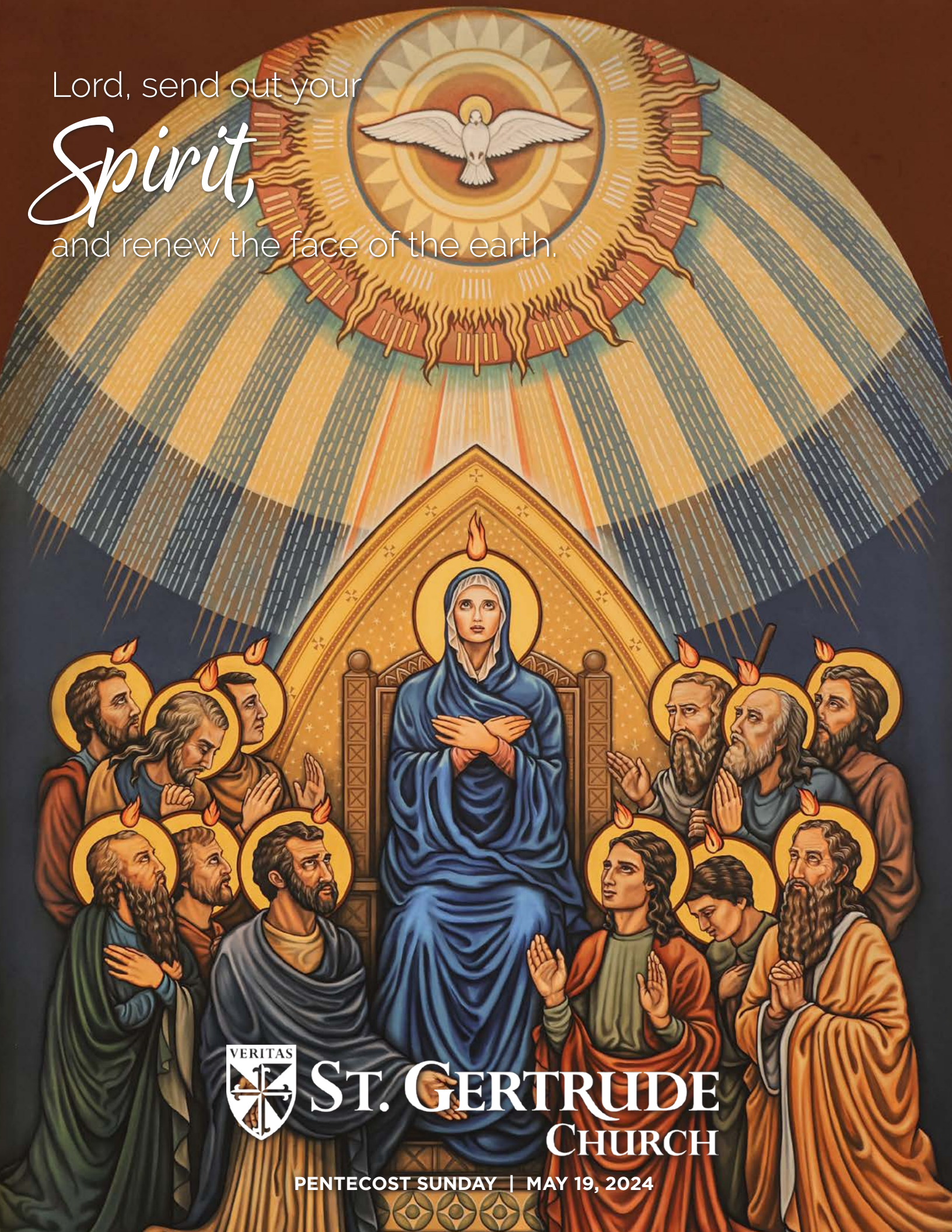


Lord, send out your

*Spirit,*

and renew the face of the earth.



**ST. GERTRUDE  
CHURCH**

PENTECOST SUNDAY | MAY 19, 2024



## MASSES AND CONFESSION

Monday, May 20,

The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church (M)

- 7 a.m. Mother's Day Novena
- 8 a.m. † Father Thomas Burke, O.S.S.T, by Pat & Terry Baute
- 11:30 a.m. † Deceased Members of the Dominican Order

Tuesday, May 21, Weekday

- 7 a.m. † Joshua George Egan by N. David Noe
- 8 a.m. † James Rybak by Mary Rybak
- 11:30 a.m. † Kelly Clark by Marian Clark

Wednesday, May 22, Weekday

- 7 a.m. Joseph Pachuk by The Pachuk Family
- 8 a.m. † Mitchell Craig Browning by The Castrucci Family
- 11:30 a.m. Father Benedict Croell, O.P., by Craig & Teresa Babcock

Thursday, May 23, Weekday

- 7 a.m. † Mary & Harry Ohlhaut by Paula Rooks
- 8 a.m. Thomas R. Barnes by Tricia Speicher
- 11:30 a.m. † Vera & Charles Rettig by Charlene Rettig Bosken

Friday, May 24, The Translation of Holy Father Dominic (M)

- 7 a.m. Father Jon Jergens by The Isaacs Family
- 8 a.m. † Bob Voegele by Nancy Brockhoff
- 11:30 a.m. † Don Beimesche by Shari Siebert

Saturday, May 25, Blessed Virgin Mary (M)

- 8 a.m. † Gerald Gennaro by Amy Strom
- 11:30 a.m. Sandy Tissandier by Christy Kellner & Family
- 4:30 p.m. † Michael Evan Thomas by Naoma & Ernest Thomas

Sunday, May 26, The Most Holy Trinity (S)

- 8 a.m. † Elizabeth Badinghaus by Steve & Valerie Badinghaus
- 10 a.m. † John Bough, Jr. by John & Hilda Bough
- 12 p.m. People of St. Gertrude
- 6 p.m. † Robert W. Rice by Joyce Bartlett

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

## Parish Information

6543 Miami Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45243  
(513) 561-5954 | [stgertrude.org](http://stgertrude.org)  
[parishoffice@stgertrude.org](mailto:parishoffice@stgertrude.org)  
Parish Office Hours  
Monday-Friday: 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.  
School Office Hours  
Monday-Friday: 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.  
Church Hours  
Every day: 7 a.m.-9 p.m.

### Spiritual Renewal for Pregnant Moms & Family Blessing

All pregnant women are invited to a special morning of renewal, which will include prayer, a meditation on the Annunciation, silence, and Mass—during which you, your unborn child, and your whole family will receive a blessing.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 1**

**10:30-11:15 a.m.**

**Prayer & Meditation**

*St. Joseph Room (Parish Center)*

**11:30 a.m.**

**Mass & Family Blessing**

*St. Gertrude Church*

Husbands and children are invited to Mass to take part in the four-part blessing—first over the baby, second over mom, third over dad, and fourth over the whole family.

## CORPUS CHRISTI

Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Join us on **Sunday, June 2**, for 10 a.m. Mass and our second annual Corpus Christi procession down Miami Avenue to downtown Madeira. Busses will be available to bring everyone back to the gym for an ice cream social.



**MASS**  
10 a.m. | Church  
**EUCCHARISTIC PROCESSION**  
After Mass | Miami Avenue  
**ICE CREAM SOCIAL**  
Following Procession | Gym

### Flower Girls for Corpus Christi Procession

All girls age 6 and up are invited to participate in our Corpus Christi procession by spreading flower petals along the route. The girls should wear a white (or light-colored) dress and bring a basket for the flower petals (which will be provided by the church). Parents will be chaperoning and helping to fill/refill the girls' baskets as they process. Please contact Michelle Dushensky, director of communications, at [mdushensky@stgertrude.org](mailto:mdushensky@stgertrude.org) if your daughter would like to participate.

ST GERTRUDE BOOSTERS' FIRST ANNUAL HALF-COURT SHOT

**ST. GERTRUDE**  
*Half-Court Shot*

**FRIDAY, JULY 5**  
ST. GERTRUDE GYM

**SCAN TO REGISTER**



**THE “MAY CROWNING”  
EACH OF US CAN OFFER**

As I am sure everyone has noticed by now, we have moved the statue of Our Lady of Fatima from its usual place on the wall above the confessionals to a more prominent location in the main sanctuary, where it will remain for the month of May. Very early in the month, the school children crowned the statue of Our Lady. This venerable custom of doing a May crowning of a statue of the Blessed Mother during the month of May, a month specially dedicated to Our Lady, is a beautiful manifestation of the love, trust, and devotion we hold in our hearts for Mary.

In light of that, I wanted to offer a few suggestions to everyone about various ways we might, as individuals or families, “crown” Mary in our own lives, especially during this month of May.

The first and most obvious would be to crown a statue of Our Lady in your own home. If you don’t have an actual crown, you can easily make one by weaving small flowers or even a little greenery together in the shape of a crown. Or, if you do not have a statue but do have some sort of image hanging on a wall or displayed on a shelf, you could place a rose or some other flower on the top of the image, or a small flower arrangement in front of it. It might not look exactly like a crown, per se, but in the larger sense, it is providing extra ornamentation to the image in order to honor the one depicted. Small children might be given a picture of Mary to color and asked to draw a crown on the top of her head.

There is an even better way each of us can “crown” our Blessed Mother, and that is to do so spiritually. For we truly adorn her, honor her, “crown” her by entrusting ourselves to her as our mother and our queen, and placing ourselves under her as her servants and handmaids. By aiming to serve her well, we honor her with our deeds and proclaim by our actions that we know her to be the Queen of Heaven and Earth, to whom even the armies of angels joyfully vow their fidelity.

We crown her by entrusting our needs and intentions to her, asking her to bring them before her heavenly Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords. In doing so, we profess our understanding of the unique and irreplaceable role she continues to play in the work of salvation. As Mother of the Afflicted, Help of Christians, and by so many similar titles, we do her honor by entrusting our needs to her as her loving children.

Finally, as the old saying goes, “imitation is the highest form of flattery.” In the context of faith, I would slightly correct that saying: imitation is the highest form of honor. We show Mary incredible honor when we aim to imitate in our lives all of the wonderful virtues that so beautifully adorned her own. Every time we imitate one of her virtues (and especially if we do so intentionally desiring to honor her), it is like a beautiful flower being placed in the crown atop her head.

So as we move through this very special month in honor of Our Lady, may each of our lives be a living “May crowning” in honor of Mary—she who is our life, our sweetness, and our hope. God bless,

*Rev. John Paul Walker, O.P.*

Father John Paul Walker, O.P.

**THE POWER OF THE ROSARY**



*“The Rosary is a prayer both so humble and simple and theologically rich in Biblical content. I beg you to pray it.”*

– Pope St. John Paul II

**Adoration Chapel Closed for  
Memorial Day Weekend**

The Mother of Mercy Adoration Chapel will be closed Friday, May 24, through Monday, May 27, for Memorial Day weekend. The chapel will reopen on Tuesday, May 28, at 7:30 a.m.

Learn more about adoration or sign up for a specific time at [stgertrude.org/adoration](http://stgertrude.org/adoration).

**OMEGA—New Program for Adults**

Are you looking for a spark in your relationship with Christ? Are you seeking to grow in your Catholic faith, spiritually and intellectually?

Join Omega this fall, a new adult faith formation opportunity to help you

- grow in your personal relationship with God,
- deepen your knowledge of the faith, and
- be formed to live out your calling to be a missionary disciple.

Space is limited!

**LEARN MORE AND LET US  
KNOW YOU’RE INTERESTED!**



**COVER IMAGE:** *Beuronese style image of the Pentecost event.* Photo by Father Lawrence Lew, O.P. Photo used with permission.



**ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT:**  
MR. TOM WOEBKENBERG

This week, St. Gertrude Bulletin chatted with St. Gertrude School alumni Mr. Tom Woebkenberg. Mr. Woebkenberg graduated from SGS in 1974 and is a partner at Wood & Lamping and the father of SGS graduates Sarah, Matthew, Katie, and Maddie (our school administrative assistant).

**St. Gertrude Bulletin:** What is a favorite memory of your time at St. Gertrude School?

**Mr. Woebkenberg:** I don't know that I have one specific favorite memory, but I have many memories of spending time with friends in class and in school activities and just enjoying it all. Our classes were so close and the environment was so supportive. My memories of my years at St. Gertrude are all positive memories.

**St. Gertrude Bulletin:** Did you have a favorite teacher? Why was he or she special?

**Mr. Woebkenberg:** I absolutely do: Doug Postler. Doug was an enormous influence in my life, starting with having him as a teacher at St. Gertrude and later as my boss at the Camargo Club. Doug went above and beyond just teaching us. He kept us in line, but not in a negative way. He knew what each student needed—some needed a figurative kick in the pants, others just needed encouragement. He even organized study sessions during a school break to teach the boys in our class math that we hadn't had yet but he knew would be on the upcoming high school entrance tests. He did this on his own time. Later, Doug hired several of us to work at the Camargo Club where he served as general manager. He was a tremendous influence at a key stage in my life, and I've always been grateful that I had the good fortune to have had Doug in my life.

**St. Gertrude Bulletin:** How did your St. Gertrude School education prepare you for higher studies, your career, and ultimately for life?

**Mr. Woebkenberg:** First off, I felt all of our teachers prepared us very well for high school. The teachers took very seriously their roles as educators of each student, as opposed to just being sure they finished the textbook by the end of the year. More importantly, we learned about our faith and had many opportunities to practice what we learned. We learned that there are things that are right and wrong, good and bad, and those lessons have remained with me throughout my life. Finally, we always had parents who volunteered for field trips, coaching, and similar activities. That example stuck with me. As our family grew and the kids attended St. Gertrude, I felt it was my turn to return the favor and to volunteer for various roles at SGS. I got far more out of those opportunities to give back than my kids or the kids on the teams I worked with did.

**St. Gertrude Bulletin:** What is your wish for today's St. Gertrude School students?

**Mr. Woebkenberg:** I wish they could enjoy their classmates and teachers and retain the innocence of their youth as long as possible. St. Gertrude is perhaps one of the best places anywhere to do so. The significant number of religious involved in the daily lives of the students plays a huge role in helping the kids to stay kids as long as possible, which is a blessing for those kids.

**St. Gertrude Bulletin:** What is one piece of advice you have for today's St. Gertrude School students?

**Mr. Woebkenberg:** Do your best each day at both work and play. There is plenty of time for both, and this principle will apply throughout your life. And, don't be in a hurry to grow up. You have the rest of your life to be a grown-up. Don't be in such a hurry to get there. I know that's more than one piece of advice, but I think they're both important.

*Did You Graduate from SGS?*

**WE WANT TO STAY IN TOUCH!**



**SUPPORT OUR ANNUAL FUND!**

This year, our parish school is raising funds to support growth of our Outdoor Curriculum, launch an alumni relations initiative, and add safety upgrades and enhancements for our playground. Please consider giving to help provide our students with the best in teaching and learning! Scan the QR code to support the Annual Fund.



**ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR 2024-2025**

Catholic education is affordable to every family in the state of Ohio, thanks to the EdChoice Scholarship Expansion. Scan the QR code to learn more about our amazing parish school!







**ENCOUNTERING  
JESUS THROUGH  
ALPHA: A JOURNEY  
OF FRIENDSHIP AND  
PRAYER**

BY MR. LAWAIN MCNEIL, O.P.,  
THE CALL TO HOLINESS

The essence of evangelization is fostering a friendship with Jesus and inviting others to do the same. This is only made possible by loving God through Jesus Christ.

Therefore, evangelization is incarnational, as God took on human form and tasked us with sharing his love with the world (Matthew 28:19-20 RSV). By reflecting on the sacrificial love of Jesus and his followers, we comprehend God’s generosity and learn to emulate his goodness in our own lives. This prepares us to become effective evangelizers, sharing Christ’s love and friendship with others (*Deus Caritas Est*, 12).

I am thrilled that St. Gertrude Parish will introduce Alpha as a method of sharing the Gospel with those seeking deeper meaning in their lives. In today’s world, marked by divisiveness, many are seeking purpose and a genuine encounter with Jesus, the ultimate **peacemaker**. St. Gertrude Parish recognizes this need and is responding by introducing a course—a method designed to foster conversations about Jesus and the Church in a welcoming environment. Alpha offers participants the chance to build genuine friendships and have a life-changing encounter with our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Is Alpha just another program?**

Alpha is more than a program; it’s a unique approach to evangelization that provides a place for people to explore their faith and meet Jesus. Alpha encourages open and respectful dialogue where participants can freely share their thoughts, ideas, and opinions without fear of judgment. This atmosphere allows **the Holy Spirit, the true evangelizer**, to work in the lives of participants, planting the seeds of the Gospel and fostering spiritual growth. The beauty is that participants can have authentic encounters with others and, more importantly, with Jesus Christ. Alpha is not a mere tactic or strategy, but a sacred space where the Holy Spirit can move freely and touch open hearts.

One of Alpha’s most impactful aspects is its emphasis on prayer. Like the great saints who evangelized through their interior life of prayer, (such as Therese of Lisieux, Elizabeth of the Trinity, Catherine of Siena, and Elisabeth Leseur), Alpha recognizes the importance of **prayer** in sharing the Gospel. Prayer is fundamental, fostering genuine encounters with Jesus. In my journey of evangelization, prayer has been central, allowing me to grow deeper in my relationship with Jesus and the Church, and witness its transformative power in others’ lives. Many of us may feel inadequate when evangelizing, thinking we lack the knowledge or skills to articulate Church teachings. This feeling is common, especially in a Dominican parish where we are surrounded

by trained theologians adept at making sound apologetic arguments (not to mention their deep familiarity with the teachings of St. Thomas Aquinas). However, sharing the Gospel does not require such training and mastery.

Evangelization is about **building relationships and sharing our faith journeys** in a personal and relatable way. Alpha eases the fear of evangelization by emphasizing the importance of friendship in sharing Jesus with others. We learn to form genuine friendships with those seeking deeper purpose and meaning, accompanying them on their spiritual journeys, just as Jesus did with his disciples. This approach allows us to walk alongside others, offering support and encouragement, rather than focusing on presenting complex theological arguments.

Participating in this type of evangelization offers an opportunity to encounter Christ on a personal level. For many, it may be the first time they truly meet Jesus and start fostering a relationship with him. Through friendship and accompaniment, participants witness the transformative power of authentic relationships rooted in faith. It’s a reason for celebration and gratitude to God for the gift of friendship and the opportunity to journey with others as they discover the love and grace of Jesus Christ.

Alpha promotes genuine encounters with Jesus through friendship and prayer. By creating a place for honest conversation, emphasizing the importance of prayer, and encouraging evangelization through friendship, one can experience a friendship with Christ. Thanks be to God. I invite you to take part in Alpha, invite others to it, and experience the joy of sharing the Gospel through friendship and prayer.

*Lawain McNeil is the founder of a prayer apostolate called The Call to Holiness and a parishioner at St. Gertrude. He is also the cocreator and cofounder of The Surrender Initiative. To learn more about these apostolates, please visit the website [thecalltoholiness.com](http://thecalltoholiness.com).*

Curious about faith?

Join us for Alpha, a series of group conversations that freely explore the Christian faith in an open, friendly environment.



You’re invited, no matter your background or beliefs. It’s free, and there’s no pressure to come back.

[Learn more](#)

Mondays beginning June 3  
6:30-8:30 p.m.  
St. Gertrude Parish Center



### **SOUP KITCHEN SIGN-UPS**

Sign up this weekend before or after 8 a.m., 10 a.m., or 12 p.m. Mass to serve lunch at the Queen City Kitchen soup kitchen in Walnut Hills on Sunday, June 16. It takes approximately 30 people to cook and serve the main meal and side items—a great opportunity for families, groups, or ministries. For more information, please contact Andy Cordier at [SoupKitchen@StGertrude.org](mailto:SoupKitchen@StGertrude.org).

### **LAST FUN BUNCH MEETING**

The next Fun Bunch meeting is this Tuesday, May 21, at 12:15 p.m. in the Parish Center. The theme for this month's meeting is "The Blessed Virgin Mary." Join us for lunch (chicken salad and egg salad), fellowship, and a talk by Father Joseph Alobaidi, O.P. All are invited to bring a side dish, dessert, or drink to share. Walk-ins are welcome, but if you plan to come, please RSVP to Diane Kennedy at [mkenedy06@aol.com](mailto:mkenedy06@aol.com) or (513) 791-6075 so we can have an estimated headcount for food. **The Fun Bunch will take a break during the summer, so this is our final meeting until September!** We hope you can join us.

### **ROSARY SOCIAL**

Come pray the rosary on Tuesday, May 21, at 7 p.m. in the St. Gertrude School chapel, and then head to the school cafeteria to hear a presentation on the canonization efforts for Father Vincent Capodanno, a military chaplain who sacrificed his life to protect wounded soldiers during the Vietnam War. Father Capodanno, also known as the Grunt Padre, was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor in 1969 for his bravery. Father Capodanno's cause for canonization was opened in 2002, but a Vatican advisory panel recommended suspending the sainthood cause that same year. The Father Capodanno Guild is working to overcome the panel's objections. Pete Kimener, a Vietnam Veteran, honorary member of the Guild, longtime St. Gertrude parishioner, and Knight of Columbus, will be the esteemed guest speaker for the presentation. The event is sponsored by Knights of Columbus Archbishop Elder Council #1195, and refreshments will be provided.

### **CONTRIBUTE TO THE BOOSTERS GYM PROJECT**

St. Gertrude Boosters has launched its "Built by Bulldogs" fundraising campaign to support the replacement of the gym floor and upgrade other components of the gym that need replacing/updating now and for years to come. We invite you to join us in this effort! Scan the QR code or visit [bit.ly/bulldogsgym](https://bit.ly/bulldogsgym) to donate now.



### **GIFT OF LIFE LAYETTE**

During the month of May, the Gift of Life Pack 'n Play will be outside the Holy Family Chapel (behind the pews on the side with the Mary altar). Your generous donations of new baby items will go to the moms and babies in need served by Old St. Mary's Pregnancy Center in Over-the-Rhine. As summer approaches, there is need of boys' shorts and shirts in toddler sizes 2T, 3T, and 4T; and girls' summer outfits in size 5T only. **Diapers in sizes 4 or larger only; please no newborn or sizes 1, 2, or 3 diapers or wipes at this time.** Baby shampoo/bath wash and lotion are also needed. A lot of sippy cups have been requested as well. Thank you for your support!

## BAPTISM

Sunday, May 5, 2024



Child: Charles Shepherd McCauley  
Parents: Timothy & Madeline McCauley



Child: Lorelei Marisue Rummelhoff  
Parents: David & Jessica Rummelhoff

## LET US PRAY

### **PLEASE PRAY FOR . . .**

#### THE SICK:

Linda Burke, Vicki Calonge, Dan DeBow, Triset Defonseka, Beth Egbers, Lisa Ely, Octavio Flores-Resendiz, Ron Freudenberg, Dick Gelhaus, Bob Gerwin, Goad Family, Elsa Hall, Mark Holland, Hummel Family, Andrea Kattel, Aiko Kimura, Diane Kosobud, Robert Lantz, Ed and Karen Larkin, Ted Leugers, Mimi Leverone, Kevin Lewis, Gertrude Maxwell, Kim McClung, Elaine O'Connell, Sue Paas, Gerry Patterson, Gert Patterson, Pegge Schuermann, Richard Seifert, Judy Sullivan, Brigitte Vielhauer, Kerry Walden, and Viktor & Mary Wilhelmy

#### THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES:

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

#### THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

† All Our Beloved Dead

## **44TH ANNUAL TREASURE MART: JULY 13, 9 A.M.-2 P.M.**

The Ladies of Charity 44th Annual Treasure Mart will be here before you know it! You can drop off your donations in the gym Tuesday, July 9, through Thursday, July 11, from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Friday, July 12, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. PLEASE NOTE: We cannot accept items prior to these dates due to lack of storage. More details to follow. If you have any questions, please call Jean Wilkinson at (513) 498-5085. Thank you for your support!

## **NATIVITIES FOR BREAD**

The Ladies of Charity are looking for Nativity sets, individual Nativity pieces, stars, and Nativity crèches for its Nativities for Bread program. All profits from the program go directly to help charities around our surrounding area. If you have anything that you would like to donate, please contact Mary Lou Doran at (513) 543-3696. Thank you!

## **HEALING SERVICE**

Attend a healing service at Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Center (5440 Moeller Avenue, Norwood) on Wednesday, May 22. The evening will begin at 6:45 p.m. with the rosary, followed by Mass at 7:15 p.m. and then the healing service. For more information, please call (513) 351-9800.

## **OUR EUCHARISTIC MISSION IN A POLARIZED WORLD, PRESENTATION SERIES**

Based off his book, *The Church's Mission in a Polarized World*, Father Aaron Wessman, Glenmary Home Missioners, will kick off his six-part series on polarization in the United States and how the healing presence of Christ in the Eucharist can help us overcome and mend the political divides between us. There will be one presentation each month from May through October. For his first presentation, *The Eucharist: An Antidote to Polarization*, please join us in person on Thursday, May 23, at 7 p.m. at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Peter in Chains. The second session will be on Thursday, June 20 at 7 p.m. at Bellarmine Chapel. (You can also join virtually, either session, at [zoom.us/j/99177580089](https://zoom.us/j/99177580089) | Meeting ID: 991 7758 0089 | Dial in: 312 626 6799). For more information, contact Jillian Foster at [jfoster@catholicaoc.org](mailto:jfoster@catholicaoc.org).

## **ANNUAL MEMORIAL DAY FIELD MASS**

Everyone is invited to a day of remembrance and prayer on the sacred ground of Gate of Heaven Cemetery at the Annual Memorial Day Field Mass on Monday, May 27. The event will open with a presentation at 10:30 a.m., followed by Mass at 11 a.m. celebrated by Archbishop Dennis M. Schnurr and then a patriotic rosary in Section 28 (Veterans Garden) at 2 p.m. Please bring folding chairs. Light refreshments will be provided after Mass. For more information, please visit [gateofheaven.org](http://gateofheaven.org) or call (513) 489-0300.

# **BLOOD DRIVE**

**Friday, June 7, 2024  
9-11 a.m. | 12:15-3 p.m.  
St. Gertrude Parish Gym**



To schedule your appointment, visit [hoxworth.org/groups/stgertrude](https://hoxworth.org/groups/stgertrude), scan the QR code, or call Hoxworth at (513) 451-0910. Walk-ins welcome, but appointments suggested. If you cannot donate on this date, you can donate anytime using the St. Gertrude Church group code SEQ during registration.

**Every donor receives a  
Hoxworth floppy hat!**



*Hosted by Knights of Columbus Archbishop Elder  
Council #1195 and St. Gertrude Parish*



All high school men (incoming sophomores to outgoing seniors) are invited to one of two Ember Days, hosted by the Archdiocese of Cincinnati seminarians. Ember Day is a day of discernment and includes Mass, adoration, discussions, speakers, food, sports, and games. The Ember Days will be held on Friday, June 7, at Mount St. Mary's Seminary & School of Theology and Saturday, June 8, at Sacred Heart, McCartyville. For more information and to register, please visit [catholicaoc.org/vocations](https://catholicaoc.org/vocations).

## **THE SURRENDER INITIATIVE**

Stella Maris Family of Parishes, in partnership with Glenmary Home Missioners, will host a special event called The Surrender Initiative on Friday, June 7, at St. Thomas More Church in Withamsville, Ohio. The Surrender Initiative Mass focuses on prayer and intercession for loved ones who have left the Church. Sacred music and Reconciliation will begin at 6 p.m., with Holy Mass for the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus at 7 p.m. Incense will be used. A reception will follow. All are welcome to pray for those no longer practicing their Catholic faith. Visit [stellamarisfamily.org/the-surrender-initiative](https://stellamarisfamily.org/the-surrender-initiative) for more details.





Since its publication in 1843, St. Louis de Montfort’s book *True Devotion to Mary* has inspired Catholics to grow closer to Christ through his Blessed Mother. Anne Collins, a parishioner at St. Gertrude Church in Madeira, encountered the book in the 90s after learning about Pope St. John Paul II’s motto, “*Totus Tuus*” (Totally Yours), which comes from de Montfort’s book. It had such a profound effect on her life that she made her first total consecration to Jesus through Mary in 1996.

For 10 years, she reread the book each Lent, renewing her consecration privately. While participating in a women’s group focused on Pope St. John Paul II, the topic turned to Mary. “I was really quiet at first [in the group],” Collins said. “They always say, ‘She was so quiet. She didn’t say anything. She just sat there.’ Then we got to the Marian year and I wouldn’t shut up. I just had so much to share about the book and [the other members] were just blown away.”

The women’s group asked Collins to prepare a study guide and lead them on the topic of Marian Consecration. “It started out [with just] 12 or 15 women in somebody’s home,” Collins said. “We went around the circle reading the book line by line. . . . From there, each year it got a little bigger.”

Collins’ efforts received a boost when she received access to the notes of Montfort Missionaries Father Patrick Gaffney, SMM, who was editor for the Montfort Fathers’ magazine for many years. His notes were a significant help.

Educated at St. Mary’s College in South Bend, IN, Collins’ major was not in theology. “Even a math major can do this,” she said of the consecration and her promotion efforts. “I am a shy person, but Mary and Jesus have helped me to step out.”

For the next 10 years, Collins led the preparation for others’

consecrations. After initially hosting the program in homes, she moved to St. Gertrude’s library then to the church itself as the crowd grew. She ended up giving talks on the topic at various parishes. In her final year of leading preparations live, she estimated 300 people attended at three locations.

For the last 10 years, Collins has used prerecorded videos of her presentations. In St. Louis de Montfort’s book, the consecration is suggested as a 33-day process. In Collins’ program, there are 17 two-hour videos, one viewed each week at St. Gertrude. She stays to answer questions after the videos.

While incalculable people around the world have made this and other consecrations to Mary, Collins shares a common objection: People believe it’s only for the very holy. She insists it is for everyone, as Christ gave Mary to be a mother for all of us when she stood at the foot of the cross.

“I tell people this is not about doing anything,” Collins said. “This is just about asking the mother who’s already your mother to just draw a little closer and basically to comfort you. Who doesn’t need comfort, you know? She’s so gentle, and she helps everyone, and she meets you where you are. So, it doesn’t matter where you are in your spiritual life. . . . It’s not about doing anything. It’s about knowing that you’re loved and it’s about believing God’s promises are true. As you do it and you grow, you’re just going to hear your guardian angel better.” Now, almost 30 years since her first consecration, Collins plans to continue her program, with no immediate end in sight.

“I’ll keep doing it as long as Mary asks me to do it,” Collins said.

*This article was published in the May 2024 edition of The Catholic Telegraph. Reprinted with permission.*



Monday, May 20	Tuesday, May 21	Wednesday, May 22	Thursday, May 23	Friday, May 24	Saturday, May 25	Sunday, May 26
Schola Cantorum 3:30 p.m. PC Choir Room	Moms & Littles Holy Hour 9:30 a.m. Church	Resurrection Choir Practice 8:45 a.m. St. Dominic Lobby	Parish Choir 7 p.m. PC Choir Room	Adoration Chapel Closed	Adoration Chapel Closed	Adoration Chapel Closed
Become Catholic (RCIA) Pentecost Potluck 5 p.m. St. Dominic Lobby	Seniors Fun Bunch 12:15 p.m. St. Dominic Lobby	Schola Cantorum 3:30 p.m. PC Choir Room			Catholic Men's Fellowship 7:30 a.m. School Cafeteria	Baptisms 1:15 p.m. Church
Boosters Meeting 7 p.m. St. Joseph Room	Boy Scouts 7 p.m. School Cafeteria	Collegium Rehearsal 6 p.m. PC Choir Room				
Healing Rosary 7 p.m. Church	K of C Rosary & Social 7 p.m. Church & St. Dominic Lobby	Holy Hour with Confessions 7:30 p.m. Church				
K of C Executive Meeting 7 p.m. K of C Hall	Moms of Special Needs Support Group 7 p.m. St. Joseph Room					
	SGS SAC Meeting 7 p.m. School Library					

## LADIES BUNCO NIGHT

Bring your mothers, daughters (16+), and friends. No Bunco experience necessary.



**SATURDAY**  
June 8, 2024



**7-10 P.M.**



**ST. GERTRUDE GYM**  
6543 Miami Ave., Madeira



**\$25 per person**  
includes heavy appetizers,  
drinks (alcohol included),  
and dessert



**Scan to sign up!**

If you have questions, contact Susie Bentley at (630) 677-1197.

**INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC?**

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

## BULLETIN DEADLINE

MATERIALS DUE  
5/22/24

BULLETIN  
6/2/24

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

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

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

### OFFERING

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

Collection	\$ 31,555
Weekly Budget	\$ 37,000
Weekly Deficit	(\$ 5,445)

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

Fiscal YTD Actual	\$ 1,892,309
Fiscal YTD Budget	\$ 1,728,000
Fiscal YTD Surplus	\$ 164,309

**STAY INFORMED ON PRO-LIFE ISSUES**

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



**SUPPORT FOR MISCARRIAGE**

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

## Parish Staff

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

## Dominican Friars in Residence

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Corporal Works of Mercy

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

## Vocations Directors

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

## Spiritual Works of Mercy

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

## Liturgical Ministries

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

## Spiritual Groups

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

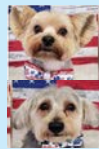
## Parish Groups

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



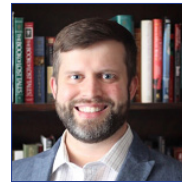


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