

St. Gertrude

April 1, 2007 - Palm Sunday



Christ Crucified, by Diego Velasquez, circa 1632 a.d.

Into your hands, Most Holy One, I commend my spirit

Cast your gaze upon Jesus crucified:

See a victim helplessly stapled to a tree.

:Witness a man who freely gives himself over to his enemies rather than answer violence with violence.

See a solitary soul hopelessly alone.

:Perceive a son united unshakably to the Source of All Being.

See despair in a riddle of meaningless suffering.

:Glimpse fulfillment in love-induced self-sacrifice.

See the dark advance of evil and the finality of death.

:Discover divine life present to our most hideous human moment.

:Believe.

From Father Grassi

When I was growing up we used to have a Palm Sunday tradition. Each of us in the family would take the palm we received at Church home with us. We would cut it into small strips of about three inches or so in length. We would put a small slit through the middle of one piece and then slide another piece through it, centering it and creating a small palm cross. We would then exchange the ones we had made with the ones other family members created. These we would exchange with all the cousins and aunts and uncles that would come by and pay a visit and have dinner with us on Palm Sunday.

By the end of the day you were suppose to have one palm cross (or if you were lucky a braided palm) that someone had exchanged with you. We took that blessed palm and tucked it into a frame of a deceased loved one, or into a religious picture of Mary, or our home town patron saints Cosmos and Damien. I always placed mine on a little metal image of Jesus' Sacred Heart that hung in the hallway of our home. It was only years later that I found out that the heart was a decoration that had been removed from my sister's casket before her burial. I now have it hanging in my bedroom.

Today, Palm Sunday, my first with you here at St. Gertrude, it will be my privilege to take a strip of the palm, fashion a small cross, share it with one of you and then take whatever piece of palm I am left with and place it by the image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. You have become my family This is my home. It is only fitting to share that symbolic sign of God's love and blessings with one another and have it with me until next Palm Sunday.

I look forward to sharing not only today, but all of Holy Week with you. I know the services will be very special, culminating with Easter. Let us journey together from Hosanna to silence to Alleluia this week.

DJG



“But they continued their shouting, ‘Crucify him!’” Each Palm Sunday, when the gospel comes to us in the form of a dramatic reading, we in the pews always get the “crucify him” lines. It’s been hard to deliver those lines believably – after all, I can hardly see myself yelling ‘crucify him’ about anyone. But since I’ve begun to work for Catholic Relief Services, I’m beginning to recognize that I’ve been inclined to avert my gaze from the crucified people, from their suffering, and from my hand in their suffering. How few steps is that from shouting, “Crucify him?”

“They shall look on him whom they have pierced” says the Gospel of John about the crucified Christ. “A powerful light also shines from the crucified people and it lights up the darkness of our world. It brings this world’s evil to light” --The starving child, the woman without clean water, the victim of violence-- “The temptation will always be to not look at the crucified people so as not to be dazzled by such a strong light... They make Christ present because like the lamb of God, they carry the sin of the world....by carrying it, they offer light and so salvation to all.” (Jon Sobrino) Or as my boss says, if the poor are always with us, we always have an opportunity for salvation. Jesus emptied himself and was filled with a new power, not the power to dominate, but to liberate, to serve, to heal. We are invited to stay at the foot of the cross, to turn our gaze toward the dazzling light of the poor and vulnerable crucified people around the world, to step into the emptiness and the fullness of Jesus.



Madeleine Philbin - *Growing in Faith*

*The Great Three days (Holy Triduum)***Holy Thursday, April 5**

7:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

*Commemorative washing of the disciples feet and everyone's hands. Procession of the Eucharist and Benediction. Eucharist enthroned, altar coverings stripped. Church remains open for visitation through the night.***Good Friday, April 6**

7:00am Morning Prayer completes our overnight visitation

3:00pm Stations of the Cross followed by individual reconciliation

7:30pm Service of the Lord's Passion

*A reading of the Lord's Passion. Veneration of the Cross. Communion and quiet prayer.***Holy Saturday, April 7**

7:30pm Easter Vigil Mass

*Striking of the new fire and blessing of the Easter Water. Retelling the stories of Salvation History.****What's Happening? Take A Look!***

Holy Thursday Seder - Join in celebrating a Seder, or Passover Meal, after the manner in which Jesus celebrated his Last Supper: April 5, in the social hall, 5:00 to 7:00pm (preceding our Holy Thursday Liturgy at 7:30). To reserve a place, please call 388-2265 by April 2.

Good Books - The selection for Monday, April 9 is Ordinary Resurrections by Jonathan Kozol. The group meets in the rectory parlor at 7:30pm. For information contact Mary Grover at 338-3564.

Hold the date: Parish Leadership Summit -- Tuesday, April 24, 7-9:15pm, social hall. All are welcome!

Through Conflict To Connection - Mary Butler, D.Min, will present a workshop for couples, partners and singles that teaches the skills necessary for joyful partnerships. Saturday, April 28, from 8:30 - noon. Pre-registration is \$15. \$20 day of the event. For information contact Bob and Carolyn Backis ~ 262-0492.

Transitions Retreat - "Endings and Beginnings" is an opportunity for spiritual growth in the Catholic tradition for young adults ages 20-40. Friday evening, April 13, through Sunday morning April 15. Cenacle Retreat Center. Information ~ www.charisministries.org.

♪ **Hallelujah Chorus Sing-a-long** ♪

Easter Sunday, 10am Mass processional hymn.
Bring your own copy and sing along with the choir.



Ministry Spotlight Here at St. Gertrude Parish, each time we come to Mass is a homecoming. The candles are lit in expectation of our arrival. Fresh linens grace the altar. Bread and wine are put in place, the vestments are laid out for our celebrant. Preparation for each and every Eucharistic celebration is faithfully undertaken by members of our parish who many of us may not have noticed -- the sacristans. It is our sacristans who make sure that there is bread and wine for all who gather at the Lord's table. It is our sacristans who ready the altar, who clean and put away the sacred vessels after Mass, who replace the candles when they are low, who polish the glass candle globes that shine so brightly in the hands of our young altar servers. They are our behind-the-scenes resident angels!

With the loving oversight of Pat Conway who has guided sacristans in our parish for 15 years, Judy Diaz, Pat Veccie, Pat Meade, Regina Lyons, Mary Ferguson, Bernice Kiedysz., Lena Peon, Don Nyderek, and Sarah Marr, the sacristans of St. Gertrude Parish, assure that *All Are Welcome* at Mass. Won't you consider joining this wonderful ministry? Whether a longtime parishioner, or a newcomer to our parish family, we would love to have your help! The time commitment is flexible and depends on your schedule and availability. Please call Laurie Hasbrook at the parish rectory if you're interested ~ 764-3621.

Our Parish at Prayer

MONDAY, APRIL 2

7:00am Helen M. Schmidt †
9:00am Joseph & Sheila Power †

TUESDAY, APRIL 3

7:00am Deceased of Richter Family †
9:00am Deceased of Connery Family †

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4

7:00am Mary Powell †
9:00am Fred and Irene Marx †

THURSDAY, APRIL 5

7:00am Lenten Communion Service
7:30pm Mass Celebrating the Feast of the Last Supper
Church open all night for Eucharistic Adoration

FRIDAY, APRIL 6

7:00am Prayer Service
3:00pm Stations of the Cross
7:30pm Service of the Lord's Passion

SATURDAY, APRIL 7

7:30pm Easter Vigil Mass

SUNDAY, APRIL 8, Easter

8:00am Lillian and Michael Nyderek †
9:30am *Held at St. Gertrude East*
Family of St. Gertrude
10:00am Tassone - Emanuele - Pitaro Families
10:30am Fausto Zento †
11:30am Loretta Kator †

† Indicates the Mass in being said in memory of an individual

Rosary: 8:40am Monday - Friday; 8:30am Saturday

Wedding Banns

I Brandon DeLallo & Danielle Landron

Altar Servers

SATURDAY, APRIL 7

7:30pm Ellen Buttitta, Allie McRaith, Frank Schabold

SUNDAY, APRIL 8

10:00am Andrew Dwyer, Jasmine Ott, Rachel Rapp
11:30pm Kendall Elue, Taylor Hartung, Allison Wall

Lectors

SUNDAY, APRIL 8

8:00am Jennifer Kiedaisch, Kathy Kollar
10:00am Bob Dwyer, Ruth Ott
11:30am Elizabeth Hartman, Steve Monti

Readings for the Week

Monday: Is 42:1-7; Jn 12:1-11
Tuesday: Is 49:1-6; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38
Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a; Mt 26:14-25
Thursday: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; Ps 116;
1 Cor 11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15
Friday: Is 52:13 - 53:12; Ps 31; Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9;
Jn 18:1 - 19:42
Saturday: a) Gn 1:1 - 2:2 [1:1, 26-31a]; b) Gn 22:1-18
[1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18]; c) Ex 14:15 - 15:1; d) Is 54:5-14; e) Is 55:1-11; f) Bar 3:9-15, 32 - 4:4; g) Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28; h) Rom 6:3-11; i) Lk 24:1-12
Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Ps 118; Col 3:1-4;
Lk 24:13-35

Sunday Offering

March 25, 2007

Sunday Envelopes (221)	\$ 6,824.00
Loose Checks (40)	\$ 895.00
Cash/Coin	<u>\$ 1,387.14</u>
Total Collected	\$ 9,106.14
Budget *	<u>\$ 9,375.00</u>

Difference \$ - 268.86

Year-to-Date Collected \$ 480,211.00

Year-to-Date Budget \$ 471,488.85

Difference \$ 8,722.15

* Does not include parish pay budgeted amount

Eucharistic Ministers

SATURDAY, APRIL 7

7:30pm Ruth Ott, Steve Monti, Ken Ziganto,
Gail Smith, Chris Phillips, Hallie Burhoe
Rafael Melendez

SUNDAY, APRIL 8

8:00am Sarah McCarthy, Julie Dorger, Ed Bugler,
Ester Bugler, Rodolfo Magadan
10:00am Theresa Resch, Jeff Seitzer, Laurie Hasbrook,
Val Hastings, Beth Seigel, Nancy Merrill,
Kevin Kaufmann
10:30am Judy Diaz, Madeline Fister
11:30am Dave Kasten, Gail Smith, Bernard Ndiwe
Susan Lersch, Anthony Long

Greeters

SATURDAY, APRIL 7

5:00pm Ann Pacatte, Helen Banta

SUNDAY, APRIL 8

8:00am Mary Stachura, Ona Kozar,
Pamela Sherrod Anderson
10:00am Jessie North, Maria Vallely, May Lauricella
11:30am Paul Elue, Melinda Banahene

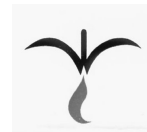
Congratulations to those students receiving honor status at St. Ignatius College Prep

Luis Abrego
Heidi Bujnowski
Rachael Curtin
Claudia Dezulskis

Elizabeth Phillip
Emily Williams
Katie Williams
Anna Williams

Calling all WOW teens - don't forget to gather in the social hall after the 11am combined Mass today for a little pizza, a little prayer, and a lot of assembling of supplies that were collected for The Night Ministry. We want your company! We need your help! Please come. Questions?

Call the rectory, 764-3621, or email Ann O'Connor at www.tappingthesource@gmail.com.



Northside Catholic Academy's premier fundraising event!
An elegant evening of wine tasting, silent and live auctions, and raffle.
Featuring NCA parent, Dave Newcorn in the *Who Needs Dave* Jazz Ensemble.
Tickets are available by calling 773-764-3621 or visiting our website at www.northsidecatholic.org and click on the logo for "Taste for NCA." Event and raffle tickets will also be sold after Masses on April 15 and 22.



Primary School Campus
Preschool - 5th grade
6216 N. Glenwood Ave, Chicago



Middle School Campus
6th - 8th Grade
5525 N. Magnolia Ave, Chicago

call 773.271.4310 or visit www.northsidecatholic.org

ST. GERTRUDE PASTORAL SERVICES

STAFF

Rev. Dominic Grassi, Pastor
Rev. Bill Kenneally, Pastor Emeritus
Peter Buttitta, Pastoral Associate
Chris Sikora, Pastoral Intern
Ann O'Connor, Faith Formation
Mary Herbin-Horan, Liturgical Music
Mary Ann Collins, Social Services
Walter Pophin, Business Manager
Marge Butzen, Parish Secretary

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

SUNDAY: 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 11:30 AM
9:30 AM Gertrude East (at Sheridan & Rosemont)
10:30 AM Mass in the Gym (except summer months)
MONDAY through FRIDAY: 7:00 AM & 9:00 AM
SATURDAY: 8:00 AM & 5:00 PM (Sunday Vigil)

RECTORY HOURS

Business Hours: Weekdays, 8:30am to 4:30pm
Drop off/pick up: Weekdays, 4:30pm to 8pm
Saturday 9am to 6pm, Sunday, 9am to 1pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Individual: Saturday from 4:15-4:45 PM and by request
Communal: Consult bulletin for specific times and dates.

BAPTISM

Baptisms take place on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month. A mandatory parent preparation meeting is held on the first Monday of each month at 7:00 PM. All arrangements should be made one month in advance by calling the rectory.

MARRIAGE

Arrangements begin by setting up an appointment with the pastor or associate. According to diocesan policy, preparations are to begin at least four (4) months prior to the desired date.

LOCATIONS:

RECTORY: 1420 W. Granville Ave. (60660)- Phone 773/764-3621
Fax 761-4164, E-mail stgertrude1420@sbcglobal.net
<http://www.stgertrudechicago.org>

MINISTRY CENTER: 6214 N. Glenwood — 973-5464

NEW PARISHIONERS

You are most welcome and are invited to stop in at the rectory to introduce yourself and register.

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.

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.

COUNSELING AND SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

For information, consultation and referrals for counseling, psychotherapy or spiritual direction, leave a confidential message.

COUNSELING AND PSYCHOTHERAPY

John Neafsey 338-4334

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

Bob Backis, Marilyn Gehant, Jim Manzardo, or Janine Denomme 764-8884

SUPPORT GROUPS

Al-Anon — Sundays at 7:00 PM in the Ministry Center
Pregnancy Support — Free pregnancy tests, post-abortion help, Caris Pregnancy Center, 773-338-8311.
Gamblers Anonymous — Fridays at 7 PM in the Ministry Center.

