

# St. Gertrude

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - July 1, 2007

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## SPIRITUAL RIPENING

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Jesus said to one in the crowd, "Follow me." That one (like most of the others) wasn't quite ready and so replied, "Lord, first let me say goodbye to my family at home." What does it take to be ready when the Lord comes calling? As we blossom into spiritual awareness, we begin to notice that grace (the very essence of divine life) is present in every moment of our life. (This is why you'll hear people say, "You're never given more to bear than you can handle.") Awareness germinates within us an ability to respond, to "cooperate" with grace. Some of us ripen quickly, due to life circumstances, and learn to respond right away. Others have opportunity to grow more deliberately. Eventually we fall from the tree, offering sweet fruit to the earth (although some get plucked while still clinging fiercely to the branch!). How is it with you and your spiritual ripening? Is your daily prayer softening you, sweetening your pulp? Are you ready to give yourself over to life's big bite?

## *News From W.O.W.*

Last Friday, a group of WOW teens met with Rev. Joan MacPherson of The Night Ministry. We learned that there are thousands of homeless young people in our city at any given time and that the average age of a homeless person is NINE. We talked about some of the reasons why people are homeless and how The Night Ministry serves them.

After our orientation, we split up into groups of two's and three's and walked around the Lakeview neighborhood for 90 minutes. Our task was to imagine that we were a 14 year old homeless person with \$1.50 in our pocket. *What would we eat? How would we spend the long days and nights? Where would we sleep? What would we do when our money ran out?*

During our walk we learned that in Lakeview all of the dumpsters are locked. We learned that you cannot buy much food for \$1.50. We vividly imagined that it would be very scary to sleep in a dark alley or an abandoned building. We wondered what we would do in the winter. We realized that profound loneliness and disconnection are just two of the many sad consequences of homelessness.

After our night walk it was easy to feel overwhelmed and helpless to do anything about youth homelessness. But during our de-briefing with Rev. MacPherson, we talked about friends and what qualities are important in a friendship. The word "trust" came up again and again. We want our friends to honor our privacy and not tell our secrets. But this is often the very reason why young people successfully run away and become homeless: their friends keep their secrets for them. Rev. MacPherson challenged our young people to decide never to keep the secret of a friend who might be in danger, or who has run away. We left feeling empowered, and returned home with a newfound appreciation for our soft, comfortable beds.



### *Resolute Determination*

Today's gospel is about the call to discipleship and the cost of discipleship. The attitude Jesus recommends is exemplified by his own *resolute determination* to journey to Jerusalem, where he knows full well that he is going to get into big trouble. "Follow me," he says, to which the disciples reply, "But, but, but..." Jesus responds, in essence: "Don't hesitate. Don't hold back. Don't look back. Come along--come what may."

If we take the risk of saying "Yes" to calls, there are no guarantees that things will work out, that we won't make a mistake or get hurt or get into trouble. Things didn't exactly work out so well for Jesus once he got to Jerusalem! But there are also consequences--for ourselves and for our world--that go with saying "No." If we play it safe too much, we risk experiencing a kind of spiritual death while we're still alive. And our world ends up missing out on all the good that might have come about if only we'd had the courage to follow our callings.

Just think of what could happen if each of us and all of us took our call to Christian peacemaking more seriously, if more of us were "resolutely determined" to end our country's destructive involvement in Iraq, if enough of us were willing to "go to Jerusalem" and maybe even get into some trouble for the cause of peace. I'm thinking admiringly of several members of our parish who have been arrested for civil disobedience against this horrible war. "Until we are ready to have the courage for peace that people have for war," said Fr. Daniel Berrigan, "nothing is going to change."

So, let's keep our hand on the plow, and our eyes on the prize!

John Neafsey for *Growing in Faith*



**Mission Sunday, July 7** - Fr. Lawrence Ebuk from Grenada will be making the annual mission appeal next Sunday, July 7. The infrastructure of Grenada was devastated by Hurricane Ivan in 2004, including Fr.'s Lawrence's church, and 15 other churches. Please consider giving to this year's mission appeal. Envelopes are at the back of the church for next week's second collection.

**Attention: current and prospective CCD families!** We've got the best students in the city. We've got the most committed volunteer teachers. We've got a great curriculum from Loyola Press. *Do we have the right class time?* Does the Wednesday from 7 to 8 pm time work for your family? Would you prefer to return to Sunday mornings from 8:45 to 9:45? We would like to hear from as many families as possible. Please call Ann O'Connor at the rectory, 764-3621. Thanks!

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

**July 4 Holiday.** On Wednesday, July 4 there will be only one Mass at 10am (there is no 7am or 9am). In addition the rectory will be closed for the holiday.

**Schmitz-Smith Children's Trust** - Last week a tragic accident took the lives of Mary Ann Schmitz and her children Cassidy and Jeremy Smith. A trust to assist her surviving children, Shane and Robbie Smith, has been established. If you would like to make a donation, checks should be made out to "Robert A. Dwyer, Jr. as Trustee." Checks can be mailed to the rectory.

**Blood Drive** - Today, Sunday, July 1, from 8:30 to 1pm LifeSource will be in the social hall. Please consider giving. A valid ID is necessary.

**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.



***Ministry Spotlight***

I remember growing up, the dread and fear that would wash over me whenever I was called upon to read or stand in front of the class to present a project. I had a speech impediment and realized my audience would not focus on the meaning of the words but how they were formed and delivered. It is ironic that both my profession and ministry, a teacher and Lector, respectively, require those very things that once terrified me as a child.

I have been asked to write a reflection on the Lector ministry. The first thing that came to mind is how many times I have heard the stories told in the readings. More importantly, how over the years, each story has evolved into a different meaning depending on where my journey in life had taken me. The changes have been subtle but each year as I listen to the Word, there is a new direction. Each effective pause between phrases helps bring to life the intricacies of the multi layered messages that different parish members perceive depending on where they are on their own journey.

We are blessed to have 26 beautiful voices at Saint Gertrude, who every weekend share their passion and conviction in the retelling of the Word. I welcome anyone in the parish who would like to join us in this calling. If you are interested please call the rectory (764-3621). Every new voice adds to the possibility that the Word and it's meaning may help another as they are facing their own impediments in life..... **Ann O'Brien**



Heating your water is the second biggest use of home energy after heating and cooling. Use natural gas or propane instead of electricity. Wrap your water heater in an insulation blanket. Use less hot water. Install low-flow showerheads. Use aerators on faucets.

### Our Parish at Prayer

#### MONDAY, JULY 2

7:00am Helen M. Schmidt †

9:00am John English - *anniversary* †

#### TUESDAY, JULY 3

7:00am Raymond White †

9:00am Robert Noe †

#### WEDNESDAY, JULY 4 - INDEPENDENCE DAY

10:00am Roberto and Paciencia Cabrera †

#### THURSDAY, JULY 5

7:00am Anna White †

9:00am Marion White †

#### FRIDAY, JULY 6

7:00am Judith Shunick †

9:00am Deceased of Connery Family †

#### SATURDAY, JULY 7

8:00am Marilyn Kohn †

5:00pm Dolly Heintz †

#### SUNDAY, JULY 8

8:00am Loretta Kator †

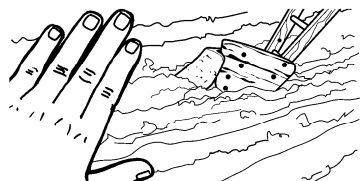
9:30am *Held at St. Gertrude East*  
Family of St. Gertrude

10:00am Denis McNamara †

11:30am Waclaw Kiedysz †

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

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



### Altar Servers

#### SATURDAY JULY 7

5:00pm Mike Volini, Clare Harper,  
Matt Thompson-Wilda

#### SUNDAY, JULY 8

10:00am Adrian McVane, Marcus McVane,  
Frank Schabold

11:30am Gloria Ellis, Andrew Wicklin, Oscar Martinez

### Lectors

#### SATURDAY, JULY 7

5:00pm Clarisse Croteau Chonka, Ann O'Brien

#### SUNDAY, JULY 8

8:00am Jon Anderson, Kathy Kollar

10:00am Ruth Ott, Jeff Seitzer

11:30am Susan Lersch, DeLaina Ellis

### Readings for the Week

Monday: Gn 18:16-33; Mt 8:18-22

Tuesday: Eph 2:19-22; Jn 20:24-29

Wednesday: Gn 21:5, 8-20a; Mt 8:28-34

Thursday: Gn 22:1b-19; Mt 9:1-8

Friday: Gn 23:1-4, 19; 24:1-8, 62-67; Mt 9:9-13

Saturday: Gn 27:1-5, 15-29; Mt 9:14-17

Sunday: Is 66:10-14c; Ps 66; Gal 6:14-18; Lk 10:1-12, 17-20 [10:1-9]

### Wedding Banns

I Kevin Gallick and Bricia Puentes

### Sunday Offering

## Congratulations!

It appears that with your great support we have balanced the budget once again.

There will be more details in next week's bulletin.

*Thank you so much!*



### Eucharistic Ministers

#### SATURDAY, JULY 7

5:00pm Ann O'Brien, Joan Harrington, Pat Mann,  
Tim Harrington, Ken Ziganto

#### SUNDAY, JULY 8

8:00am Roman Reyes, Julie Dorger, Sara McCarthy  
Ann Bushelon, Jay Cook

10:00am Kevin Kaufmann, Tere Zdunek, Bob Dwyer,  
Kathy Dunne, Laurie Hasbrook,

11:30am Eileen Quinlan, Rob Sierzega  
Brent Billock, Anthony Long, Dave Kasten,  
Mary Pat Hartung, Susan Lersch

### Greeters

#### SATURDAY, JULY 7

5:00pm Ann Pacatte, Helen Banta

#### SUNDAY, JULY 8

8:00am Mary Stachura, Ona Kozar,  
Pamela Sherrod Anderson

10:00am Jessie North, Maria Valley, May Lauricella

11:30am Paul Elue, Melinda Banahene



### Baptisms

Denise Josette Barnes, daughter of Judy Rae Barnes  
Isabelle Mei-lin D'Souza, daughter of Steven D'Souza and Sabrina Wing  
Emily Elizabeth Plata, daughter of Crispin Plata and Lynn Laddish  
Jason Michael Schmitz, son of John Schmitz and Leni Mirasol

## News From Northside Catholic Academy

### Community means...

“Community” is a word thrown around a lot to describe NCA. Webster’s definition of community, “a group of people having characteristic in common; common ownership; and agreement as to goals” begins to describe us. What makes our community wonderful is that within the ownership and common goals is love. Love means that we look out for each other, love means that we forgive each other, love means that we put our personal goals aside for the greater good. The strength of our community was really challenged this spring. We had a series of serious events including the tragic deaths of four of our community members. As a community we mourned together, and we pulled together to help out those families and friends who were suffering. From dinners to carpooling children to be with their friends to monetary donations, we never lost sight of the commitment we have to each other and to love. Thank you – you should all be very proud of yourselves!

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  
Rev. Mike Bradley, Resident  
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](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 - 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.

