

St. Gertrude Chicago

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www.stgertrudechicago.org

Bulletin for

Sunday, September 4, 2022

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

From Fr. Rich

Labor Day

Please join us for Mass to begin your Labor Day on Monday, September 5 at 7:30 am. The Rectory office will be closed.

Monday, Labor Day, is our national holiday celebrating the value and virtue of work, as well as the obligation for fair wages, health benefits, retirement plans, etc. Gainful, healthy employment not only helps us to be better human beings, but it also contributes to the good of our community and the broader world. Let us be mindful this Labor Day of how blessed we are, and how many people are in need of these basic human concerns.

9/11 Remembered

Next Sunday, September 11, we commemorate the 21st anniversary of the attacks on our nation. Let us be mindful of all those who lost their lives in those attacks, on all their family members and loved ones still feeling the pain of those losses. And let us also pray for remaining conscientious of all the divisions in our own nation and in the world that so often end up in violence because other options are either not tried or found to be failures. In any human situation, whenever it turns to violence, it means we have failed as human beings. Let us ask God for the help, courage, and wisdom to be tireless in pursuing peace in all situations.

The Parish Potluck is Next Sunday, September 11!

I hope to see many of you at our Parish Potluck Picnic on Sunday, September 11 from 11:30 am - 2:00 pm in the parking lot at Glenwood and Thome. You can drop off chairs and coolers in the parking lot before the 10:30 am Mass and members of the Parish Council will be there to receive them and keep them safe during Mass.

The same is true with desserts and/or side dishes, which can be brought to the Ministry Center and stored safely until after Mass. The parish will provide fried chicken and water. We will also have plates and napkins and some glasses/cups. We also encourage everyone to consider bringing their own dishes and utensils to reduce waste and work towards being a little greener.

Please RSVP to <https://bit.ly/ParishPotluck> and sign up for a dish to bring.

Are you interested in participating in this gathering, but can't attend an in person event at this time? Please RSVP and in the comments write "*can't attend in person*" with your phone number. We will reach out to you about a virtual option.

NEXT SUNDAY IS OUR PARISH POTLUCK

Sunday, September 11

11:30 am-2:00 pm

in the church parking

lot at Glenwood &

Thome

Fr. Rich (continued)

Misericordia Family Fest— Sunday, September 11

We also encourage everyone, after stopping by the parish picnic, to walk over to Misericordia and support them in their celebration of Family Fest!

This is the 40th annual Family Fest and will take place from 11:00 am-6:00 pm at 6300 N. Ridge Blvd. Proceeds support Misericordia's programs for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Tickets are available online and at the door. Visit <https://www.misericordia.com/store/fest-tickets/> or call 773.273.2768 for more information.

Reflection for the 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

What ties up our free will? What binds up our freedom to live and do as we want for what is best for us? These are not new human questions, but the ones that have concerned humanity for millennia. In today's Epistle reading from St. Paul's letter to Philomen, Paul uses as an example of the true effects of living the Gospel with Onesimus, a free man that was once his former slave. As was understood in that time, and throughout history, as a slave, he was not even considered a human being. But now Paul claims he is no longer a slave, and he is now more than a slave, he is a brother! What an amazing elevation in rank and relationship! And all because of the faith shared and lived in Christ Jesus.

Our "enslavement" is of a different kind. We become bound up in things of lesser value. As we hear in the Gospel, Jesus is concerned when we get far too attached to the things of the earth and leave aside the things of heaven. His examples make clear that when we do that, we are into some very poor planning. The things of this earth will all pass away, but the things of heaven will be here for eternity.

Perhaps we can spend some time this week reflecting on what things may have "sneaked" up on us and have now become rather than insignificant are now determining how we live! Money and power and every addictive substance falls into this category. But so also can the number of hours we work and the place it takes in our lives -- instead of the more important items such as relationships and practices of kindness, forgiveness, mercy, and charity.

Choir Resumes on September 11

The 10:30 am choir will resume next weekend! New members are welcome, as well as cantors interested in singing at the 10:30 am and other weekend Masses. The group practices on Sunday mornings at 9:40 am and on Thursday nights at 7:00 pm when we have special music.

To join or for more information, contact Mary Clare Barker at mcbarker@stgertrudechicago.org or 773.764.3621.



The poster features the Misericordia Heart of Mercy logo at the top left, which consists of a red heart with a white cross inside. To the right of the logo, the text reads "MISERICORDIA HEART OF MERCY". The main title "Family Fest" is written in large, bold, red letters. Below the title, it says "11am - 6pm Food, Games & Fun for the whole family!". The date "Sunday, September 11, 2022" is prominently displayed in red, followed by the ticket prices "Adults \$10 Children \$5". At the bottom, the location "Misericordia Heart of Mercy 6300 N. Ridge Ave. (at Devon) in Chicago" is listed, along with the note "FREE Parking available at S&C Electric with shuttle buses available throughout the day." On the right side of the poster, there is an illustration of a young boy holding a large bunch of colorful balloons, and a red wheelchair is shown at the bottom right corner.



Countdown to Classes! Religious Ed Begins Sept. 18!

Registration is now open for our 2022-2023 Religious Education program! Classes will begin on Sunday, September 18, with in-person instruction held on Sunday mornings from 9:15-10:15 am at Northside Catholic Academy.

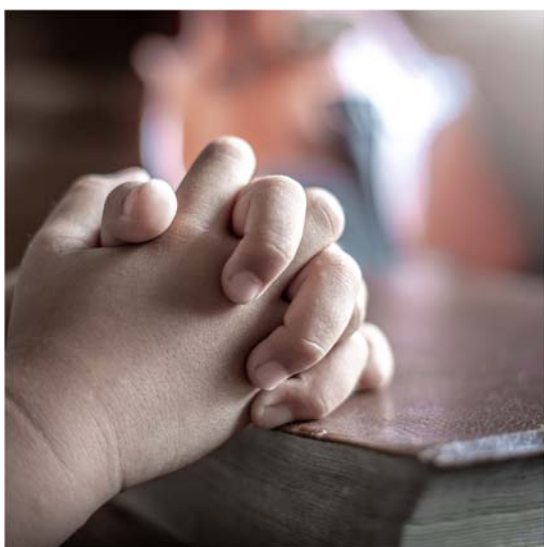
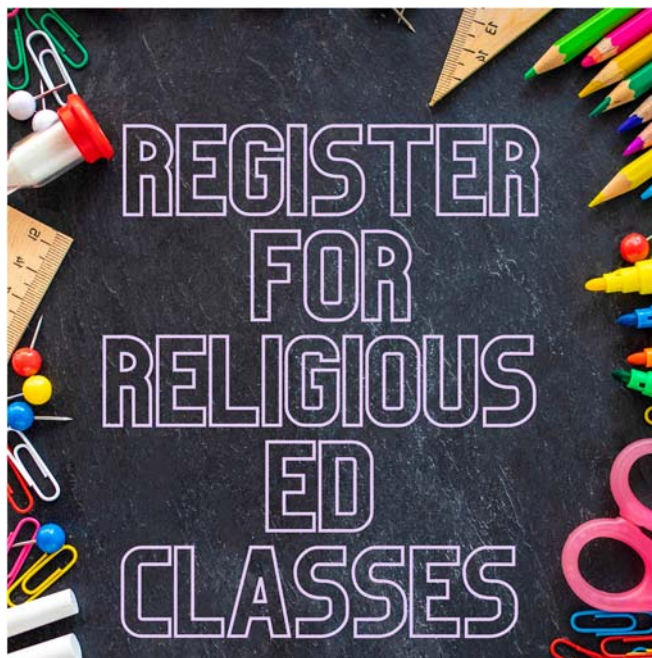
All Religious Ed forms can be found at <https://stgertrudechicago.org/religious-education-news>, including a Religious Ed registration form, the calendar of classes for the year, and this year's handbook in English and Spanish.

Parents of students making their First Communion/Reconciliation or their Confirmation this year should also fill out a sacramental registration form. Confirmation candidates also require additional paperwork, which can be found at <https://bit.ly/ConfirmationForms>, along with the deadlines. Please note that students must receive two years of preparation in order to make these sacraments.

The fees for the 2022-2023 school year are \$210 for one child and an additional \$30 for each student from the same family. Tuition can be paid online at <https://bit.ly/RelEdTuition>.

An additional sacramental fee of \$65 is required for children making their First Communion and First Reconciliation, or their Confirmation. That fee can be paid at <https://bit.ly/SacramentalFee>.

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



Kids Word on Sundays at 10:30 am Masses Beginning September 18

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 will be 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.

Catechists Needed: We are looking for catechists to teach in our parish's Religious Ed and Kids Word programs this Fall! Please consider offering your time and talents to help our young people learn about and grow in their faith. If you have any questions, please reach out to pastoral associate Eloy Escamilla at eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org or call 773.764.3621.



Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass

Couples celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary from across the Archdiocese of Chicago are invited to gather together for the Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass that will be celebrated by Cardinal Cupich on Sunday, September 18 at 2:30 pm.

The Mass will be held at Holy Name Cathedral. For more information and to register, visit <https://pvm.archchicago.org/events/golden-wedding>.

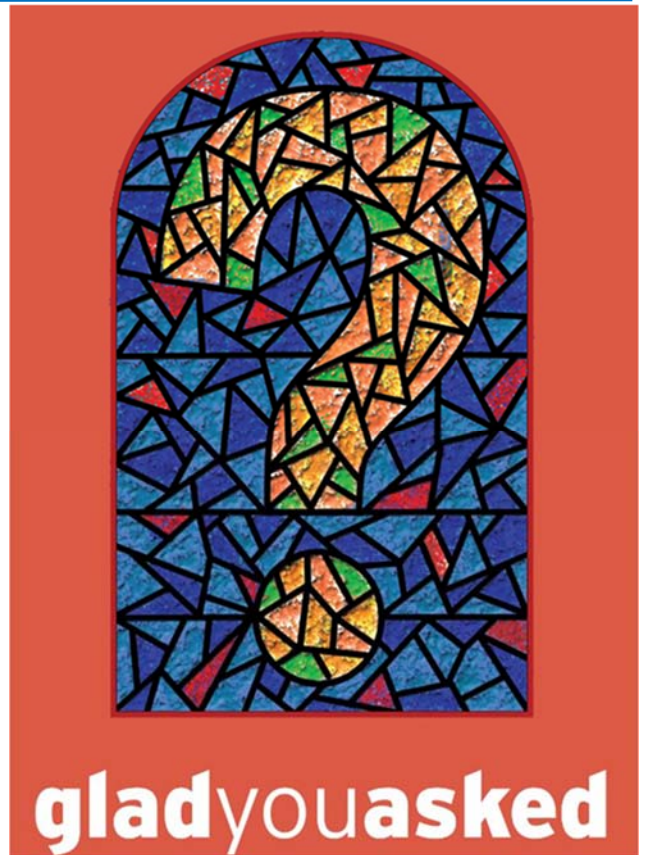
New Catholic Podcast

Have you ever had a question about Catholicism that you couldn't find an easy answer to? Or a question about a teaching or tradition that seemed to have five different answers, none of them satisfactory?

Glad You Asked, hosted by editors Emily Sanna and Rebecca Bratten Weiss, explores some of the questions about Catholicism that don't have obvious answers—questions that open doors to more in-depth discussion of Catholic history, tradition, and the development of teachings.

Whether you're unfamiliar with Catholicism and simply interested in learning more about a major world religion, a convert trying to find your way around a new faith community, or a lifetime Catholic with a longing for thoughtful, empathetic, responsible conversation, the *Glad You Asked* podcast has something to keep your mind and your heart engaged.

You can subscribe to *Glad You Asked* on Apple Podcasts or Spotify.



Take Advantage of Higher Payout Rates!

For the first time since 2018, charitable gift annuity payout rates have increased – allowing you the opportunity to benefit more from your giving and to help ensure that God's good work continues. When you establish a charitable gift annuity with the archdiocese, not only will you receive fixed payments for life, but you can designate our parish as the remainder beneficiary.

You can schedule payments according to your financial needs, and enjoy immediate and future tax benefits, including a federal income tax deduction for a portion of your gift, if you itemize. Also, a portion of each annuity payment will be tax-free (through life expectancy).

Contact Eduardo Soto at esoto@stgertrudechicago.org or 773.764.3621 for more information or visit giving.archchicago.org/cga.

RCIA

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

RCIA Begins September 18!

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a process by which adults learn more about the Catholic Church. This free

program begins September 18 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.

The RCIA process does not ask those who have been baptized in another faith to give up their denominational experiences. Rather, the RCIA process seeks to add new colors and designs to their existing faith life tapestry. In addition to attending Mass, the RCIA process includes weekly gatherings of breaking open the Word of God, sharing our stories, and learning about our faith traditions.

If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about the RCIA process at St. Gertrude, contact me at eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org or call the Rectory at 773.764.3621. The RCIA meeting schedule is available here: <https://bit.ly/RCIACalendarUpdated>.

~ Eloy Escamilla, Pastoral Associate

Discussion on the Seamless Garment on September 19

The Peace and Justice Ministry will host the final Fireside Chat on Monday, September 19 from 7:00-8:30 pm on the Rectory lawn.

We will discuss how our Christian faith informs how we feel about the Seamless Garment (sanctity of life, conception to natural death).

Bring your lawn chair, a beverage of your choice, and snacks to share, if you choose.

Attendees are asked to read articles about the Seamless Garment that will be shared in future bulletins.



Current Rectory Office Hours: The office is open Monday - Friday from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm and Saturday from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm.

Please note, the office will be closed on Labor Day.

Visit the St. Gertrude parish website at <https://stgertrudechicago.org/> for the latest news and event information.



PreCana Class at St. Gertrude on October 15

Are you an engaged couple planning on getting married at St. Gertrude? Couples that have established a connection with Fr. Rich (or another priest) are invited to attend St. Gertrude's PreCana course on Saturday, October 15.

This full day, in-person gathering is dedicated to considering your life together as a married couple. Led by a facilitator couple from St. Gertrude, the session begins at 9:00 am and features presentations, prayers, and discussions with your partner and other couples. Lunch and snacks are provided.

Couples can register for the October session by calling the Rectory office at 773.764.3621 or by filling out an online form at <https://stgertrudechicago.org/marriage>. The cost of PreCana is covered by the church fee couples planning a wedding at St. Gertrude are charged.

Additional PreCana classes at St. Gertrude will be offered on January 21, 2023, April 15, 2023, and September 9, 2023.

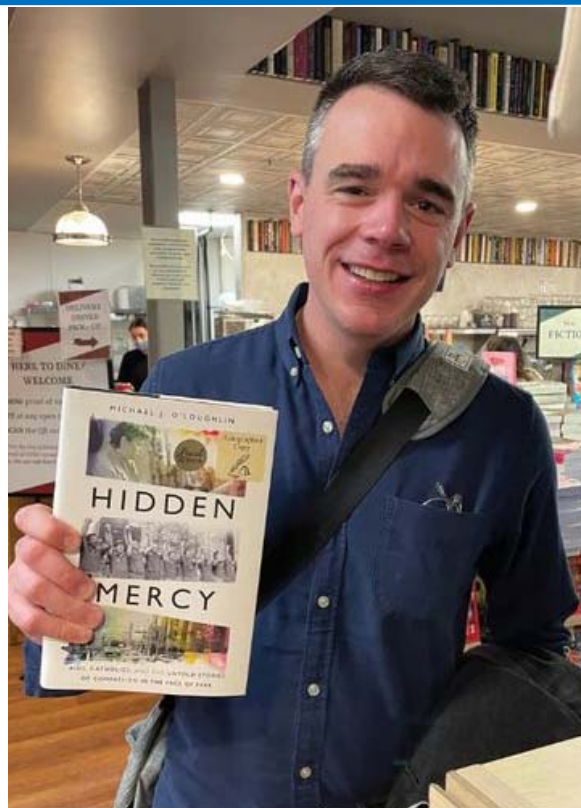
Hidden Mercy - A Conversation with the Author on October 19

Everyone is invited to join a conversation with Michael O'Loughlin, author of *Hidden Mercy: AIDS, Catholics and the Untold Stories of Compassion in the Face of Fear*, on Tuesday, October 18 at 7:00 pm.

This is a jointly sponsored event between St. Gertrude and The Hank Center for Catholic Intellectual Heritage at Loyola University.

The event will be held in Loyola University's McCormick Lounge, located on the first floor of Coffey Hall, 1000 W. Sheridan Rd.

We hope to see you there!



Help for Ukraine: More than 10 million Ukrainians have fled for their lives to neighboring countries—leaving behind homes, jobs and everything familiar.

If you would like to donate to help the Ukrainian people, please consider making a contribution to Catholic Relief Services for emergency aid to the people in Ukraine at <https://support.crs.org/donate/donate-ukraine>.



Growing in Faith

Pope Francis has addressed the world in his letter about the Care of Creation. It's too long to print here, but we've excerpted part of it. Find the entire letter at <https://bit.ly/Careforcreation2022>.

Dear brothers and sisters!

"Listen to the voice of creation" is the theme ... of this year's Season of Creation. [From Sept 1st, the "World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation" to Oct 4th, the Feast of Saint Francis.] It is a special time for all Christians to pray and work together to care for our common home. [...] If we learn how to listen, we can hear in the voice of creation a kind of dissonance. On

the one hand, we can hear a sweet song in praise of our beloved Creator; on the other, an anguished plea, lamenting our mistreatment of this our common home.

The sweet song of creation invites us to [practice] an "ecological spirituality" attentive to God's presence in the natural world. It [summons us] to base our spirituality on the "loving awareness that we are not disconnected from the rest of creatures, but joined in a splendid universal communion." (Laudato Si).

Tragically, that sweet song is accompanied by a cry of anguish. [No: a chorus of anguished cries! ...] It is our sister, mother earth, who cries out. Prey to our consumerist excesses, she... implores us to put an end to our abuses and to her destruction.

Listening to these anguished cries, we must repent and modify our lifestyles and destructive systems. [...] As persons of faith, we feel ourselves even more responsible for acting each day in accordance with the summons to conversion.

~ Pope Francis

Rest in Peace

- Frank Bornhofen
- Thomas Wilczynski
- Gilda Wrenn

Baptisms

- William Archer Antonik, son of Jonathan Antonik and Grace Barranco Laxamana
- Kaiden Leo Alave-Woods, son of Krissi Alave and Kira Woods

Cantors, Ministers of the Word, and Eucharistic Ministers

Ministers of the Word:

- Saturday, September 3 at 5:00 pm - Millie Slane
- Sunday, September 4 at 8:00 am - Westley Dingman
- Sunday, September 4 at 10:30 am - Stephen Modde

Eucharistic Ministers:

- Saturday, September 3 at 5:00 pm - Mary Cook
- Sunday, September 4 at 8:00 am - Hallie Burhoe
- Sunday, September 4 at 10:30 am - Steve Monti, Victoria Healy, Bob Backis

Cantors:

- Saturday, September 3 at 5:00 pm - Amir Ghazaleh
- Sunday, September 4 at 8:00 am - Denise Goodman
- Sunday, September 4 at 10:30 am - Michael Luas

Mass Intentions

- **Monday, September 5:** 7:30 am - Carol McRaith +
- **Tuesday, September 6:** 7:30 am - Claudia Bellendir
- **Wednesday, September 7:** 7:30 am - Living and deceased parents of St. Gertrude parishioners
- **Thursday, September 8:** 7:30 am - Communion Service
- **Friday, September 9:** 7:30 am - Purgatorial Society
- **Saturday, September 10:** 7:30 am - Living and deceased Torreano family members; 5:00 pm - Edward Joseph Bagnell +
- **Sunday, September 11:** 8:00 am - Edward Joseph Bagnell +; 10:30 am - Parishioners of St. Gertrude
(+ indicates the person is deceased)

Mass Times/Weekly Reconciliation

- Sunday— 8:00 am & 10:30 am
- 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.

Please Pray for our Parishioners and Friends

- | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| • Pamela Sherrod Anderson | • Christine Frisoni | • Larry McCauley |
| • Zara Bradley | • Shirley Marie Gonzales | • Molly Morris |
| • Sharon Brown | • Gina Heidkamp | • Karey Myers |
| • Lilly Buie | • Maria Hertl | • Richard Seitz |
| • Claire Bushey | • Daniel Hidalgo | • Peggy Stoffel |
| • Maggie Callaway | • Bernice Kiedysz | • The Sullivan family |
| • Aida Calvopina | • Marilyn Klein | • Elinora E. Tolentino |
| • KC Conway | • Steve Laslo | • Manuel & Norma Viray |
| • Connie Cool | • Roy Lipscomb | • Leon Ward |
| • Caloy Desembrana | • Sheila McGuire | • Ken & Vyes Yoza |
| • Ann Collins Dole | • Dean Mattoni | |

Donate to our Parish

Parishioners can donate to St. Gertrude:

- 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

Email esoto@stgertrudechicago.org for additional information.

Parish Staff

Rev. Richard J. Prendergast, Pastor
Rev. Michael Gabriel, Associate Pastor
Mary Clare Barker, Minister of Music
Eloy Escamilla, Pastoral Associate
Maria Garcia, Rectory Office Manager
Laurie Hasbrook, Heart to Heart Lending Closet Manager
Andy Mueller, Parish Buildings Engineer
Tracy Shields, Communications
Eduardo Soto, Director of Parish Management
Patricia Sullivan, Heart to Heart Director