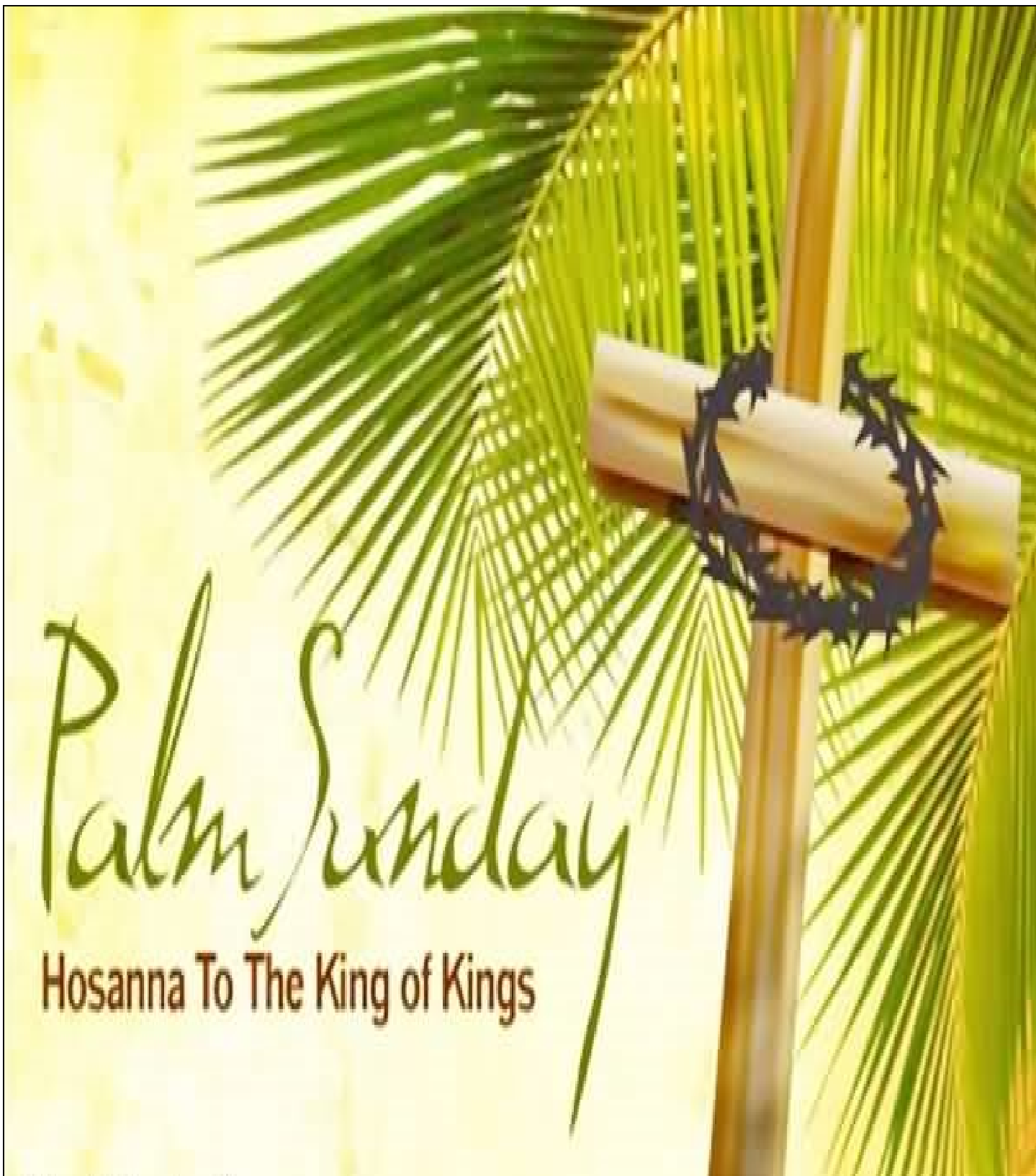




The Family of Saint Gerald
9310 S. 55th Court
April 2, 2023
Oak Lawn, Ill. 60453
Palm Sunday Of The Passion Of The Lord



How is your Lent going? Everyone treats Lent a little differently even though the point is still the same. Christians practice Lent as part of the ongoing attempt to imitate Christ, but there is more to fasting than simply abstaining from this or that because Jesus did. Lent is an extended look inward, an exercise in meditation, and above all an effort to focus more greatly on our spiritual pursuits. As we experience Palm Sunday and welcome Jesus into the city, we should evaluate how Lent has gone and how we can best prepare our inner selves for the Savior.

At this time of year, we look inward. Think of the *Ubi caritas chant*, the section that goes *et ex corde diligamus nos sincero*. “And let us love one another with a sincere heart.” Almsgiving, one of the pillars of Lent, is the act of sending love to one’s neighbor in financial form. Notice that this line could simply have said “and let us love one another,” as this is a pillar of Christianity. So why does this chant specify *sincero*? The sincere heart is one that understands the point of giving. The good Christian donates what they can spare, and that is not to be shamed. However, the sincere heart is the one that gives where another may see obstacles to giving. The sincere heart may give their only free hour to offer an hour of comfort to another who needs it. The sincere heart sees someone in need of a meal and gives their own lunch money. That lyric of chant, and the Lenten spirit of almsgiving, can best be summarized in the second letter to the Corinthians in which St. Paul states how “God loves a cheerful giver.” Looking inward, do you see cheer in your giving? Do you see sincerity?

Lent is an act of extended focus, of meditation. Think of a camera in focus. There may be more than one object in a shot, but anything *not in focus is blurred*. One finds they can’t help but turn their gaze back to the object cast in sharp reality. This is what we need from Lent. One’s life and one’s faith is made of many facets, and they continue to exist during Lent. But the thing a Christian’s mental gaze returns to must be Christ, fasting, self-denial, and almsgiving. This is our act of spiritual meditation. Not just putting our attention towards one thing, but blocking our attention from other things.

In certain kinds of meditation, you place your attention on one thing, hoping to keep it there. The mind wanders, naturally. The point of the exercise is for the mind to wander as little as possible, but that does not mean that one should judge oneself for it. Quite the opposite, that you should simply place your attention back on the meditation point, as one would tidying up a room. Finding one’s attention wandering from the point of meditation can make the exercise feel frustrating and pointless. Finding oneself focusing on the things from which we are fasting can make Lent feel frustrating and pointless. Consider telling yourself, as more than one child protesting against fasting has been told, that you should think of Jesus whenever thinking of the thing from which you fast. Human nature means we will never truly be free from the frustration of self-denial without practice. The brain is a muscle, and meditation trains the muscle to pull back to the subject at hand. The more the brain attempts this, the easier it will feel. Though we are far into Lent, try not to give up! If you have already faltered, consider this your inspiration to start over and get as far as you can.

In Greek, Lent is referred to as the time of “bright sadness.” Christians are of course saddened at the abuse and eventual death of the Savior from whom our religion draws its name. The conscious mind may be saddened at the denial of immediate pleasure. But the sadness is brightened by the fact that Christ rose again, defeating death as well as damnation. The sadness is brightened by the fact that our fasting, almsgiving, and self-denial are improvements on the sinful state of man and the tendencies of the flesh. May the bright sadness of Lent see all of St. Gerald become kinder, more giving, and above all welcoming of the Resurrection.

Leah Andricpoulos



ST. GERALD CATHOLIC SCHOOL

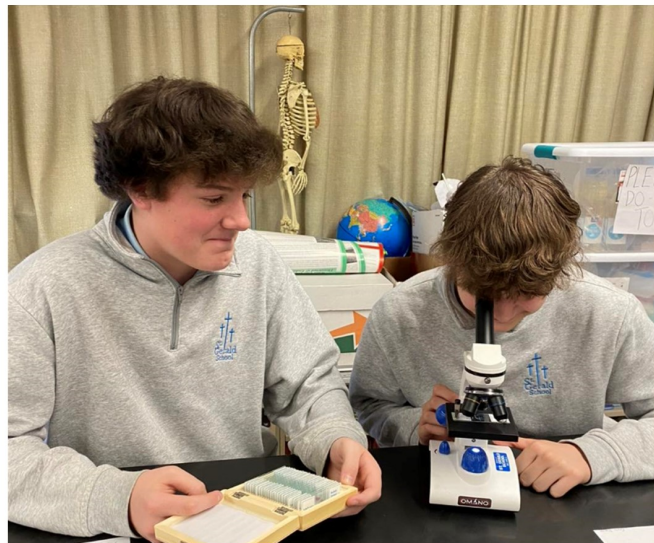
LEARNING · LEADING · SERVING · SUCCEEDING



Congratulations to our 7th Grade students who won 1st Place in Mother McAuley's Science Bowl!



Congratulations to our 7th Grade students who won 2nd Place in Mother McAuley's Science Bowl!



In the STEM Lab, 7th grade students explored and learned using microscopes.



Our St. Gerald float in the Southside Irish Parade. Thank you to our sponsors and participants!

WAYS TO SUPPORT ST. GERALD SCHOOL:

Bingo! Every Friday in Arnold Hall Games start at 6:45 pm

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



BE GALLANT | BE GENUINE | BE GREAT | BE A ST. GERALD GIANT

Pilgrimage to Poland

**CRACOW-WIELICZKA-ZAKOPANE-
WADOWICE-AUSCHWITZ/BIRKENAU-
CZESTOCHOWA- WARSAW- TORUN -
MALBORK-GDANSK- SOPOT**

Under spiritual guidance of Fr. Robert Pajor



**MORE INFORMATION:
St. Gerald Parish Office
708-422-0243**

\$3195



Enrolment starts: 11/7/2022. Deposit \$1500.

Final payment: July 10 th, 2023:

**Cash or Check issued to Rek Travel Services LLC
Memo: Pilgrimage to Poland**

**For more info please visit our websites:
www.rektravel.com, www.st.josephtravel.com**

773-777-7733



Pray for the sick list



Frank Apicella-2
Baby Reese-2
Charles Barsevick-2
Fr. William Browne-4
Maria Cabarello-4
Cameran-2
Karen Cartolano-1
Ron Cerevic-1
Shirley Cerf-2
Adriene Cervantes-1
Maureen Collins-4
Erin Culik-3
Donna D-2
Ron Dryier-3
Pat Earnest-2
Diane Gomez-1
Michael Griffin-4
Nelson Hathcock-2
Don Henry-3
Clara Hobson-2
Lucie Kavaliauskas-4
Mike Kelly-4
Michael Kennelly-4
Mary Klus-1

Laura Knapp-2
Leonard Kosacz-1
Katherine Kroeck-3
Dorothy Kubala-4
Laverne Leahy-4
Joyce Lewandowski-2
Bernadette Magana-2
Gene Marcinkowski-4
Gene Martyn-4
Maureen-1
Maureen C.-2
Mary McMullen-1
Joyce Meredith-1
Lillian Miszkiewicz-1
Catherine Motyka-4
Brian O'Callahan-4
Michael O'Keefe-3
Lucas Patrick-4
Carol Paprocki-1
Dave Pawlak-1
Charles Petraitis-3
Bob Philbin Sr.-2
Andrea Pierzynski-4
Bruce Renz-2
Grace Ritter-4
Art Rivas-1

Milo Rusin-3
Savannah-1
Merideth Scaglione-4
Deirdre Scott-4
Ryan Smith-1
Linda Stearns-3
Joe Streit-4
Ann Thomas-1

Rita Tucholski-2
Cindy Venditti-2
Robert Walsh-2
John Wickman-2
Stella Wisniewski-2
Elizabeth Zalapi-3

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.

Mass Schedule

Sunday Apr. 2

8:00am Mary Seroka

9:30am Patrick Walsh, Jan Gronski, Emilia Zajac,
Edward Hanania, Maria & Stanislaw Wieczorek,
Antonina & Leon Krzyszkowski

11:00am Concetta Musso, Ray Reidy, Pawel Berezowski,
Arlene McGrath, Sean & Peggy Ralph, Alma Guadalupe Nieto

Monday, Apr. 3

8:15am Pawel Berezowski, William West,
Rogelio & Chelo Placencia, Emilie Scilingo,
Spec Int for Andrea Perczynski

Tuesday, Apr. 4

8:15am Mildred Uidl, Ericksen & Cipriani Fam., Jodine Nitz,
Pawel Berezowski, Spec Int for Patricia Kurtys

Wednesday, Apr. 5

8:15 am Rita Walsh, Bud McGrail, Pawel Berezowski,
Spec Int for Mary & Rich Velcich, Clem Hojnacki,
Spec Int for Fr. Stan and Fr. Robert,
Spec Int for St. Gerald Office Staff,
Spec Int for Marilyn Shipper

Thursday, Apr. 6 Holy Thursday

8:15 am Prayer Service
7:30pm No Mass Intentions

Friday, Apr. 7 Good Friday

8:15am Prayer Service
7:30pm No Mass Intentions

Saturday Apr. 8 Holy Saturday

8:15am Prayer Service
11:30am Blessing of the Easter Baskets
7:30pm Easter Vigil Mass
No Mass Intentions

Sunday Apr. 9 Easter Sunday

8:00am Mildred Uidl
9:30am Brian Kasprzak, Aniela Dziadkowiec, John Gronski,
Joan Kasprzak, Decd Members of Hodas Fam., Agnes Mark,
Joe Fitzgerald, Lois Tarasevic, MaryAnn Dansart, Don Wasik,
David Dansart, Patricia Griffin, Clem Hojnacki, Jean Gnutek,
Joseph and Therese Langan, Walter and Victoria Zagata,
Spec Int for Fr. Stan and Fr. Robert
11:00am Revoir Fam., Kenzal Fam., Grace & Edward Ferris,
Robert & Lou Ferris, Eddie Hanania, Pawel Berezowski,
Joseph Novak, Dorothy Shannon, Daniel Morales

The Stewardship of our Family of Saint Gerald

3/19/23

Masses \$ to come at a later date due to
Early bulletin submission

Dropped Off
Utilities
Give Central
Candles
Building & Ren

Total \$

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

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.



Deaths

Daniel M. Laskowski
Marie Kobzaruk
Laverne M. Losos
Agnes J. Corless

May choirs of angels welcome them.



BAPTISMS

Joshua Everardo Mascorro-Gonzalez
Son of Jennifer Mascorro & Jessica Gonzalez

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

Hop into St. Gerald's **Preschool & Kindergarten**

OPEN HOUSE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5TH
5:00 - 6:30PM



All incoming pre-3, pre-4 and kindergarten children are welcome to join us for an Easter Egg Hunt and a visit from the Easter Bunny

This open house will give you an opportunity to see the preschool and Kindergarten classrooms, meet some teachers and ask questions you may have.

**Easter
Egg Hunt
at 5:30pm**



For more information
call 708-422-0121



9320 S. 55th Court • Oak Lawn, IL 60453
(708) 422-0121 • school.stgerald.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

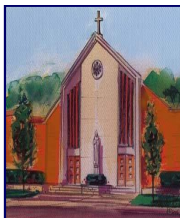
MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY 8:15AM

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.

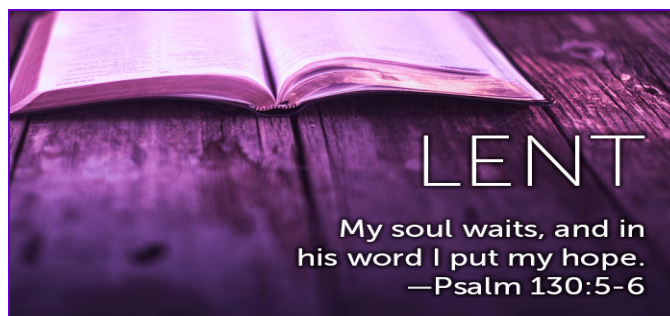
Parish Office Hours

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.

Eucharistic Adoration Dates Wednesdays 6-8p.m.

*May 3rd May 17th
June 7th June 21st
July 5th July 19th*



Disciple Maker Index Survey

Dear Parishioner:

Thank you for participating in the Disciple Maker Index Survey. This survey will provide you the opportunity to reflect on your own spiritual growth and provide feedback on the efforts of the parish to help you grow.

The survey should take you between 10-15 minutes to complete. Please do not skip questions unless instructed to do so. Please note that your responses are kept confidential. Your Parish and Catholic Leadership Institute will not have access to individual survey responses.

We thank you again for your participation in this important initiative!



Please keep the Ukraine in your prayers.

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/49> Thank you for your generosity and support of St. Gerald!





*Keeping
a Holy Lent*

**St. Gerald Church
9310 S. 55th Ct.
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
2023**

CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Office (708) 422-0234
St. Gerald School (708) 422-0121
Religious Education (REY) (708) 423-0458
www.stgerald.com



**ASH WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 22ND**

8:15am Mass
5:00 pm Ash Service
7:00 pm Mass

LENTEN ALMSGIVING SIMPLE BROWN BOX

Please take a simple brown almsgiving box from church on Ash Wednesday. Use this collection box during lent to collect your spare change or more for a holy week donation. Proceeds will go towards St. Gerald expenses and/or families in need.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Friday at 7pm during Lent except Good Friday
Prayerful Stations lead by our St. Gerald Ministries

Friday, 2/24.....Fr. Stan Stuglik
Friday, 3/3.....Boy Scouts
Friday, 3/10.....Holy Name Society
Friday, 3/17..... Sr. Ann and Sr. Rose 2nd & 4th
Grade Students
Friday, 3/24.....REY Students
Friday, 3/31.....Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors

HOLY THURSDAY PILGRIMAGE

Hosted by the St. Gerald Women's Club. Bus leaves after the Holy Thursday liturgy and returns to St. Gerald by midnight.
Please watch the bulletin for details.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Holy Thursday, 4/6, 8:15am prayer service
Holy Thursday, 4/6, 7:30 pm Mass

Good Friday, 4/7, 8:15 am prayer service
Good Friday, 4/7, 3 pm Stations
Good Friday, 4/7, 7:30 pm
Liturgy of the Passion of our Lord

Holy Saturday, 4/8 8:15 am prayer service
Holy Saturday, 4/8, 7:30 pm Vigil Mass

Blessing of Easter Food & Baskets
Saturday-4/8, 11:30 am in Church

**EASTER SUNDAY
MASSES
APRIL 9 TH**

8:00 am
9:30 am
11:00 am

*All are
Welcome!*

SPECIAL EVENTS

*Irish/Feast of St. Gerald Mass
March 11th
5:00 pm mass*

See bulletin for details

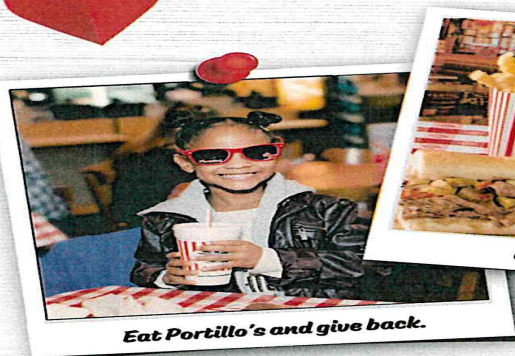
**LENTEN
CONFESSIONS**

March 25, Saturday, after the 5 pm mass
March 27, Monday, after 8:15 am mass

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

When Pope John Paul II canonized Sr. Faustina a saint, he also, on the same day, surprised the entire world by establishing Divine Mercy Sunday (feast day associated with the message,) as a feast day for the entire church. The feast day falls on the second Sunday of the Easter season. On that day, Pope John Paul II declared, "This is the happiest day of my life." Chaplet prayers to Divine Mercy will be said before those masses.

You're invited to a
Portillo's®
FUNDRAISER



Join us at Portillo's for a fundraiser to support:
St Gerald Catholic School Home School Association

When:
April 13, 2023
5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

at the Portillo's located at:
4020 W. 95th St.
Oak Lawn, IL

10% of sales will benefit your organization. Order online or in app for pickup using code **PORTILLOS26** before checkout in the "Apply Offer" field, or show this flyer or a digital version to cashier when ordering at the restaurant. Valid on drive thru, pickup, curbside, and in restaurant orders.

Portillo's
FOR GOOD

portillos.com/community

For online/app orders to qualify for the fundraiser, orders must be placed for pickup only, from the participating restaurant, on the fundraiser date and during the listed fundraiser hours. Gift card purchases, delivery orders, and orders placed on the third party websites are excluded from the fundraiser. Online ordering subject to availability. \$200 minimum fundraising sales required for the organization to receive donation. Cannot be combined with other offer codes.

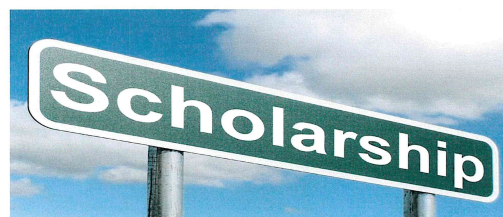
WE'RE HIRING! APPLY AT PORTILLOS.COM/CAREERS

Holy Thursday Bus Pilgrimage
Thursday, April 6, 2023
Immediately following the 7:30p.m. Mass

If time allows we will visit the following churches:

- 1. St. Gerald (boarding bus after 7:30 p.m. Mass)*
- 2. Holy Family*
- 3. Shrine of Our Lady Of Pompeii*
- 4. St. John Cantius*
- 5. Assumption*
- 6. St. Mary of the Angels*
- 7. St. Clement*

The fee is \$15.00 per person, which will be collected when boarding the bus. Unfortunately there will not be any restroom facilities on the bus, however each church will have open restroom facilities. Please RSVP to Gina Vancheri at 708 691-1036 by 4/3/23



Opportunity For High School Seniors
(Female)

The Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women
 (ACCW)

4 Year \$1000 Renewable Scholarship

Application and guidelines available on website:
accw.archchicago.org

Deadline for submission: April 30, 2023

Call 312-534-8325

St. Gerald Commemorative Bricks

Building Memories One Brick at a Time

Our ongoing Memorial Garden with commemorative bricks surrounding the statue of our Blessed Mother creates a peaceful and beautiful setting for prayer and meditation and honors our loved ones.

The final phase of our Memorial Garden project is nearing completion with less than 200 bricks remaining.

We are excited to offer the opportunity to support St. Gerald with the purchase of a commemorative brick to celebrate life's many occasions. Bricks can be purchased for Birth/Baptism, Sacramental Celebration, Christmas/Easter, Memorial to a loved one, Special Occasion, Wedding/Anniversary, Birthday, and First Communion/Confirmation. Memorial Garden bricks start at \$200 each and are available in various sizes.

Orders are now being taken for our spring installation. Please submit orders no later than June 1st. Order forms are available at www.stgerald.com or at the Parish Office. Contact Laura at lkowalski@stgerald.com or call 708-422-0234 ext. 124 for more details or an order form.



five BELOW



YOU'RE INVITED!

TO a FUNDRAISING SHOPPING EVENT FOR

organization name St. Gerald's Home School Association

date April 1st 2023 - April 7th 2023

time 10AM - 8PM

where Five Below/ Chicago Ridge Commons

it's simple! 10% of the purchases made by members of your group will be donated back to your organization.

simply present this flyer to a member of our WOW CREW at the time of purchase.
please note that we do not allow flyers to be handed out in our store or shopping center at any time before, during or after your event.

this section to be completed by five below associate

purchase amount (pre-tax) \$ _____

register (circle one) 1 2 3 4 5 6

associate name _____

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ST. GERALD PARISH STAFF

Rev. Robert Pajor.....Pastor frpajor@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..... Development Coordinator ablaha@stgerald.com
Mrs. Laura Kowalski..... Wedding Coordinator lkowalski@stgerald.com
Mrs. Kate Zagata..... Bulletin Editor kzagata@stgerald.com
Mrs. Gina Reynolds..... School Secretary greynolds@stgerald.com
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

