

# *St. Gertrude*

1420 W. Granville Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60660 • Telephone: 773-764-3621  
Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time • August 21, 2011



Carol Holesha and Deborah McCormick  
GRreeting and Grinning with GRattitude

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*But who do you say that I am?* Matthew 16:15

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“You are the Messiah; the Son of the living God.” Peter says this to Jesus, but we get the sense that he is saying more than he comprehends. Probably same with us. We are drawn to Jesus as one who amplifies the voice of Heaven that we long to hear. His message of love, forgiveness and second chances makes us swell with hope, but his self-sacrificing, preferential-option-for-the-poor, radical-unto-death commitment to love-of-enemies (nonviolence) is a killer to follow. Jesus challenges us to integrate his teachings with the way we actually live our lives. This makes the Christian life a series of constant probings: how do I deal with my resentments and disappointments, how many times must I forgive those who truly intend to offend, how much of my daily bread must I share with the ungrateful needy, how shall I take care of my aging parents, how do I balance parenting with “my needs,” how do I measure pleasure in relation to responsibility? We will constantly struggle to find the answers, but often enough we will be overwhelmed with humble gratitude when, even as we get it wrong, Jesus says to us: “Upon this Rock I will build my Church!” Handle those keys with care. ~ PB

## *From Father Grassi*

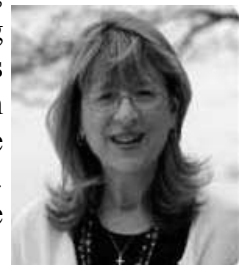
Sometimes being church is so darn serious a task. Just one look at the readings for this weekend confirms that fact. Lots of authority issues to decipher. Lots of hierarchical levels to plow through. Important questions to answer. Lots of responsibilities to carry. At the same time the parish needs to be kept running as best it can. Last week I wrote in this column about the robbery and attempted robberies that took place in our social hall. Due to the hard work of the police the ones responsible were caught and have admitted their crimes. Everything that they stole from us has been recovered along with lots of stuff from other churches they robbed. They told the police that churches are the easiest targets to hit not just because doors and windows are often left unlocked, but because church people are unfailingly kind in letting them in to pray and giving them the opportunity they need to steal whatever they can carry. That's a two edged comment isn't it? It's nice to be perceived as kind, but when does that morph into being naïve patsies? How do we find a balance? Now that we can put to rest this mini crime wave, we have to look at getting the facility ready for this week's start of school. And I not so eagerly await the next round of tests at the doctor on Thursday, the diagnosis determining what the prescribed treatment will ultimately be. Enough heavy stuff already! I have told my staff to be laughing more and not taking everything seriously. I may be forced to hand out big red clown noses for us to wear in the office. This is why I am planning on having a lot of fun at the parish picnic today. I'll be bringing the bocce balls and am willing to teach anyone who wants to learn the fine points of this most civilized of games. I also plan on collecting a 10% tithe of everyone's picnic basket. Sunny breezes, bocce ball, wine and food, what can be a more fun way to spend an August Sunday? Join me on the grounds of St. Scholastica Monastery. We'll begin with an outdoor Mass at 10:30. Immediately after the closing hymn all heaven will break loose. No work and no worry, just a good time with great folks. I can't wait. Church can be a heck of a lot of fun sometimes too!

DJG



“O the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!” St. Paul to the Roman Church 11:33-35.

We often find ourselves amazed at the genius of others, their creative ideas in art and architecture, in scientific innovations, and in problem-solving of all kinds. In today's epistle, Paul is in the midst of explaining how merciful God has been to both the Jews and the Gentiles, when he bursts into this exclamation of his soul, “O the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!” That ‘inscrutable’ Paul uses reminds us that our imagination can never encompass God's. Take the choice of Simon as the Peter/Rock of the Church. When God gave to Simon the knowledge of Jesus' true identity, Jesus recognized that Simon was the one God had chosen to be the foundation Stone, the “Peter” of the Church, to whom he would give his keys. Many people would have doubted that choice as wise. He was not a great organizer, a great ‘thinker’, he was rash and he denied Jesus. Peter's life, however, shows his unswerving love for Jesus, a love that explains his courageous following Jesus into the High Priest's courtyard in the first place. God's knowledge of Peter's weaknesses did not deter his choice of him, and Peter proved to be a powerful foundation stone just as God had seen him to be. The gospel illustrates how God sees in ways we cannot. It also says that God is guiding us as Church, despite our weaknesses and sins. Paul's exclamation asks us to trust that God's knowledge and inscrutable wisdom can shape even our flaws into events of grace.



Sister Wendy Cotter c.s.j., Ph.D. for *Growing in Faith*

## Spotlight

### 2011 GRalley: Feeding the Masses

With one month to go until the GRalley, we are very grateful for all the people who have already signed up to volunteer. We're still going to need many hands to make our work light and this week we're highlighting one of the most fun ways to get to know your fellow parishioners – working the Gert's Grille.

Our biggest need is always for volunteers to be the Leads in either (wo)manning the grill or in serving our GRalley-ers. Because the health inspectors require someone with sanitation training be always at the Grille, the Leads are asked to attend a three hour training to help meet those requirements. With such an important job, we ask the Leads to take charge of the area for about two shifts so they can transition other volunteers

If you can't commit that much time, there are still plenty of ways to help at the Gert's Grille:

- Grill Lead
- Grill set-up
- Grill clean-up
- Grill cook
- Server Lead
- Server set-up
- Server clean-up
- Server



Please consider helping make our one-day restaurant once again the hottest place to be in Edgewater. Contact Jon and Jackie Blake, [jblake@edgewatergralley.com](mailto:jblake@edgewatergralley.com) or (773) 314-3827 for more info or to sign up.

*And... for all you bakers out there –*

Last year was the first year for our Desserts Area and it was a huge hit, generating \$3000. We asked for the best our baking talent had to offer and wow did they deliver. Please consider doing so again this year. Homemade (or even store bought) goodies can be dropped off at the school cafeteria from 5:00 – 8:00pm on Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup>. Please wrap in individual servings if possible. Contact Chris Shepherd at (773) 573-4599 or [shepherdchris07@gmail.com](mailto:shepherdchris07@gmail.com) for more info.

## Calendar Notes

### Sunday, August 21

Parish Picnic at St. Scholastica High School.

### Friday, August 26 (Half Day)

NCA Kindergarten and pre-school begin.

### Thursday, August 25 (Half Day)

NCA grades 1-8 begin.

## Parish News



### 2011 GRAlley Saturday, September 17 Noon to 10pm

Admission and Raffle Tickets are now available in church after mass on Sunday or at the rectory!

- Admission:** Adults...\$8  
Seniors & children...\$4  
Family Pack (2 and 2)...\$20
- Raffle:** \$20 per ticket  
\$100 for pack of 6

Don't delay...be sure to invite neighbors, friends, family, and relatives (in and out of town) and tell them that the GRAlley is the best fest and the most fun on the north side!

**Market Day Resumes!:** Order forms may be turned in at the rectory by Sunday, August 21, or go on-line to [marketday.com](http://marketday.com) and place your order by 11pm on Wednesday, August 24. Pick up will be on Saturday, August 27 from 9 - 10am in the school cafeteria. Please be prompt.



### The Parish Picnic: Today, August 21!

On the beautiful grounds of St. Scholastica, begins with mass at 10:30am. After, bring your lunch and enjoy good company followed by activities for all ages, including Scrabble, Bocci, the first ever Parish Picnic Pentathlon at 12:30pm, and a bonafide softball game at 2pm (so bring your mitt)!! We could use a few folks to monitor the Pentathlon events. Contact Peter Buttitta at the rectory, 773-764-3621, or [stgertrude1420@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stgertrude1420@sbcglobal.net).

**Senior Men's Club:** This retired men of the parish will meet on Thursday, August 25, in the Ministry Center after the 9am prayer service. All retired men of the parish and community are welcome. Contact Jim Corbett at 773-631-9920.

**SPRED:** Do you know of a mentally-disabled adult who would like to deepen their Catholic faith? Are

you the parent, friend, relative or caregiver of a mentally-disabled adult who would like to do so? SPRED St. Gertrude ministers to this often-invisible population, using a unique form of catechesis to involve disabled persons spiritually in an inclusive, active, communal way. We welcome new participants! For more information about SPRED, call Georgia Beatty at 312-758-0800.

**GLOS Faith Sharing Group ~** - meets the second Tuesday of each month, 7pm - 8pm at the Parish Rectory (on Granville, just west of the Church). Read the Sunday Gospel and discuss how the readings touch our lives. It is a nice chance to slow down the world for a bit of introspection and sharing. The next gathering will be Thursday, September 13.

**Are you...unbaptized**, but would like to know more about the church? Are you a baptized adult Catholic who never received Eucharist and Confirmation? If you answered "yes" to either of these questions, please call Ann O'Connor at the rectory 773-764-3621 to find out more about the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA), an enriching process through which adults are initiated and welcomed into the practice of the Catholic faith. Sessions begin in September!



*The larger the island of knowledge, the longer the shoreline of wonder.* ~Ralph Sockman

The teachers in our religious education program (CCD) are committed to *enlarging the island of knowledge* for the children in our faith community. If you haven't already, consider registering your grade school aged-child for CCD classes, which begin on Sunday, September 25 at 8:45 am. For further information, please check the website or call Ann O'Connor at the rectory ~ (773) 764-3621.



## School News and Activities

### NCA Open Houses and Applications for 2012-13 School Year

With school starting, this is the time many parents think about school choices for their toddlers. If you have a child who would be starting preschool or kindergarten in the next couple of years, we encourage you to attend one of our upcoming Early Education Open Houses: Thursday, October 27, 2011 at 9am; Tuesday, December 6, 2011 at 9am. Please know that students need to be 3 by Sept. 1, 2012 to start preschool and 5 by Sept. 1, 2012 to start kindergarten. Also, the application process for the 2012 school year begins this fall. All of our preschool and kindergarten programs run waiting lists, so we encourage you to apply in the fall. Please contact the admissions office to get on our mailing list: 773-743-6277.

## Community News and Activities

**Contemplative Prayer Group:** Starting Thursday, August 18, the St. Gertrude's Contemplative Prayer Group will be meeting on Thursdays from 7-9 pm going forward, in the second floor parlor of the Ministry Center. As always, the first 30 minutes is devoted to silent meditation, and then we explore a source in contemplative prayer and practice. All are welcome. Starting Aug. 18, the group will be reading "The Cloud of Unknowing", the heart advice of an anonymous Christian spiritual director writing in England in the 14th c. A work full of compassion, insight and wit, it offers guidance and encouragement for anyone truly seeking to deepen a life of prayer. Come hear the kind-hearted voice of an experienced seeker of God speak to us across the centuries. The Penguin Classics edition of

the text, translated by A.C. Spearing, is recommended. Please read the introduction before Aug. 18. Tony Sorgi is our moderator. You can reach him via e-mail at [kenosis773@gmail.com](mailto:kenosis773@gmail.com).

**Inspiring the Artist Within:** Remember when you would let yourself simply create for the love of creating. Once again, experience the joy and discovery of uninhibited expression. Consider coming to the Chicago Cenacle for a one day workshop which will revitalize your artistic energy or help you delve into your unexplored creativity. Presented by our lead calligrapher and painter, Ellie Sassana, Inspiring the Artist Within will be held Saturday, September 10, 9:30-12 noon. You will be provided a venue for quiet, reflective work through the use of a variety of mediums. Materials will be provided and a \$30 offering is requested. Register early as space is limited. To register please call 773-549-0725 or e-mail: [prayercardoffice@cenaclechicago.org](mailto:prayercardoffice@cenaclechicago.org)

**Misericordia's Family Fest!** Save the date for a fabulous day of live entertainment, food, drinks, auctions, raffles, games and more! The Family Fest brings together thousands of Misericordia's family members, friends and neighbors for a fun and exciting day that has turned into our largest fundraising event. Misericordia's Family Festival takes place 11 a.m. until 6 p.m. on Sunday, September 11, on Misericordia's campus at 6300 N. Ridge Avenue in Chicago. (Corner of Ridge and Devon) Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$5 for children and seniors. Discounted tickets are available through August 20.

*Sister Rosemary Connelly and  
Your Friends at Misericordia*

**Iraqi Student Project House Concert:** Parish and local musicians, including:

John and Maura Neafsey  
Susie O'Toole, and  
VOICES

will perform to benefit Sarab Shada, an incoming freshman to Loyola University from Iraq: Sunday, August 28, 1:30pm to 3:30pm, in the Social Hall. Tickets are \$15, \$8 for students. Plan now to come support Sarab and the rebuilding of Iraq!



**NCA Primary School:**  
6216 N. Glenwood Ave  
Phone: 773-743-6277

**NCA Middle School:**  
5519 N. Magnolia  
Phone: 773-271-2008, or  
[www.northsidecatholic.org](http://www.northsidecatholic.org)

### Our Parish at Prayer

#### MONDAY, AUGUST 22

7:00 am Noreen McDermott †  
9:00am Dr. Rose Greco †

#### TUESDAY, AUGUST 23

7:00am Sr. Bertha McKay, BVM †  
9:00am Judy O'Toole †

#### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24

7:00am Helen M. Schmidt †  
9:00am Irene Hallinan †

#### THURSDAY, AUGUST 25

7:00am Communion Service ~ †  
9:00am Communion Service ~ †

#### FRIDAY, AUGUST 26

7:00am Vincent Spoto †  
9:00am The Connery Family †

#### SATURDAY, AUGUST 27

8:00am Mary Ellen Hyland †  
5:00pm Aida Santiago †

#### SUNDAY, AUGUST 28

8:00am Nancy Donnelly †  
9:30am The Family of St. Gertrude †  
10:00am Lili and Danny Calzada †  
11:30am Robert O'Hara †

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

### Altar Servers

#### SATURDAY, AUGUST 27

5:00pm Veronica Madell, Cailey Nolan,  
Katie O'Donaghue

#### SUNDAY, AUGUST 28

10:00am Hannah Rapp, Peter Zajakowski-Uhll,  
Jade Mosquera  
11:30am Alani Vargas, Kayla Vargas, Ellie Siegel

### Lectors

#### SATURDAY, AUGUST 27

5:00pm Norman Bowers, Jennifer Kiedasch

#### SUNDAY, AUGUST 28

8:00am Jacalyn Meintz, Mary Stachura  
10:00am Brad Danna Mulick, Carol McRaith  
11:30am Steve Monti, Troy McMillan

### Today's Readings

**First Reading:** Eliakim is destined by God to be a father to those who live in Jerusalem (Isaiah 22:19-23).

**Psalm:** Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands (Psalm 138).

**Second Reading:** How deep are the riches and the wisdom and the knowledge of God! (Rom. 11:33-36).

**Gospel:** Jesus asked the disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" Peter replied, "You are the Christ" (Matthew 16:13-20).

### Readings for the Week

**Monday:** 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10; Mt 23:13-22  
**Tuesday:** 1 Thes 2:1-8; Mt 23:23-26  
**Wednesday:** Rv 21:9b-14; Jn 1:45-51  
**Thursday:** 1 Thes 3:7-13; Mt 24:42-51  
**Friday:** 1 Thes 4:1-8; Mt 25:1-13  
**Saturday:** 1 Thes 4:9-11; Mt 25:14-30  
**Sunday:** Jer 20:7-9; Ps 63; Rom 12:1-2;  
Mt 16:21-27

### Eucharistic Ministers

#### SATURDAY, AUGUST 27

5:00pm Pat Mann, Sr. Katherine Heffernan,  
Mickey Resch, John and Charlotte Sullivan

#### SUNDAY, AUGUST 28

8:00am Peter Morin, Chuck Lewis, Mary Stachura,  
Bill Mitchell, Roman Reyes, Paula Rodriguez,  
Donald Nyderek  
10:00am Madeleine Fister, Justine Aten, Beth Nelson,  
Carlos Baragan, Elizabeth Kendall,  
David and Tiffany Chan, Lucas Sharma  
11:30am Troy McMillan, Anthony Long,  
Elizabeth Hartman, Mary Ellen Thomas,  
Steve Monti, Karen Griebel

### Greeters

#### SATURDAY, AUGUST 27

5:00pm Linda Orellana, Sr. Sue Paweski

#### SUNDAY, AUGUST 28

8:00am Kate Flynn, Lisa Torres, Chris Phillips  
10:00am Kim Wagner, Beth Ruegg  
11:30am Steven and Tracy Mitchell

## Financial Highlights

### Sunday Giving for July 2011

Sunday Envelopes*	\$31,666
Loose Cash	\$ 3,603
Electronic Giving	\$17,117 (154 parishioners)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$52,386</b>

Budgeted	\$70,325 (@\$14,065/week)
<b>Deficit</b>	<b>-\$17,939</b>

\*Weekly average – 160 envelopes.

If you have been attending Mass and other activities at St. Gertrude and have been thinking of becoming a member of our parish community, please consider registering. Just ask for the simple, one page registration form from one of the greeters after all the Sunday masses or at the rectory, 1420 W. Granville. Or, go to our website ...

<http://www.stgertrudechicago.org>.

Print the form and mail it in. Membership has its privileges, and...its graces!

*Please come join our family of faith!*

## Milestones

### Newly Baptized

*Noah Andres Auffant,*  
son of Peter and Wendy  
*Lucas James Esquerra,*  
son of James and Rica



### New Parishioners

John and JoAnn Dollard  
Nicolas Franco  
Ken and Katie Meyer,  
and their children Drew and Ryan



*I Dan Ryan and Elizabeth Elwood*



May they rest in peace ~

Nancy Donnelly  
Robert O'Hara

## ST. GERTRUDE PASTORAL SERVICES

### STAFF

Rev. Dominic Grassi, Pastor  
Rev. Michael Bradley, Resident  
Rev. William Kenneally, Pastor Emeritus  
Dr. 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, Minister of First Impressions

### WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday: 8:00am, 10:00am, 11:30am  
9:30am Gertrude East (at Sheridan and Rosemont)  
10:30am Mass in the Gym (except summer months)  
Monday through Friday: 7:00am and 9:00am  
Saturday: 8:00am and 5:00pm (Sunday Vigil)

### RECTORY HOURS

Business Hours: Weekdays, 8:30am to 4:30pm  
Drop off/pick up: Monday - Wednesday, 4:30pm to 8:00pm  
Saturday 9:00am to 6:00pm, Sunday, 9:00am to 1:00pm

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Individual: Saturday from 4:15-4:45pm and by request.

### BAPTISM

Baptisms take place on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month.  
A parent preparation meeting is held the first Monday of each month at 7:00pm.  
All arrangements should be made by calling the rectory.

### MARRIAGE

Arrangements begin by setting up an appointment with the pastor. Preparations are to begin at least four months prior to the desired date.

### LOCATIONS:

Rectory: 1420 W. Granville Ave. 60660; Phone 773-764-3621  
Fax 773-761-4164; E-mail [stgertrude1420@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stgertrude1420@sbcglobal.net)  
<http://www.stgertrudechicago.org>  
Ministry Center: 6214 N. Glenwood Ave., 60660; Phone 773-973-5464.  
Social Hall: 1401 W. Granville, 60660.

### NEW PARISHIONERS

You are most welcome and are invited to stop in at the rectory to introduce yourself and register. You may register with one of the 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, SPIRITUAL DIRECTION AND MASSAGE THERAPY

For information, consultation and referrals for counseling, psychotherapy, spiritual direction or massage therapy, leave a confidential message.

Counseling and Psychotherapy: 773-338-4334, Dr. John Neafsey  
Spiritual Direction: 773-764-8884

Bob Backis, Marilyn Gehant, Jim Manzardo, Terra Solove  
Massage Therapy: Carol McRaith, 773-259-1268; Terra Solove, 773-358-8020

### SUPPORT GROUPS ...

Heart to Heart, senior outreach and service connection: 773-973-5464

Al-Anon: Sundays at 7:00pm in the Ministry Center  
Open AA: Tuesdays at 7:30pm in the Ministry Center, and  
Thursdays at 7:00pm in the school cafeteria.

Caris Pregnancy Center, pregnancy support, free pregnancy tests, and post-abortion help: 312-229-5700.

Gamblers Anonymous: Fridays at 7:00pm in the Ministry Center.