St. Gertrude

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time - June 17, 2007

THE ROAD TO WISDOM IS A LONG AND WINDING ONE

Below are some excerpts from the Book of Wisdom written by the children at the primary campus of NCA that is on display in the back of the church. Be sure to take a moment after Mass and read more!

Ethan: I learned how to count to 151. Ellie: I learned that Jesus is kind. Noah: I know how to do 6+6. The answer is 12! I know blends. This is one: blade. I know that Jesus is not a ghost! I know the sea is very very big! Billy: I learned how to do addition and subtraction. I learned that a sea star is not a star fish. Misha: I know that God was never born. And God will never die. And God's love is infinite. And Peter had a friend. And if we lie God will forgive us. And we are not the son of God. We are the children of God. Cailey: This year I learned the partial sums algorithm. I learned it from my teacher. Thomas: In third grade I learned how to make goals. The goals were very difficult. I knew the math goal was going to be tricky. But soon I figured it out. I learned that goals can always help. John: In reading I learned new words like strive, immense, abode, ponder, wallop, culprit, blunder, eerie, utter, attire and jovial. Noah: I leaned about space. Did you know space is one of the great marvels? Also, space can go on and on. And did you know that the sun is a huge star? Lauren: I learned about how our country got its independence. We got our freedom by the Revolutionary War. I learned that sometimes you have to fight for something you've longed for. Samantha: I thought I would never be able to learn how to multiply and divide fractions. I did though. I am proud that I learned and can do something that I never thought I would be able to do!

From Father Grassi

Dear Dad,

I never told you how painful it was for me that night many years ago when I had to yell at you. It was late on a winter Sunday, I was leaving when my car got stuck on the ice in the alley behind your house. I was hoping you wouldn't hear my tires spin, but you did. And you came out with a pitchfork, of all things, to help get me out. Your eyes were already weak and I have to admit I was concerned about the pitchfork hitting one of my tires. More importantly, your heart was no longer as young as it used to be, so my real worry was about you overexerting yourself. Somehow the strong, silent powerful man that had once been my father was suddenly replaced by an old, fragile man. You wouldn't listen to me, your face turning red from straining yourself. So I had to grab the pitchfork from you and loudly order you back inside.

Neighbors heard and gave me the push I needed. I thought as I drove off that you were angry with me. So when I got to the rectory I called home. Mom said you were angry alright, but not at me. Rather, she said, you were angry with yourself for growing old and not being able to do what you had been capable of doing. I don't know. Maybe I saved you from a heart attack or stroke. But I know I learned a little bit about life that night. You were with us for a few more years. You fought growing old all the way. You fought dying even to the last days. Now it's Father's Day and you are gone and somehow in some way I want you to know, Dad, how much I loved you that night and still do. And I want you to know that the father I'll always love is the strong, proud, hard working father of my youth. Know that I see a lot of you in me and I thank you for that. And so even though you are gone, Father's Day will always be special to me. Love, your son, Dominic.

To all the fathers of St. Gertrude Parish, a special Father's Day Blessing to you and a special prayer for all our deceased fathers.

DJG

growing FAITH

Happy Father's Day! Love, passion, sin, repentance and forgiveness are themes from today's readings. Though not chosen for today's secular holiday, they are great themes for lovers, parents, children and families.

To be a husband and father is one of the few calls I heard for certain in my life – and that certainty came after quite a bit of soul-searching. I was in choir, singing Marty Haugen's song "Eye Has Not Seen," and the lyrics based on St. Paul's rapture lifted my meditations to the Lord: "Eye has not seen, ear has not heard, what God has ready, for those who love him…." Though normally optimistic and stoical by nature, I wept in hopefulness when I considered what God might have ready for me. Prior to Mass, I had just finished tutoring a young child. I hoped marriage and children might be some of what God had ready….

Being a husband and father has been a great adventure! The rush of love that came with the birth of each child. The early phase as "helicopter parents," hovering over Tim, our first-born. The gradual trust that most things unfold as they should. The sad and humorous duty of explaining to Patrick that he could not grow up to be a Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle. The trips to high schools with three sons in turn as they made their choice, Brendan most recently choosing Jones. Compassion for their loneliness as the three older boys became individuals, forcing them to make choices to honor their unique difference. Talks about, and choices made, about faith and agnosticism. Most recently, we discussed how to hear God. "…in silence…" opined Luke.

Fatherhood transforms. It flows from love, hope and commitment, and leads to joy and compassion...along with sleepless nights, confusion, humility, self-revelation, and friendship with St. Joseph.

Bernie O'Connor for Growing in Faith

Balancing the Budget Update

Thank you very, very much to all who have already contributed to our fiscal year end Balance the Budget drive. Last week, generous parishioners contributed $17,008 toward the drive. The week before we received $3,935. That leaves us close but still about $7,500 to $10,000 short of what we think we will need to finish the year in the black for the fourth straight year.

If you haven't contributed to St. Gertrude's 2007 Balance the Budget drive, please consider an additional donation before the end of June (only one weekend left) so the income will be counted toward the current fiscal year. You will find yellow envelopes in the back of church.

Together, we can do this. As always, thank you, thank you, thank you!

St. Gertrude Balance the Budget

Welcome - Father Michael Bradley, who works as a judge for the Metropolitan Tribunal will be joining us here at St. Gertrude. You may have seen him moving in or filling in for Fr. Dom at one of the Saturday 5pm Masses, but his official start date will be July 1. Please extend a warm welcome to Father Mike and help him learn more our parish and community. He'll be needing to know about the best bike routes, authentic delis, and everything else that makes our community so unique and wonderful!

What's Happening? Take A Look!

Daily Mass Schedule - Soon we should have the results from the forum to discuss possible changes in the daily mass schedule. Through the end of June, however, we will have continue to have 7am and 9am services during the weekdays. If you have any questions, please call the rectory, 764-3621.

Poetry Pilgrimage - This month's gathering, Monday, June 18, at 7:30 in the rectory dining room, will feature the works of Gerard Manley Hopkins. All are welcome. For information contact Mary Grover at 338-3546.

Pax Christi - the first of the monthly films is Akeelah and the Bee, Friday June 22 at 6:45pm in the social hall. Pizza will be served and a discussion of the film will follow. All are welcome.

Take Charge of your Health - White Crane Wellness Center will host a six-week program on how to manage your health and well-being beginning Tuesday, June 26, from 1:30 to 4pm in the social hall. Topics include nutrition, coping with pain, use of medications and much more. To sign up call 271-9001.

Retired Men's Group - The retired men's group meets from 9:30 to noon Thursday, June 28. Meetings are held in the ministry center and all retired men who live in or near the parish are welcome. For further information contact Wally Bradford at 761-1912.

Market Day - This is the last sale as we break for summer so stock up! Forms are available at the back of the church and completed forms due back June 24. The pick up date is Saturday, June 30.

Congratulations - Kudos to John Neafsey on receiving two awards for his book A Sacred Voice is Calling: Personal Vocation and Social Conscience. Copies are available at the Mustard Seed Bookstore.

Rock The Block

At the St. Gertrude Parish Block Party, on Saturday, June 30, 2-9pm
It's guaranteed to be a great time. Join your fellow parishioners, for some great food, water sports for the kids and live entertainment for the adults.

ENERGY STAR

In part I learned the value of caring for the environment from my dad who worked for the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) for nearly 30 years. While buying electronics, look for the Energy Star label, begun by the EPA in 1992, which now includes new homes, home heating and cooling equipment, major appliances, office equipment, lighting and consumer electronics. Jim Manzardo

Our Parish at Prayer

MONDAY, JUNE 18
7:00am Sabina Frias 10th anniversary ✞
9:00am Sandra Wexelberg ✞
TUESDAY, JUNE 19
7:00am Marion White ✞
9:00am Aileen D'Elia ✞
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20
7:00am Anna White ✞
9:00am Dr. Rose Greco ✞
THURSDAY, JUNE 21
7:00am Michael White ✞
9:00am William Shepeck ✞
FRIDAY, JUNE 22
7:00am Raymond White ✞
9:00am Tom Heidkamp birthday ✞
SATURDAY, JUNE 23
8:00am Mary Fawcett in honor of her birthday
1:00pm Odjmer & Buesser Wedding
3:00pm Gonzlez & Paulus Wedding
5:00pm Dorothy Guthrie ✞
SUNDAY, JUNE 24
8:00am Frederic Donnelly, Jr ✞
9:30am Held at St. Gertrude East
In honor of Mr. and Mrs. R.D. Menendez
10:00am Zane Rafael
11:30am Loretta Kator ✞

✞ Indicates the Mass is being said in memory of an individual
Rosary: 8:40am Monday - Friday; 8:30am Saturday

Wedding Banns

III Kate Buesser and Reginald Odimer
III Morgan Paulus and Benjamin Gonzalez

Altar Servers

SATURDAY, JUNE 23
5:00pm Allie McRaith, Kate Jasper, Francie Sallinger

SUNDAY, JUNE 24
10:00am Andrew Dwyer, Joseph Dwyer, Sean Lamble
11:30am Alani Vargas, Ryan Smith, Thair Thompson

Lectors

SATURDAY, JUNE 23
5:00pm Ann O'Brien, Joan Steinbrecher

SUNDAY, JUNE 24
8:00am Kathy Kollar, Sr. Kathryn Stimac
10:00am Bob Dwyer, Bob Backis
11:30am DeLaina Ellis, Elizabeth Hartman

Readings for the Week

Monday: 2 Cor 6:1-10; Mt 5:38-42
Tuesday: 2 Cor 8:1-9; Mt 5:43-48
Wednesday: 2 Cor 9:6-11; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday: 2 Cor 11:1-11; Mt 6:7-15
Friday: 2 Cor 11:18, 21-30; Mt 6:19-23
Saturday: 2 Cor 12:1-10; Mt 6:24-34
Sunday: Is 49:1-6; Ps 139; Acts 13:22-26; Lk 1:57-66, 80

Through the mercy of God
may they rest in peace ....
Dominic Valenti and Marilyn Kohn

Sunday Offering

June 10, 2007

Sunday Envelopes (198)	$	5,703.00
Loose Checks (35)	$	1,129.00
Loose Cash	$	826.46
Total Collected	$	7,658.46
Budget *	$	9,735.00
Difference	$	- 2,076.54
Year-to-Date Collected	$	610,780.00
Year-to-Date Budget	$	587,730.40
Difference	$	- 23,049.60

* Does not include parish pay budgeted amount

Eucharistic Ministers

SATURDAY, JUNE 23
5:00pm Ann O'Brien, Peter Mulcrone, Pat Mann, Pat Norcik, Colleen Mulcrone

SUNDAY, JUNE 24
8:00am Sr. Kathryn Stimac, Julie Dorger, Sara McCarthy, Judy Coswell, Chris Phillips,
10:00am Kevin Kaufmann, Cathy Chester, Gail Smith Kathy Dunne, Val Hastings, RoseMarie Anichini, Ruth Ott
11:30am Claire O'Brien, Molly OHara, Anthony Long, Karen Billock, Dave Kasten

Greeters

SATURDAY, JUNE 23
5:00pm Maggie Howell, Maria Kulp
SUNDAY, JUNE 24
8:00am Kate Flynn, Lisa Torres, Chris Phillips
10:00am Kim Wagner, Heidi Schlumpf, Ed Butler
11:30am Steven Mitchell, Tracy Mitchell

Hey! 6th -12th Graders: Join us for the next WOW gathering!

Friday, June 22, 5 – 10 pm in the Social Hall. The evening will begin at 5 pm with a potluck supper for all youth and young adult chaperones in the social hall. Bring a dish to share! If you're under 13, dinner will be followed by a showing of the movie "Akeelah and the Bee," sponsored by Pax Christi. If you're over 13 join us for a "Night Walk" through the Lakeview neighborhood, sponsored by The Night Ministry.

If you are interested in attending or chaperoning this event,
please call Ann O'Connor in the rectory at 764-3621 or via email, tappingthesource@gmail.com.

New parishioners
Julie and David Costello
Todd and Sarah Woelfl and daughter Megan

Baptisms
Angel Daniel Hernandez Estrada, daughter of Oscar Hernandez Duran and Lorean Istrada Carderos
Charles McIntire Kiedaisch, son of Joel C. Kiedaisch and Jennifer A. Radke
Tristan James McKean, son of Christopher James McKean and Mealanie Ann Yuracko
Katherine Rose Tentler, daughter of Michael Tentler and Michelle Egloff

Congratulations to our 2007 NCA Graduates!

We are proud to announce that several of this year's NCA 8th graders graduated with High Honors and many with Honors. These students are a special bunch of kids. We wish them all the best as they attend the following high schools; Loyola Academy (8), St. Patrick (3), Gordon (3), Lane Tech (3), St. Ignatius (2), Jones College Prep (2), St. Benedict (2), Chicago Academy of the Arts (1), Von Steuben (1), Mount Carmel Academy (1), St. Lawrence (1), Regina Dominican (1), Resurrection (1), Northtown Academy (1), Evanston Township (1).

Primary School Campus
Preschool - 5th grade

Middle School Campus
6th - 8th Grade

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.