



ST. GERTRUDE

1923

2023

100TH ANNIVERSARY

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT | DECEMBER 3, 2023

## MASSES AND CONFESSION

### Monday, December 4, Advent Weekday

- 7 a.m. † Eric Goza by The Vasquez Family
- 8 a.m. † Marty Mahoney by The Finnegan Family
- 11:30 a.m. † Deceased Members of the Dominican Order

### Tuesday, December 5, Advent Weekday

- 7 a.m. † Michelle Halpin by The Murray Family
- 8 a.m. † Ian Reyes Padilla by Jenny & John Ward
- 11:30 a.m. † Joseph Pope by Kathy Balbach

### Wednesday, December 6, St. Nicholas (M)

- 7 a.m. † Patricia Shannon by Jeanne Johantges
- 8 a.m. † James Rybak by Mary Rybak
- 11:30 a.m. † Gary Babcock by The Morris Family

### Thursday, December 7, St. Ambrose (M)

- 7 a.m. Vicki Calonge by The Shappie Family
- 8 a.m. Jack Boone by Scott & Tracy Boone
- 11:30 a.m. † Mary Jane Hery by Pete & Donna Marcello
- 7 p.m. † Adelinda Flores Tejano by Julie Murdock

### Friday, December 8,

#### Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (S)

- 7 a.m. † Joseph & Marjorie Schirmer by The Schirmer Family
- 8 a.m. † Mary Grace Schlie by Nancy DeBrunner
- 11:30 a.m. † Tim Petric by Mary Petric
- 7 p.m. † Deceased members of the Ladies of Charity by Ladies of Charity

### Saturday, December 9, St. Juan Diego (M)

- 8 a.m. † Marianne Klekamp by Lisa & Dana Hackney
- 11:30 a.m. Robert Bartel by Sal & Teri Forlini
- 4:30 p.m. † Raymond & Katherine Clark by Moira & Jim Bonn

### Sunday, December 10, 2nd Sunday of Advent

- 8 a.m. † Kylee Dawson by Mike & Cindy Oliver
- 10 a.m. † Megan Johnson by Patrick & Robbie Johnson
- 12 p.m. People of St. Gertrude
- 6 p.m. † Jean Ellert by Knights of Columbus Elder Council

Confessions will be heard in the church Monday-Friday at 4 p.m., Wednesday at 7:30 p.m., and Saturday at 3:30 p.m.

## Parish Information

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

Parish Office Hours

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

School Office Hours

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

Church Hours

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



## Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

Friday, December 8, is the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, which is a holy day of obligation. Masses will be December 7 at 7 p.m. (vigil), and December 8 at 7 a.m., 8 a.m., 11:30 a.m., and 7 p.m. Please join us as we honor our Blessed Mother.

JOIN US FOR

## Christmas Caroling in Madeira

Saturday, December 16, after 4:30 p.m. Mass

- 5:30 p.m. Pizza dinner (gym)
- 6 p.m. Opening prayer
- 6:30 p.m. Head out for carols
- 7:30 p.m. Hot chocolate and cookies (gym)

Visit [bit.ly/2023caroling](http://bit.ly/2023caroling) or scan the QR code to learn more and RSVP.



## ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS

In celebration of the Advent season, the St. Gertrude Parish Choir and Schola Cantorum present a service of Advent Lessons and Carols. This contemplative hour-long service is based around a series of readings that trace salvation history until the birth of Christ, interspersed with powerful musical meditations from the Church's treasury of sacred music for Advent. All are welcome!

December 10 | 3 p.m.  
St. Gertrude Church

Father John Paul was away on retreat when this bulletin was being worked on. In place of a letter from him, please enjoy the following message from Archbishop Schnurr—a great reflection as we begin the season of Advent today.



**SEEK THE LORD**  
ARCHBISHOP DENNIS M. SCHNURR

On Christmas morning, in the opening prayer of the Mass at Dawn, we ask God to allow the light of faith, which radiates from the incarnate Word, to shine through in our deeds. This prayer reminds us of a beautiful truth: the

gift of our faith is not something we keep to ourselves; rather, having received the very life of God within our souls, He then calls us to share that divine goodness with others.

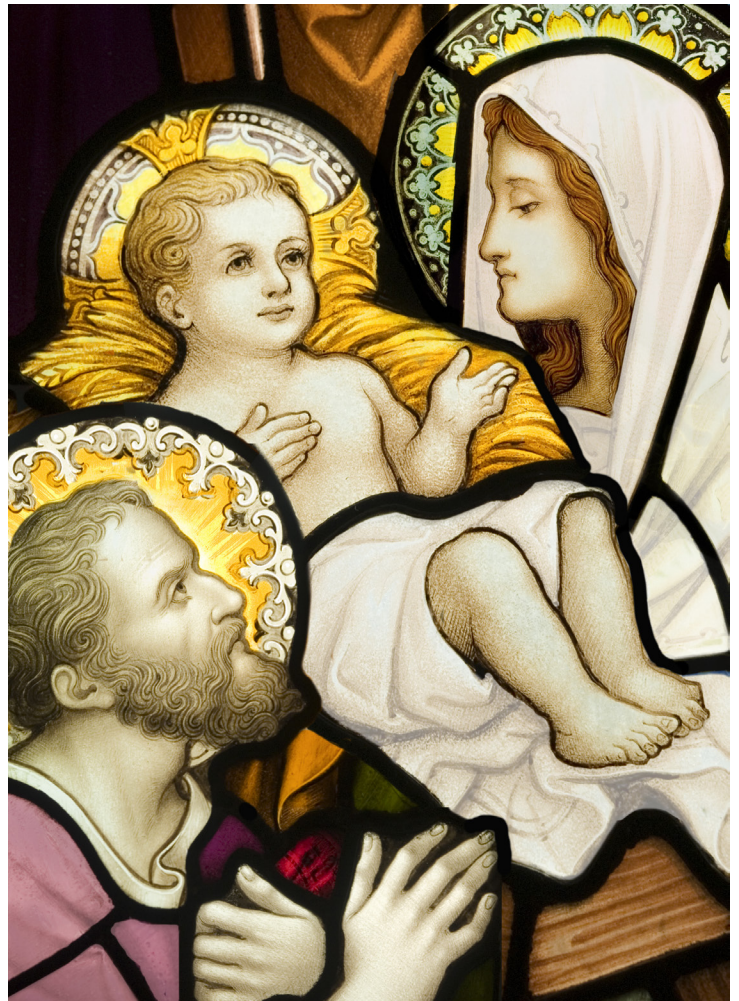
Jesus Christ is the model of such self-giving. Out of love for us, with nothing to gain for Himself, He entered into our human nature and offered Himself for our redemption from sin. During the season of Advent, we prepare ourselves to celebrate this mystery at Christmas. Christ's birth into this world invites us to renew our awareness of the humble nature of God's saving love and His desire to reveal the truth of our humanity by becoming human Himself.

The Lord, who has given us everything out of love, asks us, in turn, to give of ourselves for others. We live in a world desperately in need of love. Our faith invites us to put the love we have received from God into action, thereby recognizing the inherent dignity of each person created in the image and likeness of God. The Church has outlined the 14 Works of Mercy, the practical, time-honored ways we can put our love into action. The Corporal Works of Mercy are to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, visit the imprisoned, shelter the homeless, visit the sick and bury the dead. The Spiritual Works of Mercy are to instruct the ignorant, counsel the doubtful, admonish the sinner, bear wrongs patiently, forgive others, comfort the afflicted and pray for the living and the dead. There are so many ways in which we can strive to love others as God has loved us!

As we prepare this Advent to celebrate the mystery of the Lord's Incarnation, it is a fitting time to reflect on the love we have received from God and what our response to that love may be. As individuals and families, we can discern how God may be inviting us to grow in our love for others. There are many opportunities to share Christ's love with others through our parish communities and other groups, including the many charitable ministries which offer assistance or provide services addressing the wide range of needs in our society. Maybe there is one such ministry which is uniquely suited to your own talents and interests. If so, this might be the perfect time to get involved.

I pray that this Advent may be a fruitful period of prayer and preparation for each of you, for your families, for our parishes and for our archdiocese as a whole. May we welcome the Christ Child and know that with the love He has come to offer us, He also calls us to

offer that love to our brothers and sisters here on earth. And may the peace, joy and fullness of life that only Christ can bring be yours this Advent and Christmas!



This article appeared in the November 2023 issue of The Catholic Telegraph Magazine. Reprinted with permission.

**THE POWER OF THE ROSARY**



*The Rosary is the most excellent form of prayer and the most efficacious means of attaining eternal life. It is the remedy for all our evils, the root of all our blessings. There is no more excellent way of praying.*

— Pope Leo XIII

**COVER IMAGE:** *The Immaculate Conception* (1767-1769) by Giovanni Battista Tiepolo

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**Do You Sew? We Could Use Your Help:** The St. Gertrude Players could use some help with sewing costumes for the upcoming production of *Peter Pan, Jr.* If you have time and talent to contribute, please reach out to [sgsplayers@stgertrudesch.org](mailto:sgsplayers@stgertrudesch.org).

**Library Volunteers Needed:** Work in the school library on a weekly or biweekly basis to help children check out books, shelve returned books, and assist the librarian as needed. Please contact Mrs. Strobe at [astrope@stgertrudesch.org](mailto:astrope@stgertrudesch.org) for more information.

**Help Needed with Chicken Care:** We could use some assistance with our chickens, including daily check-in on water and food, and monthly cleaning out of the coops. If you or your family is able to commit to helping from time to time, please reach out to Sister Mary Agnes at [smagnes@stgertrudesch.org](mailto:smagnes@stgertrudesch.org). Thank you for your help!



## TEACHER Q&A WITH MRS. CAPOZZOLI (4TH/5TH GRADE HISTORY & LANGUAGE ARTS TEACHER)

**St. Gertrude Bulletin:** Why did you choose to work at St. Gertrude School?

**Mrs. Capozzoli:** I chose to work at St. Gertrude School because I love teaching. To be able to share my faith in our God and my practice of Catholicism is an amazing blessing.

**SGB:** What is unique about St. Gertrude School?

**Mrs. Capozzoli:** St. Gertrude School is unique because of the Dominican influence. Their presence keeps our school grounded in goodness and light. Christ is the reason we have this school.

**SGB:** Why should a parent consider a St. Gertrude School education?

**Mrs. Capozzoli:** Any parent who sends his or her child here will someday realize the true benefits as he or she watches his or her child blossom into his or her future years. This spiritual and academic foundation will serve these children well throughout their lives.

**SGB:** What do you love most about teaching at St. Gertrude School?

**Mrs. Capozzoli:** What do I love most? Well, that is easy, as I love each and every one of these children.

**SGB:** What is your background, and do you have any hobbies?

**Mrs. Capozzoli:** My background in teaching began with an undergraduate degree in elementary education, and I also went on to get my masters degree in elementary education. I have taught in public schools in Florida and Connecticut. I really don't have any hobbies, per se—teaching is my passion and hobby!

## SAVE THE DATE!

### ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

For over 50 years, St. Gertrude School has performed an annual Christmas Pageant that shares the story of salvation history from creation through the incarnation of the Son of God. This year's pageant is on Tuesday, December 19, at 7 p.m. in St. Gertrude Church. Family and friends may also attend the performance for the whole student body, which will be on Wednesday, December 20.



## TOURNAMENT CHAMPS!

Congratulations to Coach Wordeman's 7th/8th grade girls basketball team for winning the St. Thomas More Thanksgiving tournament this past weekend! Go, Bulldogs!

# Discover the St. Gertrude School Difference

**A Catholic education is more affordable now than ever before. Join us for a personal tour to meet our principal, observe classes, and see what makes St. Gertrude School so unique.**

**We look forward to meeting you!**

Scan the QR code or visit [stgertrudesch.org](http://stgertrudesch.org) to schedule a personal tour.





**GOSPEL  
HOSPITALITY**  
TYLER CASTRUCCI,  
COORDINATOR  
OF ADULT  
EVANGELIZATION

“It’s the holiday season . . .”

I can’t help but think of Andy Williams crooning those words each year at the beginning of December. Advent is here, which means Christmas is just around the corner, which means lots of fun Christmas traditions, movies, music, family gatherings, and in-laws. As a parish community, it means we are about three weeks away from potentially hundreds of people entering our church doors for the first time in many years—or for the first time, period. If you’ve ever had large amounts of guests over to your home for Christmas, then you know the ensuing panic and frenzied preparations that lead up to the big day. Preparing the church for Christmas can sometimes feel the same way. In light of this, I’ve been reflecting on hospitality and what hospitality should be in light of the Gospel.

Basic hospitality is something that many non-religious groups and organizations value. Chick-fil-A is a great example of basic hospitality. It is a key “strategic anchor” for them. Chick-fil-A certainly isn’t shy about their Christian values. But they are first and foremost a business, and being hospitable is good for business. The vice president of Chick-fil-A talks about this in an article in which he emphasizes learning and using customers’ names, offering a warm greeting and farewell, and more. This is all good stuff, but it’s not radical hospitality, or what I like to call Gospel hospitality.

What is Gospel hospitality? It’s pouring oneself out for another in view of their dignity as a human person for the sake of their salvation. Sounds heavy, but it’s really quite simple. It involves a fundamental mindset shift from that of our animal nature (strangers are enemies) to that of our human nature in light of Christ (by welcoming a stranger I am respecting his or her dignity as a human being). A well-known and beloved story about St. Dominic reflects this attitude. When Dominic began his travels to evangelize, he rode to an inn late one evening and encountered an innkeeper who subscribed to the Albigensian heresy. According to tradition, St. Dominic stayed up with the man (even though he was probably exhausted

from his travels) all through the night discussing the faith. By the time morning arrived, the innkeeper had returned to orthodox belief. This is Gospel hospitality. I’m sure Dominic had convincing arguments and things to say, but that in and of itself probably isn’t what won the innkeeper over. Dominic didn’t just learn his name, and offer a warm greeting and farewell. He went beyond that and invested himself fully in the man’s story. The innkeeper only cared about what Dominic had to say because he knew that Dominic cared about him as a person.

Extreme? Yes. Difficult to replicate? Absolutely! Nevertheless, I believe this is the type of Gospel hospitality that Jesus calls us to. It doesn’t always have to take the form of an all-nighter with a stranger, but the principle of taking genuine interest in another person’s story remains the same. We can start by doing something simple such as making it a point to go up to an unfamiliar face after Christmas Mass and welcoming and getting to know him or her. Imagine if all of the new faces that pass through St. Gertrude Church’s doors this Christmas encountered this type of Gospel hospitality. If it prompts one person to return to the Church or discover the Gospel for the first time, then it will have been worth it.



**ADORATION &  
ADVENT REFLECTIONS**

**DECEMBER 6, 13, 20 | 7:30-8:30 P.M.  
ST. GERTRUDE CHURCH**

Join us on the three Wednesdays of Advent for a Holy Hour that will help you enter into this season of preparation and get to know the person of Jesus Christ in a new way. Each Holy Hour will begin with a 20-minute reflection from one of our friars, followed by a time of silent adoration.

- December 6**     **Father Luke VanBerkum**
- December 13**   **Father John Paul Walker**
- December 20**   **Father Joachim Kenney**

**FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

As we begin Advent we are called to “Be watchful! Be alert!” as we stand in joyful anticipation for the grace of Christmas to bless our lives once again.

By placing your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box, you will help the poor celebrate the grace of God’s love this Christmas.



**SENIORS’ FUN BUNCH RECAP**

Thank you to everyone who attended our second Fun Bunch meeting on November 21! It was a fun afternoon with good food, fellowship, and an informative presentation from Michelle Smith, the archdiocese’s archivist, about the history of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and St. Gertrude Parish.

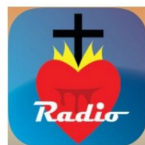
All parishioners age 55+ are invited to join us next month on Tuesday, December 19, at 12:15 p.m. in the Parish Center for lunch, fellowship, Christmas carols and hymns with our music director Christopher Holman, and a Christmas meditation given by Father Joseph Alobaidi, O.P. If you plan to attend, please contact Diane Kennedy at (513) 791-6075 or mkennedy06@aol.com so we can get an estimated headcount. We hope to see you there!



**COFFEE & DONUTS WITH SACRED HEART RADIO**

Next Sunday, December 10, Sacred Heart Radio will be joining us for coffee and donuts after the 10 a.m. Mass. The team will be handing out information, bumper stickers, and more. Please stop by to meet the folks at SHR, learn more about the station, and enjoy a sweet treat. Catholic radio changes lives! Listen to Sacred Heart Radio on 740AM, 910AM, on the app, and at [sacredheartradio.com](http://sacredheartradio.com).

**LISTEN LIVE ON THE APP**



**FATHER MICHAEL DOSCH UPDATE**

Congratulations to Father Michael Mary Dosch, O.P. on his new appointment as socius and vicar provincial of the Dominican Friars of the Province of St. Joseph! In this new role, Father Michael will be assisting the prior provincial in the administration of the entire province. We wish him well in this new and important assignment (and hope he finds his way back to Cincinnati from time to time to visit)! Here is Father Michael’s new mailing address:

Father Michael Mary Dosch, O.P.  
Socius and Vicar Provincial  
Dominican Province of St. Joseph  
869 Lexington Ave. New York, NY 10065

**BAPTISM**

**Sunday, November 19, 2023**



Child: Charlie William Casstevens  
Parents: Jon & Kristen Casstevens



Child: Clare Marie Kilroy  
Parents: Brian & Chrissy Kilroy

**LET US PRAY**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR ...**

**THE SICK:**

Tina Bascom, Vicki Calonge, Carol Connors, Maureen S. Currens, Dan DeBow, Triset Defonseka, Pamela K. Dwyer, Lisa Ely, Lynn Fedele, Octavio Flores-Resendiz, Dick Gelhaus, Bob Gerwin, Goad Family, Elsa Hall, Hummel Family, Andrea Kattel, Aiko Kimura, Diane Kosobud, Ed and Karen Larkin, Kevin Lewis, Gertrude Maxwell, Kim McClung, Elaine O’Connell, Sue Paas, Gerry Patterson, Gert Patterson, Pegge Schuermann, Richard Seifert, Judy Sullivan, Jim Tappel, Debbie Van Hise, Brigitte Vielhauer, Kerry Walden, and Viktor & Mary Wilhelmy

**THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES:**

Patrick Burke, Gabe Dorsey, Jacob Dorsey, Curtis Flores, Luis Flores, Jr., Cole Foster, Kyle Foster, Dominic Geraci, Daniel Holian, Mike Huber, Aaron Jacobson, Jacob Kramb, John Kramb, Kelly Leugers, Dominic Lloyd, Seth McGann, John Murdock, Jr., John Oscar, Sarah Ries, Dan Roseman, Andrew Shannon, Ian Tester, and Gus Voto

**THE RECENTLY DECEASED:**

† Mary “Jane” Hazelton

## **CHRISTMAS NATIVITIES AT MARIA STEIN SHRINE**

From now through January 10, 2024, the Maria Stein Shrine will again be hosting a Nativity Exhibit. View more than 60 nativity sets and see how the simple scene of Christ in the manger with Mary and Joseph has been interpreted in many cultures over the years. Bring the whole family for this wonderful reminder of the reason for the season. The exhibit is free and open to the public during the normal Shrine hours (Monday through Thursday 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday and Saturday 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., and 12 to 4 p.m. on Sunday). The Shrine is closed December 24, 25, and 31 and January 1.

## **CHRISTMAS IN BETHLEHEM**

Come enjoy Christmas in Bethlehem at Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Center in Norwood on Sundays, December 3 and 10, from 2 to 6 p.m. Walk through an interactive town of Bethlehem, gaze at the live nativity, enjoy snacks and hot chocolate, and shop at our Catholic gift store. On December 3 only, children will be able to join St. Nicholas for story time, make crafts, pet the live animals, watch the star lighting, and more! Bring the whole family—grandkids, parents, and all who want to experience a little bit of the true spirit of Christmas. Adults: \$7; children ages 4-16: \$3; and children under 3 years old: free. Registration required. Visit [olhsc.org/events](http://olhsc.org/events) for more information and to sign up.

## **MASS OF GRATITUDE & HOPE**

In the wake of the deeply disappointing passage of Issue 1 in Ohio, Archbishop Schnurr will be celebrating a Mass of Gratitude & Hope on Saturday, December 9, at 11:30 a.m. at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Peter in Chains. All are invited to join in **gratitude** for the gift and dignity of human life and the incredible work done by so many to defend life and oppose Issue 1, and in **hope** in God and a future culture of life and love in our state and country.

## **A DAY OF PRAYER AT OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE DISCIPLESHIP CENTER**

All are invited to Our Lady of Guadalupe Discipleship Center in Peebles, Ohio, on December 12, the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, for a special day of prayer. The morning will begin with 9 a.m. Mass in the Our Lady of Guadalupe Chapel, followed by exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until Benediction at 5 p.m. The image of Our Lady of Guadalupe on St. Juan Diego's tilma led to the conversion of nine million Indians over a nine-year period. This brought an end to the Indians' practice of sacrificing millions of humans to their pagan gods. Pray with us for millions of conversions to Jesus, especially those who support abortion. If you can commit to an hour or more of adoration, please email [retreats@presentationministries.com](mailto:retreats@presentationministries.com) or call (513) 373-2397.

## **DO YOU BELIEVE IN MIRACLES?**

On December 13, 14, and 15 from 6 to 9 p.m., Tim Francis will be at St. Maximilian Parish in West Chester answering the question: Can miracles stand up to the test of science? His talk will include exclusive film footage of a stigmatist who bleeds from her hands, feet, and head; a Eucharistic miracle; and the testimonies of those who saw a statue of Christ weeping and shedding blood. It's the same presentation each night, so choose which date works best for you! Learn more at [saint-max.org/DoYouBelieve](http://saint-max.org/DoYouBelieve).



## **BREAKFAST IN BETHLEHEM**

Join the Comboni Missionaries for Breakfast in Bethlehem on Saturday, December 9, from 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. at their Cincinnati Mission Center. There will be pancakes, crafts and games, and a viewing of the animated Nativity—a Cincinnati tradition for 76 years!

## **HELP FOR STRENGTHENING TROUBLED MARRIAGES**

Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue, or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Have you thought about separation or divorce? Retrouvaille helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. For confidential information about or to register for the upcoming program beginning with a weekend on January 5-7, 2024, please visit [www.HelpOurMarriage.org](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.org).

## **PILGRIMAGE INFORMATION NIGHT**

Interested in joining the Angelico Project on our inaugural pilgrimage? Walk in the footsteps of St. Benedict, St. Thomas Aquinas, and Blessed Fra Angelico! Explore Rome (including a tour with world-renowned art historian Liz Lev!). To learn more, **join us on Tuesday, December 5, at 7 p.m. at St. Gertrude Parish Center**. Sign up for the interest list at [AngelicoProject.org](http://AngelicoProject.org), or contact Brad Torline at [btorline@angelicoproject.org](mailto:btorline@angelicoproject.org).



To help you enter into the season of Advent and prepare for Christmas, we are going to run a four-part series on the infancy narratives for the next four weeks. This is part one.



### **CHILDREN IN THE BIBLE – FROM SACRIFICE TO BLESSING**

FATHER JOSEPH ALOBAIDI, O.P.

I'd like to begin this series on the infancy narratives—and, in particular, this article about children in the Bible—by acknowledging two biblical facts: the Bible, as we know it, took approximately 11 centuries to be formed, and it is a collective work, by many authors, written in three languages, in the Middle East (a land of many cultures).

In other words, the status of men, women, children, animals—given the unavoidable development of the society in such a long period of time—has passed through many stages. There are differences in the status of human beings between the earliest layers of the Old Testament (parts of the books of Exodus, Numbers, Judges, etc.) and the last writings of the New Testament (Second Epistle of Peter, Revelation, etc.). Let us examine how such developments affected children's place in society.

Investigating the early historical facts pertaining to the relation between human beings and the divinity seems like looking at dreadful scenes taken from a horror movie. In fact, it is certain that humans, especially children and, in a few cases, women, were offered in sacrifice during some old religious ceremonies. Storms, thunder, flooding, fire, and sicknesses were considered manifestations of the divinities' anger. Human sacrifices constituted means by which primitive populations in the Middle East and elsewhere tried to

appease the anger of these divinities. That was more than 3,000 years ago, and the Bible adamantly condemns such practices. Witnesses to these condemnations are, for example, Leviticus 18:21. Furthermore, we learn in Leviticus 20:2-3 that the death penalty was imposed on anyone who destined his child to be sacrificed. However, the painful truth remains that the Bible suggests that early Israelite communities, in imitation of their pagan neighbors, were tempted by the same kind of sacrifices. Indeed, the Bible (Judges 11:29-40) mentions one such sacrifice by Jephthe. Although it is slightly different from the pagan sacrifices, it remains the only clear case of human sacrifice in the Bible. Other biblical passages imply that such practice was known, if not accomplished, by the early Israelites, but never to the God of the Bible. The Bible's condemnation of such acts is unambiguous.

We advance in history to reach times where children become a blessing. Psalms 128:3 describes the faithful as a happy man whose “wife is like a fruitful vine” and whose “children are like olive branches surrounding his table.” Then comes the time of The New Testament when the Lord Jesus Christ, ostensibly and to the objection of his disciples, welcomes the children among his auditors: “Let the children come to me and do not hinder them for to such belongs the kingdom of God” (Mark 10:14). Moreover, he asks his disciples to imitate the children if they want to inherit the kingdom of God: “Truly I say to you, unless you turn and become like children you will never enter the kingdom of heaven” (Matthew 18:3). The children, at the end, receive their highest praise when the Lord Jesus Christ identifies himself to the children, making of them a representative of God: “Whoever receives this child in my name receives me and whoever receives me receives him who sent me” (Lk 9:48).

*Check out next Sunday's bulletin for part two in this series on the infancy narratives.*





Monday, December 4	Tuesday, December 5	Wednesday, December 6	Thursday, December 7	Friday, December 8	Saturday, December 9	Sunday, December 10
Walking with Purpose Bible Study 8:30 a.m. St. Dominic Lobby	Catechism in a Year Discussion Group 9 a.m. St. Joseph Room	Schola Cantorum 3:30 p.m. PC Choir Room	Cana Family – Year 3 9:30 a.m. St. Dominic Lobby	Walking with Purpose Bible Study 8:30 a.m. St. Dominic Lobby	Catholic Men’s Fellowship 7:30 a.m. School Cafeteria	Parish Coffee & Donuts After 8 & 10 a.m Masses Gym
CGS Level 1 & 2 3:30 p.m. Atrium I & II	Moms & Littles Holy Hour 9:30 a.m. Church	CGS Level 2 & 3 3:45 p.m. Atrium I & II	CGS Level 1 11 a.m. Atrium I & II		St. Anne & Child Mary Guild 9 a.m. St. Dominic Lobby	CGS Classes 8:30 a.m., 10 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. Atrium I & II
Schola Cantorum 3:30 p.m. PC Choir Room	Moms & Littles Fellowship Gathering 10:30 a.m. St. Dominic Lobby	Advent Reflections with Holy Hour and Confessions 7:30 p.m. Church	CGS Parent Group Meeting 11 a.m. St. Joseph Room		Acts of the Apostles Bible Study 9:30 a.m. School Cafeteria	Confirmation Candidate Session 10 a.m. School Cafeteria
Become Catholic (RCIA) 7 p.m. St. Dominic Lobby	CGS Level 1 & 2 6 p.m. Atrium I & II		K of C Business Meeting 7 p.m. K of C Hall			Winter Sports Mass At 12 p.m. Mass
Boosters Meeting 7 p.m. St. Joseph Room	Angelico Project Pilgrimage Meeting 7 p.m. St. Dominic Lobby		Parish Choir 7 p.m. PC Choir Room			Baptisms 1:15 p.m. Church
Healing Rosary 7 p.m. Church	Boy Scouts 7 p.m. School Cafeteria					Advent Lessons & Carols 3 p.m. Church
	Evangelization Team meeting 7 p.m. SGS Classroom 15					L’alto: HS Youth Night 7 p.m. Parish Center

**INTERESTED IN JOINING ST. GERTRUDE CHURCH?**

We would love to welcome you into our parish family! Visit [stgertrude.org/register](http://stgertrude.org/register) to fill out a new parishioner registration form. You can also find paper copies of the registration form in the church and the parish office. We look forward to meeting you!

**INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC?**

Contact Tyler Castrucci at [tcastrucci@stgertrude.org](mailto:tcastrucci@stgertrude.org) or Father Luke VanBerkum at [firluke@stgertrude.org](mailto:firluke@stgertrude.org) to learn more about our Become Catholic (RCIA) program and get your questions answered.

**BULLETIN DEADLINE**

BULLETIN  
12/17/23

MATERIALS DUE  
12/6/23

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

**OFFERING**

**St. Gertrude Parish Weekly Collection and Budget Report  
Collection for November 26**

Collection	\$	34,307
Weekly Budget	\$	37,000
Weekly Deficit	(\$	2,693)

Second Collection – St. Gertrude School: \$2,875

Thanksgiving Collection: \$1,180

**Fiscal Year-To-Date (for year ending June 30, 2024)**

Fiscal YTD Actual	\$	775,047
Fiscal YTD Budget	\$	814,000
Fiscal YTD Deficit	(\$	38,953)

**STAY INFORMED ON PRO-LIFE ISSUES**

Want to get more involved in pro-life ministry or simply want to be more *in the know*? Email [stgertrudeprolife@gmail.com](mailto:stgertrudeprolife@gmail.com) to be added to the St. Gertrude Respect Life Ministry email list.



**SUPPORT FOR MISCARRIAGE**

Have you experienced a miscarriage? You are not alone. Heaven’s Gain Ministries is here to provide for the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of families experiencing pregnancy loss. Call Heaven’s Gain at (513) 607-6083 for support, or visit [HeavensGain.org](http://HeavensGain.org) for more information.

# PARISH DIRECTORY

## Parish Staff

Father John Paul Walker, O.P., pastor  
Father Joachim Kenney, O.P., parochial vicar  
Father Luke VanBerkum, O.P., parochial vicar

## Dominican Friars in Residence

Father John Langlois, O.P., prior  
Father Joseph Alobaidi, O.P.  
Father John Corbett, O.P.  
Father Darren Pierre, O.P., novice master

## St. Gertrude School – (513) 561-8020

Principal – Sister Mary Agnes Greiffendorf, O.P. ext 1101  
Vice Principal – Mr. Travis Johnson ext 1101  
PTO President – Ashlee Wooten ashleebwot@hotmail.com  
School Advisory Council

## Office of Administration – (513) 561-5954

Receptionists – Susan Kane & Teri Forlini parishoffice@stgertrude.org  
Business Manager – Don Regan businessmanager@stgertrude.org  
Business Office Admin Assistant – Emma Golias egolias@stgertrude.org  
Bereavement ext 2101  
Bulletin Editor bulletin@stgertrude.org  
Director of Music – Christopher Holman cholman@stgertrude.org  
Safe Environment Coordinator – Emma Golias egolias@stgertrude.org

## Office of Evangelization & Faith Formation – (513) 561-5954

Director of Evangelization & Faith Formation –  
Walter Plummer wplummer@stgertrude.org  
Coordinator of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd –  
Mary Beth Thiemann mbthiemann@stgertrude.org  
Coordinator of Adult Evangelization –  
Tyler Castrucci tcastrucci@stgertrude.org  
Director of Communications –  
Michelle Dushensky mdushensky@stgertrude.org  
Office Coordinator – Kristen Eggers kristen@stgertrude.org

## Corporal Works of Mercy

Helping Hands (Funeral Reception Ministry) –  
Nancy Lucas stgerthh@gmail.com  
Knights of Columbus – Pete Marcello grandknight@elderkofc.org  
Ladies of Charity – Jean Wilkinson jeanhwilkinson@gmail.com  
Parish Health Ministry – Jeanne Palcic jpalcic@fuse.net  
Pregnancy Center East (for all pregnancy needs) (513) 321-3100  
Soup Kitchen – Andy Cordier soupkitchen@stgertrude.org  
St. Vincent de Paul Society – Jennifer Mansfield (513) 561-5954, ext 2112

## Vocations Directors

Archdiocese of Cincinnati – Father Dan Schmitmeyer (513) 421-3131  
Dominican Friars – Father Mario Calabrese, O.P. DominicanFriars.org  
Nashville Dominican Sisters – Sister Mara Grace, O.P. (615) 256-5486

## Spiritual Works of Mercy

Circle of Prayer – Barbara Rose prayercirclesg@gmail.com  
Communion to Sick – Judy Hartmann jhartma2002@yahoo.com  
Eucharistic Adoration adoration@stgertrude.org  
Natural Family Planning – Jenna Bernardo nfp@stgertrude.org  
Pastoral Council – Ryan Schilling rryanschilling@gmail.com  
Prayer Ministry for the Dying – Pat Collins (513) 265-1897  
Respect Life – Lisa Campbell lisaredig61@gmail.com  
Rosary Making – Larry Ball (513) 831-8572  
Unbound (Ministry of Forgiveness and Healing) –  
Nealy Mechley (513) 505-1740

## Liturgical Ministries

Parish Choir – Christopher Holman cholman@stgertrude.org  
Contemporary Music Ensemble – Paul Kindt pkindt@zoomtown.com  
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion frluke@stgertrude.org  
Resurrection Choir – Marty Cunningham martyc.music@gmail.com  
The St. Anne and the Child Mary Guild –  
Ann McCormick ann.mccormick@ymail.com  
Sons of St. Joseph (Altar Servers) pxaw@hotmail.com  
Ushers – Douglas Postler postman8905@gmail.com  
Viri Selecti – Ben Hoffmann pxaw@hotmail.com  
Youth Choir – Christopher Holman cholman@stgertrude.org

## Spiritual Groups

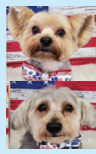
Angelic Warfare Confraternity – (513) 561-5954  
Benedictine Oblates – Mark Milliron mmilliron@fastmail.com  
CANA Family For Mothers –  
Anita Pappalardo pappacinci@gmail.com  
Catholic Men's Fellowship – Stan Lloyd stan.lloyd@gmail.com  
Confraternity of the Most Holy Rosary –  
Brian Zappia brian.zappia@gmail.com  
Dominican Laity (Bishop Fenwick) –  
Mrs. Joan Ratajczak, O.P. jsratajczak@gmail.com  
Dominican Laity (Our Lady of Peace) –  
Mr. Fred Thomas, O.P. stgertrude.org/ourladyofpeace  
Healing Rosary – Cindy Hertz (513) 368-8941  
Moms of Special Needs Support Group –  
Laura Nanista laura\_nanista@outlook.com  
Seasons of Hope – Cindy Hertz (513) 368-8941  
True Devotion to Mary – Anne Collins acollins4mary@aol.com  
Walking with Purpose Bible Study (Women) –  
Martha Thompson wwp.st.gertrude@gmail.com

## Parish Groups

Athletic Boosters – Rob Gruber rlgruber5@gmail.com  
Boy Scouts – Rob Schuette (513) 333-0040  
Cub Scouts – Matt Frye (574) 529-0427  
Garden Club parishoffice@stgertrude.org  
Lenten Fish Fry – Rob Mancini rbmancini73@gmail.com  
Little Flower Library – Susan Santos susansantos2@gmail.com  
Parish Coffee – Mark Findley mark.findley@epilepsy-ohio.org  
Seniors' Fun Bunch – Tyler Castrucci tcastrucci@stgertrude.org



**STRAWSER & STALEY**  
FUNERAL HOMES & CREMATION SERVICE



Meet Eli and Bennett, our two fur-children! We understand how much pets mean to people, and we are proud to offer pet death care to the area with the same dignity that we show for all we serve!

**Area's Oldest Death Care Leader**  
**StrawserFuneralHome.com**  
**513-791-7203**



**Castellum Financial Advice**  
**Robert L. Franer III, AAMS®**  
513-434-3583 (C)  
robert@castellumfinancialadvice.com  
castellumfinancialadvice.com

Parishioner & Founding Member  
of The Catholic Financial Planners Network  
Securities offered through LPL Financial, a Registered Investment Advisor, member FINRA/SIPC



- Cincinnati's first Joint Commissioned Private Duty Company
- 3 full-time nurses on staff for caregiver supervision and emergency consultation
- Specialized and Trained for Parkinson's and Dementia Care
- 24/7 and Live-In specialists, but also offer 4 hour minimum care

19 years in Business • Call 513-321-4444

**KLEKAMP PAVING**  
Asphalt Paving  
Patching  
Asphalt Sealcoating  
513-561-4600  
www.klekamp.com

**ERIC D. BENDER**  
Attorney at Law  
Moeller (1984)  
University of Notre Dame (1988)  
U.C. Law (1991)  
Family Law • Wills & Probate  
Lawsuits • Guardianship  
Adoption  
(513) 891-5630  
9764 Kenwood Road in Blue Ash  
Visa/Mastercard Accepted

**mosquito shield**  
Enjoy outdoor living all summer long!  
Amy Resch - 513-436-4690

**ROYALMONT ACADEMY**  
200 Northcrest Drive, Mason, OH  
Catholic Preschool • High School • Full and 1/2 day Preschool  
Open House - Nov. 15, 5-7:30 pm  
513-754-0555 • www.Royalmont.org

**Bailey Family Catering**

*Welcome to the Family*

Planning your next party just became a breeze! Call us to help you customize a menu that will bring your vision to life while respecting your budget and honoring your dietary needs. We specialize in weddings, corporate functions and social events and are preferred catering partners with many local venues. Best of all, we are right in your neighborhood! Call today to check one more task off your list!  
513-873-3900 • www.baileyfamilycatering.com

**James W. Logeman, D.D.S., M.S.**  
**ORTHODONTICS**  
Kenwood | 791.0260 5240 E Galbraith Rd  
ORTHODUDE.COM  
Mason | 398.0133 318 Reading Rd

**Jim Volz**  
CPA & Trusted Advisor  
794-1551  
9900 Carver Rd., Blue Ash

For all your real estate needs please contact me, a faithful and hard-working St. Gertrude parishioner and professional realtor.



**CAROLYN TRAUTH**  
Realtor  
**SIBCY CLINE REALTORS**  
513-706-4239  
www.sibcycline.com/ctrauth

**Litwin**  
BORIS  
CUSTOM JEWELERS  
(513) 621-1123 • litwins.com



**DALEY**  
DESIGN + BUILD  
www.DaleyDB.com

**CASTRUCCI COLLISION**

**HODAPP FUNERAL HOMES**  
www.HodappFuneralHome.com

513-777-8433

**OVERBECK Auto Services**  
Your Automotive Expert Since 1976  
Now 2 Locations!  
6403 Madison, Madisonville • 271-1570  
1793 Ohio Pike, Amelia • 797-4888

**Spruce Home Services**  
Window Cleaning  
Pressure Washing and More!  
Family Owned  
spruceservices.com • 513-278-8438  
info@spruceservices.com

**MILFORD Body Shop Direct Call**  
831-5460

**SCHUMACHER DUGAN CONSTRUCTION, INC**

General Contractors and Land Development Company

**Megie Funeral Home & Crematory**  
Caring for families through life's most difficult time with care and compassion  
529 Main Street Milford, OH 45150 104 Spice Street Mt. Orab, OH 45154  
(513) 831-3134 (937) 444-2677  
www.megiefuneralhome.com  
We offer onsite crematory, traditional funeral services, and funeral pre-planning

**Skyline Chili**  
Skyline Chili, Loveland Ohio 10640 Loveland Madeira Rd. Bring this bulletin to receive a **FREE Cheese Cone** With the Purchase of a (3,4,5) Way  
**Feeling good, it's Skyline Time!**

**T&J Electric and Controls**  
513-368-2700  
www.TJElectric.com  
7441 Shawnee Run Road  
Madeira, Ohio 45243

Call Greg now at (513) 257-6124 for your free quote  
**RICHARDSON CUSTOM PAINTING**  
WHEN EXCELLENCE MATTERS  
Building Our Community One Brushstroke At A Time

**Dial ONE Security, Inc.**  
(513) 527-4400 • DialOneSecurity.com  
Servicing Maderia and Indian Hill since 1979

**Sharon Nursery**  
7319 Columbia Road  
Garden Center & Landscaping  
398-1008  
www.sharonnursery.com

**HALPIN PLUMBING, INC.**  
"WE'LL MAKE IT HALPIN"  
513-631-2001

**Treating Your Home Like Our Own**  
Roofing • Siding • Gutters  
Windows • Storm Restoration

**CALL TODAY! 513-755-ROOF**  
7663  
10 Year Workmanship Warranty  
Locally Owned & Operated  
7100 Sennet Place  
West Chester, OH 45069  
**titan SIDING AND ROOFING**  
TitanSidingAndRoofing.com  
**0% INTEREST** for 24 months Financing Available

Find freedom and flexibility in your career. Become a Knights of Columbus insurance agent.  
LIFE INSURANCE • DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE • LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE • RETIREMENT ANNUITIES  
Contact me today to learn more:  
Apply today.  
kofc.org/careers  
**Knights of Columbus**  
Jason Staas General Agent  
800-484-0304 • jason.staas@kofc.org

**AHP Anderson Hills Plumbing**  
Residential - Commercial - FREE ESTIMATES  
Over 69 Years Experience & Satisfaction  
Ernie, Jack, Ralph & Barb Vilardo  
6229 Beechmont Avenue 513-232-3821

TO ADVERTISE HERE, CALL  
**DEE PRINTING**  
1-800-292-9020


Please Patronize Our Advertisers - To Place an Ad, Call 1-800-292-9020.

Gertrude, Cincinnati, OH-inside Ads-#959135-JT-9/1/23

**TRADITIONS AT CAMARGO**  
 INDEPENDENT LIVING  
 ASSISTED LIVING • MEMORY CARE  
 7650 CAMARGO ROAD • MADEIRA, OH 45243  
 513-422-5499 • WWW.TRADITIONSATCAMARGO.COM

**TIM BEATRICE**  
**beatrice HOME IMPROVEMENT**  
 513-254-5620  
 timbeatrice5@yahoo.com

**Dr. Frederick A. Heiselman**  
 General • Implant  
*Dentistry*  
**Parishioner**  
 513-561-8600  
 7140 Miami Ave., Ste. 201  
**fheiselmandds.com**



**HYDE PARK PAINTING and CARPENTRY**  
 321-4100  
 Remodeling  
 Roofing/Gutters • Concrete  
 Plumbing/Electric  
 Drywall • Int./Ext. Painting  
**Your Complete Home Repair Company**

**Knights of Columbus**  
 Archbishop Elder Council  
 Email [grandknight@elderkofc.org](mailto:grandknight@elderkofc.org)  
 Join today. [kofc.org/joinus](http://kofc.org/joinus)

**Kitchen & Bath Remodeling**  
**Kinsella**  
 561-5285  
 7880 Camargo Rd.  
[kinsellakitchens.com](http://kinsellakitchens.com)

**GILSON'S**  
 ENGRAVING ELEGANT GIFTS  
*Engraved gifts for all occasions*  
 7116 Miami Ave.  
**891-0730**  
[www.gilsonsonline.com](http://www.gilsonsonline.com)

**Gilligan Funeral Homes**  
 Family Owned & Operated  
 ESTABLISHED 1877

**WITTE LANDSCAPE SPECIALISTS, INC.**  
 Hardscape Landscape  
 • Walkways & Patios • Installations  
 • Driveways • Renovations  
 • Retaining Walls • Maintenance  
 • Drainage Systems • Snow Clearing  
*Quality Service for Over 35 years*  
**396-6400**  
 Ed Witte, Parishioner

**MADEIRA DENTISTRY**  
 Keith D. Jackson DDS  
 Laura K. Jackson DDS  
 7113 Miami Avenue  
 Madeira, OH 45243  
 Tel: (513) 561-5318

**KANE ELSWICK LLC**  
 Your Catholic Small Business Law Firm  
 KaneElswick.com



8225 MONTGOMERY RD  
 CINCINNATI, OHIO 45236  
**513-891-8373**  
 PETER J. GILLIGAN, SR.



**Walter St. Clair Roofing**  
 Serving Cincinnati Since 1923  
 Roofing & Sheet Metal Work  
 Slate & Tile Repair  
 Box Gutters & Seamless Gutters  
 JERRY ST. CLAIR, PARISHIONER **641-3265**

**Home Experts Realty**  
**Chuck Borchers**  
 REALTOR, Parishioner  
**513-335-4039**  
[charles.borchers@gmail.com](mailto:charles.borchers@gmail.com)  
[chuckborchershomes.com](http://chuckborchershomes.com)


**Pendery CONSTRUCTION, INC.**  
*Remodeling by professionals*  
 Kitchens • Bathrooms  
 Room Additions  
 Screen & Covered Porches  
 Lower Levels & Basements  
**513.492.8429**  
 7264 Columbia Rd., Ste. 600, Maineville  
[www.PenderyConstruction.com](http://www.PenderyConstruction.com)

**REDDEN FINE MEATS**  
 (513) 407-8998



**ENDRES GATEWAY DENTISTRY**  
 Accepting New Patients  
**Dr. Eleanor Endres Parishioner**  
**513-791-8880**  
[www.endresdentistry.com](http://www.endresdentistry.com)  
*"Oral Health is the Gateway to Healthy Living"*

**Nick Baute** Parishioner  
**513-236-2234**  
[Nick@tbrgincy.com](mailto:Nick@tbrgincy.com)



the BAUTE | ROBERTS GROUP  
**Comey & Shepherd REALTORS**  
**Cristina Genung** Parishioner  
**513-404-6011**  
[Cristina@tbrgincy.com](mailto:Cristina@tbrgincy.com)

Protect your most important assets – your loved ones. Let's talk.  
**Modern Woodmen FRATERNAL FINANCIAL**  
 Kristina Markiewicz  
 Suite 130, 12500 Reed Hartman Highway  
 Cincinnati, OH 45241  
 B 513-387-0489 | C 505-463-8966  
[kristina.markiewicz@mwarep.org](mailto:kristina.markiewicz@mwarep.org)



**Evans Funeral Home**  
 Traditional Funeral & Cremation Services  
 Funeral Pre-Planning Available  
[www.evansfuneralhome.com](http://www.evansfuneralhome.com)  
 741 Center St., Milford 1944 St. Rt. 28, Goshen  
 513-831-3172 513-722-3272

**MATHNASIUM**  
 The Math Learning Center  
 Blue Ash/Hyde Park/Mason/West Chester  
**(513) 275-7000**  
 JOIN THE CLASS OF **2028**  
 McNicholas High School

**TOTAL LIFE SAFETY, LLC**  
 Commercial Fire Protection Services  
 Fire Extinguisher/ Exit Lights/Fire Alarm  
 Sprinkler/Backflow/Special Hazard  
**866-955-2318**

**GEO. H. ROHDE & SON**  
*Funeral Home*  
 Since 1910  
 3183 Linwood Ave., Mt. Lookout Sq.  
 Serving Eastern Hills, Mt. Lookout & Hyde Park  
**513-321-0404**  
[www.rohdefuneral.com](http://www.rohdefuneral.com)  
 Directors: Steve Rohde, Denise Mercier & Darrell Schneider

**bmwstore.com**  
**cincinnati.mini.com**  
**THE BMW STORE**  
 Passion Loves Company®  
**MINI CINCINNATI MINI**  
 Passion for the Drive®  


**exp REALTY**  
 (513) 289-1039  
[deroussel.com](http://deroussel.com)  
[monika@deroussel.com](mailto:monika@deroussel.com)



**MD Monika DeRoussel**  
**Monika DeRoussel**  
 Your gateway to *Luxury*  
 Let's make it *happen!*

Please Patronize Our Advertisers – To Place an Ad, Call 1-800-292-9020.

Genrude, Cincinnati, OH #1616-JT-10/24/23