

St. Gertrude

All Are Welcome

1420 W. Granville Avenue

Chicago, Illinois 60660

www.stgertrudechicago.org

stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org

773.764.3621

The Epiphany of the Lord

Bulletin for January 5, 2020

And behold, the star that the Magi had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother.

They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

~ Matthew 2:10-11



From Father Rich

Today's feast of the Epiphany of the Lord continues the theme of light in the Christmas story. In this case, it is the light of a star that has guided the magi to the infant child lying in the manger. The child who is Son of Mary and Son of God! With this manifestation, or epiphany, it is now clear that this child has come not just for Israel, but for all humankind. It will then become the work of all who follow him to bring His light into every corner of the world, and every corner of our hearts. Next week brings the Christmas season to a close as we transition into Ordinary Time and celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord.



As we return to school and to our normal work schedules this week, wrapping up the holiday schedules with which we have been celebrating these great events, our attention is once again turned to the events in our world. Here in our nation, the impeachment of the president will occupy news cycles and conversations. As we enter into the final parts of this process, Epiphany reminds us that the image of light is also an analogy for truth and integrity. As we proceed through this challenge to our nation and our values, let us keep in mind the importance of truth and integrity. And let us pray for our nation, for the elected members of the legislative branch, and for the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court as the trial goes forward. I return time and time again to the importance of the example all of us have to lead our children—the next generations—to the truth and its value in our everyday lives. Only if we value truth can we be people of integrity.

Many thanks to all those who have done so much to help all our celebrations during the Advent & Christmas seasons. Our wonderful choirs, cantors and instrumentalists; all the liturgical ministers who put in extra time with the many celebrations of these weeks; the Art & Environment folks who keep the church decorated for the different seasons; our lead maintenance man for keeping the facilities neat and functioning; all those who participated in the Giving Tree and its organizers; all the servers, sacristans, priests/Presiders. And all those who participated in all these celebrations—all the parishioners and visitors who have helped us joyously celebrate these wonderful gifts from our loving God! Thanks to you all for your generosity of time and talent!

Now that we are in this new year, we will be hearing more about the *Renew My Church* process into which we will be entering later in the year. In December, I met with Deacon Chris Murphy who is the Administrator of St. Ignatius Parish, and Fr. Noel Reyes, the pastor of St. Jerome parish. These are the two other parishes in our “grouping” -- we will be working with them in determining the best ways we can live out the gospel of Jesus in our local communities. As I think I have mentioned earlier, St. Ita/St. Thomas and St. Gregory the Great are in conversations right now and we should be hearing if St. Gregory is going to be part of a new consolidation with St. Ita/St. Thomas sometime this spring.

If this does **not** happen, then St. Gregory the Great will be part of our grouping. As this process moves forward, there will be more updates regularly in the bulletin, and I will be working with the Parish Pastoral Council and others in leadership as we begin meeting with our peers from the other parishes in our grouping. Please continue to pray for St. Gertrude parish and for the other parishes with whom we will be meeting in this process. What we can be sure of entering the *Renew My Church* initiative is that every parish will be changed. The goal is to help us better live out the mission of Our Lord and to spread the Gospel to others.

~ Father Rich

Growing in Faith

“What is the star that led you to Jesus?” It’s a question my uncle (Father Duggan) once put to us. He didn’t require an answer. It is a question I come back to each year as I hear the Epiphany story.

If your house was like mine, we first learn the Epiphany story as very small children with the crèche – the Nativity Scene (in our case, a gift from the very same uncle) playing with the figurines—especially those camels! Later the story helps us realize that Jesus was a gift not just to his immediate family, or to his own Jewish community, but to the whole world—as suggested by the arrival of the Magi coming from the East, coming from another land, another ethnicity, another faith.

But maybe the “star” of the story is really the star!—always present, even if we don’t always see it, shining the same, on rich and poor, men and women,

Jew and Gentile – everyone on the planet. The star is always there for us - we don’t have to make it shine.

Maybe what was extraordinary about the Three Wise Men was not that they came from distant lands, rather that they had their eyes open to the light. The light called them, and they were open to that invitation. They followed that star.

What is the star that first led you to Jesus?

~ Madeleine Philbin for
Growing in Faith



Parish Calendar

Sunday, January 5 *Feast of the Epiphany*

- 9:00 am ~ Religious Ed classes/Kids Word
- 10:30 am ~ Gym Mass resumes

Monday, January 6

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

Wednesday, January 8

- 7:00 pm ~ Refugee Committee meeting in the Ministry Center

Saturday, January 11

- 1:00-4:00 pm ~ Confirmation retreat for students in year one of Confirmation preparation (typically students in seventh grade) in the Social Hall
- 5:00 pm ~ Second collection at all Masses for the Night Ministry at Mass

Sunday, January 12 *The Baptism of the Lord*

- Second collection at all Masses for the Night Ministry
- 10:30 am ~ Family Mass hosted by second graders and their families

Monday, January 13

- 7:30 pm Poetry Pilgrims in the Ministry Center

Sunday, January 19

- No Religious Ed classes due to MLK Day

Monday, January 20

- 7:30 pm ~ Good Books in the Ministry Center

Thursday, January 23

- 7:00 pm ~ Parish Pastoral Council meeting in the Ministry Center

Saturday, January 25

- 1:00-4:00 pm ~ Confirmation retreat for students in year two of Confirmation preparation (typically students in eighth grade) in the Social Hall
- 5:00 pm ~ Second Collection at Mass for the Church in Latin America

Sunday, January 26

- Second Collection at all Masses for the Church in Latin America
- No Religious Ed classes due to NCA open house.
- There is no Gym Mass.
- 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)
- 3:00 pm ~ Commonweal Conversation in the Ministry Center

Advent and Christmas Thank You

We are so grateful for the hard work of so many parishioners who made Advent at St. Gertrude's so beautiful and festive. The children and families that participated in our wonderful Family Mass on Christmas Eve were so charming and sweet and truly made our Family Mass very special! 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 absolutely beautiful. We also are thankful for Tommy Martin and Andy Mueller, 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.



Thank you for your tremendous response to our call for help. Your gifts of time and talent were very much appreciated.

Second Collection for The Night Ministry



Although an integral part of our community, the Night Ministry is one of those extraordinary organizations that operates with many of us unaware of what they are doing because we have been fortunate enough to not need their services. It is truly one of the greatest examples of what Pope Francis calls ministry to the people on the peripheries.

The Night Ministry was begun in 1976 to address the crisis of homelessness for adults and youth. As this Ministry began to reach out to these “invisible” members of society, the needs became clearer and greater. Many of the youth living on the street were there because they had been thrown out of their homes when their parents discovered they were gay. In attempting to survive, many were forced into prostitution, which quickly led to the need for basic medical services and then a shelter for temporary housing for youth from the age of 14.

As the AIDS epidemic grew, the Night Ministry began to provide HIV testing. Soon, a bus was outfitted to provide immediate medical services on-site, coming to where the homeless were finding a place to stay. In 2014, they opened The Crib, an emergency overnight shelter for young adults ages 18 to 24. More recently, additional shelters and

transitional housing centers have opened to help get young people off the street. They have doubled their bed capacity by opening two new youth housing programs—the Response-Ability Pregnant and Parenting Program (RAPPP) and the STEPS Transitional Living Program. And they continue to provide medical and housing services to the young people in the LGBTQ community.

The Night Ministry was begun by local clergy and faith communities and continues to this day with that same support. Now they are moving into new space and expanding these necessary services and ministries and need our help. Please consider a generous donation next weekend, Saturday, January 11 and Sunday, January 12, to the Night Ministry.

If you would like more information, please check their website at www.thenightministry.org.



Parish News

Baptismal Preparation Class: The next class will be held on Monday, January 6 at 7:00 pm in the Rectory. Please call the Rectory office at 773.764.3621 to register for the class.

Refugee Committee: Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, January 8 at 7:00 pm in the Ministry Center. The agenda includes planning activities for the spring and catching up on families, including the new family, our eighth, that we are sponsoring.

Knitting Group: The Knitting Group invites all knitters and crocheters to join us for fun and blanket square-making! We'll meet on Wednesday, January 8 from 7:00-9:00 pm in the Ministry Center. No experience is necessary!

Upcoming Family Mass: On Sunday, January 12, there will be a Family Mass in Church at 10:30 am, hosted by second-grade students and their families. There will be hospitality offered after Mass in the back of church.

Good Books: The book club will meet on Monday, January 13 at 7:30 pm in the Ministry Center. Contact Mary Grover at mary@marsgrover.com with any questions.

Poetry Pilgrims: The next Poetry Pilgrims gathering will be Monday, January 20 at 7:30 pm in the Ministry Center. Email Mary Grover at mary@marsgrover.com for a list of poems.

Parish Pastoral Council: The next meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council will be Thursday, January 23 at 7:00 pm in the Ministry Center.

Upcoming Second Collection: On Saturday, January 25 and Sunday, January 26, there will be a second collection at all Masses for the Church in Latin America. Please be as generous if you can.

Gym Mass Info: There will not be a Gym Mass on Sunday, January 26. Please join us for 10:30 am Mass in Church.

Religious Education Schedule: There will be no Religious Education classes on Sunday, January 19 because of the Martin Luther King, Jr. observance, nor classes on Sunday, January 26 due to NCA's open house. Kids Word at the 10:30 am Mass will still meet those mornings.

Retreats for Confirmation Candidates: All Confirmation candidates from St. Gertrude's Religious Ed program and NCA must attend the scheduled upcoming retreats.

Students in year one of Confirmation preparation (typically students in seventh grade) will have their first retreat on Saturday, January 11.

Students in year two of Confirmation (typically students in eighth grade) are asked to attend a retreat on Saturday, January 25.

Both retreats will take place from 1:00-4:00 pm in the Social Hall. Parents are not required to attend.

Please email Jim Potthast, our Youth and Family Minister, at jpotthast@stgertrudechicago.org with any questions.



Weddings at St. Gertrude: Are you interested in getting married at St. Gertrude? Call the Rectory at 773.764.3621 to ask for information, or visit www.stgertrudechicago.org and click on *Marriage*.

Thank You for Helping with the Giving Trees! A very special thanks to all who helped in any way with our Giving Trees. Items went to support Care for Real, Heartland Alliance, Courage, Catholic Charities Toy Shower, the Refugee Ministry at St. Gertrude, and other refugee families in our community. Thank you for your generosity!

Thanks from our Music Minister: I wish to extend a huge thank you to our wonderful choir, parish musicians, and the children and parents involved with our Christmas Eve Pageant. We are so grateful for you giving so generously of your time and talents during Advent and Christmas! Thank you for making our Christmas so beautiful! Happy New Year to all of you!

~ Mary Clare Barker

Daily Decalogue of Pope John XXIII

1. Only for today, I will seek to live the livelong day positively without wishing to solve the problems of my life all at once.
2. Only for today, I will take the greatest care of my appearance: I will dress modestly; I will not raise my voice; I will be courteous in my behavior; I will not criticize anyone; I will not claim to improve or to discipline anyone except myself.
3. Only for today, I will be happy in the certainty that I was created to be happy, not only in the other world but also in this one.
4. Only for today, I will adapt to circumstances, without requiring all circumstances to be adapted to my own wishes.
5. Only for today, I will devote ten minutes of my time to some good reading, remembering that just as food is necessary to the life of the body, so good reading is necessary to the life of the soul.
6. Only for today, I will do one good deed and not tell anyone about it.
7. Only for today, I will do at least one thing I do not

- like doing; and if my feelings are hurt, I will make sure that no one notices.
8. Only for today, I will make a plan for myself: I may not follow it to the letter, but I will make it. And I will be on guard against two evils: hastiness and indecision.
 9. Only for today, I will firmly believe, despite appearances, that the good Providence of God cares for me as no one else who exists in this world.
 10. Only for today, I will have no fears. In particular, I will not be afraid to enjoy what is beautiful and to believe in goodness. Indeed, for twelve hours I can certainly do what might cause me consternation were I to believe I had to do it all my life.

NCA's Open House

Join us for our open house and art and music show, on Sunday, January 26, to kick-off Catholic Schools Week, an annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States.

Both of our campuses will be open for touring. The primary campus, 6216 N. Glenwood Ave., will host their open house from 11:00 am-1:00 pm. The middle school campus, located at 7318 N. Oakley Ave., will be open from noon until 2:00 pm.

You will be able to meet our teachers, learn about our wholistic educational approach, and experience the commitment of our faculty and the connections they make with our students.

There will be an art show at the primary school, displaying our students' original artwork. We will also have an art and music show at the middle school, displaying our students' original artwork and acoustic guitar skills.

If you have any questions, please email Shakira Morrissette, Director of Marketing & Admissions, at smorrissette@ncaweb.org.

Only for Today...



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

For many, these are dark and troubling days. But we can fight the darkness by bringing God's light into the world. And as we strive to do God's work, we help bring into being the reign of God on earth.

Collection December 14-15	\$6,587.40
Budgeted Collection	<u>\$7,725.00</u>
Underage	(-) \$1,137.60
Collection December 21-22	\$7,595.90
Budgeted Collection	<u>\$7,725.00</u>
Underage	(-) \$129.10

Parish Pastoral Council Minutes

The St. Gertrude Parish Pastoral council met on November 20, 2019.

First, the PPC wants to thank the listening session participants following the liturgies during our parish feast day weekend which included a combined Mass. The PPC continues to process the feedback but having used a tool to review the text, we wanted to share some initial feedback with you.

Across the liturgies, 59 of you took time to respond, with 76% of you saying the current liturgy schedule works for you. Using a tool on the internet to analyze the text, we uncovered the following:

- Top 3-word phrase appearing in the feedback:
Sense of community
- Top 2-word phrase appearing in the feedback:
The community
- Top word appearing in the feedback:
Community

The PPC will continue to work with this feedback throughout the new year and looks forward to engaging parishioners more in next steps and more listening.

Second, the PPC reviewed membership. We have several people in the pipeline for membership, including some people who came to observe the November meeting. To be in accordance with our newly adopted by-laws, some members are rolling off as we consider new membership. The PPC is grateful to Dominic Guagenti (since 2018 – moved to Minnesota), Sarah Millar (since 2016), and Norm Bowers (since 2016) for their service on the PPC. We would also like to acknowledge that in stepping down from the PPC, Norm Bowers has spent a collective 44 years serving on parish councils, including the St. Gertrude PPC.

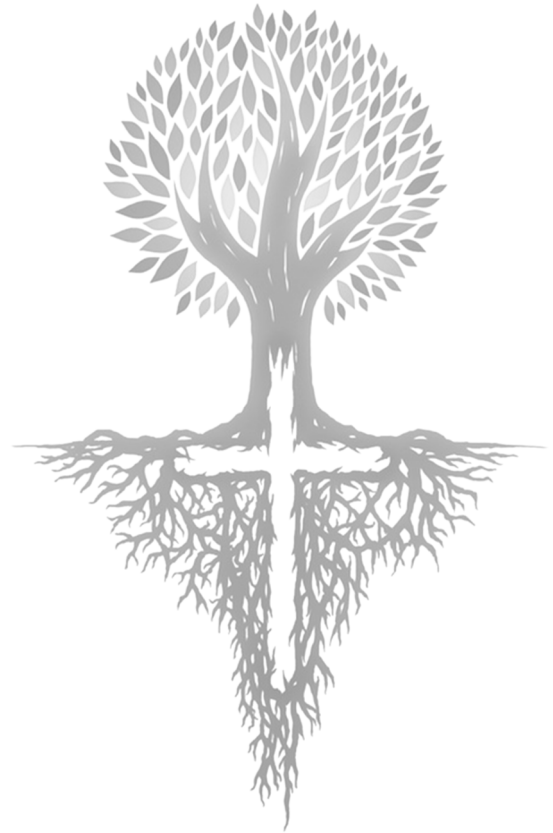
Third, Fr. Rich updated the PPC on *Renew My Church*. He has been meeting with Deacon Chris Murphy (St. Ignatius) and Fr. Noel (St. Jerome) as under the approval of the Archdiocese, St. Ita and St. Greg's have left the grouping and will likely combine themselves. St. Ignatius, St. Jerome, and St. Gertrude leadership will consider what a path forward might look like at this time as the Archdiocese considers its next steps and revised timeline.

Lastly, the PPC adopted and approved a new mission statement and vision statement for St. Gertrude. This thoughtful discernment process for the new statements began in January 2019. We look forward to shedding more light on how we arrived at these over the next several months in the bulletins.

Here are the newly approved St. Gertrude mission and vision statements:

- Mission - *St. Gertrude builds God's kingdom by celebrating the sacraments of life, spreading the gospel, and serving others.*
- Vision - *We strive to be a community, growing in faith, that welcomes all and brings Christ's love to others.*

~ Colleen Fulkerson, PPC Secretary



**Our Parish at Prayer for
January 6-12**

Monday, January 6

7:30 am Martin & Ellen Joyce †

Tuesday, January 7

7:30 am Maria Ngi-Dung Nguyen & parents †

Wednesday, January 8

7:30 am Randy Cruz †

† Indicates person listed is deceased.

Thursday, January 9

7:30 am Communion service

Friday, January 10

7:30 am Living & deceased parents of St. Gertrude parishioners

8:30 am NCA Mass - Mary Love †

Saturday, January 11

7:30 am John Moody Kahoun †

5:00 pm Grant family intention

Sunday, January 12

8:00 am Lindsey McCaw

9:30 am Deceased members of the Sullivan family †

10:30 am Marjorie Feld †

10:30 am Sarah Cunningham † (Gym Mass)

Ministers of the Word

Saturday, January 11

5:00 pm Pat Reardon, Jayne Deiters

Sunday, January 12

8:00 am Hallie Burhoe, David Sullivan

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

10:30 am Steven Monti, Rose Karasti

10:30 am TBA (Gym Mass)

How Do You Find & Contact Your Elected Officials?

Be a voice for change! Contact your elected officials and share your thoughts on gun control, immigration, and more.

Visit usa.gov/elected-officials for a contact information for all of your elected officials, including your senators, U.S. representatives, governor, and state legislators.

**Readings for
January 6-12**

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; Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10; Acts 10:34-38; Mt 3:13-17

Eucharistic Ministers

Saturday, January 11

5:00 pm Mary Cook, Brad Koch, Candace Koch, Patricia Norcik, Kathy Wall

Sunday, January 12

8:00 am Hallie Burhoe, Barb Daly, Brian DeVarenne, William Mitchell, Peter Morin

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

10:30 am Mary Donlan, Kathy Dunne, Sarah Millar, Debra Novak, Ruth Ott, Patrick Robinson, Troy McMillan

10:30 am TBA (Gym Mass)

Altar Servers

Saturday, January 11

5:00 pm Miles Reynolds, Nolan Reynolds, Jayden Reyes

Sunday, January 12

10:30 am Mark Ashbeck, Lucas Ashbeck, Grayson Sweeney

Do You Have Questions About Mass Times, Events, or Holiday Hours?

Visit our website at www.stgertrudechicago.org for a complete listing of events, Mass times, office hours, pictures from our celebrations, bulletins, and more.

Milestones



*Please Pray
for Our Parishioners
and Friends*

Walter Bradford
Ed & Ester Bugler
Jane Callahan-Moore
Maggie Callaway
Aida Calvopina
Geraldine Clark
Mary Ferguson
Mary Fitzgerald
Joan Harrington
Gina Heidkamp

Maria Hertl
Bernice Kiedysz
Karey Myers
Don Piven
Charley Scantlebury
Richard Seitz
Peggy Stoffel
The Sullivan family
Elinora E. Tolentino
Norma E. Viray
Lorraine Walton



Rest in Peace

Edward Bugler
Walter DeSloover,
father of Mary Ann
Collins
Theresa "Terry" Suerth
Clare Westley



New Parishioners

Kathleen Campbell
Samuel and Sheila
Becherer

Parish Information

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Richard J. Prendergast, Pastor
Rev. Michael Gabriel, Associate Pastor (part-time)
Mary Clare Barker, Minister of Music
Art Blumberg, Director of Parish Management and Facilities
Jane Callahan-Moore, Director of Parish Social Services
Kevin Cheers, Pastoral Associate
Laurie Hasbrook, Office Staff
Jim Potthast, Youth and 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, 10:30 am
9:30 am St. Gertrude East (Sacred Heart School/Sheridan and Granville)
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
E-mail: stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org
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 *(Our holiday hours are on page three.)*

Monday - Thursday: 8:30 am to 7:30 pm
Friday: 8:30 am to 4:45 pm
Saturday: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Sunday: 8:30 am to 1:00 pm

HEART TO HEART *(The office is closed until Monday, January 6.)*

Senior outreach and social services connection: 773.973.5464
Email: heart2heart@stgertrudechicago.org

PARISH SCHOOL

Northside Catholic Academy: 773.743.6277
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.

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
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