



St. Gertrude PARISH

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ST. GERTRUDE PARISH

6543 Miami Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45243

(513) 561-5954 stgertrude.org

parishoffice@stgertrude.org

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

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 worshipping 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.





MASS TIMES

By Father Luke VanBerkum, O.P.
Parochial Vicar

By the grace of God, our Sunday Masses are not only full but also vibrant. It is such a profound blessing to offer the holy sacrifice of the Mass for you. I know that

my faith has grown tremendously from your constant witness—from our oldest parishioners faithfully anchoring our parish by their prayers to the children waving at the procession as we head to the altar.

During the feasibility study for the capital campaign, however, parishioners across all demographics repeatedly echoed one suggestion: we need another Mass time! One way we have tried to address overcrowding is by setting up a live stream in the Parish Center (which is back up and running now), although this was always meant as a temporary solution. We certainly want everyone to gather and worship together in the church.

It is clear that a more permanent solution is necessary. Father John Paul has tasked me and the Office of Worship with proposing a new Mass schedule that reflects our growing parish's needs.

Thankfully, the parish census that we conducted last summer provided us with 1,200 data points on your Mass preferences. Here is a summary of your feedback:

- Time of day matters! Morning Masses are essential for families with young children. Saturday evening and Sunday evening Masses are extremely helpful for busy schedules.
- A reverent liturgy with orthodox preaching is a must.
- An early morning quiet Mass is the perfect start to Sunday for many people.
- A Mass with sacred music, incense, and a full complement of servers is essential.
- Families love to worship at Mass with the Dominican community, especially so their children can see the novices. (The novices love being at Mass with you all as well!)
- Some families prefer a leisurely morning with an early afternoon Mass as the capstone.

As we look to adjust the Mass times, we are keeping these points in mind:

- The time it takes to clear the parking lot after Mass to prepare for the next one.
- The style of music and your participation in it.
- The formation of children by the liturgy.
- The friars' community schedule and commitments.
- The parish's faith formation and sports' schedules.
- When to implement a new schedule, keeping in mind school schedules and family routines.

With any adjustment, it's absolutely essential that the changes actually encourage people to spread out over the new Mass times rather than all converging anew at the same Mass. We will offer our proposal to the pastoral council and parish staff for robust discussion and consideration before making any decisions.

We also welcome any more input you may have for us. Perhaps you could help us with the following questions:

- What is your ideal Mass time?
- What is the earliest time you and your family would attend Mass on a Sunday morning? What is the latest time (not including the 6 p.m. Mass)?
- Would you like a Mass to be celebrated ad orientem?
- Would you want a Novus Ordo Mass entirely in Latin?
- When should the change be implemented?
- What other factors should we keep in mind?

Please visit tinyurl.com/NewMassTimes or scan the QR code to share your thoughts on the above questions or any additional feedback you have on this topic.



Thank you for your input and your prayers!

God bless,
Father Luke VanBerkum

Our pastor, Father John Paul, was still away at the time of printing, so Father Luke was this weekend's pastor's page guest writer. Father John Paul has since returned and will resume his normal pastor column in the August 23 bulletin.

ST. GERTRUDE PARISH PODCAST

Listen to our parish podcast
on Spotify or Apple Podcasts!

If you have any suggestions
for future episodes, email
podcast@stgertrude.org.



Spotify



Apple

THE POWER OF THE ROSARY



"The Rosary, through the repetition of the Hail Mary, leads us to contemplate the mysteries of faith. This simple prayer, feeding the love of the Christian people for the Mother of God, illustrates the purpose of Marian prayer more clearly, namely, the glorification of Christ."

— Pope St. John Paul II



ST. GERTRUDE PARISH MINISTRY EXPO

Stop by our Ministry Expo after Mass to discover where you can share your God-given gifts with the parish.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30
8 A.M.–2 P.M.
ST. GERTRUDE PARISH GYM

Learn about each ministry in our updated Parish Ministries booklet, which will be available at the church entrances that weekend.



The Surrender Initiative

A special Mass to pray for those who are no longer practicing their Catholic faith.

Thursday, August 27

Feast day of St. Monica

St. Gertrude Church

6:30 p.m. Reconciliation | **7:30 p.m. Mass**
Reception to follow in the Parish Center

Try Omega!

Do you feel stuck in your faith journey? Do you desire a deeper relationship with Jesus but aren't sure what the next step is?

Omega is designed to help you get unstuck. This seven-week discipleship journey helps you rediscover what it means to follow Jesus every day—to hear his voice, grow in holiness, discover your mission, and share the gift of faith with others. If your relationship with Christ needs renewal, encouragement, or a deeper foundation, Omega is for you.

September 14–October 26, 2026

Mondays | 7–9 p.m.

St. Gertrude Parish Center Lobby

Visit tinyurl.com/2026Omega or scan the QR code to sign up.



REGISTER NOW!



CHILDREN & YOUTH Faith Formation Registration

Registration for our faith formation programs is now open:

- Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (age 3–grade 3)
- Sacramental Formation (generally grade 2)
- Family Faith (grades 4–6)
- Confirmation Preparation (grades 7–8)

Visit tinyurl.com/Formation2627 or scan the QR code for details and to register.



UNPACK THE CHRISTIAN FAITH TOGETHER.

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



**August 17, 24, 31
6–8 p.m.**

St. Gertrude Parish Center
Includes dinner!



Scan to Register

Cana Family for Mothers

Are you looking for ideas on how to raise faith-filled children and strengthen your marriage? New Cana Family Called to Motherhood groups are forming for 2026–2027! This year we are happy to offer a morning and an evening option.

Groups meet twice a month September through May to reflect on the Gospel, the *Catechism*, and Pope St. John Paul II's writings on the dignity of women. We share stories and advice on how to raise holy children and be better wives and mothers.

COME & SEE EVENT

AUGUST 25 | 9:30 A.M.
ST. GERTRUDE PARISH CENTER

We invite you to learn more! Babysitting will be provided.
Email Anita Pappalardo at cana@stgertrude.org with questions.



YOUTH MINISTRY

SUMMER 2027 EVENTS

Our junior high and L'alto: High School youth ministry programs have two exciting opportunities for summer 2027:

Damascus Summer Camp

June 28–July 3, 2027

Youth entering grades 6–12 in the 2027–2028 school year

2027 Steubenville Youth Conference

Dates TBD, Friday–Sunday in June or July 2027

Current 9th–12th graders



Scan the QR code to learn more!

ST. GERTRUDE PARISH-BRANDED MERCHANDISE & ONLINE SHOP

Are you proud to be part of St. Gertrude Parish? Show your love and support for our parish community with our new St. Gertrude Parish-branded adult and youth apparel and drinkware, **available beginning next weekend, August 22 and 23 through our new online shop!** We will have sample items at the parish picnic on August 22, and we will be offering a **10 percent discount on all items through the end of August.**



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

† Patrick Mechley, husband of Nealy

ST. GERTRUDE PARISH **PICNIC**

Join us **next Saturday** for our annual parish picnic! 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.

Saturday, August 22
5:30 p.m. (After 4:30 Mass)
St. Gertrude Parking Lot





LEARN HOW TO MAKE ROSARIES | AUGUST 19

Members of our parish Rosary Makers ministry invite you to join them at their meeting this Wednesday, August 19, from 3 to 5 p.m. in the St. Joseph Room to learn how to make rosaries. If you are unable to come but would like to be trained on making rosaries, please call Rosemary Varga at (512) 792-9490 or Karen Gerwel at (513) 272-1249 to make an appointment for another date.



YOUNG ADULT HOLY HOUR & HAPPY HOUR | AUGUST 20

All young adults ages 18–35 are invited to join the St. Gertrude Parish Young Adult Group this Thursday, August 20, for its monthly Holy Hour & Happy Hour. The evening begins with adoration at 7 p.m. at St. Gertrude Church, followed by drinks at Hoppin' Vines (8150 Montgomery Road). Can't come this week? No worries—Holy Hour & Happy Hour happens every third Thursday of the month.



TRUE DEVOTION TO MARY | BEGINNING AUGUST 25

Join us in studying St. Louis de Montfort's spiritual classic, *True Devotion to Mary*. Meetings will be on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month in the St. Gertrude Parish Center lobby from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m., beginning Tuesday, August 25, and continuing through May 2027. Consecration to Jesus through Mary will be on May 17, 2027. During the meeting, participants will watch a video presentation of the book. For more information, visit stgertrude.org/tdm. To receive email updates, please contact Anne Collins at stgertrudetdm@gmail.com.



LADIES BUNCO NIGHT | SEPTEMBER 19

Registration is now open for Ladies Bunco Night on Saturday, September 19! All women ages 16+ are invited, and no experience is necessary. This year's theme is "Red, White, and Bunco" in honor of America's 250th anniversary. Doors open at 5:45 p.m.; the game starts at 6:15 p.m. Tickets are \$25 each and include drinks, hearty small bites throughout the night, and dessert. Don't forget to bring cash for Split the Pot games! To register, scan the QR code or visit tinyurl.com/LadiesBunco2026. If you have any questions, please contact Jamie Hoffmann at (513) 377-6893.



YEAR OF ST. FRANCIS PILGRIMAGE | OCTOBER 24

Pope Leo XIV named 2026 the Jubilee Year of St. Francis in honor of the 800th anniversary of St. Francis' death. To celebrate, join us for a day of reflection, talks, and prayer at the Monastery of St. Clare in Cincinnati on Saturday, October 24, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. A first-class relic of St. Francis will be available for veneration. A plenary indulgence may be obtained by participating and satisfying the usual requirements. Space is limited to 40 people (children must be accompanied by a parent). The cost is \$10, which covers lunch and snacks. Scan the QR code or visit tinyurl.com/2026StFrancis to sign up.



This WEEK

MONDAY, AUGUST 17

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)

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18

6:30 p.m. | Building a Eucharistic Marriage (St. Dominic Lobby)
7 p.m. | Boy Scouts (School Cafeteria)

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19

3 p.m. | Rosary Makers Meeting (St. Joseph Room)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22

7:30 a.m. | Catholic Men's Fellowship (School Cafeteria)
9 a.m. | Alpha Retreat (St. Dominic Lobby)
5:30 p.m. | Parish Picnic

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23

7 p.m. | L'alto: High School Kickoff (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.



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. To give, visit bit.ly/parishendow or bit.ly/schoolendow. Thank you, in advance, for your generosity!

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.

St. Vincent de Paul QUARTERLY UPDATE



Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SVdP) members (Vincents) provide home visits to our neighbors to let them know we care. At those visits, Vincents discern the best way to support their needs. During the past quarter, our SVdP ministry provided over \$15,000 of assistance in the following areas:

- 47% Rent/Housing**
- 30% Utilities**
- 3% Food**
- 20% Other SVdP Conferences**

Thank you very much for your continued support!



YOUNG ADULT PAPAL ENCYCLICAL DISCUSSION SERIES

All young adults ages 18–35 are invited to join the St. Gertrude Parish Young Adult Group for a three-part discussion on the papal encyclical *Magnifica Humanitas*. A synopsis will be given at the beginning of each meeting, and key passages will be provided. The first discussion will be on Thursday, August 27, at 7 p.m. in the St. Joseph Room, and will cover Introduction–Chapter 2. The second session will be September 3 and cover Chapters 3–4. The third session will be September 10 and cover Chapter 5 and Conclusion.



Join Our Schola Cantorum

Does your child love to sing and have a passion for music? Our Schola Cantorum may be the perfect fit!

This spectral mixed-voice ensemble is open to children ages 8–13 and sings at our parish's 12 p.m. Sunday Mass and for major feasts.

Learn more and sign up at stgertrude.org/schola or email Dr. Christopher Holman, at cholman@stgertrude.org.

AUGUST IS MAKE-A-WILL MONTH!

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 in an incredible way.

Visit MyCatholicWill.com/StGertrude or scan the QR code to start writing your FREE will today! Use referral code **STGERTRUDE**.



GIRLS BASKETBALL REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

All girls of St. Gertrude Parish in grades 3–8 are invited to join the St. Gertrude Parish girls basketball program for the 2026–2027 school year. This fun and exciting season runs October–December 2026. Regular registration is open now through August 31 and is \$110. Late registration is September 1–7 and is \$160. To sign up, scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/stgbulldogs.



Coaches Needed

If you are interested in volunteering to coach a girls basketball team, coach signup is open now through August 31. If you have any questions, please contact the girls basketball coordinators at stgertrudegirlsbasketball@gmail.com

WELCOME

NEW PARISHIONERS

Robert & Nicole Field
Tyler & Molly Gibson
Patrick & Elle Harrington
Matthew & Marie Howe
Gregory & Catherine Laneve
Harper Locke
Marcia McHugh
Ryan & Cara Miller
Samuel Miller
Olivia Ramundo
Cameron & Mary Simoneau
Brittney Torres
Terrence & Holly Wall
Logan Westfall



NEW FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: MRS. ANGELA EDDINGFIELD

As we prepare for the upcoming academic year, we are pleased to introduce Mrs. Angela Eddingfield, who will be joining St. Gertrude

School as a kindergarten teacher. We invite you to get to know Mrs. Eddingfield through this short Q&A, as she shares her background, teaching philosophy, and hopes for her role in the year ahead.

Q: What inspired you to become a teacher, and what continues to bring you joy in the classroom?

A: I had a very nontraditional schooling experience. Due to many changes in religious curricula during the 1980s–1990s, I changed schools frequently as my parents searched for schools that offered the best Catholic religious education. Sadly, this was not easy to find at the time, so I was moved in and out of brick-and-mortar schools and homeschooling co-op programs. I did not know it then, but this is where the seed of my future desire to become a teacher was first planted. These early experiences nurtured my insight into the lives of children who may not perfectly follow the traditional educational path. I learned valuable lessons about meeting my students where they are developmentally, socially, and emotionally, and then building them up to help them reach their full individual potential. These experiences also taught me the importance of making my students feel seen and valued by me as their teacher. I can empathize with the young child who enters a new space for the first time at the beginning of the school year because it reminds me of all the times I had to walk into a new school, often in the middle of the year.

I find joy in helping my students foster early friendships that will often last a lifetime. I treasure the moments when I see my students develop confidence through lessons in perseverance that they can do hard things with Christ by their side. Seeing the pride on their faces as they master skills for the first time is priceless. But my greatest joy of all is witnessing a child develop a deeper love for Jesus throughout the school year.

Q: What drew you to St. Gertrude School, and what are you most looking forward to in your new role?

A: I truly believe it was the Lord who drew me to St. Gertrude School. He knew I was searching for a place to teach where my love for the Catholic faith would be fostered and celebrated. I have a deep passion for sharing the Catholic faith with my students, and I have found St. Gertrude School to be a place where that is a top priority. I am excited to build relationships

with all of the teachers, staff, students, and families and to become part of this beautiful community.

Just a little side note about how God reveals to us how he knows desires of our hearts: Over the past few years, I often became frustrated because it was difficult to make visits to the Blessed Sacrament during the school day. The church was detached from the school and was locked during the day, for very legitimate reasons. Now, not only do I get to pass by and visit the Blessed Sacrament in the school chapel every day, but also my classroom shares a wall with Jesus in the tabernacle. Only God could have orchestrated something so perfectly. My heart is so full!

Q: What do you hope your kindergarten students will take away from your classroom?

A: As the new kindergarten teacher, I hope to instill in my students a love of learning and a sense of curiosity about God's beautiful world. I want all children who leave my classroom at the end of the day to know that they are valued, deeply loved, and created by God for a unique purpose. As a teacher, my prayer each year is that I will plant the seeds the Lord is asking me to plant in the hearts of my students—seeds that will continue to grow throughout their lives. My hope is that, by the end of the school year, these children will leave kindergarten with a stronger foundation of faith, a greater love for learning, and a growing sense of confidence.

Q: How has your Catholic faith shaped your life, and how do you hope to share that with your students throughout the school year?

A: Every aspect of my life has been shaped by my Catholic faith, beginning with my first and most important educators, my parents. Their example of trusting in the Lord through every season of life was instilled in me at a very young age. During difficult times, I witnessed them cling to their faith and trust that God was always present and working in their lives. I find it especially fitting that we are entering into the Year of Hope with the Virtues in Practice program this school year because I want my students to learn that, with God, there is always hope. I want to help instill in them at this early age never to lose hope in God's plan for their lives, especially when they face challenges. This early formation is crucial for learning to trust in his plan as they grow into adulthood. In the kindergarten classroom, we will learn about these valuable life lessons as we read about Jesus and the saints and learn the importance of prayer in our daily lives. We will also learn about caring for each other and the world around us through our daily lessons and routines. I know there will be plenty of opportunities to learn about forgiveness, patience, and the Golden Rule. I hope to foster a spirit of family in my classroom where every child feels the love of Christ as we grow together in virtue.

Liturgical SCHEDULE & Mass INTENTIONS

MONDAY, AUGUST 17 | ST. HYACINTH OF POLAND, O.P. (M)

7 a.m. | Mass – Susan & Steven Mueller by Jeannie Mueller

8 a.m. | Mass – † Thomas Hemak by St. Gertrude Parish

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

4 p.m. | Confessions

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18 | BLESSED MANNES, O.P. (M)

7 a.m. | Mass – † Gertrude Stuntebeck by Frank & Debbie Merle

8 a.m. | Mass – † Paul Luehrmann Sr. by Steve Leverone

9 a.m. | Moms & Littles Holy Hour

11:30 a.m. | Mass – Charles & Mary Lou Garner by The Family

4 p.m. | Confessions

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19 | WEEKDAY

7 a.m. | Mass – Sarah Schmid by The Schmid Family

8 a.m. | Mass – James Lydon by The Lydon Family

11:30 a.m. | Mass – † Rohan Massillamany

by Dennis & Cecilia Ramenaden

4 p.m. | Confessions

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

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20 | ST. BERNARD (M)

7 a.m. | Mass – Michael Ewers by Anne Speath

8 a.m. | Mass – † James Condit Sr. by Michelle Dushensky

11:30 a.m. | Mass – † Rita Johantges by Connie & Greg Witte

4 p.m. | Confessions

7 p.m. | Young Adult Group Holy Hour

FRIDAY, AUGUST 21 | ST. PIUS X (M)

7 a.m. | Mass – Barbara Trauth by Joan Rizzo Mackey & Family

8 a.m. | Mass – John Scherpenberg by Cindy Caswell

11:30 a.m. | Mass – † Mary Jo LaBash by Jim & Anne Collins

4 p.m. | Confessions

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22

THE QUEENSHIP OF BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (M)

8 a.m. | Mass – Sophia & James Henderson by Alan & Dina Henderson

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

3:30 p.m. | Confessions

4:30 p.m. | Mass – Octavio Flores Resendiz by Maria Resendiz

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23 | 21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8 a.m. | Mass – † Debbie Tolle by Peter Bertoli

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

12 p.m. | Mass – † James Louis by Phil & Gail Palermo and Family

6 p.m. | Mass – † Jerry Schuermann by Reen Taylor



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.

PLANNING AHEAD IS A LASTING GIFT OF LOVE

Attend a complimentary Pre-Planning Seminar at Gate of Heaven Catholic Cemetery—owned and operated by the Archdiocese of Cincinnati—on Tuesday, August 25, at 11 a.m., 2 p.m., or 6 p.m. so you can make end-of-life decisions with clarity and peace of mind. To RSVP, call (513) 489-0300 or email community@gateofheaven.org.

SILENT RETREAT | AUGUST 28-29

All Catholics ages 18 and over are cordially invited to attend a silent retreat sponsored by the Legion of Mary Cincinnati Comitium the weekend of August 28-29, 2026, at the Bergamo Center in Beavercreek, Ohio. The featured speaker is Mary Pyper from Radio Maria. Meals are included. For more details and to register, scan the QR code or call or text Teresa Vint at (937) 475-2338 by August 21, 2026.



HEARTS AWAKE: A RETREAT FOR CATHOLIC SINGLES

All Catholic singles ages 20 to 50 who are free to discern the vocation to marriage are invited to Hearts Awake September 18-20 at the Our Lady of Guadalupe Discipleship Center in Peebles, Ohio. This retreat is an opportunity for single Catholic adults to encounter the Lord, build authentic community, and actively discern God's call in their lives. The cost is a freewill offering. Overnight rooms are available, but space is limited. Scan the QR code to learn more and register.



JUSTIFICATION TODAY LECTURE & Q&A EVENT

Glenmary Home Missioners, Mount St. Mary's Seminary & School of Theology, and United Theological Seminary will be hosting a lecture and Q&A-styled gathering, *Justification Today*, at Mount St. Mary's on October 15 from 7 to 9 p.m. Two scholars—Mike Root (Catholic University of America) and Joel Chopp (Asbury Theological Seminary)—will be present to discuss the document *The Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification* and its importance for today. They will also take questions from the audience as time permits. To learn more and sign up, scan the QR code or visit tinyurl.com/JustificationToday.



PRESENTATION MINISTRIES RETREAT OPPORTUNITIES

Presentation Ministries has three September retreat opportunities at Our Lady of Guadalupe Discipleship Center:

- September 11-13 | Consolation of the Holy Spirit (for Widows and Widowers)
- September 11-13 | Healing the Brokenhearted (for Divorced and Separated)
- September 18-20 | Singles Retreat

Learn more and register at presentationministries.com.

REGISTER NOW!

Wednesday, October 21, 2026
7:00 - 9:30 PM
St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church
20 DeSales Avenue, Lebanon, OH

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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

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Seasons of Hope (Bereavement)

Cindy Hertzelt | (513) 368-8941

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

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Sunday, August 9, 2026

Collection	\$45,944
Weekly Budget	\$49,020
Weekly Deficit	(\$3,076)

Fiscal Year-to-Date

Year Ending June 30, 2027	
Fiscal YTD Actual	\$273,054
Fiscal YTD Budget	\$294,118
Fiscal YTD Deficit	(\$21,064)



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BULLETIN DEADLINE

Bulletin: August 30

Materials Due: August 19

Please submit your bulletin
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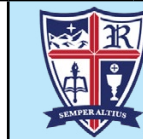
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