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02 WELCOME

Become a Parishioner Mission, Vision, Core Values Become Catholic

03 FROM OUR PASTOR

Letter from Father John Paul The Power of the Rosary

04 PARISH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Catechetical Sunday NEEDS Food Pantry Collection 2025 Parish Census & Survey Basketball Registration Is Open Let Us Pray

05 PARISH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

40 Days for Life Evangelization Team Fraternal Benefit Event Confraternity of the Rosary Reigning in Life

06 PARISH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Week
Seasons of Hope
Become a Eucharistic Guardian
Miscarriage Kit Box
Create Your Will for Free
Are You in Need of Forgiveness?

07 PARISH EVANGELIZATION

Catechetical Sunday Explainer Become Catholic Come & See

08 PARISH EVANGELIZATION

Canonization Celebration Drawing Children Closer to Christ Become Cathollic

09 PARISH EVENTS & PROGRAMS

Omega Bible Study Rooted: Baptism Formation #Unbreakable

10 SCHOOL NEWS

11 AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

St. Peregrine Healing Mass Annual Evening for Life Date with Father Nate 22nd Annual Blue Mass Mother & Daughter Workshop 40 Days for Life Kickoff Rally Monthly Healing Service

12 PARISH INFORMATION

Liturgical Schedule & Intentions Care for Sick and Homebound Prayer Ministry for the Dying

13 PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Directory Bulletin Deadline Financial Summary

ST. GERTRUDE PARISH

6543 Miami Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45243



(513) 561-5954



stgertrude.org



parishoffice@stgertrude.org



stgertrudechurch

Church Hours

Daily, 7 a.m.-9 p.m.

Parish Office Hours M-F, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

School Office Hours M-F, 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.



WELCOME

Welcome to St. Gertrude Parish—it is good that you are here!

Whether this is your first time worshiping with us, you have been here many times and want to become a parishioner, or you have questions about the Catholic faith and want to learn more, the information on this page is a great place to start.

We look forward to getting to know you and accompanying you on your faith journey.



MISSION

Who We Are

We are a Roman Catholic parish of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati that is shaped and enlivened by the charism of the Order of Preachers (the Dominicans). We teach and preach the Truth, reverently celebrate the liturgy and sacraments, and gather as a community so that all may encounter Jesus here.

VISION

Who We Aspire to Be

To be a community of disciples united in our Eucharistic Lord and sent to transform the world in the light of the Gospel.

CORE VALUES

What We Cultivate

Reverence, Humility, Magnanimity, Generosity, Intentionality



Been away for a while or curious about Catholicism?

WE WOULD LOVE TO WALK WITH YOU.

To connect with us, get your questions answered, and learn more about returning to the Church or becoming Catholic, contact Tyler Castrucci at tcastrucci@stgertrude.org or scan the QR code.





INTRODUCING THE THEME FOR THE YEAR

Over the summer, as part of the weekly meetings I have with the other parish and school staff who make up my leadership team, we decided that it would be a good

thing to have a theme to frame the upcoming year. After a brief period of discussion, we landed on this one:

In Illo uno unum

Catchy, isn't it? (haha). If you're wondering what that is, it is a Latin phrase that also happens to be the official motto of Pope Leo XIV. It translates into English as, "In the one Christ, we are one." The phrase is taken from one of St. Augustine's commentaries on the psalms, in which he reflects on this and asks how it is that we Christians are all one? He answers with that phrase, going on to use the scriptural image that Christ is the head and all of us are members of the body (cf. Colossians 1:18).

There is something amazing about the human body. When all of the parts are working together, a person can accomplish feats so extraordinary it almost defies logic. A properly trained person can climb Mount Everest, using just his or her own body strength to do it. There are people all over who can start running and not stop until they have finished a marathon. Or what about, perhaps, the most amazing accomplishment of all? A woman, using nothing other than her own body, can grow a baby inside her for nine months and then share that baby with the world.

At the same time, when even a small part of the body isn't working properly or in sync with the rest, things can fall apart quickly. My little toe might be, size-wise, one of the smallest parts of my body. But if I'm walking barefoot in my room and accidentally smash it into the leg of my bed . . . trust me, that's enough to bring my entire body to a half. Or, if an aggressive wasp stings me, my entire body instantly and instinctively reacts, even though the portion of skin that stinger pokes through is less than a millimeter in diameter.

Our parish is also a body, and all of us are members of it. With all of us working together, united under a common vision, there is almost no limit to what we can accomplish. In any body as large as our parish, of course there will always be diversity. There will be differences in backgrounds, differences in opinions, differences in priorities, and on, and on. That's human life. But diversity can go in two ways. **And it all depends where our eyes are.** (Yes, our eyes!) If our eyes are focused on those

differences, then diversity becomes disunity and the doors open for Satan to enter and sow division. But when our eyes are fixed on Christ, we set aside our personal preferences for the sake of him and the common good of the whole body; diversity becomes a source of strength that helps the whole body grow to the full stature in Christ (cf. Ephesians 4:13). So let us this year fix our eyes on Christ and, as one united body, work to fulfill the great mission he has for our parish.

God bless.

Rev. John Paul Walder, O.P. Father John Paul Walker, O.P.



THE POWER OF THE ROSARY



"If our age in its pride laughs at and rejects Our Lady's Rosary, a countless legion of the most saintly men of every age and of every condition have not only held it most dear and have most piously recited it but have also used it at all times as a most powerful weapon to overcome the devil, to preserve the purity of their lives, to acquire virtue more zealously, in a word, to promote peace among men."

- Pope Pius XI

CATECHETICAL SUNDAY-SEPTEMBER 21, 2025

This Sunday, September 21, is Catechetical Sunday, a day dedicated to celebrating and commissioning catechists—those who volunteer their time to teach the Catholic faith—and an opportunity for the entire Church community to reflect on sharing the faith and living out the Gospel. This year's theme, "Always be ready to give an explanation . . . for a reason for your hope" (1 Peter 3:15), emphasizes the call to missionary discipleship and the importance of sharing the basis of one's hope in Christ. We will celebrate Catechetical Sunday by blessing all parents and catechists at all Masses this weekend. Prayer cards with a Prayer for Catechists are available at the entrances to the church—please take one.

NEEDS FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION

Before and after all Masses (except 6 p.m.) the weekend of October 4–5, the Ladies of Charity will be at the white van in the parking lot collecting items for NEEDS (North East Emergency Distribution Services) Food Pantry. NEEDS is an all-volunteer nonprofit that operates out of Kenwood Baptist Church. It is a registered 501(c)(3) coalition of area churches and civic organizations serving the poor in the community. In addition to the food pantry, NEEDS provides financial assistance for rent, utilities, and medical expenses; school supplies; and holds an annual winter HUGSS drive to collect hats, underwear, gloves, socks, and sweats to keep needy students warm throughout the school day. Contact Jean Wilkinson at (513) 498-5085 with any questions. Most needed items at this time of year:

- Canned/Packaged Goods: Collard greens, salmon, rice and pasta mixes (with and without meat), Vienna sausages, black beans
- Personal Care Items: Laundry and dish soap; baby wipes; men's and women's adult diapers, all sizes; sanitary pads and tampons; toilet paper and paper towels

Always needed: Grocery store gift cards (Aldi, Kroger, Walmart, Meijer) or check/cash to help us purchase what we need when the need is urgent

2025 PARISH CENSUS & SURVEY-PAPER COPIES AVAILABLE

In early August, we emailed all parishioners the St. Gertrude Parish 2025 Census & Survey. Thank you to everyone who has already completed it. For those who prefer to complete this on paper rather than online, physical copies of the 2025 Census & Survey are available in the church. If you are a registered parishioner and did not receive the August email, please contact the parish office at parishoffice@stgertrude.org or (513) 561-5954. Thank you!

BASKETBALL REGISTRATION IS OPEN

All boys and girls of St. Gertrude Parish in grades 3-8 are invited to participate in the 2025-2026 Bulldogs basketball program! Early bird registration is open for girls until September 23 and for boys until October 3. To sign up, scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/stgbulldogs. If you have questions, please contact Jeff Shafer at shafersport@gmail.com (girls) or Robert Franer at franersports@gmail.com (boys).



Let Us PRAY

THE SICK

Johnny Burns, Vicki Calonge, John
Castrucci, Triset Defonseka, Diana Doll,
Mark Doran, Lisa Ely, Octavio FloresResendiz, Ron Freudenberg, Will
Freudenberg, Dick Gelhaus, Goad Family,
Elsa Hall, Hummel Family, Steve Kaimer,
Andrea Kattel, Aiko Kimura, Robert Lantz,
Karen Larkin, Kevin Lewis, Gertrude
Maxwell, Kim McClung, Elaine O'Connell,
Sue Paas, Gert Patterson, Romualdo &
Maria Pelle, Heather Pfeiffer, Paula Scalo,
Pegge Schuermann, Nancy Silvers,
Patricia Strauss, Judy Sullivan

THOSE IN THE MILITARY

Patrick Burke, Gabe Dorsey, Jacob Dorsey, Curtis Flores, Luis Flores Jr., Cole Foster, Kyle Foster, Dominic Geraci, Daniel Holian, Mike Huber, Aaron Jacobson, Jacob Kramb, John Kramb, Kelly Leugers, Seth McGann, 2nd Lt. Miles Mayer, PFC Charles Mayer, John Murdock Jr., John Oscar, Dan Roseman, Andrew Shannon, Michael Stein, Ian Tester, Jack Thornton, and Gus Voto

THE RECENTLY DECEASED

† All Our Beloved Deceased



40 DAYS FOR LIFE—SIGN UP THIS WEEKEND

40 Days for Life is an international pro-life campaign with a vision to access God's power through prayer, fasting, and peaceful vigil outside of Planned Parenthood to end abortion. The fall 40 Days for Life Campaign is September 24 through November 2. St. Gertrude Parish will participate in the campaign on Thursday, September 25, and Sunday, October 12, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Planned Parenthood (2314 Auburn Avenue). Sign up after any Mass next weekend to participate. If you have questions, please contact Lisa Campbell at lisaredig61@gmail.com or (865) 455-4795. Thirty-five Planned Parenthood clinics have closed so far in 2025—prayer is incredibly powerful!



EVANGELIZATION TEAM

Do you want to share the joy of the Gospel with others? Do you have a desire to lead family, friends, and colleagues to be disciples of Jesus Christ but aren't sure how to do it? Join the Evangelization Team! This team consists of parishioners who have a desire to embrace the call to be missionary disciples and invite others to be disciples of Jesus Christ in his Church. Between September and April, we come together—typically from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of the month—for prayer, formation in evangelization and discipleship, and discernment for forming apostolates and ministries. To learn more or join, contact Tyler Castrucci at tcastrucci@stgertrude.org.



FRATERNAL BENEFIT EVENT: HELPING YOU BE A GOOD STEWARD OF MONEY

Protect your family and plan for retirement while supporting an organization that contributes to charitable causes aligned with your Catholic values. The Knights of Columbus Elder Council invites you to the fraternal benefit event, Helping You Be a Good Steward of Money, on September 25 at 7 p.m. in the Parish Center. Learn about the financial services and fraternal benefits the Knights of Columbus offers. Light refreshments and hors d'oeuvres will be served. Registration preferred; please scan the QR code. Contact Chad Muhlenkamp at chad.muhlenkamp@kofc.org with questions.





DO YOU PRAY THE ROSARY EVERY DAY? JOIN THE ROSARY CONFRATERNITY!

The St. Gertrude Parish Chapter of the Confraternity of the Rosary will be enrolling new members after the 12 p.m. Mass on Rosary Sunday, October 5. At the ceremony, new members will receive a blessed medal, rosary, and candle. (To help offset the cost of these items, please consider making a \$35 freewill offering.) Please visit stgertrude.org/rosaryconfraternity to learn what is expected of members and for more details. If you would like to be enrolled in the St. Gertrude Parish Chapter, please RSVP to bit.ly/rosaryrsvp. If you have any questions, please email rosary@stgertrude.org.



REIGNING IN LIFE: BECOMING PROVIDER—A SMALL GROUP FOR MEN

Do you have what it takes to lead your family in faith? This fall, join other men for Reigning in Life: Becoming Provider, a Catholic small group for husbands and fathers. The group meets twice per month between October and April. Sessions include a reflection on a Gospel passage and Church teachings, followed by a conversation on two to three principles that are directly relevant to being a husband and father, and concludes with a resolution to implement. Use discount code GERTRUDE25 to get \$30 off registration. If you have questions, contact Tyler Castrucci at tcastrucci@stgertrude org.

_ This -WEEK

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

7 p.m. | Become Catholic (St. Dominic Lobby) 7 p.m. | Healing Rosary (Church)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

7 p.m. | Boy Scouts (School Cafeteria)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

10:15 a.m. | Preschool Pups Storytime (School Library)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

6:30 p.m. | Evangelization Team Meeting (Holy Family Conference Room)
7 p.m. | Altar Server Training (Church)
7 p.m. | Young Adults Group (St. Joseph Room)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

7:30 a.m. | Catholic Men's Fellowship (School Cafeteria) 9:30 a.m. | The Bible and the Church Fathers Bible Study (School Cafeteria)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

9 a.m. (After 8 a.m. Mass) | Parish Coffee & Doughnuts (Gym)
11 a.m. (After 10 a.m. Mass) | Parish Coffee & Doughnuts (Gym)
7 p.m. | L'alto: High School Adoration Night (Parish Center)

SEASONS OF HOPE

Mourning the loss of a loved one is never easy. To comfort you in your sorrow, St. Gertrude Parish offers Seasons of Hope, a unique, adult support group for the bereaved. This free program, rooted in Catholic tradition, conveys God's consolation through Scripture, prayer, reflection, faith sharing, and fellowship. Anyone who has suffered a loss, whether it be recent or years ago, is invited to join us for our next session of Seasons of Hope, beginning Monday, October 6, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Here is the full schedule for the session (all meetings are from 7 to 8:30 p.m.):

- October 6 (Parish Center, St. Joseph Room)
- October 13 (Church Vestibule)
- October 20 (Church Vestibule)
- October 27 (Church Vestibule)
- November 3 (Parish Center, St. Joseph Room)
- November 10 (Parish Center, St. Joseph Room)

For more information and to sign up, visit stgertrude.org/seasonsofhope, or contact Cindy Hertzel at (513) 368-8941.

BECOME A EUCHARISTIC GUARDIAN

Eucharistic guardians are people who sign up for and commit to a weekly Holy Hour in our Mother of Mercy Adoration Chapel. The chapel is open daily from 7:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. and overnight on Wednesday. We need at least two people signed up for every hour; many spots are available. To learn more or sign up, scan the QR code, or visit stgertrude.org/adoration.

MISCARRIAGE KIT BOX

Are you or someone you know facing a first trimester miscarriage? You are not alone. Heaven's Gain Ministries has provided our parish with a box of free miscarriage kits to support your physical and emotional needs during your tragic loss. The box is located in the landscape bed to the left of the circle drive in front of the church. If you have questions about the kit, call Heaven's Gain at (513) 888-4200. Learn more about Heaven's Gain's services at

heavensgain.org. We also encourage you to contact one of our parish priests so we can help you along your grieving journey.



CREATE YOUR WILL FOR FREE

As a Catholic, your faith is your most valuable asset. Thanks to St. Gertrude Parish's partnership with MyCatholicWill.com, you can pass on your Legacy of Faith and plant seeds for the next generation of Catholics in an incredible

way. Scan the QR code or visit MyCatholicWill.com/StGertrude to start writing your will for free today! Use referral code STGERTRUDE.



ARE YOU IN NEED OF FORGIVENESS?

God is always ready to forgive. Experience his merciful love through the sacrament of Reconciliation. Priests are available to hear confessions Monday–Friday at 4 p.m., Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m., Saturdays at 3:30 p.m., or by appointment.



CATECHETICAL SUNDAY EXPLAINER

Tyler Castrucci Director of Evangelization

Why Catechetical Sunday?

Each year, the Church celebrates Catechetical Sunday as a special way to bless catechists and call

attention to this important ministry of the word. This year's theme, "Always be ready to give an explanation . . . for a reason for your hope" (1 Peter 3:15), speaks to the importance for all Catholics to have a deep understanding of the faith in order to effectively share the Good News with others.

What Is Catechesis?

The word "catechesis" comes from a Greek word meaning "to echo" or "resound" and is part of the Church's broader mission of evangelization. The tradition of the Church has long used this word to describe the handing on of the faith to those preparing to receive the sacraments, become Catholic, or any person seeking to deepen his or her knowledge of the faith. More than mere intellectual study of the faith, catechesis consists in handing on a holistic Catholic worldview, and, most importantly, leading a person into intimacy with Jesus Christ.

Is Catechesis Only for Children and Converts?

Catechesis is for everybody! While we most often associate catechesis, or what is sometimes called "religious education," with young people, Pope St. John Paul II described adult catechesis as the "principal form" of catechesis because adults have the greatest influence on society (*Catechesi Tradendae* 43). Receiving catechesis, then, is a lifelong journey.

What Is a Catechist?

Simply speaking, a catechist is someone who guides another person in the faith. In the broad sense, every baptized person is called to catechize in his or her own way. Parents have a particular responsibility to be the primary catechists for their children. In addition, the ministry of catechist is carried out in a unique way by those who serve the Church in a public manner, either as a volunteer or paid staff.

Why Be a Catechist?

While every baptized person is called to catechize, some are also called to officially serve as a catechist for their local parishes. This type of service is a calling, or a vocation. Being a catechist is not just a job or a way to help the parish, but a positive call by God to serve him in the ministry of the word.

Do You Feel Called to Be a Catechist?

We always need more faithful and available disciples to help in the ministry of catechesis at St. Gertrude Parish, both for adults and children. From our Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) program, to adult Bible studies and the Become Catholic program, catechists are vital. If you feel called to be a catechist, please contact our director of evangelization, Tyler Castrucci, and we can help you discern how to share your gifts with the parish!



BECOME CATHOLIC COME & SEE DINNER— LARGEST TURNOUT EVER!

On Monday, September 8, we welcomed over 70 people to the Become Catholic Come & See dinner! This was, by far, the largest turnout we have had at this event. Thank-you to everyone who invited and/or accompanied someone to the dinner. And a huge thank-you to Lynn Alley who made 11 trays of lasagna! The large turnout is a testament to the power of personal invitation! Please keep all of the inquirers in your prayers as they explore the Catholic faith.





L'ALTO: HIGH SCHOOL CANONIZATION CELEBRATION RECAP

On Sunday, September 7, the Catholic Church celebrated the canonization of two young Italian saints, St. Carlo Acutis and St. Pier Giorgio Frassati. While momentous for the Church, the canonization of St. Carlo and St. Pier Giorgio holds a special place in the hearts of the teens involved in St. Gertrude Parish's L'alto: High School Youth Ministry, which is named after Pier Giorgio's phrase, "Verso l'alto," an Italian phrase meaning "To the heights!" or "Toward the top!" The witness of these two young saints shows the teens—and all of us!—that sainthood is possible and that God's grace enables us to be supremely courageous in our desires for holiness! The high schoolers were thrilled to celebrate their patron, St. Pier Giorgio, who, as Pope Leo XIV stated: "bore witness to God with his joy of living and of being a Christian in prayer, friendship and charity." As a group, we gathered to listen to Pope Leo's canonization homily where he stated: "... not to squander our lives, but to direct them upwards and make them masterpieces." The celebration also included a competition aptly titled, "The Frassati Feat," and an epic Italian feast.

Our L'alto: High School Youth Ministry seeks to bring high schoolers into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ so that they may come to believe in their deepest identity as beloved sons and daughters of God the Father. We do this through living out Acts 2:42 where we encounter Jesus through shared prayer, clear and relevant teaching, experiences of communal life, and opportunities to live out the call to be disciples. If you are a high schooler or know one seeking to grow in his or her faith and desiring community, please join us at L'alto! We meet most Sundays from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Parish Center! Together we can strive to the heights of holiness: *Verso l'alto*!









DRAWING CHILDREN CLOSER TO CHRIST

Parishioner Claudia Roberts, a senior at Mount Notre Dame High School, recently completed her senior capstone project, which combined two things she loves—God and working with children. With the help of our coordinator of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, Mary Beth Thiemann, Claudia created an interactive tour of St. Gertrude Parish's sacristy that included faith-based activities for children, giving three tours in total. With assistance from Brother Raphael, Father Titus, and Father Luke, the children were able to learn what goes on before Mass and which sacred items are stored in the sacristy. The children also spent time in adoration during the Moms and Littles Holy Hour, heard Claudia read a Christian children's book, engaged in faith-based crafts, and savored snacks in the Parish Center. Claudia said she was "grateful to have had the opportunity to share my love for God with the children of our parish and to grow in my own faith through this experience. It was truly a joy to see the children's excitement and desire to learn more about our faith."



Do you know someone who is interested in the Catholic faith?

Invite him or her to Become Catholic.

Our Become Catholic program is for adults interested in exploring the Catholic faith. If someone is interested in learning more or being part of the program, have him or her scan the QR code to get on the email list or contact our director of evangelization, Tyler Castrucci, at (513) 561-5954, ext. 2108, or tcastrucci@stgertrude.org.

Every Monday | 7-9 p.m. St. Gertrude Parish Center



Try Omega!

DO YOU FEEL STUCK IN YOUR FAITH JOURNEY? ARE YOU WANTING MORE?

What You Will Learn

Through readings, talks, discussions, and group prayer, you will deepen your knowledge of the faith, grow in personal prayer, and be guided in crafting a rule of life.

When & Where

September 2025-May 2026 1st and 3rd Mondays | 7-8:30 p.m. St. Gertrude School Cafeteria

Visit bit.ly/2025omega or scan the QR code to sign up.



ROOTED Family Baptism Formation

Interested in having your baby or child baptized? Join us for Rooted, our new Baptism program. You will meet other couples, learn about Baptism, and get helpful tips for cultivating the domestic Church in your home.

Who Is This For?

Parents seeking to have their first child baptized at St. Gertrude Parish or who have not had a child baptized here in the past five years.

When Does It Start?

Sessions are typically on the first Sunday of the month from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Lunch is included.

Questions?

Contact our director of evangelization, Tyler Castrucci, at (513) 561-5954, ext. 2108, or tcastrucci@stgertrude.org.

Visit stgertrude.org/sacraments/baptism, scan the QR code, or call the parish office at (513) 561-5954 to sign up.



BIBLE STUDY The Bible and the Church Fathers

Who were the early Church Fathers? Why are they important? How did they read and interpret the Bible? How are they relevant to us today?

The Bible and the Church Fathers will teach you everything you need to know about the lives and times of the Early Church Fathers. Created by the St. Paul Center, this Bible study will teach you powerful tools for reading Scripture like the Fathers and help you understand Scripture's relationship to Tradition and the sacraments.

September 27-March 28 2nd & 4th Saturdays | 9:30-11 a.m. St. Gertrude School Cafeteria \$25 for Participant Workbook

Contact Bob Endorf at rjendorf@gmail.com with questions.



ANNUAL FATHER/SON EVENT #UNBREAKABLE 3.0

All dads and their sons (K-8th grade) are invited for an epic afternoon of Fowling, guest speakers, a pizza lunch, and having fun while spending quality time together! Why? To encourage dads to be in their sons' lives-always!

SAVE THE DATE

September 27, 2025 11 a.m.-2 p.m. **Fowling Warehouse**

2940 Highland Ave. Cincinnati, OH 45212

\$20/person



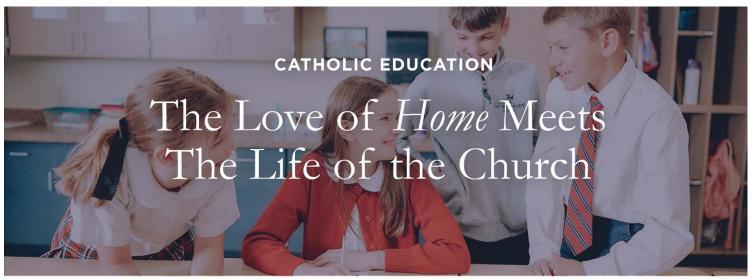
Scan the QR code or visit

bit.ly/2025unbreakable to register.



Hosted by the St. Gertrude Parish Boosters and the Knights of Columbus Archbishop Elder Council #1195.







I CAN'T IMAGINE BEING ANYWHERE ELSE

Sister Mariana Thayer, O.P. Vice Principal of SGS

A few weeks ago, something happened in the cafeteria that stopped me in my tracks.

Students in grades 2–8 and all

of our teachers had gathered for the first household meeting of the year. Excitement filled the air as children clustered in their household groups, chatting and laughing as they waited for the meeting to begin.

I found my group and stood near several 8th graders. One of them turned to me with a thoughtful look and asked, "Sister, how are things going for you at SGS so far?" It was a simple question, but his sincerity gave me pause. I told him how grateful I am to be here. Then I asked him the same. Without hesitation, he replied: "I can't imagine being anywhere else."

That moment has stayed with me. It beautifully captured what Catholic education is meant to be—a true home away from home. A place where children don't just learn facts, but where they are formed in faith, surrounded by a community that feels like family.

At St. Gertrude School, our household system plays a vital role in creating this sense of belonging. Students from every grade are united into households that meet throughout the year for prayer, service, and fellowship. In these gatherings, younger children look up to older ones, and older students take on the joy and responsibility of mentorship. Together, they walk with their teachers and peers as we all deepen our friendship with Christ.

This is the spirit of communion that makes St. Gertrude School unique. It is what allows a student to look around and say with confidence, "I can't imagine being anywhere else."

If you've never considered St. Gertrude School for your family, we invite you to take a closer look. Come see what makes our community so special—the joy of our students, the presence of the Dominican sisters, and a tradition of nearly 100 years of excellence in both faith and academics. We would love to welcome you home.

INVEST IN CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Support Catholic education at St. Gertrude School through a gift to the Archdiocese of Cincinnati's Catholic Education Foundation, a certified Scholarship Granting Organization. Your contribution directly benefits our students and qualifies for a dollar-for-dollar Ohio state tax credit, effectively reducing your state tax liability while supporting families pursuing a rigorous, faith-rooted education. To ensure your gift supports SGS families, please designate our school when giving online or by check.



ST. PEREGRINE HEALING MASS

The Community of the Good Shepherd (8815 E. Kemper Road, Cincinnati, OH 45249) is having a St. Peregrine Healing Mass on Wednesday, September 24, at 7 p.m. for all who have been afflicted with cancer, as well as their caregivers, families, and friends. Anyone who wishes will be able to receive the sacrament of Anointing of the Sick during Mass. St. Peregrine holy cards, small bottles of holy water, and prayer blankets will also be provided. There will be a reception in the foyer of the church after Mass. No RSVP required to attend. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Huber at (513) 489-8815, ext. 714, or mary.huber@good-shepherd.org.

ANNUAL EVENING FOR LIFE

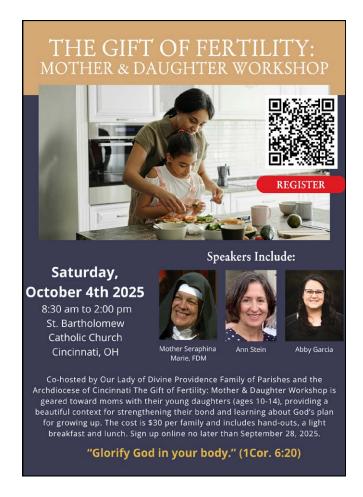
Don't miss Cincinnati Right to Life's Annual Evening for Life on Thursday, October 16, at the Sharonville Convention Center. The VIP Social begins at 5 p.m., followed by a reception at 5:30 p.m. and dinner and the program at 6:30 p.m. The evening will feature emcee Anna Mitchell from Sacred Heart Radio/EWTN; speakers Kaya Jones, recording artist and defender of life, and Michael Seibel, attorney and co-founder of Abortion on Trial. Reservations required. More details and to register, visit CincinnatiRightToLife.org or call (513) 728-7870.

DATE WITH FATHER NATE: A CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE

All married couples are invited to take time out of their busy lives on the evening of Saturday, October 18, to celebrate their marriage and reflect on what is truly important. Using humor and inspiration, Father Nathan Cromly helps couples make sense of the ordinary struggles they face and gives them tools to renew and reenergize their marriages. Attire is Sunday best; dressy for a date. The event will take place at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Memorial Hall (4011 Alexandria Pike, Cold Spring, KY, 41076) and includes 5 p.m. Vigil Mass (optional), a cocktail hour with live music, talks from Father Cromly, heavy appetizers, dessert, a marriage blessing, and dancing. Learn more and get your tickets at brushfire.com/eagleeyeministries/saint-john-leadership-network/609543. If you have any questions, reach out to Margaret Pluta at margaret.pluta@saintjohninstitute.org.

22ND ANNUAL BLUE MASS CELEBRATION

The 22nd annual Blue Mass will be Sunday, September 28, at Cathedral Basilica of St. Peter in Chains. The celebration—to honor those who protect our community each day—will begin at 9:45 a.m. with an outdoor (along 8th and Plum streets) blessing of first responders and emergency vehicles. Mass will begin at 10 a.m. with celebrant Reverend Steve Angi, vicar general of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and police chaplain. People of all faiths are invited to join for this special celebration. Refreshments and fellowship will follow Mass.



40 DAYS FOR LIFE KICKOFF RALLY

Christians throughout the Cincinnati, Northern Kentucky, and surrounding areas are invited to take part in the international 40 Days for Life effort from September 24 through November 2, 2025. Please join us at the Kickoff Rally on Sunday, September 21, at 2 p.m. in front of our vigil site, Planned Parenthood (2314 Auburn Avenue, Cincinnati, 45219). Our speaker is Micaella Clay, who survived a failed abortion attempt and was abandoned with her two-year-old brother at a clinic in Minnesota. Help us close the Auburn Avenue facility through prayer and peaceful public witness. All are welcome. For more information, visit 40daysforlife.com/cincinnati.

MONTHLY HEALING SERVICE

Attend a healing service at Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Center (5440 Moeller Ave., Norwood, OH 45212) on Wednesday, September 24. The evening begins at 5:45 p.m. with the rosary, followed by Mass at 6:15 p.m. and the healing service. For more information, please call (513) 351-9800.

Liturgical

SCHEDULE &

Mass

INTENTIONS

Monday, September 22 | Weekday

7 a.m. | Mass - † Josh Lanning by Pete & Claudia Kimener
8 a.m. | Mass - † Deceased Members of the Kehoe Family by Pat Kehoe
11:30 a.m. | Mass - † Deceased Members of the Dominican Order
4 p.m. | Confessions

Tuesday, September 23 | St. Pius of Pietrelcina (M)

7 a.m. | Mass - † Kim Caswell by The Caswell Family
8 a.m. | Mass - † Elizabeth Woods by The Deocariza Family
10 a.m. | Moms & Littles Holy Hour
11:30 a.m. | Mass - † Deceased Members of the Petric & Beck Families
by Mary Petric

4 p.m. | Confessions Wednesday, September 24 | Weekday

7 a.m. | Mass - † Mike & Minnie Cremonesi by The Cremons Family
8 a.m. | Mass - † Dino Pelle by Knights of Columbus Elder Council
11:30 a.m. | Mass - Andrew D. Speicher by Tricia Speicher
4 p.m. | Confessions
7:30 p.m. | Holy Hour & Confessions

Thursday, September 25 | Weekday

7 a.m. | Mass - † Mary Dierker by Jim & Mary Tappel 8 a.m. | Mass - † Thomas Stumpf by Michael & Mary Jo Voto 11:30 a.m. | Mass - † Jim McLaughlin by Jack & Nancy-Carolyn Smith 4 p.m. | Confessions

Friday, September 26 | Weekday

7 a.m. | Mass - † Margaretha Thung by The Goedde Family
8 a.m. | Mass - † Owen Hughes by David & Chris Burleigh
11:30 a.m. | Mass - † Dick Steigerwald by Nan Cahall
4 p.m. | Confessions

Saturday, September 27 | St. Vincent de Paul (M)

8 a.m. | Mass - † Arlene Rapp by Gwen Arling
11:30 a.m. | Mass - † Deceased Members of the Ladies of Charity
by the Ladies of Charity
3:30 p.m. | Confessions

4:30 p.m. | Mass – † Patricia Mercurio by St. Gertrude Parish

Sunday, September 28 | 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8 a.m. | Mass - † Carmen Conlin by Kevin & Anne Lynch

10 a.m. | Mass - Emma, Jake & Miriam Greve by St. Gertrude Parish

12 p.m. | Mass - The People of St. Gertrude Parish

6 p.m. | Mass - AnnaMaria & Jim Spurgin

by Dominican Sisters, St. Gertrude Convent



PASTORAL CARE

Are you or a loved one unable to attend Mass due to illness or being homebound? As a sign of Christ's love, our parish community earnestly desires to bring comfort and healing to these individuals. Please call the parish office at (513) 561-5954, and we will direct you to the most appropriate ministry.

Here are ways we can help you:

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

This healing sacrament is given to those facing serious physical or mental illness, advanced age, or surgery due to one of these. When one is near death, anointing is offered as part of the Last Rites, along with the sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist.

Communion to the Sick or Homebound

Our priests and lay ministers are available to bring Holy Communion to individuals who are unable to attend Sunday Mass due to illness or being homebound. This important ministry is a vital sign of the parish community's love and support for all of our members.

Prayers for the Sick or Deceased

Each week, our bulletin lists the names of individuals who are sick or recently deceased so that our entire parish community may pray for them. Simply contact the parish office to add yourself or a family member to this list.

PRAYER MINISTRY FOR THE DYING

Is your loved one actively dying? Contact our Prayer Ministry for the Dying. Members of this ministry pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet for those approaching death. To request prayers for your loved one, please call Pat Collins at (513) 265-1897. If you would like to join this ministry, visit stgertrude.org/prayersforthedying to learn more.

PARISH STAFF DIRECTORY

CLERGY

Father John Paul Walker, O.P., Pastor

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Father Reginald Hoefer, O.P., Parochial Vicar

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Father Luke VanBerkum, O.P., Parochial Vicar

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Sister Mariana Thayer, O.P., Vice Principal

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Madeline McCauley, Dir. of Marketing & Community

Engagement

community@stgertrudesch.org | (513) 561-8020, ext. 1138

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Jake Dummermuth, Athletic Director

jdummermuth@stgertrudesch.org

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Bulletin: October 5

Materials Due: September 24

Please submit your bulletin information and Mass announcements to bulletin@stgertrude.org.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Sunday, September 14, 2025

Collection \$38,816 Weekly Budget \$47,059 Weekly Deficit (\$8,243)Second Collection - Dominican Missions \$6,227

Fiscal Year-to-Date

Year Ending June 30, 2026

\$445,921 Fiscal YTD Actual Fiscal YTD Budget \$517,647 Fiscal YTD Deficit (\$71,726)



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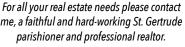
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