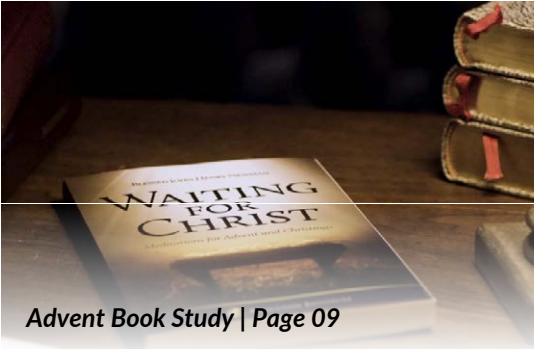




St. Gertrude PARISH

COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED | NOVEMBER 2, 2025



Listen to our parish podcast on Spotify or Apple Podcasts!



Spotify



Apple

- 02 WELCOME**
Become a Parishioner
Mission, Vision, Core Values
Become Catholic

03 FROM OUR PASTOR
Letter from Father John Paul
From the Diary of St. Faustina

04 PARISH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS
Parish Podcast—New Episode
St. Gertrude the Great Novena
Thanksgiving Food Drive
Baptisms
Let Us Pray

05 PARISH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS
Library Open House
Dominican Rite Mass
Wreath Decorating Workshop
Wedding Anniversary Mass
Bulldogs Wrestling Registration

06 PARISH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS
This Week
Triumph of the Heart Showing
Mislabelled Offertory Envelopes
Become a Eucharistic Guardian
Miscarriage Kit Box
Create Your Will for Free
Are You in Need of Forgiveness?

07 PARISH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS
In Memory of Deceased Loved Ones

- 08 PARISH EVANGELIZATION**
United in Hope
CGS Seed Planting Workshop

09 PARISH EVENTS & PROGRAMS
St. Gertrude Feast Celebrations
Advent Wreath Making Event
Advent Book Study
2025 Men’s Advent Retreat

10 SCHOOL NEWS

11 AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE
Women’s Retreat
Medical Ethics Talk
CCHD
Discernment Day
Missa Nocte
Day of Prayer and Healing
Serenelli Project Gala

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

13 PARISH INFORMATION
Parish Directory
Parish Theme
Financial Summary
Bulletin Deadline

ST. GERTRUDE PARISH
6543 Miami Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45243

 (513) 561-5954  stgertrude.org

 parishoffice@stgertrude.org

 [stgertrudechurch](https://www.facebook.com/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

BECOME A PARISHIONER

Ready to join our vibrant parish of missionary disciples?

Register as a parishioner at 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 or scan the QR code.





FAITH, SCIENCE, AND ST. ALBERT THE GREAT

The same weekend as the feast of St. Gertrude, we also celebrate another saint: St. Albert the Great. He was a Dominican friar, an extraordinary scholar, and

eventually a bishop. He is most known for two things:

1. When a very young St. Thomas Aquinas joined the Order of Preachers, it was very apparent that he was incredibly smart and wouldn't really benefit from "normal" classes. Instead, St. Albert the Great was assigned to be his personal mentor. Much of how Aquinas approached thinking about philosophy and theology came from St. Albert.
2. He is the patron saint of scientists. This is because he was generally regarded as the greatest scientist of his era, writing encyclopedic volumes on astronomy, chemistry, biology, anatomy, and basically every other field of scientific study that existed in the 1200s.

It is this second thing that I'd like to focus on today. The photo on this page is a stained glass window of St. Albert the Great from the St. Gertrude Priory chapel. Under St. Albert's feet is Saturn, chemistry beakers and test tubes, and the like. (I think this is the only stained glass window I've ever seen in my life that has chemistry beakers. Being a chemistry major as an undergrad, I completely love it!)

Today, some people assert that faith and modern science are incompatible. This is the farthest thing from the truth. Indeed, the Catholic Church has a long history of scientists. Nicholas Copernicus, who discovered the Earth revolved around the sun (rather than vice versa) a century before Galileo was born, was a devout Catholic and almost certainly a member of the Dominican Third Order (what we now call the Dominican Laity). Gregory Mendel, the inventor of the science of genetics, was an Augustinian monk. Louis Pasteur, who developed the germ theory of disease, was a devout Catholic who prayed the rosary daily. In the world of astronomy, Georges Lemaître, Catholic priest from Belgium, developed the big bang theory. In more recent times, Sister Mary Kenneth Keller, a Catholic religious sister, was the first woman in the entire United States to earn a PhD in computer science. And Jérôme Lejeune (d. 1994), a close personal friend of Pope St. John Paul II, discovered that an extra chromosome caused Down syndrome. It is generally agreed that his discovery would have certainly earned him the Nobel prize, except that he was a vocal pro-life advocate on behalf of the unborn and especially against the selective abortions of children diagnosed with Down syndrome.

While many in our society might be shocked at that litany

(which is only a fraction of the Catholics who have made significant contributions in the sciences), we Catholics should not be. After all, as we profess in the first lines of the Creed every Sunday, "I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible." As the creator of everything, all of creation bears the imprint of its creator. And thus, the study of anything in the visible world, when done correctly and with a searching and open mind, eventually leads back to God. As Werner Heisenberg, one of the towering figures of modern quantum physics, once wrote, "The first gulp from the glass of natural sciences will turn you into an atheist, but at the bottom of the glass God is waiting for you."

As we celebrate St. Albert the Great on November 15, let's be rightly proud of the long and storied history of our Catholic scientists and never doubt that faith and science are not enemies, but fast friends.

God bless,

Rev. John Paul Walker, O.P.

Father John Paul Walker, O.P.



FROM THE DIARY OF ST. MARIA FAUSTINA KOWALSKA



"I saw my Guardian Angel, who ordered me to follow him. In a moment I was in a misty place full of fire in which there was a great crowd of suffering souls. They were praying fervently, but to no avail, for themselves; only we can come to their aid . . . I asked these souls what their greatest suffering was. They answered me in one voice that their greatest torment was longing for God. I saw Our Lady visiting the souls in Purgatory. The souls call her, 'The Star of the Sea.' She brings them refreshment . . . Since that time, I am in closer communion with the suffering souls."

- Diary, #20

ST. GERTRUDE PARISH PODCAST—NEW EPISODE!

On Saturday, October 25, we held a Memorial Mass for Pregnancy Loss. Father John Paul preached a wonderful homily, which we have added to the St. Gertrude Parish Podcast. Scan the QR codes to listen to this new episode.



Spotify



Apple

ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT NOVENA

In preparation for the feast of our patroness, we invite all parishioners to join us in praying a St. Gertrude the Great novena beginning November 7 and ending November 15, the day before St. Gertrude's feast day. Novena cards with the prayer are available in the church this weekend.

LADIES OF CHARITY THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

This weekend, the Ladies of Charity kick off their annual Thanksgiving Food Drive to benefit Hope Emergency Shelter, which serves the poorest families in Adams and Brown County. Flyers with a list of this year's needed items are available at the entrances to the church. Donations may be dropped off in the Parish Center the weekend of November 15–16. The following non-perishable items are especially needed during this time:

- Stuffing mix
- Gravy packets
- Canned sweet potatoes
- Cornbread mix
- Canned Pumpkin
- Canned pineapple chunks, rings, etc.
- Boxed brownie, cake, or dessert mixes
- Peanut butter
- Cranberry Sauce

Please note: Hope Emergency has requested that all donations be no larger than 16 oz. cans/containers.

Please consider donating these items to help someone in need have a wonderful Thanksgiving. If you cannot bring an item, cash and check (made payable to Ladies of Charity) donations are also appreciated and may be dropped off or mailed to the parish office. If you have any questions, please call Jean Wilkinson at (513) 498-5085. Thank you for your support!

BAPTISMS – SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2025



Child: Kolbe Genevieve Krol
Parents: Alexander & Julianne Krol



Child: Melanie Hope Powell
Parents: Carolyn & Drew Powell



Let Us
PRAY

THE SICK

Johnny Burns, Vicki Calonge, Triset Defonseka, Diana Doll, Mark Doran, Lisa Ely, Octavio Flores Resendiz, Ron Freudenberg, Will Freudenberg, Dick Gelhaus, Goad Family, Elsa Hall, John Holden, 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, Jerry Pfeiffer Family, 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

† Jerry Schuermann, husband of Cheryl



YOU'RE INVITED: PARISH LIBRARY OPEN HOUSE

The St. Gertrude Parish Library is reopening, beginning with an **Open House next Sunday, November 9. Stop by the St. Joseph Room in the Parish Center after 8 a.m. or 10 a.m. Mass** to see the refurbished library and our remarkable treasure of Catholic books on a wide range of topics and for all ages and interests. As a bonus, the Open House will feature free books and magazines (in both English and Spanish).



NEXT DOMINICAN RITE MASS—THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13

Please join us on Thursday, November 13, at 7 p.m. for a low Mass in memory of the deceased brothers and sisters of the Order of Preachers. There won't be any music for this Mass.

This is the last Dominican Rite Mass for 2025. Stay tuned for the 2026 schedule. To learn more about the Dominican Rite, visit stgertrude.org/dominicanrite.



DIY WREATH DECORATING WORKSHOP—FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21

Start your Christmas cheer at a DIY wreath decorating workshop, hosted by our Walking with Purpose ministry and given by St. Gertrude Parish parishioner Michelle Rossman. The workshop will begin with learning how to create a bow, and then you will use the provided materials to decorate large, live fir wreaths. The workshop is on Friday, November 21, from 6:45 to 8:15 p.m. in the St. Dominic Lobby and is \$70 per person—anyone is welcome! Please RSVP by Saturday, November 8, by sending your payment to Michelle Rossman (@Michelle-M-Rossmann) via Venmo.



2025 WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS | SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Married couples from St. Gertrude Parish who are celebrating significant anniversaries (25th, 30th, 35th—every five years up to 75 years) are invited to attend the 11:30 a.m. Mass on Saturday, November 22, to receive a special blessing. Reserved seating will be available for couples and their families. **To reserve your spot and ensure you receive your certificate from the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, please contact the parish office at (513) 561-5954 or parishoffice@stgertrude.org by November 11.** We look forward to celebrating with you!



BULLDOGS WRESTLING REGISTRATION IS OPEN

All boys of St. Gertrude Parish in grades K–8 are invited to join the Bulldogs wrestling team for the 2025–2026 season, which runs November 4, 2025, through February 13, 2026. The state qualifying season runs February 16, 2026, through April 1, 2026. Registration is \$125 through October 31. Late Registration of \$175 begins November 1 and closes on Monday, December 1. For details and to sign up, scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/stgbulldogs. Contact Alex Linz at linzal1982@gmail.com with questions.



This WEEK

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3

- 7 p.m. | Become Catholic (St. Dominic Lobby)
- 7 p.m. | Healing Rosary (Knights of Columbus Hall)
- 7 p.m. | Seasons of Hope (St. Joseph Room)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4

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

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5

- 9 a.m. | St. Gertrude School Fall Preview Day (School)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6

- 7 p.m. | Young Adults Group (St. Joseph Room)

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8

- 7:30 a.m. | Catholic Men's Fellowship (School Cafeteria)
- 5:30 p.m. | Knights of Columbus VA Collection (Outside)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2

- 9 a.m. | Knights of Columbus VA Collection (Outside)
- 9 a.m. | Coffee & Doughnuts (Gym)
- 9 a.m. | Library Open House (St. Joseph Room)
- 11 a.m. | Knights of Columbus VA Collection (Outside)
- 11 a.m. | Coffee & Doughnuts (Gym)
- 1 p.m. | Knights of Columbus VA Collection (Outside)
- 7 p.m. | Knights of Columbus VA Collection (Outside)
- 7 p.m. | L'alto: High School Youth Ministry Night (Parish Center)

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**.



MISLABELED OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

The Sunday, November 30, offertory envelope is mislabeled as the feast of the Holy Family, which is actually Sunday, December 28. The Sunday, December 28, envelope is also mislabeled as just a regular Sunday envelope. To avoid confusion, **please use the November 30 envelope on Sunday, November 30, and the December 28 envelope on Sunday, December 28.** If you have any questions, contact the parish office at (513) 561-5954.

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.

IN MEMORY

**We remember and pray for the following
St. Gertrude Parish parishioners and loved ones who have
passed away since November 2024.**

Mary Jean Alf
Carl Beinke
Francis Beckett
Elizabeth Blume-Thamann
Carol Borchert
Hilda Bough
Victor Brizendine III
Tom Brown
Al Castrucci
Melissa Castrucci
Kim Caswell
Sheila Clanton
Lindsey Collett
Susan Collett
Carmen Conlin
Joan de St. Aubin
Audrey Deutsch
Shiloh Hope deVries
Gideon John deVries
Gabrielle Ruth deVries
Rick Dowling
Donna Durning
Abraham Ruth Ellsworth
Terry Foote
Dominic Forlini
Roger Fries

Robert Gerwin
George Gibson
Robert Green Jr.
Margaret Halpin
John Halpin
Frank Hamilton
William Hansbauer
Thomas Hemak
Rocco Jude Hester
Ann Holewski
Jack Holt
Owen Hughes
Virginia Kaes
Edward Larkin
Ted Leugers
Marlin Lloyd
Rosanna Lopane
John Henry Loughrey Jr.
James Louis
Edward Marshall
Joyce Meiners
Patricia Mitchell
Gabriel Michael Moore
Francis Morgan
Robert Nowicki

Jane Ortiz
Dino Pelle
Evelyn Joy Plummer
James Poon
Thomas Rink
Mary Ann Ryan
William Santen
Donna Schlake
Stephen Shemo
Bernadette Sullivan
Rose Sullivan
Jennifer Swope
Isaac Jonathan Thiemann
Francis Jane Thompson
Sylvie Hope Thompson
Charbel Toney
Mary Lou Traut
Patricia Varner
Brigitte Vielhauer
Bruce Violand
Joseph Mary Wasserman
Janet Webster
William Wiebe
Jacob Andrew Yehnert
Johannah Lilly Yehnert



Lux aeterna luceat eis, Domine.



UNITED IN HOPE: AN EVENING OF PRAYER, SONG & CONVERSATION ACROSS TRADITIONS

Christopher Holman
Director of Music

This past week, the world witnessed a first in Christian history: Pope Leo XIV hosted a joint prayer service in the Sistine Chapel with King Charles III of the United Kingdom. This was more than a routine diplomatic exercise; it was the first time that a reigning British monarch (who is also the head of the worldwide Anglican Communion) had publicly prayed with a pope. It was a moment that recognized that the wounds of division between Catholics and Anglicans, with origins reaching back nearly four centuries, can begin to heal through shared prayer and renewed friendship.

In that same spirit, I invite you to **United in Hope**, a special event at St. Gertrude Parish on Tuesday, November 11. At 7 p.m., our Schola Cantorum will join forces with the renowned Choir School of St. Thomas Episcopal Church (Terrace Park) to present the service of choral Evensong. This profoundly beautiful liturgy, composed of psalms, Scripture readings, and the canticles *Magnificat* and *Nunc dimittis*, is the only form of Christian public worship with text identical in both the Anglican Communion and the Roman Catholic Church (through the Ordinariate Use).

Preceding the service will be a panel discussion between clergy from local Christian churches, including our own Father John Paul Walker, O.P., Reverend Darren Elin from St. Thomas Episcopal, and more. The discussion will be moderated by St. Gertrude Parish parishioner Nathan Smith, who serves as the director of Ecumenism for Glenmary Home Missioners. This conversation will explore how Christians can foster genuine dialogue and shared witness in today's polarized world.

The Dominican Order has always viewed the unity of the Church as its central reason for being. Blessed Humbert of Romans, the sixth master of the Order (and compiler of the Dominican Rite), noted that "Nothing so much contributes to the ruin of religion as discord; nothing so much builds it up as unity." His words, penned in the 13th century, capture the heart of the Dominican mission. At St. Gertrude Parish, we continue this work through our life of prayer, study, and the apostolate of sacred music. Collaborating with our Anglican/Episcopalian and Protestant neighbors is not an exercise in polite diplomacy, but a living expression of the Gospel imperative "that they may all be one" (John 17:21). The voices of our two choirs, joined in psalms and hymns, give audible form to that unity: one faith, one hope, and one longing for peace. And the panel discussion

will provide an important opportunity for rich, meaningful dialogue in our highly polarized world.

It is fitting that this event takes place on the feast of St. Martin of Tours, the soldier-turned-monk whose act of compassion—dividing his cloak to clothe a beggar—became a symbol of Christian charity. Honored in both the Catholic and Anglican calendars, St. Martin reminds us that true unity begins in mercy: the love that recognizes Christ in every person and craves "that peace which the world cannot give" (Collect for Peace, Liturgy of Evensong). The Holy Father recently reminded us that "peace begins with each one of us: in the way we look at others, listen to others, and speak about others" (Leo XIV, Address to the Media, May 12, 2025). As the universal Church prays for renewed communion among Christians, we will do our small part here in Madeira—and I hope you will join us.

An Evening of Prayer, Song, and Conversation Across Traditions

United in Hope

6 p.m. Panel Discussion | Gym

Featuring Father John Paul Walker, O.P., and Reverend Darren Elin, rector of St. Thomas Episcopal Church
On the important work of healing divisions within Christianity.

7 p.m. Evensong Prayer Service | Church

Performed by the St. Gertrude Parish Schola Cantorum and the Choir School of St. Thomas Episcopal Church.
Evensong is a combined form of Vespers and Compline (evening and night prayer) and the only Christian liturgy in which the Catholic and Anglican texts are identical.

Reception to Follow | St. Dominic Lobby

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11
ST. GERTRUDE PARISH

6543 Miami Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45243

All are invited to join us for this free event!

CGS SEED PLANTING WORKSHOP

Get an introduction to The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) principles and experience CGS presentations that will give you a taste of the program and what it offers to children and families.

Saturday, November 15
8:30–11:30 a.m.
School Cafeteria



Scan to learn more
and register!

St. Gertrude the Great Feast Day Celebrations

MASS

Saturday, November 15

4:30 p.m. | Church

Join us for a special Mass in honor of our patroness, St. Gertrude the Great.

PARISH CELEBRATION

Saturday, November 15

5:30 p.m. | Gym

Join us for authentic German food, drinks, live music from our favorite German polka band, and plenty of fun!



ADVENT Book Study

This Advent, prepare your heart and mind for the coming of Christ with *Waiting For Christ: Meditations for Advent and Christmas* by St. John Henry Newman. Designed to work with your busy Advent and Christmas schedule, this study, led by Tyler Castrucci, our director of evangelization, is a low time commitment way to come together for dinner and discussion.

Only 15 spots available! Scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/waitingforchrist to sign up.

November 24 & December 15

5:30–7 p.m.

St. Gertrude Parish Center – St. Joseph Room

Cost is \$15 (includes book and dinner)



ADVENT WREATH MAKING

Join us for fellowship, fun, refreshments, and activities for the children as we kick off the new liturgical season by making Advent wreaths! We provide all the materials; you bring your pruners and a tray to transport your wreath home.

Sunday, November 30 | 12–2 p.m.

St. Gertrude Parish Gym

\$25 per Wreath Kit

To register, scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/adventwreath2025.



2025 MEN'S ADVENT RETREAT

All men ages 18+ are invited to the annual Catholic Men's Advent Retreat, sponsored by the St. Gertrude Parish Catholic Men's Fellowship. Father Louis Bethea, O.P., will be our retreat master. This year's theme, "I Thirst: A Message of Hope from the Cross," will guide you to greater intimacy with Jesus and the Holy Eucharist as the 2025 Jubilee Year of Hope draws to a close.

WHEN & WHERE

December 5–6, 2025

Begins 6 p.m. Friday and concludes 4 p.m. Saturday

Jesuit Spiritual Center

Arrupe Building

5361 S. Milford Road | Milford, OH 45140

COST

\$160 - Overnight option

\$115 - Days only option (includes three meals)



Father Louis Bethea, O.P.
Retreat Master

CONTACT

If you have questions, email info@catholicmensretreat.org or call (513) 289-5268.

REGISTER TODAY!

Scan the QR code or visit catholicmensretreat.org. Ends November 29 or until the retreat is sold out. Space is limited!





GUIDING SECOND GRADERS TO CHRIST

*Sister Rosaria Bermejo, O.P.
Second Grade Teacher*

At St. Gertrude School, faith and formation go hand in hand.

Nowhere is that more evident

than in our second grade classroom, where students prepare to encounter Jesus in the sacraments for the first time. This month, we had the joy of sitting down with Sister Rosaria, O.P., one of our Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia and second grade teacher, whose deep love for Christ and her students animates every moment of the school day.

Q: Can you share a bit about your vocational journey and educational background prior to teaching at SGS?

I heard God's call to be set apart for him alone when I was 14 years old. On the feast of St. Agnes, the Church proclaims her words in the Divine Office: "What I longed for, I now see; what I hoped for, I now possess; in heaven I am espoused to him whom on earth I loved with all my heart." These words pierced my heart, and I knew God was inviting me to love him like St. Agnes. Later that year, I met the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia in my home Archdiocese of Vancouver, Canada. Experiencing their joyful witness as brides of Christ gave direction to the call I received. After a year of college, I entered our community in 2016. In 2018, I made my first religious profession, and in 2023, my perpetual profession.

Prior to teaching at SGS, I earned a bachelor of science in interdisciplinary studies from Aquinas College, TN, where I also completed a year of student teaching in kindergarten and first grade. For the past three years, I have taught second grade at St. Croix Catholic School in Stillwater, MN, serving as a Level II catechist and assistant in The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. I am currently a candidate for a master of arts in theology with a concentration in Thomas Aquinas from Providence College, RI.

Q: Second grade is such a pivotal year for students preparing for First Reconciliation and First Communion. How do you help your students grow spiritually during this important time?

It is a gift and an honor to walk with second graders as they prepare for First Reconciliation and First Communion. Every year when the children receive these sacraments, I take a step back and marvel at how the children are so well prepared. This is really God's hidden work; he prepares the heart of each child to receive his gifts with love, peace, and joy. Parents and other adults are invited to take part in this preparation, which is not just confined to religion class or the atrium but is meant to permeate their entire lives. For my part, I invite the children to keep their hearts and minds open to grace by preparing for and actively participating in weekly school Mass, making daily visits to the school chapel, working and praying well during weekly atrium sessions, and making Jesus the center of our classroom.

Q: We've heard that you incorporate special rhythms of prayer into your classroom. Can you share a little about what that looks like and how it helps your students?

I believe Jesus Christ is the true teacher in our classroom, and my role is to work with him to help the children grow in holiness, freedom, and charity. Since only the Holy Spirit can transform hearts, I invite my students to respond to his grace and live as children of God. Each hour, we pause to kneel and pray a verse from Scripture, reminding ourselves that Jesus is with us and calling us to remain in him (John 15). Over time, I've seen the children come to love these verses, which remind them not only who they are, but also whose they are.

Q: How do you balance strong academic instruction with faith formation in your classroom, especially in such a foundational year?

Faith formation is the foundation from which I help children grow academically. As The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd presents, God invites each of us to write our own pages in the history of his kingdom. How do we write this page well? Each day, I remind the children that it's about not just what you do, but how and why you do it, and that we do it for the love of God! This love for God powerfully motivates them to grow in knowledge and skill. Growing in virtue enables them to receive rigorous academic formation. When they struggle—academically, emotionally, or socially—they learn to depend on God for the grace to grow. God wants to help us think, pray, and act because he has made us for greatness. He has made us for heaven.



WOMEN'S RETREAT: FAITH & FORTITUDE

All women are invited to a one-day retreat on Saturday, November 8, focused on how faith strengthens spiritual resilience and encourages women to trust in God. The retreat will take place from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at St. James of the Valley (411 Springfield Pike, Wyoming, Ohio, 45215). The cost is \$65 per person and includes a continental breakfast, lunch, snacks, coffee, tea, and water.

The day will begin with Mass, followed by inspiring talks by Father Nathan Cromley, the rosary, adoration, and confession. To register, scan the QR code or email frcwomensretreat@gmail.com.



MEDICAL ETHICS TALK

Father Eric Wood, professor of moral theology at Mount St. Mary's Seminary, is offering a series of talks with discussion, reviewing some basic principles of medical ethics and considering special areas of focus. The last talk in the series is Saturday, November 15, from 9 to 10:30 a.m. at St. Mary's in Hyde Park (Marion Room); the focus will be reproductive care. All Catholic nurses, doctors, medical students, therapists, and other healthcare workers welcome! Coffee and bagels will be provided. RSVP to Tricia Rahner at rahner@fuse.net or (513) 482-1265. *Sponsored by the Catholic Medical Association of Cincinnati.*

CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

November 15-16 is the annual collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD), the U.S. bishops' national anti-poverty campaign. CCHD has been an immeasurable blessing for thousands in our archdiocese over the years. Archbishop Casey appeals to the faithful: "Through the grants we make to well-vetted organizations, CCHD uniquely empowers those in poverty to identify their own needs and to become their own agents of positive change." CCHD is a unique opportunity to honor the dignity of the poor and create space for them to more fully participate in society. Please prayerfully and generously consider how you will give on Collection Weekend, November 15-16. Visit usccb.org/cchd to learn more. Also, check out the archdiocesan CCHD website for local information at resources.catholicaoc.org/offices/catholic-social-action/task-forcescommittees/cchd.

DISCERNMENT DAY WITH THE DOMINICAN SISTERS

The Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia will host a discernment retreat day on Saturday, December 6, at St. Gertrude Parish from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Open to single Catholic women ages 17 to 30, the event includes Mass, prayer with the sisters, adoration, spiritual talks, and lunch. Please email vocation@op-tn.org for more information or to RSVP. Come spend time with the Lord, and get a glimpse of the beauty of religious life!

MISSA NOCTE—SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9

Every second Sunday of the month, October through April, at 8 p.m., St. Susanna Church in Mason holds a Candlelight Mass called Missa Nocte ("Night Mass"). Missa Nocte intends to facilitate a greater reverence and solemnity for the Mass, providing a beautiful, calm environment for meditation and contemplation with an emphasis on the treasury of the Church's sacred music. **The next Missa Nocte is Sunday, November 9.** If you have any questions, contact the St. Susanna parish office at (513) 398-3821.

DAY OF PRAYER AND HEALING

Open to any woman who has lost a child to abortion, the Day of Prayer and Healing on November 15 will provide a safe and confidential space for women to share their experiences, reflect on their pasts, and offer their futures to Christ. A trained priest, licensed mental health counselor, and volunteer who has found healing after abortion will be present to accompany participants. Women of all faith backgrounds are welcome. Visit projectrachelohio.org/event/day-of-reflection-2 to learn more and register. Event location and timing details will be shared after registering.

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

Monday, November 3 | St. Martin de Porres, O.P. (F)

7 a.m. | Mass – † Patsy Scalo by John & Marilyn Scherpenberg

8 a.m. | Mass – † Jerry Lee Downer by Dina Henderson

11:30 a.m. | Mass – Larry Ball by St. Gertrude Parish

4 p.m. | Confessions

Tuesday, November 4 | St. Charles Borromeo (M)

7 a.m. | Mass – Samuel Schroeder by Kevin Breslin

8 a.m. | Mass – Sister Anne Therese Wilder, O.P.

by The Deocariza Family

10 a.m. | Moms & Littles Holy Hour

11:30 a.m. | Mass – † Tim Petric by Chloe Fasano

4 p.m. | Confessions

Wednesday, November 5 | Weekday

7 a.m. | Mass – † Mimi Leverone by Steve Leverone

8 a.m. | Mass – † James Momper by David & Ann Stein

11:30 a.m. | Mass – † Thomas Rink by St. Gertrude Parish

4 p.m. | Confessions

7:30 p.m. | Holy Hour & Confessions

Thursday, November 6 | Weekday

7 a.m. | Mass – † Joseph & Marjorie Schirmer by The Schirmer Family

8 a.m. | Mass – Stephen & Cathy Rabe by Harry & Peggy Robinson

11:30 a.m. | Mass – † Ray Clark & Megan Clark Johnson

by The Stuebbe Family

4 p.m. | Confessions

Friday, November 7 | All Saints of the Order of Preachers (F)

7 a.m. | Mass – Philip Locke by The Morande Family

8 a.m. | Mass – † Margaretha Thung by The Goedde Family

11:30 a.m. | Mass – † Victor Dosch by St. Gertrude Parish Staff

4 p.m. | Confessions

Saturday, November 8 | Blessed Virgin Mary (M)

8 a.m. | Mass – † Deceased Brothers & Sisters of the

Order of Friars Preachers

11:30 a.m. | † Deceased Brothers & Sisters of the

Order of Friars Preachers

3:30 p.m. | Confessions

4:30 p.m. | Mass – † Amelia Zurek by Jeff & Eileen Plummer

Sunday, November 9 | The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica (F)

8 a.m. | Mass – The People of St. Gertrude Parish

10 a.m. | Mass – † Linda Hughes by Bill & Tish Shefcik

12 p.m. | Mass – The Roeller Family by The Runk Family

6 p.m. | Mass – Jeff Mackey & Family by Joan Rizzo Mackey



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

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frjohnpaul@stgertrude.org
Father Reginald Hoefer, O.P., Parochial Vicar
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Father Luke VanBerkum, O.P., Parochial Vicar
frluke@stgertrude.org

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Teri Forlini, Parish Secretary
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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



FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Sunday, October 26, 2025	
Collection	\$34,157
Weekly Budget	\$47,059
Weekly Deficit	(\$12,902)
Fiscal Year-to-Date	
Year Ending June 30, 2026	
Fiscal YTD Actual	\$683,854
Fiscal YTD Budget	\$800,000
Fiscal YTD Deficit	(\$116,146)



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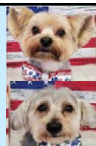
BULLETIN DEADLINE

Bulletin: November 16
Materials Due: November 5

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



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