

St. Gertrude

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time - August 12, 2007



Ann O'Connor, author and faith formation minister, invites us to share in the joy she finds appreciating the beauty of our stained glass windows, which include The Assumption [second from right above], found in the north transept of church. Photo by Mia Aigotti/Pioneer Press

ASSUMPTION: APPRECIATING BEAUTY BRINGS JOY

We celebrate the Feast of Mary's Assumption into Heaven this Wednesday, August 15. We assume Mary shares in eternal heaven because she took in the radiant beauty of her son, Jesus, in such great gulps. Mary had an enduring appreciation for the wonder of God's handiwork, which she pondered deep in her heart. Ann O'Connor, our parish faith formation maven, works to draw forth in us the same spiritual sensibility -- gratitude for God in the form of beauty, and in particular, creativity. It isn't just the amazing colors and craft that Ann wants us to notice in our church windows, for example, but the sublime method of turning ancient stories into pictures that are primed to preach whenever we turn our attention their way. Thank you, Ann, for the wonderful work of art you are.

From Father Grassi

If you are reading this in church (it's okay as long as it isn't during Mass ... especially my homily) please look around. Look at the legacy of faith the parishioners before us left for us. No matter how many times we walk into St. Gertrude church how can we not be inspired by the beauty of the stained glass windows, the powerful architectural lines that draw our eyes heavenward, the beautiful marble statues and so much more? Now look at the people sitting around you. Some of the older ones may have been here all their lives and their family roots can be traced to some of the first parishioners in our sacramental records. They are an important part of the legacy of faith that is ours and that the Letter to the Hebrews speaks to in the second reading today. It is important to acknowledge the gift of faith they have left for us to build upon.

We need to ask ourselves what our legacy will be. Luke's Gospel reminds us in no uncertain terms that we just do not know when God will be coming for us. So we have to make a difference, we have to leave our mark, now, not tomorrow or any other time in the future. From the simplest acts of faith in God, Abraham and Sarah became the parents of God's chosen people which forever changed not only their lives, but also the course of salvation history.

Are we acting right now on our faith? What is the legacy our faith will leave not only for future generations, but also for our brothers and sisters whose search brings them to us and whom we can profoundly affect by living out the faith that was shared with us by others? If we have found solace, hope, love, comfort and joy here, what are we doing to guarantee that others will find the same, and whatever else they might need, long after we are gone?

Thank God for all who have gone before us here and their generosity of faith. Thank God for each other and what we can bring to one another. Thank God for those who will follow us and keep the legacy of St. Gertrude Parish alive and vibrant.

DJG



Our culture customarily portrays faith as belief without proof or evidence. Today's second reading turns this cultural prejudice on its head and defines faith as "the realization" (or reality, Greek "hypostasis") of what we hope for and "evidence" for what we do not see. How does faith become the reality and evidence of our hoped-for salvation by God? Whenever, in faith, someone accepts adversity as coming from God's hand, and still gets up the next morning as if life has meaning, they prove the existence of that unseen meaning.

Whenever, in faith, social service providers look at a client and see someone from whom they can learn and whom they can befriend, they realize and accept God's spirit alive and calling to them from everyone (perhaps even overcoming professional taboos against friendship).

Whenever someone hurts another and the one hurt, in faith, forgives and continues to love, they make real God's power in the world. Calvin Gantt tells of two people walking separately and hearing each other's footsteps on a dark night. Each becomes afraid. Which of them, he asks, causes the fear? - Neither causes it, but rather fear arises from the idea each has of the other as a potential threat. Whenever, in faith, we try to overcome that idea, and instead begin to trust the other, we become evidence of God's all-embracing love.

John Horan speaks of the occasional people we meet to whom we want to apprentice ourselves because they have the possibility of insight we don't have. They have apprenticed themselves to the divine. Whenever, in faith, we recognize God calling us through them and we improve our own behavior, we accept the evidence of God's presence in our life.

How else does faith make God's reality visible?

Myra Johnson and Arthur Lyons for *Growing in Faith*

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Wednesday, August 15 is a Holy Day of Obligation. We will have a 7am and 9am Mass as well as a 6pm Mass that day. There will be no vigil Mass.

Religious Education - Thank you so much to everyone who responded to our request for your preferences regarding the time and day for religious education (CCD) classes. Based on your responses, our new class time will be **Sunday mornings from 8:45 to 9:45 am**. Hopefully, this new day and time will make it possible for more students to attend classes more frequently, and that everyone's overall faith formation experience will be enriched.

If you wish to register your child for CCD, please stop by or call Ann O'Connor at the rectory ~ 764-3621.

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 read 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 fifth 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.

Call for Music Ministers - If you have musical gifts, you are encouraged to share them by joining the St. Gertrude music ministry. Please contact Mary Herbin Horan, the music director to find out about the many opportunities that await you ~ 764-3621.

Choir Call - Choir rehearsals for the 2007-2008 liturgical year begin Thursday, September 6. The first rehearsal will be at 7pm in the music office, located in the rectory. Subsequent rehearsals will be every Thursday evening in the church at 7pm.

Many thanks to those of you who have called in to help us update and/or correct the parish directory or the new Sunday giving envelopes. We appreciate your patience. There is still time to get in any changes or additions for the directory. You can either call the rectory at 764-3621 or write any changes on your Sunday giving envelope. Also, we are trying to move towards using more email to contact parishioners so please email us your email address at stgertbulletin@yahoo.com if you haven't already done so.



New Parishioners

Danielle Winkler and her daughter Serena
Karolina Donarski and her daughter Victoria

Baptisms

Bridget Helen Dunne, daughter of Joseph Dunne and Jennifer Byerly



Green tips for your Car - Refuel your car after dusk, when NO_x levels are lower. This helps to reduce ground level ozone pollution. Make sure that the gasoline you put in your car is the right type (most cars use the lowest octane.) This reduces wasted gas, thereby reducing emissions. Finally, make sure not to over-pump gasoline into the tank as fuel that overflows evaporates into the air as pollution.

Our Parish at Prayer

MONDAY, AUGUST 13

7:00am Helen M. Schmidt †
9:00am Dolly and George Heintz †

TUESDAY, AUGUST 14

7:00am Anna White †
9:00am Thomas Schmitz †

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:00am Marion White †
9:00am Margaret Maranto †
6:00pm Family of St. Gertrude

THURSDAY, AUGUST 16

7:00am *Communion Service*
Raymond White †
9:00am Deceased of Connery Family †

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17

7:00am Helen M. Schmidt †
9:00am Lisa Penalozza †

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18

8:00am Anna White †
5:00pm Josephine Pecoraro †

SUNDAY, AUGUST 19

8:00am Loretta Kator †
9:30am *Held at St. Gertrude East*
Angel Arambulo (birthday) †
10:00am Richard and Norma †
11:30am Tassone & Emmanuele & Pitaro Families †

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

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

Altar Servers

SATURDAY AUGUST 18

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

SUNDAY, AUGUST 19

10:00am Fiona McRaith, Adam Glueckert,
Kaylene Champagne
11:30am Roger DeKind, Sam Guenette,
Taylor Hartung

Lectors

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18

5:00pm Mary Jo Bowers, Elizabeth Sterling

SUNDAY, AUGUST 19

8:00am Mary Stachura, Matt Kollar
10:00am Bob Backis, Carol McRaith
11:30am Janine Denomme, Susan Lersch

Readings for the Week

Monday: Dt 10:12-22; Mt 17:22-27
Tuesday: Dt 31:1-8; Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14
Wednesday: Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab;
1 Cor 15:20-27; Lk 1:39-56
Thursday: Jos 3:7-10a, 11, 13-17; Mt 18:21 - 19:1
Friday: Jos 24:1-13; Mt 19:3-12
Saturday: Jos 24:14-29; Mt 19:13-15
Sunday: Jer 38:4-6, 8-10; Ps 40; Heb 12:1-4;
Lk 12:49-53



Sunday Offering

August 5, 2007

| | | |
|------------------------|----|-----------|
| Sunday Envelopes (200) | \$ | 6,295.00 |
| Loose Checks (28) | \$ | 2,455.00 |
| Loose Cash | \$ | 967.00 |
| Total Collected | \$ | 9,717.00 |
| Budget * | \$ | 10,378.00 |

Difference \$ - 661.00

Year-to-Date Collected \$ 61,584.52

Year-to-Date Budget \$ 74,260.00

Difference \$ - 12,683.48

* Does *not* include parish pay budgeted amount

Eucharistic Ministers

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18

5:00pm Joan Harrington, Tim Harrington, Pat Mann,
Pat Norcik, Manny Eckert

SUNDAY, AUGUST 19

8:00am Ester Bugler, Ed Bugler, Roman Reyes,
Ann Bushelon, Hallie Burhoe
10:00am Tere Zdunek, Cathy Chester, Nancy Merrill,
Laurie Hasbrook, Val Hastings,
Dana Sullivan, Rosita Nordgren
11:30am Susan Lersch, Anthony Long, Brent Billock,
Claire O'Brien, Molly O'Hara

Greeters

SUNDAY, AUGUST 19

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



SAVE THE DATE - WOW 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.

See the flyers in the church.

For information call Ann O'Connor at the rectory, 764-3621
or tappingthesource@gmail.com

News From Northside Catholic Academy

Limited Space Available in 2nd – 8th grades.

A few months ago, NCA met its “budgeted enrollment goal”. This means that we had enough students registered to cover our expenses. Since then, we’ve added 10+ students and expect more families to register next week. We have waiting lists for preschool, kindergarten, and first grade. As difficult as it is to turn families away, we value our low students-to-teacher classroom ratios and will not sacrifice that standard. If you are on a waiting list, please keep in mind that an opening might occur this fall or mid-year. Please feel free to contact us throughout the year as to your status. If you are interested in grades 2 through 8, we encourage you to contact the office ASAP. The first day of school is August 23 and classroom assignments are currently being set. Both campus offices are open from 8am-11am Monday through Friday.



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
Rev. Mike Bradley, Resident

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.

