



St. Gertrude Chicago E-Bulletin

Bulletin for Sunday, January 10 - The Baptism of the Lord

Click [HERE](#) to read the bulletin in a new window

St. Gertrude Mass times are:

- Monday-Saturday: 7:30 am
- Saturdays at 5:00 pm
- Sundays at 8:00 am and 10:30 am (10:30 Mass is live-streamed on [our parish Facebook page](#))

The St. Gertrude parish office schedule can be found [HERE](#). Please review the [Parishioner Guidelines for Visiting the Rectory](#) and call before you come!

[Click Here to Sign-up for Weekend Masses](#)

[Click Here to Sign up for Weekday Masses](#)

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***Baptism of the
Lord***

January 10, 2021

Baptism of the Lord

Sunday's Feast of the Baptism of the Lord is the bridge connecting the Christmas season to our return to Ordinary Time in the Church's liturgical calendar. With this feast, the season of Christmas comes to a close as Jesus begins his public ministry. This year, the section of Ordinary Time before the next season is brief, only five Sundays before the Lenten season begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17.

The Feast of the Lord's Baptism is also sometimes called the second of the three Epiphanies: the first is when the Magi came to do him homage, the second is when he was baptized by John and the heavens were opened and God's voice proclaimed him as God's Beloved Son, and the third is the miracle at Cana when he first demonstrated who he was with the miracle of the water turned into wine.

But it would be a mistake if we thought the time of epiphanies was ended! Indeed, God continues to reveal the Divine Presence in so many ways every moment of every day. But we often miss these little revelations because we are distracted, upset, in crisis, or simply preoccupied. But if we can train ourselves to slow down for at least a few minutes each day, it is hard to miss the presence of God in the splendor of creation, in the lives of those we encounter every day, in the promptings of our hearts to do good for others, in every opportunity to love others as God has loved us.



*Click [HERE](#) to
make a
reservation to
attend weekend
Masses in person!*

Renew My Church -- An attitude of welcoming and hospitality

With the start of this new year, the harder work of Renew My Church begins. The parishioners of St. Ignatius have begun the painful process of planning the close of their parish. And St. Jerome and St. Gertrude will begin planning on ways to extend a warm welcome to those St. Ignatius parishioners who will soon be looking for a new parish home.

It is always foundational to who we are as Christian believers that we carry with us an attitude of welcome and hospitality. This is especially true this year as we reach out to those who are grieving the loss of their parish home just a few blocks away. Please continue to keep all of our grouping parishes in your prayers this year as we continue this process, hoping it will enable us to be stronger and more vital as members of the Church here in our local community.

St. Gertrude Parish Auction 2021

This week, every parish household was mailed a letter and donation form for the new parish fundraiser, St. Gertrude Parish Auction 2021. Please take a moment to read the letter which explains the Auction. And consider donating to the Auction if you are able or share the donation form with anyone you may know who might be willing to make a gift to this fundraiser -- whether a friend, family member, or local business. Gifts to be auctioned might be an item, a service, or an opportunity to participate in something you have not done before and would like to try.

Each week in the e-bulletin will be suggestions and categories of things you might want to consider. It is always our hope that the Auction is not only a fundraiser but also a fun-raiser and an opportunity for us to come together in new ways as this local faith community.

FYI -- Additional donation forms will also be available on the sign-in table in church. Thank you for your consideration!



A Prayer for our Nation

In response to events on Wednesday in our nation's capital, we've added this prayer from the U.S. Catholic Magazine.

*Great God, who has told us
"Vengeance is mine,"
save us from ourselves,
save us from the vengeance in our hearts
and the acid in our souls.*

*Save us from our desire to hurt as we have been hurt,
to punish as we have been punished,
to terrorize as we have been terrorized.*

*Give us the strength it takes
to listen rather than to judge,*

*to trust rather than to fear,
to try again and again
to make peace even when peace eludes us.*

*We ask, O God, for the grace
to be our best selves.
We ask for the vision
to be builders of the human community
rather than its destroyers.
We ask for the humility as a people
to understand the fears and hopes of other peoples.*

*We ask for the love it takes
to bequeath to the children of the world to come
more than the failures of our own making.
We ask for the heart it takes
to care for all the peoples
[in Washington D.C. and around our nation tonight]
as well as for ourselves.*

*Give us the depth of soul, O God,
to constrain our might,
to resist the temptations of power
to refuse to attack the attackable,
to understand
that vengeance begets violence,
and to bring peace—not war—wherever we go.*

*For You, O God, have been merciful to us.
For You, O God, have been patient with us.*

For You, O God, have been gracious to us.

*And so may we be merciful
and patient
and gracious
and trusting
with these others whom you also love.*

*This we ask through Jesus,
the one without vengeance in his heart.
This we ask forever and ever.*

Amen.

—adapted from Sister Joan Chittister, Benedictine Sisters of Erie



Growing in Faith

Have you ever experienced a radically deeper appreciation of life, of a loved one, of something in nature — thus feeling freshly alive or falling in love all

over again? Maybe a new, vivid awareness of the Spirit's presence is what happened in today's Gospel.

How else explain why Jesus would be baptized and receive the Spirit? Surely the Spirit was already within him! Perhaps Jesus' encounter with John was one of those highlight moments for him and his companions. It was so special that, recording the event years later, Mark pictured the heavens splitting and God's speaking those wondrous words: You are my beloved! Listen to him!

Have you ever had experiences of receiving assurance, in words or actions, that you were loved? My appreciation of my parents' unconditional love grows each day! Surely it grounds my belief that God's love sustains me. Additionally, God's Spirit sustains the entire creation with which I am interconnected.

In *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis reminds us in paragraph 216: "... the life of the Spirit is not dissociated from the body or from nature or from worldly realities, but lived in and with them, in communion with all that surrounds us." Just think of that!

If you have ever felt the presence of divinity within yourself, within others and/or creation, pause today to treasure those experiences. Awareness of divinity deepens with prayerful reflection.

If you realize the importance of being assured of love, perhaps today you'll tell others — all living beings— how loved they are.

--- Terri MacKenzie, SHCJ, for *Growing in Faith*



St. Gertrude Auction 2021 - Fundraiser Friday, February 12-Sunday, February 21

As a family of faith, we continue to look for innovative ways of responding to the ongoing needs of our dynamic and diverse community. These are challenging times for us all and we're doing what we can to sustain daily operations. Our annual fundraising events have been canceled due to Covid-19 and we need to adapt to this changing reality.

In response, we are going online to host our first annual Virtual Auction! The event will kick-off on Friday, February 12 and wind up with a fun virtual live event at 7:00 pm on Sunday, February 21. Please [visit our website](#) and read the weekly e-bulletin for the latest news and needs for the Auction!

We are asking, if you're able, to please donate an item or service for the auction. All donations are greatly appreciated. Donation possibilities range from big to small:

- Tickets to sporting events (Bears, Bulls, Cubs, White Sox, Fire, etc.)
- Live auction vacation (vacation home or condo, hotel points, airline miles, etc.)
- Experiences (chef's tables, wine/beer tastings, gallery tours, show tapings, concerts, etc.)
- Services (landscaping, painting, interior design, catering, tutoring, language lessons, spa, etc.)
- Gift certificates
- Handmade items (quilts, paintings, pottery, etc.)
- Use your imagination!

There are pre-Covid and post-Covid possibilities for many of these ideas.

We're also asking for donations of bottles of wine for our Wine Cellar Spectacular (\$20 minimum value). You can drop your bottle off anytime at the Rectory (during business hours) or you can purchase a bottle from Binny's in Evanston, either in person or over the phone. Binny's will give you a 15% discount and store the bottle for us.

Our current, pressing need is for people to solicit donations. You will be provided with businesses' contact information and a script. If you can help please email us at **auction21@stgertrudechicago.org**.

If you're unable to donate at this time, you can support us by attending the auction and sharing our auction details with your friends, family, and on your social media! In times like this, we're reminded of how interconnected we all are. Thank you for being part of our community.

Gratefully,

The St. Gertrude Parish 2021 Auction Committee

Fr. Rich Prendergast

Kathy Krokhar
Laura Pigozzi
David Sullivan

Download a Donor Form



Thank You to our Musicians

Mary Clare Barker, our talented Music Minister, wrote a special note for her volunteers:

I want to extend a heartfelt and sincere thank you to all of the cantors and musicians who contributed mightily to the beauty of our Christmas liturgies. We are so blessed at St. Gertrude to have so many talented musicians who give so freely of their time and share their prodigious talents with our community. I am deeply appreciative of all that they do.



Refugee Ministry - Thank You for Your Support

Thank you for all your extraordinary support of the Refugee Ministry. Because of your generosity, we have been able to once again extend a helping hand.

The Giving Tree resulted in over \$4,000 in gift cards to our ministry! We are going to share gift cards with the three families we are currently helping, offer some to Catholic Charities for other refugee families, and keep the rest for our next families.

This is yet another example of how, with the generosity of our fellow parishioners, we have been able to sustain our ministry and help so many people over the last four years. It's truly a wonder! Our families are listed below, and now seems like a good time to reflect on the goodness in the world and to pray for their continued success.

Your support has helped these families:

Official sponsorship with Catholic Charities:

- A Rohingya couple with three kids – January 2016
- A Rohingya couple with a daughter – Rohingya – August 2016
- An ethnically Nepalese family from Bhutan, a husband/wife/child plus their parents and an aunt – March 2017

- A couple from Afghanistan – April 2018
- A single Rohingya mother and three kids – August 2018
- A Rohingya couple with kids – November 2018
- Khadidja and two kids, Central African Republic – April 2019
- A Rohingya couple with three kids, including 2-year-old twins - September 2020

Unofficial sponsorship:

- Bruce - we didn't support him officially, but Tomas was an essential early friend. Bruce is doing great, working and going to school
- Syrian family and kids, a security deposit for an apartment, two adults, four kids
- Congolese family, rent support, one adult, four kids

May the good work we have begun together continue into the new year!

~ Denise Goodman on behalf of the Refugee Ministry



[Renew My Church Information](#)

The Archdiocese shared the final decision about St. Gertrude, St. Ignatius, and St. Jerome via a live-streamed meeting on their website on Friday, December 18.

The link below takes you to a letter from Father Rich outlining the decision and an announcement from the Archdiocese. There is also a link to a video of the meeting, including responses to questions asked by viewers who watched the event live.

[Click here to read and/or watch the latest RMC information](#)



No Calendars Available This Year

Due to COVID-related cost expenditures, our printer will not distribute calendars this year.



Readings and Music for Sunday, January 10

- [PDF of Readings for January 10, the Baptism of the Lord](#)
 - [PDF of Lyrics/Copyright Info for January 10, the Baptism of the Lord](#)
 - Music planned:
 - Entrance: *When Jesus Comes to be Baptized*, #110
 - Gloria: *Angels we Have Heard on High*, verses 1 and 2
 - Psalm: Isaiah: *You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation*
 - Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia Give the Glory*, #897
 - Offertory: *Come to the Water*, #603
 - Mass Parts: *Mass of Glory*
 - Communion: *Christ Be Our Light*, #587
 - Recessional: *Wade in the Water*, #645
-



Additional Parish Information Found on our Website

List of info/articles

- [Mass Schedule/Links to Sign up for Mass](#)
- [Video of What to Expect When Returning to Church](#)
- [Parishioner Guidelines for Attending Mass in Church](#)
- [What to Expect/Do in Church \(photos w/captions\)](#)
- [Volunteers Needed to Help with Mass](#)
- [Parishioner Guidelines for Visiting the Rectory](#)
- [Meetings at St. Gertrude](#)
- [Volunteer Sign-up Form](#)



Lectors, Cantors, Eucharistic Ministers, Set-up/Greeters/Clean-up Teams, and Musicians Planned for This Weekend

This weekend, our cantors and musicians will be:

- Saturday, January 9 at 5:00 pm - Lisa Erceg
- Sunday, January 10 at 8:00 am - Denise Goodman
- Sunday, January 10 at 10:30 am - Michael Callahan

Please note, we ask that those attending Mass in person do not sing due to concerns that singing may spread germs further than six feet.

Our Eucharistic ministers are:

- Saturday, January 9 at 5:00 pm - Kathy Wall
- Sunday, January 10 at 8:00 am - Marty McDermott
- Sunday, January 10 at 10:30 am - Bob Backis

Our readers this weekend are:

- Saturday, January 9 at 5:00 pm - Troy McMillian
- Sunday, January 10 at 8:00 am - Kathryn Stimac
- Sunday, January 10 at 10:30 am - Patrick Robinson

Our set-up/greeter team this weekend is:

- Saturday, January 9 at 5:00 pm - TBA
- Sunday, January 10 at 8:00 am - TBA
- Sunday, January 10 at 10:30 am - TBA

Our clean-up team this weekend is:

- Saturday, January 9 at 5:00 pm - TBA
- Sunday, January 10 at 8:00 am - TBA
- Sunday, January 10 at 10:30 am - TBA

We still need other volunteers to fill teams for greeting/set-up and clean-up. For safety reasons, volunteers should be between 18-64 years of age and not have conditions that would put them at risk for negative outcomes from COVID-19 infection (immunosuppressive therapy, heart or lung disease, cancer, etc.)

If you would like to participate on a team, please [download this form](#) and email it to Kevin Cheers at kchears@stgertrudechicago.org and include your preferred e-mail and telephone number.



Ways to Help Our Parish: Amazon Smile, Text to Give, GiveCentral, PayPal, Archdiocese Link, and Amazon Smile

Visit smile.amazon.com and select St Gertrude Parish as your charity of choice. From then on, connect to Amazon through smile.amazon.com and

St. Gertrude will automatically benefit as your charity of choice.

We have set up a "Text to Give" option through GiveCentral. Parishioners are welcome to text the word **Donate** to 1.773.741.9505 to make a donation via phone.

The Archdiocese has [an online giving option via the Archdiocesan website](#). You simply click on the link and it takes you to the website. Once there, you determine if you want to contribute via a credit card or a checking account. You fill out the form, including selecting the parish to which the contribution is going, and the money will be electronically debited. The site offers options for amounts and the frequency of the contribution.

To access our PayPal link, please visit [our parish website](#) and donate from there. [GiveCentral](#) offers parishioners the option of one-time gifts or weekly contributions.

For more information on text to give or to sign up for online giving, please email Art Blumberg, Director of Parish Management and Facilities, at ablumberg@stgertrudechicago.org. He will be happy to help in any way he can.

[Click here to go to GiveCentral](#)

[Click here for PayPal \(via our website\)](#)

[Donate via the Archdiocese website](#)



Daily Scripture Readings

Our website has links to the daily readings for Masses [HERE](#). (*Scroll down the webpage to see the readings.*)

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

Monday, January 11: Heb 1:1-6; Ps 97:1, 2b, 6, 7c, 9; Mk 1:14-20

Tuesday, January 12: Heb 2:5-12; Ps 8:2ab, 5, 6-9; Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday, January 13: Heb 2:14-18; Ps 105:1-4, 6-9; Mk 1:29-39

Thursday, January 14: Heb 3:7-14; Ps 95:6-11; Mk 1:40-45

Friday, January 15: Heb 4:1-5, 11; Ps 78:3, 4bc, 6c-8; Mk 2:1-12

Saturday, January 16: Heb 4:12-16; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mk 2:13-17

Sunday, January 17: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10; 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20; Jn 1:35-42



Rest in Peace

Francine Garmisa

Mary Mann, sister-in-law of Patricia Mann

Evanzuela Manuel, mother of Alex Manuel

Zaida Reyes, mother of Carmen Reyes and wife of Victor Reyes



Mass Intentions

Monday, January 11: 7:30 am - For the intention of Kathleen Marsh

Tuesday, January 12: 7:30 am - Eileen McGuire+

Wednesday, January 13: 7:30 am - Jim Cavanagh+

Thursday, January 14: 7:30 am - Communion service

Friday, January 15: 7:30 am - Purgatorial Society

Saturday, January 16: 7:30 am - Don Mielke+; 5:00 pm - Brieger Currie+

Sunday, January 17: 8:00 am - Bruno & Vincenzia Tassone+; 10:30 am
- Katie Batza

(+ indicates the person is deceased)



Please Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends

- Michael Batza
- Jean Bautista
- Walter Bradford
- Maggie Callaway
- Aida Calvopina
- Geraldine Clark
- Connie Cool
- Lois DiFruscio
- Sara Fighter
- Lucia Hall
- Maria Hertl
- Bernice Kiedysz
- Karey Myers
- Braedon Rimpson
- Mickey Resch
- Charley Scantlebury
- Richard Seitz
- Peggy Stoffel
- The Sullivan family
- Elinora E. Tolentino

- Gina Heidkamp

- Norma E. Viray
- Ken & Vyes Yoza

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