



# St. Gertrude PARISH

THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS | SEPTEMBER 14, 2025





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**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.



# ENCOUNTER JESUS. TRANSFORM THE WORLD.

## 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

## BECOME A PARISHIONER

Ready to join our vibrant parish of missionary disciples?

Register as a parishioner at [stgertrude.org/register](http://stgertrude.org/register). Paper copies of the registration form are also available in the parish office.



## 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](mailto:tcastrucci@stgertrude.org) or scan the QR code.







### GO TO JOSEPH!

Several years ago, when I was still living in Connecticut, it came time for my annual retreat. I decided that, rather than “hole up” in the guest room of a monastery or retreat house somewhere—which

is what I usually do for my annual retreat—I decided to make a pilgrimage to the Oratory of St. Joseph, which is in Montreal, Canada. It is the largest church in honor of St. Joseph anywhere in the world. It is a truly massive structure composed of six levels in total—from the great upper church on top, to a crypt church at the bottom—on top of a hill. I had never been to the Oratory and yet had heard so much about it. Being a relatively close drive, I felt the Lord was calling me to make a “pilgrimage-retreat” at the Oratory.

There were many wonderful experiences and graces I experienced on the retreat, far too many to recount here, but perhaps the most significant for me was a deepening of my understanding and appreciation of how important St. Joseph is in our lives as Catholics. There is a beautiful area of the lowest level of the shrine where there are a series of bas-relief images of St. Joseph under his various titles: St. Joseph, Protector of the Church . . . Consoler of the Afflicted . . . Hope of the Sick . . . Terror of Demons . . . Guardian of Families. Seeing these images and reading the various titles reminded me that we have so many reasons to turn to St. Joseph to ask his assistance, his prayers, his intercession. Those currently raising families should pray to St. Joseph, that he might help guard and guide your families in both your spiritual and temporal needs. Those struggling with temptations to various sins can invoke the powerful intercession of St. Joseph as Terror of Demons. Those suffering from illness or other afflictions can invoke his powerful intercession for healing and strength. And all of us can invoke his protection as the universal patron and Protector of the Universal Church—and invoke his protection over our own parish as well. There is an old Latin phrase that comes to mind here: *Ite ad Ioseph*. It means, simply, “go to Joseph.” Go to him in whatever need you may have.

To conclude, I would like to share the prayer that sits at the base of the main statue of St. Joseph in this area of the crypt. It is a prayer to him that can be prayed for his help and intercession with any need.

*O Blessed Saint Joseph, tender-hearted father, faithful guardian of Jesus, chaste spouse of the Mother of God, I pray that you may remind God our Father of all the love that He had for us by offering us His Son, who, through His death and resurrection brought us new life. By the power of Jesus pray with us so that we may obtain*

*from our eternal Father the favor that we are requesting [mention request]. Because we have been unfaithful, beg our loving God for mercy. Look down upon us with compassion. Remember all those who toil, who suffer, and who grieve. May the Lord Jesus, sensitive to our prayers and attentive to your intercession and that of your most holy Spouse, the Virgin Mary, grant us the grace to live always in joy and hope. Amen.*

St. Joseph, pray for us!

God bless,

*Rev. John Paul Walker, O.P.*

Father John Paul Walker, O.P.



### FROM THE DIARY OF ST. MARIA FAUSTINA KOWALSKA



“O Incomprehensible God, how great is Your mercy! It surpasses the combined understanding of all men and angels. All the angels and all humans have emerged from the very depths of Your tender mercy. Mercy is the flower of love. God is love, and mercy is His deed. In love it is conceived; in mercy it is revealed.

Everything I look at speaks to me of God's mercy. Even God's very justice speaks to me about His fathomless mercy, because justice flows from love.”

- Diary, #651

# WELCOME

## NEW PARISHIONERS

William & Laura Barnes  
 Paolo Bettoni & Maria Grazia Madaschi  
 Cuyler & Jessica Brewer  
 Joseph & Sarah Candito  
 Michael & Courtney DiChiara  
 Mark & Melanie Donoghue  
 Joseph & Trisha Fedders  
 Joel Ginter  
 Taryn Hastings  
 Andrew & Kathrine Hilton

Daniel Jurkowitz  
 Andrew & Frida Key  
 Abigail Lipsey  
 Adam Marotta  
 Kurt Merling  
 Julia Rubin  
 Derek & Maryclare Schardt  
 Jay & Gina Stutzman  
 Christine Wright

### CATECHETICAL SUNDAY—SEPTEMBER 21, 2025

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 next weekend.**

### 2025 PARISH CENSUS & SURVEY—PAPER COPIES AVAILABLE

On Thursday, August 7, we emailed all parishioners the St. Gertrude Parish 2025 Census & Survey. Thank you to everyone who has already completed the census and survey. For those of you who prefer to complete this on paper rather than online, physical copies of the 2025 Census & Survey are now available in the Church. If you are a registered parishioner and did not receive an email about the census and survey, please contact the parish office at (513) 561-5954 or parishoffice@stgertrude.org. 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](https://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, Lisa Ely, Octavio Flores-Resendiz, 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, 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

† Audrey Deutsch, sister of Dee Cianciolo



### EVANGELIZATION TEAM

Do you want to share the joy of the Gospel with others? Do you have the 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! The Evangelization 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. We come together—typically from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of the month between September and April—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](mailto:tcastrucci@stgertrude.org).



### FUN BUNCH RETURNS

Everyone aged 55+ is invited to join us on Tuesday, September 16, at 12:15 p.m. in the St. Dominic Lobby for the first Fun Bunch meeting of the fall. Our theme is Oktoberfest. There will be fun games, prizes, and a lot of time for fellowship. Lunch will be pork loin, mashed potatoes, sauerkraut, and bratwurst. Please bring a side dish, dessert, or drink, and sign up at [bit.ly/funfall25](https://bit.ly/funfall25) to let us know what you are bringing. If you plan to come, please RSVP to Diane Kennedy at [mkennedy06@aol.com](mailto:mkennedy06@aol.com) or (513) 791-6075 so we have an estimated headcount for food. As usual, walk-ins are welcome. We hope you will join us, and bring a friend!



### 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](mailto:tcastrucci@stgertrude.org).



### CALLED TO MOTHERHOOD—A SMALL GROUP FOR WOMEN

A new Cana Called to Motherhood group is forming for 2025-2026! We meet twice per month from September through May to reflect on the Gospel, the Catechism, and Pope St. John Paul II's writings on the dignity of women. We also share stories and advice on how to raise faith-filled children and be better wives and mothers. Visit [canafamilyinstitute.com](https://canafamilyinstitute.com) or scan the QR code to learn more and sign up. Use discount code GERTRUDE25 to receive \$30 off registration! If you have any questions, please contact Anita at [cana@stgertrude.org](mailto:cana@stgertrude.org).



### SIGN UP FOR 40 DAYS FOR LIFE NEXT 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](mailto:lisaredig61@gmail.com) or (865) 455-4795. Thirty-five Planned Parenthood clinics have closed so far in 2025—prayer is incredibly powerful!



## This WEEK

### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

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

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

12:15 p.m. | Fun Bunch (St. Dominic Lobby)  
7 p.m. | Boy Scouts (School Playground)

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

6:30 p.m. | Cub Scouts Den Meeting (School Cafeteria, Classrooms)

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

7 p.m. | Young Adult Group (Church)

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

6 p.m. | Junior High Youth Ministry Event (Parish Center)

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

7 p.m. | L'alto: High School Youth Ministry 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](http://stgertrude.org/seasonsofhope), or contact Cindy Hertzal 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](http://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](http://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](http://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.



### SOURDOUGH AND THE DOMESTIC CHURCH

Walter Plummer, Director of  
Children & Youth Evangelization

From the fullness of the heart, the mouth speaks. My glutenous heart is chock-full of sourdough bread and daily life with five young children. As the fall comes around, I want to share with you a few reflections on both of those subjects. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* says that “believing families are of primary importance as centers of living, radiant faith” (CCC 1656), and “the home is the first school of Christian life. . . . Here one learns endurance and the joy of work, fraternal love, generous—even repeated—forgiveness, and above all divine worship in prayer and the offering of one’s life” (CCC 1657). And lest we forget that all are invited into the family of God, whether they are married and have their own children or not, “No one is without a family in this world: the Church is a home and family for everyone, especially those who ‘labor and are heavy laden’” (CCC 1658). That, to me, sounds like a delicious loaf of theological sourdough, piping hot from the magisterial oven. But, while I love the finished product, I’m a bit unsure how we get there, both for sourdough and for my family. How do we start? What ingredients do we use? How long will it take? While I can’t claim to answer any of those definitively—about sourdough or family life—perhaps the following paragraphs can serve as a witness and a reminder to those of us who still wonder when we’ll see the finished product.

#### It’s a Gift

Our sourdough experience really began when my sister-in-law gave us her starter and a brand new Dutch oven in which to bake it. We were completely surprised by the Dutch oven, but, looking back, it makes perfect sense. My wonderful sister-in-law loves sourdough and loves us, and couldn’t wait to go above and beyond to offer us everything she could. Maybe our families are like that, too. We start with the gift of life, the gift of our experiences, the gift of love that, while we were sinners, led the Son of God to become one of us, die and rise for us, and pour out his own Spirit to live in us. We’re given the gift of those people who, because of their love of God and of us, offered us a few measures of spiritual yeast and a place for it to grow. It’s a gift. All of it. You’ve never had to do it by yourself, and still don’t today.

#### Simple, Not Easy

Every time we eat a fresh loaf of sourdough, I tell my wife how good it tastes. This is not only good PR, it’s true. And every time, she says, “Flour, salt, and water. That’s all it is.” And yet, despite its simplicity, the recipe isn’t easy. You have to feed the

starter, form the dough, wash dishes, and more. All by hand. Again, maybe this is like our families. Simple ingredients: love, generosity, discipline, forgiveness, work. A measure of divine yeast: sacraments, prayer, sacred Scripture, the people of God. From those simple realities, beautiful results can grow. And yet how hard can it sometimes be to get to Mass or confession, set aside time for prayer amid all of our worries, ask for help, find someone willing to help, love, be generous, forgive? If it feels like you’re swimming upstream with (or in) your family, just remember: God calls for simplicity, not ease. Remember too: the results are worth it.

#### Time Is Part of the Recipe

It takes my wife two days to make sourdough. There are a number of steps of which I’m only dimly aware, but my wife has calculated precisely to optimize deliciousness. I heard a mental health professional once say the “finished product” of childhood happens sometime around 24 or 25 years old. Some might argue it takes even longer. The seasons of our lives, providentially ordered, are meant to optimize our opportunities to truly become those centers of living, radiant faith. (*Nota bene*: Not always health, wealth, and a fridge in every kitchen. Something even better. See Exodus and Matthew 28 for more details.) So be at peace. The yeast is still rising.

Perhaps this fall, as you live out whatever the rhythms might be for your family (and hopefully eat some delicious sourdough bread), these simple things can help us live well in our little schools of Christian life. And if that’s the case, I want to ask you one more thing: Ask someone else how his or her family is doing, and share the lessons you’ve been learning—and maybe bring them some bread while you’re at it.





# 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 [tcastrucci@stgertrude.org](mailto:tcastrucci@stgertrude.org) or (513) 561-5954, ext. 2108.

Every Monday | 7–9 p.m.  
**Beginning September 15**  
**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](https://bit.ly/2025omega) or scan the QR code 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](mailto:rjendorf@gmail.com) with questions.



Learn more at  
[bit.ly/churchfathers](https://bit.ly/churchfathers)

# 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 email [tcastrucci@stgertrude.org](mailto:tcastrucci@stgertrude.org).



Scan the QR code, visit [bit.ly/baptismformation](https://bit.ly/baptismformation), or call the parish office at (513) 561-5954 to sign up.

**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](https://bit.ly/2025unbreakable) to register.



**SIGN UP EARLY BEFORE IT SELLS OUT!**

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



## BOURBON & BOOKS KICKOFF EVENT

**October 2025 | Date and Time TBD**  
**St. Gertrude Parish Center**

Are you looking to develop community with other men of the parish? Do you have an existing group of friends with whom you want to grow?

**All men are invited to join us for good bourbon, great conversation, and an opportunity to learn about this ministry.**

Visit [stgertrude.org/bourbonandbooks](https://stgertrude.org/bourbonandbooks) or scan the QR code to learn more.







SONGS, STORIES, AND SOCIALIZATION FOR THE TINIEST  
MEMBERS OF THE PARISH PACK—BECAUSE THE WORLD’S LOUD,  
AND LITTLE SOULS DESERVE A BETTER STORY.

St. Gertrude School is thrilled to launch Preschool Pups, a storytime program for parish families with little ones ages 18 months to 5 years old, designed to nurture the hearts and minds of the next generation of saints.

Preschool Pups offers St. Gertrude Parish’s families an alternative to the secular storytime, meeting this tender season of toddlerhood with something deeper. Here, parents and their little ones are welcomed into the heart of parish life through friendship and the quiet joy of forming virtue through stories, songs, and movement. Preschool Pups introduces young children to the rhythms of school life, moments of prayer, and our Virtue in Practice program—the same formative practices students live out daily at St. Gertrude School.

Each storytime will also feature special guest readers, including the Dominican sisters of St. Cecilia and the Dominican friars of St. Joseph, whose daily witness to faith and learning marks St. Gertrude School as truly distinct. This seamless integration of parish and school life instills a living faith that reinforces a child’s Catholic identity from the earliest years, laying a foundation of Catholic education long before kindergarten.

We invite all families still in the sippy cup stage, looking to nurture faith and friendship in their little ones, to join us for Preschool Pups.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE UPCOMING STORYTIMES  
WEDNESDAY MORNINGS | 10:15-11 A.M. | ST. GERTRUDE SCHOOL LIBRARY

SEPTEMBER 10  
SEPTEMBER 24  
OCTOBER 8  
OCTOBER 29

NOVEMBER 12  
NOVEMBER 19  
DECEMBER 3  
DECEMBER 17

JANUARY 7  
JANUARY 21  
FEBRUARY 4  
FEBRUARY 11

MARCH 4  
MARCH 18  
APRIL 15  
APRIL 29

*For the safety of our current students, security is our utmost priority. Please plan to arrive 5 to 10 minutes prior to storytime, and bring a government-issued ID to check in at the school front office.*

### ST. PEREGRINE HEALING MASS

The Community of the Good Shepherd (8815 E. Kemper Road, Cincinnati, OH 45249) is offering 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](mailto:mary.huber@good-shepherd.org)

### PILGRIMAGES OF HOPE FOR CREATION

During the Season of Creation (September 1–October 4), the Archdiocese of Cincinnati is hosting four easily-accessible pilgrimages. With two pilgrimages in Dayton and two in Cincinnati, you can visit multiple nature and garden sites, learn of their history, and how God works through all Creation. For more information, contact Jillian Foster at [jfoster@catholicaoc.org](mailto:jfoster@catholicaoc.org) or (937) 281-4124, or visit [resources.catholicaoc.org/offices/catholic-social-action/catholic-social-teaching/laudato-si-main/pilgrimages-of-hope-for-creation](https://resources.catholicaoc.org/offices/catholic-social-action/catholic-social-teaching/laudato-si-main/pilgrimages-of-hope-for-creation).

### 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](https://brushfire.com/eagleeyeministries/saint-john-leadership-network/609543). If you have any questions, reach out to Margaret Pluta at [margaret.pluta@saintjohninstitute.org](mailto:margaret.pluta@saintjohninstitute.org).

### STRENGTHEN YOUR MARRIAGE

Do you want to enrich your marriage and return to that newlywed feeling? A Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME) is a time for you and your spouse to rediscover one another and strengthen your marriage. The next WWME Weekend experiences in Ohio are September 19–21 at Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Center in Norwood and November 7–9 at Maria Stein Renewal Center in Maria Stein. Sign up at [esharing.org/applyWeekend.php](https://esharing.org/applyWeekend.php). If you have questions or need more details, contact Andy and Melanie Reinersman at (859) 653-8464 or [application@esharing.org](mailto:application@esharing.org), or visit [esharing.org](https://esharing.org).

### THE GIFT OF FERTILITY: MOTHER & DAUGHTER WORKSHOP

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**Speakers Include:**

**Saturday,  
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Mother Seraphina Marie, FDM   Ann Stein   Abby Garcia

Co-hosted by Our Lady of Divine Providence Family of Parishes and the Archdiocese of Cincinnati The Gift of Fertility: Mother & Daughter Workshop is geared toward moms with their young daughters (ages 10-14), providing a beautiful context for strengthening their bond and learning about God's plan for growing up. The cost is \$30 per family and includes hand-outs, a light breakfast and lunch. Sign up online no later than September 28, 2025.

**"Glorify God in your body." (1Cor. 6:20)**

### 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](https://40daysforlife.com/cincinnati).



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## Liturgical **SCHEDULE &** Mass **INTENTIONS**

### **Monday, September 15 | Our Lady of Sorrows (M)**

**7 a.m.** | Mass – † Joseph & Marjorie Schirmer by The Schirmer Family  
**8 a.m.** | Mass – The Henderson Family by Dina Henderson  
**11:30 a.m.** | Mass – † Deceased Members of the Dominican Order  
**4 p.m.** | Confessions

### **Tuesday, September 16 | Sts. Cornelius & Cyprian (M)**

**7 a.m.** | Mass – Dick Wagner by The Wood Family  
**8 a.m.** | Mass – † Tim Asbrock by Bill & Penny Cunningham  
**10 a.m.** | Moms & Littles Holy Hour  
**11:30 a.m.** | Mass – † Billy Wiebe by Mo Dunne  
**4 p.m.** | Confessions

### **Wednesday, September 17 | Weekday**

**7 a.m.** | Mass – † Ruth Lydon by The Family  
**8 a.m.** | Mass – † Dot Effler by The Effler Family  
**11:30 a.m.** | Mass – † Richard Seifert by St. Gertrude Parish  
**4 p.m.** | Confessions  
**7:30 p.m.** | Holy Hour & Confessions

### **Thursday, September 18 | St. Juan Macias, O.P. (M)**

**7 a.m.** | Mass – † Owen Hughes by Judy Bayer & Family  
**8 a.m.** | Mass – † Dino Pelle by Donna & Pete Marcello  
**11:30 a.m.** | Mass – Lee Macke by Joseph & Linda Macke  
**4 p.m.** | Confessions

### **Friday, September 19 | Weekday**

**7 a.m.** | Mass – † James Scherrer by St. Gertrude Parish  
**8 a.m.** | Mass – † Charlie Bordes by John & Jenny Ward  
**11:30 a.m.** | Mass – † Margaurite Kuhn by RoseMarie Cameron  
**4 p.m.** | Confessions

### **Saturday, September 20 | Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gön, Paul Chông Ha-sang & Companions (M)**

**8 a.m.** | Mass – † Patricia Mercurio by Frank Mercurio  
**11:30 a.m.** | Mass – † Jim Momper by Marylyn Clark  
**3:30 p.m.** | Confessions  
**4:30 p.m.** | Mass – The Shannon Family by The Shannon Family

### **Sunday, September 21 | 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**8 a.m.** | Mass – † Aida Gort by Nieto Family  
**10 a.m.** | Mass – The People of St. Gertrude Parish  
**12 p.m.** | Mass – † Joseph Leonard by Susan Bentley  
**6 p.m.** | Mass – † Bob Roeller by The Runk Family



## **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](http://stgertrude.org/prayersforthedying) to learn more.

PARISH STAFF DIRECTORY

CLERGY

Father John Paul Walker, O.P., Pastor  
frjohnpaul@stgertrude.org  
Father Reginald Hoefer, O.P., Parochial Vicar  
frrreginald@stgertrude.org  
Father Luke VanBerkum, O.P., Parochial Vicar  
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OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION

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Teri Forlini, Parish Secretary  
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OFFICE OF EVANGELIZATION & FAITH FORMATION

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Pam Chmiel, Administrative Assistant  
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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

ATHLETICS

Jake Dummermuth, Athletic Director  
jdummermuth@stgertrudesch.org

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Bulletin: September 28  
Materials Due: September 17

Please submit your bulletin information and Mass  
announcements to [bulletin@stgertrude.org](mailto:bulletin@stgertrude.org).

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Sunday, September 7, 2025	
Collection	\$37,907
Weekly Budget	\$47,059
Weekly Deficit	(\$9,152)
Second Collection - Gaza	\$6,492
Fiscal Year-to-Date	
Year Ending June 30, 2026	
Fiscal YTD Actual	\$406,765
Fiscal YTD Budget	\$470,588
Fiscal YTD Deficit	(\$63,823)



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