

MASSES AND CONFESSIONS AT ST. GERTRUDE

Monday, May 17, Easter Weekday

7:00 a.m. Mother's Day Novena 8:00 a.m. †Claire Wolcott/Bob & Jan Tribbe 11:30 a.m. [†]Deceased Members of the Dominican Order Tuesday, May 18, Easter Weekday 7:00 a.m. †William George Ballweg, Jr./The Wood Family 8:00 a.m. [†]Marvin & Catherine Beck/Mary Petric 11:30 a.m. †Carmen Klima/Sherry Huddle Wednesday, May 19, Easter Weekday 7:00 a.m. †Ed & Martha Fischer/The Fischer Family 8:00 a.m. *†*Robert & Joan Rogers/The Hellers 11:30 a.m. *†*James Ferguson/The Hertlein Family Thursday, May 20, Easter Weekday 7:00 a.m. †Mary Ellen Martin/Doug & Ann Oppenheimer 8:00 a.m. †Ann Reilly/Craig & Teresa Babcock 11:30 a.m. †Barbara Dugan/Brad & Katie Bursa Friday, May 21, Easter Weekday 7:00 a.m. The Beiersdorfer Family/The Hemak Family 8:00 a.m. †Marlene Tisher/Martha Coors 11:30 a.m. †Kelly Clark/Marian Clark Saturday, May 22, Easter Weekday 8:00 a.m. †Shirley Seeger/The Tartaron Family 11:30 a.m. †Lilly Alexander/Benny Alexander

May 22-23, Pentecost Sunday (S)

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Saturday – 4:30 p.m.
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†Vera Rettig/Joan Kunkel

Sunday – 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.

People of St. Gertrude

†Jeffrey S. Vollmer/Molly & Bruce Vollmer †Marilyn Vogele/The Knights of Columbus †Richard "Dick" Mullin, Sr./

Jim & AnnaMaria Spurgin & Family Thomas R. Barnes/Tricia Speicher

Parish Office Info

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

Parish Office Hours

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

School Office Hours

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

Church Hours

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

PUBLIC WORSHIP AT ST. GERTRUDE CHURCH IN TIME OF PANDEMIC

Updated May 17, 2021

"The Coronavirus pandemic, despite positive trends and widespread vaccination, is not yet over. For that reason, **the dispensation from the Sunday Mass obligation will remain in place at least for now** to not unduly burden the consciences of those who have serious health concerns, either for themselves or for someone in their immediate care. Likewise, please maintain vigilance when it comes to wearing masks, social distancing and using hand sanitizer in church. The health and safety of our communities continues to be of paramount importance."

- Archbishop Dennis M. Schnurr, Letter to the Faithful of the Archdiocese, March 15, 2021

HEALTH AND SAFETY MEASURES

• We ask that the faithful wear cloth masks for the sake of the common good. People with breathing difficulties and young children should not wear masks.

• Only friars, sisters, novices, lay ministers and a limited number of staff members will be in the sanctuary and sacristy.

HOLY COMMUNION

• You are not obliged to receive Holy Communion at every Mass you attend. Consider making a spiritual communion, or receiving at a weekday Mass.

• The faithful who choose to receive Holy Communion will come up to the altar rail, where one or

two priests will distribute the sacred host. Keep space in line, and only remove your mask at the rail.You may receive in the hand or on the tongue, kneeling or standing. Note: the rail is a high-contact surface.

Mass & Confession Schedule

SUNDAY

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

WEEKDAYS

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

SATURDAY

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



UPDATE REGARDING CHURCH SEATING CAPACITY

Late last week, officials of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati sent a notification to pastors that stated in part: "While the dispensation from the Sunday obligation

remains in place, Archbishop Schnurr is keenly aware of the pressure upon our parish communities relative to seating capacity. Now that vaccine availability is near universal and incidence of COVID is decreasing daily, more and more of the faithful are eager to return to in-person worship. Maintaining the other protocols in accord with the orders of State of Ohio health authorities (i.e. masking) and the archdiocesan guidelines Worship Together Safely, **pastors may increase the potential capacity of church buildings, subject to any limitations by local health authorities (e.g. county board of health, city health department).**

In order to accommodate those parishioners who would prefer to be socially distanced, a recommendation would be to offer at least one section of socially distanced seating for at least one Mass each Sunday. Other areas of the church could be returned to full capacity subject to any limitations as noted above. Pastors should clearly communicate this change to the faithful, clearly indicate any seating section(s) which are for socially distanced spacing, and – going forward – adjust the amount of this seating based on the preference of the faithful and pastoral judgment."

Having consulted with the parish priests and the pastoral leadership team regarding implementation, we will proceed in the following manner:

- The new seating arrangements will begin on Monday, May17, 2021.
- The seating section nearest the confessionals (in front of the Rosary Altar) will retain socially distanced seating for all Masses. All other seating in the church will be open without restriction.
- 3. The offering of Sunday Masses in the gym which are provided to accommodate an "overflow" of attendees will be modified. After Sunday, May 16, the only Sunday Mass offered in the gym will be at 10:00 a.m., and this will be for those who want socially distanced seating but are unable to find it in the church.
- 4. We will follow this arrangement for several weekends after which an evaluation will be made of actual experience and whether any adjustment is needed. We may determine that needed socially distanced seating for all Masses can be accommodated in the church along with open seating.

 For the reception of Holy Communion, maintaining social distance is no longer necessary. Communicants may approach closer together.

Please note: The state mask mandate remains in effect and includes houses of worship. The Archbishop requests that Mass attendees abide by the mandate while inside the church. For the reception of Holy Communion, masks should be lowered or removed before the minister approaches.

These changes occur nearly one year after the re-opening of churches for the public celebration of the Eucharist. For this, we should be grateful. The dispensation from the Sunday obligation remains in place but may be reinstated soon as the Archbishop evaluates the current health crisis and its implications for parishes. No date has been announced. All guidelines and recommendations from the Archdiocese will be announced and implemented as they are provided. Other areas of parish life and ministry will have to be rebuilt after such a long hiatus. Careful planning and training will be needed as we return to "normal" and bring new vitality to the parish. The Holy Spirit will be our guide.

Let us love one another and pray for each other,

Fr. George, O.P.

FROM THE DIARY OF ST. MARIA FAUSTINA KOWALSKA



Today I accompanied the Lord Jesus as He ascended into Heaven. It was about Noon. I was overcome by a great longing for God... Then I saw myself in the midst of a huge crowd of disciples and apostles, together with the Mother of God. Jesus was telling them, **Go out into the whole world and teach in My name.**

He stretched out His hands and blessed them and disappeared in a cloud. I saw the longing of Our Lady. Her soul yearned for Jesus, with the whole force of Her love. But She was so peaceful and so united to the will of God that there was not a stir in Her heart but for what God wanted. (*Diary,* #1710)

COVER IMAGE: "Ascension of the Lord," photo by Very Rev. Lawrence Lew, O.P. Medieval image from an unknown artist in the Louvre Museum, Paris.

SCHOOL NEWS

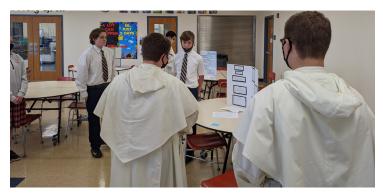
FIRST HOLY COMMUNION, MAY 1, 2021

On May 1, the students in Sr. Anne Therese's and Mrs. Molnar's classes received Holy Communion. The beautiful weather echoed the joy of the students and their families as they received Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time.



APOLOGETICS PRESENTATIONS

Students in Mrs. Ratajczak's 8th grade literature classes and Sister Maria Francesca's theology classes present their Apologetics research papers to the Dominican novices. The Novices asked excellent questions and the students responded with confidence. Congratulations to our students and teachers for all your hard work!





MAY CROWNING, MAY 4, 2021

The class of 2021 celebrated the traditional Crowning of the Statue of Our Lady on May 4th. Students in our younger grades held outdoor May Crowning ceremonies. Sister Maria Francesca guided the students in the 8th grade in thirty-three day preparation for Consecration to Mary, which the students made after the crowning.





In mid-April, we gathered our Confirmation candidates for our annual **IGNITE** Confirmation retreat. The day was packed with talks, games, small groups, prayer, and Mass. It was a powerful day which gave our candidates the opportunity to have personal prayer and reflection before they receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Illuminate

Helping Parents Navigate Raising Children in a 'Pornified' Culture

Never before has pornography been as graphic and as easy to access as it is now. Exposure to pornography severely impacts brain development and relationships – especially for our children. Raising kids in this 'pornified' digital culture can often leave parents feeling caught off guard, uncertain, and even paralyzed. Illuminate is a threepart series offered to all parents to help them understand the scope of the issue, how to help children who have been exposed to pornography heal, and to prevent pornography from ever taking root in the home. Summer Intensive June 19, 2021 9am-1pm School Library \$10/person Register at: stgertrude.org/illuminate

All sessions will be delivered by Brad Bursa, PhD, Director of Adult Formation at St. Gertrude Church.



Photo by David Levêque on Unsplash

BREACH



Coming this

July!

A call to action for all men to "Step into the Breach" and actively engage in the Spiritual Battle that is raging around our families and communities!

<u>10 Part Series Starts Sat, July 10th</u>

- 1. Deepen Your Faith
- 2. Prepare Yourself for the Challenge
- 3. Learn from Men's Experiences!



LET US PRAY

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

THE SICK:

Bettie Caudill, Ann Cerone, Marguerite Crema, Kylee Dawson, Triset Defonseka, Ed Doll, Jean Ellert, Kathy Elsbernd, Lisa Ely, Bob Gerwin, Andrew Goad, Cameron Goad, Matthew Goad, Glenn Grismere, Loretta Holden, Hummel Family, Megan Johnson, Aiko Kimura, Ed Kinney, Janice Koncius, Kevin Lewis, Nancy Lucas, Sandra Munyon, Gerry Patterson, Michelle (Lydon) Ruscher, Jane Sansalone, Ellen Schaengold, Patricia Scherer, Pegge Schuermann, Richard Seifert, Teddie Slaper, Jack Spilker, Jim Spurgin, Patricia Strauss, Judy Sullivan, Mary Saul, Mary Valker and Bill Van Hise

THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES:

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

THE RECENTLY DECEASED

BAPTISM



Child: Lydia Genevieve Palun Parents: Nicole & Stephen



Child: Grace Christine Dowling Parents: Michael & Melissa Dowling

WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS

Tina Bascom Pamela Capobianco Jeffrey & Amanda Deckelman Alan & Sarah de Vries Michael & Alyssa Grasinski Jonathan & Angelina Kling Mark & Maria Kuhlman Patrick Miller Joshua Moore Benjamin & Christina Schneider Neal & Katie Tew Kelly Tyler



THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

Today as we celebrate the Feast of the Ascension, we are reminded that Christ's saving work on earth continues through His disciples... and now through us.

When we give to the poor, God indeed pours His love, peace, and joy into our hearts, into our lives and into the hearts of those who are poor.

FIVE HUNDRED FIVE BABIES SAVED FROM ABORTION - TWO OF WHICH WERE AT OUR CINCINNATI LOCATION!

We would like to let you know how grateful our Cincinnati 40 Days for Life core team is that you volunteered to take part in the spring 2021 campaign. Especially during the early days of the campaign, being subjected to the cold and snow was truly and fittingly a Lenten sacrifice. Thank you!

PERMANENT DEACON APPLICATION CYCLE TO BEGIN

Men of the archdiocese who are interested in applying for the Permanent Deacon Formation class which will begin in September 2022, should contact Deacon Mark Machuga, Director of the Office of the Diaconate at 513-263-6641 or <u>deaconoffice@catholicaoc.org</u>. The application cycle for the next class has begun. Prerequisites, qualifications and procedures will be discussed with each man considering the Diaconate.

BEACONS OF LIGHT PASTORAL PLANNING

Beacons of Light is a multiyear process of pastoral planning for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. While in the early stages of the process now, there is already much information



about what is being planned at <u>www.catholicaoc.org/beacons</u>. To stay up-to-date on the progress of Beacons of Light, please register for the monthly Beacons Update e-news at <u>https://</u> <u>resources.catholicaoc.org/offices/pastoral-planning/beacons-of-</u> <u>light#newsletter</u>.





ASK A PRIEST -WHAT DOES CONFIRMATION DO?

BY FR. JOHN MARK SOLITARIO, O.P. Q: I understand that Confirmation is supposed to be more than a graduation from religious education, but what

does this Sacrament do that is different from Baptism or Holy Communion?

A: You are right to say that Confirmation signifies much more than receiving a "diploma" for having endured the first segment of education in the Catholic faith! (I hope it wasn't that bad!)

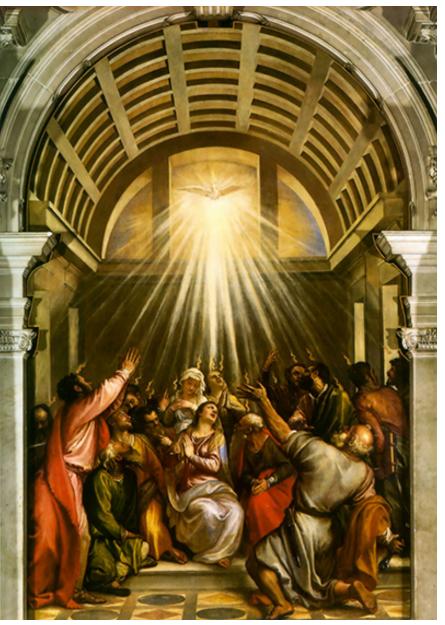
You are also right to ask what Confirmation "does." As the Catechism says, the Sacraments are "powers that come forth from the Body of Christ which is ever-living and ever life-giving."¹ But since the Holy Spirit is at work in all of the Sacraments, what makes Confirmation special?

The Church teaches that "every baptized person not yet confirmed can and should receive the Sacrament of Confirmation."² It is one of the Sacraments of Christian initiation and imparts a spiritual "character" upon the recipient. Typically, in the United States, Roman Catholic youth receive Confirmation at some time between the age of reason and adulthood. One's actual age isn't so much the point, but that the recipient will be called to a deeper *spiritual maturity* and given the divine help to go there. The Catechism puts it this way: "This 'character' perfects the common priesthood of the faithful, received in Baptism, and the confirmed person receives the power to profess faith in Christ publicly and as it were officially."³ Confirmation is an important step in following Jesus and receiving those gifts from Him that ought to be shared.

The eighth grade students who receive this Sacrament at St. Gertrude's this weekend are not expected to have the Catechism memorized. Nor are they called to start preaching homilies for the edification of their families (though I think the Nashville sisters wouldn't mind either of these outcomes!). Our students and all who receive Confirmation this year *will* reach a new level of conformity to Jesus Christ. They *will* have the opportunity to grow in the gifts of the Holy Spirit. They *will* have a more perfect bond with the Church.

And what will those who have been confirmed *do*? God knows the great possibilities. We can pray that they would fully accept this gift for their spiritual growth and for the sake of everyone they will touch through their influence as disciples of Christ.

"Ask a priest" will be a regular format for our Holy Teaching section in the coming months. Submit your own question to bulletin@stgertrude.org for one of our Dominican priests to answer in the bulletin!



¹ CCC, 1116.

² CCC, 1306.

³ CCC, 1305.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday, May 17	Tuesday, May 18	Wednesday, May 19	Thursday, May 20	Friday, May 21	Saturday, May 22	Sunday, May 23
SportsLeader 6:00 p.m. Parish Center St. Joseph Mtg. Rm.	Children's Choir 3:00 p.m. Parish Center Music Room	Prayer Shawl 10:30 a.m. Parish Center St. Joseph Mtg. Rm.	Consoling the Heart of Jesus 9:00 a.m. Parish Center St. Dominic Lobby		Catholic Men's Fellowship 7:30 a.m. School Cafeteria	
Boosters 7:00 p.m. Parish Center St. Joseph Mtg. Rm.	RE Confimation Meeting 6:30 p.m. School Cafeteria	Rosary Makers 3:00 p.m. Parish Center St. Joseph Mtg. Rm.	33 Days to Morning Glory 7:00 p.m. Parish Center St. Dominic Lobby		Revitalize 8:30 a.m. Parish Center St. Joseph Mtg. Rm.	
Healing Rosary 7:00 p.m. Church	Boy Scouts 7:00 p.m. Playground	Adult Choir 7:00 p.m. Parish Center St. Dominic Lobby			LOC Planning Meeting 10:00 a.m. Parish Center St. Dominic Lobby	
RCIA 7:00 p.m. Parish Center St. Dominic Lobby	Real Friendship 7:00 p.m. School Cafeteria	Benediction 8:50 p.m. Church				

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

OFFERING

St. Gertrude Parish Weekly Collection and Budget Report

Collection for May	2		
Weekly Budget	\$	38,235	
Collection	\$	38,821	
Weekly Surplus	\$	586	
Collection for May	9		
Weekly Budget	\$	38,235	
Collection	\$	46,104	
Weekly Surplus	\$	7,869	
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Fiscal Year-To-Date (for year ending June 30, 2021)			
Fiscal YTD Budget	\$	1,762,353	
Fiscal YTD Actual	\$	1,705,687	
Fiscal YTD Deficit	(\$	56,666)	



6543 Miami Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45243 513.561.5954 | FAX 513.561.7184 | www.StGertrude.org

Parish Staff

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

Dominican Friars in Residence

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

St. Gertrude School - 513.561.8020

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

Office of Administration - 513.561.5954

Receptionists - Susan Kane & Teri F	orlini 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 Fishlo	ck ext 2116

Office of Evangelization - 513.561.5954

Executive Director - Brad Bursa, PhD	ext 2109
Primary Evangelization: PK-2nd Grade & Catechesis	of the
Good Shepherd	
Cindy Wurzelbacher	ext 2109
Jr. High Evangelization: 3rd-8th Grade - Bryan Wells	ext 2109
Jr. High Youth Ministry: 7th-8th Grade - Bryan Wells	ext 2109
High School Youth Ministry – Megan Dickert	ext 2109
Executive Assistant - Kristen Eggers 5	13.561.8369
Aquinas Society of Cincinnati (Adults & Families) -	
Rev. Clement Dickie, O.P.	
Rites of Christian Initiation (R.C.I.A.) -	
Rev. John Mark Solitario, O.P.	

Corporal Works of Mercy

Helping Hands – Nancy Lucas	stgerthh@gmail.com
Knights of Columbus – Phil Motz	513-444-5072
Ladies of Charity - Jean Wilkinson	513.498.5085
Parish Health Ministry - Jeanne Palcic	513.317.4123
Pregnancy Center East (for all pregnancy	needs) 513.321.3100
Soup Kitchen – Andy Cordier soupki	tchen@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 -
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Circle of Prayer - Barbara Rose prayerc	irclesg@gmail.com
Communion to Sick – Judy Hartmann	513.984.8003
Natural Family Planning - David & Ann Stein	513.207.9673
Pastoral Council - Mark Kosobud	513.469.0852
Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration 513	3.561.5954 ext 2136
Prayer Ministry for the Dying - Pat Collins	513.265.1897
Regina Veritatis Prayer & Healing - Nealy Med	chley 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 -	
Cristina Genung	513.404.6011
St. Joseph the Worker Society –	
Rev. Clement Dickie, O.P.	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 -		
Rev. John Mark Solitario, O.P.	513.561.5954	
Benedictine Oblates - Mark Milliron	513.536.6275	
Catholic Men's Fellowship - Paul Riege	er 513.885.5903	
Confraternity of the Most Holy Rosary –		
Brian Zappia	513.791.7299	
Dominican Laity (Bishop Fenwick) –		
Joan Ratajczak	jsratajczak@gmail.com	
Dominican Laity (Our Lady of Peace) –		
Mr. Fred Thomas, O.P. 513.335.1))	
FAMILIA/CANA Family For Mothers -		
Anita Pappalardo	513.248.8237	
Holy Family Prayer Group - Malissa Fr	ohlich 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 - Marc Gerwel	513.774.7779
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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