Stewardship

The grateful response of a Christian disciple who recognizes and receives God’s gifts and shares these gifts in love of God and neighbor.
Dear Friends in Christ,

“Come, follow me… and heal our world.” We have been listening to the call of Jesus to follow him these past three years. Each time we come to understand more fully what following him means.

Today’s Gospel helps us to see that following him means healing our troubled and fragile world. Notice how Jesus brings healing precisely where we need it in our lives and relationships. When confronted by anger, he offers peace and right relationships. When tempted to be unfaithful in our commitments, he offers the grace of faithful and life-giving love. And, when we become trapped in self-deception and lies, he liberates us with the truth of his unconditional love and mercy.

His healing gifts of peace, love, mercy and truth are needed now more than ever in our Church, our nation, our world, and in our families. We all need Christ’s healing, and when we accept it, he empowers us to be his healing presence in our world. Healing others has always been the proof of the discipleship we share as a community.

Through the Annual Catholic Appeal, we together join Christ in his great work, by helping parishes and schools in need, supporting programs of faith formation, and those that promote justice, peace, and respect for life. But, we also reach out to the world, to bring healing to people who suffer natural disasters, famine, homelessness and war. All of this makes a difference because it is the work of Christ.

As you come forward to receive the Eucharist today, I pray that your act of faith in the presence of Christ, who died and came back from the dead for us, will inspire you to continue his healing mission in our world and in our time. Listen to his voice saying to you in the quiet of your hearts: “Come follow me… and heal our world.” Then take up with fresh vigor the discipleship that binds us together, knowing that as we generously share the blessings God has given us in the annual appeal, our local church and the world will know the healing ministry of Christ. On behalf of all those who benefit from the appeal, I say thanks.

Cardinal Cupich, Archbishop of Chicago

(Following the Cardinal’s homily, we will be led through the commitment process for the Annual Catholic Appeal.)
Plucking out eyes, cutting off hands, pretty drastic measures to remain in God’s good graces—yikes! In the full gospel reading for this Sunday, Jesus certainly garners our attention. The lukewarm need not apply. Jesus is more the John the Baptist in this passage than Jesus meek and mild. The bar is set high so we don’t get complacent. There’s always more to challenge us if we choose to follow the Way.

As a sacramental reminder of the challenge to enter through the narrow gate, lose our life for his sake and walk in his footsteps, pause next time you take holy water when you enter church to bless yourself. The water is supposed to represent dying to self and rising to new life.

When the water crosses my forehead and I make the sign of the cross over my chest, I’ve been trying to be more conscious of the baptismal symbol it is meant to represent. I think of myself as getting immersed (symbolically drowned) and emerging cleansed and rejuvenated to take on the mind of Christ and step into his sandals.

As the day progresses, I realize his sandals are way too large for me because I keep tripping and stumbling along. But that’s ok. Jesus is always there to help me brush myself off and shuffle along. He’s very sympathetic to one-eyed, one-handed compatriots.

~ Phil Bujnowski for Growing in Faith

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**Parish Calendar**

**Sunday, February 16**
- There are no Religious Ed classes.
- 10:30 am ~ Kids Word at Mass in Church

**Monday, February 17**
- 7:30 pm ~ Poetry Pilgrims in the Ministry Center

**Saturday, February 22**
- 9:30 am ~ Lenten leaders’ *New Wine, New Wineskins* training in the Ministry Center (Registration is required.)
- 6:00 pm ~ NCA Soiree at Ravenswood Event Center, 4043 N. Ravenswood Ave.

**Sunday, February 23**
- 6:30-8:00 pm ~ WOW teens in the Gym balcony

**Wednesday, February 26 Ash Wednesday**
- 7:30 am ~ Mass (Ashes distributed during Mass.)
- 10:00 am ~ NCA’s Mass (Ashes distributed during Mass.)
- 6:00-6:45 pm ~ Ashes distributed.
- 7:00 pm ~ Mass (Ashes distributed during Mass.)

**Friday, February 28**
- 3:00 pm ~ Stations of the Cross in Church

**Saturday, February 29**
- 10:00 am through the 5:00 pm Mass ~ PreCana class (Registration is required.)

**Sunday, March 1**
- 9:00 am-12:00 pm ~ Boy Scouts pancake breakfast in the Social Hall
- 10:30 am ~ Family Mass in Church hosted by third graders and their families

**Monday, March 2**
- 7:00 pm ~ Baptismal prep class (Registration is required.)

**Friday, March 6**
- 3:00 pm ~ Stations of the Cross in Church

**Monday, March 9**
- 7:30 am ~ Good Books in the Ministry Center.

**Wednesday, March 11**
- 7:00 pm ~ Knitting Group in the Ministry Center

**Friday, March 13**
- 3:00 pm ~ Stations of the Cross in Church

**Sunday, March 15**
- 10:30 am ~ No Gym Mass, please join us for the 10:30 am Mass in Church.

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**Mark your calendars!**
*Lent begins on Wednesday, February 26.*
Poetry Pilgrims: The next Poetry Pilgrims gathering will be Monday, February 17 at 7:30 pm in the Ministry Center. Please email Mary Grover at mary@marsgrover.com for a list of poems.

Teen Get-Together: WOW teens and any teen in high school, are invited to gather on Sunday, February 23 from 6:30-8:00 pm in the Gym balcony.

PreCana Classes Offered: If you are an engaged couple planning on getting married at St. Gertrude, or a parishioner planning on getting married anywhere else, attendance at a PreCana is part of the marriage preparation process for all Catholics in the Archdiocese of Chicago.

Our parish-based PreCana will be held on Saturday, February 29, beginning at 10:00 am through the 5:00 pm Mass. Call the Rectory at 773.764.3621 to register.

Upcoming St. Gertrude’s Women’s Club Gathering: Beat the winter blues on leap day, Saturday, February 29! Break out your favorite beachwear (hats, shades, etc.) and hike on over to Ann Wilson’s (new) house, 1034 W. Albion, at 7:00 pm to bask under happy lights and be with happy women! Bring a drink or a snack to share. If you have questions or want a ride from church, email Laurie Jacob at jacobfamily@sbcglobal.net.

Pancake Breakfast: Boy Scout Pack 3822 will host their annual pancake breakfast fundraiser on Sunday, March 1 from 9:00 am-12:00 pm in the Social Hall. Tickets are available for pre-sale or at the door, $8.00 for adults and $7.00 for seniors and kids under 12. Proceeds help pay for events, outings, and operational expenses.

Upcoming Family Mass: On Sunday, March 1, there will be a Family Mass in Church at 10:30 am, hosted by third-grade students and their families. Hospitality is not offered after Mass during Lent.

Baptismal Preparation Class: The next class will be held on Monday, March 2 at 7:00 pm in the Rectory. Please call the Rectory office at 773.764.3621 to register for the class.

Good Books: The book club will meet on Monday, March 9 at 7:30 pm in the Ministry Center. Contact Mary Grover at mary@marsgrover.com with any questions.

Knitting Group: The Knitting Group invites all knitters and crocheters to join us for fun and blanket square-making! We’ll meet on Wednesday, March 11 from 7:00-9:00 pm in the Ministry Center. No experience is necessary!

Gym Mass Info: On Sunday, March 15, there is no Gym Mass. Please join us at the 10:30 am Mass in Church.

Thank You Boy Scouts! Special thanks to Boy Scout Pack 3822 for providing hospitality after Mass last Sunday, February 9! They did a great job!
Thank You for Coming to our Parish Cabaret

We are so grateful to everyone who came out to last Saturday’s Cabaret! We had a packed house of parishioners and friends who enjoyed the program organized by Mary Clare Barker and the St. Gertrude choir. We are so thankful for the amazing music, for Dick Merrill, who designed the event’s flyer, and that everyone stayed to help cleanup after the show. Thank you for supporting the good work of our parish, and we hope to see everyone again at our next musical event!

Lent at St. Gertrude Parish

Ash Wednesday Schedule
Wednesday, February 26
Our schedule for Ash Wednesday is:
- 7:30 am ~ Mass (Ashes distributed during Mass.)
- 10:00 am ~ NCA’s school Mass (Ashes distributed during Mass.)
- 6:00-6:45 pm ~ Ashes distributed.
- 7:00 pm ~ Mass (Ashes distributed during Mass.)

Stations of the Cross
Fridays During Lent at 3:00 pm
Stations of the Cross will be prayed every Friday during Lent at 3:00 pm in Church.
On Good Friday, April 10, there will be Living Stations of the Cross at 3:00 pm, featuring teens from the parish.

Lenten Reconciliation Service
Sunday, March 22 at 1:00 pm
Our Lenten Reconciliation service will be in Church. This service, lasting less than an hour, offers absolution of our sins in preparation for the celebrations of Holy Week and Easter through reflection and quiet prayer.
"If you choose you can keep the commandments, they will save you; if you trust in God, you too shall live ... Before man are life and death, good and evil, whichever he chooses shall be given him." ~ Sirach 15: 15, 17

We usually know what is right to do. We usually know what is wrong to do. But if we become confused, if we have lost our way, we can return to the commandments for guidance. And, as always, we can pray and put our trust in God.

Sunday Collection February 8-9 | $5,365.50
Budgeted Collection | $7,725.00
Variance | (-) $2,368.50

Art Blumberg, Director of Parish Management and Facilities

Come join us for the 2020 NCA Soirée on Saturday, February 22 from 6:00-11:00 pm at the Ravenswood Event Center, 4043 N. Ravenswood Ave. The evening will feature live and silent auctions, raffles, games, food, drinks, music, and dancing! We invite our friends, family, and community members to join us in the spirit of giving and fun!

The NCA Soirée is Northside Catholic Academy’s largest annual fundraiser. This multi-faceted event is dedicated to reaching a goal of raising over $100,000 to support the NCA Guardian Angel Scholarship Fund and many academic and facility improvements. The Guardian Angel Scholarship Fund helps to ensure that a quality Catholic education is available to all families in our community. This fund, and many school improvements, cannot be sustained without this essential fundraising event!

In addition to a great cause, it’s a time to celebrate our community with family and friends. Tickets are $125 per person. Information and ticket sales can be found at ncasoiree.com.

Tickets Available for the NCA Soirée

Come, follow me… and heal our world

This weekend, our parish will be conducting the Annual Catholic Appeal in-pew Commitment Weekend. Please remember that the Annual Catholic Appeal is much different than a one-time special collection. It is a pledge campaign where you can make a gift payable in installments.

The Annual Catholic Appeal theme, “Come, follow me… and heal our world,” was selected to remind us to continue to answer Jesus’ call to follow Him in thought, word and deed by providing the necessary contribution to fund ministries and services to share God’s love with many others in our parish and our archdiocese.

Each pledge makes a difference! All parish communities participate in the campaign and the gifts of many enable our parishes, schools, and ministries to deliver needed services.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration and generous response.

Donate to Tax Credit Scholarships

Illinois’ tax credit scholarship program through the “Invest in Kids” Act provides strong incentives for donors to support non-public school scholarships for low-income students in the state. Illinois students from low-income families may use these new scholarships to attend a non-public school of their choice, including the more than 200 Archdiocese of Chicago Catholic schools.

In 2019, more than 2,300 students were awarded scholarships, however more than 11,000 students remain on the wait list without a scholarship. Many more students could benefit from your generosity. The need is great. Your gift through a tax credit scholarship provides a high-quality, faith-based education for generations of students to come.

With the two-for-one matching program through Archdiocese of Chicago Catholic Schools and Empower Illinois, a $500 donation could easily turn into $1,500 scholarship for a student in need. Learn more at archchicago.org/tcs.
Teen Domestic Violence Discussion

February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month and an opportunity to learn about what makes a healthy and unhealthy relationship.

The Domestic Violence Outreach ministries of St. Benedict and Queen of Angels Catholic Parishes invite you to Love Shouldn't Hurt on Tuesday, February 18 at Sulzer Library, 4555 N. Lincoln Ave. Refreshments will be served at 6:30 pm and the program will begin at 7:00 pm.

Jessica Caccavallo, MSW, LSW, Prevention Education Coordinator for Northwest Center Against Sexual Assault will be the featured presenter to discuss healthy and unhealthy relationships.

The discussion will include information about how to navigate dating, relationships, and break-ups, signs of an unhealthy or abusive relationship, and how to take action if you are in an unhealthy relationship.

St. Gertrude is partnered with the Archdiocese of Chicago Domestic Violence Outreach to help and empower victims of domestic violence and their loved ones.

Our website, https://stgertrudechicago.org/domestic-violence-help, offers a list of area resources for those experiencing domestic violence. A quick link to the resources is also available on our home page.

Information includes:
- Where to start
- Organizations that provide housing
- Legal help
- Spanish-speaking assistance
- Asian, Arabic, and Korean assistance
- LGBTQ help
- Help for teens and young adults
- Help securing the safety of pets

Additionally, the page reviews signs of what abuse looks like, what emotional abuse is, why people stay in abusive relationships, and how friends and family members can help their loved ones in difficult relationships.

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Ministry of Care Training

St. Nicholas Parish in Evanston will be conducting Ministry of Care training on two consecutive Saturdays in 2020—February 29 and March 7. The training will be held from 8:30 am-3:30 pm in St. Nicholas parish’s Oldershaw Hall, 806 Ridge Avenue in Evanston. The cost is $30 and includes breakfast and lunch.

Each session will focus on a particular aspect of the Ministry of Care and will be given by experienced facilitators accompanied by group discussion and/or exercises to help you practice a particular skill. Completion of this course qualifies you to receive the Archdiocesan mandate to bring Communion to the sick, homebound, and hospitalized of your parish.

If you would like to participate in this training, please contact Jane Moore-Callahan, Director of Parish Social Services at heart2heart@stgertrudechicago.org or 773.973.5464. A brochure with more information is available on the tables in the back of church.
## Our Parish at Prayer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday, February 17</strong></td>
<td>7:30 am</td>
<td>John P. Clennon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, February 18</strong></td>
<td>7:30 am</td>
<td>Living &amp; deceased parents of St. Gertrude parishioners</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, February 19</strong></td>
<td>7:30 am</td>
<td>Jacqueline Elwood</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday, February 20</strong></td>
<td>7:30 am</td>
<td>Communion service</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday, February 21</strong></td>
<td>7:30 am</td>
<td>Mary Jo Martin</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>NCA Mass - John Resch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday, February 22</strong></td>
<td>7:30 am</td>
<td>Purgatorial Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Bart McKee</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday, February 23</strong></td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Lauretta Parks</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Parishioners of St. Gertrude</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:30 am</td>
<td>Robert Nelson</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:30 am</td>
<td>Billy Tobin (Gym Mass)</td>
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### Indicators

- † Indicates person listed is deceased.

## Readings for the Week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday</strong></td>
<td>Jas 1:1-11; Ps 119:67-68, 71-72, 75-76; Mk 8:11-13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday</strong></td>
<td>Jas 1:12-18; Ps 94:12-13a; 14-15, 18-19; Mk 8:14-21</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday</strong></td>
<td>Jas 1:19-27; Ps 15:2-4ab, 5; Mk 8:22-26</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday</strong></td>
<td>Jas 2:1-9; Ps 34:2-7; Mk 8:27-33</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday</strong></td>
<td>Jas 2:14-24, 26; Ps 112:1-6; Mk 8:34-9:1</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday</strong></td>
<td>1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6; Mt 16:13-19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday</strong></td>
<td>Lv 19:1-2, 17-18; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13; 1 Cor 3:16-23; Mt 5:38-48</td>
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## Eucharistic Ministers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Eucharistic Ministers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday, February 22</strong></td>
<td>Jayne Deiters, Pat Reardon</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday, February 23</strong></td>
<td>Mark Kollar, Jacklyn Meier</td>
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<td>TBA</td>
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<td>TBA (Gym Mass)</td>
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## Ministers of the Word

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<td></td>
<td>TBA (Gym Mass)</td>
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## 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.

## Altar Servers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Name</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday, February 22</strong></td>
<td>Miles Reynolds, Nolan Reynolds, Jayden Reyes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday, February 23</strong></td>
<td>Carter Dant, Henry Villareal, Owen Schindler</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Do You Have Questions About Mass Times, Events, or Rectory 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.
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 Chears, 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 and 10:30 am in Church
9:30 am St. Gertrude East (Sacred Heart School/Sheridan and Granville)
10:30 am in the Gym (1401 W. 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: 773.973.5464
Social Hall: 1401 W. Granville Ave., Chicago, IL 60660

REST IN PEACE
Mary Ferguson
Lauretta Parks

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 Ministry Center
A man wakes up after sleeping under an ADVERTISED blanket and pulls off ADVERTISED pajamas. He shaves with an ADVERTISED razor, bathes in an ADVERTISED shower, washes with ADVERTISED soap, and puts on ADVERTISED clothes with ADVERTISED toothpaste. He brushes his teeth and drinks a cup of ADVERTISED coffee before driving to work in an ADVERTISED car. Later if business is poor he ADVERTISES it for sale.

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WHY IS IT?