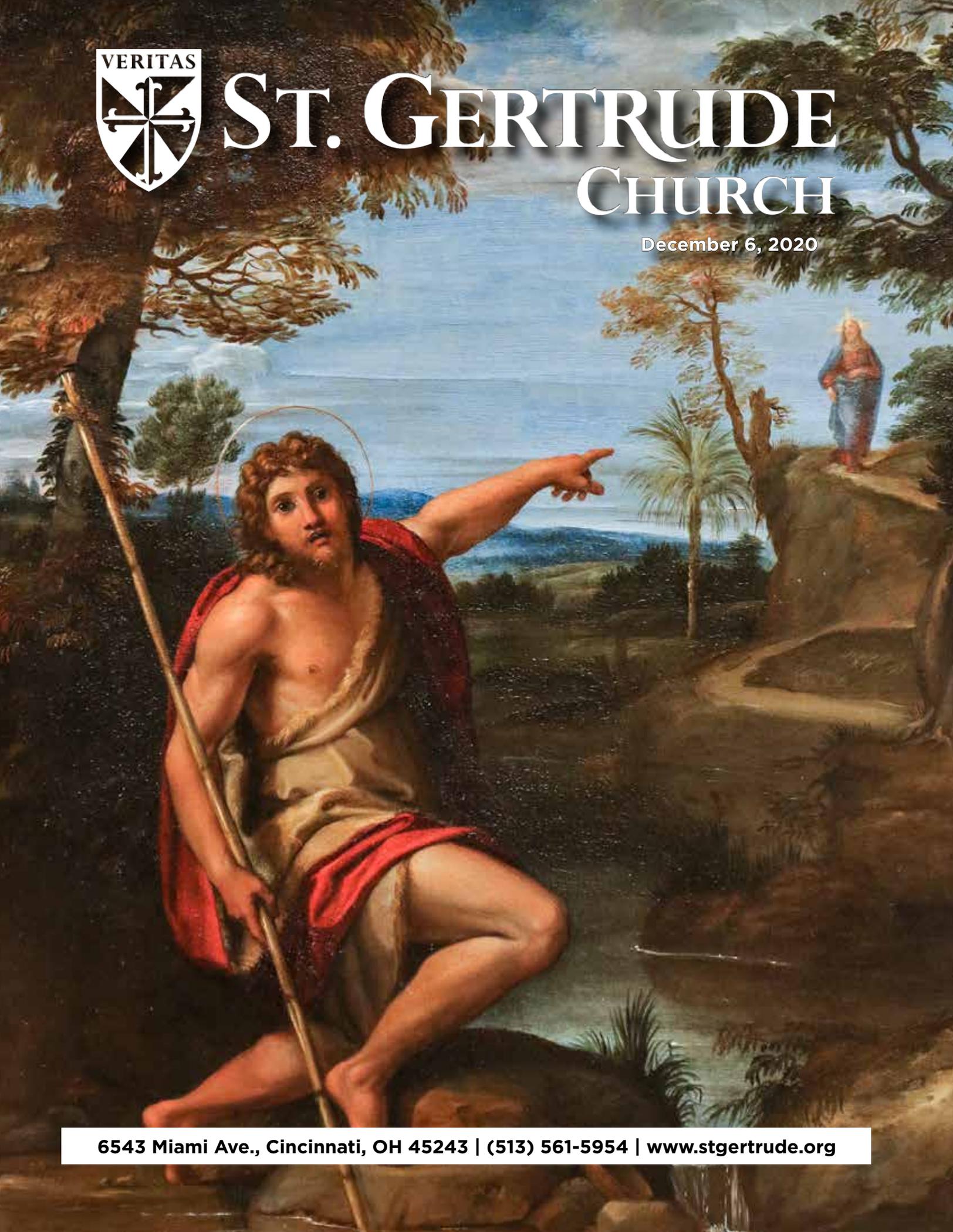




# ST. GERTRUDE CHURCH

December 6, 2020



6543 Miami Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45243 | (513) 561-5954 | [www.stgertrude.org](http://www.stgertrude.org)

## MASSES AT ST. GERTRUDE

### Monday, December 7, St. Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of the Church (M)

- 7:00 a.m. Jack & Cheryl Schuler/The Tartaron Family  
8:00 a.m. Jack Boone/The Boone Family  
11:30 a.m. †Mary Schlie/Nancy DeBrunner  
7:30 p.m. Linda Grijalba/The Grijalba Family

### Tuesday, December 8, IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (S)

- 7:00 a.m. †Jack Hearn/Jack & Sherry Schuler  
8:00 a.m. †Margaret Mary Holt/The Holt Family  
11:30 a.m. †Lester & Anne Muse/The Muse Family  
7:30 p.m. Fr. André-Joseph LaCasse, O.P./Malissa & Nick Frohlich

### Wednesday, December 9, Advent Weekday

- 7:00 a.m. Sr. Maria Christi Greve, O.P./The Spurgin, Morande & Zupka Families  
8:00 a.m. †Thomas Tran/Thien Cao  
11:30 a.m. †Deceased Members of the Order of Preachers

### Thursday, December 10, Advent Weekday

- 7:00 a.m. †Fr. Matthew Gamber, SJ/Elaine & Jeff Parker  
8:00 a.m. †Carol Coors/Melanie & John Sheridan  
11:30 a.m. †Michelle Manker/Maria Lavin

### Friday, December 11, Advent Weekday

- 7:00 a.m. †Connie Daugherty/Kevin & Anne Lynch  
8:00 a.m. †Ruth Bader Ginsburg/The Pappalardo Family  
11:30 a.m. †Danielle Martino/Carlos Martino

### Saturday, December 12, Our Lady of Guadalupe (F)

- 8:00 a.m. †Monica Huminski/Nancy & Bob Hoye  
11:30 a.m. †Frank Pierce/Bob & Dorothy Stucker

### December 12-13, 3rd Sunday of Advent

- Saturday †Emil Eugene Jemail/The Knueven Family  
Sunday People of St. Gertrude, Living and Deceased  
†John Patrick Kinsella/The Family  
†Tom Poland/The Poland Family  
Ann Lukey/Pat Seanor  
†Beverly Oscar/Dan & Ronnie Jurkowitz

## Parish Office Info

### Parish Office Hours

Monday-Friday: 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

### School Office Hours

Monday-Friday: 7:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

### Church Hours

Every day: 7:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.

## PUBLIC WORSHIP AT ST. GERTRUDE CHURCH IN TIME OF PANDEMIC

*Updated November 1, 2020*

The Archbishop dispenses the faithful from the obligation of attending Sunday Mass. Please do not come if you feel sick. Those who are vulnerable may consider coming to a less crowded weekday Mass.

### HEALTH AND SAFETY MEASURES

- Keep a prudent distance inside the church. Ushers will help ensure safe seating on Sundays.
- We ask that the faithful wear cloth masks for the sake of the common good. People with breathing difficulties and young children should not wear masks.
- Only friars, sisters, novices, lay ministers and a limited number of staff members will be in the sanctuary and sacristy.
- Volunteers will help wipe down high-touch surfaces between Sunday Masses.

### HOLY COMMUNION

- You are not obliged to receive Holy Communion at every Mass you attend. Consider making a spiritual communion, or receiving at a weekday Mass.
- The faithful who choose to receive Holy Communion will come up to the altar rail, where one or two priests will distribute the sacred host. Keep space in line, and only remove your mask at the rail.
- You may receive in the hand or on the tongue, kneeling or standing. Note: the rail is a high-contact surface.

### Mass & Confession Schedule

#### SUNDAY

- 8:00 a.m. Mass  
10:00 a.m. Conventual Mass  
12:00 p.m. Mass  
6:00 p.m. Mass

#### WEEKDAYS

- 7:00 a.m. Mass  
8:00 a.m. Mass  
11:30 a.m. Conventual Mass  
12:00 p.m. Midday Prayer in Church  
4:00 p.m. Confessions in Church  
7:30 p.m. Confessions in Church  
(Wednesdays Only)

#### SATURDAY

- 8:00 a.m. Conventual Mass  
11:30 a.m. Mass  
3:30 p.m. Confessions in Church  
4:30 p.m. Mass (Sunday Anticipated)

## FINDING PEACE IN THE LOWLINESS OF BETHLEHEM

Last week's first reading, from the Prophet Isaiah, offers a powerful image that captures the essence of this season of Advent – a season of anticipation. Isaiah cries out, “Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down.” The verb “to rend” connotes a certain violence or the use of force in order to tear or to cut down. It is an apt word to describe exactly what we would expect God to do if he actually did “come down.” From God, we would expect a certain show of force, a display of power, and an undeniable presence.

In this Sunday's Gospel, John the Baptist, that great forerunner of Jesus appears on the scene with his voice crying out and inviting us to prepare our hearts. Like that great exhortation from the Book of Joel that we read on Ash Wednesday, “rend your hearts, not your garments,” John invites us to open our hearts that we might receive the God who is about to tear open the heavens to meet us. This week, John says, “One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals.” Joseph Ratzinger notes that John embraces a certain Old Testament style, describing Jesus as one who would “place the axe to the roots of humanity, as a judge full of holy wrath and divine power.”

I find Isaiah's prayer quite fitting for our times when we're attracted to earthly, or human solutions to our many troubles. I also appreciate John the Baptist sounding the alarm about the arrival of the Mighty One.



Yet, I am also struck by the cover image from last week's bulletin. Fritz von Uhde painted “Transition to Bethlehem” in 1890, the year he was appointed Professor at the Academy of Fine Arts in Munich. He was known for painting images of peasants and for modernizing religious works. This painting depicts Joseph and Mary, who is quite pregnant. They travel light, with Mary holding a basket of their provisions for the day and Joseph carrying a small satchel and his carpenter's saw. Mary leans on Joseph, who supports her on the difficult journey. They head into town, a Bethlehem depicted as a contemporary European town, on a road marked with tracks from horse and wagon walking to Bethlehem. It appears to be cold and damp. This modern rendition of Joseph and Mary's difficult journey helps us to grasp the poverty of their situation and, perhaps, we can feel our own poverty as well.

Uhde's painting also reminds us that when God heeds Isaiah's entreaty and actually does rend the heavens and come

down, He did not do so with a display of force or a show of power as we might expect from God almighty. Instead, God arrives on the scene in utter lowliness. Similarly, “John had known that He would be greater than he,” Ratzinger points out, “but he had not known the new kind of His greatness: It consists in humility, in love, in the cross, in the value of obscurity, in the silence which Jesus, as the one who is even greater, is lifted up as the greatest in the world. In the end, the truly great does not lie in the size of the physical dimensions but in what is no longer measurable through them....The real and the highest values occur in this world precisely under the sign of lowliness, obscurity, silence.... In Bethlehem, God, who had chosen the small, forgotten people of Israel as His people, finally made the sign of littleness the decisive sign of His presence in this world.”

God is mighty indeed, though His might does not appear as the “worldly wise” would have it.

Along this same line, this week we celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception (December 8). Here we recall the work of God's grace in preserving Mary from the stain of original sin at the time of her conception. For Mary, a poor and humble girl from humble Nazareth, God has done a great thing. We also celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas (December 12). Here, we recall Mary's appearance to a poor and humble Juan Diego on Tepeyac Hill outside of Mexico City. Eventually, Juan Diego's tilma would bear a miraculous image of Our Lady – a sign that convinced the bishop to build a church on Tepeyac Hill and one which has been a source of consolation for millions of people.

Several weeks ago, in my column on November 22, I said I want peace for my parishioners this Christmas. These first weeks of Advent give us some clues as to how we might find that peace. We are to beg God, with Isaiah, to “rend the heavens and come down.” But, we must also heed the calls of John and Joel, to rend our hearts and to thus prepare the way of the Lord. In taking this path, we ready ourselves to receive the peace of God, a peace the world cannot give (cf. Jn. 14:27) and one that does not come through a show of divine force that stamps out all unrest and injustice. Instead, we access this peace in the presence of a God who hides Himself unexpectedly in the lowliness of Bethlehem. If we are “poor in spirit” (Mt. 5:3) and willing to seek Him in the Bethlehem of our own lives, we will find the peace we are looking for.

*Fr. George, O.P.*

**COVER IMAGE:** “Behold the Lamb of God,” photo by Very Rev. Lawrence Lew, O.P. Used with permission. Original painting: “St. John the Baptist Bearing Witness” by Carracci

**PRAYING FOR YOU!**

*O God, Who loves me every second of the day,  
help me to love You in all I think, do and say!*

Each morning our school students, faculty and staff pray that morning prayer. It is wonderfully simple, but packed with goodness. We pray for the intentions of each other, our families and loved ones, our faculty, staff, students, parishioners and friends.

Sister Maria Christi also prays the Rosary each morning with any students that can join her. They pray outside, in the Chapel, in the Atrium, and throughout the school building. They pray for events of the day or week, special intentions of the students, and our church community. They not only recite the prayers and mysteries of the Rosary, but they discuss each mystery's meaning, and learn the virtue associated with each one.

Each day, our students are praying for you!



## MEET THE TEAM: KRISTEN EGGERS



*Each month, the St. Gertrude Bulletin will feature an interview with a member of the Evangelization Team at the church. This month, we're highlighting Kristen Eggers, Assistant to the Director of the Evangelization Office.*

### St. Gertrude Bulletin: What is your current role at St. Gertrude?

Kristen: I am the Assistant to the Director of the Evangelization Office. My roles and responsibilities have quite the range. As I am in the middle of writing this, I ordered 7 boxes of cookies from Amazon, proofread a lesson plan for Family Faith, finalized the set-up schedule for Advent Wreath Making, and sent emails to 50+ people.

### SGB: What do you enjoy most about the ministry you are part of at St. Gertrude Church?

Kristen: I really enjoy how I can unite my love of spreadsheets with my love of people. Administration is one of my Spiritual Gifts (1 Cor 12:28). For example, I love all the behind-the-scenes work and planning that goes into a large parish event. With my skills, I get to create an environment where people come together and encounter one another and the Lord.



### SGB: Did you always want to work for the church?

Kristen: When I started college, I didn't even go to Mass. When I declared my major as Dietetics at North Dakota State University, working for the Church wasn't even on my radar. Even after I joined a Bible study my junior year, I had every intention of working in the health field.

### SGB: Can you tell us a bit about your childhood?

Kristen: I grew up on a hobby farm in South Dakota. We had horses, an in-ground swimming pool, and 40 acres to explore, right in our backyard. I was painfully shy as a kid, so I happily spent my days at home with my siblings swimming, riding horses, and playing outside (in the sunshine or in the glorious snow!). I was quite the homebody, until I learned about gymnastics. Once I joined the local gymnastics center, I was a gym-rat for the next 10 years, balancing on the beam and bouncing on the floor almost every day of the week but Sundays.

### SGB: What brought you to Cincinnati?

Kristen: In 2011, my sister was growing her business that she just started, as well as growing her family. At the time, she had two boys under two years old, so I came to Cincinnati to be a full-time aunt, nannying my nephews. I had planned to stay in Cincinnati for only a year, but it has been 10 years and now my sister has 4 kids! While I don't nanny them full-time, I love living here and seeing them all the time. It is a blessing to be so close to family...just last month I was able to attend my nephew's Confirmation in the Cathedral Basilica downtown as his sponsor.



### SGB: We've heard you were once a missionary. Is this true?

Kristen: After I graduated from NDSU, I served as a missionary with FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students) for 3 years. I was at the University of Wisconsin-Madison for one year and 2 years at Benedictine College in Kansas. One of the craziest things we did was fill a 2,000 gallon metal water trough with thousands of water balloons, which were used for a campus wide water fight at 6:00 a.m.! I learned so much, including how to have creative fun, and I am still benefiting from all the graces and experience I gained during my time with FOCUS. While I am no longer a paid full-time missionary with FOCUS, I will always be a full-time missionary. My mission is the same now as it was then: To know Christ Jesus and to fulfill the Great Commission by first living and then communicating the fullness of life within the family of God, the Church.



### CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

The Christmas Mass schedule at St. Gertrude will be as follows: Vigil of Christmas at 3:00, 5:30, and 7:30 p.m. Mass During the Night at 11:30 p.m. Christmas Day at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m., and 12:00 Noon.



Admittance to the Christmas liturgies will be by reservation only and seating will be assigned. This approach will provide for maximizing the size of the congregation while maintaining social distancing

**We are currently accepting reservations for Christmas Masses, which must be made by 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, December 15. NOTE: A number of Masses are already full.** Seating arrangements will be provided in advance of Christmas. For further details, please view the parish website: [www.stgertrude.org/Christmas2020](http://www.stgertrude.org/Christmas2020).

### 2020 CHRISTMAS DIRECTORY

If you are interested in contacting Friars or Sisters who formerly served at St. Gertrude, please visit [stgertrude.org/Christmas2020](http://stgertrude.org/Christmas2020) for a list of contact information or call the parish office at 513-561-5954.

### CHRISTMAS NOVENA:

Remember your family, friends and loved ones in a special way at Christmas by enrolling them in the Christmas Novena of Masses, which will be offered here at St. Gertrude Church beginning on Christmas Day.

Novena cards are available at the entrances of the church and in the church office in the school. You can return your Novena offering envelope in the collection or send it to the church office.

### ST. ANNE & CHILD MARY GUILD



Calling all girls Grades 4-12 of St. Gertrude Parish and School! We have another amazing year planned for our St. Anne's Guild! Please join us in the parish center from 9:00-11:15 a.m. on the following Saturdays.

Dec 12 – Christmas table centerpiece making

Jan 9 – “God’s promises and faithfulness”

Feb 20 – “Mother Mary, the perfect disciple”

Mar 20 – “Living in Divine Mercy”

April 10 – “St. Therese and St. Maximilian Kolbe:  
Profiles in Confidence”

May 15 – Tea Party “God is worthy to be praised!”

Contact Cristina Genung with questions at [cgenung@gmail.com](mailto:cgenung@gmail.com) or 513-404-6011.

### LET US PRAY

### PLEASE PRAY FOR...

#### THE SICK:

Anthony Alvarez, Lisa Bertke, Bettie Caudill, Larry & Pat Collins, Marguerite Crema, Triset Defonseka, Jean Ellert, Kathy Elsbernd, Bob Gerwin, Andrew Goad, Glenn Grismere, Loretta Holden, Joe Holly, Hummel Family, Aiko Kimura, Ed Kinney, Janice Koncius, Carlos LaTorre, Sophia LaTorre, Ann Lukey, Frank Merle, Sandra Munyon, Leo Napuri, Gerry Patterson, Michelle (Lydon) Ruscher, Jane Sansalone, Ellen Schaengold, Patricia Scherer, Pegge Schuermann, Richard Seifert, Teddie Slaper, Alex Smithers, Jack Spilker, Jim Spurgin, Patricia Strauss, Judy Sullivan, John Sweeney, Mary Saul, Mary Valker and Bill Van Hise

#### THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES:

Patrick Burke, Cole and Kyle Foster, Dominic Geraci, Daniel Holian, Mike Huber, Aaron Jacobson, Jacob Kramb, John Kramb, Kelly Leugers, Sammy Mascho, John Oscar, Sarah Ries, Dan Roseman, Andrew Shannon, and Ian Tester

#### PRAY FOR THE DECEASED:

Nancy Santen – wife of William Santen  
Charles Lemming – father of Donna Kallgren, Carol Crawford and Chuck Lemming  
Tim Petric – husband of Mary Petric

### BAPTISM



Child: Dominic Daniel Young  
Parents: Angela & Kip Young



Child: Esmarie Noelle Serna  
Parents: Jessica & Christopher Serna

**Gift Card Scam:** Please note that the Dominican Friars and Sisters, Parish and School Staff, and Parish Volunteers are prohibited from soliciting any type of gift card by email or text. Should you receive such a message, it is not authorized and should be discarded.

**FROM THE DIARY OF  
ST. MARIA FAUSTINA KOWALSKA**



I will spend this Advent in accordance with the directions of the Mother of God: in meekness and humility. I am reliving these moments with Our Lady. With great longing, I am waiting for the Lord's coming. Great are my desires. I desire that all humankind come to know the Lord. I would like to prepare all nations for the coming of the Word Incarnate. O Jesus, make the fount of Your mercy gush forth more abundantly, for humankind is seriously ill and thus has more need than ever of Your compassion. You are a bottomless sea of mercy for us sinners; and the greater the misery, the more right we have to Your mercy. *(Diary, #793)*



We crushed  
the  
**COVID**  
Deficit

**Final Tally: \$127,100**

**Thank you for your generous support!**

**Immaculate Conception**  
December 8, 2020



Although this year's Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is not a holy day of obligation (due to the pandemic), we are still making available a vigil Mass on Dec. 7 @ 7:30pm and a sung Mass on Dec. 8 @ 7:30pm. These Masses for the Solemnity are in addition to the regularly scheduled 7am, 8am, and 11:30am Masses on Dec. 8.



In the desert prepare the way  
of the LORD!  
Make straight in the wasteland  
a highway for our God!  
-Is. 40:3



### Ask a Priest – Why so much during Advent from the Prophet Isaiah?

This week Fr. John Mark decides to “ask a priest” about the Church’s use of the Bible during Advent.



**Fr. John Mark:** I have noticed that the Book of Isaiah is used at Mass almost every day during the first and second weeks of Advent. Why is Isaiah so significant to the Church this time of year? Are there any “keys” to Isaiah that would help us better understand the readings?

**Fr. Joseph:** For the Church, the Book of Isaiah contains the clearest prophecies regarding

Jesus Christ, especially in relation to His saving Passion. For example, the Suffering Servant passages of Isaiah (Is 52:13–55:12) are referred to 48 times in the New Testament! However, to understand the significance of Isaiah for Advent, we must understand something basic about Isaiah’s theology: early in this book, the prophet makes a mockery of human strength in comparison with divine power. He proclaims that God can make a virgin bear a child (Is 7:14):

*...the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold a young woman shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good...*

and that He can save His people through that child (Is 9:5-6):

*For there is a child born for us, a son given to us and dominion is laid on his shoulders. This is the name they give him: Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty – God, Eternal-Father, Prince-of-Peace. Wide is his dominion in a peace that has no end, for the throne of David and for his royal power, which he establishes and makes secure in justice and integrity. From this time onwards and forever. The jealous love of the Lord Sabaoth will do this.*

This is in stark contrast to the “common wisdom” of men like King Ahaz who presume that those who are not strong are completely defenseless (cf. Is 7).

The Greek Old Testament specifies the “young woman” to be a “virgin,” a translation adopted by St. Luke (Lk 1:27-34)

and long-treasured by the Church. The sign of a virgin bearing a child is the first way that Isaiah mocks the common wisdom of mankind; such a birth seems to oppose nature itself. What it really shows is that while the laws of our nature subject us to their power, God remains the master of nature and subjects everything to His power. Further, the name Immanuel (“God with us”) must be understood in its original context: for Israel to understand “God-with-us” is a name meant for war. “God with us” was a reminder that God was not “with” every other nation. Pronouncing “Immanuel” meant to vest oneself with the power of God. But Immanuel appeared in the expected form of a child (Is 11:6-9):

*The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid, and the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and the little child shall lead them. . . The suckling child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder’s den. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain. . .*

This is a very beautiful passage. To understand it, one must read Genesis 1-2. There, we find harmony among all God’s creatures. Furthermore, man has authority over all the rest of creation: Adam both led and was served by the rest of creation. The Church understands the mission of Jesus Christ as salvation from the original sin and a return to the harmony that existed at the first creation. With the coming of this unexpected Messiah, God’s original project can once again be realized.

The key to reading the passages from Isaiah in the Church’s Advent liturgy is to understand that they are fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Concepts like justice, judgement, and peace are each fulfilled in Him. Justice for Isaiah is to receive what is duly expected. Jesus teaches us to render our love to God and neighbor, which leads to complete justice. Peace for Isaiah is not just the absence of war, but of hatred in the human heart. Jesus teaches us to live with this kind of peace. Judgement for Isaiah is to point out what is wrong with the current situation. With His coming, Jesus comes to reverse what sinful mankind considers normal and to return us to the original state of harmony with God and neighbor.

*“Ask a priest” will be a regular format for our Holy Teaching section in the coming months. Submit your own question to [bulletin@stgertrude.org](mailto:bulletin@stgertrude.org) for one of our Dominican priests to answer in the bulletin!*

Monday, December 7	Tuesday, December 8	Wednesday, December 9	Thursday, December 10	Friday, December 11	Saturday, December 12	Sunday, December 13
<b>Religious Education</b> 3:30 p.m. School Atrium	<b>True Devotion</b> 12:30 p.m. Parish Center St. Dominic Lobby	<b>Resurrection Choir Practice</b> 8:30 a.m. Parish Center St. Joseph Mtg Rm	<b>PTO Meeting</b> 8:30 a.m. School Cafeteria		<b>Catholic Men's Fellowship</b> 7:30 a.m. School Cafeteria	<b>Religious Education</b> 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. School Cafeteria, Atrium
<b>Healing Rosary</b> 7:00 p.m. Outside (weather permitting) or Church	<b>Children's Choir</b> 3:00 p.m. Parish Center St. Dominic Lobby	<b>Adult Choir</b> 7:00 p.m. Parish Center St. Dominic Lobby	<b>Consoling the Heart of Jesus</b> 9:00 a.m. Parish Center St. Dominic Lobby		<b>St. Anne &amp; Child Mary Guild</b> 9:00 a.m. Parish Center St. Dominic Lobby	<b>NFP Postpartum Workshop</b> 1:00 p.m. Parish Center St. Joseph Mtg Rm
<b>RCIA</b> 7:00 p.m. Parish Center St. Dominic Lobby	<b>Religious Education</b> 4:30 p.m. School Atrium	<b>LFL Book Club</b> 7:30 p.m. Parish Center St. Joseph Mtg Rm			<b>Cana Family Retreat</b> 9:45 a.m. School Cafeteria	<b>HSYM Discipleship Cells</b> 7:00 p.m. Parish Center
	<b>Religious Education Flexible Family Faith Formation</b> 6:30 p.m. School Cafeteria	<b>Benediction</b> 8:50 p.m. Church				
	<b>Dominican Laity – Bishop Fenwick Chapter</b> 7:00 p.m. Parish Center St. Dominic Lobby					
	<b>SAC Meeting</b> 7:00 p.m. School Library					
	<b>St. Vincent de Paul</b> 7:00 p.m. Parish Center St. Joseph Mtg Rm					

For guidelines about meetings on campus and scheduling information, please visit: [stgertrude.org/covid-19-guidelines/](http://stgertrude.org/covid-19-guidelines/).

## OFFERING

### St. Gertrude Parish Weekly Collection and Budget Report

	11/22/20	11/29/20
Collection:	\$ 29,102.00	\$ 36,044.00
Weekly Budget:	\$ 41,500.00	\$ 41,500.00
Weekly Deficit:	(\$ 12,398.00)	(\$ 5,456.00)
Year to Date Budget:	\$ 775,500.00	\$ 817,000.00
Year to Date Actual:	\$ 689,868.00	\$ 725,912.00
Year to Date Deficit:	(\$ 85,632.00)	(\$ 91,088.00)

A 2nd collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious will take place December 12-13. Parishioners have been asking about the number of 2nd collections in recent weeks. Due to the COVID-19 shutdown in the Spring, the Archdiocese rescheduled many 2nd collections for the Fall/Winter.

## BULLETIN DEADLINE

BULLETIN  
12/20/20

MATERIALS DUE  
12/9/20

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

6543 Miami Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45243  
513.561.5954 | FAX 513.561.7184 | [www.StGertrude.org](http://www.StGertrude.org)

**Parish Staff**

Rev. George Schommer, O.P., pastor  
 Rev. Clement Dickie, O.P., parochial vicar  
 Rev. John Mark Solitario, O.P., parochial vicar

**Dominican Friars in Residence**

Very Rev. John Langlois, O.P., prior  
 Rev. Joseph Alobaidi, O.P.  
 Rev. Paul J. Keller, O.P.  
 Rev. Michael Mary Dosch, O.P., novice master

**St. Gertrude School – 513.561.8020**

Principal – Sr. Maria Christi Greve, O.P. ext 1101  
 Vice Principal – Mr. Travis Johnson ext 1101  
 PTO President – Sarah Schilling 513.315.1053  
 School Advisory Council

**Office of Administration – 513.561.5954**

Receptionists – Susan Kane & Teri Forlini ext 2101  
 Business Manager – Don Regan ext 2102  
 Wedding/Bereavement Coordinator –  
 AnnaMaria Spurgin amspurgin@stgertrude.org  
 Bulletin Editor bulletin@stgertrude.org  
 Sacristan – Sheila Saalfeld ext 2401  
 Director of Music – Catherine Fishlock ext 2116

**Office of Evangelization – 513.561.5954**

Executive Director – Brad Bursa, PhD ext 2109  
 Primary Evangelization: PK-2nd Grade & Catechesis of the  
 Good Shepherd  
 Cindy Wurzelbacher ext 2109  
 Jr. High Evangelization: 3rd-8th Grade – Bryan Wells ext 2109  
 Jr. High Youth Ministry: 7th-8th Grade – Bryan Wells ext 2109  
 High School Youth Ministry – Megan Dickert ext 2109  
 Executive Assistant – Kristen Eggers 513.561.8367  
 Aquinas Society of Cincinnati (Adults & Families) –  
 Rev. Clement Dickie, O.P.  
 Rites of Christian Initiation (R.C.I.A.) –  
 Rev. John Mark Solitario, O.P.

**Corporal Works of Mercy**

Helping Hands – Nancy Lucas stgerthh@gmail.com  
 Knights of Columbus – Phil Motz 513-444-5072  
 Ladies of Charity – Jean Wilkinson 513.498.5085  
 Parish Health Ministry – Jeanne Palcic 513.317.4123  
 Pregnancy Center East (for all pregnancy needs) 513.321.3100  
 Soup Kitchen – Andy Cordier 513.248.1005  
 St. Vincent De Paul Society – Mark Findley 513.561.5954, ext 2112  
 Visitation of the Sick – Judy Hartmann 513.984.8003

**Vocations Directors**

Archdiocese of Cincinnati – Fr. Dan Schmitmeyer 513.421.3131  
 Dominican Friars –  
 Fr. Jacob Bertrand Janczyk, O.P. DominicanFriars.org  
 Nashville Dominican Sisters – Sr. Mara Grace, O.P. 615.256.5486

**Spiritual Works of Mercy**

Baptism Team –  
 Circle of Prayer – Barbara Rose prayercirclesg@gmail.com  
 Communion to Sick – Judy Hartmann 513.984.8003  
 Natural Family Planning – David & Ann Stein 513.561.5751  
 Pastoral Council – Mark Kosobud 513.469.0852  
 Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration 513.561.5954 ext 2136  
 Prayer Ministry for the Dying – Pat Collins 513.265.1897  
 Regina Veritatis Prayer & Healing – Nealy Mechley 513.505.1740  
 Respect Life – Debbie Graham 513.984.4766  
 Rosary Making – Larry Ball 513.831.8572  
 Unbound Ministry – Nealy Mechley 513.505.1740

**Liturgical Ministries**

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