

St. Gertrude

May 13, 2007 - 6th Sunday of Easter



Andrea Raila, in her role as family priest, teaches her children, Reah and Christopher, by the sea shore.

MOTHER PRIESTS

Not that mother needs more roles to take on, but in fact the first church experience for our children is home, making mom their first priest. There may be a few un-cool things about being mother, but on the flip side, helping a child uncover the wonder-filled, hidden world of spirit has got to be the coolest. Like Andrea gathered with her family at the beach, she begins by having us notice shapes in clouds and then -- notice the hard, immovable rock, God Creator; and the buoyant, life-giving water, God Redeemer; and the invisible yet powerful breeze, God Holy Spirit. Not only doctrine, but mothers teach us about the virtues of fairness, faithfulness, fun and forgiveness, forgiveness, forgiveness. Prayer, solitude, scrubbing behind the ears, taking out the trash and, yeah, flossing, too. God bless our mothers in the essential role they play in leading us to the Incarnate, Most Blessed God.

Father Grassi has been wonderfully blessed this past week with culinary delights from parishioners as they help nurse him back to health. Homemade soups, garden fresh salads, roasted pork, grilled chicken, and lots of healthy vegetables and fruits have made their way to his table this past week. Father Grassi is most grateful for this outpouring of generosity. He continues to regain his strength and is confident that with the continued nourishment from the parishioners, both in prayer and substance, he will be back with us soon.

Wanted

Parish Council Nominations -- New terms for our 9-member parish council begin in August and nominations are now being accepted to fill three seats. Terms run two years (with an option on a third year!). All registered parishioners age 18 and older are eligible to serve (one seat is also reserved for youth representation). Please send names (including self-nominations) to the rectory. For details about the role of the parish council, check our parish website: www.stgertrudechicago.org. Thank you.

Janine Denomme, Parish Council chairperson



Mothers, All!

It doesn't take any real effort to come up with an image of mother. Mother Earth, the Mother of God, Whistler's Mother, Mother Goose, mothers in the multitude of greeting cards we send on Mother's Day and of course our own mothers. It would be easy to add to the list. But, the image or idea of mother is much less important than the essence of the word mother. Mother is both a noun and a verb. The narrowest definition of mother is that of birth mother; we are not restricted to that narrow image.

Mother is about the continual giving of new life. While some of us are called to the day-in day-out role of motherhood, I believe deeply we are all called to mother. The willingness to be mother and to mother is not limited by gender, age, or state of life. Mothering is a relationship we can all have with those around us.

Consider some of the ways that mother becomes an active verb. It is a willingness to listen, to truly hear, when one can't really understand or even agree. It is giving up ones expectations and allowing freedom but not license. It is the sharing of success and failure, a sharing that can halve sorrow and double joy. It is the willingness to criticize or nudge gently while affirming our human goodness and our ability to become more. It is binding up hurts and the no strings attached giving of self again and again. It is showing up and being present with the kind of unconditional love God shares with us. Who among us cannot strive for these actions?

Today as you celebrate a special day to honor mothers, celebrate too the exciting potential to be mother and to mother that is present in all of us. A potential that can bring more of the peace Jesus speaks of in today's scriptures into the world. Peace fueled by spirit-filled love.

So Happy Mother's Day....everyone!!!

Jean Sweeney for *Growing in Faith*



Annual Mothers' Day Collection

Today's second collection will go towards restoring security and promoting independence for the many families Catholic Charities serves.

Please consider giving.



Some New Faces - You may notice some new faces around the rectory. Dennis Dorner, a St. Joseph seminary student from Atlanta, Georgia moved into the rectory this week. He will be joined later by Lawrence Ponce, a fellow seminarian from San Bernardino, California. Please extend a warm welcome to these young men.

What's Happening? Take A Look!

Please Note - The Ascension of the Lord is celebrated on Sunday, May 20. May 17 is celebrated as an Easter weekday.

The French Nun Pastries - The sisters of the Fraternite de Notre Dame will be selling their fabulous French tarts and pastries in the social hall today, May 13. Your purchase supports their work with the poor on the west side of Chicago.

Great Books - The selection for Monday, May 14, is The Giver by Lois Lowry. The group meets at 7:30pm in the rectory dining room. All are welcome. For information contact Mary Grover ~ 338-3564.

Poetry Pilgrimage - The poetry of Kenneth Rexroth will be read at the next meeting, Monday, May 21. The group meets in the rectory dining room at 7:30pm. For information contact Mary Grover ~ 338-3564.

International Chamber Artists Concert - Friday, May 18, at 7pm at St. Gregory Church. This year's concert will benefit the People's Music School an organization that offers free lessons for those who have little opportunity for musical instruction. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$7 for students.

Retired men's Group - Meets Thursday, May 24 in the ministry center from 9:30am to noon. All retired men who live in or near the parish are welcome. Information: Wally Bradford ~ 761-1912.

Market Day - Forms are available at the back of the church and should be returned by May 27. Pick up date will be Saturday, June 2 in the school cafeteria.

Be Joyful. Again! - Widowed and looking to become whole again after your loss? Looking to meet others and bring hope to days ahead? June 10 & 11 there will be a retreat at Old St. Pat's. For information or to register call Madge at 708-354-7211.

Wednesdays with St Gertrude!

Our parish celebration of prayer and learning continues through May 30.

Taizé Prayer will begin at 7pm and the Institute Classes will run from 8-9pm. Feel free to join us.

- **Justice for Immigrants and Catholic Social Teachings: Bringing St. Gertrude's into the Catholic Campaign for Immigration Reform.** Location: Ministry center chapel
- **Experiencing Prayer.** Location: Rectory parlor
- **Praying the OUR FATHER.** No class this week - resumes May 23 in social hall

Any questions please call 764-3621 or email stgertbulletin@yahoo.com



Conserve water. Reduce your water bill. Reduce sewage water.

Buy a rain barrel from the City of Chicago. \$40 from May 21 on.

Locations & more info: www.cityofchicago.org/environment or (312) 743-9283.

Our Parish at Prayer

MONDAY, MAY 14

7:00am Helen M. Schmidt †
9:00am Frances Diresa †

TUESDAY, MAY 15

7:00am Anna White †
9:00am Peter Holzman †

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16

7:00am Marion White †
9:00am Loretta Donnelly †

THURSDAY, MAY 17

7:00am Raymond White †
9:00am *Communion Service*
Patricia McKee †

2:00pm NCA May Crowning

FRIDAY, MAY 18

7:00am Deceased of Connery Family †
9:00am Fred Diaz (5th anniversary) †
4:30pm *King & Rowland Wedding*

SATURDAY, MAY 19

8:00am Robert and Helen Hoefler †
10:00am First Communion
5:00pm Dr. Rose Greco †

SUNDAY, MAY 20

8:00am Michael and Marie Adler †
9:30am *Held at St. Gertrude East*
Mary and Mike Sweeney †
10:00am Loretta Kator †
10:30am Peggy and John Collins †
11:30am Deceased of Strubbe-Galoney Family †

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

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

Wedding Banns

**III Scott King & Courtney Rowland
I Cammy Phan and Hulbert Do**

Altar Servers

SATURDAY, MAY 19

5:00pm Max Gibson, Pat Harrington,
Matt Thompson-Wilda

SUNDAY, MAY 20

10:00am Andrew Dwyer, Joseph Dwyer, Sean Lambie
11:30am Frank Schabold, Daniel Whorf, Ellen Buttitta

Lectors

SATURDAY, MAY 19

5:00pm Elizabeth Sterling, Norman Bowers

SUNDAY, May 20

8:00am Jon Anderson, Sr. Kathryn Stimac
10:00am Bob Dwyer, Mary Elsbernd
11:30am DeLaina Ellis, Elizabeth Hartman

Readings for the Week

Monday: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; Jn 15:9-17
Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34; Jn 16:5-11
Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22 - 18:1; Jn 16:12-15
Thursday: Acts 18:1-8; Jn 16:16-20
Friday: Acts 18:9-18; Jn 16:20-23
Saturday: Acts 18:23-28; Jn 16:23b-28
Sunday: Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47; Eph 1:17- 23
Mk 16:15-20

Sunday Offering

May 6, 2007

Sunday Envelopes (242)	\$ 8,612.90
Loose Checks (29)	\$ 1,111.00
Loose Cash	\$ 932.54
Total Collected	\$ 10,656.44
Budget *	\$ 9,375.00
Difference	\$ 1,281.44
Year-to-Date Collected	\$ 550,003.00
Year-to-Date Budget	\$ 540,628.00
Difference	\$ - 17,657.49

* Does *not* include parish pay budgeted amount

Eucharistic Ministers

SATURDAY, MAY 19

5:00pm Peter Mulcrone, Colleen Mulcrone,
Ken Ziganto, Mickey Resch, Manny Eckert

SUNDAY, MAY 20

8:00am Sr. Kathryn Stimac, Julie Dorger,
Hallie Burhoe, Roman Reyes, Sara McCarthy
10:00am Cathy Chester, Fran Glowinski, Val Hastings
Rosita Nordgren Eileen Quinlan,
Rob Sierzega, Tere Zdunek
10:30am Alta Jacko, Allen Stryczek
11:30am Susan Lersch, Brent Billock, Bernard Ndiwe
Chioma Okoli, Dave Kasten

Greeters

SATURDAY, MAY 19

5:00pm Mike Volini, Maureen Volini

SUNDAY, MAY 20

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



New Parishioners
 Christine Sedlack
 Christopher and Gabrielle Ferrales and their son Savino
 Stephen and Nina Borders



Calling all students, grades 6 – 12!

You are invited to attend the next planning meeting for WOW next Sunday, May 20 at 11:15 am in the Ministry Center. If you regularly attend the 10:30 Mass, come over afterwards. Refreshments will be served. We'll discuss the potluck supper and Night Walk in June, and other plans for the summer. **This is your group--come and make your voices heard!!**

Looking for a Great Kindergarten Program?

Look no further... NCA has a wonderful, nurturing kindergarten program. Along with the core curriculum which includes daily religious instruction, NCA Kindergarteners attend music, art, computer, Spanish language, physical education 1-2 times each week. Students also participate in weekly masses, and a few times each year Kindergartens lector at those student masses. Kindergarten parents sing the praises of NCA's program. If you would like to learn more about NCA's Kindergarten or Financial Assistance for Kindergarten please call Kristi Erickson this week at 271-4310. Our program is filling up and we want to make sure all of our parishioners have an opportunity to enroll.

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
 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 4:30-4:45 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 - 338-4334

John Neafsey

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION—764-8884

Bob Backis, Marilyn Gehant, Jim Manzardo, or Janine Denomme

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.

