

The Family of Saint Gerald 9310 S. 55th Court October 9, 2022 Oak Lawn, Ill. 60453 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Fr. Stan's Utterances - Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time



The month of October is dedicated to Mary, the Mother of God, as a month to pray the rosary each day. I encourage everybody, and all families, to please pray our long standing and beautiful tradition of praying the rosary everyday during all thirty-one days of this month. If you have never done so, now is the time to spend time with our Mother. If you cannot pray the entire rosary due to time, at least pray a decade of the rosary each day. Please make sure the entire family prays, along with the children, our grown-up adult children, young grandchildren and adult grandchildren. After all, if God and Mary is so good to us by helping us so much on earth, should they not receive the same time as we show our mothers here on this earth? Let this month be a spiritual game changer for us all with God and Mary! St. Dominic, St. Maximillian Kolbe, and St. John Paul II the Great prayed the rosary everyday! We are called to do the same. The rosary brings the Gospel to life. If we do not pray the rosary, or seldom do, we should ask ourselves, "Is there something more important right now other than the rosary?" Please spend twenty

minutes with God and Mary each day and we become all closer to God and Mary by praying the rosary.

At the end of the fourth Gospel, St. John's Gospel, we are told that if everything Christ did during His brief earthly life were written down, the entire world would not contain the books. So why did St Luke include this one? Clearly because of the lesson that Christ teaches us by it: the beauty of gratitude. The one leper who came back to thank Jesus is praised for this gratitude. We can almost hear the sadness in Christ's heart at the lack of gratitude in the other nine who were healed. Why does Christ value grati-

tude so much? Is He vain? Is His self-esteem so weak that He gets depressed if we don't praise and thank Him? The answer is "no." Therefore, Christ values gratitude because gratitude is valuable - it's valuable for us, for the health of our souls to grow more to be like Christ. In Latin, the word "gratia", from which we draw our word "gratitude," means both thanksgiving and grace. True gratitude extends grace and receives everything as grace.

In the first place, gratitude keeps us grounded in the truth, which is key for our ongoing relationship with God. To be ungrateful to God is not only unjust, but it's also living an illusion. The simple fact is that everything we have is a gift from God: creation, life, talents, opportunities, Heaven, the grace that helps us persevere in doing what is right; these are all God's gifts.

In the second place, gratitude is the perfect antidote to sin. Sin turns us in on ourselves, like an ingrown toenail; gratitude opens us up to God and neighbor. It directly contradicts self-centeredness, self-indulgence, and self-absorption. The virtue of gratitude builds bridges, unites communities, and softens hearts. Gratitude is one of the most beautiful flowers in the garden of virtue. Let's make a difference and be the more dedicated thankful disciple of our Lord. St. Paul reminds us always to be grateful because everything is grace.

Christ's encounter with these lepers is so powerful partly because leprosy itself was so terrible. Leprosy was an incurable and deadly disease in ancient times and the days of Jesus. Leprosy is a bacterial infection that causes the extremities of the body to slowly decay away. It was so contagious that even the lepers' closest



relatives did not dare to come near them. In ancient times, lepers were required to live in isolated colonies. If they had to travel, the religious law required them to ring a bell wherever they went, shouting out, "Unclean! Unclean!" This explains why these ten lepers addressed Christ "from a distance", as St. Luke points out. On top of the isolation, lepers had to live with the pain of leprosy. Leprosy was a long, humiliating, and dismal agony, the most horrible of ancient diseases. There was no cure! Imagine the great joy when God comes to heal this terrible sickness. Jesus frees these ten lepers entirely from their agony, giving them a brand new life, and only one of them takes the trouble to thank Him for it - and that one happens to be a Samaritan, the one least likely to respect a Jewish rabbi.

The whole human race was infected with selfishness by original sin, a selfishness that decays our souls as leprosy decays the body. Jesus came to heal and forgive us of our sins and teaching us to sin no more. Christ has saved us! He opened the flood-gates of God's grace through His incarnation, passion, and resurrection. Then, He gives us constant access to that grace through the Church, the Sacraments, and His many other gifts. We all recognize what Christ has done for us - that's why we are here today in church. Christ's message today is that He wants our recognition to go deeper, to become a living attitude of gratitude everyday. God wants us to develop the virtue of gratitude because He wants us to experience the joy that comes from knowing we are loved by Him without limits or conditions. How can we exercise gratitude? There is nothing easier. All we have to do is say thank you and really mean it! It is never too late to say thank you every day to God for the sacrifice of His Son and how many times we have received our Lord in Holy Communion.

May God continue to bless each and every one of you! Let us always be thankful. St Gerald, pray for us! Our Lady, Undoer of Knots, pray for us! Have a great week and enjoy life with a great smile! Pray the rosary. Pray always!



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Manna Gift Cards: 1st & 3rd Sunday 9 am - 12 noon in Arnold Hall, Wednesdays 6pm - 7:30 pm Vestibule inside Door 10, and Fridays 8:15 am - 9:30 am Vestibule inside Door 10

Queen of Hearts is back! Visit stgerald.com/queen-of-hearts for details



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Consider switching to weekly contributions online

Give Central Online Giving is a convenient way to make weekly offertory contributions to St. Gerald. It's a secure online system with several payment options.

Go to: https://www.givecentral.org/location/49Thank you for your generosity and support of St. Gerald!



Ministry Enrichment Gathering: November 5, 2022 Liturgy Training Publications will be hosting a Ministry Enrichment Gathering on Saturday, November 5 from 9:00am -2:30pm at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Hyde Park. Join with liturgical ministers, catechists, and parish volunteers from throughout the diocese as they explore the theme: Anointed for Mission: Exercising Your Baptismal Call. The cost is \$25 per person. Visit http://www.ltp.org/anointed-chicago for more information.

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, October 10th.

Anyone interested in purchasing the Missalette (Word and Song Book) for the upcoming year please contact the Parish Office at 708 422-0234.



Tray for the sick list



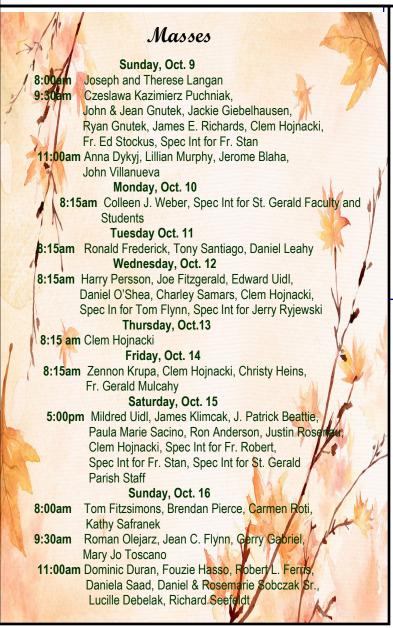
Baby Reese-2 Charles Barsevick-2 Rosemary Bingenheimer-2 Fr. William Browne-2 Maria Cabarello-2 Cameran-3 Karen Cartolano-2 Ron Cerevic-2 Shirley Cerf-3 Adriene Cervantes-2 Erin Culik-1 Donna D-4 Ron Dryier-1 Pat Earnest-4 Sister Beatrice Griffin-3 Michael Griffin-2 Nelson Hathcock-4 Don Henry-1 Clara Hobson-4 Lucie Kavaliauskas-4 Mike Kelly-3 Mary Klus-4 Laura Knapp-3 Leonard Kosacz-2 Katherine Kroeck-4

Laverne Leahy-4 Bernadette Magana-3 Gene Marcinkowski-1 Gene Martyn-1 Maureen-1 Mary McMullen-2 Joyce Meredith-1 Anthony Michalak-2 Lillian Miszkiewicz-1 Brian O'Callahan-1 Michael O'Keefe-1 Lucas Patrick-1 Carol Paprocki-3 Dave Pawlak-3 Charles Petraitis-1 Bruce Renz-4 Grace Ritter-1 Art Rivas-4 Milo Rusin-2 Merideth Scaglione-3 Deirdre Scott-3 Ryan Smith-2 Linda Stearns-2 Ann Thomas-3 Tom-1 Rita Tucholski-1

Robert Walsh-1

John Wickman-1 Stella Wisniewski-1 Elizabeth Zalapi-2

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. 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.



Looking to hire a responsible person who is interested in working in the St. Gerald Kitchen/Lunchroom. Responsibilities include prepping food, cooking, serving and clean up. No experience needed. Hours are 9:00am-1:00pm Monday through Friday. Please call Mrs. Leanne LaCoco at 708 422-4140 if interested in any or all days.

Searching for 1972 Graduates of Evergreen Park High School for our 50th Class Reunion. on October 8th. Please contact Cathy Simpson Hoye @CATH817@aol.com



The Stewardship of our Family of Saint Gerald

| | 9/25/22 |
|----------------|-------------|
| Masses | \$7693.00 |
| Dropped Off | \$1751.00 |
| Utilities | \$169.00 |
| Give Central | \$1718.00 |
| Candles | \$419.00 |
| Building & Ren | \$467.00 |
| Total | \$12,217.00 |
| | |

These figures include masses, give central and mailed in. Thank you for your continued support. 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

Olivia Nicole Kuzur

Dtr. of Kyle & Kaylyn Imrisek Kuzur

Halle Noel Dalmacion

Dtr. of Marlo & Rachel Laylo Dalmacion

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

Mary M. Brandt Lorelei Bolek Marybeth Ortiz Kathleen Tremmel

May choirs of angels welcome them.

Reading I

Naaman went down and plunged into the Jordan seven times at the word of Elisha, the man of God. His flesh became again like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean of his leprosy. Naaman returned with his whole retinue to the man of God. On his arrival he stood before Elisha and said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the earth, except in Israel. Please accept a gift from your servant." Elisha replied, "As the LORD lives whom I serve, I will not take it;" and despite Naaman's urging, he still refused. Naaman said: "If you will not accept, please let me, your servant, have two mule-loads of earth, for I will no longer offer holocaust or sacrifice to any other god except to the LORD."

Reading II

Beloved:

Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David: such is my gospel, for which I am suffering, even to the point of chains, like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. Therefore, I bear with everything for the sake of those who are chosen, so that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, together with eternal glory. This saying is trustworthy: If we have died with him we shall also live with him; if we persevere we shall also reign with him. But if we deny him he will deny us. If we are unfaithful he remains faithful, for he cannot deny himself.

Gospel

As Jesus continued his journey to Jerusalem, he traveled through Samaria and Galilee. As he was entering a village, ten lepers met him. They stood at a distance from him and raised their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master! Have pity on us!" And when he saw them, he said, "Go show yourselves to the priests." As they were going they were cleansed. And one of them, realizing he had been healed, returned, glorifying God in a loud voice; and he fell at the feet of Jesus and thanked him. He was a Samaritan. Jesus said in reply, "Ten were cleansed, were they not? Where are the other nine? Has none but this foreigner returned to give thanks to God?" Then he said to him, "Stand up and go; your faith has saved you."

Knights of Columbus Vocational Raffle 20 Prizes Totaling \$20,000

Our Lady of Fatima Council #3582 Knights of Columbus will be selling Vocational Raffle Tickets after all masses on October 15 and 16, 2022. The Illinois State Council will host the drawing on December 3, 2022. Our Lady of Fatima's proceeds from the raffle support local seminarians.

If you prefer to order raffle tickets online, please use the QR Code and enter #3582 as the council number.

Please direct questions or to obtain more information about Our Lady of Fatima Knights of Columbus email kofcgk3582@gmail.com.



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

WEEK END LITURGIES

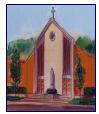
SATURDAY 5:00 p.m. SUNDAY 8:00, 9:30, 11:00

WEEKDAY LITURGIES

MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY 8:15AM

ADORATION IN CHURCH

1ST AND 3RD WEDNESDAYS OF THE MONTH 6-8PM THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION Saturdays,4:00-4:30 p.m.



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

Parish Office Hours

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 9-5 Sat 9-12 Weds 11-5

Baptisms will be celebrated at the 11:00am Mass or at 12:30pm on Sundays. We will baptize on the first and third Sunday's of the month.

"The Rosary is the 'weapon' for these times" St. Padre Pio "Give me an army saying the Rosary and I will conquer the world" Blessed Pius the IX.

On October 8th and 9th. The St. Gerald Rosary Makers will hold their annual fund raiser to help defray the cost of postage and supplies. Our rosaries go to the missions and to troops all over the world. We have been requested to send 1,000 to be put in Christmas stockings by Operation Support Our Troops. We also have a request for 100 to be put out at Susan B. Komen Breast Cancer Walk in October. Please consider helping us to put the Rosary into as many hands as possible by making a donation. Any donation entitles you to the rosary of your choice.

For Information about joining our group please call Rosemary Kazmierczak at 708-899-7143

Father Perez Knights of Columbus Council #1444 extends a gigantic 'thank you' to the caring and sharing community: Those who staffed corners and intersections carrying cans and Tootsie Rolls, and those who contributed to the 2002 Drive for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities. Ninety percent of the funds contributed on September 16th and 17th will come back to the community to support religious and secular organizations that provide quality of life programming for our neighbors in need.

Free to a good home:

Do you know how to play the piano, or are you looking to take lessons. We have a piano for you. It is in the Parish Office right now. Of course you would have to move the piano. If interested please call us at 708 422-0234

Please keep the people of the Ukraine in your prayers.



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Hello Ladies!

Our next meeting is on Tuesday, October 11th. We will begin with the Rosary in church at 6:30pm followed by a brief meeting at 7pm in Arnold Hall-Room 121.

The invitation to join us at our meeting is for all the ladies of our parish: members, non-members and those who would like to see what the Women's Club is all about and especially those ladies who are new to the parish.

We look forward to welcoming you.

Sincerely, Annamarie Blaha

| All Souls Day |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mass of Remembrance November 2, 2022 |
| Mass Times |
| 8:15 am and 7 pm |
| $\alpha \alpha $ |

Med Souls flay Remembrances

Together we remember and pray for our loved ones who are no longer among us.

Names of those to be remembered:

Offering Amount \$______

All Souls Day remembrances may be returned to the Parish Office or dropped into the Sunday Collection Basket.

ST. GERALD PARISH STAFF

Rev. Robert Pajor.....Pastor frrpajor@stgerald.com

Rev. Stanley Stuglik......Associate Pastor

Mr. Thomas Forbes......Parish Business Manager tforbes@stgerald.com

Mrs. Theresa Fiscella.......Principal,tfiscella@stgerald.com

Mr. Jim Ramos......Coord. of Religious Education rey@stgerald.com

Mrs. Sandy Weber......Ministry of Care sweber@stgerald.com Ms. Leah Andricopulos.....Music Director musicopulos@gmail.com

Mrs. Annamarie Blaha... Media & Marketing Coordinator ablaha@stgerald.com

Mrs. Laura Kowalski.......Wedding Coordintor lkowalski@stgerald.com

Mrs. Kate Zagata.....Bulletin Editor kzagata@stgerald.com Mrs. Gina Reynolds.....School Secretary greynolds@stgerald

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





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