

St. Gertrude

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time - August 5, 2007



An Indonesian artist created this image calling for debt relief at the recent G8 meeting in Germany.

Friendship at heart of obesity Chicago Tribune

Okay, so we borrowed this headline from the July 26 Tribune. It led an article exploring data which suggests that the people one hangs out with can have as much affect on one's weight as diet, exercise and genetics. We wonder if the same can be applied to nations and multi-national corporations! What is it that re-inforces our First World propensity to gobble up the world's resources while leaving one third of the world's population in a steady state of near starvation? Today's scripture readings make it pretty clear that a preoccupation with material wealth is a fast track to spiritual emptiness. So what fills your spirit in a materially "sustainable" way? How can we move beyond the "vanity" of our possessions so that they don't come to "own" us? If you were to die tomorrow, what would you value as your greatest "treasure"?

From Father Grassi

Some random thoughts this summer weekend.

It has taken me close to four months, but I am finally mobile enough to move back into the rectory. I did so this past week with Peter's help and I must admit that it is good to be back home. I still am doing physical therapy and getting home nursing visits and going to get checked by the surgeon and my primary care physician regularly. But each day I feel like I am walking better and gaining a little more energy. My body does a great job of telling me when enough is enough. It's then that I have no choice but to stop. Again thanks for all your prayers, concern, and understanding. I hope to be retiring my cane soon.

Loyola Press is officially launching my book, **Bumping Into God In the Kitchen** with a much delayed signing at the Barnes and Noble on Clybourn and Southport on Sunday, August 19 at 2pm. Those are always fun. You are invited. And if you can't wait until then, the **Mustard Seed Bookstore** on Sheridan and Broadway has autographed copies in stock now. They have a great selection of books and other religious items as well. It is important to support their efforts.

Last Sunday, Ann O'Connor's tour of our church windows was fascinating and entertaining. I hope she will do it again for those who couldn't make it. I learned a lot from it. Thanks, Ann. I hear that our **Foster and Adoptive Families** group had a great outing last week, as well.

This past week I met with some parishioners to plan a series of **New Parishioner Parties** to welcome the many who have been registering with us. The adults working with our youth and teens in the **W.O.W.** program had a great planning meeting this week as well. And there are exciting ideas being formulated for our **Growing In Faith** series starting up again in the fall. The staff is beginning some long range planning and goal setting. You know our parish centennial isn't too far away. And a committee is being formed to explore what might be successful as an annual parish fund raising event. Meanwhile the teaching staff at **NCA** is all set, the new computers are in at the Middle School Campus, and some of our new identifying signage is up with more on the way.

It is so good to be back. I hope you can share the excitement and the hope that is being generated by all this and so much more.

DJG



In today's gospel, someone called to Jesus from a crowd and asked him to settle a dispute with a brother. The petitioner sought his/her proper share of an inheritance, something rightfully his/hers and nothing more. Apparently feeling helpless to obtain justice in any other way, this nameless, faceless, genderless person called out anonymously from a crowd.

As always, Jesus helped. "Friend," he asked, "who set me up as your judge?" By naming the petitioner "friend," Jesus redefined the situation and pointed to a solution: See yourself as a friend, he said, view your brother as a friend, and you will resolve your difficulty. But if you are not friends, even if I could apportion the property between you, your anger and distrust will persist. You can find peace only if you see and approach each other as friends.

Then Jesus described a rich farmer who had an exceptionally good harvest. Without enough room in existing grain bins, the farmer decided to build new, larger bins. This would enable retirement for years to come. But, observed Jesus, death came to the rich person – not as a punishment for wealth or stinginess, because death touches everyone. Death came to the rich person just as death comes to everyone else.

And the question God asked of the dead rich person is the same question God will ask each of us: "What good is all this wealth of yours?" However much or little you had, what did you do with your life? Were you a friend? Did you use your wealth of every type – not just your material wealth, but your talents and abilities – did you use your wealth to make a better world? Did you see yourself as a friend, and did you live that way?

Arthur Lyons for *Growing in Faith*

SUPPORT THE DREAM ACT - The *Dream Act* provides a path to permanent residence for young people brought to the US as undocumented children, if they graduate from high school, enter college or military service. Our Catholic bishops have advocated for these young people and their attainment of legal status. Please call our Senators Durbin (312) 353-4952 and Obama (312) 886-3506 and ask them to VOTE in FAVOR of the Dream Act Amendment to HR 1585.

Thank you! St. Gertrude's SJHC-Immigration Committee

***Want to do more to deepen your faith?
Wondering what your next step should be in your walk with the Lord?
Could This be what you're looking for ...?***

Called & Gifted is a two year formation program for parish volunteers. It is for people who want to learn more about their faith and to deepen their prayer life. Parishioner Kevin Cheers is a graduate of the program. This *certificate* program provides weekly academic courses at three sites in the Archdiocese. Courses include *Scripture, Church History, Sacraments, Christology, Peace and Justice*, and much MORE! Once a month, participants spend a day in formation activities at Mundelein Seminary. Visit www.USML.edu/LayMinistry or call 847-837-4554.

What's Happening? Take A Look!

Good Books - The selection for Monday, August 13, is True Confessions by John Gregory Dunne. The group meets in the rectory dining room at 7:30pm and all are welcome. Information: Mary Grover ~ 338-3564.

Poetry Pilgrims - A collection of religious poems will be ready at the next meeting, Monday, August 20, at 7:30pm. If you would like a copy prior to the meeting, please contact Mary Grover at 338-3564 or mary@marsgrover.com.

Market day - Get ready for the beginning of the school year by stocking up with Market Day. Forms are available at the back of the church and are due Sunday, August 19. Pickup is Saturday, August 25.

Retired Men's Group - will meet the fourth Thursday, August 30, this month. The group meets in the ministry center from 9:30am to noon and all retired men who live in or near the parish are welcome. For information call Wally Bradford ~ 761-1912.

Congratulations to those students from St. Ignatius who were named to the honor roll the final semester of 2006-2007:

*Luis Abrego
Heidi Bujnowski*

*Rachael Curtin
Claudia Dezulskis*

*Anna Williams
Emily Williams
Katie Williams*

Thank you from the Roy Family

Your kind expression of sympathy was deeply appreciated and is gratefully acknowledged by the family of Sabrina Roy, the principal of Northside Catholic Academy who died suddenly on June 1.

We have been so blessed by the number of people who have helped us through this difficult period. Your generosity and kindness are more appreciated than any words can express. Sabrina would have been touched by the outpouring of love and compassion from the people and community that she cared for so much. We thank all of the school communities, families, children and friends of Sabrina Roy.

The family of Sabrina Roy



Green tip for the week: Buy locally - not only is it good for the local economy, it will save energy because products haven't traveled across the globe to get to you.

Our Parish at Prayer

MONDAY, AUGUST 6

7:00am Helen M. Schmidt †

9:00am Jack Hallinan †

TUESDAY, AUGUST 7

7:00am Anna White †

9:00am Lt. Victor Strubbe CFDKIA 75th anniversary †

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8

7:00am Agnes Garvey †

9:00am Mary McNamara 17th anniversary †

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9

7:00am Communion Service

Peggy Conboy †

9:00am Peggy O'Malley †

FRIDAY, AUGUST 10

7:00am Marion White †

9:00am Dominic Valenti †

SATURDAY, AUGUST 11

8:00am Michael White †

11:00am Lainez & Murray Wedding

5:00pm John Resch †

SUNDAY, AUGUST 12

8:00am James P. Donnelly †

9:30am Held at St. Gertrude East
Loretta Kator

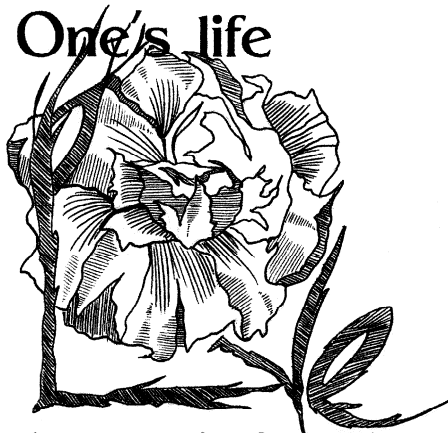
10:00am Peggy and John Collins †

11:30am Mary DeGiulio †

2:30pm Rubino & Fitzpatrick Wedding

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

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



does not consist of possessions

Lectors

SATURDAY, AUGUST 11

5:00pm Joan Steinbrecher, Ann O'Brien

SUNDAY, AUGUST 12

8:00am Kathy Kollar, Jon Anderson

10:00am Bob Dwyer, Barbara Zemen

11:30am Elizabeth Hartman, DeLaina Ellis

Readings for the Week

Monday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; 2 Pt 1:16-19; Lk 9:28b-36

Tuesday: Nm 12: 1-13; Mt 14:22-36

Wednesday: Nm 13:1-2, 25 - 14:1, 26-29a, 34-35;
Mt 15:21-28

Thursday: Nm 20:1-13; Mt 16:13-23

Friday: 2 Cor 9:6-10; Jn 12:24-26

Saturday: Dt 6:4-13; Mt 17:14-20

Sunday: Wis 18:6-9; Ps 33;
Heb 11:1-2, 8-19 [1-2, 8-12];
Lk 12:32-48 [35-40]

Wedding Banns

III Mary Rubino & Tom Fitzpatrick

III Jules Murray and Corina Lainez

Sunday Offering

July 29, 2007

Sunday Envelopes (183) \$ 6,085.00

Loose Checks (36) \$ 1,410.00

Loose Cash \$ 602.00

Total Collected \$ 8,107.00

Budget * \$ 10,378.00

Difference \$ - 2,271.00

Year-to-Date Collected \$ 51,867.52

Year-to-Date Budget \$ 63,890.00

Difference \$ - 12,022.48

* Does not include parish pay budgeted amount

Eucharistic Ministers

SATURDAY, AUGUST 11

5:00pm Ann O'Brien, Mary Cook, Kathleen Dawson,
Peggy Dawson, Mickey Resch

SUNDAY, AUGUST 12

8:00am Ken Ziganto, Chris Phillips, Don Nyderek,
Julie Dorger, Sara McCarthy10:00am Ruth Ott, Rob Sierzega, Beth Siegel,
Kevin Kaufmann, Eileen Quinlan,
Kathy Dunne, Theresa Resch11:30am Karen Billock, Dave Kasten, Gail Smith,
Bernard Ndiwe, Mary Pat Hartung

Greeters

SATURDAY, AUGUST 11

5:00pm Eileen Schrage, Cathie Moorhous

SUNDAY, AUGUST 12

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

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

11:30am Paul Elue, Melinda Banahene



SAVE THE DATE - W.O.W youth present an *End of Summer Beach Bash!*
Saturday, August 25, at 1:00pm at Ardmore Beach. Lots of fun for all:
Volleyball, water games, frisbee, etc.
All incoming 6th-graders through 12th graders are welcome.
Bring your friends.
For information call Ann O'Connor at the rectory, 764-3621
or tappingthesource@gmail.com

News From Northside Catholic Academy

Inexpensive & Easy Ways Anyone Can Support NCA

There are many parishioners who support NCA. Whatever it is that you've done from clipping box tops to volunteering at Market Day to monetary donations, please know that we recognize and appreciate your efforts. We want to remind everyone of the simple ways to help NCA

- Clip "Box Tops" squares and drop them off at the back of church
- Use Target Visa & select NCA (the code is 5669) under the "Take Charge of Education" program
- Buy some of your grocery items through Market Day
- Enjoy a Golf Scramble at our upcoming Outing September 13
- Attend the Oktoberfest on September 29
- Buy Gift Cards through our Manna Program

Please call the school for more info on supporting your parish school.



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
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

<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.

