

St. Gertrude

April 8, 2007 - Easter



Diagram of the Resurrected life.
Le Promenade, Chagall, 1917.

RISEN!

Jesus, the very mind and heart of God, became like us so that we could become like him. As Jesus is drawn back into the love nest we call heaven through his death and resurrection, he yearns to take us with him. Saying "yes," we can soar like Jesus did, putting poetry back into our stale relationships, opening our eyes to the hidden pain of our seemingly self-sufficient neighbors, finding voice to protest when systems, acting in our name, act unjustly and immorally. Chagall's painting shows two sides of love - the utter buoyancy of the beloved and the feet-firmly-grounded posture of the self-sacrificing lover. Jesus risen wants us to experience both sides of this love equation, "raised up" by God's boundless love and, free of fear, willing to give fully of ourselves. Alleluia!!

From Father Grassi

It is Easter, Jesus is risen. We rejoice. But our joy needs to be muted, blunted by the realities that still surround us. How can we sing our Alleluias when the blood of our young mixes in the sands of the Middle East with the blood of so many who want only peace and security for their families and especially for their children? How can there be Alleluias when the shells we shoot are made from radioactive metallic compounds which release radiation into the air causing an astronomical increase in babies malformed at birth? In our own country, politics has become posturing; the moral standard that has been set is that it is wrong only if you get caught and the pols are pals with the polls, not the people. Poverty, hunger, and homelessness are the ongoing plagues in our cities, and on the streets drugs are sold to deaden the pain but instead they kill the spirit.

Yes the tomb is empty. No grave can hold the love God has given to us in the risen Jesus. But why, after 2000 years, why isn't the world a better place? Maybe it is because over the centuries, we, the church, the people of God have considered the Easter Alleluias to be a cry of victory when it is, in reality, a call to arms. It is precisely because Jesus Christ is risen from the dead that the forces of evil have come together to destroy the very gift of love that God has given to us. The battle did not end on the first Easter. It began in earnest. Why are we focusing our energies on the mundane? Why are those in authority so caught up in their power that all their spiritual resources are being channeled into protecting the status quo rather than confronting the forces of evil that are systematically destroying our planet and the innocence that remains therein? Easter tells us we can't let this happen. Ours cannot be a cold and a broken Alleluia. Jesus died for us. The tomb could not hold him. Under the banner of his cross we carry on the battle he began. We will win. This is why we shout and we sing Alleluia!

DJG



Then the angel said to the women in reply, "Do not be afraid!" In reply? I wonder what the women said. Most likely they screamed. It is so easy to feel superior to Peter after those three denials, but which of us would have [spoken up] that awful night? Terrified! They were all terrified! And, brothers and sisters, so are we. Big things scare us, little things scare us. Things we don't even spend time thinking about scare us when we do think about them.

What do we do about our fears? Mainly we complain about them. And when you complain about anything, if you boil the complaint down to its essence, it's coming out of fear . . .

We complain about the weather because we can not control it. And that scares us. We complain about our friends because we see their flaws (and – duh, they see ours) and we're afraid that when the chips are down they might not really be there for us. We complain about our spouses, or significant others, for much the same reason. We complain about our children because we fear that, like the weather, we can not control them. We see their flaws (and – duh, they see ours), and we know what they are up against and fear that they might not be up to it.

In short, we complain because we fear, and we fear because we do not embrace the Resurrection of Christ as our own resurrection, our own second chance, our own transformational raising, yes, like Jesus, by the Hand of God no less.

This morning we rise with Christ, out of our fears, past the reach of our complaints – into inexhaustible possibilities. The Resurrection of Jesus as the Christ is the sign and what the sign stands for: Eternal Life. A Forever-Being in Love with Love and for Love.

Jesus' sacrifice proved God's love for us. And early on Easter morning, God embraced us with the same love He has for His Son. And raised Jesus from the dead out of love.

Do not be afraid.

In these next fifty Easter days that stretch out before us until Pentecost -- another crescendo of power and grace – let us set aside our complaining and our fear. Let us embrace the inexhaustible possibilities lurking in our problems. Let us see if there isn't a message, some guidance from Jesus for us. He is, after all, risen! And He loves us more than ever.



Delle Chatman *-Excerpts from Easter Sunday, 2005*

Holy Week Hooray's -- The Hosannah's were heavenly, the Alleluias awesome, and so many to people to thank for making this year's Holy Week the reflective, sublime, festive experience it turned out to be: Connie Engelmohr, Annie Sweeney and Elizabeth Hartman, who designed our church decor; Tom Martin and Layton Yancy who work behind the scenes; our legion lectors, led by Ann O'Brien; our sacristans who ready the altar, ushers by Ray Seitz; greeters by Allen Stryczek; altar servers by Steven Monti; our myriad musicians (who also gave us Taizé prayer throughout Lent), including choirs and soloists, drummers and instrumentalists, accompanied by Mary Clare Barker and directed by Mary Herbin Horan; our liturgical dancers, led by Amy Zajakowski-Uhll; Janine Denomme, worship leader of our Good Friday service; plus communion ministers and KidsWord crew, feet washees and all who cleaned the church last Saturday, including leaders Marco and Maria Rodriguez.

Welcome! Welcome! Welcome! We warmly welcome **Steve Larson** to the Catholic Church and the community of St. Gertrude! After eight months of preparation in the RCIA, Steve, accompanied by his sponsor, Ed Butler, was received into Full Communion with the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil. Steve, we are blessed with your presence and your faith.

What's Happening? Take A Look!

- 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 ~ 338-3564.
- Scenes, sounds and tastes of Italy** - The Senior Connection invites all to attend a gathering to explore the wonderful culture of Italy on Thursday, April 12, at 1pm in the social hall.
- Bumping into God** - Sunday, April 15, there will be a book signing of Fr. Grassi's latest book, Bumping into God in the Kitchen in the social hall after the 10am Mass. Refreshments will be provided.
- 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.
- Steps Toward Reconciliation: Justice and the Voices of Women** - Susan Ross will be the speaker at Loyola's Chapel series on Monday, April 16, at 4pm. Information ~ 508-2089 or www.luc.edu/chapelseries
- Reflection and Action - Help build the Reign of God** - The parish is sponsoring this opportunity to find out about and get involved with current efforts in our parish for affordable housing, universal healthcare, immigration, peace, and eco-sustainability. Tuesday, April 17, at 7pm in the ministry center. RSVP ~ Chris 764-3621.
- Retired Men's Group** - Meets Thursday, April 26, in the ministry center from 9:30 until noon. All retired men who live in or near the parish are welcome. Information: Wally Bradford ~ 761-1912.
- 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.
- Benefit/Fundraiser** - for Pat Stich will be held in the Social Hall on Saturday, May 5, 6 - 10pm. Refreshments will be served along with a cash bar. Raffles and prizes will be plentiful. \$25 Admission tickets will be available at the door. Contact Marty Stich for details at 773-848-0859, or mestich@gmail.com.

Hold the date: Tuesday, April 24th, 7-9:15pm, Parish Leadership Summit.

Baptisms

Cynthia Rose Waller, daughter of John Waller and Genevieve Sedlack

Our Parish at Prayer

MONDAY, APRIL 9

7:00am Anthony Hohner †
9:00am Hans Arlington †

TUESDAY, APRIL 10

7:00am Daniel Tuohy †
9:00am Deceased of Connery Family †

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11

7:00am Anna White †
9:00am Thomas Schmitz †

THURSDAY, APRIL 12

7:00am Deceased of Richter Family †
9:00am *Communion Service*
Michael White †

FRIDAY, APRIL 13

7:00am Robert Padilla †
9:00am Luch Signa †

SATURDAY, APRIL 14

8:00am Jan Ehrenbert †
3:00pm *DeLallo and Landron Wedding*
5:00pm Philip Riley and Sylvester Eye †

SUNDAY, APRIL 15

8:00am Emilie Watuers †
9:30am *Held at St. Gertrude East*
Family of St. Gertrude
10:00am Nancy Quinn Jaskowiak
10:30am Loretta Kator †
11:30am Eric Jorgensen †

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

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

Wedding Banns

III Brandon DeLallo and Danielle Landron

Altar Servers

SATURDAY, APRIL 14

5:00pm Ed and Emily Harrington, Katie Maniates

SUNDAY, APRIL 15

10:00am Rachel Nelson, Jennie O'Donaghue,
Steven Guardino-Hasbrook
11:30am Gloria Ellis, Andrew Wicklin, Oscar Martinez

Lectors

SATURDAY, APRIL 14

5:00pm Mary Jo Bowers, Elizabeth Sterling

SUNDAY, APRIL 15

8:00am Mary Stachura, Sr. Kathryn Stimac
10:00am Rafael Melendez, Bob Backis
11:30am Matt Kollar, Janine Denomme

Readings for the Week

Monday: Acts 2:14, 22-33; Mt 28:8-15
Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41; Jn 20:11-18
Wednesday: Acts 3:1-10; Lk 24:13-35
Thursday: Acts 3:11-26; Lk 24:35-48
Friday: Acts 4:1-12; Jn 21:1-14
Saturday: Acts 4:13-21; Mk 16:9-15
Sunday: Acts 5:12-16; Ps 118;
Rev 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19; Jn 20:19-31

Sunday Offering

April 1, 2007

Sunday Envelopes (286)	\$ 9,442.50
Loose Checks (37)	\$ 2,132.00
Cash/Coin	<u>\$ 850.00</u>
Total Collected	\$ 12,242.50
Budget *	<u>\$ 9,375.00</u>
Difference	\$ 2,867.50
Year-to-Date Collected	\$ 489,586.00
Year-to-Date Budget	<u>\$ 483,731.35</u>
Difference	\$ - 5,854.65

* Does not include parish pay budgeted amount

Eucharistic Ministers

SATURDAY, APRIL 14

5:00pm Mary Jo Bowers, Joan Harrington,
Pat Norcik, Tim Harrington, Mickey Resch

SUNDAY, APRIL 15

8:00am Jay Cook, Mary Stachura, Hallie Burhoe
Roman Reyes, Sr. Kathryn Stimac
10:00am Kathy Dunne, Fran Glowinski, Bob Dwyer
Rosita Nordgren, Eileen Quinlan,
Cathy Chester, Tere Zdunek
10:30am Alta Jacko, Allen Stryczek
11:30am Steve Monti, Molly O'Hara, Norman Viray
Mary Pat Hartung, Claire O'Brien

Greeters

SATURDAY, APRIL 14

5:00pm Eileen Schraeger, Cathie Moorhous

SUNDAY, APRIL 15

8:00am Bridget Cahill, Joe Lepkowski,
Glenn Sieverson
10:00am Jeff Clennon, Walter Pophin, Matthew Foran
11:30am Nancy Bujnowski, Susan Lersch



SLAM DUNK – 8TH BOYS' NCPL CHAMPIONS!

Our very own NCA 8th grade boys' basketball team put on an unforgettable performance against the skillful and talented St. Viator's team which will surely go down in NCPL history as the game of the century. Our profound desire to win the championship was relentless. The combination of quickness, strength, fiery 3-pt. shots, perseverance, awesome defense, and smart and well-mannered coaching brought our team to WIN the "NCPL" Championship. It's refreshing to see good ole fashion team spirit and great camaraderie exhibited not only from our 8th grade boys' team and coaches, but also the whole school whose support was outstanding. Congratulations to the coaches, players, parents and everyone at NCA. GO WILDCATS!

Don't forget to buy NCA raffle tickets 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.

