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## St. Gertrude E-Bulletin for April 5 (Palm Sunday)

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*“Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest.” (Matthew 21:9) With these words, the Church enters the holiest of weeks, commemorating the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. When the people of Jerusalem cried out with their “hosannas,” they were using an ancient Hebrew shout of acclamation that meant “Pray, save us.”*

*This year, with COVID-19 changing all of our lives, the shout of “Hosanna!” has special meaning for us.*

## **St. Gertrude Chicago E-Bulletin**

*Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord*

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This Sunday, April 5, we will live-stream Mass from St. Gertrude Church at 10:30 am, using Facebook Live! Please click [HERE](#) to be connected to our parish Facebook page.

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Our [COVID-19 Spiritual Help page](#) on our website is now up and will be expanding in the coming weeks! We will have daily readings, prayers to help with stress and anxiety, faith-based activities for kids, reflections by parishioners, our resident priests, and more. Please visit us [here!](#)

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[From Father Rich: Holy Week & Easter - Live-Streaming Sunday Masses](#)

*Holy Week/Easter, 2020*

*Bulletin for the  
Palm Sunday of the  
Passion of the  
Lord*

The entire parish staff joins me in praying for

everyone's good health during this unique time. May you and your families find new hope and joy in one another as you spend these days together.

We are on the eve of our holiest week of the year. And, as previously noted, there will be no **public** services until, at the very soonest, later in April. But after successfully live-streaming a mass for NCA last Friday from our parish church, we think we are ready to offer you the services of Palm Sunday and Easter online. (And if this works, we will offer Sunday Masses online until we are once again open.) The Services for the Sacred Triduum will be live-streamed from Holy Name Cathedral, led by Cardinal Cupich.

Our Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday Masses will be live-streamed at 10:30 am each day. You can access the St. Gertrude Parish live-streaming feed here: <https://www.facebook.com/stgertrudechicago/>.

The Services of the Sacred Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday) can be accessed at: <https://radiotv.archchicago.org/television/broadcast-masses>.

Here is the address for the parish website: [stgertrudechicago.org](http://stgertrudechicago.org) where you can always check for the latest information.

Registered parishioners received the Easter mailing in their homes. Please disregard that schedule and refer to the schedule above. Also, please consider both your Sunday offertory contribution and your special Easter contribution. Most of the parish revenue comes from those contributions. Contributions can be

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Visit Our  
COVID-19  
Crisis Spiritual  
Resource  
Page



Click [here](#) for a  
list of online and  
televised  
Masses.



made electronically through our parish website at [GiveCentral](#), or through the [Archdiocesan site](#).

May God continue to watch over you and your families during this time. I can't begin to tell you how much we miss seeing all of you in church! May the prayer of this Holy Week and Easter truly help us trust God in times of duress as well as in the many good days we have shared and will continue to share!

God bless you and Happy Easter!

*J. Rich*

P.S. If you are not yet receiving our weekly e-bulletin, please send me an email: [rprendergast@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:rprendergast@stgertrudechicago.org) and we will be happy to add you to our blast-email list.

Linked [HERE](#) is a copy of Pope Francis' special Urbi et Orbi address from Friday, March 27, 2020. It is the best spiritual perspective on the Coronavirus crisis I have yet seen. I encourage you to spend some time reflecting on it during Holy Week.

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## Readings for Sunday, April 5

This Sunday, called Palm or Passion Sunday, is the first day of Holy Week. There are two Gospels proclaimed at today's Mass. The first Gospel tells of Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem, followed by the stark account of Jesus' passion.

The readings for Palm Sunday are long. Instead of placing them in the e-bulletin, they are linked [HERE](#).



## Growing in Faith Reflection

*The Growing in Faith Bulletin Committee offers a special reflection for this Palm Sunday: Pope Francis wrote this for last year's Palm Sunday. It seems so appropriate for our own situation this Holy Week as we join all those suffering the loss of a loved one and pray for our world.*

“Jesus shows us how to face moments of difficulty and the most insidious of temptations by preserving in our hearts a peace that is neither detachment nor superhuman impassivity, but confident abandonment to the Father and to his saving will, which bestows life and mercy.... By his entrance into Jerusalem, he shows us the way. For in that event, the evil one, the prince of this world, had a card up his sleeve: the card of triumphalism. Yet, the Lord responded by holding fast to his own way, the way of humility.”

Triumphalism tries to make it to the goal by shortcuts and false compromises... It lives off gestures and words that are not forged in the crucible of the cross; Jesus destroyed triumphalism by his Passion. Jesus knows that true triumph involves making room for God and that the only way to do that is by stripping oneself, by self-emptying. There is no negotiating with the cross: one either embraces it or rejects it. By his self-abasement, Jesus wanted to open up to us the path of faith and to precede us on that path.”

*~ Pope Francis, Palm Sunday Homily, 2019*

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## Online Kids Word, Youth Group Meeting, and Summer Service Trip Info Meeting Using Zoom Planned for This Sunday

This Sunday, April 5 at 10:00 am, Jim Potthast, our Youth & Family Minister, will host another live online Kids Word. He will read the readings for Sunday from the Kids Word Book, have a brief discussion about the readings and provide an activity to do at home at the end. Anyone interested in joining should follow the link below. Please note the new time of 10:00 am!

Additionally, he will host a parent/teen meeting to share details about this summer's mission trip to South Dakota in a Zoom meeting this Sunday, April 5 at 12:00 pm and again on Tuesday, April 14 at 7:00 pm.

The WOW youth group will have a virtual gathering on Sunday, April 5 at 7:00 pm.

### **Kids Word**

***Sunday, April 5 at 10:00 am***

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/367096044?pwd=Q3BWU0MyMGlzdUNYcDN0UFDfS1RGUT09>

Meeting ID: 367 096 044

Password: 012016

### **Parent/Teen Information Meetings: Summer Service Trip: Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota July 24 - August 2**

***Sunday, April 5 at 12:00 pm***

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/460151578?pwd=N1A0N1Qyepk4YVp1QXhuNIJiVHFCZz09>

Meeting ID: 460 151 578

Password: 023386

**AND**

**Tuesday, April 14 at 7:00 pm**

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/741956035?pwd=UIZweTlzQThEYU5NU3BBM2dNRDlwQT09>

Meeting ID: 741 956 035

Password: 007185

**WOW Youth Group Meeting**

**Sunday, April 5 at 7:00 pm**

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/979941914?pwd=TkVFdFczQzI1dmhuenZwL2xFYnlHUT09>

Meeting ID: 979 941 914

Password: 017499

If you would like to receive a weekly Religious Ed newsletter for more activities and resources, please email Jim at [jpotthast@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:jpotthast@stgertrudechicago.org) to be added to the list.



## Faith & Coping

We have compiled a list of ways to ease stress and anxiety during these unsettling times [on our website](#). They include tips from parishioner KC Conway, a psychotherapist at The Center for Grief Recovery, suggestions of music for Lent and Easter from Mary Clare Barker, our Minister of Music, and much more!

We'd love to hear from you if you have suggestions for prayers, articles, and music! Email [stgerbulletin@yahoo.com](mailto:stgerbulletin@yahoo.com) to share your thoughts.

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## St. Gertrude Parish Stewardship and GiveCentral

During this time of COVID-19, many parishioners are asking how to continue their regular contributions to St. Gertrude. Please consider signing up for GiveCentral.

GiveCentral is a completely secure online giving system that allows you to plan your giving as you wish. GiveCentral provides the opportunity to continue our stewardship of St. Gertrude by contributing to the parish as we stand together in faith and solidarity.

For more information or to sign up for online giving, please visit our website at [www.stgertrudechicago.org](http://www.stgertrudechicago.org) and click on the “GiveCentral” link. If you have questions or would like assistance, please mail Art Blumberg at [ablumberg@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:ablumberg@stgertrudechicago.org). He will be happy to help in any way he can.

[Click here to go to GiveCentral](#)

[Donate via the Archdiocese website](#)



## NCA Has Meals Available to Students and ANY Families with Children

NCA is distributing free pre-packaged breakfast and lunches from our lunch provider, Aramark. These lunches are for our free-and-reduced-lunch students and also for any family with children between the ages of 2-18 in our community who could use some extra assistance in getting food for their children. We also provide milk with each of these meals.

Please let Fr. Rich know at [rprendergast@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:rprendergast@stgertrudechicago.org) if this would be helpful for your family and we will figure out the details.

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## Daily Scripture Readings & Stations of the Cross

Our website has links to the daily readings for Masses [HERE](#).

Here is the list of readings for this for parishioners that prefer to look them up:

**Monday, April 6:** Is 42:1-7; Ps 27:1-3, 13-14; Jn 12:1-11

**Tuesday, April 7:** Is 49:1-6; Ps 71:1-6, 15, 17; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

**Wednesday, April 8:** Is 50:4-9a; Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31, 33-34;  
Mt 26:14-25

**Holy Thursday, April 9: *Chrism Mass:*** Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9;  
Ps 89:21-22, 25, 27; Rv 1:5-8; Lk 4:16-21

***Lord's Supper:*** Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18; 1 Cor  
11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15

**Good Friday, April 10:** Is 52:13 — 53:12; Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-17, 25; Heb  
4:14-16; 5:7-9; Jn 18:1 — 19:42

**Holy Saturday, April 11: a)** Gn 1:1 — 2:2 [1:1, 26-31a]; Ps 104:1-2, 5-6,  
10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35; or Ps 33:4-7, 12-13, 20-22;

**b)** Gn 22:1-18 [1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18]; Ps 16: 5, 8-11;

**c)** Ex 14:15 — 15:1; Ex 15:1-6, 17-18;

**d)** Is 54:5-14; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13;

**e)** Is 55:1-11; Is 12:2-6;

**f)** Bar 3:9-15, 32 — 4:4; Ps 19:8-11;

**g)** Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28; Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3-4 or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 or Ps  
51:12-15, 18-19;

*h)* Rom 6:3-11; *i)* Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Mt 28:1-10

**Easter Sunday, April 12:** Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23;  
Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9  
or Mt 28:1-10 or (at an afternoon or evening Mass) Lk 24:13-35

Click [HERE](#) for online Stations of the Cross.

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## Mass Intentions

Mass intentions for scheduled mass will be transferred to the private masses the parish priests (Fr. Mike Bradley, Fr. Mike Gabriel, and Fr. Rich Prendergast) will say during this time.

If those who requested/scheduled these Masses would prefer to have them moved to a different date, please leave a message at the Rectory at 773.764.3621 or email [stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org). Sr. Judith will re-schedule them.

- Monday, April 6 - Alvin Charles Elton +
- Tuesday, April 7 - Pascual Gusmanos +
- Wednesday, April 8 - Living & deceased mothers and fathers of St. Gertrude parishioners
- Holy Thursday, April 9\*
- Good Friday, April 10\*
- Holy Saturday, April 11\*
- Easter Sunday, April 12 - All those who have died or are suffering from COVID-19 and their families; all medical personal, first responders, and front-line workers helping the sick

***\* Mass intentions are traditionally not said on Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday.***

*(+ indicates the person is deceased)*

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## Volunteer Opportunities

Looking for something to do? [Care for Real](#) is always in need of volunteers! Please reach out to Karen at [volunteer@careforreal.org](mailto:volunteer@careforreal.org). She is overseeing scheduling and shifts available.

Our Heart to Heart Director, Jane Callahan-Moore, is also helping coordinate outreach to the elderly and shut-ins, including shopping and bringing food to those unable to get to the store. You can contact Jane by emailing her at [jcallahanmoore@stgertrudechicago.org](mailto:jcallahanmoore@stgertrudechicago.org).

Our Alderman, Harry Osterman, is coordinating local needs and service opportunities. His [website](#) has information on getting help during this crisis and giving help. Below are quick links to urgent community issues:

- [Community Response Fund](#) - Funds raised will help Care for Real purchase needed food and supplies for our neighbors in need, as well as help purchase medical supplies needed by our residents and care providers.
  - [Volunteer to be a part of the 48th Ward Community Response Team](#)
  - [Ask for daily check-in calls for yourself or a neighbor](#)
  - [How you can receive support from Care for Real](#)
  - [Get information on enrolling in emergency unemployment benefits](#)
  - [How you can support local businesses during this time](#)
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## Please Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends

- Walter Bradford
- Ester Bugler
- Maggie Callaway
- Aida Calvopina
- Geraldine Clark
- Connie Cool
- Mary Fitzgerald
- Joan Harrington
- Gina Heidkamp
- Maria Hertl
- Bernice Kiedysz
- Karey Myers
- Margaret O'Sullivan
- Don Piven
- Charley Scantlebury
- David Sierzega
- Richard Seitz
- Peggy Stoffel
- The Sullivan family
- Elinora E. Tolentino
- Norma E. Viray



## A Prayer During COVID-19: I Am There by James Dillet Freeman

The prayer, *I Am There*, by James Dillet Freeman was suggested by parishioner Victor Cheers. It's deeply moving, as is [the story behind it](#).

*Do you need Me?*

*I am there.*

*You cannot see Me, yet I am the light you see by.*

*You cannot hear Me, yet I speak through your voice.*

*You cannot feel Me, yet I am the power at work in your hands.*

*I am at work, though you do not understand My ways.*

*I am at work, though you do not recognize My works.*

*I am not strange visions. I am not mysteries.*

*Only in absolute stillness, beyond self, can you know Me as I am, and then but as a feeling and a faith.*

*Yet I am there. Yet I hear. Yet I answer.*

*When you need Me, I am there.*

*Even if you deny Me, I am there.*

*Even when you feel most alone, I am there.*

*Even in your fears, I am there.*

*Even in your pain, I am there.*

*I am there when you pray and when you do not pray.*

*I am in you, and you are in Me.*

*Only in your mind can you feel separate from Me, for only in your mind are the mists of "yours" and "mine."*

*Yet only with your mind can you know Me and experience Me.*

*Empty your heart of empty fears.*

*When you get yourself out of the way, I am there.*

*You can of yourself do nothing, but I can do all.*

*And I am in all.*

*Though you may not see the good, good is there, for I am there.*

*I am there because I have to be, because I am.*

*Only in Me does the world have meaning; only out of Me does the world take form; only because of Me does the world go forward.*

*I am the law on which the movement of the stars and the growth of living cells are founded.*

*I am the love that is the law's fulfilling. I am assurance. I am peace. I am oneness. I am the law that you can live by. I am the love that you can cling to. I am your assurance. I am your peace. I am one with you. I am.*

*Though you fail to find Me, I do not fail you.*

*Though your faith in Me is unsure, My faith in you never wavers, because I know you, because I love you.*

*Beloved, I am there.*

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**Our mailing address is:**

1420 W. Granville, Chicago, IL 60660

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