



Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory;
rather, humbly regard others as more important
than yourselves, each looking out not for his own
interests, but also for those of others.

Philippians 2: 3-4

St. Gertrude Chicago

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Bulletin for
Sunday,
September 27, 2026
26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Fr. Mike Bradley to Run the Chicago Marathon for Heart to Heart!

The annual Bank of America Chicago Marathon takes place on Sunday, October 11th, with 55,000 participants (including me) registered for this event. After being sidelined due to injuries, I'm once again lacing up my running shoes. God willing, this will be my 23rd Chicago Marathon. Overall, this will be my 54th marathon (26.2 miles) or ultra-marathon (31 miles). I feel blessed to be participating—even though my pace has really slowed down!

Today I'm asking you to please donate to Heart to Heart, Saint Gertrude Parish's outreach ministry to older residents and shut-ins living in the Edgewater community (and other neighborhoods of Chicago). One hundred percent of your donation goes to Heart to Heart.

As you are aware, many people rely on Heart to Heart for transportation to the grocery store, the doctor's office, or church. Often enough, they look forward to a friendly phone call or a pastoral visit from a parish volunteer. Under the leadership of our pastor, Father Sergio Romo, and the direction of Sister Susan Quaintance, a member of the Benedictine Order, Heart to Heart helps many individuals and families. With Laurie Hasbrook's efforts, Heart to Heart also operates a lending closet of durable medical equipment, which provides critical support to people all over Chicagoland.





Fr. Mike Bradley to Run the Chicago Marathon for Heart to Heart! (cont.)

I'm also offering T-shirts that you can purchase to support Heart to Heart. Become a member of the "SAINT GERT'S MARATHON CREW"! Shirts will be on sale in the vestibule of the church. All contributions go to Heart to Heart.

Without a doubt, I need your prayers to help me reach the finish line on October 11th. Please send your prayer requests to my email address (listed below), and I'll write your intentions on a card that

I'll tape onto my arm. I promise to pray for your intentions while walking/running the 26.2 miles on the marathon course. I'm dedicating this marathon to the memory of Father Dominic Grassi, who passed away on August 25. Father Dom was a joyful supporter of my running, an enthusiastic contributor to Heart to Heart, and a dear friend.

With heartfelt appreciation for all your prayers and support,

Father Michael Bradley
Mbradley2222@yahoo.com

Sister Susan Quaintance, OSB
Director of Heart to Heart

How to Support Fr. Mike and Heart to Heart

Donate online at bit.ly/4yV4JXF, using the QR code above, or via a check at church or dropped off at the Rectory. Please add Fr. Mike's name in the memo line.

Info About Gym Mass

Join us Sundays at 10:30 am for our Gym Mass at 1401 W. Granville Ave. Due to the priest shortage, the Gym Mass schedule is planned one week in advance. Please check the e-bulletin for the most current schedule, or contact the parish office at 773-764-3621, Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-4:30 pm, or email news@stgertrudechicago.org to be added to the Gym Mass email list.

We look forward to gathering with you!





From Cardinal Cupich: Second Collection for Seminarian Education

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

This past May, our Holy Father Pope Leo XIV issued his first encyclical letter entitled *Magnifica humanitas: On Safeguarding the Human Person in the Time of Artificial Intelligence*. We stand at a decisive moment in human history, and the Church offers teaching and guidance that can draw us into a healthy future. To serve that future, we also need holy and wise priests. Be aware that we all share

responsibility to foster and support vocations to the priesthood.

In the Archdiocese of Chicago, some of our seminarians are in the pre-seminary spiritual year at Bishop Quarter House in the city. Others are completing their college studies at the University of St. Thomas in Saint Paul, Minnesota. Finally, those in the last four-year phase of preparation are being formed at Mundelein Seminary. Again, supporting vocations to the priesthood is a task that belongs to all of us in the Church. You can express that support in four ways:

- Pray for vocations and our seminarians in preparation
- Encourage those seminarians serving in your parish
- Urge young men to give their lives in service as priests, and
- Make a financial contribution to support our programs of priestly formation.

Prayer, encouragement, recruiting and financial support—all these actions express our gratitude to God for the gift of priestly ministry. These actions also build for the future of our Church and for our children and grandchildren. I would note that given that our seminarians need to invest themselves totally in formation, they are not able to work. Thus, it is up to us to cover the costs not only for their education but other expenses such as health insurance and other personal support.

An offering envelope is in your pew or at the back of the church for your financial gift.

You may also send your donation directly to your parish, noting that it is for “Seminarian Education,” or you may make a gift online at archchicago.org/seminarianfund. If you wish to make a gift to support seminary education in memory of a family member, as others have done, do not hesitate to contact Kirsten Trybula at ktrybula@archchicago.org or at 847.899.0010.

Thank you for your generous response and may God continue to bless you abundantly.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Cardinal Blase Cupich, Archbishop of Chicago

Altar Server Training Available This Monday, September 28

Share your gifts and become more involved in the celebration of Mass by serving as an altar server!

Altar Server training will be held on Monday, September 28, at 6:30 pm in the church. Students in 4th grade and older are invited to attend and learn more about this important ministry.

Altar servers play an important role in supporting the priest and assisting with the celebration of Mass. No previous experience is necessary—just a willingness to learn and serve!



To learn more, contact Eloy Escamilla at eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org.



This Year's Pet Blessing is Saturday, October 3

The Feast of St. Francis of Assisi is October 4, which falls on a Sunday. This year, we will celebrate it with a Blessing of the Pets on Saturday, October 3 (the day before the feast day) at 11:00 am on the church steps.

Please join us with your furry, feathery, or scaly loved ones! A reception will be held afterwards.

Upcoming Bulletin Change: Ads Accepted!

St. Gertrude will soon transition to a new printing company, LPI. The back page of our bulletin will feature local business advertisements, helping offset printing costs.

If you own a local business and are interested in advertising, please email news@stgertrudechicago.org to be connected with LPI.

Thank you for supporting our parish and helping make our weekly bulletin possible!



Friendship Club is October 8

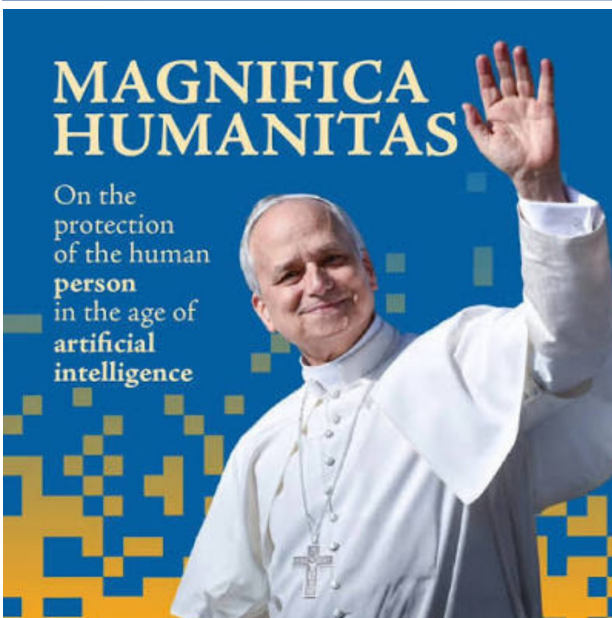
The St. Gertrude Women's Friendship Club meets on the second Thursday of each month in the Ministry Center, 6214 N. Glenwood Ave. Gatherings begin at 11:30 am, and participants are invited to bring a brown-bag lunch.

Join us for fellowship, conversation, and friendship!

October Book Club

Join the St. Gertrude Book Club on Tuesday, October 13, at 6:30 pm in the Ministry Center, 6214 N. Glenwood Ave., as we discuss *Once There Were Wolves* by Charlotte McConagh.

New members are always welcome, and we would love to hear your perspectives! For more information, contact Lea Cloninger at [773.213.0509](tel:773.213.0509).



Save the Date: Forum on Magnifica Humanitas

Join Commonweal Action/Commonweal Dialogue on Friday, October 23, from 6:30–8:30 pm in the Social Hall for a discussion of Pope Leo's recent encyclical, *Magnifica Humanitas*, which explores humanity and artificial intelligence.

Professor Joseph Vukov of Loyola University Chicago will lead the discussion and explore the encyclical's implications as we navigate the rapidly changing world of AI.

Please read *Magnifica Humanitas* before the forum: <https://bit.ly/3Tf0Opj>

Pizza and wine will be served. Contributions are welcome.

It's Not Too Late to Register for Religious Ed Classes

Registration is still open for St. Gertrude's 2026–2027 Religious Education program! Classes meet Sundays at 9:15 am. It's not too late for your child to join us for a year of faith, learning, and growth.

Children will learn about their Catholic faith, grow in their relationship with God, pray together, and build friendships within our parish community.

If you have not yet registered your child, registration information—including the calendar, parent handbook, online registration forms, and tuition information—is available in both English and Spanish at stgertrudechicago.org/religious-education. In-person registration is also available by appointment.



We look forward to seeing our Religious Education families next Sunday!

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



Interested in Becoming Catholic or Completing Your Sacraments?

Registration for the 2026–2027 Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) process is still open!

OCIA (formerly known as RCIA) is for adults who are interested in learning about the Catholic faith and becoming Catholic, as well as baptized Catholics who have not yet received the Sacraments of Eucharist or Confirmation.

Classes provide an opportunity for prayer, learning, and faith-sharing in a welcoming community. If you

or someone you know is interested in learning more about OCIA at St. Gertrude, contact Eloy Escamilla by calling the Rectory at 773.764.3621 or emailing eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org.



Growing in Faith

In my early 20s, as a Franciscan postulant and a bit self-righteously full of myself, having recently experienced a renewal and adult embrace of the Christian faith, I was taken aback when, during the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a priest friar suggested that one of my primary sins was a lack of gratitude.

His words opened a door and introduced me to a spiritual life much more expansive, deeper, and essentially more complex than simply thinking about the Ten Commandments and which of them I had violated in my choices and actions, though these are still important.

For Brother Francis of Assisi, Italy, praise and thanksgiving to God were absolutely and intimately linked to praise and thanksgiving of all living creatures. In his Canticum of the Sun, Francis' anthropomorphizing, attributing human form to and calling the Sun, Moon, Stars, Wind, Water, Fire, Earth, and even Death, his brothers, sisters, and mother, flowed from a profound awareness and appreciation of how much his very existence depended on and was sustained by his Creator through all creation.

That priest friar saw, in how I responded to some of the brothers in my community, in my quickness to judge and place myself above them, a lack of gratitude for all the good I had received in my life and a lack of awareness that we are all "friars minor," as Francis wanted the brothers to be called, humble brothers of the same Creator and same Mother Earth, *"which sustains and keeps us and brings forth diverse fruits with grass and flowers bright."*

Jim Manzardo

Financial Report from September 19-20

Sunday Collection Envelopes: \$1,798.00
Loose Checks: \$240.00
Loose Cash/Coins: \$756.00
Online Donations: \$4,414.00
Total Collected: \$7,208.00
Budgeted: \$10,000.00
Difference: -\$2,792.00
YTD Collected FY 2027: \$110,298.56
YTD Budgeted FY 2027: \$550,000.00
Difference: -\$439,701.44



Neighborhood News

Family Resource Reception and LGBTQ+ Family Mass This Sunday, September 27

AGLOChicago, the Archdiocese of Chicago's ministry for pastoral outreach and spiritual accompaniment for the LGBTQ+ community, invites families, parish communities, and staff to the **Second Annual Family Resource Reception and LGBTQ+ Family Mass** on **Sunday, September 27, at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, 708 W. Belmont Ave.**

The evening offers a welcoming, prayerful space for families to connect, ask questions, explore resources, and strengthen their connection to Catholic parish life.

5:00 pm – Family Resources Reception

Parish Ministry Center

Connect with affirming parishes, schools, and organizations that support LGBTQ+ individuals and their families.

7:00 pm – LGBTQ+ Family Mass

Main Church

A liturgy celebrating families and loved ones, remembering those who have passed, and offering a special blessing for all who accompany the LGBTQ+ community.

Sunday
Sept. 27

**Connection+
Celebration:**
AGLOChicago's
2nd Annual Archdiocese
**Family Resource Reception
and LGBTQ+ Family Mass**



One Family. One Community. One Church.



Upcoming Changes to Our Parish Bulletin

St. Gertrude will soon transition to a new bulletin printing company, LPI. As part of this change, the back page of our bulletin will feature advertisements from local businesses, helping offset printing costs.

Own a local business? Consider advertising in our bulletin and supporting St. Gertrude while reaching our parish community. For more information, email news@stgertrudechicago.org and we will connect you with LPI.

Thank you for supporting our parish bulletin!

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

Ministers of the Word

- Saturday, September 26 at 5:00 pm - Jennifer Kiedaisch, Patrick Reardon
- Sunday, September 27 at 8:00 am - Hallie Burhoe, Carol Ann Munro
- Sunday, September 27 at 10:30 am - Sarah Millar, Theo Fletcher

Eucharistic Ministers

- Saturday, September 26 at 5:00 pm - Kathleen Wall
- Sunday, September 27 at 8:00 am - Anthony Myers
- Sunday, September 27 at 10:30 am - Ellen Pierce, Bob Backis, Patrick Robinson

Altar Servers

- Saturday, September 26 at 5:00 pm - cross bearer: Carter Dant; acolytes: Wyatt Dant, Owen Craft
- Sunday, September 27 at 10:30 am - cross bearer: Kora Cunningham; acolytes: Daniel Cunningham, Diarmuid McKeown

Please Pray for our Parishioners and Friends

- | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| • Robert Actaboski | • Patricia White Holmes | • Delphine Richert |
| • Susan Actaboski | • Gertrude Huisman | • Joan Ross |
| • Victor Ayes | • Tony Hunter | • Rosa Ott Sandoval |
| • Carlos Barragan | • Forrest Ingram | • Sherwin |
| • Patrick Barton | • John Kahoun | • Willy Spalla |
| • Zara Bradley | • Mary E. Kelley | • Floret Spalle |
| • Maggie Callahan | • Marilyn Klein | • Mary Pierce Spalla |
| • Terrence Carmichael | • Jim Laczkowski | • Frannie Swaine |
| • Cavicke Family | • Joseph Lambin | • Marie Tarallo |
| • Mary DeBois | • Carleen Lorys | • Christopher Thomas |
| • David Denegas | • Roland Mady | • Elinora E. Tolentino |
| • Ann Collins Dole | • River Malik | • Joe Touchstone |
| • Renee Elhoumaidi | • James Mann | • Manuel & Norma Viray |
| • Mr. and Mrs. Emin Euman | • Alex Marks | • Tayana Wallace |
| • Luke Fitzgerald | • Theresa McMahan | • King Wallace |
| • Adolf Gabriel | • Nancy Michael | • Christian Wallace |
| • Marie Galoney | • Steve Monti | • Kevin Walsh |
| • Thomas Hajduch | • Hilda Mora | • Leon Ward |
| • Anne Marie Hamde | • John Nardella | • Janice Wittenberg |
| • Anne Hasselbeck | • Patti Paul | • Dawn Wyman |
| • Mary Herbin-Horan | • Dealina Peon | • Yyes Yoza |
| • Rochelle Hernandez | • Claude Poulsen | • Joel Pozzi Zio |
| • Tricia Hernandez | • Brad Rice | |
| • Maria Hertl | • Pam Rice | |

Upcoming Mass Intentions

- Monday, September 28: 7:30 am - Communion Service
- Tuesday, September 29: 7:30 am
- Wednesday, September 30: 7:30 am
- Thursday, October 1: 7:30 am
- Friday, October 2: 7:30 am
- Saturday, October 3: 5:00 pm - Fr. Dominic Grassi+
- Sunday, October 4: 8:00 am; 10:30 am - T. Carl & Barbara Thomas+; Gym Mass

Mass Times/Rectory Office Hours/Reconciliation

- Sunday: 8:00 & 10:30 am Mass in Church, 10:30 am Gym Mass (determined week by week if a priest is available); Monday-Friday: 7:30 am; Saturday: 5:00 pm; The office is open Monday-Friday from 8:30 am-4:30 pm and is closed on weekends.
- Reconciliation is offered on Saturdays from 4:15-4:45 pm in church or by appointment by calling the Rectory at 773.764.3621.

Parish Staff and Contact Info

Rev. Sergio Romo, Pastor—sromo@stgertrudechicago.org

Patricia Branigan, Events/Room Booking Contact—pbranigan@stgertrudechicago.org

Janie Carrillo, Parish Secretary—jcarrillo@stgertrudechicago.org

Eloy Escamilla, Pastoral Associate—eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org

Jonathan Hannau, Music Director—jhannau@stgertrudechicago.org

Laurie Hasbrook, Heart to Heart Lending Closet Manager—call 773.973.5464

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

Tracy Shields, Communications Director—tshields@stgertrudechicago.org

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

Heart to Heart/Lending Closet 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.

Contact the Parish Pastoral Council

The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) can be reached at stgertrudeparishcouncil@gmail.com.

Donate to our Parish

- PayPal link - visit our parish website at www.stgertrudechicago.org
- GiveCentral: www.givecentral.org/location/8/allevants

Visit our Parish Website

For the latest parish events, bulletins, and news, go to stgertrudechicago.org.