

# St. Gertrude

1420 W. Granville Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60660 • Telephone: 773.764.3621

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time • November 16, 2008

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Adoptive families, clockwise from top left: Steve and Ruth Ott, Jasmine, Sergio and Rosa; Bob Dwyer and Walter Pophin, Andrew, Joseph and Elizabeth; Andrea Raila and Mike Rohrbeck, Reah, Rianna and Christopher; Renee and Kevin Reilly, Elena and Adrian

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## Celebrating Adoption

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According to the psychosocial stages of Erik Erikson, middle adulthood is the time when each adult must find some way to “satisfy and support the next generation.” Erikson describes the main conflict of this stage as *generativity* vs. *stagnation*, with parenting being a common means of resolution. Perhaps this inner drive to “satisfy and support” the next generation is at play in the adoptive and foster families who have become a resolute and growing presence in our parish. Or perhaps it is Eucharist, whereby, through Christ, the distinction between blood lines, heritage, station in life is permanently blurred, rendering us one big family in God. Perhaps it’s a recognition that the world as it is includes many children who are parentless. Some, too, are aware that offering to adopt a child means that someone else may choose not to abort. For St. Gertrude Parish, it’s all good – we are immensely enriched by the many adoptive and foster families who reside here. Besides being one great live geography lesson – we have children here from China to Ethiopia, Guatemala to Gary, IN – the witness value of opening ones’ heart and home to the stranger in this most intimate of ways is a 3-D homily. God bless the fertile soil here where the spirit of adoption continues to grow.

## *From Father Grassi*

I do a lot of writing. It is something I really like to do. Fortunately, I have never been saddled with writer's block for any significant period of time. Experts say when this happens just sit in front of your keyboard and start typing anything at all until the blockage passes. Today I am on the fourth start of this weekly column. This is very unusual for me. Jayne is waiting for me to transmit it to her so she can finish the bulletin. It took me a while and I realized what my concerns were, what was holding me back. There were a few things. First of all, no matter how you massage the first reading today, it's an easy one to misunderstand. The word of God is meant to be proclaimed at Mass not nuanced like is done in a scripture class. Secondly, I worry about the homeless men in our community finding warm beds at night and the resistance to their presence among us by some. Clearly that word of God, we are not effectively proclaiming. Thirdly, for any numbers of reasons I am seeing and sometimes feeling the amount of pressure we are putting on one another in so many ways. It goes beyond proclaiming the Gospel and challenging others to live it out. It becomes demanding that people hold as true exactly what we find true from our own perspectives. This in turn becomes, if we're not careful, very judgmental and passive aggressive. We need to cut each other some slack. Finally, I need to smile a little more even to those who aren't smiling at me. I invite you to join me in doing this. In this way we don't bury what has been given to us. Instead we help it to grow and take root in others.

DJG



### St. Gertrude's Feast

On November 16, the Church calendar honors two women who played important roles in their day. St. Margaret of Scotland was born in Hungary, married King Malcolm of Scotland, mothered eight children and became a legend by caring for the poor. That was the 11th Century. Two hundred years later a young girl was left in a convent school in Northern Germany. She matured into a deeply spiritual savant who counseled royalty, wrote some strange mystical works and became a powerful presence in the Benedictine community. That is the story of St. Gertrude.

Last week I said Mass at St. Margaret of Scotland parish at 99th and Throop. The church was floating six feet off the ground after President-elect Obama's victory. This week, coming back to St. Gertrude's favorite parish, I'm also delighted to be where the Spirit is respected, the Scripture is regarded highly, and people have a sense of hope and holiness. Gertrude knew that the community was essential in growing the Spirit. I have always felt that this community has been the essential element of my spiritual life. Gertrude, thanks for having me and write if you get work.



Fr. Bill Kenneally for *Growing in Faith*

*“Solvitur ambulando – It is solved by walking.” St. Augustine*

**Give Thanks. Walk the Labyrinth:** You are invited to bring cans of non-perishable food to church anytime before Sunday, November 23, then walk our can-lined labyrinth on Thanksgiving Day. The food will be donated to Care For Real and the St. Ignatius Food Pantry. For details or to help, see the flyers in church or call Ann O'Connor at the rectory ~764-3621.



### *What's Happening? Take a Look!*

**Sacred Seeds: Children of Abraham Reading Text Together:** The faith communities of Edgewater come together again to read and dialogue around the story of the Testing of Abraham. All are welcome on Tuesday, November 18, at Emmanuel Congregation, 5959 N. Sheridan Rd. Gathering at 7:45pm with discussion from 8-9pm. For information contact the rectory.

**Pax Christi:** Abilio Peña, human rights defender, lay theologian and leader of an ecumenical justice and peace commission in Colombia will address, through personal stories, the potential effects of the pending US-Colombia Free Trade Agreement in his region, the increase in violence, and threats towards human rights workers and communities who speak out. Wednesday, November 19, 7pm, in the social hall.

**Movie Night:** View and discuss: *What Would Jesus Buy? STOP the SHOPOCALYPSE!* The film is a serious docu-comedy about the commercialization of Christmas. Friday, November 21 at 7 pm., in the ministry center. For information, please call Jim at 743-4632 or email [paxgert@gmail.com](mailto:paxgert@gmail.com)

**Poetry Pilgrims:** Please join the pilgrims for readings of poems by Theodore Roethke, Monday, November 17 at 7pm in the rectory. For more information contact Mary Grover at 338-3564 or [mary@marsgrover.com](mailto:mary@marsgrover.com)

**Book Fair on Sunday November 22!** Come and shop at the Book Fair in the school cafeteria after all the masses on Sunday, November 23. There are books for both young and old. The proceeds go to the school library at NCA. Do your Christmas shopping and help our kids at the same time! We hope to see you at the fair.

**St. Gertrude's Children Choir:** The Choir will meet Sunday, November 16, 11:15 to noon, in the music room of the primary school building to prepare the Christmas Eve Family Mass celebration. Please attend the rehearsal for more information or contact Ethna Byrne at 856-0252.

**GLOS (Gay/Lesbian Outreach & Support)** The St. Gertrude faith-sharing group will be held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday evening of the month, starting at 7pm in the ministry center. The next meeting will be Tuesday, November 18. For information contact Rob Sierzega at 312-751-8801. All are welcome.

**Sisters of the Fraternité Notre Dame:** *"Pumpkin pie, if rightly made, is a thing of beauty and a joy - while it lasts."* The nuns of the Austin soup kitchen will sell their "things of beauty and joy" in the school cafeteria after all the masses on Sunday, November 23. Buy pies, tarts, bread, or cakes and support the sisters' work with at-risk youth. Coffee from the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless will also be available for purchase

**The Edgewater Community Religious Association (ECRA)** will hold their annual Thanksgiving service, Sunday, November 23, 3:00pm at Ebenezer Lutheran Church, 1650 W. Foster. The many faith traditions of Edgewater will be represented as we share our music and prayer traditions in gratitude for our abundant blessings, celebration of our harmony in diversity, and to remember those less fortunate in prayer and in action.

**Greeter Ministry:** People who stand at the doors of church and greet worshippers before and after mass help set the glue that holds our community of faith together. We could use your help. If you're willing to consider taking a turn welcoming newcomers and getting to know some of us old-timers better, please contact Linda Orellana at [lorellana@chicagoshakes.com](mailto:lorellana@chicagoshakes.com) or 743-1011. Thank you.



**The Annual Christmas Bazaar & St. Nick's Breakfast: December 6 & 7.**

There will be a White Elephant sale, 44 craft tables, a bake sale, book sale, and a "Kids Christmas Crafts" area with face painting. Sunday features a pancake and sausage breakfast, 8:30am - 1:00pm, and a visit from Santa. It is a great family event! And – we still need donations for our white elephant and book sale so clean out those closets, bookshelves and basements! If you would like to volunteer call Marge at the rectory 764-3621.



### Our Parish at Prayer

#### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17

7:00am James Lee Wynne †  
9:00am Josephine Rogan †

#### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

7:00am Joseph Allgaier †  
9:00am Ott Family Intentions

#### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

7:00am Anton Bambach †  
9:00am Lester and Cecilia May †

#### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20

7:00am *Communion Service* -Michael White †  
9:00am *Communion Service* -Nancy Jaskowiak †

#### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21

7:00am Michael Laczkowski †  
9:00am Nancy Jaskowiak †

#### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22

8:00am Nathan Joseph Waters †  
5:00pm George Cenar †

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23

8:00am Paul Pannier †  
9:30am *St. Gertrude East (Sheridan and Granville)-*  
Angel Arambulo †  
10:00am Tassone/Emanuele/Pitaro Families †  
10:30am Helen M. Schmidt †  
11:30am Special Intentions †

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

### Wedding Banns

II Thomas Ferrini and Mary Rybowiak

### Altar Servers

#### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22

5:00pm Maeve O'Brien, Megan McDonnell,  
Samantha English

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23

10:00am Elizabeth Dwyer, Emma Ellis, Eileen Lamble  
11:30am Andrew Wicklin, Erika Medina,  
Sam Guenette

### Lectors

#### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22

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

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23

8:00am Ed Bugler, Charlotte Kovaks  
10:00am Heather Anichini, Carol McRaith  
11:30am Matt Kolar, Susan Lersch

### Readings for the Week

**Monday:** Rv 1:1-4; 2:1-5; Lk 18:35-43  
**Tuesday:** Rv 3:1-6, 14-22; Lk 19:1-10, or, (for  
the memorial of the Dedication)  
Acts 28:11-16, 30-31; Mt 14:22-23  
**Wednesday:** Rv 4:1-11; Lk 19:11-28  
**Thursday:** Rv 5:1-10; Lk 19:41-44  
**Friday:** Rv 10:8-11; Lk 19:45-48  
**Saturday:** Rv 11:4-12; Lk 20:27-40  
**Sunday:** Ez 34:11-12, 15-17; Ps 23;  
1 Cor 15:20-26, 28; Mt 25:31-46

### Baptisms

*Welcome to Our Community*

Miles Stephen Morrow,  
son of Stephen Morrow and Kristine Weber  
Olivia Drew Hodapp,  
daughter of Andrew Hodapp and Elisa Barrett

### New Parishioners

Mike and Hanna Tiefenthaler  
Maggie Thomas and Donald Selsor  
Mary and Peter Wyler and their children Greg,  
Allison, Billy, Caitlin and Hannah  
Angela and Bruno Lordey  
Christina Joseph and Timothy Quirin

### Eucharistic Ministers

#### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22

5:00pm Ann O'Brien, Meghan Thompson-Wilda,  
Sr. Katherine Heffernan, Manny Eckert,  
Pat Mann

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23

8:00am Sr. Kathryn Stimac, Ed Bugler, Ester Bugler,  
Judy Coswell, Art Lyons  
10:00am RoseMarie Anichini, Nancy Merrill,  
Theresa Resch, Ruth Ott, Rob Sierzega,  
Val Hastings, Rosita Nordgren  
11:30am Steve Monti, Bernard Ndiwe, Kari Hamende,  
Mary Pat Hartung, Susan Lersch

### Greeters

#### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22

5:00pm Maggie Howell

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23

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

## Financial Highlights

### Monthly Sunday Offering

Budgeted Goal for October	\$	55,157.04
Amount Received Through Parish Pay		13,860.50
Amount Received From Envelopes		32,495.82
Amount Received From Loose Contributions		3,824.77
Total Amount Received October		50,181.09
<b>October Deficit</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>- 4,975.95</b>

### Fiscal Year to Date - Sunday Offerings

Sunday offering goal through 10/31/08	\$	234,417.42
Fiscal Year to Date Sunday Offering Total		211,050.70
<b>YTD Deficit (Sunday Offering only)</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>- 23,366.72</b>



## "Academy" Award Winning: *Smell the Roses*

Two weeks ago, our 8<sup>th</sup> graders wrote and performed a production called "Smell the Roses". The story begins with a class on a field trip. Their bus crashes near a haunted mansion. As the story unfolds, the students learn a valuable lesson about resolving conflict and healing broken relationships. Every student acted and sang spectacularly! An awe-inspiring moment was Monica Hamada's performance of a song that she had written. The poise and self confidence all these kids display is amazing and a testimonial to the wonderful parenting they've received throughout their lives. Stay tuned next week for pictures from the Middle School Ballroom Dancing Show.

Open House: Wednesday, November 19at 9am.

## ST. GERTRUDE PASTORAL SERVICES

### STAFF

Rev. Dominic Grassi, Pastor  
 Rev. Mike Bradley, Resident  
 Rev. Bill Kenneally, Pastor Emeritus  
 Peter Buttitta, Pastoral Associate  
 Ann O'Connor, Faith Formation  
 Mary Herbin-Horan, Liturgical Music  
 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 4:30-4:45 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 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.

