



# St. Gertrude PARISH

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | JULY 26, 2026



Listen to our parish  
podcast on Spotify  
or Apple Podcasts!

Spotify



Apple



If you have any suggestions for future  
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# ST. GERTRUDE PARISH

6543 Miami Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45243



(513) 561-5954



[stgertrude.org](http://stgertrude.org)



[parishoffice@stgertrude.org](mailto: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-TH, 8:30 a.m.–12 p.m.  
(Closed Fridays)



## 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 about returning to the Church or becoming Catholic, scan the QR code or contact Tyler Castrucci [tcastrucci@stgertrude.org](mailto:tcastrucci@stgertrude.org).





### OUR BODIES MATTER

One of the hot button issues in today's culture is gender theory. For some people, it can be highly emotional. Thankfully, as Catholics, we don't need to try to navigate this on our own. Back in 2019, Pope Francis ordered the

promulgation of a document from the Congregation for Catholic Education. The document, roughly 30 pages in length and entitled *Male and Female He Created Them*, is a response to the proliferation of gender theories in our modern, Western culture and especially addresses the education of children. The document, the first-ever Church document explicitly focused on this issue, is very clear. It flatly rejects the modern notions that gender is fluid, that one can "choose" one's gender, or that gender exists on a spectrum rather than the classic duo of male and female. It warns, in very strong terms, that such theories cause great confusion and are especially harmful to children. It reasserts one of the foundational principles of a Catholic Christian anthropology—that "male and female" is how God has created the human race. The document warns us that there is a modern-day attack on the fundamental institution of marriage and upon the innate complementarity of man and woman as foundational and intrinsically necessary to that institution.

I don't wish to summarize the entire thing; it is readily available online to anyone who wishes to read it (something I strongly encourage you to do!). What I would like to do is take a slight step back and reflect on our nature as human beings.

We are fascinating creatures. We are unique among all the physical creatures God ever created, for only man is made "in his image and likeness." We have the gifts of intellect and free will; of all of creation, only the angels share that gift of free will with us. But unlike the angels, we are not mere spirits. Rather, to use the technical philosophical term, we are **composed creatures**. Composed of what? Body and soul. We aren't souls (or minds) "trapped" in a body, or souls/minds "operating" a body in the way a construction worker operates a crane. Our identity is not merely our consciousness and our thoughts; the body is just as much part of our identity as our mind and soul. Our bodies matter. This is (partially, at least) why one of the tenets of our Catholic faith, which we profess every Sunday in the Creed, is that "we believe in the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting." For all of eternity in heaven, we will not be little souls floating around like wisps of clouds. We will be people. We will be human beings. We will be bodied creatures. Our bodies are not optional or extraneous to who we are. They are as much who we are as our mind and our soul.

Much of contemporary gender theory rejects this

anthropological understanding of the human person. In so many words, *it rejects the idea that our bodies matter*. Whether we are talking about the bodily organs and physical characteristics that most obviously distinguish us as male or female, or even about the genetics that cement that difference in every living cell in our bodies. If someone is biologically male but his mind is telling him he is female, modern gender theory embraces the mind's choice, and (in so many words) relegates every cell in the person's body to the status of being "wrong," (or, irrelevant—which, in the practical realm, has the same effect). It's actually a very modern manifestation of a heresy that has reared its ugly head in many ways throughout history: radical dualism. Various forms of this heresy have favored the body to the exclusion of the mind/soul, while other forms have done the opposite. Ultimately, they all eventually end the same way: the disintegration of the integrity of the human person.

Our bodies matter. They are an intrinsic part of our deepest identity. May we always rejoice in the great truth that "male and female he created them."

God bless,

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

Father John Paul Walker, O.P.

**PS. This Thursday, July 30, is our last Drinking with Dominicans event of the summer! Please plan to arrive early to grab dinner and a drink and save yourself a spot for Father Louis' talk. See page 4 for more details!**

### FROM THE DIARY OF ST. FAUSTINA



"As the Lord has begun this work, so will He continue to carry it along. And the greater the difficulties which I see, the more am I at peace. Oh, if in this whole matter the glory of God and the profit to souls were not greatly served, Satan would not be opposing it so much. But he senses what he is going to lose because of it. I have now

learned that Satan hates mercy more than anything else. It is his greatest torment. Still, the word of God will not pass away; God's utterance is living; difficulties will not suppress the works of God, but show that they are His."

- Diary, #764

# DRINKING WITH *Dominicans*

Join us for the last Drinking  
with Dominicans event of  
the summer!



THURSDAY, JULY 30 | 7-8:30 P.M.

*Whose Side Are You On?: Finding Unity In  
a Polarized World*

Father Louis Bethea, O.P.

7 p.m. Introduction | 7:05 p.m. Talk | 8 p.m. Q&A/Break  
8:05 p.m. Evening Prayer | 8:20 p.m. Conclusion

**FACTORY 52 – One-Eyed Jacks**  
2750 Park Avenue Norwood 45212

# UNPACK THE CHRISTIAN FAITH TOGETHER.

Join us for Alpha, a series of  
group conversations that  
explore the Christian faith in  
an open, friendly environment.



**July 27 & August 3, 10, 17, 24, 31**  
**6-8 p.m.**

**St. Gertrude Parish Center**  
**Includes dinner!**



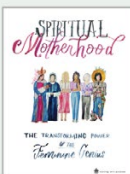
Scan to Register

*Come as you are.*

**YOU ARE WELCOME HERE**

**Make authentic connections with other women.**

Walking with Purpose is a program that meets women right  
where they are, hands them a cup of coffee, and transforms  
their hearts—and **we invite you to join us for our Bible studies**  
**beginning this fall!**



Visit [tinyurl.com/WWP2627](https://tinyurl.com/WWP2627)  
or scan the QR code to learn  
more and register!



walking with purpose

[www.walkingwithpurpose.com](https://www.walkingwithpurpose.com)

# BECOMING CATHOLIC

**Topic: What Is the Church?**

Have you ever wondered what your purpose is? Do you  
ponder the question, *What is the best way to live?*

**Our Becoming Catholic program may be for you.**

Anyone interested in exploring the Catholic faith is welcome  
to attend our monthly group meetings or begin the process  
to become Catholic at any time.

Please scan the QR code or visit [bit.ly/Becoming-Catholic](https://bit.ly/Becoming-Catholic)  
to complete the online inquiry form, or email Tyler Castrucci at  
[tcastrucci@stgertrude.org](mailto:tcastrucci@stgertrude.org).

**August 5 | 6:30-8:30 p.m.**  
**St. Gertrude Parish Center | 6543 Miami Ave.**





## LITTLE FLOWERS GIRLS' CLUB 2026-2027 REGISTRATION

All girls of the parish in kindergarten through fourth grade are invited to join the Little

Flowers Girls' Club for the 2026-2027 academic year! Based on the Catholic classic *The Catholic Girls' Guide* and the spirituality of St. Therese (the Little Flower), this beautiful, authentically Catholic program teaches virtues through Scripture, saint biographies, and the Catechism. The program begins August 31, 2026, and runs through May 2027. Meetings are on the first Monday of the month from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. The cost is \$70 for new members and \$50 for returning members (includes sash, badges, meeting materials, and craft supplies). To register, visit [bit.ly/LittleFlowers2627](https://bit.ly/LittleFlowers2627) or scan the QR code. **Registration ends July 31!**



## Building a Eucharistic Marriage

Marriage is a gift—and, at times, a challenge. When it gets difficult, it's hard to find the time to make your marriage better and even to know where to turn.

Join us this fall for Building a Eucharistic Marriage, a seven-part series that connects seven areas for strengthening your marriage with seven areas of deepening your relationship with Christ through the Eucharist.

**Tuesdays | 6:30-8:30 p.m.**  
**August 11-September 22**  
**Parish Center**

Scan the QR code or visit  
[tinyurl.com/ThrivingMarriages](https://tinyurl.com/ThrivingMarriages)  
to register!



## REGISTER NOW!



## CHILDREN & YOUTH Faith Formation Registration

Registration for the following children and youth faith formation programs is now open:

- Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (age 3-grade 3)
- Sacramental Formation (generally grade 2)
- Family Faith (grades 3-6)
- Confirmation Preparation (grades 7-8)

Scan the QR code or visit  
[tinyurl.com/Formation2627](https://tinyurl.com/Formation2627)  
for more information.



## RITE OF ENTRANCE & WELCOMING

With thanks and praise to God, we joyfully announce that, at the 12 p.m. Mass this past Sunday, July 19, 18 men and women completed the Rite of Entrance & Welcoming! This rite is a significant first step in the process of becoming Catholic, formally welcoming the catechumens (unbaptized) and candidates (baptized) into our parish community and signifying their commitment to continuing their formation. Please keep them in your prayers!



## THE LADIES OF CHARITY THANK YOU

The Ladies of Charity wish to thank St. Gertrude Parish's families and friends for making this year's Treasure Mart a success! Your generous gifts of time, talent, and treasure will go a long way in supporting our efforts to help the poorest families and children in our neighborhood communities. A special thanks to the Madeira Kroger for its generosity in providing shopping carts to assist with transporting donations to the gym.

## RESERVE YOUR BOOTH FOR THE CRAFT & GIFT SHOW

Crafters, showcase your homemade craft or small business products in the St. Gertrude Parish Ladies of Charity Craft & Gift Show on Saturday, October 17, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. There are a limited number of crafter booths—RSVP now to hold your spot. For more information, please contact Jean Wilkinson at (513) 498-5085 or Marilyn Scherpenberg at (513) 582-3984.

## BAPTISMS – SUNDAY, JULY 12, 2026



Child: Leander Jude Moore  
Parents: Jared & Haley



Child: Daniel Ignatius Peckinpagh  
Parents: Richard & Monica



Let Us  
**PRAY**

## THE SICK

Gloria Bell, John & Joy Belperio, Johnny Burns, James Caldwell, Vicki Calonge, Meghan Craft, 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, William Kimura, Karen Larkin, Kevin Lewis, Jim Lydon, Gertrude Maxwell, Kim McClung, Tom McLaughlin, Elaine O'Connell, Sue Paas, Gert Patterson, Romualdo Pelle, Jerry Pfeiffer Family, Fran Pishotti, Paula Scalo, Don Schoo, Nancy Silvers, Chuck Stalzer, Beth Stoll, Patricia Strauss, Judy Sullivan

## 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, Miles Mayer, 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



### GRANDPARENTS & ELDERLY APPRECIATION DAY | JULY 26

The sixth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly will be celebrated globally this Sunday, July 26, coinciding with the feast of St. Joachim and St. Anne (Jesus' grandparents). At all our Masses, the celebrant will bestow a special blessing on all seniors. After the 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Masses this Sunday, everyone is invited to the Parish Center St. Dominic Lobby for coffee and doughnuts in honor of and to recognize the grandparents and elderly of our parish.



### HOPE EMERGENCY CENTER “BACK TO SCHOOL” COLLECTION | AUGUST 1-2

Before and after all Masses (except 6 p.m.) next weekend, August 1-2, the Ladies of Charity will be at the white van in the parking lot collecting donations for Hope Emergency Center. Here are the requested and most needed items for this “Back to School” collection: glue sticks, pens, one-subject notebooks, loose leaf paper, assorted sizes of 3-ring binders and pocket folders, and new boys and girls underwear (sizes 2-adult small). The Center also asks for cleaned bottles with lids (preferably 12 oz. or less) to portion larger donations (of laundry detergent, shampoo, dish detergent, etc.) into individual/family sizes for distribution. Please call Jean Wilkinson at (513) 498-5085 with questions.



### ROSARY SALES | AUGUST 1

Members of the St. Gertrude Parish Rosary Makers ministry will be selling rosaries and other handmade religious items next Sunday, August 2, after the 8 a.m., 10 a.m., and 12 p.m. Masses. Weather permitting, the table will be outside the church, otherwise, they will be in the Parish Center. Payment is cash only; checks and credit cards will not be accepted.



### USED UNIFORM SALE | AUGUST 2

On Sunday, August 2, after the 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Masses, St. Gertrude School will be having a used uniform sale. Stock up on gently used uniform items—shirts, pants, shorts, skirts, jumpers, sweatshirts, and more—for the 2026-2027 school year. All proceeds benefit the SGS Class of 2027.



### ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC | AUGUST 22

All parishioners are invited to our annual parish potluck picnic on Saturday, August 22, at 5:30 p.m. (after 4:30 p.m. Mass) in the parking lot. This is a fun way to wind down the summer and spend time with friends, and meet new people. The parish will provide hot dogs, burgers, buns, and drinks. **We ask that parishioners with last names A-M bring side dishes and with last names N-Z bring desserts.**

## This WEEK

### MONDAY, JULY 27

- 12:15 p.m.** | St. John Vianney Prayer Group (St. Joseph Room)  
**6 p.m.** | Alpha (St. Dominic Lobby)  
**7 p.m.** | Healing Rosary (Church or Rosary Garden)

### THURSDAY, JULY 30

- 7 p.m.** | Drinking with Dominicans (Factory 52 – One Eyed Jacks)

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 1

- 9 a.m.** | Respect Life Meeting (St. Dominic Lobby)  
**5:30 p.m.** | Hope Emergency Center Collection  
 (White Van in the Parking Lot)

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 2

- 9 a.m.** | Hope Emergency Center Collection  
 (White Van in the Parking Lot)  
**9 a.m.** | Rosary Sales (Outside or Parish Center)  
**9 a.m.** | St. Gertrude School Used Uniform Sale (St. Dominic Lobby)  
**11 a.m.** | Hope Emergency Center Collection  
 (White Van in the Parking Lot)  
**11 a.m.** | Rosary Sales (Outside or Parish Center)  
**11 a.m.** | St. Gertrude School Used Uniform Sale (St. Dominic Lobby)  
**1 p.m.** | Hope Emergency Center Collection  
 (White Van in the Parking Lot)  
**1 p.m.** | Rosary Sales (Outside or 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](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.



### ST. GERTRUDE PARISH PODCAST—NEW EPISODE

Did you miss the second night of our Drinking with Dominicans summer speaker series on Thursday, July 16—or do you want to hear Brother Samuel's insightful talk again? Check out "DWD Yacht Rock & the Good Life" on the St. Gertrude Parish Podcast, available on Spotify and Apple Podcasts.



Spotify



Apple

### MAKE A LASTING IMPACT

Did you know that we have a St. Gertrude Parish Endowment and a St. Gertrude School Endowment? A gift to either of these endowments now will leave a legacy that will provide for our parish and school for years to come! For more information, contact Hope Ramundo at [hramundo@stgertrude.org](mailto:hramundo@stgertrude.org). To give, visit [bit.ly/parishendow](http://bit.ly/parishendow) or [bit.ly/schoolendow](http://bit.ly/schoolendow). Thank you, in advance, for your generosity!



### BACKPACK BLESSING | AUGUST 16

All students—whether they go to St. Gertrude School, another grade school or high school, or are homeschooled—are invited to bring their backpacks to the 8 a.m., 10 a.m., and 12 p.m. Masses on Sunday, August 16, for a special blessing by the celebrant. Let us entrust the new school year to the Lord and pray for God's protection, peace, and guidance for all students, teachers, and families.

### 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.



**NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING: FOLLOWING GOD'S PLAN & GAINING CONFIDENCE**

*By Jenna Bernardo (Marquette NFP Instructor and Parishioner) and Victoria Castrucci (NFP User and Parishioner)*



Today, we celebrate the feast day of St. Anne and St. Joachim, which ends the annual Natural Family Planning Awareness Week. As the parents of Our Blessed Virgin Mary, these particular saints are patrons of parenting and grandparents and can be a beautiful example of following

God's plan for family planning. Left childless for a large portion of their marriage, Joachim and Anne fervently prayed and held steady in their faith, eventually conceiving the Mother of Our Lord. Today, we can follow their example in praying for discernment in family planning and following God's plan, whatever that may be. How do we do that in modern life? Natural Family Planning.

Natural Family Planning (NFP) is a natural, Church-approved, God-intended way to space children and tap into women's health, potentially even optimizing it. It is not the rhythm method; it's scientific. In fact, NFP is up to 99 percent effective. There are four main NFP methods: Cervical Mucus Methods (Billings and Creighton), Sympto-Thermal Method (Couple to Couple League, among others), and a Urinary Hormone Method (Marquette). The Archdiocese of Cincinnati offers courses for all four instructed methods, three of which St. Gertrude Parish parishioners teach. Classes are virtual and in person, and the methods fit virtually every fertility situation—however, not every method fits every situation well. Finances, health factors, life stage (for example postpartum and perimenopause), and

personality should all be considered when choosing a method. From personal experience, Victoria Castrucci—wife, mother, and active St. Gertrude Parish parishioner and St. Gertrude School parent—is a fierce advocate for NFP. Here is her story:

*My journey with NFP began in early marriage when we attended St. Gertrude Parish's Sympto-Thermal Method class led by Ann and David Stein. We successfully used NFP working with my periods of infertility for three years to plan our family, and in 2018, we welcomed our first daughter. By my third pregnancy, I was 38, in advanced maternal age, and with only one lung. My right lung was removed in young adulthood due to a congenital condition, so by my third pregnancy, my doctors felt it was very dangerous for me to become pregnant again. I let the fear incited by the secular medical community drive me to use contraception. I had significant uncomfortable symptoms with the various contraceptive methods I tried, and they were not 100 percent effective like I wanted at the time. Thankfully, I also felt God pulling me back—what I was doing was wrong in his design for my life. Very reluctantly, and with amazing support from my husband, Blake, we fervently prayed, and I slowly let go of my fear and trusted again in the natural rhythms of infertility in my cycle.*

*As I let go and trusted in God's plan for me, I was able to quit the artificial forms of birth control I was using. I now utilize a combination of basal body temperature, a urinary hormone device called Mira, and monitoring of my mucus to ensure that we are using the periods of infertility in my cycle to keep me safe. Of course, we are always still open to the possibility of life, should God choose that to be our path, but the difference now is that we trust in his plan, no matter what that may be. I have never felt more confident in my cycle or more at peace with my health. That is what God intends for us to have when we work with him through NFP.*

If you'd like to gain the confidence Victoria's found, our instructors are eager to help. Email our NFP ministry team at [nfp@stgertrude.org](mailto:nfp@stgertrude.org) to discuss general method questions, help determine which NFP method fits your circumstances, or to help you gain confidence.

**St. Gertrude Parish NFP Instructors**



Jenna Bernardo  
Marquette Method



Dave & Ann Stein  
Sympto-Thermal Method



Samuel & Adriana  
Vásquez  
Billings Ovulation Method  
(Spanish Only)



Darcie Hester  
Billings Ovulation Method



Emily Young  
FEMM



Sara Cole  
Infertility Focus



Discover The  
*Dominican* Difference

## LISTEN TO THE ST. GERTRUDE SCHOOL PODCAST

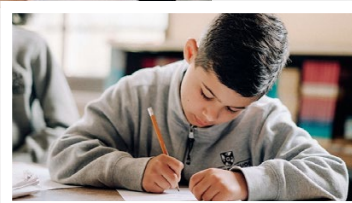
It's here—the St. Gertrude School Podcast has officially launched! On this podcast, we sit down with our educators, administrators, and community leaders to explore the mission behind our classrooms and the practical work of forming children in truth, wisdom, and virtue.

Whether you are a current SGS family or member of our parish community, you will find meaningful conversations and practical insights in every episode.

Episode 1, featuring Latin educator, Mr. Phillip Locke, is streaming now on Spotify. Scan the QR code to listen and subscribe to never miss a future episode.



# Parishioner Registration Begins October 1



At St. Gertrude School, our students are formed in rigorous academics, intellectual discipline, and an unshakable commitment to truth found in the person of Jesus Christ. Standing out in high schools across the region, our graduates are distinguished by their moral clarity, academic excellence, and a profound sense of purpose. For families seeking more than a Catholic education in name alone and for those who desire true formation in wisdom and virtue, St. Gertrude School stands apart.

**SCHEDULE A PRIVATE TOUR**  
**STGERTRUDESCH.ORG**

### Liturgical SCHEDULE & Mass INTENTIONS

#### MONDAY, JULY 27 | WEEKDAY

7 a.m. | Mass – † Jack Lohr by The Lohr Family

8 a.m. | Mass – Clare Rayburn by A friend

11:30 a.m. | Mass – † Deceased Members of the Dominican Order

4 p.m. | Confessions

#### TUESDAY, JULY 28 | WEEKDAY

7 a.m. | Mass – † Donna Kliefloth by The Holt & Pavloff Families

8 a.m. | Mass – Steve & Val Badinghaus by Roger & Barbara Silbersack

9 a.m. | Moms & Littles Holy Hour

11:30 a.m. | Mass – † Ed Larkin by The Pavloff Family

4 p.m. | Confessions

#### WEDNESDAY, JULY 29 | STS. MARTHA, MARY & LAZARUS (M)

7 a.m. | Mass – † Bernadette Polisso Kennedy

by Walking with Purpose Wednesday Group

8 a.m. | Mass – Pete & Donna Marcello by Nancy Lucas

11:30 a.m. | Mass – † Rita Johantges by Jeanne Johantges

4 p.m. | Confessions

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

#### THURSDAY, JULY 30 | WEEKDAY

7 a.m. | Mass – † Paula Beiser by Brian Zappia

8 a.m. | Mass – † Carol Beech by Jay Beech

11:30 a.m. | Mass – † Bill Wiebe by The Wiebe Family

4 p.m. | Confessions

#### FRIDAY, JULY 31 | ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA (M)

7 a.m. | Mass – † Irene Riggins by Cincinnati Right to Life

8 a.m. | Mass – † Charlie Wiley by Courtney Roberts

11:30 a.m. | Mass – † Kara Swami by Barbara & Joseph Trauth

4 p.m. | Confessions

#### SATURDAY, AUGUST 1 | ST. ALPHONSUS LIGUORI (M)

8 a.m. | Mass – † Deceased Members of the Shannon Family

11:30 a.m. | Mass – † Charles Bailey by Michael & Mary Jo Voto

3:30 p.m. | Confessions

4:30 p.m. | Mass – † Thomas Frank by The Norris Family

#### SUNDAY, AUGUST 2 | 18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8 a.m. | Mass – † Deceased Members of the Leasure Family  
by Kim & Linda Burke

10 a.m. | Mass – † James Louis by St. Gertrude Parish

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

6 p.m. | Mass – † Jerry Pfeiffer by The Pfeiffer 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.

## PREGNANCY CENTER WEST 45TH ANNUAL GALA

Join Pregnancy Center West for its 45th Anniversary Gala on Wednesday, August 5, at Lawrenceburg Event Center. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., and the dinner and program begin at 6:30 p.m. To register and learn more, visit [supportpcw.org](http://supportpcw.org).

## ST. PHILOMENA MOTHER-DAUGHTER RETREAT

All girls ages 10-14 and their moms are invited to the St. Philomena Mother-Daughter Retreat August 7-9, 2026, at the Spiritual Center of Maria Stein (Maria Stein, OH). Based on biblical wisdom, Catholic teaching, and Pope St. John Paul II's Theology of the Body, the retreat offers a whole-person approach, celebrating and educating on the changes happening to the body, mind, spirit, and social aspects of young women in this age group. Key objectives include quality mother-daughter time and opening pathways for important discussions. Participants reflect on the gift of their female identity, the gift of friendship, the gifts of marital intimacy and holy chastity, the gift of the Holy Spirit and, most importantly, the precious gifts they are created to be. To register, visit [philomenaretreat.org](http://philomenaretreat.org).

## BIBLE INSTITUTE 2026

Presentation Ministries' Bible Institute 2026: "Make Me an Instrument of Your Peace," is happening July 29-August 1 at Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Center in Norwood. In this focused and prayerful weekend, you will explore St. Faustina's Diary, *Divine Mercy in My Soul*, and discover how Jesus opens wide the door of his mercy and invites us to enter. Speakers include Father Jonathan Meyer, Beth Papin, Father Jacob Willig, Donna Murphy, John Lyendecker and other local favorites. For more details and to register, visit [eventbrite.com/e/2026-bible-institute-by-presentation-ministries-tickets-1989324022703?aff=oddttdcreator](https://eventbrite.com/e/2026-bible-institute-by-presentation-ministries-tickets-1989324022703?aff=oddttdcreator).

## MASSES OF THANKSGIVING

Please join Archbishop Casey as he celebrates regional Masses of Thanksgiving for the generosity of the thousands who contributed to the 2026 CMA. There will be a meet-and-greet following each Mass.

- Saturday, August 1, 5 p.m. – Incarnation Church (Centerville)
- Sunday, August 2, 10 a.m. – St. Antoninus (Cincinnati)

## SERENELLI PROJECT OPEN HOUSE | AUGUST 15

Join Serenelli Project for an Open House at its new headquarters, Assunta Center for Prison and Restoration Ministry (642 Sedam Street, Cincinnati), on Saturday, August 15, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Open House will feature an installation of a replica of the original Divine Mercy image, tours of the Serenelli campus, a Catholic Business showcase, samples from Behemoth Bakery, and Mass for the Solemnity of the Assumption. Learn more at [serenelliproject.org](http://serenelliproject.org).



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Wednesday, October 21, 2026  
7:00 - 9:30 PM  
St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church  
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# Synod 2027



# Where is the Holy Spirit Leading Us?

As part of Synod 2027, Archbishop Casey invites each of us to participate in a Conversations in the Spirit listening session. Join others across our archdiocese in prayerfully considering what the Holy Spirit is asking of our Church at this time, thereby assisting Archbishop Casey as he establishes pastoral priorities for the future.

There are approximately 60 sessions scheduled between Labor Day and Thanksgiving.



Register today at  
[catholicaoc.org/conversations](https://catholicaoc.org/conversations)

## PARISH STAFF DIRECTORY

### CLERGY

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**Father Luke VanBerkum, O.P., Parochial Vicar**

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**Deacon Mike Muse, Deacon & Love in Action Coordinator**

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**Mary Beth Thiemann, Coord. of Children's Sacramental**

**Formation**

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**Lauren Mays, Coordinator of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd**

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### OFFICE OF WORSHIP

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

**Christopher Holman, Director of Music**

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**Pam Chmiel, Administrative Assistant**

worship@stgertrude.org | (513) 561-5954

### ST. GERTRUDE SCHOOL

**Travis Johnson, Principal**

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**Sister Mariana Thayer, O.P., Vice Principal**

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**Madeline McCauley, Director of Marketing & Community Engagement**

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

### ATHLETICS

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jdummermuth@stgertrudesch.org

### PASTORAL COUNCIL

**Brian Clifford, Pastoral Council Chair**

pastoralcouncil@stgertrude.org

## ST. GERTRUDE PARISH SUPPORT MINISTRIES

### Annulments

Deacon Mike Muse | dcnmike@stgertrude.org, (513) 504-8442

### Parents of Precious Pearls (Children with Special Needs)

Laura Nanista | laura\_nanista@outlook.com

### Seasons of Hope (Bereavement)

Cindy Hertzelt | (513) 368-8941

### St. Vincent de Paul

Jennifer Mansfield | (513) 561-5954, ext 2112

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

**Sunday, July 19, 2026**

|                        |           |
|------------------------|-----------|
| Collection             | \$40,044  |
| Weekly Budget          | \$49,020  |
| Weekly Deficit         | (\$8,976) |
| Second Collection: SGS | \$3,677   |

### Fiscal Year-to-Date

|                           |            |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Year Ending June 30, 2027 |            |
| Fiscal YTD Actual         | \$132,114  |
| Fiscal YTD Budget         | \$147,059  |
| Fiscal YTD Deficit        | (\$14,945) |



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## BULLETIN DEADLINE

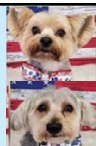
**Bulletin:** August 9

**Materials Due:** July 29

Please submit your bulletin  
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[bulletin@stgertrude.org](mailto:bulletin@stgertrude.org).



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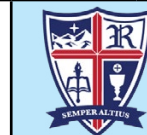
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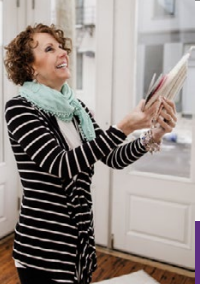


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