

St. Gertrude

Nativity of St. John the Baptist - June 24, 2007



Sunset: The Birth of John the Baptist

The birth of John the Baptist signals sunset, the close of day for an ancient religious dispensation in anticipation of the dawn of Christ-living. John is the religious equivalent of a TV network executive, closing out the old, tired shows, sending termination notices to the former stars and writers, cleaning house so a whole new, exciting Fall line up can be put in place. John, of course, has no idea just how deep the network president (God) intends to cut things! The new Fall line up (Jesus) is completely, radically new -- no more exploitation of our baser instincts (sex, violence, conspicuous consumption), no more favored status for the few (religious, government, corporate), no more "us" vs. "them" or appeals to fear. Death is put on notice and earth's limited resources bring joy in their sharing rather than angst in their hoarding. We are invited, with John, to commence lopping, scything away the sins that dull our spirits and harden our hearts so that we can give our full attention to prime time: Jesus.



Rock The Block

At the St. Gertrude Summerfest

The annual block party will be held 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.

It is never too late to volunteer for grilling the brats, helping out with the games for the kids or the much needed set-up and clean up.

For info or to volunteer call Joe Glueckert at 743-1475

Gym Mass off for the Summer -- Beginning this Sunday, the 10:30am Gym Mass will be off until the first Sunday after Labor Day. Many thanks to our talented mass coordinators this past year, Mark and Michelle Hanafee, and Marc Loveless, and to all the dedicated folks who helped create a worship space out of the gym each week. Also, a personal thanks to the gym mass community for the generous gift to me and my family. We are proud to be "associates" of St. Gertrude and privileged to serve our parish during this challenging time of transition. ~ Peter Buttitta



Happy Winter

It's winter today in the southern hemisphere, while summer has officially arrived for us. That confusing fact alone is a wondrous thing to ponder. Consider how amazing our planet Earth is! It rotates on its tilted axis. It orbits the sun. It's that tiny blue dot in our solar system within the vast Milky Way, that is itself tiny in relation to the millions and millions of galaxies in our known universe. It's all amazing, simply amazing.

So, too, is the one who is called "Light from Light." Early church leaders tried to express something of their own wonderment about Jesus through the symbolic dating of important events in his life. Scholars tell us that, in part, there's an underlying *solar* logic for the setting of these feasts. Early Christian communities associated both Jesus' death and his conception with the spring equinox. That puts what came to be called Christmas, the commemoration of Jesus' birth, around the winter solstice in late December. Since Luke's gospel suggests Elizabeth was in her sixth month when Mary made her springtime visit with her good news, the early church eventually set the feast of the nativity of John accordingly near the summer solstice.

It's a bit confusing, I know. And the calendars of the early church were not the same as ours today. Remember, though, this setting of the feasts is *symbolic*, not historical. John who was born in the brightness of the longest day of summer points to the light who is Jesus. Jesus who was born in the deepest darkness of winter rises up in the growing light of spring. But, of course, this symbolic solar logic only works from the perspective of the northern hemisphere. I'd be fascinated to hear how they explain it in Australia!

Eileen D. Crowley for *Growing in Faith*



**St. Gertrude
Balance the Budget**



We are almost there. Thus far, thanks to your generosity we have collected over \$34,000 towards balancing the budget. If you haven't already done so, please consider helping us to finish in the black for the fourth straight year. Yellow envelopes are at the back of the church. Again, thank you so much for all your support.

What's Happening? Take A Look!

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 today, June 24. The pick up date is next Saturday, June 30.

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.

Social Justice/Immigration Committee - The group will meet on Wednesday, June 27 at 7:30pm in the rectory parlor. All who are interested are welcome.

Blood Drive - Sunday, July 1, from 8:30 to 1pm LifeSource will be in the social hall. Please consider giving. A valid ID is necessary. To schedule an appointment call Ken Ziganto (784-5047) or just stop by!

Peter's Pence - Next Sunday, July 1 we will collect for Peter's Pence, which supports emergency relief assistance to those who suffer from war, oppression, disease and natural disasters. If you would like to contribute, envelopes at the back of the church. Envelopes will be taken up with the regular Sunday giving.

Good Books - The selection for Monday, July 9 is The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down by Anne Fadiman. The group meets in the rectory dining room at 7:30pm. All are welcome.

Women Church - The member groups of Women-Church Convergence invite you to a weekend of sharing, worship, exploration, and festivity at the O'Hare Hyatt Regency, August 17-19. For information visit www.women-churchconvergence.org or call Sr. Sue Paweski at 463-2478 or spaweski@spsmw.org.

Foster Grandparents Needed—Misericordia is looking for "Foster grandparents" volunteers who are willing to offer companionship to a either a child or young adult who is developmentally disabled and who may also be physically challenged. This opportunity asks only for your compassion, patience and caring, no lifting or other physical requirements. For information contact Theresa Rooney, 273-4161.

Justice for Immigrants
Thank you to the 400 parishioners who took the postcards signed by immigrant families from Our Lady Of Lourdes. Please continue your PRAYERS for a just immigration reform law and your PHONE CALLS to our Congressional representatives. If you would like more information please visit www.justiceforimmigrants.org



Thought about biking? - A four-mile round trip by bike keeps up to 15 pounds of pollutants out of the air. Forty percent of all trips in the US are within two miles of home. Replacing a bike with a car equals planting 170 trees. Bikes save more than 238 million gallons of gas per year and reduces water, air, and noise pollution. Not only that, a bicyclist burns up to 25 calories per mile!



Our Parish at Prayer

MONDAY, JUNE 25

7:00am Teresita Ocular †

9:00am Joseph Hallinan - *anniversary* †

TUESDAY, JUNE 26

7:00am Sylvia Melzer †

9:00am Marie McKee Celmer †

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27

7:00am Sandra Paradise †

9:00am Lester White †

THURSDAY, JUNE 28

7:00am Michael White †

9:00am Paulette Abraham - *birthday* †

FRIDAY, JUNE 29

7:00am Raymond White †

9:00am Jack Hallinan †

SATURDAY, JUNE 30

8:00am Nancy Quinn Jaskowiak †

5:00pm Margaret Maranto †

SUNDAY, JULY 1

8:00am Loretta Kator †

9:30am *Held at St. Gertrude East*
Family of St. Gertrude

10:00am Aileen D'Elia †

11:30am Bridget Brown †

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

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

Through the mercy of God
may they rest in peace

Mary Ann Schmitz
Kassidy Smith and Jeremy Smith
Alberto Monti, father of Steve Monti
Phyllis Miller, mother of Gail Smith

Altar Servers

SATURDAY, JUNE 30

5:00pm Roger DeKind, Emily Harrington, Cora Byrne

SUNDAY, JULY 1

10:00am Rachel Rapp, Ellen Buttitta

Michael Zajakowski-Uhll

11:30am Kendall Elue, Taylor Hartung, Allison Wall

Lectors

SATURDAY, JUNE 30

5:00pm Norman Bowers, Clarisse Croteau Chonka

SUNDAY, JULY 1

8:00am Matt Kollar, Jon Anderson

10:00am Rafael Melendez, Carol McRaith

11:30am Janine Denomme, Susan Lersch

Readings for the Week

Monday: Gn 12:1-9; Mt 7:1-5

Tuesday: Gn 13:2, 5-18; Mt 7:6, 12-14

Wednesday: Gn 15:1-12, 17-18; Mt 7:15-20

Thursday: Gn 16:1-12, 15-16 [6b-12, 15-16];
Mt 7:21-29Friday: Acts 12:1-11; 2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18;
Mt 16:13-19

Saturday: Gn 18:1-15; Mt 8:5-17

Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:16b, 19-21; Ps 16; Gal 5:1, 13-18;
Lk 9:51-62

Sunday Offering

June 17, 2007

Sunday Envelopes (180)	\$ 5,727.00
Parish Pay (113)	\$ 12,836.00
Loose Checks (32)	\$ 972.00
Loose Cash	\$ 652.15
Total Collected	\$ 20,187.15
Budget *	\$ 22,917.00

Difference	\$ - 2,729.85.
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Year-to-Date Collected	\$ 663,337.00
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Year-to-Date Budget	\$ 607,916.67
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Difference	\$ - 25,240.33
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* Does include parish pay budgeted amount

Eucharistic Ministers

SATURDAY, JUNE 30

5:00pm Kathleen Dawson, Peggy Dawson,
Mary Cook, Manny Eckert, Mickey Resch

SUNDAY, JULY 1

8:00am Ester Bugler, Ed Bugler, Mary Stachura,
Rodolfo Magadan, Don Nyderek10:00am Ruth Ott, Dana Sullivan, Beth Siegel,
Nancy Merrill, Rosita Nordgren11:30am Fran Glowinski, Theresa Resch,
Mary Pat Hartung, Dave Kasten,
Karen Billock, Dave Kasten

Greeters

SUNDAY, JULY 1

8:00am Joe Donnelly, Theresa Ibrahim,
Jasmine Ibrahim10:00am Rafael Melendez, Linda Orellana, Ray Seitz
Sergio and Jasmine Ott, Ruth Ott

11:30am Crissie Bolan, Amy Ballard



New parishioners

Jim Courtney and Katie Gruber
Patricia Shaw and her son Charles P. Shaw
Rina Gerard

Congratulations

Congratulations to our student rectory workers who graduated from high school this year and will be leaving for college in the fall:

Pat O'Connor who will be attending University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana

Matt Guenette who will be attending Purdue University, Indiana

Thanks for your years of service at the rectory and we wish you well.

NCA Report...

We hope you are enjoying your vacation... soon our wonderful support staff can start theirs. **Please note that the school offices will be closed for the month of July starting Friday, June 29 at 11:00am. If you need anything from our secretaries or you have not registered for next year, please contact them this week.** Our admissions office for new families will continue to remain open throughout the summer. We'd like to thank Mrs. Cannon, Mrs. Yates and Mrs. Holzman for their dedication and unending service to NCA. You deserve a relaxing and peaceful month off, enjoy!



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 Manzarzo, 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.

