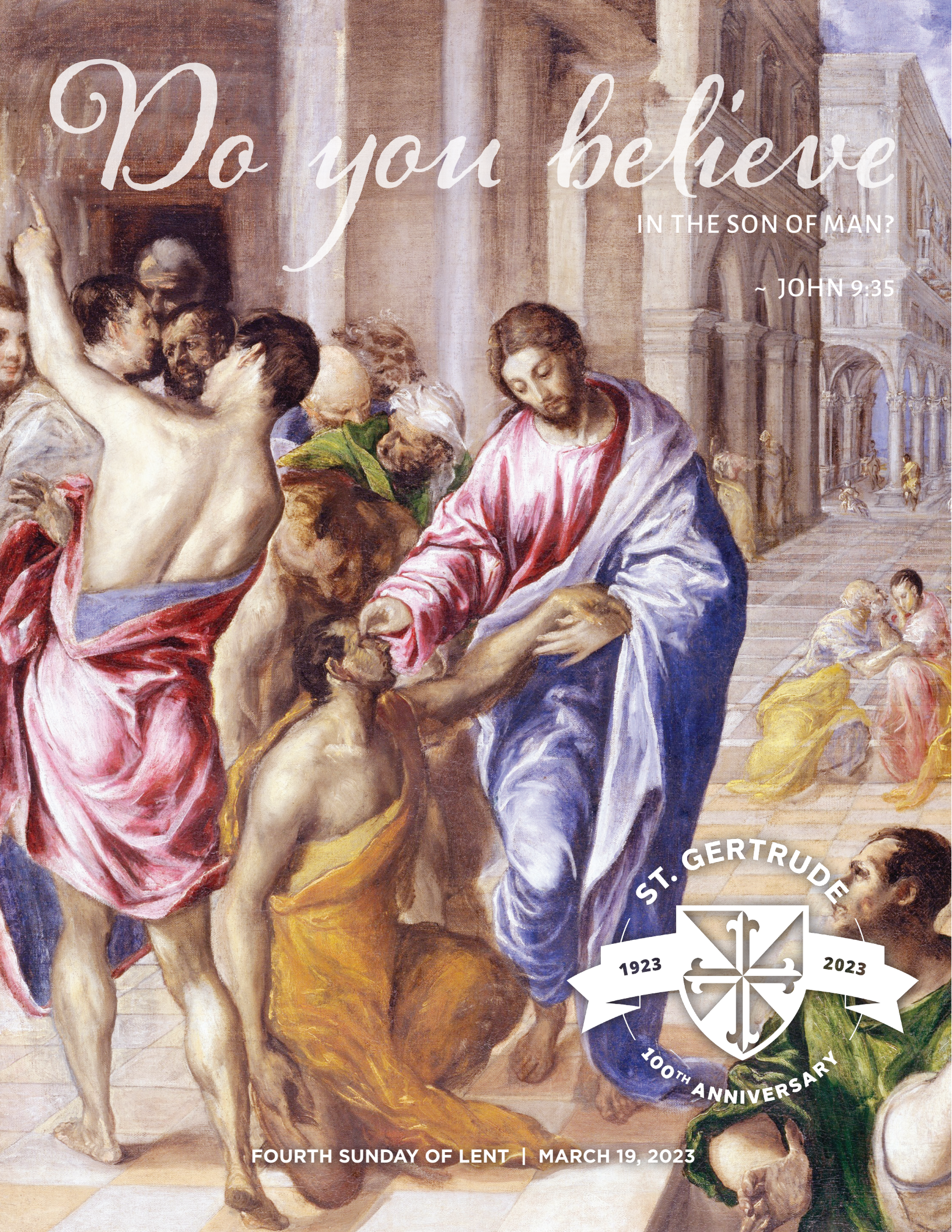


No you believe

IN THE SON OF MAN?

~ JOHN 9:35



ST. GERTRUDE

1923

2023

100TH ANNIVERSARY

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT | MARCH 19, 2023

MASSES AND CONFESSIONS AT ST. GERTRUDE

Monday, March 20, St. Joseph,

Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary (S)

- 7 a.m. Father John Mark Solitario, O.P.
by St. Gertrude School & Parish Staff
- 8 a.m. † Tom Ruthman by Malissa & Nick Frohlich
- 11:30 a.m. † Deceased Members of the Dominican Order

Tuesday, March 21, Lenten Weekday

- 7 a.m. † Nancy Gantzer by Mark & Sherri Holland
- 8 a.m. † Bob Perazzo by Mike & Elaine O'Connell
- 11:30 a.m. † Sharon Bevis by Charles & Mary Lou Garner

Wednesday, March 22, Lenten Weekday

- 7 a.m. † Chris Imbus by The Bursa Family
- 8 a.m. † Cathy Rank by Kevin & Susan Kane
- 11:30 a.m. † Bob Duffy by Jack Garrity

Thursday, March 23, Lenten Weekday

- 7 a.m. Matt Schorgl by The Eades Family
- 8 a.m. † Mary Francis Fenel by Craig & Teresa Babcock
- 11:30 a.m. † Laura Johns by Franciscan Third Order

Friday, March 24, Lenten Weekday

- 7 a.m. † Heidi Keiser by Dominican Sisters,
St. Gertrude Convent
- 8 a.m. † Marianne Klekamp by Terri & Lyle Glazier
- 11:30 a.m. † Marian Bartush by Jim & Melody Osborne

Saturday, March 25, Annunciation of the Lord (S)

- 8 a.m. † Marianne Klekamp by The Woodward Family
- 11:30 a.m. The Teller Family by Jim & AnnaMaria Spurgin
- 4:30 p.m. Cynthia & Kelly King by The King Family

Sunday, March 26, 5th Sunday of Lent

- 8 a.m. † Marge Forsthoefel by Pete & Donna Marcello
- 10 a.m. People of St. Gertrude
- 12 p.m. Nealy & Pat Mechley by The Schultz, Turner &
Siebenburgen Families
- 6 p.m. † John T. Retzler by Elaine & Jeff Parker

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
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.

Spend an hour
with Jesus every
week this Lent.



WEDNESDAY HOLY HOUR + EUCHARISTIC HOLINESS SERIES

March 1, 15, 22, 29 & April 5
7:30-8:30 p.m. | St. Gertrude Church

Listen to a short reflection on the Eucharist and spend time in Eucharistic adoration. Priests will be available for confessions.

March 22 Father Joachim Kenney O.P.
The Eucharist and the Saints

View the full schedule at stgertrude.org/lent2023

Join us for a viewing of



Friday, March 24, 2023

St. Gertrude Gym

5 p.m. Pizza | 5:45 p.m. Watch Party

If you're a fan of **Jonathan Roumie**, you don't want to miss this event—or the surprise at the end of the episode!

stgertrude.org/centennial





JESUS IS CALLING US TO HIS EUCHARISTIC PRESENCE

(AND SO MANY HAVE HEARD
THE CALL. HAVE YOU?)

Something powerful is moving here at St. Gertrude Church. Over these last weeks in particular, I have noticed it. In standing back and looking at a number of “threads” being woven through our parish, it is clear to me that we are in the midst of an extraordinary moment in history. In different ways, through different means, what I am witnessing is our Lord Jesus calling all to come spend time adoring his Eucharistic Presence.

It was less than two weeks ago that our church, on a Wednesday night, was packed to standing room only as we welcomed The Vigil Project musicians for a Lenten True Presence Night. To have 500+ people jammed into a church on a weeknight was itself extraordinary. But then the conversations I have had since then, both that night itself and in the days after, make it clear what a profound moment of grace that evening was for our parish and those who attended. Countless people shared with me that they were moved to tears at various times in the evening. Five priests heard confessions for 90+ minutes each, with some people returning to that sacrament after many years away. So many people were moved by the experience of adoring our Lord while singing his praises that it is clear to me that **the Holy Spirit is inviting our parish to begin regularly having some form of “praise and worship” Holy Hours** where music and singing is an integral part of the evening. I don’t yet know when or how often these will be (those details are still being worked out), but it is clear to me that there is a thirst for this form of Eucharistic worship in our parish—and if this format will bring more people into his Eucharistic Presence, then we will certainly provide that opportunity. So if you were moved that evening and are looking to experience something similar again, stay tuned!

This would not be a replacement of, but in addition to, our regular Wednesday evening Holy Hours, where silence is at the heart of our Eucharistic worship and the only singing is the *O Salutaris* at Exposition and *Tantum Ergo* at Benediction. (And a reminder that, for the remaining Wednesdays of Lent, each evening will include a brief spiritual reflection on some aspect of Eucharistic Holiness given by one of the friars.)

There is another “something new” about to begin as well. Over these last couple of months, I’ve had several conversations with young parents (mostly moms) with small children who would love to spend time in adoration but feel awkward and uncomfortable dragging their little ones into our adoration chapel due to the inevitable noise, fussiness, motion, and so forth that little ones bring with them . . . which don’t exactly fit well with the atmosphere of that space. And so, at the end of this month, **we are going to begin offering a Moms & Little Ones Holy Hour**. The inaugural one will be Tuesday, March 28, from 8:45 to 9:45 a.m. in the main church. While not *restricted* only to moms (dads are welcome, too!), the idea behind this is very simple: it will be a chance for those with small children to come and spend time in adoration of our Lord

and not have to worry, fret, or panic if one of their little ones starts crying, screaming, needing to be breast-fed, running around, vocalizing, or anything else. In fact, it is probably an entirely unrealistic expectation that there will be any significant “silence” during the course of that hour. *And that is perfectly fine*. “Let the little children come to me,” said Jesus (Matt 19:14), and that is the idea behind this special Holy Hour.

Last but not least, I feel it on my heart to remind everyone of the great treasure we have in our adoration chapel and that we are still searching for people who are willing and able to commit to a stable, one-hour commitment every week. Our chapel is so small and peaceful; I do not think there is any more intimate environment to spend an hour adoring our Lord anywhere in the greater Cincinnati area than our adoration chapel. If you aren’t yet a guardian (the term we use for those who commit to an hour a week), would you please prayerfully consider becoming one? There is information in the back of the chapel on how to sign up, or you can simply contact the parish office and our secretaries will put you in contact with those who maintain the guardian list.

So many different ways of doing what is ultimately the same thing: adoring our Lord who is truly present in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Something powerful is happening here. Can you feel it? I can. I don’t fully know what it means yet or the implications it will have for our parish moving forward, but I know it is important. I know Jesus is calling us . . . not just a few of us, or some of us . . . he is calling *all* of us to spend time with his Eucharistic Presence. I invite you to prayerfully consider which of these ways (and perhaps more than one) he is calling you to, and to give your heartfelt “yes” to his invitation.

God bless,

Rev. John Paul Walker, O.P.

Father John Paul Walker, O.P.

PRAYER FROM ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT



Prayer before Confession

O most Holy Father, I offer this my confession in union with all the acts of penance which have ever been done to the glory of your holy Name. I pray you will accept it through the merits of the Passion of your beloved Son, and through the intercession of the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, of all your holy Apostles, Martyrs, Confessors, and Virgins. Whatever is lacking to me in sincere preparation, I commend to the Heart of your most Beloved Son, the treasury of all good and all grace. Amen.

COVER IMAGE:

Christ Healing the Blind Man, El Greco (c 1570)

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

- **March 20:** No School (In-Service Day)
- **March 21-24:** IOWA Assessment
- **March 21:** ICLE Parent Talk
- **March 24:** Spirit Wear Dress Down; Viewing of *The Chosen* Episode

A NIGHT FOR SGS PARENTS

On Tuesday, March 21, at 6:30 p.m., the Institute for Catholic Liberal Education (ICLE) will be at St. Gertrude School to present a special talk for SGS parents titled “Educating for Freedom, Wisdom, and Virtue.” Feel free to bring a guest—a grandparent, a prospective parent, etc. A light dinner (heavy hors d’oeuvres) and babysitting will be provided. Please RSVP at bit.ly/RSVP4ParentTalk. Our PTO is sponsoring the event and providing the food. All are encouraged to attend.

SPIRIT WEAR

Show your St. Gertrude School pride with SGS spirit wear. Visit spirit2share.com/?s=st+gertrude to see your options—with more to come! If there’s something you don’t see (i.e. bags, tumblers) that you’d like to order with the bulldog, SGS sport shield (volleyball and basketball), and/or the school shield/logo, please reach out to Taunja Kruckeberg at taunja@spirit2share.com.

GET ALL YOUR UNIFORM NEEDS

We are blessed to partner with Educational Apparel for all of our SGS uniform needs. Educational Apparel will be at St. Gertrude School this Thursday, March 23, from 3 to 6 p.m. Stop by the cafeteria to purchase uniform items. If you need to order a uniform item(s), please do so at educationalapparel.com. Please make it a priority to make sure that your student is following the uniform code. Wearing a St. Gertrude School uniform is a symbol of respect, tradition, discipline, and pride. It is an important part of being an SGS student.

SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS

For the week of March 20, 2023, the school office will be closed Monday and open Tuesday–Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.



WE'RE HIRING!

Check out our new open positions for the 2023-2024 school year at stgertrudesch.org/employment.

Where students gather in Faith, are guided in Truth, and grow in Excellence.



For over 85 years, the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia have led St. Gertrude School, providing a foundation for students in grades K-8 to flourish and lead a full life for the glory of God.

"We have three children at St. Gertrude School and could not be happier with the well-rounded education they are receiving. It is easy to see that my oldest will be well-equipped for high school next year—not only academically but also spiritually—with a confidence and joy that the Dominican community brings to every aspect of education."

- St. Gertrude School Parent

Now enrolling for the 2023-2024 school year.

6543 Miami Ave., Madeira, OH
(513) 561-8020



ST.
GERTRUDE
SCHOOL

stgertrudesch.org
f @stgertrudeschool

Summer is a great opportunity for children of all ages to spend focused time deepening their faith while having fun with their friends. Here are two short stories from parishioners who have experienced St. Gertrude Church's summer faith formation offerings. **Registration for the summer sessions and activities opens Thursday, April 13.**



TEACHING CHILDREN THE BEAUTY OF THE CATHOLIC FAITH

**BY KATIE FRYE, ST. GERTRUDE
CHURCH PARISHIONER & CGS
VOLUNTEER**

My name is Katie Frye, and my family and I moved to Cincinnati and St. Gertrude Church in January 2022. My son started kindergarten at St. Gertrude School at that time. In kindergarten, my son was able to spend time in the atrium for Catechesis

of the Good Shepherd every week, and he talked about how much he loved the experience. When I saw the summer CGS session in the bulletin last year, I thought it would be a great way for him to have more faith formation over the summer—and also a perfect way to introduce my 3-year-old daughter to CGS.

The summer CGS program was a wonderful experience for my family. My daughter did the Level 1 CGS session in June, and my son did the Level 2 CGS session in August. They both really loved it.

I heard so many good things about CGS but wasn't sure what to expect. It was a great opportunity for them to have fun while learning more about the beauty of our faith. At first, I was just there at the beginning to see them sing fun songs about Jesus and how much he loves us. But then they needed some extra help, so I volunteered to stay and help a few times. I was able to see the beauty and the peace in the atrium. I also saw our faith come alive in very tangible ways for the kids. Everything is so hands-on, and each child can have a personal encounter with different Bible stories and Traditions of the Catholic faith. They learned the different pieces on the altar and the importance of them. They discussed how Jesus is really present in the Eucharist and watched a presentation of the Last Supper when Jesus first gave us his Body and Blood. They did a variety of other works that helped them see God in different ways and ended each day with snacks and time for fun out on the playground. The kids had a lot of fun playing together, and I was able to meet and talk to other parents. This was a great way to feel more connected to people at St. Gertrude Church.

My son continues to love CGS at school, and my daughter attends the Thursday morning CGS session every week. I also volunteer every week as an extra set of hands in the atrium. The more time I spend in the atrium, the more I see the beauty of it. The children are learning so much and seeing the blessings that God has given them. My children and I have had such a great experience with CGS that I hope to be trained as a catechist so I can better share this gift with my children and other children in our community.



A TESTIMONY

**BY DOMINIC RAGUSA,
ST. GERTRUDE CHURCH
PARISHIONER AND L'ALTO:
HIGH SCHOOL PARTICIPANT**

If you have ever been involved in any Catholic ministries for high schoolers, it is likely that you have heard of a place called Damascus. No, not the Damascus in Israel, rather, the Damascus in Centerburg, Ohio. Damascus (known to many as CYSC, which translates into Catholic Youth Summer Camp) has been, and still is, a life changing place for any that venture to enter its doors. The joyful environment and the sincere love of Jesus at Damascus is absolutely infectious, which is why I love returning to it.

Why did I start going? Well, the same reason many others have started going. My mom asked me something along the lines of, "Do you want to go to a Catholic camp?" and I replied, "Sure, whatever."

I have now attended CYSC for the last three years. Each year, I have always come home with motivation and enthusiasm to live my faith life. The talks are amazing, the skits are hilarious, and the activities—which include a rock wall, paintball, archery tag, and high ropes course—have always encouraged me to try new things.

Last year was my favorite week of CYSC (although that changes every time I go). I feel like that was the year that I really started to hear Jesus and fully trust in him.

There was one turning point in my life that occurred there and was especially significant for me. On the last morning of CYSC, I was brooding on the fact that, although I had a great retreat, I still felt like God had not done what I wanted him to do in my life. I was, as I could remember, quite frustrated. I walked into the boys bathroom to brush my teeth and, lo and behold, there was a note on the sink that I had chosen. I still have that note. It read, "The Lord desires your freedom," and that hit me like a bullet. I knew it was God showing me that he was with me even in my difficulties. Since that moment, I have been increasingly realizing that whenever I call on God, he will really be there with me.

Catholic Youth Summer Camp has changed me and the lives of many other youth in so many different ways. At Damascus, one learns not only more about God, but also how to be a joyful and serious Catholic. Truly, God is working through this place of grace.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE

St. Gertrude Church is participating in 40 Days for Life on Thursday, March 23, by peacefully keeping vigil and praying at Planned Parenthood (2314 Auburn Ave., Cincinnati) from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. If you would like to join us, please sign up after Mass this weekend, March 18-19. If you have any questions, please contact Debbie Graham at (513) 984-4766 or (513) 703-5252.

SPECIAL MASS IN HONOR OF ST. JOSEPH

St. Joseph’s Day is March 19. Since this feast day falls on a Sunday this year, it has been transferred to Monday, March 20. In celebration of St. Joseph, also the patron of the Dominican Friars of the Province of St. Joseph, we will have a solemn Mass at 11:30 a.m. with the Dominican community and special musical accompaniment by Christopher Holman, our director of music. All are welcome to attend!

ANNUAL FRIARS FORMATION APPEAL

Over the next few weeks, our parish, along with others across the Dominican Friars of the Province of St. Joseph, will be conducting the Annual Friars Formation Appeal. This appeal is critical for providing for the formation expenses of the next generation of priests and brothers.

God has continued to bless our province of Dominican friars with many vocations, such that dozens of friars will be sent out into ministry over the next decade. Some of those friars will likely serve at St. Gertrude Church. Please prayerfully consider responding with a gift to the extent that you are able. In the coming weeks, you should receive an envelope in the mail with more information. Thank you for your generosity.

CONFRATERNITY OF THE ROSARY

The St. Gertrude Chapter of the Confraternity of the Rosary is enrolling new members after 11:30 a.m. Mass next Saturday, March 25. Parishioners and nonparishioners may be enrolled, and you don’t need to attend the ceremony to be enrolled. Learn more at stgertrude.org/rosaryconfraternity or rosaryconfraternity.org. To be enrolled, please RSVP with your name, address, and phone number to rosary@stgertrude.org.

BAPTISM

Sunday, February 26, 2023



Left side

Children: Clara Grace Deye & Lukas Matthew Deye
Parents: Hannah & Bryan Deye

Right side

Child: Hazel Felicity Johnson
Parents: Jessica & Samuel Johnson

LENTEN FISH FRY

Friday, March 31
5-7:30 p.m.
St. Gertrude Gym

Dine-in and carryout available. View the menu, place your carryout order, or sign up to volunteer at stgertrude.org/fishfry.

LAST ONE THIS YEAR!



THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

On Saturday, March 25, we celebrate the Annunciation of the Lord (the first joyful mystery). Our 11:30 a.m. Mass that day will be a sung Mass with special music by an octet directed by Christopher Holman. All are invited to come!

LET US PRAY

PLEASE PRAY FOR . . .

THE SICK:

Maureen S. Currens, Triset Defonseka, Pamela K. Dwyer, Lisa Ely, Lynn Fedele, Dick Gelhaus, Bob Gerwin, Goad Family, Baby Leo Henry Grolmes, Elsa Hall, Jane Hazelton, 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, Patricia Scherer, Pegge Schuermann, Richard Seifert, Teddie Slaper, Jack Spilker, Judy Sullivan, and Brigitte Vielhauer

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:

† Barbara Jean Heling, mother of Meagan Mascarenhas
† David W. Parsons † Brett Peterson

WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS

Andrew & Erin Dannemiller Cara Schildmeyer
Melanie Head James & Molly Seiler
Alexander & Julianne Krol George & Ann Tapke
Burton & Julie Leslie Forest & Anna Toney
Ryan & Brittney Notvest



MARCH SOCIAL

The Knights of Columbus Archbishop Elder Council #1195 invite you to join them and their families on March 21 to watch the movie, *Mother Teresa: No Greater Love*, which was in theaters in fall 2022.

The movie is 1 hour 45 minutes. Water and light refreshments will be provided.

Tuesday, March 21
6:30 p.m.
Parish Center



PREPLANNING SEMINARS IN LENT

Lent is an opportune time to reflect on your mortality and to learn more about the importance of the Catholic Funeral Rites and how to preplan. Attend a Preplanning Seminar at Gate of Heaven Cemetery – St. Peter Chapel (11000 Montgomery Road) on Tuesday, March 21, at 11 a.m., 2 p.m., or 6 p.m. You'll learn why the decision to be in a Catholic cemetery is so important, why Gate of Heaven Cemetery provides greater value than for-profit secular cemeteries, and all the benefits of preplanning now. Please RSVP to community@gateofheaven.org or (513) 489-0300.

LENTEN MORNING REFLECTION

During this sacred season of Lent, take time to slow down, pray, and listen to God's Word. Join us on Tuesday, March 28, 2023, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. for a Lenten Morning Reflection at the Jesuit Spiritual Center Arrupe Retreat House (5361 South Milford Rd., 45150). The morning will include Lectio and Visio Divina and help you find peace in community, reflection and prayer. All are welcome. To register, please call (513) 248-3500, ext. 10, or email reservations@jesuitspiritualcenter.com. Freewill offering.

A CATHOLIC BROTHERHOOD CHANGING THE WORLD

The Knights of Columbus is a global Catholic fraternity of men who put their faith into action. All men of the parish (18 years old and older) are invited to the Parish Center after any Mass next weekend, March 25-26, to learn more about the organization and what the Knights have accomplished since their humble beginnings in 1882, and to watch a short video on the Knights' founder and soon-to-be-saint, Father Michael McGivney. Members of St. Gertrude Parish's Archbishop Elder Council #1195 will be present to answer any questions and provide information about joining the largest Catholic fraternal organization in the world. Fun fact: All of St. Gertrude Church's priests and novices are members of the Knights of Columbus.

HEALING SERVICE

All are invited to Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Center (5440 Moeller Ave., Norwood) on Wednesday, March 22, to pray the rosary, celebrate Mass, and participate in a healing service. The rosary begins at 6:45 p.m. and Mass is at 7:15, followed by the healing service. For more information, please call (513) 351-9800.

HEARTBEATS FOR LIFE 5K

Please join us on April 15, 2023, at Lunken Airport Playfield for the annual Heartbeats for Life 5K Run/Walk. Registration opens at 8:30 a.m., and the race begins at 10 a.m. The Heartbeats for Life 5K is sponsored by Cincinnati Right to Life and Cincinnati Life Runners to bring the pro-life community together for a family-friendly day full of fun, fellowship, and life. Proceeds go toward pro-life efforts to affect culture and public policy. For more information or to register, please visit runsignup.com/HeartbeatsForLife5K or CincinnatiRighttoLife.org.



NATIONAL MEN'S CONFERENCE

FEATURING:
Jonathan Roumie

CONFERENCE DETAILS:

Where: Cintas Center, Cincinnati, OH

When: Saturday, March 25th, 2023

Cost: \$30 – \$60 per ticket | Discount Codes Available

Theme: Your Role as the Body of Christ

To Purchase Tickets Please Visit:
NationalMensConference.com
 Also follow us on social media:
 @nationalmensconference
 @National Men's Conference

100% of proceeds will go toward covering the costs and labor for the event. Any excess proceeds will be applied toward funding Christian speakers.

DO THINGS FEEL CHAOTIC IN YOUR HOME?

Nazareth Revisited helps parents in the thick of it by integrating professional expertise in Catholic youth and family ministry with a Catholic approach to psychology. Our next online course (Cultivate Family Peace) will run on Tuesdays at 8 p.m. ET from April 18–May 2. This course is designed to help Catholic parents foster peace in their homes. The course will build a strong theological and psychological foundation, before getting strategic and tactical—providing tips and tools for parents. The cost is \$40 (early bird rate through April 1, 2023). Register at nazarethrevisited.com/courses.



ASK A PRIEST— FASTING BREAKS FOR CHURCH FEASTS?

FATHER JOHN MARK SOLITARIO, O.P.

Q: Is it legitimate and/or encouraged to break your Lenten fast on Sundays or holy days like March 19 (this year March 20), the feast of St. Joseph, and March 25, the Annunciation of the Lord?

A: On some days, Catholics fast as a matter of following the precepts of the Church.¹ Fasting on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory for Catholics who can fulfill this requirement. On other days, such as the other days of Lent, we are encouraged to fast as a matter of doing the kinds of things that help us grow in love for God and neighbor and die to unhealthy self-love. In this case, we are free to develop our own “spiritual plan of life” which ought to include not only fasting but also prayer and works of charity.² Let’s not be too quick to excuse ourselves from the “best practices” of two millennia of Christian saints! Jesus himself meant to teach us through his 40-day fast.³

Catholics also feast, and on some days especially! Maybe it’s a good reminder that feasting, too, is a matter of precept, as well as an important part of a spiritual plan of life: Sundays and holy days of obligation require our presence at Mass *and* rest from “servile labor.”⁴ Also, we must receive Holy Communion at least once during the Easter season, having received confession to prepare for this.⁵ In this area, too, the Church’s laws are meant to show us where lies the path of fidelity to Jesus. It’s largely up to us to really take in the spirit behind the law. “Feasting” reminds us of the joy and companionship that awaits us in heaven. Food and music and good cheer are part of the “very good” material world in which God has placed the sons and daughters of Eve. Our time together at Mass on fast days, as well as feast days, can inspire our hope: We learn to look forward to that time and place in which seeing God together will be our deepest satisfaction and joy.

So now for the question at hand: Can we break our Lenten fasts during Lenten feasts?⁶ First of all, it’s good to use divine charity as a guide:

How can I make these feast days special, spend time with Jesus and the saints, and celebrate a “foretaste” of the heavenly communion promised to Christ’s followers?

Second, if lightening up on your personal fasting helps increase love of God and neighbor on Sundays and feast days during Lent, then why not observe the feast? The liturgy is meant to “overflow” into our daily routines. The Church tends to simplify the calendar of saints during Lent, but St. Joseph and the Annunciation are clear exceptions to this rule: Catholics celebrate on these days, even if they fall on a Friday during Lent. Coming to Mass, we’ll experience all the “stops” pulled out. The only exception is that singing *Alleluia* is



saved until Easter. At large, Catholic culture around the world marks these days with special foods and décor. Something similar happens especially on *Laetare* Sunday, the fourth Sunday of Lent. There’s clearly a “lifting” of the penitential atmosphere, even if it’s still Lent. May the true observance of these feast days remind us why we fast, pray, and practice good works during Lent.

¹ See Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC), para 2043.

² See CCC, para 1434, 1438, + 2043. The fifth precept of the Church, “You shall help provide for the needs of the Church,” also speaks to the importance of charity in the regular Christian life. See CCC, 2043.

³ See Mt 4:2; Lk 4:2; also see CCC, 538-540.

⁴ See CCC 2042.

⁵ See CCC 2042-3.

⁶ Although NOT holy days of obligation in the United States, St. Joseph’s Day (usually March 19, but observed on Monday March 20 this year) and the Annunciation of the Lord (March 25) remain “solemnities” and retain their festive character both inside and outside the Liturgy.

Ask a Priest is the regular format for our Holy Teaching section. Submit your own question to bulletin@stgertrude.org for one of our Dominican priests to answer in the bulletin!

LENTEN REMINDERS - FASTING & ABSTINENCE

According to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence. For members of the Latin Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards.

Monday, March 20	Tuesday, March 21	Wednesday, March 22	Thursday, March 23	Friday, March 24	Saturday, March 25	Sunday, March 26
St. Gertrude School No School	Catechism in a Year Discussion Group 9 a.m. St. Joseph Room	Resurrection Choir Practice 8:45 a.m. St. Dominic Lobby	CGS Level I 11:15 a.m. Atrium I	Walking with Purpose Bible Study 8:30 a.m. St. Dominic Lobby	Catholic Men's Fellowship 7:30 a.m. School Cafeteria	KofC Bl. Michael McGivney video After all Masses St. Dominic Lobby
Angelico Project Philosophy Study Group 7 p.m. School Cafeteria	CGS Level I & II 6:00 p.m. Atrium I & II	Schola Cantorum 3:30 p.m. PC Choir Room	Parish Choir 7 p.m. PC Choir Room	33 Days to Merciful Love 12:30 p.m. St. Dominic Lobby	Ladies of Charity Retreat 8:30 a.m. St. Dominic Lobby	Parish Coffee & Donuts After 8 & 10 a.m. Masses Gym
Become Catholic (RCIA) 7 p.m. St. Dominic Lobby	K of C Mother Teresa: No Greater Love Movie Event 6:30 p.m. Parish Center Gym	Cub Scouts 6:30 p.m. School Cafeteria		Viewing of The Chosen 5 p.m. Parish Center Gym	Acts of the Apostles Bible Study 9:30 a.m. School Cafeteria	Little Flower Library Open 8:45-11:15 a.m.
Boosters Meeting 7 p.m. PC Choir Room	St. Gertrude School ICLE Parent Talk 6:30 p.m. School Cafeteria	Special Lenten Holy Hour with Reflection & Confessions 7:30 p.m. Church		Stations of the Cross CANCELED	Rosary Confraternity Enrollment After 11:30 a.m. Mass	CGS Level I & II 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Atrium I & II
K of C Executive Meeting 7 p.m. K of C Hall	Boy Scouts 7 p.m. Lower Fish Lobby				KofC Bl. Michael McGivney video After 4:30 p.m. Mass St. Dominic Lobby	Third Scrutiny of the Elect (Become Catholic) At 12 p.m. Mass
Seasons of Hope 7 p.m. St. Joseph Room	Moms of Special Needs Support Group 7 p.m. St. Joseph Room					Baptisms 1:15 p.m. Church
						Benedictine Oblates 2 p.m. St. Joseph Room
						L'alto: High School Night 7 p.m. School Cafeteria

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OFFERING

**St. Gertrude Parish Weekly Collection and Budget Report
Collection for March 12**

Collection	\$	28,395
Weekly Budget	\$	36,500
Weekly Deficit	(\$	8,105)

Fiscal Year-To-Date (for year ending June 30, 2023)

Fiscal YTD Actual	\$	1,417,320
Fiscal YTD Budget	\$	1,364,000
Fiscal YTD Surplus	\$	53,320

BULLETIN DEADLINE

BULLETIN
4/2/23

MATERIALS DUE
3/22/23

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Parish Staff

Father John Paul Walker, O.P., pastor
 Father John Mark Solitario, O.P., parochial vicar
 Father Joachim Kenney, 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 Michael Mary Dosch, O.P., novice master
 Father Darren Pierre, O.P.

St. Gertrude School - (513) 561-8020

Principal - Sister Maria Christi Greve, O.P. ext 1101
 Vice Principal - Mr. Travis Johnson ext 1101
 PTO President - Amy Weidenbacher (513) 720-8805
 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 -
 Christopher Holman cholman@stgertrude.org
 Safe Environment Coordinator - Emma Golias ext 2103

Office of Evangelization - (513) 561-5954

Coordinator of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd -
 Mary Beth Thiemann ext 2110
 Coordinator of Youth Formation - Walter Plummer ext 2122
 Coordinator of High School Ministry -
 Laura Potter ext 2124
 Communications Coordinator - Michelle Dushensky ext 2121
 Office Coordinator - Kristen Eggers ext 2109
 Become Catholic (RCIA) ext 2101
 Father John Mark Solitario, O.P.

Corporal Works of Mercy

Helping Hands (Funeral Reception Ministry)- (513) 940-2643
 Nancy Lucas stgerthh@gmail.com
 Knights of Columbus - Pete Marcello (703) 447-3978
 grandknight@elderkofc.org
 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 -
 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

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 - Jenna Bernardo (513) 658-0444
 nfp@stgertrude.org
 Pastoral Council - Ryan Schilling rryanschilling@gmail.com
 Prayer Ministry for the Dying - Pat Collins (513) 265-1897
 Respect Life - Debbie Graham (513) 984-4766
 Rosary Making - Larry Ball (513) 831-8572
 Unbound Ministry - Nealy Mechley (513) 505-1740

Liturgical Ministries

Parish Choir - Christopher Holman cholman@stgertrude.org
 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) 382-3513
 St. Joseph the Worker Society (513) 561-5954
 Ushers - Douglas Postler (513) 791-6298
 Viri Selecti - Ben Hoffmann pxaw@hotmail.com
 Youth Choir - Christopher Holman cholman@stgertrude.org

Spiritual Groups

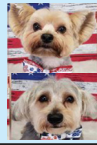
Adult Bible Study - (513) 561-5954
 Angelic Warfare Confraternity -
 Father John Mark Solitario, O.P. (513) 561-5954
 Benedictine Oblates - Mark Milliron (513) 536-6275
 CANA Family For Mothers -
 Anita Pappalardo (513) 248-8237
 Catholic Men's Fellowship - Stan Lloyd (513) 289-5268
 Confraternity of the Most Holy Rosary -
 Brian Zappia (513) 791-7299
 Dominican Laity (Bishop Fenwick) -
 Mrs. 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
 Healing Rosary - Cindy Hertzell (513) 368-8941
 Seasons of Hope - Cindy Hertzell (513) 368-8941
 Special Needs Moms Support Group -
 Laura Nanista (513) 301-6317
 True Devotion to Mary - Anne Collins (513) 984-4708
 Walking with Purpose Bible Study (Women) -
 Martha Thompson mbthom22@gmail.com

Parish Groups

Athletic Boosters - Rob Gruber (513) 256-2566
 Boy Scouts - Rob Schuette (513) 333-0040
 Cub Scouts - Chris De Brunner (513) 379-1010
 Garden Club (513) 561-5954
 Lenten Fish Fry - Rob Mancini (513) 520-6360
 Little Flower Library - Susan Santos (513) 504-0205
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