



The Family of Saint Gerald
9310 S. 55th Court
Oak Lawn, Ill. 60453
November 15, 2020
33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



**TO ALL OF AMERICA'S VETERAN'S &
MEMBERS OF THE US ARMED FORCES:
THIS VETERAN'S DAY
WE SALUTE YOU
AND
THANK YOU
FOR
YOUR SERVICE TO AMERICA!**

Weddings

Weddings are stressful, exciting, fun, expensive and beautiful all wrapped up in one day!

Through the years I have worked at St. Gerald I have coordinated over 200 weddings and have been honored to be part of such a big day with so many families. Luckily, I have additional help from Jean Janik, Kim Pasinski and Irma Donohue, the other St. Gerald Wedding Coordinators. We work with the couples to organize and manage the wedding day details including leading the rehearsal so the bride and groom, readers, bridal attendants and parents are comfortable and prepared for the wedding day. We are a great team and we take pride in addressing numerous details to make it a perfect day for our couples!

Aside from the logistics and excitement of planning a church wedding there are also emotional moments too. I remember one wedding in particular a few years ago. During the rehearsal the groom's father was not in attendance and it was explained that he was in a retirement home and possible would not be able to attend the wedding day either. On the morning of the wedding it was a beautiful weather day and the bride had arrived and was waiting in the bride's room. The groom came to me and ushered me to the side. He told me that his father had passed away that morning. My heart sank and I expressed my sympathies. He thanked me and respectfully asked me not to say anything to the bride. He explained that this was her day and that he would tell her the news after the wedding mass. I had tears in my eyes so I composed myself and entered the bride's room. His bride was beaming and we told her we would be starting to line up for the procession soon. That day held moments of joy and sadness, yet I was impressed and grateful to witness the love and commitment that young groom had for both his bride and his father. He avoided telling his bride out of love for her to have pure and total joy at least for that moment.

It's always a humbling moment when the bridal party has already processed into the church and the only ones remaining in the vestibule are the wedding coordinators and the Dad and his daughter. We get to witness the quiet, tender moments and loving exchange of words just before the bridal chorus begins. Additionally, and even more emotionally, many times we view a mother, who now has to fill the role of her late husband, with her beautiful, teary eyed daughter ready to process into church with only the memory of her father.

Irma is one of our wedding coordinators and she is fluent in Spanish. Irma has a calm and gentle approach and I have witnessed firsthand the relief on the face of a grandparent who only spoke Spanish while Irma translated the rehearsal instructions on their behalf. Or when Jean and Kim made last minute changes to the mass intentions because a loved one's name was almost forgotten or made sure there were appropriate number of pews reserved for the parents and step parents etc. One time, I had to quickly sew a button on a tuxedo jacket for the father of the bride while the other coordinator continued organizing the bridal party attendants.

Once, we had a complete power outage just before the procession was about to begin. It was a lovely October day so we weren't concerned about the lack of air conditioning. However, once the bride realized there would not be electricity during the wedding mass she found it to be charming and romantic to have their ceremony by only candlelight and sunlight beaming through the beautiful stained glass windows.

Of course, we have had the tense situations of a bride or parent arriving late, wedding rings forgotten at home and flower girls or ring bearers meltdowns due to missing a nap or just plain hunger. We really do our best to keep everyone on schedule to get the bride and groom to the altar!

Over 200 weddings and we are still learning and adapting our ways to accommodate all the dynamics of families joining together on behalf of a bride and groom, soon to be married in God's house---our very own and special St. Gerald Church!

Laura Kowalski, Wedding Coordinator

Sunday, Nov 15

7:30am Colette McGinnis, Michele Cesaro

9:15am Thomas Folino, Tom Bly, Patricia Foley,
Nancy L. Kinzie, Zennon Kupra11:00am Margaret McGrath, Fr. Lawrence Malcolm
Cameron H. Ivey, Dan Hughes**Monday, Nov 16**

8:00am Lauretta M. Bombe, Ella Friedericks

Tuesday, Nov 17

8:00am Richard Kalebich, Thomas F. Morris

Wednesday, Nov 188:00am Stanislaw & Marek Pencarski, Raymond Gorski,
Wladyslawa Toczec, Jan Kopec
Spec Int for Health Lidia & Yacek Zielinski**Thursday, Nov 19**8:00am Spec Int for Roselynn Peary,
Spec Int for Bruce Renz**Friday, Nov 20**8:00am Catherine & Anthony Gallo, Dominic Gallo,
Bernadette Moran**Saturday, Nov 21**5:00 Susan Crain, Julia Hennigan, Sylvia Major,
Joseph & Therese Langan**Sunday, Nov 22**

7:30am Sylvester Grodek, Dolores Kohan

9:15am Richard Pollak, Richard Lindzius

11:00am Matthew Gulino, Dan & Debbie Weir,
Ron Cipriani, Susan & Maurice Collins
Barbara & Al Orsi, Dolly Klimek

Please call the Parish Office to register for our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses. You may also register on the sign up genius on our St. Gerald Website.

Christmas Eve

3:30pm

5:30pm

Midnight

Christmas Day

7:30am

9:15am

11:00am

Please register as soon as possible.

The Stewardship of our Family of Saint Gerald

11/08/20 Collections

Masses \$4440.0*

Mailed/Dropped Off \$3486.79

Give Central \$1542.00

Archdiocese \$Unavailable Utilities \$257.00

Total \$

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT.

***Includes Utilities All Saints \$258.00**

Our parish family depends upon your support and cannot exist without you. When you are not able to be here we thank you for remembering your financial commitment to our faith community and each other.

MISSION STATEMENT

We are the Family of St. Gerald-

People of God, brought together in the Eucharist as the Body of Christ. We gather as sisters and brothers with the Lord, welcoming and inviting others to journey with us to become more like Christ. We strive for spiritual fulfillment by building a community of love and service.

**Baptisms**

Azalia Frida Tapia

Dtr. of Oscar & Mayelin Martinez Tapia

Emilia Stefan Tapia

Son of Oscar & Mayelin Martinez Tapia

We congratulate our parents and families, whose child was welcomed into the new life of Baptism. May God protect this little one, reborn into the Family of God.

**DEATHS**

Christopher Moxley

Frances B. Suchy

Marianne Iffland

Mark McGinnis

Deborah Martinez

Marissa E. Torres

May Choirs of angels welcome them.



PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS

In order to add a person's name to our Pray for the sick listing, the person that is ill or a relative must call. We will be clearing all the names from the list this week. Please call the office at 708 422-0234 to add the name of the person that is ill. We will keep the names of the sick for 4 weeks. After 4 weeks we will clear the list. If you want to add yourself or a loved one on again please call the office.

11/21-11/22	MASS TIMES	LECTOR	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER
	5:00PM	R Smith	C Keiner, L Keiner
	7:30AM	D Czaja	P Butkus, T Paluck
	9:15AM	F Bertucci	S Krystof, C Vendetti
	11:00AM	T Jones	T Jones, D Pifko



We'll come to you
a virtual marriage encounter



restore
communication
rekindle
romance
renew
commitment

2021 February 4, 11, 18, 25, March 4, 11, 18, 25
at 7PM
For more information
call 630-577-0778 or to
apply go to
www.wwme-Chicagoland.org



Attention Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors

The new schedule (Nov. 14 through Jan. 10, 2021) is completed and available in the altar server side of the sacristy. If you would like to come to the parish office to get a copy, please call me and I'll have one waiting for you.

Thanks for your Service!

Laura Kowalski

Lkowalski@stgerald.com

708-422-0234 (x24)

Pray for the sick listing

Karen Isadorski-I
Paula Sacino-I

Registration is Open!!!

St. Gerald Giant Pumpkin Virtual 5k **In memory of Colette McGinnis**

Run/ Walk October 25th to November 15th

Registration Opened Oct. 5 and runs to Nov. 15.

Commemorative mask to first 150 registrations

To register, go to our website, Giantpumpkin5K.com.

You can also go right to registration with this link

<http://raceroster.com/35263>



Registration Fees, age groups and awards:

5yrs and under Free, 6-14 \$10, 15-18 \$15, 19-64 \$25, 65 and up \$20

Awards to top female and top male in each age group, and top female and male overall.

Need an offline registration form? Contact development@stgerald.com

The Family of Saint Gerald www.stgerald.com Oak Lawn, Illinois

WEEK END LITURGIES

SATURDAY 5:00 p.m.

SUNDAY 7:30, 9:15, 11:00

WEEKDAY LITURGIES

MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY 8AM

ADORATION CHAPEL

NOT OPEN AT THIS TIME

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays, 4:00-4:30 p.m. please call the parish office for an appointment.



Weddings should be scheduled at least six months in advance. Please contact the Wedding Coordinator.

Baptisms are celebrated every Sunday. Parents are expected to go through a Baptismal preparation session. Classes are held on the third Thursday of the month at 7PM in the Parish Meeting Room. Please call the Parish Office to register for the class.

REQUESTS FOR 2020 MASS INTENTIONS

Please fill out this form and return to the parish office. We will try and honor as best we can the dates and times you have requested, and if not possible, will assign the closest available date. Please note that individual mass intentions will be accepted on **all** days and for **all** masses with the following exceptions: Holy Thursday (4/01/2021), Good Friday (04/02/2021), Holy Saturday (4/03/2021) and All Souls (11/2/2021). All our deceased loved ones will be remembered in prayer on those days.

In order to provide available open Mass dates for families who have recently lost a loved one, we ask that initially you limit your requests to eight (8) Mass intentions. After all our families have had an opportunity we will make the Mass Book available to those who wish more intentions.

The suggested donation is \$10.00 per mass intention. We ask that you include the donation with your request form. We will contact you by mail with confirmation of your requests. Thank you for your patience, understanding and support.

<u>Name of Intention</u>	<u>Requested Date/Time</u>	<u>Confirmed/Changed To</u>



Your Name _____ Phone _____

PLEASE BE SURE TO HAVE A 2021 CALENDAR WHEN YOU ARE CHOOSING YOUR MASSES.



Christmas Caring Tree 2020

Over the years, the Family of St. Gerald has come together in charity and love for our community members in need. This year is especially unique due to the COVID 19 pandemic and the negative effects it has had on so many people who have lost jobs or are under-employed and struggling to make ends meet. We are asking for that same spirit of giving to continue this year but in a different way.

We have decided, together with our community partners to ask you to participate by purchasing gift cards. Because we are unable to participate in the usual way with the creation and distribution of ornaments on our trees, we ask you to consider this easy and efficient way of assisting the following community recipients:

Catholic Charities, St. Agatha, St. Peter Claver, Mission of Our Lady of the Angels, St. Vincent DePaul and our Parish School Families.

We encourage you to utilize the parish Manna program and have provided the order form with this letter and instructions for you to use. Also a percentage of purchases will go back to the school so this is a win-win for everyone! If you prefer to make a monetary donation that would be accepted and would be distributed amongst the receiving partners.

Please return the gift cards to the parish office the weekend of December 5th and 6th.

We are limiting the gift card purchases to the following businesses: Walmart, Kohls, Target, Jewel and Speedway.

Let us all keep those in need in our community always in our prayers as I continue to pray for each of you and your loved ones.

"St. Gerald....Pray For Us....Live Jesus in Our Hearts Forever!"

Blessings,

Deacon Michael Fekete & Committee

708-642-0647

mfekete@archchicago.org

2020 Manna Order Form for **Caring Tree Donations**

Here is how to use it:

1. Decide which gift card or cards you want to donate to the Caring Tree, and fill out this form, making sure you fill in the bottom section.
2. Enclose this form, your check made out to St. Gerald Manna, or cash in an envelope and address it to **Manna/Caring Tree**.
3. Drop your envelope off at the parish or school office
4. Your order will be filed and given to the Caring Tree Committee so they may fulfill the requests from the Caring Tree.

Thank you very much!!

VENDOR	DENOMINATION	HOW MANY	TOTAL
Jewel	\$25		
Kohls	\$25		
Speedway	\$25		
Target	\$25		
Walmart	\$25		

NAME _____ Total Enclosed _____

Would you like a receipt? _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Questions? Contact Debbie Janicke at 708-704-7549 or development@stgerald.com

What does the Convalidation of a Marriage Mean?

A convalidation is when a couple married outside the Church seeks to have their union officially recognized by the Church. For various reasons, A Catholic party or parties find themselves in a civil marriage or in a marriage that took place before a non-Catholic minister. In time, some seek to have their marriages approved or “blessed” by the Catholic Church. A convalidation involves the willingness of both parties to enter into a sacramental marriage.

Does this describe your situation? Were you married in a civil service and are a baptized Catholic? Were you married in a civil service, divorced and remarried? Have you wondered if you can have your marriage blessed and recognized by the Church? If you answered yes, to any of these questions feel free to start a conversation to get some answers!

A convalidation does not mean you need to plan a big wedding ceremony with all the frills. Actually, it requires some paperwork, possible attendance to Pre Cana and a meaningful ceremony in church to crown your marriage with the sacrament. St. Gerald can offer you a private ceremony or to be included in a Sunday mass group ceremony!

Feel free to contact any of the following staff members to discuss your situation:

Mrs. Laura Kowalski.....708-422-0234 (24) or lkowalski@stgerald.com



ST. GERALD PARISH STAFF

Rev. Robert Pajor.....Pastor frpajor@stgerald.com
Rev. Michael Flynn..... Associate Pastor
Rev. William Browne..... Resident
Rev. Mr. Michael Fekete....Deacon mfekete@archchicago.org
Mr. Thomas Forbes.....Parish Business Manager tforbes@stgerald.com
Mrs. Kemberly Markham...Principal kmarkham@stgerald.com
Mr. Leo McGinnis.....Coord. of Religious Education rey@stgerald.com
Mrs. Sandy Weber.....Ministry of Care sweber@stgerald.com
Mr. Michael Glowacki..... Music Director mgmusicservice@yahoo.com
Ms. Debbie Janicke..... Dev Director development@stgerald.com
Mrs. Laura Kowalski.....Wedding Coordinator lkowalski@stgerald.com
Mrs. Kate Zagata.....Bulletin Editor kzagata@stgerald.com
Parish Office 9310 S 55th Ct.
Telephone 708 422-0234
Fax 708 422-0822
School 9320 S 55th Ct.
Telephone 708 422-0121
Fax 708 422-9216
Religious Education (REY) Office 708 423-0458
Convent 708 422-0280



CHURCH NAME AND NUMBER

Saint Gerald #587

ADDRESS-

9310 s. 55TH Court
Oak Lawn, Illinois 60453

PHONE-

708 422-0234

CONTACT PERSON-

Kate Zagata

SOFTWARE-

Ms Publisher 2003
Windows 7
Adobe Acrobat 9.0

PRINTER-

Hp Color Laserjet 2550

NUMBER OF PAGES SENT-

Cover through 1-10

SUNDAY DATE OF BULLETIN Nov. 15, 2020

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS-We want 300 bulletins this time. Please deliver the bulletins to the
Parish Office not the church. The parish office is the building south of
the church. Thank you.