



ST. GERTRUDE CHURCH

January 9, 2022 - The Baptism of the Lord

MASSES AND CONFESSIONS AT ST. GERTRUDE

Monday, January 10, Weekday

- 7:00 a.m. †Joe Morrison/Judy Bayer & Family
- 8:00 a.m. †Harold Thomas/Lee & Tracy Luiso
- 11:30 a.m. †Deceased Members of the Dominican Order

Tuesday, January 11, Weekday

- 7:00 a.m. †Carmelita Duckro/Doug & Robin Postler
- 8:00 a.m. †Pauline Elizabeth Eggers/The Wurzelbacher Family
- 11:30 a.m. †Linda Benzinger/Kevin & Anne Lynch

Wednesday, January 12, Weekday

- 7:00 a.m. †Joseph & Marjorie Schirmer/The Schirmer Family
- 8:00 a.m. †Catherine Preston/The Beinke Family
- 11:30 a.m. †Rosemary Baele/The Baele Family

Thursday, January 13, Weekday

- 7:00 a.m. †Gene Cameron/Michael & Jana Widmeyer
- 8:00 a.m. †Clyde Dorn/Roger Dettmer
- 11:30 a.m. †Yolanda Klopp/The Frias Family

Friday, January 14, Weekday

- 7:00 a.m. Tim Stoll/Mike & Beth Stoll
- 8:00 a.m. †Dorothy Grant/Bill & Tish Shefcik
- 11:30 a.m. Don Schoo/Cynthia & Kelly King

Saturday, January 15, Weekday

- 8:00 a.m. Gloria Goddard/Chris & Isabel Hoff
- 11:30 a.m. †Judy Kuethe/Judy Bayer

January 15-16, 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday

- 4:30 p.m. †Tony Topicz/John & Joy Belperio

Sunday

- 8:00 a.m. †Connie Hanna/Jeanne Johantges
- 10:00 a.m. †Richard Lonneman/Dr. & Mrs. David Zipfel
- 12:00 p.m. People of St. Gertrude
- 6:00 p.m. †Patrick Higgins/George Wade

Confessions will be heard in the church Monday-Friday at 4:00 p.m., Wednesday at 7:30 p.m., and Saturday at 3:30 p.m.

Parish Information

6543 Miami Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45243
(513) 561-5954 | www.stgertrude.org

Parish Office Hours

Monday-Friday: 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

School Office Hours

Monday-Friday: 7:30 a.m.-3:45 p.m.

Church Hours

Every day: 7:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.

ILLUMINATE

*Helping Parents Raise Children
in a "Pornified" Culture*

Raising kids in today's culture is tough and unprecedented—even paralyzing. But there's hope.

Join us in January 2022 for *Illuminate*, a 2-part series that will help you understand the scope of the porn issue, how to help children who have been exposed to porn heal, and how to prevent pornography from ever taking root in your home.

WHEN: January 12, 7:00-8:30 p.m.
January 19, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

WHERE: St. Gertrude School Cafeteria

COST: \$10/person

REGISTER: stgertrude.org/illuminate

All sessions will be presented by Brad Bursa, PhD, director of adult formation at St. Gertrude.



Photo by David LeVêque on Unsplash

**Get your team
together!**

SWING INTO SPRING

Knights of Columbus Fundraiser at Topgolf

9568 Water Front Drive West Chester Township

SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 2022

Cost: \$60 per player (includes brunch)

Early Bird Discount: Purchase a bay for \$325 and save 10 percent for your group (up to 6 golfers per bay). Payment due by February 18, 2022.

There will be prizes for closest to the pin and a putting contest.

More details to come.





OUR PERSONAL ENCOUNTER THROUGH BAPTISM

Today, the Church celebrates the feast of the Baptism of the Lord and concludes its celebration of the Lord's nativity. This feast brings us to the beginning of the public ministry of

Jesus—an initiation rite that has important significance for every baptized person. Christ is born for us and for our salvation. Moreover, he is born so that his life—given up for us—would reconcile us to the Father. Thus, the baptism of the Lord is the moment of divine declaration of the restored identity of the human person. When Jesus comes up out of the waters of the Jordan River, a voice comes from the heavens, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased” (Mark 1:11). In other words, mankind is reconciled with God, and the relationship between the Father and his children is renewed. The divine declaration is reminiscent of the declaration God makes after creating the man and the woman on the sixth day of creation: “God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good” (Gn 1:31).

Pope Benedict XVI once said, “Being Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction.” Our personal encounter with God begins on the day of our baptism. Through this sacramental encounter, Jesus baptizes us through the instrumentality of the minister. Christ washes away our sins; Christ heals the woundedness of our humanity; Christ reconciles us with the Father. Each of us, through baptism, becomes an adopted son or daughter of the Father. Each of us is now the beloved of the Father. He is well pleased with each of us.

We remind ourselves of our own baptism and renew its grace each time we bless ourselves with holy water while making the Sign of the Cross. This sacramental water initiates our life with God and accompanies us throughout our earthly lives. Here is a brief reflection from Magnificat: “With Jesus, we have entered the waters of baptism; with Jesus, we have left the land of slavery to sin and death; with Christ we have risen as members of the body of the Word made flesh whose coming we have celebrated during the season of Christmas and Epiphany now drawing to a close. We now have a journey to make: let us follow the holy Lamb of God from death to life!”

Following the Lamb of God is a way of describing the life of discipleship. Each of us has a vocation, a public expression of God's plan and purpose for our lives. This vocation has many expressions, including marriage, remaining single for the Lord, religious life, and ordination to the priesthood. Each of these vocations comes with a wide variety of duties and responsibilities. And, within these vocations, each person must seek to put personal gifts and talents at the service of the vocation. Doing so helps one to flourish in the vocation and to

bring glory to God. But it's not always easy, and it remains a lifelong process sustained by prayer, reflection, and prudence.

One of my responsibilities as pastor is to support each person in his or her vocation. Two members of our parish staff—Brad Bursa and Catherine Fishlock—are married with families. This is their primary vocation. Each has prayed and determined that their work in service to the parish is having a negative impact upon their vocation, and they have decided to resign from their positions as evangelization team lead and music director respectively. Each has written a letter to the parish found within this bulletin. I encourage you to read them.

Obviously, their decisions have an impact upon parish life and ministry. They will be missed. However, we must trust in Divine Providence for new gifted and talented people to serve in the positions from which they leave. A search and the hiring process will have to begin. Unfortunately, I am away on a long-planned vacation as these announcements are made this weekend in the parish. There is nothing I can do about the timing.

Our parish community is a place where everyone is invited to encounter Jesus and to live the journey of discipleship. This parish home is a support to each person to thrive in his or her vocation. The baptismal identity is common among all of us. Our love for one another extends to the support we give to one another. The joy of Christmas becomes incarnate in our lives through baptism. May the Lord renew our parish because of our continual encounter with him and through our fidelity to vocation.

Let us love one another and pray for each other,

Fr. George, O.P.

Father George Schommer, O.P.

THE POWER OF THE ROSARY



“The Rosary is a powerful weapon to put the demons to flight and to keep oneself from sin... If you desire peace in your hearts, in your homes, and in your country, assemble each evening to recite the Rosary. Let not even one day pass without saying it, no matter how burdened you may be with many cares and labors.”

— Pope Pius XI

COVER IMAGE: *The Baptism of Christ* (Detail), Coypel (c 1690)

DATES TO REMEMBER

- No School – Monday, January 17, 2022
(Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)
- 7th Grade Retreat – Wednesday, January 19, 2022

2021-2022 ANNUAL FUND

Every November, St. Gertrude School launches the SGS Annual Fund. The Annual Fund fills the gap between what the school receives through tuition and subsidy, making it possible for SGS to provide the best tools for teaching and learning.

This year, the school's goal is to raise \$25,000 by June 20, 2022, for ongoing school-wide programming, professional development for the teachers and faculty, and curriculum enhancements. Thanks to the people listed to the right who have generously contributed to the Annual Fund since the November kickoff, St. Gertrude School has already raised \$38,975, surpassing our goal by 55.9 percent!

You don't have to be a school family to make a donation to the Annual Fund. Every gift—no matter the size—makes a difference and is greatly appreciated. You can make your gift online at my.stgertrude.org/s/giving-opportunities or via check or credit card using the 2021-2022 Annual Fund form, which is available in the school office. Thank you for your generosity—your support makes everything we do possible.

FOUNDERS CIRCLE (\$5,000+)

Burleigh Family Foundation
Clark Family Foundation Inc.
Raymond & Marylyn Clark
Luke & Amy Fickell
Justin & Lisa Shafer

1934 CIRCLE (\$1,000-\$4,999)

Jeffrey & Kelly Woodward

BLUE AND GOLD CIRCLE (\$500-\$999)

Alejandro & Molly Bonilla
David & Margaret Brecount
Pat & Mary Ashcraft
Peter Goedde &
Novilia Suhendra

BULLDOG CIRCLE (\$100-\$499)

Scott & Tracy Boone
Guy & Lindsay Clanton
Jim & Anne Collins
Edward & Alice Dadosky
Tri Dinh & Mai Thi Huynh
Zach & Jenny Gagel
Harold & Coleen Glorius
Chris & Jennifer Hasse
Marty & Teri Lacey
Eric & Amy Robbins
Matthew & Denise Spurlock
Jim & Tricia Wahl

FRIENDS CIRCLE (\$1-\$99)

John & Susan Fischesser
Ray & Anita Le Due
Joe & Amy Rentrop

SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS

School office hours for the week of January 10, 2022, are 7:30 a.m.-3:45 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Come see us at our **OPEN HOUSE**

NOW ENROLLING FOR 2022-2023

**Sunday
January 30, 2022
1:00–3:00 p.m.**



6543 Miami Ave.
Madeira, OH 45243
(513) 562-8020
stgertrudesch.org
@stgertrudeschool



For over 85 years, St. Gertrude School has been led by the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia.



TAKING STOCK OF THINGS

BY BRAD BURSA

"Dad, can you coach my team?"

"No. Not this year. I'm already tied up too many nights."

My answer left her disappointed. Me too.

This is just one anecdote—one of the little hints the Lord has dropped in my life since February 2021. At that point in time, I was (again) charging ahead with very full-time ministry at St. Gertrude Church when the clues started to come.

It was high time to take stock of things at home.

As I reflected upon my family, it became clear that my biggest fear in returning to parish ministry was becoming a reality, namely, that my family was suffering from the demands on my time. As a layman, doing good ministry has always been in tension with family life because of the timing of programming, and so forth. It was easier several years ago—with fewer kids, and younger ones at that. But, not anymore.

In the fall of 2021, despite several adjustments to our schedule, it became even clearer that it was time to hang it up. After months of intense discernment, seeking counsel from mentors, a rosary novena, and a consecration to St. Joseph, I have decided to step down after nearly 14 years of full-time ministry. This decision will go into effect on January 31.

During my time as an undergraduate at Franciscan University, I decided, along with Katie (my fiancée at the time), that I would put myself in service of the mission of the Church. There has never been any thought of a "career" in ministry. Instead, it's been a matter of being open to the Lord and to the providential opportunities to participate in his mission placed before us.



This allowed me to serve in a variety of capacities—from Catholic education to parish ministry and archdiocesan work to an adjunct theology professorship. I have even been blessed to study theology at a high level, learning from scholars and mentors about this Jesus who has captivated me since a reversion experience at age 18.

I hope that my contributions to St. Gertrude, the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, and the field of catechetics have been helpful in the life of the Church. My time in ministry and in scholarly endeavors has certainly blessed me and my family. But, now it's time to let it go and to make a distinctive choice for my primary vocation as a husband and a father, and to throw as much time as I can at that—particularly nights and weekends. I am grateful that the Lord has provided an

alternate occupational path—one that will not require relocating and will afford great stability and a consistent work schedule for the sake of my family.

In closing, I'd like to acknowledge a few people. First, Father George, I am grateful for your priesthood and your sincere desire for me to be faithful to my primary vocation as a husband and father. Your fatherly love for a spiritual son was never more apparent than in your response to the news that I would be stepping down. I'm also grateful to the friars, especially Father Clement, Father John Mark, and Father Jordan—it's always been a joy to collaborate with the friars, and with all of you, specifically, over the last year and a half. I'm thankful to Sister Maria Christi and Travis Johnson in the school. I've always valued working with both of you. Next, my team . . . Not exactly sure what to say. It's humbling to lead such a capable group of people. Most of the time, I think you were leading me. Mary Beth, thank you for shepherding CGS. I'm excited to see that program develop, and I pray that it can more and more influence the way in which parents form their children in their own homes. Walter, you're a good man and a capable leader. I pray that this parish is blessed by your ministry for years to come. Michelle, you are a joy to work with, and you've brought a level of professionalism to our communications that we've needed for years. Kristen Eggers . . . You are such a good friend and colleague. I'll probably never have another "half of my brain" able to know exactly what I need when I forward an email with no explanation! Thank you for being the rock of our office. Finally, I thank all of you, the great parishioners of St. Gertrude, for your witness of faith, constant prayers, and consistent show of support of me and my family. Now, I'm excited to join your ranks, as a fellow parishioner, and to be salt and light in the world alongside you.

Around the time my daughter asked me about coaching, we heard the Gospel account of the rich young man. As you know, Jesus invites him to "go, sell what you have, and give to the poor and you will have treasure in heaven; then, come, follow me" (Mk 10:21). This really got to me. I don't have a lot to sell, but I have accumulated a wealth of experience and knowledge over these years of ministry. So, I'm "selling it" and giving to my "poor"—my family—and following Jesus in a new stage of my life as a disciple. Unlike the rich young man, I am not going away sad at all. Rather, I am happy to have been part of the Church's mission in full-time ways, and I'm happy to surrender these experiences and roles to God. I'm also happy that I'll be freed up to coach my kids.



BREAKING FREE

St. Gertrude Church is happy to provide a group for men who are struggling with pornography and lust. The group meets weekly on Thursdays from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Parish Center Music Room (lower level). For more information, please visit stgertrude.org/breakingfree.

THE SECOND GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD

You're invited to join us on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month to watch and discuss Fr. Michael Gaitley's *The Second Greatest Story Ever Told* videos and to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet. We will meet from 9:45 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. in the Parish Center on January 13, January 27, February 10, February 24, March 10, March 24, April 28, and May 12.

ST. GERTRUDE CHURCH IS HIRING

We are looking for a head sacristan to join our team. In this role, you will be responsible for the maintenance of the sacristy, sanctuary, and altars, as well as overseeing all the supplies necessary for the celebration of the liturgy. To view the full job description and to apply, visit stgertrude.org/employment.

LET US PRAY

PLEASE PRAY FOR . . .

THE SICK:

Delores Brandstetter, Tim Brinkman, Kim Caswell, Bettie Caudill, Ann Cerone, Triset Defonseka, Lisa Ely, Dick Gelhaus, Bob Gerwin, Andrew Goad, Cameron Goad, Matthew Goad, Glenn Grismere, Loretta Holden, Hummel Family, Megan Johnson, Rhonda Keith-Stephens, Aiko Kimura, Ed Kinney, Marianne Klekamp, Janice Koncius, Kevin Lewis, Kim McClung, Sandra Munyon, Elaine O'Connell, Sue Paas, Gerry Patterson, Ellen Schaengold, Patricia Scherer, Pegge Schuermann, Richard Seifert, Teddie Slaper, Jack Spilker, Jim Spurgin, Patricia Strauss, Judy Sullivan, Mary Saul, Mary Valker, Bill Van Hise, and Brigitte Vielhauer

THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES:

Samuel C. Bascom, Patrick Burke, Curtis Flores, Luis Flores, Jr., Cole and Kyle Foster, Dominic Geraci, Daniel Holian, Mike Huber, Aaron Jacobson, Jacob Kramb, John Kramb, Kelly Leugers, John Murdock, Jr., John Oscar, Sarah Ries, Kolbe Roberts, Dan Roseman, Andrew Shannon, and Ian Tester

THE RECENTLY DECEASED

Marilyn Glaser, grandmother of Ben Hoffman

A POWERFUL RETREAT

Fifty-five men attended the annual St. Gertrude Catholic Men's Advent Retreat on December 3-4, 2021, at Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Center in Norwood. The retreat, themed "Revealing Man to Himself" and led by Fr. Peter John Cameron, O.P., helped enlighten retreatants' journeys toward real truth in God. The retreat included the sacrament of Reconciliation, Mass, and an uplifting healing and individual prayer period in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.



BAPTISM



Sunday, December 26, 2021

Child: Benjamin Joseph Toft

Parents: Amy & Marcus Toft

Priest: Fr. Dan Hess



Tuesday, December 28, 2021

Child: Bridget Lillian Wells

Parents: Joan & Dennis Wells

LADIES OF CHARITY MEETING

The Ladies of Charity will hold an organizational meeting at 10:00 a.m. on January 15, 2022, in the Parish Center St. Joseph Room. Any interested Catholic woman is welcome to attend. We will be discussing our plans for the coming year. Dues of \$13.00 and service hours will be collected from current members at the meeting. Please plan on attending. If you have any questions regarding the Ladies of Charity or the meeting, please contact Jean Wilkinson at (513) 498-5085.

SYNOD ON SYNODALITY - IT'S NOT TOO LATE

It's not too late to sign up for a meeting on the Synod on Synodality. The various parishes in the St. Andrew Deanery, which St. Gertrude Church is part of, will meet on Thursday, January, 13, 2022, at Good Shepherd Parish (8815 E. Kemper Road, Cincinnati) from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. The Holy Father is asking for as many of the baptized as possible to participate. Please consider attending. To learn more and to sign up, please visit catholicaoc.org/synod.

HOPE EMERGENCY PROGRAM THANKS YOU

Dear Father Schommer, the Ladies of Charity, and all St. Gertrude parishioners: Thank you for your generous donations to Hope Emergency Program during our Christmas distribution week. We were blessed to have so much support providing for the needy in our area and beyond. You helped us provide Christmas gifts for 500 children and food for 350 families. Additionally, we were able to help an inner city parish with 120 toys and gift cards and Matthew 25 Ministries with gifts, clothing, diapers, and personal care and cleaning items for the Kentucky tornado victims. A special thanks to Jean Wilkinson, Sue Clarke, and the Brockhoff family. May you and your loved ones continue to be abundantly blessed throughout the new year by the Holy One who brings us all true blessings. — Gratefully, Sister Lucia Castellini (co-director) and Kathy Hutchens (acting co-director)

CATHOLIC FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT: CINDERELLA

Join families from across the area on Sunday, January 16, 2022, for an exciting, large screen viewing of Disney's live action remake of *Cinderella*! Before the showing, dynamic presenter Joan Ratajczak will discuss how to recognize Christian symbolism in the film (and in other movies). Sponsored by The Angelico Project, this event provides a unique and exciting way to learn more about the faith together as a family. WHERE: Good Shepherd Catholic Montessori School, 4460 Berwick Street, Cincinnati, OH. WHEN: 6:00-9:00 p.m. COST: Tickets are \$5.00 per person or \$25.00 per family. For more information and to register, visit AngelicoProject.org.



JOIN THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Do you want to grow in your Catholic faith? Strengthen your family? Serve your community and parish? Meet like-minded Catholic men? Join the Knights of Columbus, the largest Catholic men's fraternal organization in the world! Apply online today at kofc.org/joinus and enter code MCGIVNEY2020 to enjoy 12 months of membership. Next weekend, January 15-16, 2022, the Knights of Columbus Archbishop Elder Council #1195 is holding a membership drive at St. Gertrude Church. Council members will be in the Parish Center after all Masses to answer any questions about being a Knight of Columbus. (Membership is open to all Catholic men 18 years of age and older.)



2022 CINCINNATI MEN'S CONFERENCE

Actor Jim Caviezel (Mel Gibson's *The Passion of the Christ*) and Raymond Arroyo (EWTN/ FOX News) are coming to Cincinnati April 2, 2022, to speak at the Cincinnati Men's Conference. Themed "Evil Prevails When Good Men Do Nothing," the conference is intended for all men, no matter where you are in your spiritual journey or which faith you identify with. For more information and to get your tickets, visit CincinnatiMensConference.com. You won't regret it.



OPENING YOUR HEART

As Jesus was baptized by John, so we, too, are baptized—not just in water but by the Holy Spirit and fire. Let us all pray: *The heavens are opened, and the Spirit of God comes to rest on Jesus; Spirit of God, rest on us. Christ the beloved, you emptied yourself in love for the human family; Open our hearts to the poorest and most abandoned in the spirit of St. Vincent de Paul.*

If you would like to donate to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, you can either put money in the poor boxes located at the entrances of the church or put nonperishable food in the SVdP food barrel located just inside the sacristy entrance near the parking lot. May God bless you and your families in the new year!

7TH ANNUAL E6 CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

St. Leon, Indiana | February 26, 2022

Become a better husband, parent, son, brother, and neighbor at the 7th Annual E6 Catholic Men's Conference. Featuring Matthew Kelly and Gus Lloyd, the event is designed to bring men into a deeper relationship with Christ and his Catholic Church through a worthy celebration of the sacraments, engaging talks to strengthen faith, opportunities for true fraternity, and exposure to good resources to aid in living the faith as disciples of Christ. Limited tickets available. Visit www.e6cmc.com for more information to register.



My Brothers and Sisters,

As the liturgical celebration of the Christmas season comes to a primary conclusion today, my heart is full—and I would like you to know my heart.

Thank you for all you did to make our Christmas celebrations so extremely beautiful and tensionless. When one of you would say to me, "Father, this is covered: go do something else," I never had to worry. You not only covered but also exceeded in all you did! The herculean organization with reservations, ushers, eucharistic ministers, servers, and lectors all seemed effortless because of so many of you working quietly, diligently, and unseen. Decorating not just a church, but a campus. Truck loads of greens . . . poinsettias that arrived in one place to be dispersed among three or four. And the worship programs!!! Thank you for making it all happen and for helping me in so many untold ways.

When I became sick, my greatest worry was my sister. You know, nothing can be wrong with the "baby." (Yep, at 65, I'm still her baby.) However, my sister could not worry about me because I have never been around more caring people! Your text messages, care packages, trips to the doctor, and my secret nurse administering those dreadful nasal swab tests so carefully—who could ask for more? No one.

May God reward you all in great abundance, and may 2022 be blessed with all good things. May Our Lady of the miraculous, Virgin most powerful, tell her Son to fill us with health and grant us a time of healing, hope, and joy!

Most gratefully,

Father Jordan Kelly, O.P.

Vicar, Director of Liturgy



Dear St. Gertrude Parishioners,

For the past eight years, it has been an honor and a joy to serve you as music director for our parish. During this time, we have filled our church with many, many glorious melodies that have carried words of praise, thanksgiving, and petition to Almighty God. Whether the full and resonant sonorities of the choir accompanied by the organ, or a simple a cappella chant whispered by a single voice and carried through the sacred space like smoke rising from the thurible, I am confident that our prayers have reached the ears of the Father. Sunday after Sunday, feast days, Christmasses, Holy Weeks, Easters, weddings—we have sung and prayed so much together, and I have been so very blessed to lead you.

Life is a many-chaptered book, and I have chapters that I am eager to get to. I have been feeling this for the past few years, but this is in no way a reflection on my devotion to the parish, my love for the liturgy, or my longtime professional relationship with the Dominican friars. My family is growing up and moving along in life, and I want more time for them. I have many interests and ideas that I want to pursue—musically, professionally, and personally—that I have had in the "someday" category for quite some time. My friends, "someday" has arrived for me, and I have made the decision to leave my post as parish music director. My last Sunday in the position will be January 30, however, this does not mean that I am departing the parish! I will continue to cantor, direct the children's choir until June, and remain the voice teacher for the Dominican novices. Simply put, I will be returning to my role in the parish as it was before Father Andre-Joseph LaCasse asked me, in 2014, to take on the job of music director. At that time, I agreed to an interim year, after which I was offered and accepted the position. After eight wonderful years, my heart and mind are full of thoughts and desires, and I am ready to change my course.

While stepping down from directing the adult choir is very difficult (we have worked long and hard together and I love and appreciate the choir deeply), I am confident that, under the expert guidance of Father Jordan and whomever the Lord provides to serve as my replacement, the music program will continue to bring glory to God, dignity to our liturgies, and sanctification to souls.

I wish to thank Father George and Father Jordan for making this a smooth and happy transition for me. I am very grateful for their support in my decision to act and follow through in other ways the Lord is calling me to be a worker in the vineyard. Finally, to you, the people of St. Gertrude parish, many thanks for your love, support, and prayers over these years. I wish you all the best in 2022 and beyond. Keep deepening your prayer, sing well, insist on beauty, and strive to be holy!

With love and gratitude,

Catherine Fishlock

Monday, January 10	Tuesday, January 11	Wednesday, January 12	Thursday, January 13	Friday, January 14	Saturday, January 15	Sunday, January 16
Dominican Laity – Our Lady of Peace 7:00 p.m. School Cafeteria	True Devotion to Mary 12:00 p.m. PC St. Dominic Lobby	Resurrection Choir Practice 8:30 a.m. PC St. Joseph Room	Second Greatest Story Ever Told Video Series 9:45 a.m. PC St. Dominic Lobby	Amiguitas del Corazón de Jesús 4:30 p.m. PC St. Joseph Room	LoC Organizational Meeting 10:00 a.m. PC St. Joseph Room	KofC Recruitment Drive <i>After all Masses</i> PC St. Dominic Lobby
Become Catholic (RCIA) 7:00 p.m. PC St. Dominic Lobby	Children's Choir 3:00 p.m. PC Music Room	Adult Choir 7:00 p.m. PC St. Dominic Lobby	Level I Catechesis of the Good Shepherd 11:15 a.m. Atrium I		Genesis to Jesus Study 9:00 a.m. School Cafeteria	Family Faith 9:00 & 10:30 a.m. School Cafeteria
Healing Rosary 7:00 p.m. Church	Parent/Child CGS Sacramental Formation 4:30 p.m. Atrium II	Illuminate 7:00 p.m. School Cafeteria	Regina Veritatis Team Meeting 6:30 p.m. PC St. Joseph Room		St. Anne & Child Mary Guild 9:00 a.m. PC St. Dominic Lobby	Catechesis of the Good Shepherd 9:00 & 10:30 a.m. Atrium I & II
	Family Faith 6:00 p.m. School Cafeteria	Benediction 8:50 p.m. Church	Cub Scouts 7:00 p.m. School Cafeteria		KofC Recruitment Drive <i>After 4:30 p.m. Mass</i> PC St. Dominic Lobby	Baptisms 1:15 p.m. Church
	Catechesis of the Good Shepherd 6:00 p.m. Atrium I & II					Parent/Child CGS Sacramental Formation 1:30 p.m. Atrium II
	Dominican Laity – Bishop Fenwick Chapter 6:30 p.m. Church					L'alto, High School 7:00 p.m. Parish Center
	Boy Scouts 7:00 p.m. School					

OFFERING

St. Gertrude Parish

Weekly Collection and Budget Report Collection for January 2

Weekly Budget	\$ 35,294
Collection	\$ 36,962
Weekly Surplus	\$ 1,668

Fiscal Year-To-Date (for year ending June 30, 2022)

Fiscal YTD Budget	\$ 997,938
Fiscal YTD Actual	\$1,006,440
Fiscal YTD Surplus	\$ 8,502

BULLETIN DEADLINE

BULLETIN
1/23/22

MATERIALS DUE
1/12/22

Please submit your Mass announcements and bulletin articles to bulletin@stgertrude.org
6543 Miami Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45243
(513) 561-5954 | FAX (513) 561-7184 | www.StGertrude.org

PARISH DIRECTORY

Parish Staff

Fr. George Schommer, O.P., pastor
Fr. John Mark Solitario, O.P., parochial vicar
Fr. Jordan Kelly, O.P., parochial vicar

Dominican Friars in Residence

Fr. John Langlois, O.P., prior
Fr. Joseph Alobaidi, O.P.
Fr. John Corbett, O.P.
Fr. Paul J. Keller, O.P.
Fr. Michael Mary Dosch, O.P., novice master

St. Gertrude School - (513) 561-8020

Principal - Sr. Maria Christi Greve, O.P. ext 1101
Vice Principal - Mr. Travis Johnson ext 1101
PTO President - Emily Baute (513) 646-9321
School Advisory Council

Office of Administration - (513) 561-5954

Receptionists - Susan Kane & Teri Forlini ext 2101
Business Manager - Don Regan ext 2102
Business Office Admin Assistant - Emma Golias ext 2103
Bereavement ext 2101
Bulletin Editor bulletin@stgertrude.org
Director of Music - Catherine Fishlock ext 2116
Safe Environment Coordinator - Emma Golias ext 2103

Evangelization Team - (513) 561-5954

Team Lead and Director of Adult Formation -
Brad Bursa, PhD ext 2120
Coordinator of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd -
Mary Beth Dickert ext 2110
Director of Youth Formation - Walter Plummer ext 2122
Communications Coordinator - Michelle Dushensky ext 2121
Executive Assistant - Kristen Eggers ext 2109
Rites of Christian Initiation (R.C.I.A.) ext 2101
Fr. John Mark Solitario, O.P.

Corporal Works of Mercy

Helping Hands - Nancy Lucas stgerthh@gmail.com
Knights of Columbus - Phil Motz (513) 444-5072
Ladies of Charity - Jean Wilkinson (513) 498-5085
Parish Health Ministry - Jeanne Palcic (513) 317-4123
Pregnancy Center East
(for all pregnancy needs) (513) 321-3100
Soup Kitchen - Andy Cordier soupkitchen@stgertrude.org
St. Vincent De Paul Society -
Jim Spurgin (513) 561-5954, ext 2112

Vocations Directors

Archdiocese of Cincinnati -
Fr. Dan Schmitmeyer (513) 421-3131
Dominican Friars -
Fr. Jacob Bertrand Janczyk, O.P. DominicanFriars.org
Nashville Dominican Sisters -
Sr. Mara Grace, O.P. (615) 256-5486

Spiritual Works of Mercy

Baptism Team
Circle of Prayer - Barbara Rose prayercirclesg@gmail.com
Communion to Sick - Judy Hartmann (513) 984-8003
Eucharistic Adoration adoration@stgertrude.org
Natural Family Planning - David & Ann Stein (513) 207-9673
Pastoral Council - Jill Woods (513) 235-6827
Prayer Ministry for the Dying - Pat Collins (513) 265-1897
Regina Veritatis Prayer & Healing -
Nealy Mechley (513) 505-1740
Respect Life - Debbie Graham (513) 984-4766
Rosary Making - Larry Ball (513) 831-8572
Unbound Ministry - Nealy Mechley (513) 505-1740

Liturgical Ministries

Adult Choir - Catherine Fishlock (513) 561-5954
Contemporary Music Ensemble - Paul Kindt (513) 697-9208
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (513) 561-5954
Lectors - (513) 561-5954
Resurrection Choir - Marty Cunningham (513) 891-4226
The St. Anne and the Child Mary Guild -
Ann McCormick (513) 272-1533
St. Joseph the Worker Society (513) 561-5954
Ushers - Douglas Postler (513) 791-6298
Viri Selecti - Ben Hoffmann pxaw@hotmail.com
Youth Choir - Catherine Fishlock (513) 561-5954

Spiritual Groups

Adult Bible Study - (513) 561-5954-
Amiguitas del Corazón de Jesús -
Nora Klopp-Frias noraklopp08@gmail.com
Angelic Warfare Confraternity -
Fr. John Mark Solitario, O.P. (513) 561-5954
Benedictine Oblates - Mark Milliron (513) 536-6275
Catholic Men's Fellowship - Paul Rieger (513) 885-5903
Confraternity of the Most Holy Rosary -
Brian Zappia (513) 791-7299
Dominican Laity (Bishop Fenwick) -
Joan Ratajczak, O.P. jsratajczak@gmail.com
Dominican Laity (Our Lady of Peace) -
Mr. Fred Thomas, O.P. (513) 335-1700 or fth5131119@aol.com
FAMILIA/CANA Family For Mothers -
Anita Pappalardo (513) 248-8237
Special Needs Moms Support Group -
Tina Rolfes tina.rolfes123@gmail.com
True Devotion to Mary - Anne Collins (513) 984-4708

Parish Groups

Athletic Boosters - Rob Gruber (513) 256-2566
Boy Scouts - Robert Dinga (612) 616-8242
Cub Scouts - Chris De Brunner (513) 379-1010
Garden Club - Susan Brokaw (513) 702-6877
Lenten Fish Fry - Rob Mancini (513) 520-6360
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