jesuit priest and poet, wrote: "Christ plays in ten thousand places,/lovely in limbs, and lovely in eyes not his..." It is precisely because those identified as sheep instinctively sense that every person is imbued with the life of the Divine, that every person is of immense value, that all, as Thomas Merton exclaimed, "are shining like the sun," that they respond with compassionate love.

As we come to the end of this year of grace, we look with hope for the coming of Jesus the Christ. May we see his appearance in the faces of our sisters and brothers, in the cry of all who yearn for compassion, healing, hope, justice, and love. "Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for the least of my brothers and sisters, you did it for me." Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus!

~ Bob Backis

Christmas Eve Pageant at 5:00 pm Mass: Children & Adults Needed

As is our tradition during the Gospel at the Christmas Eve 5:00 pm Family Mass, the kids from St. Gertrude parish will act out the Christmas story.

We are looking for children ages 5 and older to participate in this charming production, and adults to help organize or be part of the event.

Please contact Eloy Escamilla at eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org if you and/or your children are interested in being a part of this special Mass.



Parish Information

Rest in Peace

- Constance "Connie" Chiumino
- James J. White, Jr., brother of Mary Ann Goode
- Nicholas Nardella, brother of John Nardella

New Parishioners

- William and Maureen Kelly

Please Pray for our Parishioners and Friends

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

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 25 at 5:00 pm - Patrick Reardon, Susan McKean
- Sunday, November 26 at 8:00 am - Art Lyons, David Sullivan
- Sunday, November 26 at 10:30 am - Rose Karasti, Mary Clare Barker

Altar Servers

- Sunday, November 26 at 10:30 am - Dominic Rubino, Abby Thomson; Wyatt Dant, Chimamanda Okoye, Acolytes

Eucharistic Ministers

- Saturday, November 26 at 5:00 pm - Tim Harrington
- Sunday, November 26 at 8:00 am - Hallie Burhoe
- Sunday, November 26 at 10:30 am - Bob Backis, Maria Ugarte, Carlos Barragan

Cantors and Musicians

- Saturday, November 25 at 5:00 pm - Denise Goodman
- Sunday, November 26 at 8:00 am - Kathryn Flynn
- Sunday, November 26 at 10:30 am - Michael Callahan

Mass Intentions

- **Monday, November 27:** 7:30 am - Purgatorial Society
- **Tuesday, November 28:** 7:30 am - Living & deceased parents of St. Gertrude parishioners
- **Wednesday, November 29:** 7:30 am - Norman H. Linke+
- **Thursday, November 30:** 7:30 am - Communion Service
- **Friday, December 1:** 7:30 am - Kelly Barone+
- **Saturday, December 2:** 7:30 am - People of God; 5:00 pm - Sheila McGuire+
- **Sunday, December 3:** 8:00 am - People of God; 10:30 am in church -Bernice Kiedysz+; 10:30 am Gym Mass - Janice Nelson Marrs+

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/allevnts

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

Mass Times/Reconciliation/Rectorry 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 Rectorry at 773.764.3621. **Our Advent Reconciliation Service is Sunday, December 17 at 1:00 pm in church.**
- The Rectorry 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.