



# St. Gertrude PARISH

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | SEPTEMBER 27, 2026



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# ST. GERTRUDE PARISH

6543 Miami Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45243

(513) 561-5954 [stgertrude.org](https://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-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 or 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—our parish bulletin and website, [stgertrude.org](http://stgertrude.org), are great places 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.

## 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.



### **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](mailto:podcast@stgertrude.org).



Spotify



Apple



## 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).





### THE ORIGINAL ST. MICHAEL PRAYER

For a long time now, our parish has kept the beautiful custom of praying the St. Michael prayer at the conclusion of our Masses, invoking the protection of the Prince of the Heavenly Host upon

all of us. What many people don't know is that the prayer we pray today is a much shortened, edited version of the original prayer. In honor of the feast of the Holy Archangels, which we will celebrate this Tuesday, I want to share with everyone the original form of this prayer. May St. Michael and the armies of heavenly angels lead, guide, and protect us always.

God bless,

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

Father John Paul Walker, O.P.  
Pastor

#### Prayer to St. Michael

*Composed by Pope Leo XIII in 1888*

O glorious Archangel St. Michael, Prince of the heavenly host, be our defence in the terrible warfare which we carry on against principalities and Powers, against the rulers of this world of darkness, spirits of evil. Come to the aid of man, whom God created immortal, made in his own image and likeness, and redeemed at a great price from the tyranny of the devil. Fight this day the battle of the Lord, together with the holy angels, as already thou hast fought the leader of the proud angels, Lucifer, and his apostate host, who were powerless to resist thee, nor was there place for them any longer in Heaven.

That cruel, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil or Satan, who seduces the whole world, was cast into the abyss with his angels. Behold, this primeval enemy and slayer of men has taken courage. Transformed into an angel of light, he wanders about with all the multitude of wicked spirits, invading the earth in order to blot out the name of God and of his Christ, to seize upon, slay and cast into eternal perdition souls destined for the crown of eternal glory.

This wicked dragon pours out, as a most impure flood, the venom of his malice on men of depraved mind and corrupt heart, the spirit of lying, of impiety, of blasphemy, and the pestilent breath of impurity, and of every vice and iniquity.

These most crafty enemies have filled and inebriated with gall and bitterness the Church, the spouse of the immaculate Lamb, and have laid impious hands on her most sacred possessions.

In the Holy Place itself, where has been set up the See of the most holy Peter and the Chair of Truth for the light of the world, they have raised the throne of their abominable impiety, with the iniquitous design that when the Pastor has been struck, the sheep may be scattered.

Arise then, O invincible Prince, bring help against the attacks of the lost spirits to the people of God, and give them the victory. They venerate thee as their protector and patron; in thee holy Church glories as her defence against the malicious power of hell; to thee has God entrusted the souls of men to be established in heavenly beatitude.

Oh, pray to the God of peace that he may put Satan under our feet, so far conquered that he may no longer be able to hold men in captivity and harm the Church. Offer our prayers in the sight of the Most High, so that they may quickly conciliate the mercies of the LORD; and beating down the dragon, the ancient serpent, who is the devil and Satan, do thou again make him captive in the abyss, that he may no longer seduce the nations. Amen.

**V.** Behold the Cross of the LORD ; be scattered ye hostile powers.

**R.** The Lion of the tribe of Judah has conquered, the root of David.

**V.** Let thy mercies be upon us, O LORD.

**R.** As we have hoped in thee.

**V.** O LORD, hear my prayer.

**R.** And let my cry come unto thee.

#### Let us pray.

O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we call upon thy holy name, and as suppliants we implore thy clemency, that by the intercession of Mary, ever Virgin immaculate and our Mother, and of the glorious Archangel St. Michael, thou wouldst deign to help us against Satan and all other unclean spirits, who wander about the world for the injury of the human race and the ruin of souls. Amen.

### THE POWER OF THE ROSARY



"If we have spent so large a share of our activities, in promoting the Rosary devotion, We can easily see with what benevolence the Queen of Heaven has come to Our aid when We prayed to her; and We express the confident conviction that she will continue to stand at Our side to lighten the burdens and the afflictions which the days to come will bring."

– Pope Leo XIII

## WOMEN'S Retreat

*Life With Mary: Saying "Yes" to Christ in Every Season*

All women are invited to St. Gertrude Parish's first women's retreat! Inspired by Caryll Houselander's classic, *The Reed of God*, Fr. Louis Bethea, O.P., will lead reflections on journeying with Mary through every stage of life. Whether you are discerning your vocation, raising young kids, a spiritual mother, or an empty nester, this retreat has something for you.

- ✓ Mass and an opportunity for confession
- ✓ Spiritual talks and discussion
- ✓ Eucharistic adoration and personal prayer

**Saturday, October 3, 2026 | 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

**Jesuit Spiritual Center**

5361 S Milford Rd, Milford, OH 45150

Cost: \$45 (includes lunch, snacks, and materials)



Visit [tinyurl.com/LifeWithMary](https://tinyurl.com/LifeWithMary) or scan the code to sign up.



## BECOMING CATHOLIC

Topic: Mary and the Saints

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).



**October 7 | 6:30–8:30 p.m.**

St. Gertrude Parish Center | 6543 Miami Ave.

## YOUNG ADULT KARAOKE NIGHT | OCTOBER 1 AT 7 P.M. IN THE SCHOOL CAFETERIA

## ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Why is Mary important to Catholics, and why have so many people been devoted to her over the centuries? Join us for the eight-part Bible study, *Mary: The Bible and the Mother of God*, which examines what the Old and New Testaments, the life of Christ, and the early Church Fathers reveal about the life and identity of Mary. Each session involves a video from Scripture scholar Dr. Brant Pitre, group discussion, and fellowship.



**Second & Fourth Saturdays**  
**October 10–March 13**  
**(8 Sessions)**  
**9:30 to 11 a.m.**  
**School Cafeteria**



**COST: \$25**  
(includes workbook)

To sign up, scan or visit  
[tinyurl.com/TheBibleAndMary](https://tinyurl.com/TheBibleAndMary).

## YEAR OF ST. FRANCIS PILGRIMAGE

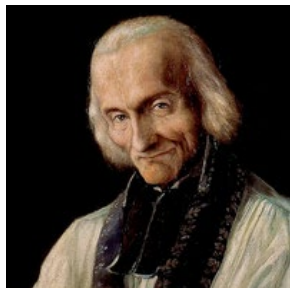
**Saturday, October 24 | 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.**



Join us on a one-day pilgrimage to the Monastery of St. Clare in Cincinnati.

The day includes talks, prayer, and veneration of a first-class relic of St. Francis. Space is limited! The cost is \$10, which covers lunch and snacks. Sign up at [tinyurl.com/2026StFrancis](https://tinyurl.com/2026StFrancis).

A plenary indulgence may be obtained by satisfying the usual requirements.



### MEET OUR MINISTRY: ST. JOHN VIANNEY PRAYER GROUP

St. Gertrude Parish has many ministries, programs, and groups for children, youth, and adults—some you may be familiar with and others you may not even know

exist. To give you a deeper look into one of our fairly new and probably unknown ministries, the St. John Vianney Prayer Group, we talked with María Reséndiz, who founded this ministry at St. Gertrude Parish.

**Q: What is the St. John Vianney Prayer Group, and how did this ministry get started?**

**María Reséndiz:** The St. John Vianney Rosary Prayer Group for Priests and the Holy Souls in Purgatory is a prayer ministry dedicated to praying especially for priests and the souls undergoing purification in purgatory. With the permission of our pastor, Father John Paul Walker, O.P., we started this prayer group at St. Gertrude Parish as a way for parishioners to regularly come together in prayer for these important intentions.

The group is particularly inspired by St. John Vianney, the Holy Curé of Ars, who had a tremendous love for the priesthood and encouraged people to pray for priests. He famously said, “The priesthood is the love of the heart of Jesus.”

We also pray for the Holy Souls because the Church teaches that those who die in God's grace but still need purification can be assisted by the prayers and sacrifices of the faithful. Our hope is simply to make this beautiful work of charity a regular part of our parish life.

**Q: Why is this ministry important and necessary at St. Gertrude Parish?**

**María:** This ministry is important because priests and the Holy Souls both need our prayers. Without priests, we would not have the Holy Mass, the Holy Eucharist, or the other sacraments entrusted to the priesthood. Pope St. John Paul II called the Eucharist “the source and summit of the Christian life.” St. John Vianney also taught that the Holy Mass is the greatest and most powerful act in the world.

Priests carry an enormous responsibility for the salvation of souls, but they are also human beings who experience temptation, discouragement, loneliness, fatigue, and suffering. They need our prayers and spiritual support. The Holy Souls also depend upon the charity of the Church on earth. For me, praying for both priests and the Holy Souls is a concrete way of living out our vocation to love and serve others.

**Q: When does this prayer group meet, and what do you do when you meet?**

**María:** The St. John Vianney Prayer Group meets every Monday from 12:15 to 1:15 p.m., following Midday Prayer, in the St. Joseph Room in the Parish Center. When we meet, we pray the rosary together and bring our intentions before the Lord through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We pray especially for the sanctification and protection of priests—for their fidelity to Christ, perseverance in their vocations, protection from temptation and spiritual attack, and strength in times of suffering or discouragement. We also pray for the Holy Souls in Purgatory, including our deceased family members and friends, asking God to have mercy on them and bring them into the fullness of his presence. We also pray for the victims of abortion, entrusting these children to God's mercy and praying for healing and forgiveness for those affected by abortion.

**Q: How does someone get involved in this ministry—can anyone come to your weekly meetings?**

**María:** Yes! The prayer group is open to everyone. You do not need to have any special qualification or theological knowledge, and you do not need to be an expert at praying the rosary. If you know how to pray the rosary, wonderful; if you are less familiar with it, you are still very welcome.

I think one of the beautiful things about this ministry is that it gives ordinary parishioners a very simple way to make a real spiritual contribution to the life of the Church. We may not always know how to help someone who is suffering, but we can always pray for him or her.

**Q: For you, what has been the most fruitful part of being involved in this ministry?**

**María:** For me, the most fruitful part has been more deeply realizing that prayer is a real work of charity. We often want to do something when someone is struggling, but sometimes the greatest thing we can do is bring that person directly before the Lord.

I especially value being able to pray for priests. The priesthood is such an extraordinary gift to the Church, and priests carry an enormous responsibility. St. John Vianney understood both the greatness of the priesthood and the human fragility of priests. Praying for their holiness, fidelity, protection, and perseverance is one concrete way that we can love and support them.

I have also found great consolation in praying for the Holy Souls. The Church gives us this beautiful opportunity to continue loving and helping those who have gone before us. We can pray for our own deceased family members and friends, while also remembering souls who may have no one else praying for them.

Ultimately, the group reminds me that we are all connected in the Body of Christ, and that we can carry one another to the Lord through prayer.

## ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT

# Pancake Breakfast

Enjoy pancakes, eggs, sausage, and fellowship with your St. Gertrude Parish family! (Gluten-free pancakes and dairy-free scrambled eggs available.)

|                            |       |
|----------------------------|-------|
| Children 5 and Under ..... | FREE  |
| Children Grades K-8 .....  | \$.55 |
| Adult .....                | \$10  |
| Family .....               | \$35  |

**THIS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27**  
**8:30 A.M. – 12 P.M. | GYM**

All proceeds go to the Knights of Columbus Coats for Kids Program, an initiative that provides winter coats for needy children. *See page 9 for more details.*



Sponsored by Knights of Columbus Elder Council #1195. 

## NEEDS FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION—NEXT WEEKEND

Before and after all Masses (except 6 p.m.) next weekend, October 3–4, the Ladies of Charity will be at the white van in the parking lot collecting items for NEEDS Food Pantry in Kenwood. If you have any questions or would like to learn more about NEEDS, please contact Jean Wilkinson at (513) 498-5085. Most needed items at this time of year:

- Canned/Packaged Goods: Collard or mixed greens, clam chowder, beef soups, tomato (not pasta) sauce.
- Personal Care Items: Shampoo, tampons, pump hand soap, toilet paper, paper towels, shaving cream.

Always needed: Gift cards (Aldi, Kroger, Walmart, Meijer) and check/cash to help purchase things when the need is urgent.

## DO YOU LOVE TO BAKE?

The St. Gertrude Parish Ladies of Charity are inviting bakers to help with the Bake Sale at their annual Craft and Gift Show on Saturday, October 17, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Baked goods may be dropped off in the Parish Center on Friday, October 16, and on the day of the event. All proceeds go to help charities around the Cincinnati area. If you have questions about the Ladies of Charity or our events, please contact Jean Wilkinson at (513) 498-5085.

## BAPTISMS – SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2026



Child: Ke'Andre Joseph Hill  
Parents: Andre & Maria



Child: Avila Rose Lape  
Parents: Chad & Anna Marie



Let Us  
**PRAY**

## THE SICK

Gloria Bell, John & Joy Belperio, Johnny Burns, James Caldwell, Vicki Calonge, Meghan Craft, Triset Defonseka, Diana Doll, Lisa Ely, Stefanie Flynn, Ron Freudenberg, Will Freudenberg, Dick Gelhaus, Goad Family, 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, Octavio Flores Resendiz, Paula Scalo, Don Schoo, Nancy Silvers, Chuck Stalzer, Sy Swart, 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



### ROSARY SALES | OCTOBER 4

Members of the St. Gertrude Parish Rosary Makers ministry will be selling rosaries and other religious items next Sunday, October 4, after the 8 a.m., 10 a.m., and 12 p.m. Masses. Depending on the weather, their table will be located either outside the church in the breezeway or in the Parish Center lobby. Cash only; no credit cards or checks please. Items include:

- Rosaries – \$5/each (regular), \$3/each (pocket/keychains)
- Bracelets – \$5/each (one strand), \$10/each (two strands); special-order bracelets available
- Bookmarks – \$1/each



### PRO-LIFE HOLY HOUR | OCTOBER 7

The next St. Gertrude Parish Respect Life Ministry-sponsored Holy Hour will be Wednesday, October 7, from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the church. The specific intention for this Holy Hour is, “That Our Lady of Guadalupe, St. Gianna Molla, St. Gerard Majella, and St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta will intercede for us and plead with Our Lord to bring an end to abortion in our country and in the world.” All are welcome and encouraged to join us for this dedicated time of prayer and adoration. As usual, priests will be available for confessions.



### INSTALLATION OF THE CROSSES OF THE INNOCENT | OCTOBER 10

Parishioners of all ages are invited to help install 2,000 Crosses of the Innocent on our parish grounds on Saturday, October 10, after the 8 a.m. Mass. (Please bring a hammer.) These small white crosses serve as a reminder of all the innocent children who have lost their lives to abortion.

*Sponsored by Knights of Columbus Archbishop Elder Council #1195 and the St. Gertrude Parish Respect Life ministry.*



### MEMORIAL MASS FOR PREGNANCY AND INFANT LOSS | OCTOBER 10

Anyone who has suffered the loss of a baby—born or pre-born, recently or many years ago—is invited to attend a memorial Mass in remembrance of their little one on Saturday, October 10, at 11:30 a.m. Candles will be available for families to bring up during the offertory in commemoration of their lost children. There will be a reception in the Parish Center lobby following Mass.

*Sponsored by the St. Gertrude Parish Respect Life ministry.*



### MEN'S ADVENT RETREAT | DECEMBER 4-5

The annual Catholic Men's Advent Retreat, sponsored by the St. Gertrude Parish Men's Fellowship, will be the evening of Friday, December 4—Saturday, December 5, at the Jesuit Spiritual Center at Milford (5361 S. Milford Rd.). Father Ken Letoile, O.P., former St. Gertrude Parish pastor, will be the retreat master. This year's theme, Mary, Mother of Our Savior, will guide men to a greater intimacy with Jesus through the Advent intercession of Our Blessed Mother. To learn more and register, scan the QR code or visit [catholicmensretreat.org](http://catholicmensretreat.org). Contact [info@catholicmensretreat.org](mailto:info@catholicmensretreat.org) or (513) 289-5268 with questions.



## This WEEK

### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

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

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

**7 p.m.** | Boy Scouts (School Playground)

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

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

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1

**7 p.m.** | Young Adult Group Karaoke Night (School Cafeteria)

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

**9 a.m.** | Respect Life Meeting (St. Dominic Lobby)  
**10 a.m.** | Reception following 9:30 a.m. Spanish Mass  
**5:30 p.m.** | NEEDS Food Pantry Collection  
(White Van in the Parking Lot)

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

**9 a.m., 11 a.m., 1 p.m.** | NEEDS Collection (White Van in Parking Lot)  
**9 a.m., 11 a.m., 1 p.m.** | Rosary Sales (Outside or St. Dominic Lobby)  
**7 p.m.** | L'alto: High School Youth Ministry Night (Parish Center)

## NEW MINISTRY OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED

On August 29, we officially launched the St. Gertrude Parish Walking with Moms in Need (WWMIN) ministry with a networking breakfast, which was attended by community leaders and various St. Gertrude Parish ministry leaders and volunteers. Father John Paul opened with special prayer and blessing and later spoke about the wonderful resources available to these moms and the importance of one-on-one relationship.

St. Gertrude Parish WWMIN focuses on prayer, accompaniment, and meals for pregnant and parenting moms facing difficult circumstances. If you would like to join this ministry, visit [stgertrude.org/walkingwithmoms](http://stgertrude.org/walkingwithmoms) or email [wwmin@stgertrude.org](mailto:wwmin@stgertrude.org). At the very least, please pray for this ministry!

If you are a mom in need of assistance or know of a mom who needs assistance, call (513) 561-5954, ext. 2113, and leave a voicemail. A member of the ministry will follow up.

## REGISTER NOW FOR BULLDOGS BOYS BASKETBALL

All boys in grades 3–8 of St. Gertrude Parish are invited to join the 2026–2027 Bulldogs boys basketball program. The season runs November–February. Late registration is open now through October 2 and is \$160. To sign up, scan the QR code or visit [bit.ly/stgbulldogs](http://bit.ly/stgbulldogs).



## 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.



## 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!

## 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.

As we approach the November elections, there are many issues that Catholics need to be aware of. Neither political party has a monopoly on Catholic teaching, and it is therefore each person's responsibility to judge candidates by their adherence to sanctity of all life and their care for all people, especially the poor and vulnerable. To support you in this discernment, the Archdiocese of Cincinnati developed iVoteCatholic: tools for Catholic communities to use over the months prior to election day. Every weekend leading up to the November elections, we will share iotecatholic.org content that looks at the seven themes of Catholic Social Teaching—what they are, how they are defined, how they apply to our lives, and how to use them to determine for whom you will vote. Here is the second theme. (See the September 20 bulletin at stgertrude.org/bulletin to view the first theme.)



CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

Theme 2: Rights & Responsibilities

During this second week, we focus on Rights and Responsibilities. Human beings, created in the image and likeness of God, have basic rights which protect our dignity and ensure all can live a full human life. Because these rights are universal, we have the responsibility to help maintain and protect these rights, not just for ourselves, but for all. Under this principle fall issues such as access to quality education, healthy food, healthcare, safe and affordable housing, and nonviolent neighborhoods. Find out more at iotecatholic.org.

Every weekend until the November elections, our Respect Life ministry will share bits of information to help you understand the dignity of every human life and take action to uphold it from conception to natural death.

## RESPECT LIFE CORNER

Living Our Call to Defend Life



### SCRIPTURE

**God's Word on Human Dignity**

"When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb." – Luke 1:41

### CHURCH TEACHING

**What Our Faith Calls Us to Know**

"Human life must be respected and protected absolutely from the moment of conception. From the first moment of his existence, a human being must be recognized as having the rights of a person—among which is the inviolable right of every innocent being to life."  
– Catechism of the Catholic Church #2270

### TAKE ACTION

**Put Your Faith into Practice**

In August 2026, the USCCB invited Catholics to join a focused effort of prayer and action to stop the spread of abortion pills. Scan the QR code to learn about the danger of abortion pills and how you can send messages to involved pharmacies and pharmaceutical companies. Pray to protect innocent children and their vulnerable mothers from the evil of abortion. St. Joseph, Defender of Life, pray for us!





KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
Coats for Kids Program

The Knights of Columbus Coats for Kids Program is a vital initiative that aims to make a difference in the lives of children in North America. By providing warm winter coats to those in need, the Knights enable children to attend school, participate in after-school programs, interact with their peers, and engage in activities that are essential for their growth and development.

Thanks to the unwavering dedication of councils across the United States and Canada, the KoC Coats for Kids Program has achieved remarkable success. Since the program's inception in 2009, Knights have distributed over 1.5 million new winter coats to children, bringing warmth and comfort to countless children.

For the fifth year in a row, Knights of Columbus Elder Council #1195 is participating in the Coats for Kids program, ensuring that children from low-income families in Catholic schools within the Cincinnati area receive the essential gift of a new winter coat.

**How can you help? Come to our pancake breakfast on Sunday, September 27! All proceeds support this program. Enjoy a delicious all-you-can-eat breakfast while knowing your support is making a difference in keeping children warm this winter.**



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**Priority application for St. Gertrude Parish families begins October 1, 2026. Secure your spot!**



**ATTEND OUR FALL OPEN HOUSE  
OCTOBER 28, 9-11 a.m.**



### Liturgical SCHEDULE & Mass INTENTIONS

#### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

##### ST. DOMINIC IBANEZ, O.P. & COMPANIONS (M)

7 a.m. | Mass – † Tim Grogan by Kevin, Debbie & Michael Graham

8 a.m. | Mass – † Pegge Schuermann

by St. Gertrude Parish Money Counters

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

4 p.m. | Confessions

#### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 | STS. MICHAEL, GABRIEL & RAPHAEL (F)

7 a.m. | Mass – † Jack Lohr by John & Marilyn Scherpenberg

8 a.m. | Mass – Michael Kaufman by The Kaufman Family

9 a.m. | Moms & Littles Holy Hour

11:30 a.m. | Mass – † Gerry Patterson by Gertrude Patterson

4 p.m. | Confessions

#### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 | ST. JEROME (M)

7 a.m. | Mass – † Robert Schaengold by Charlotte Schaengold

8 a.m. | Mass – Reed Grimes by Dennis & Shirly Ramenaden

11:30 a.m. | Mass – † Anne & Bob Siebert by The Siebert Family

4 p.m. | Confessions

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

#### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1 | ST. THÉRÈSE OF THE CHILD JESUS (M)

7 a.m. | Mass – The McNeil Family by The Washatka Family

8 a.m. | Mass – † Sal Forlini by Sal & Teri Forlini

11:30 a.m. | Mass – † Jane Sansalone by Keke & Tony Sansalone

4 p.m. | Confessions

#### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2 | HOLY GUARDIAN ANGELS (M)

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

8 a.m. | Mass – Octavio Flores Resendiz by Maria Resendiz

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

4 p.m. | Confessions

#### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3 | BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (M)

8 a.m. | Mass – The Family of Joel Marie Williamson

by Respect Life & Walking with Moms in Need Ministries

9:30 a.m. | Spanish Mass – Intention of the Celebrant

11:30 a.m. | Mass – † Andrew Mueller by Jeannie Mueller

3:30 p.m. | Confessions

4:30 p.m. | Mass – † The Shannon Family by The Family

#### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4 | 27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8 a.m. | Mass – † Rita Johantges by Pete & Donna Marcello

10 a.m. | Mass – † Dino Pelle by The Stuebbe Family

12 p.m. | Mass – † Filippo Conte by Peter Bertoli

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



### 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.

## A STRONGER MARRIAGE BEGINS WITH ONE WEEKEND

Life's demands can leave little time for nurturing your marriage. This fall, give yourselves the gift of time at a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. WWME helps couples deepen their love, renew their commitment to one another, and strengthen communication. Upcoming weekends in Ohio include:

- October 9–11 | Holy Spirit Center, Norwood, OH
- November 6–8 | Spiritual Center, Maria Stein, OH

Register today at [esharing.org/applyWeekend.php](https://esharing.org/applyWeekend.php). Your marriage is worth it! For more details, contact Andy and Melanie Reinersman at (859) 653-8464 or [application@esharing.org](mailto:application@esharing.org), or visit [esharing.org](https://esharing.org).

## GATE OF HEAVEN CEMETERY FALL OPEN HOUSE

Gate of Heaven Cemetery is having a Fall Open House on Saturday, October 10, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, October 11, from 11 a.m.–4 p.m. Explore Catholic history and notable burials throughout the cemetery on a guided Legacy Tour, and learn how thoughtful planning can provide peace of mind for you and your loved ones. Continental breakfast, grilled lunch, and afternoon appetizers provided. All are welcome! Learn more at [gateofheaven.org](https://gateofheaven.org).

## CYCLE PREP: FIRST PERIOD FOR GIRLS WORKSHOP

This workshop for parents and their daughters ages 9–11 is designed to help girls learn about the menstrual cycle and how to prepare for their first—and future—periods in a fun, age-appropriate, and confidence-building way. Led by certified NFP instructor Heidi Schaap, the workshop will be on October 10, 2026, at Montezuma Retreat Center (Celina, OH) from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Tickets are \$30 per family. To register, visit [tinyurl.com/CyclePrep-Celina](https://tinyurl.com/CyclePrep-Celina) or scan the QR code.



## ST. GERARD MASS OF HOPE AND HEALING

Married couples, families, and friends are invited to the archdiocese's annual St. Gerard Mass of Hope for the Blessing of Children on Friday, October 16, at 7 p.m. at Holy Rosary Church in St. Marys, OH. This free event—on the feast of St. Gerard Majella, the patron saint of expectant mothers—is a way to prayerfully support married couples experiencing infertility or pregnancy loss. It includes Mass, followed by a reception with fellowship, hors d'oeuvres, and resources. For more details, scan the QR code or email Deacon David Ulmer at [dulmer@catholicaoc.org](mailto:dulmer@catholicaoc.org).



## JUSTIFICATION TODAY FREE LECTURE & Q&A EVENT

Glenmary Home Missioners, Mount St. Mary's Seminary & School of Theology, and United Theological Seminary will host a lecture and Q&A-styled gathering, *Justification Today*, at Mount St. Mary's on October 15 from 7 to 9 p.m. Mike Root and Joel Chopp will discuss the document *The Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification*. Learn more and RSVP at [athenaeum.edu/justification](https://athenaeum.edu/justification).

## BETHANY BRUNCH

Young women are invited to join the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia for a special brunch hosted by the Archdiocese of Cincinnati's Office for Consecrated Life on Saturday, October 10 at The Oratory of St. John Vianney at St. Anthony Parish from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. The morning includes Mass, a brief presentation from the Sisters, conversation, and time for prayer. Anyone under 18 must have a chaperone. To learn more or RSVP, scan the QR code.



## FATHERHOOD WORKSHOP

Join men from across Greater Cincinnati on Saturday, October 17, at Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Center for a day of faith, fellowship, and encouragement as you explore the vital role of fathers, mentors, and Christian brotherhood. Moderated by Deacon Joe Grote, this workshop will feature local ministries and community organizations dedicated to strengthening men, families, and our community. The workshop is from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., with an optional 8:15 a.m. Mass. Learn more and register at [olhsc.org/events](https://olhsc.org/events).



# 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

**Father John Paul Walker, O.P., Pastor**

frjohnpaul@stgertrude.org

**Father Louis Bethea, O.P., Parochial Vicar**

frlouis@stgertrude.org

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

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**Deacon Mike Muse, O.P., Deacon & Love in Action Coordinator**

dcnmike@stgertrude.org

### OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION

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**Susan Kane, Parish Secretary**

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**Teri Forlini, Parish Secretary**

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### OFFICE OF EVANGELIZATION & FAITH FORMATION

**Tyler Castrucci, Director of Evangelization**

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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 STEWARDSHIP

**Hope Ramundo, Director of Stewardship**

hramundo@stgertrude.org | (513) 561-5954, ext. 2120

### OFFICE OF WORSHIP

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

**Christopher Holman, PhD, Director of Music**

cholman@stgertrude.org | (513) 561-5954, ext. 2213

**Daniel Grotz, Organ Scholar**

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

**Pam Chmiel, Administrative Assistant**

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### ST. GERTRUDE SCHOOL

**Travis Johnson, Principal**

tjohnson@stgertrudesch.org | (513) 561-8020, ext. 1103

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

smariana@stgertrudesch.org | (513) 561-8020

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

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

### ATHLETICS

**Jake Dummermuth, Athletic Director**

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 Hertzal | (513) 368-8941

**St. Vincent de Paul**

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

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

**Sunday, September 20, 2026**

Collection \$42,433

Weekly Budget \$49,020

Weekly Deficit (\$6,587)

Second Collection (St. Gertrude School) \$3,705

**Fiscal Year-to-Date**

Year Ending June 30, 2027

Fiscal YTD Actual \$568,160

Fiscal YTD Budget \$588,235

Fiscal YTD Deficit (\$20,075)



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**Thank you for  
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## BULLETIN DEADLINE

**Bulletin:** October 11

**Materials Due:** September 30

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



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