

# *St. Gertrude*

**ALL ARE WELCOME**

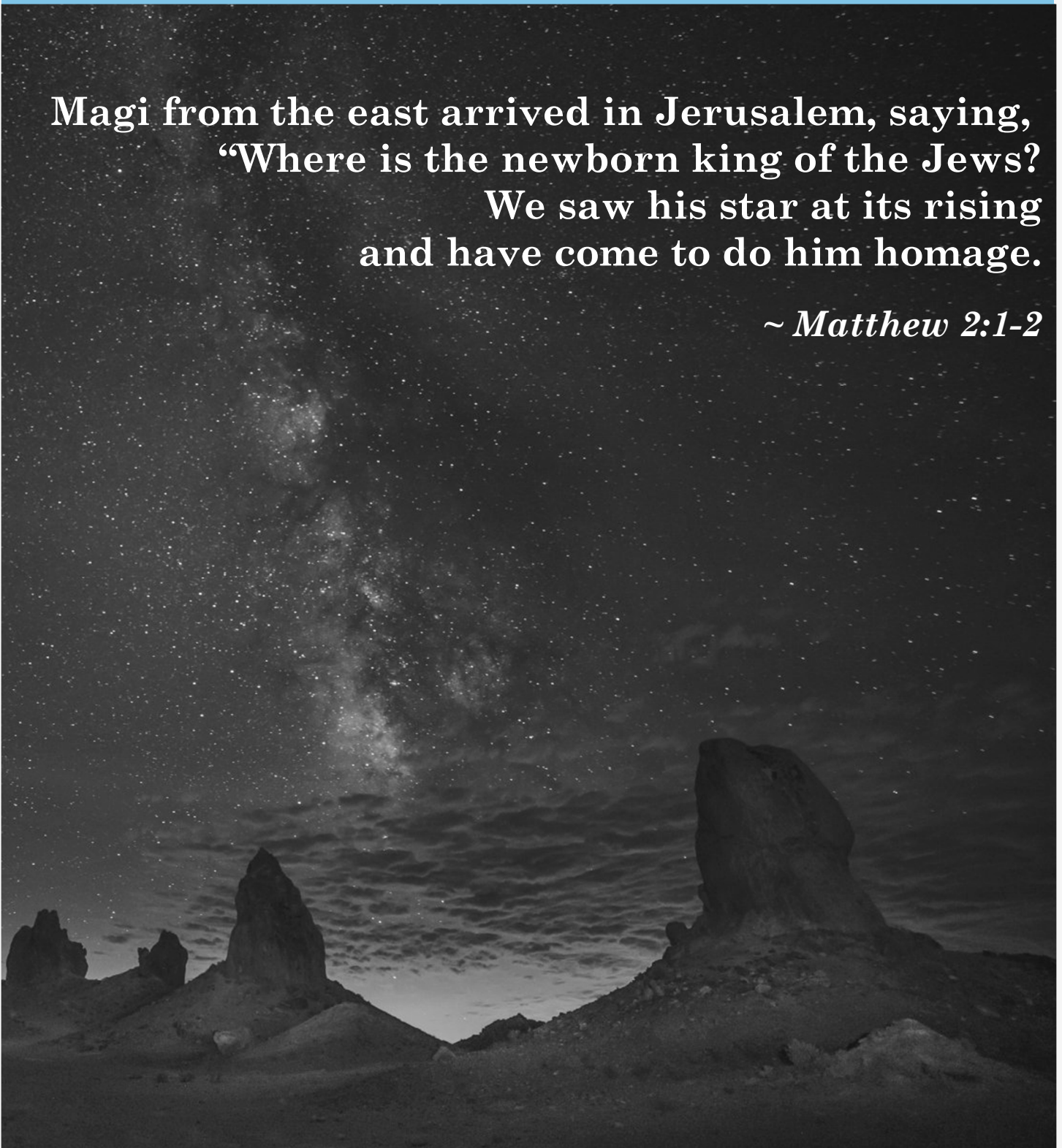
1420 W. Granville Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60660

[www.stgertrudechicago.org](http://www.stgertrudechicago.org) • 773.764.3621

**The Epiphany of the Lord • January 6, 2019**

Magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying,  
“Where is the newborn king of the Jews?  
We saw his star at its rising  
and have come to do him homage.

*~ Matthew 2:1-2*



## *From Father Rich*



In the wonderful story of the “Magi from the East” which we celebrate this weekend as the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord, we come face to face with the stark reality of who we are, who are our sisters and brothers, and how we are to deal with one another. Before this baby in the manger has done anything except be born, we already see the promise of the new life that is gifted to the world. As will happen time and time again in His life and throughout history to our own day, there are believers who are drawn to His light, and there are others who plot against the good news His life proclaims.

This is Immigration Sunday, for all the reasons that are so obvious! Our Lord and Savior, with his family, had to be rushed out of his homeland to escape the tyranny and execution the powerful were seeking to visit upon him. Like the millions and millions who have done the same in the 2,000 years since then, it seems clear it is a rare person who leaves his homeland for any reason other than to find a better life, to escape the threats of suffering and violence and death, to find a place of hope and welcome and an opportunity to build a new life.

So it is in our own day and in our nation. Day after day, those who have fled the persecution of their own homelands, risking life itself to find a safe place to begin a new life, arrive at our southern border, and at borders of so many other countries. And because of policies of the powerful and wealthy, many are refused entry, turned away from the only safe harbor they thought they could trust. These are the very same “sisters and brothers” we hear of so often in the teachings of Jesus, these are our neighbors.

We live in a nation whose very brilliance has been welcoming exiles and immigrants fleeing persecution of governments and poverty and starvation, who built this great country, enriching not only this land, but showing to all the world the gift of immigrants and the wealth of human resources they carried in their minds and hearts. Even though that is our history, today we violate our own national identity.

Once upon a time an evil king sought the life of an innocent baby because he thought his own throne would be threatened by this child. How much hope and promise and new life and opportunity is being turned away today at our own border? And not to put too fine a point on it, is anyone missing the obvious racism of blocking only our southern border? As we continue our celebration of Christmas, what actions can we take to change the policies of our government and extend a welcome to those in such dire situations seeking our help?

Epiphany can also be translated as “manifestation” or “revelation.” In the birth of this child, God is revealed living among us. As Christians, we believe this is as true today as it was two thousand years ago. And the face of God is what we are told we see when we look into the face of any other human being. All of humankind is our kin. How well are we caring for our sisters and brothers?

The season of Christmas continues one more week until the transitional feast of the Baptism of the Lord next weekend, ushering us into Ordinary Time until we get to Lent (which begins on March 6<sup>th</sup> this year.) As we bring this great season to its fitting end, thank you to all the ministers who have put in so much extra time and effort to help all of us celebrate these great feasts in this season! The choir and instrumentalists and cantors and our Music Director, Mary Clare Barker, who helped us all “make a joyful noise unto the Lord!”; the Ministers of Communion and Lectors and Ushers and Altar Servers who so faithfully show up every weekend and every feast day; all of our Presiders who share their prayer and their faith in liturgy and in homilies; and all the members of this community who make this family of faith come alive every day!

Finally, a special thank you to all those who organized and those who participated in the Giving Tree! What an extraordinary sight to see so many gifts being collected and distributed to so many people whose lives were touched by your generosity!

~ *Father Rich*

## Growing in Faith: Star-Gazing Parishioners

Justice. Radiance. Treasures offered. Seeing the star. Peace. Mystery revealed. Today's rich readings prompt me to ask: What are each of us seeking? Who's the child that all the stars align to fulfill a prophecy? What treasures do we bring to honor him?

God revealed himself in the fragility of humankind, to a humble family in a makeshift shelter. It makes me wonder, "Isn't every child a gift to the world? Doesn't every person have this potential to radiate the love of God and the power of peace into the world?" If so, how do we offer our treasures to the Christ in each person we meet? And build right relationships with people of different cultures/backgrounds? How do we welcome those of lowly means but great potential and talents? How do we share our diverse gifts with each other?

We've begun this here at St. Gertrude, and it's something we can be very proud of. Three years ago, heart-wrenching pictures of Syrian refugees stirred up some of our parishioners. A committee formed and we've now helped welcome and support new refugee families each year.

With 25.4 million refugees in our world, half of those being children, we're answering the call locally, in a meaningful way. Are the families arriving at our parish seen as God-bearers radiating justice and peace? What will be our continuing role to honor God-among-us? Let's envision God's world with God's eyes, *"For he shall rescue the poor when he cries out, and the afflicted when he has no one to help him."*

~ Dana Sullivan for  
*Growing in Faith*

*\*Dana is a member of the St. Gertrude Refugee Committee. Please contact the Rectory at 773. 764.3621 for information on how you can join in to help our refugee families.*



## Parish Calendar

### Sunday, January 6 *Feast of the Epiphany*

- 8:30 am ~ Religious Ed classes/Kids Word
- 10:30 am ~ Gym Mass resumes
- 3:00-6:00 pm ~ Commonweal Discussion Group in the Ministry Center

### Monday, January 7

- 7:00 pm ~ Baptismal parent preparation class in the Rectory (Registration is required.)

### Sunday, January 13 *The Baptism of the Lord*

- 10:00 am ~ Family Mass hosted by 6th graders and their families
- 12:30 pm ~ Parent/teen summer service trip info meeting in the Ministry Center

### Thursday, January 17

- 7:00 pm ~ Parent/teen summer service trip info meeting in the Ministry Center

### Saturday, January 19

- 5:00 pm ~ Second Collection at Mass for the Church in Latin America

### Sunday, January 20

- Second Collection at all Masses for the Church in Latin America
- No Religious Ed classes.
- 11:00 am-1:00 pm ~ NCA Open House - PreK-4th Grade (Primary School Campus, 6216 N. Glenwood)
- 12:00-2:00 pm ~ NCA Open House - 5th-8th Grade (Middle School Campus, 7318 N. Oakley)

### Saturday, January 26

- 1:00-4:00 pm ~ Confirmation candidates retreat in the Social Hall

### Sunday, January 27

- No Religious Ed classes.
- 11:30 am ~ Screening of *One Border, One Body* (location tbd)



**Parish News**

**Baptismal Preparation Class:** The next class will be held on Monday, January 7 at 7:00 pm in the Rectory. Please call the Rectory office at 773.764.3621 to register for the class.

**Family Mass:** Sixth grade parishioners and their families will host the 10:00 am Mass on Sunday, January 13. Hospitality will be offered after Mass.

**Upcoming Second Collection:**

On Saturday, January 19 and Sunday, January 20, there will be a second collection at all Masses for the Church in Latin America. Please be generous.



**Religious Education Schedule:** There will be no Religious Education classes on Sunday, January 20 because of the Martin Luther King, Jr. observance, nor classes on Sunday, January 27 due to NCA's open house. Kids Word at the 10:00am Mass will still meet those mornings.

**Retreat for Confirmation Candidates:** All Confirmation candidates from St. Gertrude's Religious Ed program and NCA must attend a retreat on Saturday, January 26. It will take place from 1:00-4:00 pm in the Social Hall. Parents are not required to attend.

**RCIA Rite of Welcoming:** On Sunday, December 16, we celebrated two Rites of Initiation for inquirers in the RCIA process: the Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens (for those preparing for their Baptism) and the Rite of Welcoming (for those already baptized in another Christian tradition who are seeking full communion with the Catholic Church.)



The following catechumens celebrated the Rite of Acceptance:

- Vu Truoug
- Brittiany Clark
- Freuz Urazaliev

The following candidates celebrated the Rite of Welcoming:

- Rebecca Hembel
- Justin Svoboda

A very special thanks to all who helped in any way with the celebration. Please continue to pray for our catechumens and candidates as they now enter into a period of deeper formation in the RCIA process.

**Parish Stewardship Report**

*“See, darkness covers the earth, and thick clouds cover the peoples; but upon you the Lord shines, and over you appears his glory.” ~ Isaiah 60:2*

We know that much today is dark. But times have been dark in the past; yet the glory of God has prevailed. Let us have faith. Let us continue to work for peace and justice to bring God’s light and glory into the world.

*~ Art Blumberg,  
Director of Parish Management and Facilities*

Collection December 15-16	\$8,723.76
Budgeted Collection	<u>\$7,725.00</u>
<b>Overage</b>	<b>(+) \$998.76</b>
Collection December 22-23	\$8,043.75
Budgeted Collection	<u>\$7,725.00</u>
<b>Overage</b>	<b>(+) \$318.75</b>
Christmas Collection Year-to-Date	\$37,983.65
Budgeted Collection Fiscal Year 2019	\$45,000.00

The Second Collection for January 2019 is for the Church in Latin America.

## *The Generosity of Widows*

Giving what one possesses and what can be easily detached from is a beneficial action for the one who receives it, but it is not more generous than that of one who offers something that is necessary to subsist.

Part of my ministry as a Franciscan friar is to go to the ICE detention centers where I see children mourn for their mothers, imprisoned because their only sin was their family's desire to look for a better future. One experience that has so marked me was encountering a 2-year-old boy crying with an electronic shackle on his leg as if he were a criminal. Our society sees this as normal.

Widows in the time of the prophets and our Lord represent a social class without rights and a need for help. When Jesus contemplates the alms given by a poor widow (Mk 12:38–44), He teaches His disciples what consists of a true offering to God. Far from making an ostentatious gesture, as those who contributed from their surplus did, the widow offers everything she has. And so it is with immigrants who are exploited, marginalized, and criticized for their poverty. The widow and the immigrants are discarded by a society that does not want to know about them.

With this in mind, I invite you to be supportive of the immigrant. Please check the Archdiocesan website: <https://pvm.archchicago.org/human-dignity-solidarity/immigration-ministry/about-us>.

St. Therese of the Child Jesus said, "The Lord does not demand great works from us, but only dedication and gratitude, he does not need our works but only our Love".

May the Lord grant you His peace.

~ Br. Luis Manuel Rosado

*(From the December Priest Newsletter of the Archdiocese of Chicago)*

## *Advent Thank You*

Advent at St. Gert's was beautiful and festive, thanks to the hard work of so many. The children and families that participated in our wonderful Family Mass on Christmas Eve made Mass so touching! We also appreciate the many talented musicians and singers that played and sang at all the Masses this month.

Our environment team made the Church look beautiful. We also are thankful for Tommy Martin and Tom Sullivan, who worked so hard this Advent season.

So many parishioners participated in our Giving Tree program, organized to make Christmas special for families in need! The items requested went to Care for Real, Heartland Alliance, Courage, Catholic Charities Toy Shower, the Refugee Ministry at St. Gertrude, and other refugee families in our community. We hope you join us as we share our St. Gert's generosity with our neighbors!

Thank you for your tremendous response to our call for help. Your gifts were appreciated.





*2019 Summer Service Trip*

# 2019 Summer Service Trip *Pine Ridge Reservation, SD* July 26 - August 4, 2019



Join us for a jam-packed week of service, friendship, fun, and so much more!  
Teens currently in 8th grade to high school seniors are eligible to participate!

## **Parent/Teen Info Meeting in the Ministry Center**

*Sunday, January 13 at 12:30 pm*

or

*Thursday, January 17 at 7:00 pm*

Contact Jim Potthast for more information at [jpotthast@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:jpotthast@stgertrudechicago.org).



## *Immigration Ministry Film Festival*

St. Gertrude's Refugee Committee has teamed up with the Archdiocese of Chicago's Human Dignity and Solidarity Ministry to be part of the Immigration Ministry Film Festival this January. Below is the listing of all the films in the series:

- Sunday, January 6 at 5:00 pm  
*Harvest of Empire*  
**St. Clement**  
642 W. Deming Place  
Chicago, IL 60614
- Monday, January 7 at 7:00 pm  
*One Border, One Body*  
**St. Julie Billiart**  
7399 W. 159<sup>th</sup> Street  
Tinley Park, IL 60477
- Friday, January 11 at 7:00 pm  
*Tony & Janina's American Wedding*  
**St. George**  
6706 W. 175<sup>th</sup> Street  
Tinley Park, IL 60477
- Sunday, January 13 at 4:00 pm  
*Dying to Live*  
**St. Teresa of Avila**  
1033 W. Armitage Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60614
- Monday, January 14 at 7:00 pm  
*Harvest of Empire*  
**St. Michael**  
14327 Highland Ave.  
Orland Park, IL 60462
- Saturday, January 19 at 5:30 pm  
*Beyond Borders*  
**St. Christopher**  
4130 W. 147<sup>th</sup> Street  
Midlothian, IL 60445
- Sunday, January 20 at 1:00 pm & 6:00 pm  
*Beyond Borders*  
**Old St. Patrick's**  
625 W. Adams St.  
Chicago, IL 60661
- Sunday, January 27 at 11:30 am  
*One Border, One Body*  
**St. Gertrude**  
(location TBD)

## *TODAY-Commonweal Conversation*

The Commonweal Discussion Group will host a Three Kings Day Social today, Sunday, January 6 in the Ministry Center from 3:00-6:00 pm. We will meet in the dining room for appetizers and dessert; please bring a favorite appetizer.

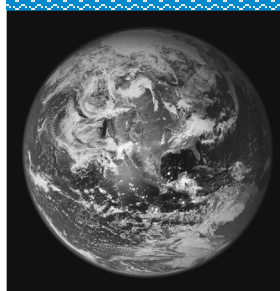
## *Matching Grant Program for NCA & Archdiocesan Catholic Schools*

A group of generous donors has agreed to pool their resources and offer a 2-for-1 matching gift program to schools run by the Archdiocese of Chicago. For \$1 designated to a qualifying school through *Empower Illinois* between December 1, 2018 and February 28, 2019, the school will receive \$2 in matching funds. The donations are capped at \$100,000 per school.

After April 1, 2019, any matching gift program funds that are not awarded at a designated school will be reallocated to low-income students at schools that did not reach the donation maximum.

For more information please call 312.534.2617 or visit [www.archchicago.org/tcs](http://www.archchicago.org/tcs).

## *Care for our Common Home*



The meaning of the Magi's story is clear: the newborn Child's message of peace and forgiveness is for everyone—a challenging idea for people who felt exclusively chosen.

Humans in general sometimes feel superior to the rest of creation, but throughout *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis reminds us that humans cannot be separated from the rest of creation. Can you find a quote in this document that makes this very clear? The NCA Green Team is committed to this message. For information about the NCA Green Team, contact [georgetully82@gmail.com](mailto:georgetully82@gmail.com).

## Our Parish at Prayer

### MONDAY, JANUARY 7

7:30 am Manuel Cruz † & Randy Cruz †

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 8

7:30 am Martin † & Ellen Joyce †

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9

7:30 am Joe Shields †

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 10

7:30 am Communion Service

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 11

7:30 am Purgatorial Society

8:30 am NCA Mass

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 12

7:30 am Wally Koegler †

5:00 pm Joseph Crombie †

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 13

8:00 am Parishioners of St. Gertrude

9:30 am Peter Tunney †

10:00 am Carol McRaith †

10:30 am Billy Tobin †

11:30 am Alfredo Lukinskas †

† Indicates  
person listed  
is deceased.

## Readings for the Week

**Monday:** 1 Jn 3:22 -- 4:6; Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a;  
Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

**Tuesday:** 1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-4, 7-8;  
Mk 6:34-44

**Wednesday:** 1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72: 1-2, 10, 12-13;  
Mk 6:45-52

**Thursday:** 1 Jn 4:19 -- 5:4; Ps 72:1-2, 14, 15bc,  
17; Lk 4:14-22a

**Friday:** 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20;  
Lk 5:12-16

**Saturday:** 1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-6a, 9b;  
Jn 3:22-30

**Sunday:** Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 40:1-5, 9-11;  
Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10 or Ps 104:1b-4, 24-  
25, 27-30; Acts 10:34-38 or Ti 2:11-  
14; 3:4-7; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

## Eucharistic Ministers

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 12

5:00 pm Mary Cook, Joan Harrington, Tim  
Harrington, Roman Reyes, Kathy Wall

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 13

8:00 am Hallie Burhoe, Barb Daly, Peter Morin,  
Johnny Outlaw, Sr. Kathryn Stimac

9:30 am Pat Riley, Barbara Rossi and Leon Ward

10:00 am Gail Smith, Patrick Robinson, Debra  
Novak, Ruth Ott, Brad Koch, Candace  
Koch, Sarah Millar

10:30 am TBA

11:30 am Jana Ashbeck, Richard Ashbeck, Karen  
Griebel, Steven Monti, Michelle  
Kuehlhorn

## Ministers of the Word

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 12

5:00 pm Steve Matre, Pat Reardon

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 13

8:00 am Johnny Outlaw, Marty McDermott

9:30 am Pat Riley, Barbara Rossi and Leon Ward

10:00 am Patrick Robinson, Donna Whalley

10:30 am TBA

11:30 am Richard Ashbeck, Jana Ashbeck

## Altar Servers

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 12

5:00 pm Ephraim Shepherd, Nolan Reynolds,  
Miles Reynolds

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 13

10:00 am Anna Stecky, Emily Stecky, Luke Sharba

11:30 am Ellie Siegle, Kayla Malloy, Leah Malloy

## Support the Archdiocese of Chicago Domestic Violence Outreach

Your online donation is secure and flexible. You  
can choose the amount you wish to give and how  
you wish to have the funds designated. Donations  
may be made at

[https://www.givecentral.org/location/132/  
event/12645.](https://www.givecentral.org/location/132/event/12645)



## Milestones



### Weddings

Interested in getting married at St. Gertrude? Call the Rectory at 773.764.3621 to ask for more info.



### Rest in Peace

Peter Tunney



### Baptisms

Please call the Rectory at 773.764.3621 to make arrangements to have a child baptized.



### New Parishioners

If you have been thinking of becoming a member of our parish community, please consider registering.

Applications to register as a parishioner are available in the back of Church, at the Rectory, or online at [www.stgertrudechicago.org](http://www.stgertrudechicago.org).

#### PARISH STAFF

Rev. Richard J. Prendergast, Pastor  
 Mary Clare Barker, Minister of Music  
 Art Blumberg, Director of Parish Management and Facilities  
 Kevin Cheers, Pastoral Associate  
 Mary Ann Collins, Director of Parish Social Services  
 Laurie Hasbrook, Office Staff  
 Amanda Kvasnica, Office Staff  
 Jim Potthast, Family Minister  
 Tracy Shields, Minister of First Impressions/Communications  
 Sr. Judith Zonsius, Office Manager

#### OTHER PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Michael Bradley, Resident  
 Rev. Dominic Grassi, Retired Pastor  
 Rev. William Kenneally, Pastor Emeritus  
 Carol Beatty, St. Gertrude East Music Director

#### WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 11:30 am  
 9:30am St. Gertrude East (Sacred Heart School/Sheridan and Granville)  
 10:30 am Mass in the Gym (except summer months)  
 Monday through Friday: 7:30 am (Thursday is a Communion Service.)  
 Saturday: 7:30 am and 5:00 pm (Sunday Vigil)

#### LOCATIONS:

Rectory: 1420 W. Granville Ave., Chicago, IL 60660 Phone: 773.764.3621  
 Website: [www.stgertrudechicago.org](http://www.stgertrudechicago.org) E-mail: [stgertrude1420@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stgertrude1420@sbcglobal.net)  
 Ministry Center: 6214 N. Glenwood Ave., Chicago, IL 60660  
 Social Services Phone: 773.973.5464.  
 Social Hall: 1401 W. Granville Ave., Chicago, IL 60660

#### RECTORY BUSINESS HOURS

Monday - Friday: 8:30 am to 7:30 pm  
 Saturday: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm  
 Sunday: 8:30 am to 1:00 pm

#### HEART TO HEART

Senior outreach and social services connection: 773.973.5464

#### PARISH SCHOOL

Northside Catholic Academy: 773.743.6277  
[www.northsidecatholic.org](http://www.northsidecatholic.org)

#### BAPTISM

Baptisms take place on the second and fourth Sundays of each month. Additionally, baptisms will be incorporated into one of the weekend Masses each month, with a different Mass having a baptism each month. Call the Rectory to make arrangements to have a child baptized, and to RSVP to attend a parent preparation meeting, held the first Monday of each month at 7:00 pm.

#### INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC?

We have an enriching program called the R.C.I.A. (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults). Contact the Rectory for details.

#### MARRIAGE

Arrangements begin by setting up an appointment with the Pastor. Preparations are to begin at least four months prior to the desired date.

#### MINISTRY OF CARE AND COMMUNION

Trained ministers will gladly visit and bring communion to those who are sick or homebound. Please call the Rectory to make arrangements.

#### NEW PARISHIONERS

You are most welcome and are invited to stop in at the Rectory to introduce yourself and register, or register with one of the greeters before or after any Mass. Registration is also available online at [www.stgertrudechicago.org](http://www.stgertrudechicago.org).

#### RECONCILIATION

Individual: Saturday from 4:15-4:45 pm and by request.

#### COMMUNITY MEETINGS HELD AT ST. GERTRUDE

Al-Anon: Sundays at 7:00 pm in the Ministry Center  
 Open AA: Tuesdays at 7:30 pm in the Ministry Center, and  
 Thursdays at 7:00 pm in the school cafeteria.  
 Caris Pregnancy Center, pregnancy support, free pregnancy tests, and post-abortion help: 312.229.5700.  
 Makko ho (Japanese yoga): Saturdays at 10:00 am in the Ministry Center