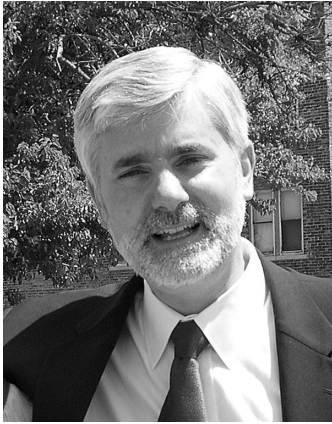


St. Gertrude

1420 W. Granville Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60660 • Telephone: 773.764.3621
Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time • October 18, 2009



John Horan runs a school for would-be gang members in Lawndale; Mary Cook brings communion to the residents of Bethany nursing home, and is this year's parish recipient of the *Christifideles* Award; Johnny Outlaw teaches ex-offenders at Kennedy-King College; Mary Ann O'Connor works with adult faith formation and helps our GRalley grow.

The Cup that I drink You will drink

~Mark 10:38

Jesus invites us to live a life like his. As we read the stories of his life, passed on to us through the generations, what sort of life do we observe? Is Jesus a mope, a whiner, a complainer? Is Jesus arrogant, full of himself, a bully, albeit for a good cause? One could get the feeling that Jesus might enjoy parlor talk at grandma's tea party one moment, be out front digging up a tree stump the next, then swing by the nursing home to offer good cheer to the folks there while on his way over to the rectory to give the pastor (and his fine associates) a piece of his mind. And he always had time for the kids. Jesus didn't seem to crave attention, but neither was he an appeaser. And though Jesus found refreshment in solitude, he probably didn't spend a lot of time figuring out which cruise package offered the most novel refreshments. Jesus was clearly a person for others, and he invites us into that life, too. "If you want to be first among all, be the servant of all." Do it, not to win praise, but because at heart it is the meaning of human life. We have wonderful examples of this kind of life here at St. Gertrude. You don't have to look far to see the obviously anonymous who make mass special without drawing attention to themselves – from our 10-year old altar servers on up. But well beyond our church doors are people caring for the aging and disabled, patiently nurturing along the next generation, reaching out to neighbors who seem troubled or worn out, giving time to the safety of our neighborhood, helping those newly arrived to our community. With each act, we drink more deeply from the Cup of Sacrifice which Jesus promised to his followers. Bitter potion? Essential elixir.

From Father Grassi

By the time I was done in church last Sunday I was tired and I was sore. It is never easy for me to get up in front of the parish and ask you, who are already so wonderfully generous, to consider doing even more. I have to admit that afterwards I always go through a period of questioning myself. Is it the right thing to do? Are their ways we could be cutting back to save more? And the larger question – are we doing enough to warrant such generous support from you?

Sunday evening, I made my way to the gym on stiff legs, sat myself down and, before the night was over, I had my answers. What a talented group of parishioners we have here. Whole families, little angels, teens and adults, some in their first play and others who have been in dozens of them all working hard to entertain us, what a group! The musicians and singers were rocking. Mike Tobin's creativity coupled with everyone on stage and those behind the scenes gave us an evening well worth the donation made to support our senior outreach *Heart to Heart*. Every time I looked around all I saw were great big smiles on the faces of everyone in the audience. Everyone from young to old was having a good time and the cast and crew were giving their all so that it would be that way. Today's Gospel tells us that this is what church is suppose to be, serving others with whatever talents we have and to do so freely and joyfully.

Sometimes I forget how much is being done here day in and day out -- this past week alone the Book Club gathered as did the Job Seekers, the Parish Council met, there was Taize Prayer and the Institutes, folks gathered for R.C.I.A. class, W.O.W. teens got ready to go on a day trip, sick were visited, the C.C.D. teachers met for a morning of reflection. There was a funeral, a wedding, a baptism. Choirs practiced, C.C.D. was taught, NCA was in session, KidsWord happened. And, we'll be anointing the sick at all the Masses this weekend. A number of new households registered with us and were sent a welcome letter. And there was more. But you get the picture. St. Gertrude is a more than a special place. It is part of the very fabric of our lives. We need our parish as much as it needs us. I know that your support will guarantee a St. Gertrude presence for all who needs us. I thank you for that.

DJG



Parishioner Mildred Merrill, 1910 - 2009

Mildred Merrill passed peacefully, a week ago Saturday, at St. Joseph Village. Before moving there, almost all of her 99 years in St. Gertrude Parish and had become our longest standing parishioner. Her father was a charter member of St. Gertrude Parish and Mildred attended the first kindergarten class at St. Gertrude School. She married Harold Merrill here and together they raised five children in the parish.

Mildred was born to Peter and Margaret Brost on February 24, 1910 in St. Michael Parish. When just six weeks old, she moved with them into a new yellow brick two-flat on Hood Avenue in Edgewater. Remarkably, this very apartment would be her home for 91 of her 99 years.

She went to classes at a home on Granville Avenue, until the parish school building was built, and attended Sunday Mass at Hayt School's Auditorium until the parish church was finished. After graduating from Sacred Heart Boarding School in Lake Forest, she attended college for a year. Back home, at a St. Ignatius Church dance, Mildred met Harold Merrill, whom she married in 1934. They moved into their own place nearby on Rosemont Ave. But, two children and seven years later, they returned to 1242 Hood to raise their five children. Mildred & Harold, active members of the St. Gertrude Parish, focused mainly on family life.

After Harold passed away in 1980, Mildred continued her devotion to family, the arts and travel, including climbing the Great Wall of China at the age of 85! She continued to live on Hood until just last year, when she moved to St. Joseph Village at Pulaski and Belmont. Amen.

Granddaughter Lynn Merrill for *Growing in Faith*

The **Growing in Faith** Committee's Institute of wonderful classes concludes this Wednesday, October 21 with Taize prayer at 7pm and classes at 8pm.



Connecting our Community Through our Stories: A Mandala Exercise – Following the Institute's look at stories, scripture, wisdom and "social justice saints" of our community, all are welcome to continue reflecting on our community by sharing our stories/Our Story at our fall morning of retreat Saturday, October 31, 8:30am – 12:30pm, in the social hall. The sacred circle of the mandala will be our guide in creating a visual expression of our stories as we renew, reflect and remember as a community. Please sign up in the back of church or by calling the rectory. **Volunteers needed** for the upcoming fall retreat to do things before, during and after. Tasks include set-up, hospitality, and take-down. Time commitment depends upon activity and can vary from 2-5 hours. Please call the rectory, to volunteer.

What's Happening? Take a Look!

Anointing: This weekend at all masses, we will offer anointing for all those experiencing "dis-ease" of mind, body or spirit. We welcome all who may benefit from this sacrament.

Propagation of the Faith: This weekend there will be a second collection for our worldwide missions.

Pax Christi Movie: *Born in the USA: Muslim Americans*. A respectful portrayal of Muslims born in the USA. It follows a Muslim American doctor and teacher in a post 9-11 world. It looks at their everyday lives as well as their interactions with family, friends, and colleagues. Friday, October 23 at 7pm in the ministry center. For more information, please call 743-4632 or email paxgert@gmail.com

WOW Youth ~Don't forget! Saturday, October 24, 9am to 8 pm, *Starved Rock State Park Day Trip*. Call Ann O'Connor at the rectory ~ 764-3621 for further information.

The Poetry Pilgrims ~ will continue with their favorite Emily Dickinson poems on Monday, October 19 at 7:30 pm in the rectory dining room. It's another chance to read Emily! All are welcome. Contact Mary Grover at 338-3564.

Fool for Christ: The Story of Dorothy Day ~ Wednesday, October 28 and Thursday, October 29 at 7:30pm in the Wallis Theatre, Northwestern University Theatre Interpretation Center, 1919 Campus Drive, free parking available. Tickets are \$20, with \$5 student price. Call 847-328-4648 for reservations.

Retired Men's Group: Join the retired men of the parish for fellowship in the ministry center on Thursday, October 22 after the 9am mass. Retired men in the parish and in the Edgewater neighborhood are welcome. For more information, please call Wally Bradford at 761-1912.

Market Day ~ Market Day has it all, from healthy meals for the calorie conscious to the natural foods containing no preservatives. It is for the gourmet cook who likes high quality ingredients to the cook on the go who needs ready-to-go meals in 15 minutes. And, purchases benefit our NCA school! Order forms are at the back of church and are due at the rectory Tuesday afternoon, October 21.



Mary Gordon ~ Reading Jesus: Loyola University's 2009 *Edward Surtz Lecture* presents author, Mary Gordon on Tuesday, November 3 at 7:30pm in the Crown Center Auditorium, 1032 W. Sherdian Rd. Admission is free. For more information, contact Pauline Viviano at 508-2346 or pvivian@luc.edu

Church of the Home ~ Calendar is Now Available: The Archdiocesan Women's Committee has published a *free*, beautifully designed daily prayer and activity calendar to provide families with activities and discussion points that will provide a means to promote faith through ordinary family life. Call 312-534-8364 or go to www.archchicago.org/DECW/Councils/council.aspx

Our Parish at Prayer

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19

7:00am William and Agnes O'Halloran †
9:00am Joanne Kranzfelder †

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20

7:00am Lorraine Wiener
9:00am Mary Magnusea †

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21

7:00am Silvana Rebughi †
9:00am Kathleen O'Toole †

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22

7:00am *Communion Service* ~ SPRED Ministry
9:00am *Communion Service* ~ Robert Becker †

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

7:00am Helen M. Schmidt †
9:00am Dr. Rose Greco †

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24

8:00am Leona Lauricella †
5:00pm John J. McCall †

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

8:00am Mary Heidkamp †
9:30am *St. Gertrude East (Sheridan and Granville)*
The Family of St. Gertrude †
10:00am Mary Clemmons †
10:30am The Connery Family †
11:30am Helen (Dukie) Long †

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

Altar Servers

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24

5:00pm Allison and John Wall, Kathryn Moran

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

10:00am Steven and Louis Hasbrook-Guardino,
Basma Saadallah
11:30am Adam and Genevieve Glueckert,
Fiona McNichols

Lectors

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24

5:00pm Elizabeth Sterling, Marian Shaw

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

8:00am Mary Stachura, Jay Cook
10:00am Rafael Melendez, Jeff Seitzer
11:30am Debra Kite, Janine Denomme

Readings for the Week

Monday: Rom 4:20-25; Lk 12:13-21
Tuesday: Rom 5:12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21;
Lk 12:35-38
Wednesday: Rom 6:12-18; Lk 12:39-48
Thursday: Rom 6:19-23; Lk 12:49-53
Friday: Rom 7:18-25a; Lk 12:54-59
Saturday: Rom 8:1-11; Lk 13:1-9
Sunday: Jer 31:7-9; Ps 126; Heb 5:1-6;
Mk 10:46-52

Wedding Banns

I Christopher Fries and Carla Blatz



Baptisms

Liam John Wons,
son of Michael and Julie Wons

New Parishioners

Cynthia Lara
Deanna Lara
Lindsey Nathan
Brian and Maria Luisa Dacera-Fitzpatrick

Eucharistic Ministers

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24

5:00pm Tim and Joan Harrington, Pat Norcik,
Mickey Resch, Mary Ellen Thomas

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

8:00am Mary Stachura, Sr. Kathryn Stimac,
Julie Dorger, Sara McCarthy, Peter Morin
10:00am Ruth Ott, Nancy Merrill, Eileen Quinlan,
Madeleine Fister, RoseMarie Anichini,
Rosita Nordgren, Theresa Resch
11:30am Anthony Long, Gail Smith, Lina Peon,
Mary Pat Hartung

Greeters

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24

5:00pm Maggie Howell, Tim and Joan Harrington

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

8:00am Kate Flynn, Lisa Torres, Chris Phillips
10:00am Kim Wagner, Gwen Arnold, Ed Butler
Heidi Schlumpf
11:30am Steven and Tracy Mitchell

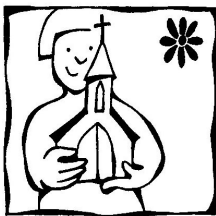
Financial Highlights

GRalley Updates

Budgeted GRalley Income:
\$40,000
Net GRalley Income:
\$48,156



Once again, thanks to all who helped make the GRalley an incredible success!



Last week you received a letter asking you to pray and reflect upon the many blessings which we receive freely from God. This week we will hear from parishioners as they recount how the parish of St.

Gertrude has touched their lives. Please take some time to reflect and pray this week on these two subjects and then return your completed Commitment Pledge card next week in the Sunday collection basket.

Thank you for the many ways in which you support St. Gertrude parish.

The Parish Finance Committee

ST. GERTRUDE PASTORAL SERVICES

STAFF

Rev. Dominic Grassi, Pastor
Rev. Mike Bradley, Resident
Rev. Bill Kenneally, Pastor Emeritus
Peter Buttitta, Director of Ministries
Ann O'Connor, Faith Formation
Mary Herbin-Horan, Liturgical Music
Carol Beatty, St. Gertrude East Music Director
Mary Ann Collins, Social Services
Marge Butzen, Business Manager
Jayne Deiters, 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: Monday - Wednesday, 4:30PM to 8PM
Saturday 9AM to 6PM, Sunday, 9AM to 1PM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Individual: Saturday from 4:15-4:45 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 the first Monday of each month at 7:00 PM. All arrangements should be made 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 Phone 773/973-5464

NEW PARISHIONERS

You are most welcome and are invited to stop in at the rectory to introduce yourself and register.. You can also register with one of the parish Greeters before or after any Mass."

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
Open AA - Gertie's Group - Tuesdays at 7:30 PM in the Ministry Center
Caris Pregnancy Center - Pregnancy Support, free pregnancy tests, and post-abortion help, ~ 773-338-8311.

Gamblers Anonymous — Fridays at 7 PM in the Ministry Center.

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

Library Volunteers

Did you know that our school libraries are almost 100% run by volunteers (with the exception of our two dedicated staff members RoseMarie Anachini and Maggie Tiritilli). Each year 2-4 parents from each classroom (k-8) volunteer their time to come be the class librarians. Parents not only maintain the books and shelves, but they also help kids find books of interest and introduce new book topics of interest. Being a part of your child's school makes a huge difference in how they approach their education. At NCA, we are blessed to have such a strong community of active parent volunteers who help instill a love of learning in every child.

**Prospective Parents Open Houses:
October 22 and November 17 at 9am**

Fr. Mike's Marathon:

- * 5hrs, 24mins, and
- * over \$4,678 for NCA scholarships!

Congratulations and thanks to Fr. Mike and thanks to all for your support!

