



FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH • DECEMBER 26TH



ST. GERTRUDE CHURCH

MASSES AND CONFESSIONS AT ST. GERTRUDE

Monday, December 27, St. John the Apostle (F)

- 7:00 a.m. Christmas Novena
- 8:00 a.m. †Dorothy & George Arozarena/Laura Ringenbach
- 11:30 a.m. †Deceased Members of the Dominican Order

Tuesday, December 28, The Holy Innocents (F)

- 7:00 a.m. †Walter Eugene Cameron/Joan Ratajczak
- 8:00 a.m. Christmas Novena
- 11:30 a.m. Stephanie Lunning/Steve & Mimi Leverone

Wednesday, December 29,

The Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

- 7:00 a.m. †David Jennison/Jennison Family
- 8:00 a.m. †Raymond Woll/Steve & Valerie Badinghaus
- 11:30 a.m. Christmas Novena

Thursday, December 30,

The Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

- 7:00 a.m. Christmas Novena
- 8:00 a.m. †Jack Crowley/Peter Bertoli
- 11:30 a.m. †Arleen Berger/Pat & Bruce Buckley

Friday, December 31,

The Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

- 7:00 a.m. No Mass
- 8:00 a.m. Christmas Novena
- 11:30 a.m. †Patti Coit/Rita Gehring
- 7:00 p.m. WORLD PEACE

Saturday, January 1,

Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God (S)

Not a Holy Day of Obligation this year

- 8:00 a.m. Christmas Novena
- 10:00 a.m. †Mary Lee/Thien Cao
- 12:00 p.m. †Patricia Dolle/Kate Stoiber

Sunday, January 2, The Epiphany of the Lord (S)

- 8:00 a.m. People of St. Gertrude
- 10:00 a.m. †Dr. Frank Cianciolo/Dee Cianciolo
- 12:00 p.m. Christmas Novena
- 6:00 p.m. †Peter Fox/Mr. & Mrs. Andy Schmitt

Confessions will be heard in the church Monday-Friday at 4:00 p.m. There will be no Holy Hour or confession on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m., and no confession on Saturday, January 1, at 3:30 p.m.

Parish Office Info

6543 Miami Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45243
(513) 561-5954 | www.stgertrude.org

Parish Office Hours

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

School Office Hours

Monday-Friday: 7:30 a.m.-3:45 p.m.

Church Hours

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

Parish Office Closed for Christmas

The parish office will be closed
Friday, December 24, 2021, through
Sunday, January 2, 2022. Normal hours
resume on Monday, January 3, 2022.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

December 26, 2021–January 2, 2022

Sunday, December 26, 2021–January 2, 2022

Adoration chapel closed

Wednesday, December 29, 2021

No evening Holy Hour or confessions

Friday, December 31, 2021

No 7:00 a.m. Mass
7:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

Saturday, January 1, 2022

8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. Masses
No confessions or 4:30 p.m. Mass

Sunday, January 2, 2022

Normal Sunday Mass schedule

**Regular schedule resumes Monday,
January 3, 2022.**

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an eye-opening and empowering 2-part series.

Visit stgertrude.org/illuminate for more details and to register.

All sessions will be presented by Brad Bursa, PhD, director of adult
formation at St. Gertrude.

 ST. GERTRUDE
CHURCH



GOD IS WITH US

Today is the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. While thinking of this family, I cannot stop thinking about the families whose lives are deeply affected by the senseless and violent killings of their children while at school. The tragedy they experience demonstrates the vulnerability of human

life, particularly, the vulnerability of children. They come into the world completely dependent upon their mothers for care and nourishment and upon their parents for protection from the vulnerability that children cannot articulate. In a poignant way, children are vulnerable to the power of evil that works in the world.

The Holy Family, likewise, experienced vulnerability and tragedy. Here are some examples as recorded in the Scriptures: St. Luke tells us that there was no room for them in the inn (homeless for the night); St. Matthew tells us that there was a death threat regarding Jesus, and the family had to flee to Egypt (refugees for years); St. Luke tells us the experience of a lost child in Jerusalem who is found in the temple (emotional anguish for parents); lastly, we are all familiar with the Gospel account of the arrest of Jesus, his trial before Pilate, and his violent crucifixion and death (religious persecution). These events in the life of the Holy Family teach us that their experience of life included vulnerability and tragedy. They were not shielded from these realities that we all experience.

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches that “Christ's whole life is a mystery of *redemption*. Redemption comes to us above all through the blood of his cross, but this mystery is at work throughout Christ's entire life:

- already in his Incarnation through which by becoming poor he enriches us with his poverty;
- in his hidden life which by his submission atones for our disobedience;
- in his word which purifies its hearers;
- in his healings and exorcisms by which ‘he took our infirmities and bore our diseases’;
- and in his Resurrection by which he justifies us” (CCC 517).

And so, we, in the face of our vulnerabilities and tragedies, are invited to fix our gaze upon Christ who “. . . enables us to live in him all that he himself lived, and he lives it in us” (CCC 521). Christ is united with every person through all the stages and experiences of life. He is not separated from us in our trials, difficulties, and tragedies. No, he is present in all of our experiences so that we may find our hope and our strength in him. He has the power to bring the triumph of love and grace into our lives.

The life of the Holy Family “revolved” around the person of Jesus. Through him, they discovered the will of God for their lives; through him, they witnessed the power of God to heal the human person

of physical and spiritual infirmities; through him, they discovered the divine answer to the questions and realities of evil and death. A continual focus upon the person of Jesus enabled them to accept and persevere through the mysteries of evil, vulnerability, and tragedy.

This Feast of the Holy Family offers us the opportunity to renew our focus upon the person of Jesus and to engage our life with his. We have today the opportunity and grace to reorient our attention so that our lives revolve around his. The life of holiness does not mean that our lives are without trials; rather, the life of holiness means that we live each day with our eyes fixed on Jesus, the leader and perfecter of our faith (cf. Heb 12:2). From him we discover and experience that he is Emmanuel—God is with us. By his triumph over sin and death, he is more powerful than all the evil in the universe. He is our hope.

Thanks to all who helped make our celebration of Christmas joyful, meaningful, and beautiful. And a special thanks to all who made a donation for the Christmas flowers. May the Lord bless all who have given gifts of time, talent, and treasure so that we may worthily celebrate the Christmas feasts.

Let us love one another and pray for each other,

Fr. George, O.P.

Father George Schommer, O.P.

THE POWER OF THE ROSARY QUOTES FROM THE SAINTS



“The rosary is not a tedious prayer just because the person is always repeating the Hail Mary. Each Hail Mary recited, with the contemplation of the mysteries, is always said with a different feeling and the intensity of the prayer is not monotonous. It is an intensity of love. Does not a child call his mother all the time? His cry: “Mom!” is different according to the need that inspires and animates it. Therefore, recite the rosary like a child, invoking our Heavenly Mother and imploring her help.”

— Servant of God Dolindo Ruotolo

COVER IMAGE:

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SCHOOL NEWS

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Christmas Break/No School – Monday, December 19-Friday, December 31, 2021
- School Resumes – Monday, January 3, 2022

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

On Thursday, December 16, our students performed in our annual Christmas pageant. Here are some pictures from the beautiful production.



SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS

The school office will be closed Monday, December 20, through Friday, December 31. The school office will reopen on Monday, January 3, 2022, at 7:30 a.m.

Come see us at our **OPEN HOUSE**

NOW ENROLLING FOR 2022-2023

Sunday
January 30, 2022
1:00–3:00 p.m.



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For over 85 years, St. Gertrude School has been led by the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia.



DOMINICANA JOURNAL

The Dominican Student Brothers recently published the 2021 issue of *Dominicana*, a Dominican-produced journal that features articles, interviews, art, a translation, and book reviews. St. Gertrude Church has purchased an online subscription to the journal, and you have online access—for free! To view the recent issue, which focuses on education in the Catholic tradition, visit dominicanajournal.org/login/ and enter our parish username (stgertrude) and password (CincinnatiOP).

**YOU CAN STILL DONATE
A ST. MICHAEL HYMNAL**

Thank you to everyone who purchased a St. Michael Hymnal and donated it back to the parish. We are very grateful for and overwhelmed by your generosity. The hymnals are in the pews with your special donor bookplates.

If you would still like to purchase a hymnal and donate it to St. Gertrude Church as a gift, in memory of someone, in honor of someone, or in thanksgiving for something, please visit stgertrude.org/news/stmichaelhymnal to see a sample of the bookplate and to download the donor purchase form. Return the completed form, along with your cash or check, to the parish office. Please note, we do not yet have a date when these additional hymnals will be in the pews.

LET US PRAY

PLEASE PRAY FOR . . .

THE SICK:

Tim Brinkman, Kim Caswell, Bettie Caudill, Ann Cerone, Triset Defonseka, Lisa Ely, Dick Gelhaus, Bob Gerwin, Andrew Goad, Cameron Goad, Matthew Goad, Glenn Grismere, Loretta Holden, Hummel Family, Megan Johnson, Rhonda Keith-Stephens, Aiko Kimura, Ed Kinney, Marianne Klekamp, Janice Koncius, Kevin Lewis, Kim McClung, Sandra Munyon, Elaine O’Connell, Sue Paas, Gerry Patterson, Ellen Schaengold, Patricia Scherer, Pegge Schuermann, Richard Seifert, Teddie Slaper, Jack Spilker, Jim Spurgin, Patricia Strauss, Judy Sullivan, Mary Saul, Mary Valker, Bill Van Hise, and Brigitte Vielhauer

THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES:

Samuel C. Bascom, Patrick Burke, Curtis Flores, Luis Flores, Jr., Cole and Kyle Foster, Dominic Geraci, Daniel Holian, Mike Huber, Aaron Jacobson, Jacob Kramb, John Kramb, Kelly Leugers, John Murdock, Jr., John Oscar, Sarah Ries, Kolbe Roberts, Dan Roseman, Andrew Shannon, and Ian Tester

THE RECENTLY DECEASED

Edward F. Beck

ST. GERTRUDE CHURCH IS HIRING

We are looking for a head sacristan to join our team. In this role, you will be responsible for the maintenance of the sacristy, sanctuary, and altars, as well as overseeing all the supplies necessary for the celebration of the liturgy. To view the full job description and to apply, visit stgertrude.org/employment.

BAPTISM

Saturday, December 11, 2021



Child: Silvia Marie Jeffries
Parents: Isaac & Sarah Jeffries

Sunday, December 12, 2021



Child: Isabel Hope Hobson
Parents: Thomas & Sarah Hobson



Child: Josef Michael Dominic Hoffmann
Parents: Ben & Jamie Hoffmann



Child: Owen Carl Schweiss
Parents: Ben & Claudia Schweiss

LOC SHARING VAN IS BACK

On the weekend of January 8-9, 2022, the Ladies of Charity will be collecting items for Bethany House, an agency which empowers homeless and at-risk families with solutions to achieve housing stability and long-term self-sufficiency. For a list of their immediate needs, please visit stgertrude.org/news/sharingvan. Thank you for your generous support. If you have any questions about Bethany House or the Ladies of Charity, please call Jean Wilkinson at (513) 498-5085.

2022 CINCINNATI MEN'S CONFERENCE

Actor Jim Caviezel (Mel Gibson's The Passion of the Christ) and Raymond Arroyo (EWTN/FOX News) are coming to Cincinnati April 2, 2022, to speak at the Cincinnati Men's Conference. Themed "Evil Prevails When Good Men Do Nothing," the conference is intended for all men, no matter where you are in your spiritual journey or which faith you identify with. For more information and to get your tickets, visit CincinnatiMensConference.com. You won't regret it.

SYNOD ON SYNODALITY - YOU'RE INVITED

Pope Francis has called for a synod in October 2023 and is asking for as many of the baptized as possible to participate in the archdiocese-wide meetings taking place in January and February 2022. The various parishes in the St. Andrew Deanery, which St. Gertrude is part of, will meet on Thursday, January, 13, 2022, at Good Shepherd Parish (8815 E Kemper Rd, Cincinnati) from 7:00-9:00 p.m. Please consider attending. Registration is required. To learn more and to sign up, please visit catholicaoc.org/synod.

7TH ANNUAL E6 CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

St. Leon, Indiana | February 26, 2022

Become a better husband, parent, son, brother, and neighbor at the 7th Annual E6 Catholic Men's Conference. Featuring Matthew Kelly and Gus Lloyd, the event is designed to bring men into a deeper relationship with Christ and his Catholic Church through a worthy celebration of the sacraments, engaging talks to strengthen faith, opportunities for true fraternity, and exposure to good resources to aid in living the faith as disciples of Christ. Limited tickets available. Visit www.e6cmc.com for more information to register.

**ALL
YOU
CAN
EAT!**



**ENJOY BREAKFAST AT
ST. GERTRUDE CHURCH!**

Date: Sunday, January 9, 2022
Location: Gym
Time: 8:45 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Cost: \$8/person | \$28/family
\$4/children grades K-8
Children 5 & under - Free

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

Today is the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Let us celebrate that we all belong to the holy family of God, which makes us brothers and sisters to each other. Through your generous gifts at Christmas this year, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to bring joy and hope to our brothers and sisters who are poor by providing help with Christmas presents for eight families, paying two families' Duke bills, helping one family with funeral expenses, providing two boxes of food and Kroger gift cards to a single mom with five kids, assisting one family with a dental bill, and providing one family with rent assistance. In addition, we were able to help Nativity and Resurrection of Our Lord with their high demand for assistance in their neighborhoods. Thank you, and may God bless you.

CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE NEEDED

A parish family with two children ages nine and five is in need of babysitting help and after school care on Tuesdays and Fridays each week, starting January 4, 2022. Must be able to drive children to and from school and other activities, and pay is hourly based on experience and availability. If you are interested, please contact Dina at (513) 207-4246 for more information.

Monday, December 27	Tuesday, December 28	Wednesday, December 29	Thursday, December 30	Friday, December 31	Saturday, January 1	Sunday, January 2
Adoration Chapel Closed	Adoration Chapel Closed	Adoration Chapel Closed	Adoration Chapel Closed	Adoration Chapel Closed	Adoration Chapel Closed	Adoration Chapel Closed
Parish Office Closed	Parish Office Closed	Parish Office Closed	Parish Office Closed	Parish Office Closed		Rosary Sales After 8:00, 10:00 & 12:00 Masses PC St. Dominic Lobby
Healing Rosary 7:00 p.m. Church						Family Faith 9:00 & 10:30 a.m. School Cafeteria
						Catechesis of the Good Shepherd 9:00 & 10:30 a.m. Atrium I & II

For guidelines about meetings on campus and scheduling information, please visit stgertrude.org/covid19.

OFFERING
St. Gertrude Parish
Weekly Collection and Budget Report
Collection for December 19

Weekly Budget	\$ 35,294
Collection	\$ 45,219
Weekly Surplus	\$ 9,925

2nd Collection: \$2,621 Catholic Education

Fiscal Year-To-Date
(for year ending June 30, 2022)

Fiscal YTD Budget	\$ 882,350
Fiscal YTD Actual	\$ 887,823
Fiscal YTD Surplus	\$ 5,473

BULLETIN DEADLINE

BULLETIN 1/9/22	MATERIALS DUE 12/30/21
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Please submit your Mass announcements and bulletin articles to bulletin@stgertrude.org
6543 Miami Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45243
(513) 561-5954 | FAX (513) 561-7184 | www.StGertrude.org

PARISH DIRECTORY

Parish Staff

Fr. George Schommer, O.P., pastor
Fr. John Mark Solitario, O.P., parochial vicar
Fr. Jordan Kelly, O.P., parochial vicar

Dominican Friars in Residence

Fr. John Langlois, O.P., prior
Fr. Joseph Alobaidi, O.P.
Fr. John Corbett, O.P.
Fr. Paul J. Keller, O.P.
Fr. 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 - Emily Baute (513) 646-9321
School Advisory Council

Office of Administration - (513) 561-5954

Receptionists - Susan Kane & Teri Forlini ext 2101
Business Manager - Don Regan ext 2102
Business Office Admin Assistant - Emma Golias ext 2103
Bereavement ext 2101
Bulletin Editor bulletin@stgertrude.org
Director of Music - Catherine Fishlock ext 2116
Safe Environment Coordinator - Emma Golias ext 2103

Evangelization Team - (513) 561-5954

Team Lead and Director of Adult Formation -
Brad Bursa, PhD ext 2120
Coordinator of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd -
Mary Beth Dickert ext 2110
Director of Youth Formation - Walter Plummer ext 2122
Communications Coordinator - Michelle Dushensky ext 2121
Executive Assistant - Kristen Eggers ext 2109
Rites of Christian Initiation (R.C.I.A.) ext 2101
Fr. 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 soupkitchen@stgertrude.org
St. Vincent De Paul Society -
Jim Spurgin (513) 561-5954, ext 2112

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
Eucharistic Adoration adoration@stgertrude.org
Natural Family Planning - David & Ann Stein (513) 207-9673
Pastoral Council - Jill Woods (513) 235-6827
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

Adult Choir - Catherine Fishlock (513) 561-5954
Contemporary Music Ensemble - Paul Kindt (513) 697-9208
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (513) 561-5954
Lectors - (513) 561-5954
Resurrection Choir - Marty Cunningham (513) 891-4226
The St. Anne and the Child Mary Guild -
Ann McCormick (513) 272-1533
St. Joseph the Worker Society (513) 561-5954
Ushers - Douglas Postler (513) 791-6298
Viri Selecti - Ben Hoffmann pxaw@hotmail.com
Youth Choir - Catherine Fishlock (513) 561-5954

Spiritual Groups

Adult Bible Study - (513) 561.5954-
Amiguitas del Corazón de Jesús -
Nora Klopp-Frias noraklopp08@gmail.com
Angelic Warfare Confraternity -
Fr. John Mark Solitario, O.P. (513) 561-5954
Benedictine Oblates - Mark Milliron (513) 536-6275
Catholic Men's Fellowship - Paul Rieger (513) 885-5903
Confraternity of the Most Holy Rosary -
Brian Zappia (513) 791-7299
Dominican Laity (Bishop Fenwick) -
Joan Ratajczak, O.P. jsratajczak@gmail.com
Dominican Laity (Our Lady of Peace) -
Mr. Fred Thomas, O.P. (513) 335-1700 or fth5131119@aol.com
FAMILIA/CANA Family For Mothers -
Anita Pappalardo (513) 248-8237
Special Needs Moms Support Group -
Tina Rolfes tina.rolfes123@gmail.com
True Devotion to Mary - Anne Collins (513) 984-4708

Parish Groups

Athletic Boosters - Rob Gruber (513) 256-2566
Boy Scouts - Robert Dinga (612) 616-8242
Cub Scouts - Chris De Brunner (513) 379-1010
Garden Club - Susan Brokaw (513) 702-6877
Lenten Fish Fry - Rob Mancini (513) 520-6360
Little Flower Library - Susan Santos (513) 504-0205
Parish Coffee - Mark Findley (513) 417-9227



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