

"Whoever wishes to come
after me must deny
themselves, take up their
cross, and follow me."

- Mark 27-34

St. Gertrude Chicago

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Bulletin for
Sunday, September 15, 2024
24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

From Fr. Mike Gabriel

During this beautiful month of September, many of our faith formation programs resumed, including Religious Education, Children's Liturgy of the Word, and RCIA.

We also have some excellent upcoming events! This Thursday, September 19, Sr. Wendy Cotter will discuss "Jesus and the Women of the Gospel" and on Wednesday, September 25, Commonweal Conversation will host an evening with Michelle Nickerson, parishioner and author of *Spiritual Criminals*.

There are other events coming up to help us and guide us through our journey. We value your participation in these programs, as well as your support, cooperation, and prayers that ultimately benefit our faith growth.

Faith formation is meant for all of us—from "cradle to grave." I especially want to invite anyone who may be interested to come to the many events throughout the year, especially as we continue responding to the challenges that we face.

New beginnings have the great potential for growth and new life if we nurture the seeds of faith through prayer, sacraments, and genuine effort. God gives the growth. Join me in prayer as we begin this new pastoral year growing in "wisdom, knowledge, and grace." May God guide us, bless us, and give us what we need.

May you experience in Christ great joy, peace, and fulfillment!

In God's love,

Fr. Mike

Beacons of Hope: The pope has declared this a Holy Year. I am asking the staff, Parish Council, and ministry leaders to keep the theme, Beacons of Hope, in mind as they plan their year out.

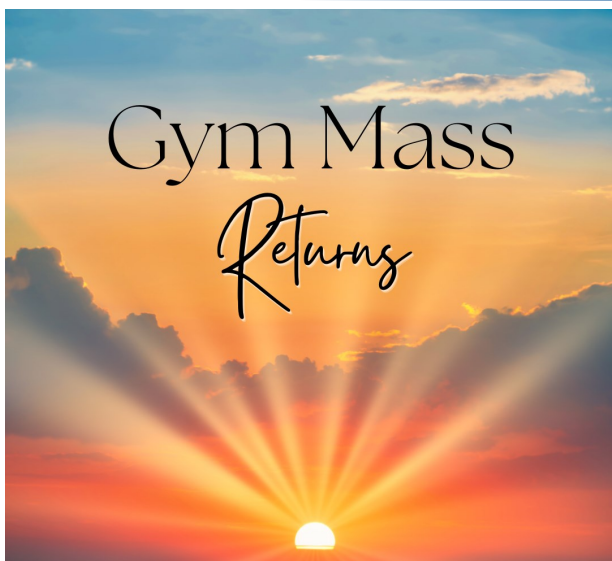
One of the traditional ways of celebrating the Holy Year is by taking a pilgrimage, a journey to a Holy Place, which can lead to a personal transformation, after which the pilgrim returns to their daily life. If anyone in the parish is interested in making a pilgrimage to Rome, there is an informational meeting on Monday, September 16 at 7:00 pm in the rectory front room, located at 1420 W. Granville Ave. This 100 kilometer walking pilgrimage would start in Viterbo, Italy and end in the city of Rome and be done during the month of March.

Free Bibles and Religious Books Giveaways on Sept. 14 & 15

There will be a table with free Bible and other religious books at the back of church after the 5:00 pm Mass on Saturday, September 14 and after the 8:00 am and 10:30 am Masses on Sunday, September 15.

Books will be given away on a first-come, first-served basis.

For questions or additional information, please contact Allen Stryczek at astryczek@sbcglobal.net.



Welcome Back to our Gym Mass!

This weekend, the Gym Mass returns at its regular 10:30 am time! This more casual Mass is held at 1401 West Granville Avenue.

The 2024 Gym Mass schedule will be posted on our parish website in the near future at <https://stgertrudechicago.org>.

"Jesus and the Women of the Gospels" Discussion on Thursday, September 19

The gospel stories and parables offer us details of Jesus' encounters with women, sometimes as petitioners, but also as friends and disciples.

In each of these, something of the soul of Jesus is revealed to us, his disciples, today.

Please join me on Thursday, September 19 in the Social Hall, 1401 W. Granville, from 7:00-9:00 pm.

~ Sister Wendy Cotter CSJ, Ph.D



Religious Ed Has Begun; Registration is Still Open

We are still accepting students in our 2024-2025 Religious Education program! In-person instruction is held on Sunday mornings from 9:15-10:15 am.

Registration forms, the Religious Ed handbook, and service options for students preparing for confirmation, can be found at stgertrudechicago.org/religious-education-forms.

Forms in Spanish are also available on our website. Please note that students must receive two years of preparation in order to make sacraments.

The fees for the 2024-2025 school year are \$210 for one child and an additional \$30 for each student from the same family. Payments will be accepted at the above page. An additional sacramental fee of \$65 is required for children making their First Communion and First Reconciliation, or their Confirmation.

Completed forms and any questions about the program should be emailed to Eloy Escamilla at eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org.

Interested in becoming a substitute catechist teacher? Contact Eloy Escamilla at the above email address.



Kids Word at 10:30 am Masses

On Sundays during the 10:30 am Mass in church, children aged 4-7 years-old are invited to attend Kids Word to hear an age-appropriate Gospel message and do fun, scripture-based activities, such as coloring or crafts, in the Rectory.

Children are invited by the celebrant to come to the altar before the readings and will return to church before the petitions.

Email eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org for details.

Guadalupanos Rosary Group (Grupo del Rosario de Guadalupanos) on Friday Evenings: All are welcome to attend the bilingual weekly Rosary group held on Friday evenings at 7:00 pm in the dining room of the Ministry Center, located at 6214 North Glenwood Avenue.



Youth Group Architectural Boat Cruise Outing Planned

Students in grades 7 and up are welcome to attend an architecture cruise on September 21 to hear about the history and architectural heritage of Chicago on this tour, which highlights landmarks such as the Chicago Riverwalk, Michigan Avenue Bridge, Wrigley Building, and Willis Tower.

The group will meet at St. Gertrude at 10:00 am and then take the train downtown. Please RSVP by September 14th. Reach out to Eloy Escamilla at eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org for additional information and to RSVP.

Two Upcoming Collections for Care for Real

We have two upcoming collections for Care for Real planned. Our monthly Food & Supply Drive for Care for Real is September 21 and 22. Please place nonperishable items in the bins at the back of church before and after mass times. Special needs this month include diapers in any sizes.

Our monthly collection for asylum seekers is October 5 and 6. Please place nonperishable items in the bins at the back of church. Items will be donated to Care for Real who is working hard to help these newly-arrived neighbors.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



SEMINARIAN EDUCATION FUND

The archdiocesan collection for the education and formation of our future priests.



Second Collection for Seminarian Education Fund Collection - September 21-22

The Annual Seminarian Appeal collection will take place the weekend of September 21-22. Your financial support helps cover the cost of their preparation, which includes tuition and fees, room and board, and health insurance. Please keep our seminarians in your prayers as they continue their journey toward the priesthood.

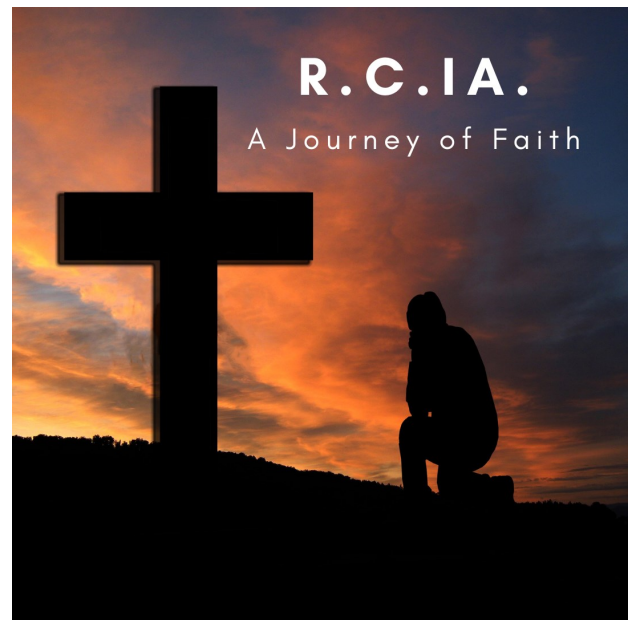
On behalf of all seminarians, thank you for your generosity.

Interested in Becoming Catholic?

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a process by which adults learn more about the Catholic Church. This free program begins in September and meets until Pentecost.

Many people who begin RCIA are non-Catholics seeking to become Catholic or at least to explore whether Catholicism might be a good home. Those who complete the process and decide to become Catholic are initiated into the Church at the Easter Vigil Mass on Holy Saturday. Others who take RCIA are already Catholic but want a deeper understanding of their faith foundation.

Contact Eloy Escamilla at eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org or call the Rectory at 773.764.3621 for more info.



Book Discussion with Author and Parishioner Michelle Nickerson on Wednesday, September 25

Recently, longtime parishioner, co-chair of the parish council, Loyola professor, Fulbright Scholar, and historian Michelle Nickerson released a book titled, *Spiritual Criminals: How the Camden 28 Put the Vietnam War on Trial*. On September 25, the parish group, Commonwealth Dialogue, will host a discussion with Michelle from 7:00-9:00 pm.

The book relates the harrowing real-life story of Catholics who burglarized draft boards to oppose the Vietnam War. Guided by the church's social teachings, they broke the law to revive non-violence as an activist strategy for advancing peace at the end of the 1960s. In the process, these activists exposed illegal activity by the FBI, forcing a new era of Congressional and judicial oversight of government surveillance in the United States. We hope to have books on sale in the back of the church in the near future.

October Follow-Up Discussion

On Friday, October 11th at 6:30 pm, Commonwealth Dialogue will continue the discussion of the book and its relevance for current political protests. This gathering of Commonwealth will be held in the first-floor chapel of the Ministry Center, located at 6214 North Glenwood Ave. Please RSVP for the October 11 gathering to John Williams at oolikar@gmail.com or Denise DeBelle at ddebelle@gmail.com so we are sure to have plenty of pizza and wine!



Growing in Faith

Christianity is a radical endeavor. Jesus was a revolutionary, not of the violent sort, but a revolutionary of the heart and of the spirit. Just listen to his words of this weekend's gospel:

"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny themselves, take up their cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it."

We Americans live in a society that is focused on comfort. Advertising and social media and much public discourse is about being comfortable — and about being upset that someone is making us uncomfortable. It's about my stuff and my taxes and my satisfaction. It's about me. It is as if the world has been created to make us feel good.

Jesus, though, said it's about us. That's the heart of Christianity or, at least, it should be. I "lose my life" and I "save my life" if I turn away from self-centeredness and turn toward others. Our faith is a recognition that we are not alone, we are woven into a community. Where two or more are gathered, there God is.

Our faith is about being open to others — about being able to listen, really listen, to who they are and to share, really share, who we are. This is the love of the gospels. God is love.

It's countercultural. It's radical and revolutionary. It's Christianity.

~ Patrick T. Reardon

Financial Report from Last Weekend

Sunday Collection Envelopes: \$2,604.00

Loose Checks: \$485.00

Loose Cash/Coins: \$714.72

Online Donations: \$11,475.33

Total Collected: \$15,279.05

Budgeted: \$ 10,000.00

Difference: \$5,279.05

Year-to-date Collected FY 2025: \$102,465.86

Year-to-date Budgeted FY 2025: \$550,000.00

Difference: -\$447,534.14



Parish Information

Upcoming Mass Intentions

- **Monday, September 16:** 7:30 am - Sheila McGuire+
- **Tuesday, September 17:** 7:30 am - Bernadette O'Reilly
- **Wednesday, September 18:** 7:30 am - Ben Keefe+
- **Thursday, September 19:** 7:30 am - Communion Service
- **Friday, September 20:** 7:30 am - Antoinette G. Linke+
- **Saturday, September 21:** 7:30 am - Purgatorial Society; 5:00 pm - Joe Shields+
- **Sunday, September 22:** 8:00 am - John Reilly; 10:30 am - Victor Reyes; 10:30 am Gym Mass - Billy Tobin+

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 is closed on weekends.
- For the most up-to-date information, visit stgertrudechicago.org.

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

Parish Staff and Contact Info

Rev. Michael Gabriel, Pastor—mgabriel@stgertrudechicago.org
Eloy Escamilla, Pastoral Associate—eescamilla@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.

Schedule for Ministers of the Word, Eucharistic Ministers, & Altar Servers

Ministers of the Word

- Saturday, September 14 at 5:00 pm - Patrick Reardon, Susan McKean
- Sunday, September 15 at 8:00 am - Jay Cook, Mary Clare Barker
- Sunday, September 15 at 10:30 am - Stephen Modde, Anthony Myers

Eucharistic Ministers

- Saturday, September 14 at 5:00 pm - Tim Harrington
- Sunday, September 15 at 8:00 am - Brynn Thomas
- Sunday, September 15 at 10:30 am - Lisa Schneider, Steven Monti, Maria Ugarte

Altar Servers

- Saturday, September 14 at 5:00 pm - Esteban Campuzano, cross bearer; Angel Garcia, acolyte
- Sunday, September 15 at 10:30 am - Mary Kate Cashman, cross bearer; Diarmuid McKeown and Kara Cunningham, acolytes

Please Pray for our Parishioners and Friends

- | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| • Victor Ayes | • Euman | • Andy Mueller |
| • Andrea Banicki | • Luke Fitzgerald | • Donald Nyderek |
| • Carlos Barragan | • Tim Giles | • Dealina Peon |
| • Patrick Barton | • Estelle Guardino | • Claude Poulsen |
| • Zara Bradley | • Gina Heidkamp | • Joan Ross + |
| • Lilly Buie | • Rochelle Hernandez | • Willy Spalla |
| • Hallie Burhoe | • Maria Hertl | • Floret Spalle |
| • The Buttitta family | • John Kahoun | • Elinora E. Tolentino |
| • Maggie Callaway | • Marilyn Klein | • Manuel & Norma Viray |
| • Aida Calvopina | • Carleen Lorys | • Leon Ward |
| • Claire Conley | • River Malik | • Ron Whitfield |
| • Denise DeBelle | • Matilde Manzardo | • Yyes Yoza |
| • David Denegas | • Janet McCulley | • Joel Pozzi Zio |
| • Ann Collins Dole | • Nancy Michael | |
| • Renee Elhoumaide | • Daniel Moore | |
| • Mr. and Mrs. Emin | • Hilda Mora | |

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.

Visit our Parish Website

For the latest parish events and information, including our live-streams, bulletins, rectory hours, events, and more, please visit our website at stgertrudechicago.org.