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# St. Gertrude

## "COME & SEE"

1420 W. Granville Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60660 • Telephone: 773-764-3621  
The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time • February 5, 2012

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Starting Backfield: Bob Backis, Troy McMillan, Rev. Dom Grassi  
O Line: Carol Clennon, Sara Ellis, Jeff Clennon, John Horan, Mary Horan, Colleen Clennon

# SUPER YEAR C

In today's Gospel, we hear of Jesus healing Simon's mother-in-law and then a whole town of people beset by ailments and possessed of demons. Everybody cheered the hero! Today's Super Bowl XLVI promises some heroics, too, offering a distraction from the things that drag us down. Soon enough we will be back to reality, seeking a more lasting uplift to our sagging spirits. That's where parish comes in, with its focus on Jesus as dependable, humble superstar! We've been at this parish thing for 100 (C) years, and our legacy is the recurring story of people putting aside their own concerns to offer solace to others worse off [see Prayer to End Human Trafficking, inside]. With the Word as our playbook and the saints as alums, let's GO GO Gertrude, toward that heavenly prize, one generous act at a time! ~ PB

## *From Father Grassi*

Sister Ignatius (who let me pet the turtles in kindergarten), Sister Paulina (who kept me after school in first grade – oh how I cried), Sister Marion (an artist with close to sixty of us in second grade, our First Communion grade), Sister Zoe (third grade was where I learned -- barely -- the Palmer Method of writing), Miss Wagner (I admit I was in love with my fourth grade teacher), Sister Annette (who made this self-conscious fifth grader feel okay about wearing glasses), Miss Daley (who genuinely had me scared all through sixth grade), Sister Avellino (who drilled the Latin into me so I could be an altar server), and Sister William (who told me in eighth grade to stop going to the movies with the girls if I wanted to be a priest): incredible teachers, women of faith, gifted and giving educators led by the principals, Sisters Innocentia, Benedicta, and Leo.

I am proud of my Catholic School education. I know it's in vogue to pooh-pooh those years and what we experienced. But so much of what I learned both academically and spiritually in my life had its foundation in the classrooms of Our Lady of Mount Carmel School on Belmont Avenue.

This past week we celebrated Catholic Schools Week. For 18 years Northside Catholic Academy and, for close to a century before, the parish schools that became NCA have taught, challenged and encouraged tens of thousands of young people in a similar ways. The challenges to grow both in faith and in knowledge are greater than ever today. The breadth and depth of learning that takes place on a daily basis is awesome. Our teachers and administrators, staff and volunteers, supported by our parents and the larger parish communities have created an environment where learning is challenging and fun, where technology is utilized but the human soul is also nurtured, where structure and creativity, diversity and community, discipline and freedom to explore, all in the context of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, go hand in hand. Theirs is no easy task. May God continue to bless NCA and all its students past, present and to come.

DJG



We talk about the "patience of Job," and that makes him seem like a meek and mild fellow who heroically and stoically endures waves of misfortune from God and the devil.

Don't buy it. Job is a whiner, a complainer. Just look at today's first reading: "Is not man's life on earth a drudgery?...I am filled with restlessness until the dawn...Remember that my life is like the wind; I shall not see happiness again." Or: "Woe is me."

The Book of Job is the story of his efforts to convince God that it just isn't fair that he's afflicted with so many miseries. His faith in the Lord never wavers, but he argues again and again that he doesn't deserve the disasters, conflagrations and boils that have befallen him.

Finally, Yahweh has had enough and, "out of the whirlwind," says: "Where were you when I founded the earth?... When I made the clouds its garment and thick darkness its swaddling bands?...Have you ever in your lifetime commanded the morning?... Can you send the lightnings on their way, so that they say to you, 'Here we are?'" And on and on and on.

In other words: "I'm God. I see farther, deeper and more clearly than you." And, in response, Job acquiesces. He says, in effect, "Yes, you are God. Yes, there is much that I do not understand."

Like Job, we can't understand why things happen the way they do — the good things and the bad things. We live in "the whirlwind." We are buffeted by the storms of existence.

Our call, though, isn't to give up. Chicago poet Gwendolyn Brooks put it best when she wrote: "This is the urgency: Live! and have your blooming in the noise of the whirlwind."



Patrick T. Reardon *for Growing in Faith*

## *Spotlight*

### *Annual Catholic Appeal 2012*

Please spend some time this week reflecting on the Annual Catholic Appeal brochure that you received with your bulletin. While funding a number of Archdiocesan ministries, **the Appeal supports parish ministries that provide religious education to children, youth and adults in economically disadvantaged communities.** It is also one of the largest philanthropic sources of financial assistance for Catholic schools in the Archdiocese.

Please remember that the Annual Catholic Appeal campaign is **much different than a one time special collection. It is a pledge campaign** where you can make a gift payable in installments.

As you review the work enabled by your contribution to the Annual Catholic Appeal, please reflect on God's gifts to you. He has given you all that you have. Your gifts to our parish, to the Archdiocese and to the work of the Church throughout the world are given in gratitude for the continuing gifts that God gives you.



Sometimes it is difficult to envision how one pledge can help an organization the size of our Archdiocese, how it can make a real difference. But each pledge does make a difference because all parishes participate in the campaign and the gifts of many enable our Archdiocese to deliver needed ministries and services.

Our combined gifts not only signify our gratitude to God, they fund a significant portion of the work of our Archdiocese. After our parish goal of \$ 44,428 is reached in cash, 100% of the additional funds come back to our parish to help to fund our needs.

If you received your pledge form in the mail, please complete it and mail it back or bring it to Mass next weekend. For those of you that did not receive a mailing or have not had time to respond to it, we will conduct our in-pew pledge process at all Masses next weekend.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration and generous response.

## *Calendar Notes*

#### **Monday, February 5**

7pm ~ Baptismal Class

#### **Wednesday, February 15**

7pm ~ *Pray and Ponder*: Food Security

#### **Wednesday, February 22 ~ Ash Wednesday**

Masses at 7:30am, 9am and 7pm with  
Ashes before and after the 7pm Mass.

#### **Friday, February 24**

2:30pm ~ Stations of the Cross.

#### **Sunday, February 26**

10am Mass ~ RCIA Rite of Sending.

#### **Wednesday, February 29**

6pm ~ Simple Supper  
7pm ~ Prayer Service

## Parish News

**Lenten Faith Sharing Groups:** That's right, Lent begins Wednesday, February 22! With Lent comes the opportunity to share faith in small groups with some of the most interesting people you'll ever meet. Check out the sign up table in the back of church, or visit our website at [stgertrudechicago.org](http://stgertrudechicago.org). Make Lent a time of deeper self-awareness and broader reflection on what it means to be a Catholic Christian in these turbulent times.

**St. Gertrude Parish needs a Centennial Mosaic!** A committee to help plan and execute the Centennial Mosaic is now forming. All are welcome! The first meeting will take place on **Monday, February 27 at 7:30 pm** in the rectory. Our first task is to decide the *raison d'être* for this communal work of art: *Do we want an object of contemplation? to celebrate 100 years in the community? to celebrate our diversity? our Catholic history and traditions? our sacramental imagination? something else?* Bring your ideas and enthusiasm! For inspiration, visit the Chicago Public Art Group's website: [cpag.net](http://cpag.net) For further information or to RSVP, please call Ann O'Connor at the rectory, 773-764-3621.

**Prayer to End Human Trafficking:** Millions of Americans look forward to the Super Bowl every year, but for too many, large public entertainment events mean extreme vulnerability to one of the most horrific crimes of this century: human trafficking. While the Super Bowl is a celebration, 11 congregations of Catholic sisters have dedicated themselves to making sure that the exploitation of women is not a part of it. We invite you to join us in praying to end human trafficking between now and the Super Bowl on February 5, 2012. Won't you challenge yourself to pray daily with us? Together, we CAN and do make a difference. Go to: [shcj.wordpress.com/2012/01/31/pray-with-us-to-end-human-trafficking/](http://shcj.wordpress.com/2012/01/31/pray-with-us-to-end-human-trafficking/).

**The Friendship Club** ~ invites all seniors in the parish for *Valentine Bingo and treats* on Thursday, February 9 at 12:30pm in the Social Hall. Contact Judy Diaz at 773-334-1507. Hope to see you there!

**PRAY & PONDER** At 7pm on Wednesday, February 15: *Food Security-Hunger in the Midst of Abundance*, St. Gertrude's Pax Christi and Green Team. In addition, representatives from Care for Real and Growing Home, Inc, will be speaking. We encourage everyone to bring a non-perishable food items as a donation for Cfr.

**Good Books:** For February we are reading *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot, a fascinating and moving story of medicine and family. Henrietta Lacks, a poor African American migrant from the tobacco farms of Virginia, died from a cruelly aggressive cancer at the age of 30 in 1951. A sample of her cancerous tissue, taken without her knowledge or consent, as was the custom then, turned out to provide one of the holy grails of mid-century biology. But her family continued to live in poverty and frequently poor health. For a decade, Skloot gathered the threads of their stories, slowly gaining the trust of the family while helping them learn the truth about Henrietta. With their aid she tells a rich and haunting story. All are welcome on Monday, February 13 at 7:30 pm in the rectory to discuss the book. Any questions? Contact Mary Grover at 773-338-3564. Or by email at: [mary@marsgrover.com](mailto:mary@marsgrover.com)

**Blood Drive:** Our next *LifeSource* blood drive is Sunday, February 12 in the social hall after all the masses. The next blood drive will be Sunday, April 15. To prepare for your donation: eat well, stay hydrated and bring ID. To schedule your appointment, contact *LifeSource* at 877-543-3768 or [www.lifesource.org](http://www.lifesource.org). Donate blood, save lives.

**Open Hands Brunch:** The intentional community housed in the Ministry Center, would like to invite St. Gert's young adults (20's & 30's) to a potluck brunch on Sunday, February 5 and 19 after the 10am Mass in the Ministry Center dining room. Bring your favorite dish to share, if you can. Please contact Chrissy Sofranko, [c.sofranko@gmail.com](mailto:c.sofranko@gmail.com)

## Community Activities

**Grab onto the Grapevine:** It's the online meeting place for our parish community. Share parish and other news, tips, inquiries, announcements, discussions, for-sale ads, more. To join, visit <http://e-grapevine.org> or call 773-338-3564.

**Notre Dame College Prep** ~ is holding their Third Annual Burke Scholars Fundraiser on Saturday, March 3 at 7655 W. Dempster, Niles. The Burke Scholars program is the first of its kind in the Archdiocese of Chicago, and one of only nine such programs in the United States. Mass is at 6 pm in the ND chapel with a reception at 7 pm in the cafeteria. The evening will include a light dinner buffet, drinks, music, a silent auction and basket raffle. Please visit [nndons.org/burkescholarsprogram](http://nndons.org/burkescholarsprogram) to register or make a donation or call 847-779-8617.

### Chicago Cenacle Retreat Offerings

● **How to Live a More Contemplative Life in a 24/7 World:** Sunday, March 4; 1:30-4:30. Spend an enriching afternoon with us at the Cenacle as Judy Valente and Charles Reynard help us to discover how we can become more alive to the sacred in our everyday lives. Drawing on poetry, photography, music and film, we will explore ways to live attentive and contemplative lives amid the busyness and noise of our daily routines. Together they edited the anthology *Twenty Poems to Nourish Your Soul*. The cost for the afternoon is \$15 for an individual and \$25 for a couple. A reception with Judy and Charley will follow the program. For reservations & information contact Beverly Ojeda at 773-528-6300 or [csisters@cenaclechicago.org](mailto:csisters@cenaclechicago.org)

● **Calligraphy as Prayerful Meditation:** Saturday, March 24; 10 am - 12 noon. Students are invited to partake in an environment that encourages the realization of the artistic self. Students will learn to utilize a broad-edged pen to create beautiful italic letters and connect calligraphy as an art form to meditation, the cultivation of inner peace and an appreciation of the stillness of mind. Space is limited and reservations are required. The workshop fee is \$30 and includes materials. Contact the Prayer Enrollment Office 773-549-0725 or e-mail [prayercardoffice@cenaclechicago.org](mailto:prayercardoffice@cenaclechicago.org)

## School News and Activities



### "Which country has over 7,000 islands?"

Each year NCA's 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students participate in the National Geographic Geography Bee. This year's NCA winner is Noah Popernick who correctly answered the question "Which country has over 7,000 islands?" with "The Philippines." As NCA's winner, Noah has to go on to the next step which is a written test. Upon passing that test, he will go on to state competition, and, eventually, he could go to the national championship. In response to winning, Noah said "I love geography; it is one of my strong suits. When I was in front of the crowd, I felt under pressure, yet confident because I know a lot about geography - the land and its features around us. Moving forward, I hope to represent NCA well at Regionals, and bring home a victory!"



**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, FEBRUARY 6

7:30am Norine Dupuis †

#### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7

7:30am The Connery Family †

#### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8

7:30am Helen Schmidt †

9:00am Edwin Kaczmarek †

#### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9

7:30am Communion Service ~ Mary Dick †

#### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10

7:30am Jim Greismer †

#### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11

7:30am Marty and Peggy Conboy †

5:00pm Jaime Jeyuson †

#### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12

8:00am Nancy Donnelly †

9:30am The Family of St. Gertrude †

10:00am John Wessel †

10:30am Virginia Buttitta †

11:30am Tassone-Emanuele-Pitaro Family †

† Indicates person mentioned is deceased.

The Rosary: 8:00am, Monday through Saturday

### Lectors

#### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11

5:00pm Norman Bowers, Jacklyn Meintz

#### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12

8:00am Charlotte Kovacs, Johnny Outlaw

10:00am Tony Myers, Rob Schroeder

11:30am Troy McMillan, Ann White

### Altar Servers

#### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11

5:00pm Elena Reilly, Jack Maddell,  
Sophia Wentworth

#### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12

10:00am Ben Mulick, Michaelangelo Rodriguez,  
Thomas Bonvoisin

11:30am Randolph Cruz, Jonathan Elue,  
Lauren Elue

### Readings for the Week

**Monday:** 1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13; Mk 6:53-56

**Tuesday:** 1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30; Mk 7:1-13

**Wednesday:** 1 Kgs 10:1-10; Mk 7:14-23

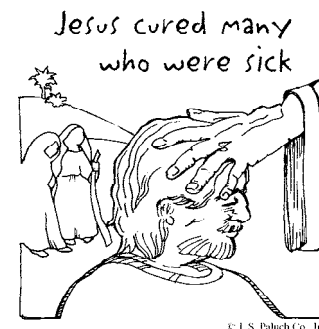
**Thursday:** 1 Kgs 11:4-13; Mk 7:24-30

**Friday:** 1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19; Mk 7:31-37

**Saturday:** 1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34; Mk 8:1-10

**Sunday:** Lv 13:1-2, 44-46; Ps 32;

1 Cor 10:31 - 11:1; Mk 1:40-45



### Eucharistic Ministers

#### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11

5:00pm Mickey Resch, Ruth Ott, Helen Banta  
Norman Bowers, David and Tiffany Chan

#### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12

8:00am Bill Mitchell, Hallie Burhoe,  
Charles Shaw, Sr. Kathryn Stimac,  
Roman Reyes, Paula Rodriguez,  
Donald Nyderek

10:00am Tere Zdunek, Linda Orellana,  
Beth Nelson, Tony Myers,  
Carlos Barragan, Rose Marie Anichini,  
Madeleine Fister

11:30am Lisa Kelly, Mary Pat Hartung,  
Maria Hertl, Troy McMillan, Lina Peon

### Greeters

#### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11

5:00pm

#### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12

8:00am Brenda Arreola

10:00am Jessie North, Maria Vallely,  
Mae Lauricella

11:30am Paul Elue, Melinda Banahene

## Facility Highlights

As we celebrate 100 years as a parish we want to think of the physical structures which support our prayers, ministries, and faith. The Building and Grounds committee wants your input. Although the committee has spent time walking through the buildings and observing how they function, the committee would like your thoughts in terms of: areas/systems in need of repair; means of reducing operating costs; and determining improvements which would enhance the faith and mission of our fabulous community. On February 18/19 we will be soliciting your input after all the masses via feedback cards. Please spend some time before then thinking about the physical spaces you use at the parish and be prepared to write down your thoughts and ideas. Please contact Marge Butzen at: 773-764-3621; or email officegert@sbcglobal.net.



## Milestones

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,
- \* at the rectory (1420 W. Granville Ave.), or
- \* online at stgertrudechicago.org

*Remember...membership has its privileges...and its graces! Please come join us!*

### New Parishioners

Dante and Marie Arlene Santiago,  
and their daughter Aleshane

Benjamin Johnson and Michelle Nickerson,  
and their son Tobias



*May she rest in peace ~*

Dorothy Wallin

## 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: 7:30am  
Saturday: 7:30am 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  
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.