

# *St. Gertrude*

April 15, 2007 - 2nd Sunday of Easter

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Soldiers baptized in the sea, brought to faith by touching the wounds of Jesus, like Thomas in today's Gospel passage.

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## **TOUCHING THE WOUNDS OF JESUS**

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God is not overly concerned about how we come to faith, as long as we come. Some of us seem to have an abiding belief which is unshakeable no matter the evidence (have you met Allen Stryczek?). Most of us have to be hit over the head by an extraordinary event in order to "wake up" to the reality of God in our lives -- like the soldiers pictured above. Who knows what horrors have pushed them into the waters of baptism! The punch line is, BELIEVE so that you may have LIFE. Belief will get us off the couch and moving; faith will turn our pity party into a real celebration of overcoming victim-hood; trust can transform our fear of death (rejection, financial ruin, growing old, court-martial) into liberating acts of courage. Let's not wait until we have "proof" -- by then it may be too late; let's let our love for one another burst forth into generosity and joyful reverence for the God who is rising in this very community in which we gather.

Is your Easter glass half empty or half full? As of this moment (Tuesday) Father Dom is in Intensive Care at Weiss Hospital, sent there last Saturday by a freakish cut he received on his leg that turned spiteful! An infection from the cut created flu-like symptoms that masked the true nature of his ailment so that he didn't seek treatment until trouble had progressed toward the danger zone. Missing pastor meant scrambling to find a priest for our Easter Sunday masses! Easter glass half empty.

The health-care team at Weiss Hospital is great. Doctors, nurses, technicians are working hard to get Father Dom back right and the Grassi family is showering him with the most enviable of affection. It's a pleasure to meet some of the characters from Dom's books and homilies. Love-medicine will get our pastor back on his feet, although he may be away from the parish for a month or so. Liturgically, it seemed that everyone took the pastor's illness as a personal challenge to make the moment as spirit-charged as possible, putting Dominic squarely in the middle of the Easter Story -- impossible for him NOT to rise!! Mary Horan, Carol Beatty (9:30), Crystal Chan (gym) and their respective choirs were bright stars, as were Mark Kollar, and Jan Thompson-Wilda (with a cane!) leading the lectors; Connie Engelmohr, Annie Sweeney and the decorating team; Steve Monti, our amazing children's choir singing Panis Angelicus at the 10am, and on and on. Priest-wise, our pastor emeritus, Father. Bill, came to the rescue for the Easter Vigil and gym mass, making for the happiest holy rites you could imagine. And Elizabeth Hartman worked overtime finding a Jesuit priest, Fr. Pradeep Kumar of India, to preside at the 10am & 11:30am masses (so we didn't end up watching Easter mass on TV!). Everyone took home a daffodil as a prayer for our wounded Fr. Dom and as a remembrance that God's grace is always ready to open up to us -- even if most often routed through a tomb. Easter glass half full ...

...and filling! Despite missing Father Dom, we will press on with our usual mass schedule and upcoming events: Leadership Summit, May Institute, First Communion. As our Synod slogan says, *The Reign of God needs a Church*, and that's what keeps us moving forward.

Thanks for all your support,  
Peter Buttitta



### Recognizing the Lord

One of my favorite poets is Mary Oliver. In *Thirst*, her latest book of poetry, many of the poems are also prayers. Here is an excerpt from one of them, "Six Recognitions of the Lord":

Oh, feed me this day, Holy Spirit, with  
the fragrance of the fields and the  
freshness of the oceans which you have  
made, and help me to hear and to hold  
in all dearness those exacting and wonderful  
words of our Lord Christ Jesus, saying:  
*Follow me.*

In today's gospel, Thomas, doubting what the others have told him about Jesus, demands proof. But he does recognize the Lord and, we know, he does follow Him. We have all met people whose lives show that they, too, have recognized the Lord. And we recognize Him in them. I've "met" one of those people recently, though only in the pages of a book. The parish book group just read *Ordinary Resurrections* by Jonathan Kozol, a book about the lives of very poor children in the South Bronx. He visited their schools and spent a lot of time with them in the after-school at St. Ann's Episcopal Church. One of the most amazing people in this book is Mother Martha, the priest at St. Ann's. Radcliffe educated, with degrees in economics and law, born to a life of privilege, she chose to become a priest and serve in an inner city parish.

Who are the people in your life who bring you to a recognition of the Lord and help you to follow Him?

Mary Grover for *Growing in Faith*



“God speaks in the silence of the heart. Listening is the beginning of prayer.” ~ Mother Teresa

**What Makes Us Catholic** resumes this Wednesday, April 18, at 7pm in the rectory. The topic is Saints and Prayer. All are welcome to come listen, reflect and discuss these two essentials of Catholicism. Questions? Call Ann O’Connor ~ 764-3621.

**Walking in the Footsteps of Our Savior~ Creating the Reign of God** - In this post-Easter season we are called to live as Christ lived and to act with others to make the world a better place. We are called to create a stronger faith community and to make our world more reflective of Christ's message of hope, charity, and justice. Please join in an evening of reflection and action on Tuesday, April 17, at 7pm in the ministry center. Find out about and get involved with current efforts in our parish to: 1) protect the environment and God's creation; 2) create affordable housing; 3) establish universal health care; 4) help immigrants; and 5) bring peace to our world. For more information call Chris Sikora ~ 764-3621.

### *What's Happening? Take A Look!*

**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](http://www.luc.edu/chapelseries).

**Edgewater Earth Day** - Saturday, April 21, 8:30am - noon at Pierce School (1423 W. Bryn Mawr). This free event features a wide variety of environmental expert presentations. Get informed, enthused and focused! Information ~ 334-5609 or [www.edgewatercommunitycouncil.org](http://www.edgewatercommunitycouncil.org).

**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.

**FOCUS** - A one-day conference, Saturday, April 28, for young adults in their 20s & 30s (married and single), at Loyola University, noon to 11 pm. Workshops focus on relationships, faith, work and personal growth. Conference will conclude with Mass and an American tapas meal and a party. Information and registration can be found at [www.yamchicago.org](http://www.yamchicago.org).

**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](mailto:mestich@gmail.com).

**Justice Day** - This year’s theme is the Challenge of Christian Faith and Social Justice. Saturday, May 12, 8am - 3pm at St. Giles Parish (Oak Park). Registration is \$10 and payable at the door. Information: 312-751-8390.

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

*Hear from parish leaders about what is going on,  
especially with our Synod committees, ministries and finances.*

*THANKS* from the WOW teens of St. Gertrude

to all parishioners who contributed to our collection of toiletries.

On April 1, a group of more than 20 teens gathered in the social hall and assembled over 100 hygiene kits that will be distributed to those in need by The Night Ministry.

Thank you so much. We are humbled by and grateful for your generous response.

### Our Parish at Prayer

#### MONDAY, APRIL 16

7:00am Helen M. Schmidt †  
9:00am Walter J. Stewart †

#### TUESDAY, APRIL 17

7:00am Deceased of Connery Family †  
9:00am Lester Miller †

#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18

7:00am Anna White †  
9:00am Dr. Rose Greco †

#### THURSDAY, APRIL 19

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

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 20

7:00am Dolly and George Heintz †  
9:00am Samuel and Margaret Maranto †

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 21

8:00am Liam Bradley †  
5:00pm Deceased of Strubbe & Galoney Family †

#### SUNDAY, APRIL 22

8:00am Lillian and Michael Nyderek †  
9:30am Held at St. Gertrude East  
Family of St. Gertrude  
10:00am Jaime and Lori Jeyuson †  
10:30am Loretta Kator †  
11:30am Dr. Rose Greco †

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

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

### Wedding Banns

I Mary Lenahan & Kevin Yarashefski

### Altar Servers

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 21

5:00pm Cora Byrne, Clare Harper, Carol Isaac

#### SUNDAY, APRIL 15

10:00am Zoe Crowe-Barnes, Kaylene Champagne  
Michael Zajakowski-Uhll  
11:30am Erika Medina, Katya and Sasha Simon

### Lectors

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 21

5:00pm Joan Steinbrecher, Ann O'Brien

#### SUNDAY, APRIL 22

8:00am Steve Monti, Mary Stachura  
10:00am Carol McRaith, Jeff Seitzer  
11:30am DeLaina Ellis, Susan Lersch

### Readings for the Week

Monday: Acts 4:23-31; Jn 3:1-8  
Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37; Jn 3:7b-15  
Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26; Jn 3:16-21  
Thursday: Acts 5:27-33; Jn 3:31-36  
Friday: Acts 5:34-42; Jn 6:1-15  
Saturday: Acts 6:1-7; Jn 6:16-21  
Sunday: Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41; Ps 30; Rev 5:11-14;  
Jn 21:1-19 [1-14]

*Through the mercy of God  
may they rest in peace ...*

*Bonnie Burnham*

*Ed Mueller*

*Glenn Thomas*

### Sunday Offering

April 8 2007

Sunday Envelopes (126)	\$ 4,406.00
Total Collected	\$ 4,406.00
Budget *	\$ 9,375.00

<b>Difference</b>	<b>\$ 2,867.50</b>
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Year-to-Date Collected	\$ 488,137.35
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Year-to-Date Budget	\$ 498,961.00
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<b>Difference</b>	<b>\$ - 10,823.65</b>
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\* Does not include parish pay budgeted amount

### Eucharistic Ministers

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 21

5:00pm Ann O'Brien, Kathleen Dawson, Pat Mann  
Ken Ziganto, Peggy Dawson

#### SUNDAY, APRIL 22

8:00am Chris Phillips, Don Nyderek, Mary Stachura  
Ann Bushelon, Sr. Kathryn Stimac  
10:00am Dana Sullivan, Beth Siegel, Nancy Merrill,  
Theresa Resch, Val Hastings,  
Laurie Hasbrook, Cathy Chester  
10:30am Maggie Kast, Shelly Boniwell  
11:30am Susan Lersch, Brent Billock, Dave Kasten  
Gail Smith, Mary Pat Hartung

### Greeters

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 21

5:00pm Mike and Maureen Volini

#### SUNDAY, APRIL 22

8:00am Kate Flynn, Lisa Torres, Chris Phillips  
10:00am Kim Wagner, Heidi Schlumpf, Ed Butler  
11:30am Steven Mitchell, Tracy Mitchell

## CALLING ALL TEENS!

We've hosted a movie night, a faith-sharing group,  
and taken a trip to Starved Rock State Park.

NOW WHAT? We want YOU to decide!

Please join your peers for snacks and a discussion about the future activities of WOW.  
Bring your ideas, suggestions, and a friend to the Ministry Center,  
**next Sunday, April 22, 2007 from 2:30 to 4:00 pm.**

**It's time for YOU to take ownership of YOUR group!**

RSVP to Heather Anichini at 847.687.5065 or [heather.anichini@teachforamerica.org](mailto:heather.anichini@teachforamerica.org)  
to ensure that there is enough food for everyone.

Questions? Please call Ann O'Connor at the rectory, 764-3621.

We'd like to thank Kathleen Clark for her service as NCA's Athletic Director. During that time, we've won many trophies including this year's NCPL Championship and last year's Honorable Jim Kane Sportsmanship Award. Kathleen is resigning to focus on her real estate career while still having time to spend with her family. We are now looking for someone to fill her shoes - someone with strong organizational and communication skills who know and love sports. Hands-on communication is a large part of the job and computer skills are mandatory. This is a part-time, paid position. If you know someone who might be interested, please have them send us a resume by April 20.

*A Taste for NCA is coming up Sunday, April 29.*

*Don't forget to buy your 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](http://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](mailto: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.

