



The Family of Saint Gerald
9310 S. 55th Court
April 30, 2023
Oak Lawn, Ill. 60453
4th Sunday of Easter



THE JOURNEY AHEAD

October 12th 1492, July 4th 1776, December 7th 1941, November 22nd 1963, July 20th 1969 and September 11th 2001 are dates in our American journey with which we are all familiar. We learned about them in history class. We watched the last one tragically unfold before our very eyes. We commemorate them with a solemn promise never to forget where we come from and, more importantly, always to remember who we should be on the journey that lies ahead. Our personal journey is also made unforgettable when we recall special moments and then smile to ourselves, ***“That was a great day!”*** On such days, if you are an aging sentimentalist like me, you will begin to understand these simple words so lovingly spoken to George Bailey by his guardian angel Clarence, *“You see, George, you really had a wonderful life.”* What a great gift! One such day for me was August 1st 1969.

My younger brother John and I (God rest his soul) had a hard time sleeping after midnight on that August day almost 54 years ago. It was hot and humid and there was no air conditioning in our venerable apartment on the boulevard. We tossed and turned for hours in anticipation of what promised to be a journey to remember and a day not to be forgotten. As the sun rose on August 1st 1969 so too did we. After grabbing a delicious and nutritious chocolate donut from Korn’s Bakery we walked to the corner of 55th and Halsted. There we anxiously awaited the CTA bus that would take us to a strange and distant land. We were going to the North Side of Chicago. It might as well have been the far side of the moon. Our destination was Wrigley Field. Friends and neighbors and denizens of old Comiskey Park thought us traitors to the South Side. I thought otherwise. We were intrepid explorers on a grand adventure not unlike Neil Armstrong who had just walked on the moon a few short days ago.

We reached Clark and Addison after what seemed like an eternity on a crowded bus of sweaty strangers and nervously excited our ‘green chariot.’ All we could utter was ***“WOW!”*** There it was: Wrigley Field in living color, the ivory covered walls, the iconic scoreboard, the greenest grass, the bluest sky, the best hot dog and larger than life ballplayers like Ernie Banks, Ron Santo and all the others. It **was** a great day. Being a good Catholic boy (from you know where) I couldn’t help but think I was experiencing one of the gifts of the Holy Spirit promised at my confirmation. That, of course, would be wonder and awe. Wisdom is a work in progress when you are sixteen.

Looking back on that journey to Wrigley so long ago I now realize that it wasn’t the destination that made the day special it was my brother who had journeyed with me. He was quite the character and I think it had something to do with the fact that he had the same birthday as Father Malcolm. Despite the inevitable challenges and heartaches we face, it is the people we journey with and meet along the way that make it all worthwhile and who remind us that even in the darkest of days we are not alone and never without hope. That is the glory of Easter and the empty tomb.

When I see others as the Risen Christ sees me and when I choose to be kind and merciful when it’s easier to be indifferent or judgmental then *“I think to myself, what a wonderful world.”*

On October 11th 1962 bishops from all over that wonderful world assembled in Rome for the Second Vatican Council. Over the next four years they would engage in wide ranging dialogue to better understand the relationship between the centuries old Catholic Church and the ever-changing modern world. They came to appreciate that the Church was not just a beleaguered institution in a hostile world. It is ***“Lumen Gentium”*** - a Light to the Nations. It is ***“Gaudium et Spes”*** - Joy and Hope. It is the People of God on a shared journey of faith. We are all imperfect pilgrims on our way to the Kingdom of God. Henri Frederic Amiel was a 19th century moral philosopher and poet. The words that follow are his reflections on the journey ahead. *“Life is short and we never have enough time for gladdening the hearts of those who are travelling the journey with us. Oh, be swift to love, make haste to be kind!”*

We who are blessed with loving families are called to love and journey with those do not. We who have friends to share our burdens and joys are called to welcome and journey with those who are friendless or belittled. We who live in peace and material comfort are called to journey with who those live with the threat of violence and who struggle just to survive. We who have heard the word of God and who share in his Body and Blood are called to hear the cry of the poor and to journey with all who seek justice and decency. We extend our hand to those who fall behind and grow weary. We don’t wave them away because we are too busy and they don’t meet certain rigid expectations. There may come a day when we might need a helping hand. Hands extended in friendship and welcome can make such a difference when we stumble. A kind word and a gentle smile can go a long way in mending a broken heart. As we journey through life with all its joys and sorrows let us hope, before it’s too late, that when each day ends we can say to those who journey with us, *“That was a great day.”* They **all** are.

In today’s responsorial psalm we sing, *“The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.”* He leads us beside restful waters. Even though we walk in the dark valley we fear no evil; for you are at our side with your rod and your staff that give us courage. Let us summon the courage and the will to journey forward with trust in the Good Shepherd, hope for a brighter tomorrow and love for one another. When my brother John and I returned home from Wrigley Field on August 1st 1969 my mother asked us *“How was your day?”* We answered together, *“It was great, Mom. It **was** really great.”* The journey ahead may be unknown but we do know who is waiting for us.

Tom Forbes
aka VIS 67



PS – What happened on these dates: July 22nd 1944, July 15th 1953, February 21st 1933 and November 2nd 2016?



Learning · Leading · Serving · Succeeding

SAINT GERALD CATHOLIC SCHOOL



PK3 - EIGHTH



DISCOVER ALL **ST. GERALD** HAS TO OFFER!

9320 S. 55th Court, Oak Lawn, IL
708.422.0121

WWW.SCHOOL.STGERALD.COM



CATHOLIC
VALUES



ACADEMIC
EXCELLENCE



LATEST
TECHNOLOGY



DEDICATED
TEACHERS



SPORTS



TUITION
ASSISTANCE
AVAILABLE

ENROLLMENT NOW OPEN FOR 2023-2024

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
Irene Baranowski-1
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
Chris Courtney-1
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 Miskiewicz-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
Jim Trolia-1

Rita Tucholski-2
Cindy Venditti-2
Robert Walsh-2
John Wickman-2
Stella Wisniewski-2
Linda Wydra-1
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. 30

8:00am Marie Kobzaruk, Robert Vopinek, Ceil Olejniczak

9:30am Maura & Sean Riordan, John & Mary Moriarty,
Connie & Carmen Cacciotto, Laverne M. Losos

11:00am Pawel Berezowski, Jackie Walent, Paul Millies,
Justina Lee Callahan, Deceased Members of Holy Name,
All Souls in Purgatory, Grant Fam, Fei Fam.
Raymond Dearth & McCann Fam.

Monday, May 1

8:15am James T. Kilcran III, Spec Int for Jeanette Wood

Tuesday, May 2

8:15am For All The Faithfully Departed

Wednesday, May 3

8:15 am Ronald Klumara, Hugh Baletto, Clem Hojnacki,
Spec Int for Carl & Terri Adamow

Thursday, May 4

8:15 am Brendan Pierce, Clem Hojnacki,
Maurice T. & Susan M. Collins, Spec. Int for Fr. Robert

Friday, May 5

8:15am Eileen Block, Vice Fam, Spe Int for Brett Rhein

Saturday May 6

5:00pm Ray Gorski, Ron Anderson, The Foley Family,
Jose Marcano

Sunday May 7

8:00am Marie Kobzaruk, Wanda Vopinek

9:30am Jozef Syjud, Agnes Mark, John Weigand

11:00am Decd Members of the McGrath Fam., Jan Zubek,
Daniel & Rosemarie Sobczak Sr., Grant Family, Fei Family,
All Souls in Purgatory

The Stewardship of our Family of Saint Gerald

	4/23/23
Masses	\$ 9764.00
Dropped Off	935.00
Utilities	176.00
Give Central	1722.00
Candles	310.00
Building & Ren	226.00

Total \$ 13,133.00

Easter 4/9/23 as of 4/23/23 \$39634.00

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.

Worth Township, along with Pathlights, will host a free Community Resource Fair on Wednesday, May 3, 2023. The Resource Fair runs from 10am – 1pm at the Worth Township Hall, 11601 S. Pulaski Road in Alsip. There is no cost to attend, and it is open to everyone.

More than 30 organizations will be on hand to offer information about their no-cost or low-cost services and programs for you and your family. They will also be offering blood pressure checks and Covid vaccinations (Moderna boosters for people 6 months and older, and initial vaccines only for those younger than 7 yrs. old). In addition there will be giveaways, raffles and a concession stand. Come and explore the different resources that your community has to offer.

For more information, please contact Worth Township at 708-972-7840 or email info@worthtownship.com.

Tribute to Blessed Mother



May is the month to honor Blessed Mother and to celebrate the Sacrament of First Holy Communion

Our tribute to Blessed Mother will be on Sunday, May 21st during the 11 am mass. Please join us for this ceremony including our special guests; our new First Communicants and their families. The First Communicants are asked to wear their First Communion dresses and attire for this occasion, as they will honor Blessed Mother with flowers during the ceremony.

After the ceremony, the First Communicants and their families are invited to Chapell Hall for a continental breakfast celebration.



Please keep the Ukraine in your prayers.

Reading I

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and proclaimed: "Let the whole house of Israel know for certain that God has made both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified." Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and they asked Peter and the other apostles, "What are we to do, my brothers?" Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is made to you and to your children and to all those far off, whomever the Lord our God will call." He testified with many other arguments, and was exhorting them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand persons were added that day.

Reading II

Beloved:

If you are patient when you suffer for doing what is good, this is a grace before God. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example that you should follow in his footsteps. *He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.* When he was insulted, he returned no insult; when he suffered, he did not threaten; instead, he handed himself over to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body upon the cross, so that, free from sin, we might live for righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you had gone astray like sheep, but you have now returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Gospel

Jesus said: "Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever does not enter a sheepfold through the gate but climbs over elsewhere is a thief and a robber. But whoever enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens it for him, and the sheep hear his voice, as the shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has driven out all his own, he walks ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they recognize his voice. But they will not follow a stranger; they will run away from him, because they do not recognize the voice of strangers." Although Jesus used this figure of speech, the Pharisees did not realize what he was trying to tell them. So Jesus said again, "Amen, amen, I say to you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. A thief comes only to steal and slaughter and destroy; I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly."



**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

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

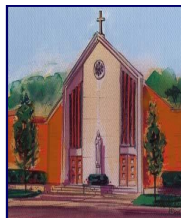
MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY 8:15AM

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.

WE CAN DO THIS!!! FOOD WITH INTEGRITY
COMMUNITY STARTS HERE
FOIL-WRAP
GOODNESS
GENEROUS
HELPING
BURRITOS
CAUSE
EFFECT

DO GOOD WITH CHIPOTLE

CHIPOTLE FUNDRAISER FOR
**ST GERALD
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**
33% OF EVENT SALES GET DONATED TO THE CAUSE

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3RD | 4-8PM
6230 W 95TH ST STE B, OAK LAWN, IL, 60453

ORDER ONLINE FOR PICKUP USING CODE **3VL4FDQ**
OR SHOW THIS FLYER IN RESTAURANT



For online orders to count towards the fundraiser, they must be placed for pickup only from the restaurant location of, and during the hours of, the fundraiser. Delivery orders and gift cards do not qualify. \$150 minimum event sales required to receive any donation.

Hola! Join the Cinco De Mayo day fun Friday May 5th at St Gerald Friday Night Bingo! Wear your Sombreros and win some fun prizes, enjoy some tasty treats and maybe even win some money! Be there by 630 to participate in the early bird coverall!



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.

Commemorative Brick Gift Certificates are available upon request.



STG MEDIA MINISTRY

NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!

TO HELP WITH WEEKEND MASSES

NO TECHNICAL EXPERIENCE NEEDED

CONTACT • MEDIA@STGERALD.COM

St. Gerald's **SPLIT** the **POT**



THIS WEEK'S WINNER:

Dan Fedor
won \$65 in this week's
Split the Pot.

Thank you for supporting St. Gerald!

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!



St. Gerald has Bingo for anyone 18 or older every Friday night. Doors open at 4:30pm, the early bird game begins at 6:45pm. Food is available to purchase. Come join the fun and support St. Gerald's!

Attention

We are in need of Ushers for Saturday and Sunday Masses. If you are interested please call Tom Flynn at 708 280-2774 and leave a message.

Manna

Manna Sales are every Wednesday at Door 10 on 55th Court from 6-7:30pm Friday mornings from 8:15-9:30am at Door 1 and the 1st and 3rd Sunday in Arnold Hall from 9am-12pm. This is a Great way to support St. Gerald Tech. without spending any additional money. Gift cards are purchased at face value. Both St. Gerald and you will receive a percentage of your purchase.

ST. GERALD SUMMER CAMP

2023

STARTING JUNE 12TH

Camp enrollment fee: \$45 per child due by May 29th

Come join us for a full day of summer fun as we play games, do arts and crafts, practice our cooking skills, go on field trips, have outdoor adventures, swimming, and more!
With our camp, you have the ability to choose ANY or ALL 5 sessions when you register.

Day Camp 5 Days/Week:

Monday-Friday 8:30AM-2:30PM

Cost per session \$325 (entering pre-school 3 and pre-school 4)
\$280 (entering kindergarten-8th grade)

Extended Day Camp 5 Days/Week:

Monday-Friday 6AM-6PM

Cost per session \$515 (entering pre-school 3 and pre-school 4)
\$415 (entering kindergarten-8th grade)

Multi-Child Family Rate ONLY applies to the Extended Day Camp 4 or 5 days

2 children per session: \$755

3 children per session: \$1,135

Add \$35 per session per preschool child to the above Multi-Child Family Rates

Day Camp 3 Days/Week:

Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday 8:30AM-2:30M

Cost per session \$255 (entering pre-school 3 and pre-school 4)
\$205 (entering kindergarten-8th grade)

Extended Day Camp 3 Days/Week:

Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday 6AM-6PM

Cost per session \$350 (entering pre-school 3 and pre-school 4)
\$310 (entering kindergarten-8th grade)

Session 1: June 12-June 23

(closed Monday June 19)

Session 2: June 26-July 7

(closed Tuesday July 4)

Session 3: July 10-July 21

Session 4: July 24-August 4

Session 5: August 7-August 18



ST. GERALD SCHOOL
9320 S. 55th Court, Oak Lawn, IL
708-422-0121



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 Coord./Annulment support 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

