



# ST. GERTRUDE CHURCH

September 26, 2021



## MASSES AND CONFESSIONS AT ST. GERTRUDE

### Monday, September 27, St. Vincent de Paul (M)

- 7:00 a.m. Marilyn D'Alonzo/The Golias Family  
8:00 a.m. †Deceased Members of the Ladies of Charity/  
The Ladies of Charity  
11:30 a.m. †Deceased Members of the Dominican Order

### Tuesday, September 28, Weekday

- 7:00 a.m. For the Health of Cardinal Burke/Anonymous  
8:00 a.m. Denny & Katy Riehle/Sherry Schuler  
11:30 a.m. †James S. Barnes/Tricia Speicher

### Wednesday, September 29,

#### SS. Michael, Gabriel & Raphael (F)

- 7:00 a.m. †Marguerite Crema/Shari Siebert  
8:00 a.m. The Rentrop Family/The Roma Family  
11:30 a.m. †Jane Thole/Tom & Dianne Weidman

### Thursday, September 30, St. Jerome (M)

- 7:00 a.m. †Jim Nolan/Dennis & Kathleen Riehle  
8:00 a.m. †Fr. Francis Ralph, O.P./Elder Council KofC  
11:30 a.m. †Andrea Singer/The Maxwell Family

### Friday, October 1, St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus (M)

- 7:00 a.m. †Therese Celine Condit/Julie & John Murdock  
8:00 a.m. †Bill Malarick/Tom & Kim Hahn  
11:30 a.m. †Dorothy Arozarena/Julee & Diane

### Saturday, October 2, The Holy Guardian Angels (M)

- 8:00 a.m. †Deceased members of Kehoe Family/The Family  
11:30 a.m. †Tim Petric/Mary Petric

### October 2-3, 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### Saturday

- 4:30 p.m. †Vera Rettig/Charlene Rettig Bosken

#### Sunday

- 8:00 a.m. People of St. Gertrude  
10:00 a.m. Donna Bantel/Jennifer Bantel  
12:00 p.m. †Martha & Walter Bunker/Bill & Gindy Schneller  
6:00 p.m. †Frank Messer/The Holt & Pavloff Families

Confessions will be heard in the church Monday-Friday at 4:00 p.m., Wednesday at 7:30 p.m., and Saturday at 3:30 p.m.

## Parish Office Info

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



## Win \$10,000 for St. Gertrude School!

How does it work?

1. Subscribe to EDIFY, a new comprehensive digital learning platform from CatholicVote, at [edify.us](http://edify.us).
2. When you subscribe, nominate St. Gertrude School for CatholicVote's \$10,000 grant.
3. The Catholic organization with the highest number of new EDIFY subscribers wins!

For more information, visit  
[stgertrude.org/news/win10k](http://stgertrude.org/news/win10k) or [edify.us](http://edify.us).  
Contest runs September 1-30, 2021.



## ILLUMINATE

Helping Parents Raise Children  
in a "Pornified" Culture

Join us for our 3-part  
Fall 2021 Series

**WHEN: September 30, 8:30-9:30 a.m.**

**October 7, 8:30-9:30 a.m.**

**October 14, 8:30-9:30 a.m.**

**WHERE: St. Gertrude Parish Center Lobby**

**COST: \$10/person**

**REGISTER: [stgertrude.org/illuminate](http://stgertrude.org/illuminate)**

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



Photo by David Levéque on Unsplash



**INSIGHT INTO  
BEACONS OF LIGHT**

BY FATHER GEORGE SCHOMMER, O.P.

As you all know, we are in the midst of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati's *Beacons of Light* multi-year planning initiative, an effort Archbishop Schnurr has called the most comprehensive and important undertaking in

the 200-year history of the archdiocese.

The purpose of *Beacons of Light* is to provide for us in the archdiocese a vision of life as the People of God in this particular place and time. As we approach the October public comment period on the suggested Family of Parishes groupings that have been developed over the past several months, I want to take the opportunity in this and next weekend's bulletin to provide you with as much insight into *Beacons of Light* as I can. For more information, I encourage you to visit the *Beacons of Light* website, [www.BeaconsAOC.org](http://www.BeaconsAOC.org), and/or subscribe to the *Beacons Update* email.

**Background**

Over our archdiocese's 200-year history, we have established 306 parishes in the 19 counties of south and western Ohio that comprise the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. In 1971, the archdiocese had 417 active diocesan priests and 417 active religious priests assigned to various ministries. That was the archdiocese's high point. Today, only 210 parishes remain, and we are approaching only 125 active diocesan priests and far fewer religious priests who are available for ministry.

In 2016, the archdiocese surveyed and interviewed all of its pastors. What the archdiocese learned was the pastors' attitudes and opinions on how their lives were being affected by the dwindling numbers of priests available for parish ministry and their ever increasing workload.

In January of 2019, a group of priests came together to talk about the results of those interviews. Three of the many insights that came out of that meeting were:

1. the realization that moving from "maintenance to mission" is the only way to build and enliven our Church that has suffered these past twenty-plus years,
2. the need to move quickly to bring about a Church that is fully alive while at the same time set into place a Church that is manageable for our immediate future, and
3. an understanding that there will be disappointment and grief in order to set ourselves up for a future of joy and expectation leading to growth.

After that January meeting of pastors, the archdiocese launched *Beacons of Light*.

It's important to remember that the Church in our part of the world suffers today for many reasons: lower birth rates; populations moving to other parts of the country and thus fewer numbers of the faithful to occupy our churches; and many of our people, especially younger adults, have left the practice of the faith. With that reality

comes a decline in stewardship of time and talent, as well as Sunday offerings, making it difficult to continue to be able to support the infrastructure and ministries of our multitude of parishes presently in place. With that, there is also the decline in the number of men who have been ordained priests over the last 50 years.

**Next Step**

The next step in the *Beacons of Light* process is to share the suggested Family of Parishes groups with the faithful. These groupings are based on data and are sized according to ministerial workload. A few parishes will continue to stand alone, but others will be grouped in twos or more, with each grouping or Family being roughly equal to each of the others in workload for the clergy called upon to minister to the faithful who reside in the Family.

In closing, I would like to ask you to do two things:

1. Pray for the success of this endeavor, for our priests and parishioners, for open minds and hearts, for people to be charitable to one another, and for the Church of Cincinnati.
2. Participate in the October 1-20 public comment period on the Family of Parishes groupings by attending one of the following comment sessions at St. Gertrude:

- Monday, October 4, at 10:00 a.m.
- Monday, October 4, at 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, October 6, at 7:00 p.m.
- Saturday, October 9, at 10:00 a.m.

Let us love one another and pray for each other,

*Fr. George, O.P.*

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



On one occasion, Jesus gave me to know that when I pray for intentions which people are wont to entrust to me, He is always ready to grant His graces, but souls do not always want to accept them: "My Heart overflows with great mercy for souls, and especially for poor sinners. If only they could understand that I am the best of Fathers to them and that it is for them that the Blood and Water flowed from My Heart as from a fount overflowing with mercy. For them I dwell in the tabernacle as King of Mercy. I desire to bestow My graces upon souls, but they do not want to accept them. You, at least, come to Me as often as possible and take these graces they do not want to accept. In this way you will console My Heart." (*Diary, #367*)

**COVER IMAGE:** St. Thérèse of Lisieux statue outside the church, photograph by Nick Staresinic

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

- **Winter Uniform** – Students will start wearing the winter school uniform on Monday, October 4.
- **Our Lady of the Rosary Celebration** – Thursday, October 7, 2021, at 5:30 p.m. See the ad below for more information.
- **Parent/Teacher Conferences** – Wednesday, October 13, from 4:00-8:00 p.m. and Thursday, October 14, from 2:30-6:00 p.m. Like last year, parents will receive a link to sign up.
- **Monthly Meeting with Sister Maria Christi** – Parents of junior high students are invited to meet with Sister Maria Christi on Tuesday, October 26, at 8:30 a.m. in the cafeteria.

**NEW WEBSITE**

We are excited to announce the launch of our new school website! It's easier to navigate and features our new school branding. Visit [stgertrudesch.org](http://stgertrudesch.org) to check it out!

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

**Junior High Social Studies Teacher** – St. Gertrude School is looking for a full-time, professional junior high (6th, 7th, and 8th grade) social studies teacher. Candidate will be required to obtain a valid Ohio License, fingerprints, a background check, and SafeParish current with the Archdiocese of Cincinnati prior to starting the position. Interested

candidates should submit a cover letter, resume, and contact information for three references to Sister Maria Christi Greve, O.P., principal, at [smchristi@stgertrudesch.org](mailto:smchristi@stgertrudesch.org). Catholic Candidate: Required

**After School Care Program Assistant** – St. Gertrude School is seeking joyful Catholics who feel called to assist with our After School Care program for the 2021-2022 school year. Applicants should be practicing Catholics, at least 18 years old, and willing to be trained in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati's child protection training program via SafeParish. This is a paid, part-time position from 3:00-6:00 p.m., Monday-Friday, with the flexibility to commit to just one day per week, five days per week, or anything in between. The After School Care program assistants will help with homework and supervise indoor and outdoor play within a nurturing Catholic atmosphere based on the Dominican tradition of practicing virtue and loving each other in Christ. This is an excellent opportunity for parents, grandparents, childcare providers, and students who are interested in developing their resume through work experience. Interested candidates should submit a letter of interest, contact information for three references, and a resume (if available) to [info@stgertrudesch.org](mailto:info@stgertrudesch.org).

**SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS**

School office hours for the week of September 27 are 7:30 a.m.-3:45 p.m., Monday through Friday.

OCTOBER 7, 2021

**OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CELEBRATION**

ST. GERTRUDE SCHOOL

All St. Gertrude School families are invited to a very special Marian celebration on Thursday, October 7, the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary.

- 5:30 P.M. - Dinner (provided)
- 6:30 P.M.- Rosary procession with the Our Lady of Fatima statue, Benediction, and consecration of our school to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Check the bulletin in the coming weeks for more information.





## **(TRYING TO) LIVE THE MISSION: NO GRUMBLING**

BY BRAD BURSA

There's a line in the Gospels that haunts me. Jesus says, "Stop judging, that you may not be judged. For as you judge, so will you be judged, and the measure with which you measure will be measured out to you" (Mt 7:1-2).

I tend to be a perfectionist. I'm hypercritical of myself and of other people. In other words, I can tend to be a harsh judge—at least internally. This line from Our Lord, then, crushes me. It is horribly frightening.

Along with passing harsh judgment comes griping. Hypercritical people gripe a lot, it seems to me. My own examination of conscience tells me so. Last year, the Lord seemed to have let me know just how problematic this is, and his message came at the beginning of the COVID-19 lockdown. That experience was rather monastic, in some ways. Everyone was home, and the need to function well as a little community was evident. Meal times, prayer times, and bedtimes were more regular. In the midst of this, I picked up a book by J. Augustine Wetta, O.S.B, entitled *Humility Rules: Saint Benedict's 12-Step Guide to Genuine Self-Esteem*. Reading something about St. Benedict made sense at the time, so I dug in eagerly.

About halfway through, Wetta, the Benedictine priest, says:

"Sometimes, when I'm giving a tour of our monastery, I'll put this question to the guests: 'What do you think is the one thing Saint Benedict absolutely forbids his monks to do?' I usually hear answers like 'Kill somebody' or 'Steal from the church' or 'Run off with a woman.' But those things don't frighten Benedict the way grumbling does."

In the *Rule*, Benedict says, "Above all, there should be no grumbling—not in word, not by gesture, not for any reason whatsoever. If anyone is caught grumbling, he should be severely disciplined." Why? Why is St. Benedict so adamantly opposed to griping up a storm?

Wetta explains, "Nothing will take the wind out of your sails like grumbling....If you think about it, an outright fight is easier on a community than ceaseless, cowardly, whining gossip that comes from a grumbler who 'spreads strife' and 'separates close friends.'" Wetta continues, "Unlike direct disobedience, grumbling makes everyone restless and angry—including the grumbler himself."

There you have it. Anyone who has legitimately tried to live in community knows this is 100 percent true. This is why, as Wetta puts it,

whining is St. Benedict's pet peeve, and why he mentions it eight times in that little book known as the *Rule*. Stopping complaining before it starts must be rather important to him.

In every community, there are dysfunctions and social pathologies. Where such maladies exist, griping follows. It's almost too natural.

So, is there any way out?

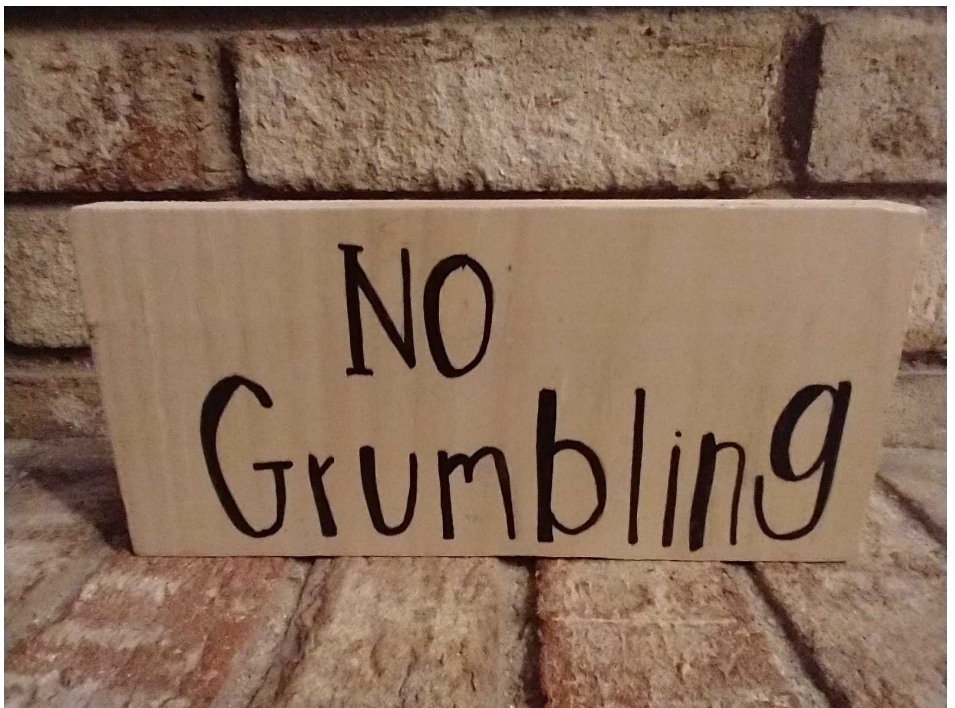
Well, in my house, I threatened to turn our big "NO GRUMBLING" sign into an obtrusive necklace that the grumbler would have to wear until I, the ultimate arbiter, decided to end the punishment. It seems to fit with what St. Benedict lays out in the *Rule*.

(I have yet to do this.)

Perhaps another solution can be mined from my own penitential experience following the sacrament of Reconciliation. The priest must have picked up on my grumbling habit, so he assigned a penance that involved sitting before the Blessed Sacrament for a brief time and meditating on original sin. That's one way to break down perfectionism. "Everyone is broken," he said. "If you can start to recognize this fact, maybe you won't expect perfection from everyone else by themselves, or yourself by yourself. Then you will learn to be merciful."

Only God is perfect, and only God loves perfectly. The key to mercy, the key to renouncing hypercritical harsh judgment and ceasing to constantly gripe, must involve becoming profoundly aware of our brokenness and amazed at the fact that God loves us anyway. Charity means receiving this love and offering it to others as a gift. The manner in which we do so will determine precisely how we will be judged (cf. Mt 25:31-46).

*The fourth Sunday of each month, we'll feature stories and tips for trying to live the faith in ordinariness of life.*





# REVITALIZE

Do you sense that God has something more planned for you, but you don't know what it is—or how to find it?

Join us for Revitalize, an invigorating 7-week formation program that will deepen your friendship with God and invite you to open your life to his gift of the Holy Spirit.

**Program begins October 14!**

Visit [stgertrude.org/revitalize](http://stgertrude.org/revitalize) for more information and to register. Space is limited.

ST. GERTRUDE CHURCH

## DO YOU PRAY THE ROSARY EVERY DAY?

We invite you to join the St. Gertrude chapter of the Confraternity of the Most Holy Rosary. **There will be a special enrollment ceremony for new members on Sunday, October 10, 2021, after the 12:00 p.m. Mass in the church.** At the ceremony, new members will receive a blessed medal, rosary, and candle. (To help us offset the cost of these items, please consider making a \$20.00 freewill offering.) If you would like to be enrolled in the St. Gertrude chapter, please RSVP for the enrollment ceremony by sending your name, address, and phone number to [rosary@stgertrude.org](mailto:rosary@stgertrude.org). To learn more about the confraternity, please visit [stgertrude.org/rosaryconfraternity](http://stgertrude.org/rosaryconfraternity) or [rosaryconfraternity.org](http://rosaryconfraternity.org).

## LET US PRAY

### PLEASE PRAY FOR...

#### THE SICK:

Bettie Caudill, Ann Cerone, Kylee Dawson, Triset Defonseka, Clyde Dorn, Jean Ellert, Kathy Elsbernd, Lisa Ely, Peter Fox, Dick Gelhaus, Matt 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, 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, Cole and Kyle Foster, Dominic Geraci, Daniel Holian, Mike Huber, Aaron Jacobson, Jacob Krumb, John Krumb, Kelly Leugers, John Oscar, Sarah Ries, Kolbe Roberts, Dan Roseman, Andrew Shannon, and Ian Tester

#### THE RECENTLY DECEASED

Dorothy Kreuzman

## CALLING ALL GIRLS IN GRADES 5-8



The St. Anne and the Child Mary Guild was created in 2012 to give the fifth through eighth grade girls of St. Gertrude Church and School an opportunity to be more tangibly involved in serving the parish community, to grow in their own faith life, and to learn about the various vocations God might be calling them to. Meetings begin October 9, and will be held once a month in the Parish Center from 9:00 to 11:15 a.m. on the following Saturdays: November 13, December 11, January 15, February 12, March 19, April 9, and May 21. The guild also welcomes high-school-age young ladies to serve as leaders and role models for the guild members. For more information or to be included in the monthly Guild News, please contact Ann McCormick at [ann.mccormick@ymail.com](mailto:ann.mccormick@ymail.com) or Ann Cordier at [cordiermom@gmail.com](mailto:cordiermom@gmail.com).

## Do you know someone who is interested in the Catholic faith?

### INVITE THEM TO BECOME CATHOLIC.

Formerly known as RCIA, Become Catholic is a program for men and women who would like to join the Catholic Church for the first time or become fully initiated members of the Church. For most people, all it takes is a little encouragement from family and friends. Be that encouragement.

**WHEN: Every Monday, beginning September 20**

**TIME: 7:00-9:00 p.m.**

**WHERE: Parish Center Lobby**

For more information, visit [stgertrude.org/become-catholic](http://stgertrude.org/become-catholic).



## BAPTISM



Left:

Child: Grant Edward Shafer  
Parents: Michelle & Jeff Shafer

Right:

Child: Adeline Jacqueline Rice  
Parents: Jaime & Garrett Rice

ALL  
YOU  
CAN  
EAT!



## ENJOY BREAKFAST AT ST. GERTRUDE CHURCH!

**Date: Sunday, October 3, 2021**

**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**

**PANCAKES**

**EGGS**

**SAUSAGE**

Gluten/dairy free  
menu available



Credit cards accepted

Sponsored and prepared  
by Archbishop Elder  
Council



## MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

Fall is a beautiful season full of color and crisp fresh air. A Marriage Encounter Weekend is like autumn because it's full of fresh air, new beginnings, and a time to rejoice in the beauty of your marriage and family—and enjoy time away. The next Marriage Encounter Weekends are October 15-17, 2021, at Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Center in Cincinnati, and November 5-7, 2021, at Maria Stein Renewal Center in Maria Stein, OH. To register, visit <https://esharing.org/applyWeekend.php>. For more details, contact Andy and Melanie Reinersman at (859) 653-8464, or visit [esharing.org](https://esharing.org).

## MORNING OF REFLECTION FOR INFERTILE COUPLES

All infertile married couples on the fertility journey are invited to attend the St. Gerard Morning of Reflection for Infertile Couples at St. Ignatius of Loyola Church in Cincinnati on October 16 (St. Gerard's feast day) from 9:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Beginning with Mass, this free event will offer couples the opportunity to venerate a first class relic of St. Gerard, enjoy refreshments, and hear presentations in Loyola Hall after Mass. Featured speakers include Kimberly Henkel of Springs in the Desert and Dr. Jason Mattingly. No RSVP required.

## WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S

The Cincinnati Tri-State Walk to End Alzheimer's will be held on Saturday, October 2, at Sawyer Point. Pre-event activities begin at 8:30 a.m., and the walk is at 10:00 a.m. For more information and to register, please visit [alz.org/walk](http://alz.org/walk). You can walk as a single participant or as a team. Donations are welcome, too. The Alzheimer's Association of Greater Cincinnati provides care and support to families in 37 counties in Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana, plus much needed funding for research.

## ELIZABETH'S NEW LIFE CENTER'S BANQUET

Please join us for a lovely evening of food and inspiration on Thursday, October 14, as we raise support for moms and babies! Elizabeth's New Life Center's 2021 South Partnership Banquet will be at the Oasis Conference Center in Loveland, Ohio, and feature guest speaker Kirk Walden of Heartbeat International. To register, visit [www.ElizabethNewLife.org](http://www.ElizabethNewLife.org), or contact Lori Ernest at (937) 226-7414, ext. 430 or [lernerst@ElizabethNewLife.org](mailto:lernerst@ElizabethNewLife.org).

## 48TH ANNUAL CELEBRATION FOR LIFE

Northern Kentucky Right to Life's 48th Annual Celebration for Life will be held on Sunday, September 26, at Receptions (1379 Donaldson Hwy., Erlanger, KY 41018). Doors open at 12:45 p.m. At 1:00 p.m., attendees will be able to view a pro-life film, browse exhibits, and enjoy refreshments. Austin Ruse, president of the Center for Family and Human Rights, will be the guest speaker at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$10.00/each and can be purchased at the door or by calling Stan Barczak at (859) 431-6380. Free childcare will be available.

## ORGAN DONOR NEEDED

A parishioner's brother is in need of a kidney transplant. If you are or someone you know is interested in being an organ donor for this man, please contact Barb at (513) 315-4251. Thank you!

Gate of Heaven Cemetery & Our Lady of Lourdes Church  
11000 Montgomery Rd, Ohio 1101 Amsterdam Road, Park Hills, KY.  
Saturday, October 2nd Saturday, October 9th  
12:00 Noon - 1:30 P.M. 12:00 Noon - 1:30 P.M.

**TRIUMPH of the  
IMMACULATE HEART  
of MARY**

Annual  
**Rosary Crusade**  
NKY CINCINNATI

FEATURED SPEAKERS:  
REV. SHANNON COLLINS, MSJB (Oct. 9th)  
& REV. CYRIL WHITAKER, S.J. (Oct. 2nd)

FURTHER INFORMATION OR DIRECTIONS:  
PATRICK & MARY ASHCRAFT 513.793.5872  
[PATASHCRAFT@EARTHLINK.NET](mailto:PATASHCRAFT@EARTHLINK.NET)

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LIMITED SEATING - BYOCHAIR



## **THE LITURGY: PRAYING, BELIEVING, LIVING**

FATHER JORDAN KELLY, O.P.

*Part four in an 8-part series.*

### **Of Icebergs and Beauty**

By now, I hope you are beginning to understand how the liturgy is the greatest prayer that we are given, how the liturgy shapes and forms our beliefs, and that from these sacred mysteries we are sent forth to live and proclaim what we have prayed. I also hope you are beginning to perceive how the ritual use of signs and symbols helps us to incarnate our prayer and our creed.

#### **The Iceberg**

When discussing the liturgy, I am sure it seems very puzzling, if not predictably New Age, to introduce the concept of an iceberg. If we give ourselves just a little time to sit with this metaphor, I hope we can begin to see how it clearly relates to the liturgy, and also how it will lead us to search and discover what is most beautiful in life.

When looking at an iceberg, we only see the very tip of what makes this simultaneously awesome and frightening structure the formation that it is. We are in awe, frightened by what we see, and unaware of what and how much danger lurks below the water and out of our sight. The simplest diagrams show that an iceberg has three levels: the one we see, and two levels each of increasing size and density beneath the water that we do not see. (More advanced diagrams say there may be as many as seven submerged levels of ice!) Think of the Titanic. Steering away from hitting the tip of the iceberg, the helmsman believed he had saved the unsinkable ocean liner from ruin, only to find that what was buried beneath the water would be the cause of never imagined destruction and death.

Okay, Father Jordan, *what* does this have to do with our liturgical prayer, what and why we believe what we believe, and, let alone, how we live it? Quite simply: EVERYTHING! Like the tip of a genuine iceberg, the tip of liturgical prayer—what we see and experience—can be both enlightening and deceptive. How? What we see, hear, smell, and taste within the liturgy are the rituals we celebrate. (Remember, ritual is the patterning of symbols to express a common meaning.) But what shapes those rituals? Rituals are shaped by what a particular church, family, or organization believes, and by how those rituals are put into action in daily life. (Think of how we go to Communion here at St. Gertrude. Coming to the Communion rail to receive Communion, while a venerable tradition of the Church, is no longer a practice held throughout the Church. However, this ritual has particular meaning and significance for us: it helps to tell us and others the supreme importance of the Eucharist in our faith life.) Is there a problem, Father Jordan? Well, there can be. The problem exists when we no longer know or understand or are able to both articulate and appropriate to our daily lives what those hidden levels mean. Our motto becomes, *we've always done it this way*, and ritual is no longer

ritual, but simply drama—and bad drama at that. Everything could be perfect: all the right music, everybody moves in perfect choreography, the vestments are the best. And yet, we are left cold! All three levels need to be in contact with the other. We have to be able to understand and articulate each level, or that which expressed a common meaning and led us to the fullness of human flourishing can leave us lifeless and lacking joy, meaning, and purpose.

#### **Beauty**

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI writes about the *via pulchritudinis* (the way of beauty) in these words: “*Art, music, vesture, are parables with an openness to the Universal: the Way of Beauty is a way capable of leading the mind and heart to the Lord, to elevate the soul and mind to the very heights of God!*” The very heights of God . . . this is the ultimate beauty of the Christian life and the greatest desire of liturgical prayer.

More about beauty next week!

Do you have questions about the liturgy? Submit your question to [parishoffice@stgertrude.org](mailto:parishoffice@stgertrude.org), and I will answer them in this column.

*The Liturgy: Praying, Believing, Living is an 8-part series by Father Jordan Kelly, O.P., that will be featured in our bulletin over the next few months. The series strives to deepen our understanding of the Liturgy and strengthen our unity as a community who worships God in Spirit and in Truth.*





| Monday,<br>September 27  | Tuesday,<br>September 28   | Wednesday,<br>September 29  | Thursday,<br>September 30   | Friday,<br>October 1                            | Saturday,<br>October 2   | Sunday,<br>October 3   |
|--|--|---|---|---|--|--|
| <b>Become Catholic (RCIA)</b><br>7:00 p.m.<br>Parish Center<br>St. Dominic Lobby | <b>Seasons of Hope</b><br>10:00 a.m.<br>Parish Center<br>St. Joseph Mtg. Rm.                       | <b>Adult Choir</b><br>7:00 p.m.<br>Parish Center<br>St. Dominic Lobby | <b>Illuminate</b><br>8:30 a.m.<br>Parish Center<br>St. Dominic Lobby                      | <b>L'alto: Confirmation</b><br>7:00 p.m.<br>Gym | <b>Ladies of Charity Retreat</b><br>8:00 a.m.<br>Parish Center<br>St. Dominic Lobby    | <b>Rosary Sales</b><br><i>After Morning Masses</i><br>Parish Center<br>St. Dominic Lobby |
| <b>Healing Rosary</b><br>7:00 p.m.<br>Rosary Garden<br>(weather permitting)      | <b>True Devotion to Mary</b><br>12:00 p.m.<br>Parish Center<br>St. Dominic Lobby                   | <b>Peer Ministry Team Meeting</b><br>7:00 p.m.<br>School Cafeteria    | <b>Merciful Love</b><br>9:45 a.m.<br>Parish Center<br>St. Dominic Lobby                   |   | <b>Genesis to Jesus Study</b><br>9:00 a.m.<br>School Cafeteria                         | <b>LofC Mother of Christ Food Pantry</b><br><i>After Morning Masses</i><br>Sharing Van   |
| <b>L'alto: HS Core Team Meeting</b><br>7:00 p.m.<br>School Cafeteria             | <b>Children's Choir</b><br>3:00 p.m.<br>Parish Center<br>St. Dominic Lobby                         | <b>Benediction</b><br>8:50 p.m.<br>Church                             | <b>Level 1 CGS</b><br>11:15 a.m.<br>School Atrium I                                       |   | <b>LofC Mother of Christ Food Pantry</b><br><i>After 4:30 p.m. Mass</i><br>Sharing Van | <b>KofC Pancake Breakfast</b><br>8:45 a.m.-12:00 p.m.<br>Gym                             |
| <b>Seasons of Hope</b><br>7:00 p.m.<br>Parish Center<br>St. Joseph Mtg. Rm.      | <b>Family Faith</b><br>6:00 p.m.<br>School Cafeteria   |   | <b>Regina Veritatis Team Meeting</b><br>6:30 p.m.<br>Parish Center<br>St. Joseph Mtg. Rm. |   | <b>Eucharistic Guardian Social</b><br>5:30 p.m.<br>Parish Center<br>St. Dominic Lobby  | <b>Little Flower Library Open</b><br>9:00-11:30 a.m.                                     |
|  | <b>Catechesis of the Good Shepherd</b><br>6:00 p.m.<br>School Atrium I & II                        |   | <b>Cub Scout Parent Meeting</b><br>7:00 p.m.<br>School Cafeteria                          |   |  | <b>Family Faith</b><br>9:00 & 10:30 a.m.<br>School Cafeteria                             |
|  | <b>Dominican Laity – Bishop Fenwick Cncl.</b><br>7:00 p.m.<br>Parish Center<br>St. Joseph Mtg. Rm. |   |   |   |  | <b>Catechesis of the Good Shepherd</b><br>9:00 & 10:30 a.m.<br>School Atrium I & II      |
|  | <b>Boy Scouts</b><br>7:00 p.m.<br>School Cafeteria   |   |   |   |  | <b>Confraternity of the Holy Rosary</b><br>1:30 p.m.<br>Church                           |
|  |  |   |   |   |  | <b>L'alto: High School</b><br>7:00 p.m.<br>Parish Center                                 |

For guidelines about meetings on campus and scheduling information, please visit [stgertrude.org/covid19](http://stgertrude.org/covid19).

## OFFERING

St. Gertrude Parish  
Weekly Collection and Budget Report

### Collection for September 19

|                |    |         |
|----------------|----|---------|
| Weekly Budget  | \$ | 35,294  |
| Collection     | \$ | 25,387  |
| Weekly Surplus | \$ | (9,907) |

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

|                    |    |          |
|--------------------|----|----------|
| Fiscal YTD Budget  | \$ | 423,528  |
| Fiscal YTD Actual  | \$ | 396,591  |
| Fiscal YTD Deficit | \$ | (26,937) |

2nd Collection: \$11,829 Dominican Mission Co-op

## BULLETIN DEADLINE

BULLETIN  
10/10/21

MATERIALS DUE  
9/29/21

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**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  
 Bereavement Coordinator -  
 AnnaMaria Spurgin amspurgin@stgertrude.org  
 Bulletin Editor bulletin@stgertrude.org  
 Sacristan - Sheila Saalfeld ext 2401  
 Director of Music - Catherine Fishlock ext 2116

**Evangelization Team - (513) 561-5954**

Team Lead and Director of Adult Formation -  
 Brad Bursa, PhD ext 2109  
 Coordinator of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd -  
 Mary Beth Dickert ext 2109  
 Director of Youth Formation - Walter Plummer ext 2109  
 Communications Coordinator - Michelle Dushensky  
 Executive Assistant - Kristen Eggers (513) 561-8369  
 Rites of Christian Initiation (R.C.I.A.) -  
 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  
 Visitation of the Sick - Judy Hartmann (513) 984-8003

**Vocations Directors**

Archdiocese of Cincinnati - Fr. Dan Schmitmeyer (513) 421-3131  
 Dominican Friars -  
 Fr. Jacob Bertrand Janczyk, O.P. DominicanFriars.org  
 Nashville Dominican Sisters -  
 Sr. Mara Grace, O.P. (615) 256-5486

**Spiritual Works of Mercy**

Baptism Team  
 Circle of Prayer - Barbara Rose prayercirclesg@gmail.com  
 Communion to Sick - Judy Hartmann (513) 984-8003  
 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, ext 1123  
 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  
 Holy Family Prayer Group - Malissa Frohlich (513) 519-5197  
 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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