

St. Gertrude Chicago
E-Bulletin for the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 16, 2022

Click here for our printed bulletin distributed in church this weekend

St. Gertrude Mass times are:

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

- Sundays at 10:30 am in the Gym (No Gym Mass on January 30)
 - **The 10:30 am Mass on Sunday, January 30 will be a Combined Mass in church.**
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From Fr. Rich

Moving to Virtual Meetings for a While

Last weekend in church, I announced that for at least the next four weeks, all scheduled meetings at St. Gertrude will be virtual. Because the COVID Omicron variant is so contagious, it seems prudent to make this move.

With the hope that this strain of the virus will continue to operate the way it has already been tracked in places such as South Africa, we can continue to pray that although it has spread far and wide, it will be less destructive and quickly stops being a problem.

If you are part of a regularly scheduled parish meeting, the staff member responsible for your group needs your email address to share the Zoom link for whatever your meeting may be. If you are unsure if that person has your email address, you can email them. All the parish staff email addresses can be found [here](#).

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Click the above link on Thursday, January 20 to watch the live stream!

Week of Prayer For Christian Unity: January 18–25, 2022

Ever since the Second Vatican Council reopened the conversation between and among the many Christian churches, many have regularly prayed the prayer of Jesus at the Last Supper, “that all may be one.” The history of divisions among Christians is long and filled with amazing stories of how various groups within the broader Christian church responded to abuses and challenges to the core dogmas of the faith by splitting off from the main group in order to protect whatever was perceived as a threat to the Church.

Since the call of Vatican II to begin to talk and work together for a renewed unity among the Christian churches, much good has come about. In historic theological dialogues among some of the mainline denominations, centuries-old divisions have been healed. And even when every problem could not be solved yet, the renewed relationships is itself a great cause for rejoicing. All of these initiatives fall under the umbrella of the Ecumenical

movement which supports and encourages the ongoing discussion and prayers for unity among the Christian churches.

Here in this part of Chicago, the [Edgewater Community Religious Association \(ECRA\)](#), of which we are a member, is an interfaith association of religious organizations who work toward fostering friendships and understanding of other faiths, nurturing a thriving and just neighborhood, and creating solutions to local problems. ECRA includes other faith traditions than Christianity and is an active group that brings together all people of good will from various faiths.

For over 100 years - even before Vatican II -- there has been a Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. This year, **the Prayer for Christian Unity service will be held on Thursday, January 20 at 7:00 pm at Immanuel Lutheran, located at 1500 W. Elmdale Ave.** The in-person service will also be live-streamed on [Immanuel's YouTube channel](#).

Featured participants include Pastor Fred Kinsey, Unity Lutheran church; Father Richard Prendergast, St. Gertrude Catholic church; Pastor Erika Takacs, Episcopal Church of the Atonement; Pastor Michael Ware, North Shore Baptist church, Pastor Monte Johnson, Immanuel Lutheran church, and myself.

We hope to see you there!

Caring for our Common Home: 'Tis the Season for New Year's Resolutions!

In light of Pope Francis' encouragement to better care for our home planet, we periodically make available some suggestions for how each of us can do small things to help our planet and guarantee a future home for all people.

Here are a few earth-friendly resolutions to consider: 1) Use a reusable cup for coffee, water or juice. 2) Use a reusable tote bag for ALL your shopping needs, not just groceries. 3) Use paper straws - or better yet, reusable straws (metal, silicone, etc.) 4) Buy in bulk - fill a reusable container and save money on unnecessary packaging (double bonus!) 5) Use a razor with replaceable blades, instead of a disposable razor.



Retirement Announcement from Fr. Mike Bradley.

When I first arrived here at Saint Gertrude Church, I was filling in for Father Dominic Grassi, who was the pastor at that time. He had taken ill and was hospitalized. My first Mass here took place on a Sunday morning – in fact it was Easter Sunday of 2007. Father Dominic had called me just the day before, asking me to assist at the 8:00 am Mass. I was sad that my friend, Father Dom, was ill, but I was also grateful for the opportunity to be with the parishioners of Saint Gertrude. Little did I know that this was just the beginning of my time with you here!

In June of that year, I was assigned by Cardinal Francis George as a “resident priest” at Saint Gertrude Parish. A “resident priest” usually has a “day job” or is a full-time student at Loyola University, as Father Pius is now. My “day job” since 1993 has been at the Quigley Pastoral Center, where I’ve served at the Metropolitan Tribunal of the Archdiocese of Chicago.

Ever since you greeted me warmly on an Easter Sunday morning years ago, God has blessed me with the opportunity to be part of Saint Gertrude Parish with our pastors Father Dominic and Father Rich Prendergast, and the excellent pastoral staff here. In addition, I was blessed to become a friend of our beloved pastor emeritus, Father Bill Kenneally, whom we commended to our Savior Jesus just a couple months ago.

Because I am reaching 70 years of age this year, I asked Cardinal Blase Cupich to approve my request for retirement, and he recently approved my request. Thus, the time has arrived for me to retire and say farewell to Saint Gertrude Parish. As I begin to adjust to life as a retiree, I’ll be living not far from here, and then I plan to spend some time visiting my brothers and their families, all of whom now reside in other states. I plan to take part in pastoral ministry, improve my Spanish language skills, and even take up new hobbies such as kayaking and hiking.

I’m very grateful to each one of you, the parishioners and the pastoral staff of Saint Gertrude Parish, for your amazing kindness and thoughtfulness over the years. With you, I have shared in many joyful moments, including our parish’s 100th birthday celebration in 2012, and weddings, baptisms, graduations, and other special times. I have great memories of all those celebrations! I have also shared in your times of sorrow and loss, when our hearts were broken and our faith was tested. Your strong faith has lifted me

up more than words can ever express!

During the last two difficult years, we have all experienced the challenges and heartaches brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, and I'm thankful to those who volunteered to get us through the most difficult days. Recently, I've been fortunate enough to welcome new parishioners who had belonged to Saint Ignatius Parish, Saint Matthias Parish, and other faith communities. We are all "pilgrims on a journey."

With the permission and encouragement of Father Rich, I'll speak at each of the Masses on the weekend of January 29–30. After each Mass, I would appreciate spending some moments with you in the vestibule of the church, so please be sure to stop by and have a cookie (from the bakery at Misericordia) and some juice or milk. Rest assured, safety protocols due to the pandemic will be strictly followed.

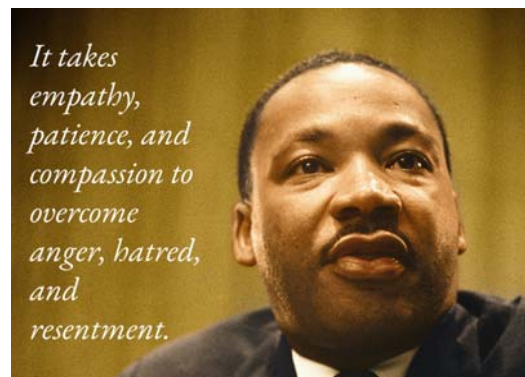
With much joy, I am very grateful to our loving God for the privilege to be with you at our wonderfully diverse and welcoming Saint Gertrude Parish! Thank you for reading this message, and may God bless you!

~ Father Mike Bradley



Combined Mass Planned for Sunday, January 30

On Sunday, January 30, our 10:30 am Masses will be combined and held in the church. All Masses that weekend will celebrate Fr. Mike Bradley and his many years in service here.



Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.: A Legacy of Love

On Monday, the U.S. will honor the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., whose grand dreams of peace and equality, though not fully realized, continue to take root in the simple dreams of everyday people and plant the seeds of reform and renewal. Thus, King imagined a world not just free of racial discord, but free from war, poverty, and injustice of any kind. And true to his Christian roots, he believed that the fight for these freedoms had to be nonviolent. “I’ve seen too much hate to want to hate, myself,” King announced to his enemies. “Do to us what you will and we will still love you.”

These are words we ignore at our own peril. If we choose violence over conciliation, hate over love, we will be rewarded with feelings of paranoia and alienation. Every misunderstanding becomes reason for mistrust and resentment; every slight becomes reason for war. A heart filled with hate knows no joy. Like new cloth sewn into an old cloak, the heart of hate can’t bear the fullness of joy. It pulls and tears till it feels nothing.

So Jesus, and King in his footsteps, urges us to love our enemies, no matter how deep the divide, no matter how bitter the struggle. We all have enemies. Who are yours? Take a moment to picture and name them—it could be our national enemies whom we send troops to fight, or a coworker who wishes you ill; perhaps it’s a family member or friend who betrayed or abused you, or a neighbor whose political or religious views are abhorrent to you; maybe it’s some thug who robbed you, or a loathsome bully who threatened someone you care for.

Can you love these people now or continue to love them even as their detestable acts and hatred toward you grows? Yes, answered Jesus; yes, answered Gandhi; yes, answered King. What will your answer be?

“Love,” King said, “is the only force capable of transforming an enemy to a friend.” Begin to win new friends today by looking at your enemies as people who need your love, even as you work to understand them or change their unjust and immoral behavior. Remember, braver ones than you or I died that we might live in love.

~ Patrice Tuohy (Excerpt reprinted with permission from preparetheword.com)



No Religious Classes This Sunday, January 16; Online Classes Planned for January 23 and January 30

Due to the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday, there are no Religious Ed classes this Sunday, January 16. Additionally, all Religious Ed classes will be held remotely on Sunday, January 23 and Sunday, January 30.

Eloy Escamilla, our Pastoral Associate for Religious Education and Youth Ministry, will reach out with Zoom links to Religious Ed classes next week.



Upcoming Confirmation Retreat for Students

There is a Confirmation retreat planned for Saturday, January 29 from 9:00 am-12:00 pm for students being Confirmed this spring. Eloy Escamilla, our Pastoral Associate for Religious Education and Youth Ministry, will reach out with meeting information when the date draws closer.



Student Essay Contest Winners

Announced - Winning Essays Shared

Congratulations to the three winners of our student essay contest - Hazel Tabora of Peterson Elementary School, Sam Butler of Pritzker Elementary School, and Sammie Devitt of NCA! The essay prompt challenged students to write about finding the good news within the bad news and how this good news reflects the message of Jesus.

All three essays can be read on our parish website [here](#). Our bulletins will feature each of the three winners' essays over the next few weeks. Thank you to all who participated and to our judges! Below is Hazel Tabora's submission.

When we hear about the bad news it brings a sense of community and action for people striving to help stop injustices or to protect our environment. Natural disasters and pandemics, as unfortunate as they are, have a way to bring people together. The recent fires and hurricanes have made people realize that we have to start working to protect the world that God gave us. Our resources are not infinite, and natural disasters are making that message clear to all of us. This bad news, natural disasters, somehow brings out the best of the human race. The pandemic that the world has been suffering for the last two years has taught people empathy and the importance of the safety of others. Because we are all going through the same experience it has brought understanding and kindness to people. We have learned the importance of trusting others and reliable sources.

In school, the ostracization, bullying, and unkindness of students is evident. Hearing about how kids at school treat others is another example of bad news. Personally, I find it difficult to take a grand gesture of action, but

instead I will talk to bullied students and make them included. This is an example of how one can make a positive difference in the lives of others. During recess I often see another student sitting alone in the corner of the field. He has a disability, and many students ignore him or bother him when they do interact with him. I often converse with him or kick a soccer ball with him. He seems happy to have someone to play with and I'm happy to help him have a sense of belonging. I think these smaller gestures are as important as bigger ones that draw more attention. The good news can be delivered in different ways and this is my way of delivering it.

The two instances above both reflect the message of Jesus in different ways. Jesus spread the good news by sharing his personal stories and this brought people together. He was always trying to find the sparks of good news through the bad that showed what a Christian was. Treating others with kindness no matter who they are was something that Jesus often preached. He believed that all people should be shown respect and inclusion. He also believed that working together for a common goal, whether that goal be to stop injustices or stopping the spread of the pandemic, can bring the human race together. These examples are ways that Jesus' message is still alive and relevant today. When we follow His word it brings out the best in humanity.



Heart to Heart Medical Lending Closet Needs Shower Chairs

The parish's Medical Lending Closet is in need of shower/bath chairs for their clients. Contact Laurie Hasbrook, the Lending Closet manager, at 773.973.5464 on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 am-2:30 or via email at lhasbrook@stgertrudechicago.org. Thank you!



Growing in Faith

Gifts of the Spirit -- I Corinthians 12: 4-11

This reading brings to mind the gifts of the people we've lost from St. Gertrude parish these past two years. Here are just a few I'm remembering today. There are so many from this community alone.

I'm remembering Bob H. Bob was partially sighted and very active in the low-vision community. His kind soul was so alive to beauty in this world, he helped us all see more clearly and appreciate more deeply.

There's Ruth T., a brilliant, pioneering woman of color in the field of biochemistry. Most of us wouldn't know her for her scientific achievement but knew her quick wit, generous heart, and truly graceful presence.

Mary G., another dazzling intellect, fully occupied both hemispheres of her brain. Her passion and hunger for the written word was evident in her encyclopedic knowledge of poetry and literature, which she shared through Poetry Pilgrims and the Book Club.

Fr. Bill K. dreamed of a church where we all belonged. He celebrated and lovingly fostered gifts of the spirit in his congregation. He generously shared the power of the pulpit to reveal these gifts and the movement of the spirit among us.

These are but a few of the names we know among the vast rolls of known and unknown dead, here and around the world. They were everyone – kind, upright, messy, beloved, unloved, flawed-perfectly. Each brought something unique when they came and took something irreplaceable when

they left. They are missed.

~ KC Conway



Celtic Spirituality Talk by Mary Deeley

The Benedictine Oblates of St. Scholastica Monastery invite you to a free presentation by Mary Deeley on Celtic Spirituality next Sunday, January 23 from 3:00-5:00 pm. Mary is the Pastoral Associate and Director of the Christ the Teacher Institute at Sheil Catholic Center at Northwestern University and is the author of *Mothers, Lovers, Priests, Prophets, and Kings: What the Old Testament Tells Us About God and Ourselves*, *Daybreaks: Daily Reflections for Advent and Christmas*, and *Remembering God: Resting in the Midst of Life*, as well as numerous reflections and articles.

Register to attend in person or by Zoom by emailing

communications@osbchicago.org by January 21. For more info, visit www.osbchicago.org/programs or call 773.764.2413 x232.



PROTECT CHICAGO*

WHY GET VACCINATED
IT ALL STARTS WITH YOU

Building defenses against COVID-19 is a team effort. And you are a key part of that defense.

Protect yourself, your coworkers, your patients, your family, and your community.

Help end the global pandemic. COVID-19 vaccination will help reduce spread.

 **CDPH**
Chicago Department of Public Health

CHICAGO.GOV/COVIDVAX #PROTECTCHICAGO

Need Help Locating a Vaccination Site?

Search vaccines.gov, text your ZIP code to 438829, or call 1-800-232-0233 to find locations near you. You can also contact the City's COVID-19 helpline at 312.746.4835.

Additionally, there is also a vaccine clinic at Swedish Hospital with walk-in hours - weekdays from 7:00 am-3:00 pm. The clinic is held at Anderson Pavilion Auditorium, 2751 W. Winona St. Appointments can also be scheduled online through [NorthShoreConnect](#) or by calling 773.907.7700.



Readings and Music for This Weekend

- [Links to reading for Sunday, January 16](#)
 - [Lyrics and Copyright Info for Sunday, January 16](#)
 - Music planned:
 - Entrance: *Sing a New Song*, #550
 - Gloria: Barker
 - Psalm 96: *Proclaim his marvelous deeds to all the nations from Spirit and Psalm*
 - Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia* from *Mass of Endless Mercy* by Steve Angrisano
 - Offertory: *O God You Search Me*, #438
 - Mass Parts: Mass of Creation
 - Communion: *We are Many Parts*, #586
 - Recessional: *Songs of Thankfulness of Praise*, #106 - start with verse 2
-



Cantors, Musicians, Eucharistic Ministers, and Lectors Scheduled for This Weekend

Our cantors are:

- Saturday, January 15 at 5:00 pm in church - Carol Ann Munro
- Sunday, January 16 at 8:00 am - Denise Goodman
- Sunday, January 16 at 10:30 am in church - Cindy Lawson
- Sunday, January 16 at 10:30 am in Gym - TBA

Our Eucharistic ministers are:

- Saturday, January 15 at 5:00 pm in church - Kathy Wall
- Sunday, January 16 at 8:00 am - Marty McDermott
- Sunday, January 16 at 10:30 am in church - Rafael Melendez, Patrick Robinson
- Sunday, January 16 at 10:30 am in Gym - TBA

Our Ministers of the Word are:

- Saturday, January 15 at 5:00 pm in church - Jen Kiedaisch
- Sunday, January 16 at 8:00 am - Hallie Burhoe
- Sunday, January 16 at 10:30 am in church - Bob Backis

- Sunday, January 16 at 10:30 am in Gym - TBA
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Rest in Peace

- Ann and Paul Kuick
-



Baptisms

- Nora Synthia Nixon-Lopez, child of Michael Lopez and Erin Nixon-Lopez
-



Ways to Help Our Parish: Amazon

Smile, Text to Give, GiveCentral, PayPal, 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.

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 esoto@stgertrudechicago.org.

[Click here to go to GiveCentral](#)

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



Daily Scripture Readings

Click [HERE](#) for the daily readings for Masses. Here is the list of readings for this for parishioners that prefer to look them up:

Monday, January 17: 1 Sm 15:16-23/Mk 2:18-22

Tuesday, January 18: 1 Sm 1:9-20/Mk 1:21-28

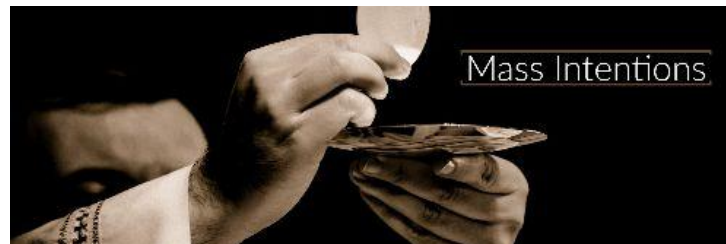
Wednesday, January 19: 1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51/Mk 3:1-6

Thursday, January 20: 1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7/Mk 3:7-12

Friday, January 21: 1 Sm 24:3-21/Mk 3:13-19 (315)

Saturday, January 22: 2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27/Mk 3:20-21

Sunday, January 23: Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10/1 Cor 12:12-30 or 12:12-14, 27/Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21



Mass Intentions

Next week's intentions are:

Monday, January 17: 7:30 am - Ron Bethia +

Tuesday, January 18: 7:30 am - Kathleen Naughton +

Wednesday, January 19: 7:30 am - Purgatorial Society

Thursday, January 20: 7:30 am - Communion Service

Friday, January 21: 7:30 am - Laura Link +

Saturday, January 22: 7:30 am - Living and deceased parents of St.

Gertrude parishioners; 5:00 pm - Claudia Kasperak +

Sunday, January 23: 8:00 am - Harry Glotkowski +; 10:30 am - Eleanor

Valvassori +; 10:30 am Gym Mass - Carol McRaith +

(+ indicates the person is deceased)



Please Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends

• Pamela Sherrod Anderson

• Maria Hertl

- Helen Banta
- Jean Bautista
- Zara Bradley
- Sharon Brown
- Connie Bueck
- Lilly Buie
- Maggie Callaway
- Aida Calvopina
- Connie Cool
- Barb Daly
- Caloy Desembrana
- Ann Collins Dole
- Christine Frisoni
- Shirley Marie Gonzales
- Gina Heidkamp
- Daniel Hidalgo
- Patti Irwin
- Bernice Kiedysz
- Dean Mattoni
- Larry McCauley
- Molly Morris
- Karey Myers
- Massielle Ojeda
- Tina Piemonte
- Charley Scantlebury
- Richard Seitz
- Peggy Stoffel
- The Sullivan family
- Elinora E. Tolentino
- Manuel & Norma Viray
- Valerie Williams
- Ken & Vyes Yoza

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