



St. Gertrude
PARISH

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | FEBRUARY 1, 2026

In This BULLETIN



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02 WELCOME

Become a Parishioner
Mission, Vision, Core Values
Become Catholic

03 FROM OUR PASTOR

Letter from Father John Paul
Parish Theme
The Power of the Rosary

04 PARISH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank You for Supporting SGS
CEF-SGO
Hope Emergency Center Collection
Let Us Pray

05 PARISH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Fun Bunch Gathering
Mass in Spanish
Track & Field Registration
EMHC Training
2026 Catholic Ministries Appeal

06 PARISH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Week
Support the Choirs' England Trip
Become a Eucharistic Guardian
Miscarriage Kit Box
Create Your Will for Free
Are You in Need of Forgiveness?

07 PARISH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join Us for Dinner at Ferrari's
Super Bowl Pizza Sale

CGS Catechist Training
Junior High Youth Ministry Night
Family Consecration Workshop

08 PARISH EVANGELIZATION

Meet a Parishioner

09 PARISH EVENTS & PROGRAMS

Mardi Gras Potluck
Ash Wednesday
Lenten Fish Fry
Lenten Parish Mission

10 SCHOOL NEWS

11 AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

St. Carlo Acutis Relic
Lenten Women's Retreat
40 Days for Life Kickoff Rally
Heaven's Gain Fundraiser
Behold: Event for Young Adults

12 PARISH INFORMATION

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

13 PARISH INFORMATION

Directory & Support Ministries
Financials & Bulletin Deadline

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.

ST. GERTRUDE PARISH

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 stgertrude.org

 parishoffice@stgertrude.org

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



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.

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.



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 about returning to the Church or becoming Catholic, scan the QR code or contact Tyler Castrucci tcastrucci@stgertrude.org.





THE HISTORY AND SIGNIFICANCE OF "CANDLEMAS"

Every year on February 2, the Church celebrates the feast of the **Presentation of the Lord**, which falls on a Monday this year. While

this is the current title of the feast on the liturgical calendar, it is also known by several other names. One of the older names for this day is the feast of the **Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary**. And in both ancient and modern times, Catholics have identified the day by the informal name, "Candlemas."

This feast is one of the oldest liturgical feasts in the Church. We have a surviving manuscript of a homily for this feast that can be reliably dated to 312 A.D.!!! We also have another very early testimony from the famous traveler and author Egeria, a woman who went on an extended pilgrimage to the Holy Land in the early 380s A.D. Egeria describes how this feast was celebrated in the city of Jerusalem: the day was celebrated with all the faithful joining in a procession "with great joy, just as at Easter," and at the Mass, not only would the bishop preach, but also "all of the priests" would preach after him as well! (*What do you all think? Should this be a new custom in our parish—on major feast days, all three of the parish priests should give homilies back-to-back-to-back?*)

Jewish customs surrounding childbirth lie at the heart of the history of this feast. According to Mosaic Law, when a Jewish woman gave birth to a boy, she waited a period of 40 days "in the blood of her purification," after which she came to the temple (with her husband) and offered to the Lord a lamb and a turtledove. If the family was too poor and could not afford a lamb, they were permitted to instead offer two turtledoves. The temple priest would then pray for the woman, and she would be considered "purified" from her loss of blood (Leviticus 12:1-8). The Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Joseph, as faithful Jews, followed this practice, as related in St. Luke's Gospel account read on this feast day. Given that we are told they offered two turtledoves, it also confirms for us that they were a poor couple by Jewish standards.

And what about this informal name, "Candlemas," that has been associated with the feast for so long? It is derived from Simeon's prophetic words when the Christ Child was brought to the temple on this day, identifying Jesus as "a light for revelation to the Gentiles and the glory of his people Israel." By the Middle Ages, as the Church reflected more deeply on this great mystery, it became clear that the day on which Christ "the Light" was first brought to the temple would be a fitting

day for the Church to bless candles, which bring light to us in our churches and homes and which symbolize the True Light, who is Jesus Christ. In the English-speaking world, the day became known as the "Candle Mass" (from the Old English *Candelmaesse*), a term that has stuck to this day.

This Monday, as part of celebrating this feast day at all of our Masses, we will be blessing representative candles that will be used throughout the upcoming Church year. We also invite all parishioners to bring candles from home to be blessed at Mass as well. In addition, we will be having a special Mass at 7 p.m. in the church during which we will be welcoming male and female religious and those living other forms of consecrated life from throughout the archdiocese to join us, as the Church universal celebrates this feast as the World Day for Consecrated Life. I encourage all who can to join us for this special Mass, where we will pray with and for those who have consecrated their lives to God in service to the Church and the world.

Wishing you all a blessed Candlemas!

God bless,

Rev. John Paul Walker, O.P.

Father John Paul Walker, O.P.



THE POWER OF THE ROSARY

If we want to help the souls in purgatory then we should say the rosary for them because the rosary gives them great relief."

- St. Alphonsus Liguori

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING ST. GERTRUDE SCHOOL

We are very grateful to all St. Gertrude Parish parishioners who have donated to the Archdiocese of Cincinnati Catholic Education Foundation (CEF)—a Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO)—for the benefit of St. Gertrude School. Their generosity is not only helping to provide scholarships for students who may not have the means to attend our wonderful parish school, but also earning them a dollar-for-dollar tax credit up to \$750 per taxpayer, per tax year!

We would like to recognize the following parishioners who gave to the CEF-SGO in January 2026:

Rebecca Abel-Kennedy	Travis Johnson	Matthew Schlotman
Janet Arand	Mark Mariska	Grace Smith
John and Janet Cremons	Marcia Neumann	Katlyn Williamson
Edwin De St. Aubin	Richard Neumann	Philip Williamson
Matthew Frye	Lauren Reder	Stavra Xanthakos
Andrea Hamilton		



Let Us
PRAY

THE SICK

Joy Belperio, 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, Mark Holland, Hummel Family, Steve Kaimer, Andrea Kattel, Aiko Kimura, Robert Lantz, Karen Larkin, Kevin Lewis, Gertrude Maxwell, Kim McClung, Charles McCown, Elaine O'Connell, Sue Paas, Gert Patterson, Romualdo & Maria Pelle, Jerry Pfeiffer Family, Fran Pishotti, Paula Scalo, Pegge Schuermann, Nancy Silvers, Patricia Strauss, Judy Sullivan, Dave Whang

Help Make an SGS Education More Affordable

Donating to CEF-SGO is simple!

Visit bit.ly/stgsgo or scan the QR code to make your online gift.

For your tax credit to be applied to the 2025 tax year, please make your gift before April 15, 2026.



HOPE EMERGENCY CENTER COLLECTION

Before and after all Masses (except 6 p.m.) next weekend, February 7 and 8, the Ladies of Charity will be at the white van in the parking lot collecting items for Hope Emergency Center, an agency in Lynchburg, Ohio, that aids the poor in Adams, Brown, Clinton, Highland, and surrounding counties. The Center serves more than 350 families—an increase in need of nearly 40 percent over 2025—who are struggling to make ends meet. Here are the Center's greatest needs this year:

- laundry pods, dish liquid, paper towels, and toilet paper
- men's and women's deodorant, razors, shampoo, and conditioner; bar soap; toothbrushes and toothpaste
- sheets, blankets, and bath towels
- crock pots, handheld can openers
- air mattresses with the pumps built in
- peanut butter and canned tuna, chicken, pork, or beef

Cash or check donations are also gratefully accepted. If you have any questions, call Jean Wilkinson at (513) 498-5085. Your donations are very appreciated!

THOSE IN THE MILITARY

Patrick Burke, Gabe Dorsey, Jacob Dorsey, Conner Duté, Cole Foster, Kyle Foster, Dominic Geraci, Daniel Holian, Mike Huber, Aaron Jacobson, Jacob Kramb, John Kramb, Kelly Leugers, 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 Deceased Loved Ones

Parish NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



NEXT FUN BUNCH GATHERING—TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Everyone age 55 and up is invited to join us on Tuesday, February 17, at 12:15 p.m. in the St. Dominic Lobby for another Fun Bunch gathering! We will play an exciting game of BUNCO and celebrate Valentine's Day! Lunch will be "breakfast for lunch" with sausage, bacon and egg casserole, and French toast. All are invited to bring a side dish, dessert, or drink to share. Please sign up at bit.ly/funfebruary26 to let us know what you plan to bring. As usual, walk-ins are welcome. If you plan to come, please RSVP to Diane Kennedy at mkennedy06@aol.com or (513) 791-6075 so we can have an estimated headcount for food. We hope you will join us, and bring a friend!



CONFESIONS, ROSARY & MASS IN SPANISH—SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Father Luke will be celebrating Mass in Spanish at 9:30 a.m. next Saturday, February 7. Confessions (in Spanish) will be heard beginning at 8:30 a.m., followed by the rosary (in Spanish) at 9 a.m. Confessions will continue during the rosary. After Mass, all are invited to a social at 10:15 a.m. in the Parish Center St. Joseph Room. If you have any questions, please contact Dina Henderson at (513) 207-4246.



TRACK & FIELD REGISTRATION IS OPEN

All children in K-8th grade are invited to join the St. Gertrude Parish track and field team for the 2026 season! Practices begin the week of March 2 for grades 5-8 and the week of March 16 for K-4th grade. All practices will be at Moeller High School (9001 Montgomery Rd.). The season runs through May 16. Visit teamsideline.com/sites/stgertrude/home for more details and to register. Registration ends March 1. We are also in need of assistant coaches and parent helpers for K-4th grade and a long jump and high jump coach for 5th-8th grade. If you would like to help (no track experience needed), contact Cameron Simoneau at cameron@tristaterunning.com.



EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER OF HOLY COMMUNION TRAINING

Extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion (EMHCs) are to be trained and commissioned every year. Whether you currently bring Communion to the sick or serve at Mass or would like to become an EMHC, please plan to attend one of the upcoming mandatory training sessions:

February 12 | 6:45–8:45 p.m. February 28 | 12:30–2:30 p.m. March 21 | 12:30–2:30 p.m.

You will receive newly published materials for visits to the sick and learn a few procedure changes for Mass. Please register for one of the trainings at bit.ly/emhc. Thank you for serving our parish.



2026 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL—COMMITMENT WEEKEND

It is Commitment Weekend for the 2026 Catholic Ministries Appeal (CMA). More than anyone in the world, the Catholic Church teaches, feeds, and heals. In our local community, this happens through the CMA. Join us in supporting these ministries and reaching **our parish goal of \$116,500!** If needed, pledge cards are available on the tables near the entrances to the church. If you have already given by mail or online, or if you brought your completed pledge card to place in the offertory this weekend, thank you! For more information about the CMA or to contribute online, visit CatholicAOC.org/CMA.

This WEEK

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2

- 12:15 p.m. | St. John Vianney Prayer Group (St. Joseph Room)
- 7 p.m. | Healing Rosary (St. Joseph Room)
- 7 p.m. | Become Catholic (St. Dominic Lobby)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

- 11 a.m. | Moms & Littles Winter Social (St. Dominic Lobby)
- 7 p.m. | Boy Scouts (School Cafeteria)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

- 10:15 a.m. | St. Gertrude School Preschool Pups (School Library)
- 6:30 p.m. | Cub Scouts Den Meeting (School Cafeteria)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5

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

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7

- 5:30 a.m. | St. Joseph Society (Church)
- 9 a.m. | Respect Life Meeting (St. Dominic Lobby)
- 10:15 a.m. | Las Guadalupanas Reception (St. Joseph Room)
- 5:30 p.m. | Knights of Columbus Super Bowl Pizza Sale (Outside)
- 5:30 p.m. | Hope Emergency Center Collection
(White Van in the Parking Lot)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

- 9 a.m. | Coffee & Doughnuts (Gym)
- 9 a.m. | Knights of Columbus Super Bowl Pizza Sale (Outside)
- 9 a.m. | Hope Emergency Center Collection
(White Van in the Parking Lot)
- 11 a.m. | Coffee & Doughnuts (Gym)
- 11 a.m. | Knights of Columbus Super Bowl Pizza Sale (Outside)
- 11 a.m. | Hope Emergency Center Collection
(White Van in the Parking Lot)
- 1 p.m. | Knights of Columbus Super Bowl Pizza Sale (Outside)
- 1 p.m. | Hope Emergency Center Collection
(White Van in the Parking Lot)

SUPPORT THE CHOIRS' UPCOMING TRIP TO ENGLAND

This summer, our Parish Choir and Schola Cantorum will embark on a once-in-a-lifetime 10-day musical pilgrimage to England. To support choir members in need of funding for this pilgrimage, we invite you to purchase 50/50 Raffle tickets and Prize Raffle tickets. Visit bit.ly/ChoirRaffleTickets or scan the QR code to learn more and get your raffle tickets. Raffle tickets will be available until our Mardi Gras Potluck on Tuesday, February 17; winners will be drawn at the end of the evening. (You do not need to be present to win.)



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 heavengain.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.

JOIN US FOR DINNER

to End Catholic Schools Week and Support SGS!

Ferrari's Little Italy & Bakery

7677 Goff Terrace, Madeira, OH 45243

Sunday, February 1 | 4-9 p.m.

Dine in or carry out.

A percentage of sales will go back to St. Gertrude School if you mention SGS or bring in your Sunday parish bulletin. Reservations are encouraged. Children 10 and under eat free!



GET YOUR PIZZA FOR THE SUPER BOWL!

On February 7 and 8, the Knights of Columbus Archbishop Elder Council 1195 will be selling Krimmer's Italianette Take 'n' Bake Pizzas outside after 4:30 p.m., 8 and 10 a.m., and 12 p.m. Mass—or until they run out.

Large Cheese Pizza - \$13

Large Pepperoni Pizza - \$15

Credit cards accepted



Are you interested in being a catechist for CGS?

Register Now for Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Level 1 Courses!

Level 1, Part A

Teaching children ages 3-6

June 28-July 3, 2026

St. Gertrude School

Formation Leader
Sister Mary Rose Bingham, O.P.



Level 1, Part B

Teaching children ages 3-6

June 14-19, 2026

St. Gertrude School

Formation Leader
Sister Mary Rose Bingham, O.P.

To register, scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/CGStrainingL1. If you have any questions, please contact Sister Mariana Thayer, O.P., St. Gertrude School vice principal, at smariana@stgertrudesch.org or (513) 561-8020, ext. 1102.

JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH MINISTRY NIGHT

2

13

26

6-8 P.M. | PARISH CENTER.

All 7th and 8th graders are invited to gather for fun, fellowship, and faith at our February Junior High Youth Ministry Night! Join us for an evening of competition in Minute to Win It games. No RSVP required.

Family Consecration Workshop

**Saturday, March 28, 2026
8:45-11:20 a.m.
St. Gertrude Parish Gym**

Forming families so that they can prepare for, make, and live out Family Consecration at home.

To learn more and register, visit bit.ly/familyworkshop2026 or scan the QR code by March 26!



**APOSTOLATE FOR
FAMILY CONSECRATION**



MEET A PARISHIONER: THE WOODWARD FAMILY

We are excited to share the first installment of a new bulletin feature: Meet a Parishioner! Each month, we will spotlight a St. Gertrude Parish parishioner/family to help you get to

know your fellow parishioners, build a greater sense of community, and stay connected to one another in Christ. This month, meet Jeff, Kelly, Larkin, Liam, Adelynn, Karoline, Elise, and Gabriel Woodward!

St. Gertrude Parish: How did you first find St. Gertrude Parish?

Kelly Woodward: It was April 2008, and we had just moved to the area. I still cannot tell you why on that Thursday morning I decided to go to St. Gertrude Parish, but I took our two sons, Larkin and Liam (three and one at the time). A school Mass was in progress. I sat in one of the back pews, listening to all the children's voices as they sang. At the end of Mass, a young man walked up the center aisle, knelt in front of the altar with his arms outstretched like Jesus on the cross, and said, "O Sacrament, Most Holy, O Sacrament Divine, all praise and all thanksgiving be every moment thine." I was in tears—we found our school and parish. Or, more accurately, we were led here—St. Gertrude Parish and School found us. We have been coming here ever since.

SGP: What do you love about St. Gertrude Parish?

Kelly: There are many things we love about St. Gertrude Parish, but if we can only pick one, it is the community. St. Gertrude Parish is truly a family—there is so much love and support.

SGP: In what ways are you involved at St. Gertrude Parish?

Kelly: Jeff is on the finance council and facilities committee. I am extremely involved with the school and have served in many capacities, including as PTO chair, a private tour guide, and a member of the School Advisory Council and marketing committee. It has been a tremendous opportunity to share my gifts with the community and see God multiply them with the remarkable people I work with. I was also blessed to chair the committee that planned the parish's 100th anniversary in 2023.

SGP: How has the St. Gertrude Parish community helped you grow as disciples?

Kelly: From serving doughnuts to school children on the feast of St. Gertrude, to speaking to the congregation about the impact Catholic education has had on our family, Jeff and I have both grown as disciples. When we first joined St. Gertrude Parish, Jeff was not Catholic. He was raised Lutheran and was always very supportive and attended Mass with us every Sunday. This April 4 marks Jeff's 16th anniversary of becoming Catholic. I never asked him to convert, and I'm not positive Jeff would have

converted without the St. Gertrude Parish community. At the end of Mass one Sunday, a gentleman got up and spoke about RCIA. Jeff leaned over and whispered that he may go to that meeting. Father George was leading that year, and there were so many amazing people who supported and surrounded him throughout the process. It is much easier to be a disciple when you are striving to be like the people in your parish community who lead by example. We believe faith is a journey, but if you meet strong, faith-filled followers on the way, it is much easier to walk that road together. It is a magnificent blessing to raise our family in the faith together.

SGB: How has St. Gertrude School impacted your children?

Kelly: St. Gertrude School (SGS) has been one of the biggest blessings in our children's lives. SGS has provided our children with exceptional Catholic formation—hands down, there is no better Catholic formation in Cincinnati. It has prepared them to not only live their faith in high school and college, but also be able to defend it confidently. SGS has also exposed our children to religious life in such a beautiful way. They have met so many wonderful religious who have exposed them to a vocation that is a real possibility for them. Also, having so many religious in and around the school, we have all formed bonds with them. For example, Father Gabriel is Larkin's Confirmation sponsor.

SGP: What are ways your family lives out your faith at home?

Kelly: One way is the school's Virtues in Practice program. Each month, there is a virtue to focus on, and the kids get to choose an activity that will help them exercise that spiritual muscle. Highlighting the monthly virtues reminds all of us that we never stop growing and striving toward God. We pray together daily. As with all people, we have our sufferings and struggles, but we are reminded to be rooted in God and his divine plan.

SGP: What is a fun fact about your family?

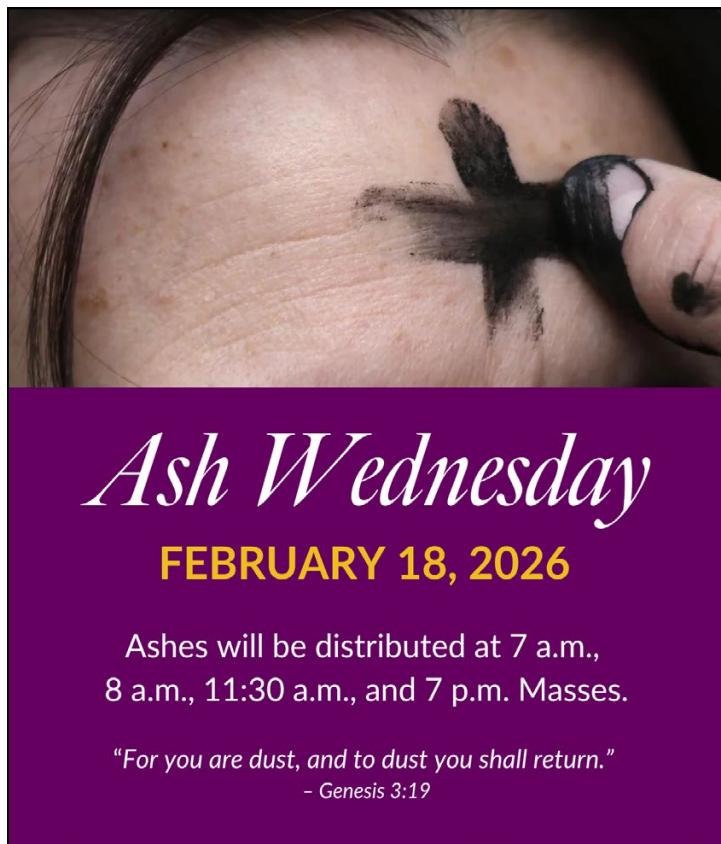
Kelly: Jeff and the kids tap maple trees every year and make and bottle maple syrup. It's a fascinating process and takes about three weeks, usually in February.



Have a suggestion for a St. Gertrude Parish parishioner/family we should spotlight? Email bulletin@stgertrude.org.



A purple poster for a Mardi Gras Potluck. At the top, a gold mask and green and gold beads are visible. The title "Mardi Gras Potluck" is in large white letters. Below it, the text "Join your fellow parishioners for food, fun, and fellowship!" is in white. The event details are: "TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17 5:30-8 P.M. ST. GERTRUDE GYM". A QR code is provided for signing up. The text "Scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/2026mardigras to sign up to bring a dish and view volunteer opportunities." is in white.



A purple poster for Ash Wednesday. At the top, a close-up image of a person's forehead with an ash cross is shown. The text "Ash Wednesday" is in large white script, and "FEBRUARY 18, 2026" is in yellow. Below, the text "Ashes will be distributed at 7 a.m., 8 a.m., 11:30 a.m., and 7 p.m. Masses." is in white. A quote "For you are dust, and to dust you shall return." is in white, with "– Genesis 3:19" in smaller text below it.



A purple poster for Lenten Fish Fry. It features a white plate with fried fish, coleslaw, and green beans. A purple box on the left contains the text "Lenten FISH FRY". Below the image, the text "The St. Gertrude Parish Fish Fry is the place to be on Fridays during Lent! Serving hand-dipped fried haddock loins, Nashville Hot fried haddock, roasted lemon dill salmon, many in-house made sides, pizza, and beer and wine, we have plenty of options for the whole family—even those who do not enjoy fish. Dine-in, carry out, and online ordering for drive-thru pickup available." is in white. The event details are: "February 20, March 6 & 20 5-7:30 p.m. St. Gertrude Parish Gym".



A purple poster for the Lenten Parish Mission. The title "LENTEN PARISH MISSION" is in large yellow letters. Below it, "with Father Leo Camurati, O.P." is in white. A circular portrait of Father Leo Camurati is on the right. Two boxes on the left list events: "MARCH 7-8 Preaching at all Masses" and "MARCH 9-11 Conferences | 7 p.m. St. Gertrude Church". The date "MARCH 7-11, 2026" is in large yellow letters at the bottom.

ST. GERTRUDE PLAYERS

Disney

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST © Disney

FEB 14-15

FOR TICKETS VISIT STGERTRUDESCH.ORG

BE OUR GUEST—JOIN US FOR THE ST. GERTRUDE PLAYERS' 2026 PRODUCTION!

All St. Gertrude Parish parishioners are warmly invited to attend the St. Gertrude Players' winter production of *Beauty and the Beast Jr.*, a beloved tale brought to life by our talented St. Gertrude School students. This charming musical tells the story of Belle, an adventurous young woman, and the Beast, a young prince trapped under a spell. As time runs short, the Beast must learn to love and be loved in return. With the help of the castle's enchanted staff, including a loving teapot, a charming candelabra, and a nervous mantel clock, Belle and the Beast discover a friendship—and love—neither of them thought possible.

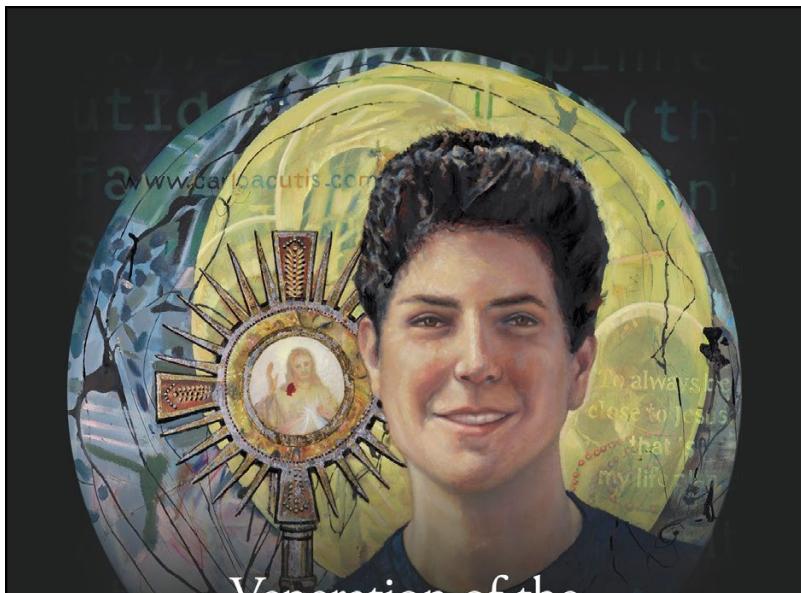
The St. Gertrude Players is a spirited theatre group composed of students from upper elementary and middle school who bring creativity, joy, and teamwork to the stage each year. This extracurricular arts opportunity is one of the many ways our school community encourages students to explore their gifts,

grow in confidence, and contribute meaningfully to parish life. Their annual musical production has become a cherished tradition, showcasing our students' many performing arts talents.

Performances will take place at Medert Auditorium on the Madeira High School campus (7465 Loannes Dr.) on Saturday, February 14, at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, February 15, at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 in advance, or \$12 at the door. Following the Saturday matinee, children are invited to Be Our Guest at a special meet-and-greet with Belle, the Prince, Gaston, and all the castle staff.

For more information and to purchase advance tickets, please visit stgertrudesch.org or scan the QR code in the above graphic. We hope you will join us for an afternoon or evening of family-friendly fun, joy, and storytelling that celebrates creativity and community.

Around the ARCHDIOCESE



Veneration of the Relic of Saint Carlo Acutis

CATHEDRAL BASILICA OF SAINT PETER IN CHAINS:
FEBRUARY 10 - 12, 2026

Tuesday, February 10	Wednesday, February 11	Thursday, February 12
11:30 AM Opening Mass, Reception of the Relic - Archbishop-Emeritus Dennis M. Schnur, celebrant	9:00 AM Veneration begins	9:00 AM Veneration begins
12:15 PM Veneration begins following Mass	10:00 AM Talk by Holly Schapker - "The Art of Modern Sanctity"	10:00 AM Talk by Monsignor Anthony Figueiredo - "I will give you signs that I am with God"
1:30 PM Talk by Monsignor Anthony Figueiredo from Assisi - "Saint Carlo Acutis: An Ordinary Life Turns Extraordinary"	11:00 AM Rosary in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel	Graces and Miracles through Saint Carlo's Intercession
3:00 PM Talk by Holly Schapker - "The Art of Modern Sanctity"	1:30 PM Talk by Monsignor Anthony Figueiredo - "You too can be a saint" Carlo's Five Steps to Being a Saint	11:00 AM Rosary in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel
4:00 PM Rosary in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel	3:00 PM Rosary in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel	1:30 PM Talk by Holly Schapker - "The Art of Modern Sanctity"
6:00 PM Veneration ends	5:00 PM Veneration ends	3:00 PM Rosary in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel
7:00 PM Youth and Young Adult Gathering with Fr. Kevin Scalp - Prayer with Saint Carlo		4:15 PM Veneration ends
		5:15 PM Closing Mass - Archbishop Robert G. Casey, celebrant



WALK IN HER SANDALS LENTEN WOMEN'S RETREAT

All women are invited to the Walk in Her Sandals Lenten Women's Retreat on Friday, February 20, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. and Saturday, February 21, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish (5720 Hamilton Mason Road, Liberty Township, OH 45011). Looking at six universal gifts of women through the eyes of women in the Gospels, retreat leaders Kelly Wahlquist (founder of WINE), Alyssa Bormes (Catholic author and speaker), and Marie Miller (singer and songwriter), will guide you on a prayerful and creative journey through the days of Holy Week, Easter, and Pentecost. Friday evening will include Stations of the Cross, an introduction to the retreat, and a social. Doors open at 8 a.m. on Saturday, and the day will begin with Mass at 8:30 a.m., followed by talks by women of WINE. This retreat is a fabulous way to prepare to meet the Lord anew this Lent.

Registration is \$75, and the deadline is February 11. Register today at bit.ly/WalkInHerSandals.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE KICKOFF RALLY

Join pro-life supporters at the 40 Days for Life Spring 2026 Campaign Kickoff Rally on Sunday, February 15, from 2 to 3 p.m. in front of Planned Parenthood (2314 Auburn Ave.) The guest speaker is Brian Gibson, founder of Pro-Life Action Ministries, an organization that has built one of the most comprehensive sidewalk counseling programs in the country.



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7:30 PM PROGRAM
8:30 PM DANCING & RAFFLES

BEHOLD: EVENT FOR YOUNG ADULTS

On February 13, Mount St. Mary's seminarians and Queen City Catholic invite all young adults to Behold, an evening of adoration, prayer teams, music, the opportunity for confession, and a social. Eucharistic adoration begins at 7 p.m., followed by the reading of the Gospel and a homily by one of our seminarian deacons. Rest in the presence of the Lord in the candlelit sanctuary, join in song and worship, bring your intentions to the prayer teams, and be healed by God's mercy through the sacrament of Reconciliation. Then, join us for a social! We'll have music, snacks, cocktails, and other beverages for you to enjoy. This is a great opportunity to hang out, make new friends, and connect with local young adult groups and apostolates. The event will take place at St. Monica St. George near the University of Cincinnati campus. Learn more at queencitycatholic.org/behold.

Liturgical SCHEDULE & Mass INTENTIONS

Monday, February 2 | The Presentation of the Lord (F)

7 a.m. | Mass – Samuel Schroeder by Kevin Breslin
8 a.m. | Mass – † Ray & Irene Woll by Steve & Valerie Badinghaus
11:30 a.m. | Mass – † Deceased Members of the Kohus & Bough Family
by John & Hilda Bough
4 p.m. | Confessions
7 p.m. | Mass for Consecrated Life – Intention of the Celebrant

Tuesday, February 3 | St. Blaise (M)

7 a.m. | Mass – † Brandon Hepner by Pete & Donna Marcello
8 a.m. | Mass – † William Hansbauer by St. Gertrude Parish
10 a.m. | Moms & Littles Holy Hour
11:30 a.m. | Mass – † Ted Leugers by St. Gertrude Parish
4 p.m. | Confessions

Wednesday, February 4 | St. Catherine de Ricci (M)

7 a.m. | Mass – Luke & Ellie Baker by Kevin & Kathy Baker
8 a.m. | Mass – † Donna Schlake by Karen Paul & Family
11:30 a.m. | Mass – † Matula Gregory by Steve Leverone
4 p.m. | Confessions
7:30 p.m. | Holy Hour & Confessions

Thursday, February 5 | St. Agatha (M)

7 a.m. | Mass – Father Robert Altier by Martha Hanna
8 a.m. | Mass – Laura Clanton by The Clanton Family
11:30 a.m. | Mass – Jeannie Mueller by Dolores Brandstetter
4 p.m. | Confessions

Friday, February 6 | St. Paul Miki & Companions (M)

7 a.m. | Mass – † Roger Fries by Sherry Schuler
8 a.m. | Mass – † Margaretha Thung by The Goedde Family
11:30 a.m. | Mass – † Bill Schmidter by Nancy DeBrunner
4 p.m. | Confessions

Saturday, February 7 | Blessed Virgin Mary (M)

8 a.m. | Mass – † Deceased Fathers and Mothers of
the Order of Friars Preachers
9:30 a.m. | Spanish Mass – Intention of the Celebrant
11:30 a.m. | Mass – † Patricia Varner by Jim & Anita Pappalardo
3:30 p.m. | Confessions
4:30 p.m. | Mass – † Deceased Members of the Deocariza & Anderson
Families by The Deocariza Family

Sunday, February 8 | 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8 a.m. | Mass – † Max Schneider by Peter Bertoli
10 a.m. | Mass – The People of St. Gertrude Parish
12 p.m. | Mass – † Terry L. Scales by Tricia Speicher
6 p.m. | Mass – † Ronald Bosken by Charlene Bosken



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 INFORMATION

PARISH STAFF DIRECTORY

CLERGY

Father John Paul Walker, O.P., Pastor

frjohnpaul@stgertrude.org

Father Reginald Hoefer, O.P., Parochial Vicar

frreginald@stgertrude.org

Father Luke VanBerkum, O.P., Parochial Vicar

frluke@stgertrude.org

Deacon Mike Muse, Permanent Deacon

dcnmike@stgertrude.org

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION

Don Regan, Business Manager

[\(513\) 561-5954, ext. 2102](mailto:businessmanager@stgertrude.org)

Emma Golias, Admin Assistant & Safe Environment Coord.

[\(513\) 561-5954, ext. 2103](mailto:egolias@stgertrude.org)

Susan Kane, Parish Secretary

[\(513\) 561-5954](mailto:parishoffice@stgertrude.org)

Teri Forlini, Parish Secretary

[\(513\) 561-5954](mailto:parishoffice@stgertrude.org)

OFFICE OF EVANGELIZATION & FAITH FORMATION

Tyler Castrucci, Director of Evangelization

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

April Deocariza, Evangelization Administrative Assistant

[\(513\) 561-5954, ext. 2109](mailto:evangelization@stgertrude.org)

Michelle Dushensky, Director of Communication

[\(513\) 561-5954, ext. 2121](mailto:mdushensky@stgertrude.org)

Kristen Eggers, Office Coordinator

[\(513\) 561-5954, ext. 2109](mailto:kristen@stgertrude.org)

Walter Plummer, Director of Children & Youth Evangelization

[\(513\) 561-5954, ext. 2122](mailto:wplummer@stgertrude.org)

Shannon Loughrey, Coordinator of Youth Ministry

[\(513\) 561-5954](mailto:sloughrey@stgertrude.org)

Mary Beth Thiemann, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Coord.

[\(513\) 561-5954, ext. 2110](mailto:mbthiemann@stgertrude.org)

Lauren Mays, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Assistant

[\(513\) 561-5954, ext. 2110](mailto:lmays@stgertrude.org)

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Sunday, January 25, 2026

Collection	\$50,352
Weekly Budget	\$47,059
Weekly Surplus	\$3,293

Fiscal Year-to-Date

Year Ending June 30, 2026	\$1,433,203
Fiscal YTD Actual	\$1,461,765
Fiscal YTD Deficit	(\$28,562)

OFFICE OF STEWARDSHIP

Hope Ramundo, Director of Stewardship

[\(513\) 561-5954, ext. 2120](mailto:hramundo@stgertrude.org)

OFFICE OF WORSHIP

Father Luke VanBerkum, O.P., Director of Worship

Christopher Holman, Director of Music

[\(513\) 561-5954, ext. 2213](mailto:cholman@stgertrude.org)

Pam Chmiel, Administrative Assistant

[\(513\) 561-5954](mailto:worship@stgertrude.org)

ST. GERTRUDE SCHOOL

Travis Johnson, Principal

[\(513\) 561-8020, ext. 1103](mailto:tjohnson@stgertrudesch.org)

Sister Mariana Thayer, O.P., Vice Principal

[\(513\) 561-8020](mailto:smariana@stgertrudesch.org)

Madeline McCauley, Dir. of Marketing & Community

Engagement

[\(513\) 561-8020, ext. 1138](mailto:community@stgertrudesch.org)

ATHLETICS

Jake Dummermuth, Athletic Director

jdummermuth@stgertrudesch.org

ST. GERTRUDE PARISH SUPPORT MINISTRIES

Annulments

Deacon Mike Muse | [\(513\) 504-8442](mailto:dcnmike@stgertrude.org)

Parents of Precious Pearls (Children with Special Needs)

Laura Nanista | laura_nanista@outlook.com

Seasons of Hope (Bereavement)

Cindy Hertzel | [\(513\) 368-8941](tel:(513)368-8941)

St. Vincent de Paul

Jennifer Mansfield | [\(513\) 561-5954, ext 2112](tel:(513)561-5954, ext 2112)



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BULLETIN DEADLINE

Bulletin: February 15

Materials Due: February 4

Please submit your bulletin
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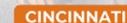


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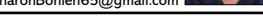
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