



The Family of Saint Gerald
9310 S. 55th Court
July 30, 2023
Oak Lawn, Ill. 60453
17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Faith
it makes things
possible, not easy

"Be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged.
For the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

— Joshua 1:9



Fr. Stan's Utterances



The parable of the fishing net teaches us a crucial spiritual lesson. It is made up of both good fish and bad fish as stated by Jesus today. The net symbolizes the Church, and the fish are the multitude of people. The water symbolizes the world of human history, in which the Church exists and with which the Church interacts. At the end of human history, there will be a judgment. Jesus will *"come again to judge the living and the dead,"* as we pray every week in the Creed. At this judgment, some of the fish in the net will be saved, but others will be thrown back, *"What is bad they throw away. Thus it will be at the end of the age. The angels will go out and separate the wicked from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth,"* Jesus says today, and similarly last Sunday, Jesus said the same thing.

Both kinds of fish, the "righteous and the wicked," were inside the net, inside the Church. In other words, it's not enough just to be an official member of the Church, just to say we're Catholic, just to go through the motions of being Catholic on the outside. Yes, we are baptized Catholic so that we find ourselves inside the net, but at the same time, we also need to let God's grace penetrate our minds and change our lives daily as we grow holier, so that we follow in Christ's footsteps all week long, attend all Sunday Masses and holy days of obligation and following the Ten Commandments as best as we can do, praying the rosary and reading Holy Scripture.

Like the farmer and the merchant in the other parables, we have to sell everything in order to take full possession of the treasure and the pearl. We have to actively fight against our selfish, sinful habits in order to enter fully into friendship with Jesus Christ, the only treasure that will fill us with everlasting joy. It is possible to work in the field without possessing the treasure, and that's exactly what Christ wants us to avoid.

Let us look into today's Second Reading, a reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans 8:28-30. First, let us unravel the deeper meaning of St. Paul's words. He understood the firm but gentle action of God in our lives, like the dependable but flexible action of the net in the water. This is the point of his famous lines from today's Second Reading. He says that God foreknew, predestined, called, justified, and then glorified all of those who are His children in Jesus Christ. This isn't a mathematical formula. It is a description of the lived experience of every Christian. As we grow in our friendship with God, as we become more spiritually mature, we realize more and more how closely, lovingly, and powerfully God has been watching over us and guiding us all the time. It is only the youngest children, the babies, that aren't aware of the loving presence of their parents, and so they start crying when they need something. As they grow older, they don't cry for what they need, they simply ask. Likewise, as we grow more mature in our faith, we grow more confident in God, whose net of providence is unbreakable.

The parable of the fishing net gives us a good reason to check up on ourselves, to make sure that we are not just going through the motions of being a disciple. God will only welcome onto the shores of everlasting life those of us who truly desire to be there, and who show that desire by really trying to follow Christ with all our heart, strength, soul and mind. However, the parable has another implication as well. It reminds us that the people around us need our help. Just because our friends and family members appear to have a good relationship with God doesn't mean that they don't need the help of our prayers, words, and good example. Judging only by appearances, all the fish in the net were safe, but in the end, it turned out that appearances were not the whole truth. None of us is immune from temptation. The people right next to us may be going through a difficult time right now, a time of temptation or spiritual battle, whether we can see it or not. Therefore, we should never stop praying for each other; we should never stop looking for new ways to encourage each other to stay faithful to Christ; and we should never think that our own example of faithfully following Christ doesn't matter. It always matters. Remember the words, "What would Jesus do?" or "What would Mary do?" Then, we know what to do and follow Jesus with all of our heart and soul.

Jesus wants to bring everyone into the bright light of eternal life. Today, let's thank Him for the gifts of grace He has given us already, and let's promise that we will continue to make good use of them; both for our own sake, and for the sake of those around us.

Our Lady Undoer of Knots, Pray for Us! St. Gerald, Pray for Us! Have a great week and enjoy the summer!





ST. GERALD CATHOLIC SCHOOL

LEARNING · LEADING · SERVING · SUCCEEDING



WELCOME PRINCIPAL PAPE!

Hello, my name is Tony Pape, and I am the newly appointed Principal at St. Gerald school. I am so excited for this opportunity and looking forward to an amazing 2023-2024 school year!

This will be my 18th year in education, and I have done everything from teaching both elementary and middle school and been an administrator in both as well.

I live in Oak Lawn and have been happily married to my wife Megan for over ten years and we have two children together, Danny who is turning 8 in September and Caroline who is 4.

I have a fond connection to the parish of St. Gerald as I grew up in Oak Lawn near Covington School and this was the church I attended and made my first communion and confirmation.

I am here to work with all of you to make this a safe and nurturing environment for our students and community in which together we help them grow in every aspect from academics to spiritually but as well as socially and emotionally.

As principal, I am committed to:

- Holding the highest standards for you, myself and our students. I will consistently upgrade my knowledge and skill, to be a learning leader.
- Providing effective and important concepts, strategies and techniques for the benefit of our school.
- Sharing ideas that work although might challenge some belief systems.
- Modeling what I am suggesting others consider for their own teaching.
- Leading and teaching as if you were my best friend.
- Holding honesty, respect, sound judgment, and my commitments to the school with the utmost values.
- Listening and being open and responsive to feedback.

Our kids are worth whatever it takes! I am always reachable by phone 708-422-7905 or email apape@stgerald.com and will be happy to answer any questions you have starting now and at any time throughout the upcoming school year. I plan on attending masses on Sunday August 6th and look forward to meeting all of you either then or at the upcoming carnival.

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 6 pm - 7:30 am (Use Door 10) To learn more about Manna Contact MannaOffice@stgerald.com or call 708-422-0121 x126



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-1
Baby Reese-1
Charles Barsevick-4
Laura Bingenheimer-1
Susan Bingenheimer-1
Maria Cabarello-2
Cameran-4
Karen Cartolano-3
Ron Cerevic-3
Shirley Cerf-4
Adriene Cervantes-3
Mary Coffman-1
Maureen Collins-2
Chris Courtney-3
Erin Culik-1
Theresa Curtin-1
Donna D-4
Ron Dryier-1
Pat Earnest-4
Diane Gomez-3
Michael Griffin-2
Nelson Hathcock-4
Don Henry-1
Clara Hobson-4
Lucie Kavaliauskas-2
Mike Kelly-2
Michael Kennelly-2

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

Art Rivas-3
Milo Rusin-1
Savannah-3
Merideth Scaglione-2
Deirdre Scott-2
Ryan Smith-3
Linda Stearns-3
Joe Streit-
Ann Thomas-2

Rita Tucholski-3
Cindy Venditti-3
Robert Walsh-3
John Wickman-3
Stella Wisniewski-3
Linda Wydra-2
Elizabeth Zalapi-1

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 July 30

8:00am Robert Coffman Sr., Alphonse Butkus

9:30am John Moran, Michael Flynn

11:00am Kris Zubek, Kevin Martyka,
For All the deceased Members of HNS

Monday, July 31

8:15am Clem Hojnacki, Laverne Franek,
Carl DiGangi

Tuesday, Aug. 1

8:15am John O'Grady, Patrick Walsh, Roel Crucero,
Justine Giussinai

Wednesday, Aug. 2

8:15 am Marie Pollak, Antonette Vidinich

Thursday, Aug. 3

8:15 am Frances Szalwa, James Harrington,
Tom Wood, Bernice Vidinich

Friday, Aug. 4

8:15am For All The Faithfully Departed

Saturday Aug. 5

5:00pm John Moran, Ray Gorski

Sunday Aug. 6

8:00am Lottie Grodek, Lisa Solorio

9:30am Rosemary Bernard, David Dansart

11:00am Tom Wood

The Stewardship of our Family of Saint Gerald

	7/16/23
Masses	\$9,247.00
Dropped Off	1,295.00
Utilities	278.00
Give Central	1,850.00
Candles	281.00
Building & Ren	507.00
Total	\$13,458.00

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.



Attention Please

Beginning September 1st our daily Mass Schedule will change. Our morning Mass will begin at 8:30a.m. The weekend Mass Schedule will remain the same.



Deaths

Delores M. Kolin
Javier Juarez

May Choirs of angels welcome them.

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!



REMINDER

The Mass Schedule for Assumption, which is a Holy Day of Obligation Tuesday, August 15th is as follows: 8:15 am and & 7:00pm.

Reading I

The LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream at night. God said, "Ask something of me and I will give it to you." Solomon answered: "O LORD, my God, you have made me, your servant, king to succeed my father David; but I am a mere youth, not knowing at all how to act. I serve you in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a people so vast that it cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant, therefore, an understanding heart to judge your people and to distinguish right from wrong. For who is able to govern this vast people of yours?" The LORD was pleased that Solomon made this request. So God said to him: "Because you have asked for this— not for a long life for yourself, nor for riches nor for the life of your enemies, but for understanding so that you may know what is right— I do as you requested. I give you a heart so wise and understanding that there has never been anyone like you up to now, and after you there will come no one to equal you."

Reading II

Brothers and sisters: We know that all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, so that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And those he predestined he also called; and those he called he also justified; and those he justified he also glorified.

Gospel

Jesus said to his disciples: "The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net thrown into the sea, which collects fish of every kind. When it is full they haul it ashore and sit down to put what is good into buckets. What is bad they throw away. Thus it will be at the end of the age. The angels will go out and separate the wicked from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth. "Do you understand all these things?" They answered, "Yes." And he replied, "Then every scribe who has been instructed in the kingdom of heaven is like the head of a household who brings from his storeroom both the new and the old."



The Queen of Peace H.S. Class of 1973 Will hold their 50th Class Reunion on September 15, 2023 at Gaelic Park in Oak Forest, IL. At 6:00p.m. see/join the Queen of Peace Class of 1973 Facebook Page for more info. Note the change of Time and location. Email: patricethomas6314@gmail.com

Eucharistic Ministries and Lector Training

Eucharistic Minister Training will be (Monday and Tuesday) July 31 and August 1st
Lector Training will be (Monday and Wednesday) July 31st and August 2nd
Classes will be held at St. Stephen Deacon and Martyr
17500 84th Ave., Tinley Park, IL. 60487 contact Sr. Gael Genster 708 460-0042
If you plan on attending please notify the St. Gerald Parish Office before attending.

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

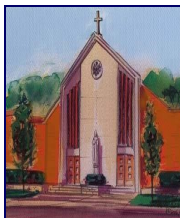
MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY 8:15AM

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.

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



Only \$10 per entry

HOW TO PLAY: Fill in your details, put \$10 in the envelope, seal and place it in the collection boxes located in the vestibules. Total pot is split 50:50 between winner and St. Gerald.

DRAWINGS: Every other week

Thank you for your continued support!
For complete details visit www.stgerald.com



Looking to grow in Faith, Hope & Love?

Give away the “Faith, Hope & Love” that you have and more will be given to you, multiplied and elevated.

Today you may be hearing the call to “share your faith with others”. If so, and you possess a natural gift for working with kids such as an infectious smile, a good sense of humor, love and patience. Then our REY Ministry is the place for you.

Come and hear more about our ministry. We’re always looking for additional greeters, catechists, classroom aides, office volunteers, hall guards, retreat volunteers and more.

For more information please contact Jim Ramos at rey@stgerald.com or leave a message at 708-423-0458



MANNA

Gift Cards



Support St. Gerald by purchasing Gift Cards to your favorite places. Choose from over 750 stores, restaurants, gas stations and MORE! There is no extra cost to you, just a benefit to you and to St. Gerald. Stop in and get yours today!



SUMMER SALE TIMES:

Wednesday 6 pm – 7:30 pm (Door #10)

1st & 3rd Sunday 9 am – 12 pm (Arnold Hall – Door #5)

St. Gerald Carnival August 10-13

Carnival Hours

Thursday 5pm-10pm
Friday 5pm-11pm
Saturday 1pm-11pm
Sunday 1pm-10pm

Beer Garden & Tiki Bar Hours

Thursday 5pm-11pm
Friday 5pm-12am
Saturday 1pm-12am
Sunday 1pm-11pm

Mega Pass Presale

Mega Passes will be presold online only. Presale cost is \$75.00 and onsite is \$100.00

Bingo Hours

Thursday 6pm-9pm
Friday 6pm-10pm
Saturday 6pm-10pm
Sunday 5pm-8 pm

Food Vendors-

Los Friends Mexican
Restaurant
Duke's Drive In

Live Music

Thursday 7pm Don't Talk to Strangers
Featuring Smiley Tillman

Friday 7pm Six2Six

Saturday 12pm band Hand
4pm The West Madison Kings
8pm The Dancing Noodles

Sunday 12:30pm Jerk & Karen
3:30pm Coax & Folks
7:30pm The Walk Ins

Scan this QR Code to purchase mega Passes.





Requesting Volunteers for the 2023 CARNIVAL!

Please consider offering a few hours to volunteer and help make the carnival successful! Thanks in advance. Please see below for contact information or Sign-Up Genius and QR code links.

Bingo (games are inside with AC)

Please call Glenn Smith at **708-334-4539** to discuss shifts and task schedules

Pull Tab Walkers OR Pull Tab & Parish Raffle Ticket Sellers at Table

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0848aaa62ba7fd0-carnival#/>



Security (walk campus to ensure security)

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0a4caba62cabff2-2023#/>



REY Open Registration

Mon. July 31 - Fri. August 11, 2023

by appointment only in the REY office located at 9320 S 55th Court, Door#1.

Please use the Sign-up Genius QR code to schedule your time or call the REY office for assistance.



Late Registration - August 14 - 25, 2023

by appointment only in the REY office located at 9320 S 55th Court, Door#1.

A \$25 Late fee per child will be added to all late registrations.

2023-24 REGISTRATIONS CLOSE AFTER AUGUST 25, 2023.

Contact the REY office at: 708-423-0458 or rey@stgerald.com for appointments or additional questions.

2023-24 Classes Offered:

Kindergarten thru 8th Grade
Sacrament Catch-Up
High School Confirmation
RCIA

(New Class Hours)

Sundays 9:15-10:30 am.

Mondays 6-7:00 pm.

Mondays 6-7:00 pm.

Mondays 6-7:00 pm.



Tuition is to be paid in full at time of Registration. All tuition and fees from the previous year must be paid in full in order to register for the following year. Please let us know if you require a payment plan.

Scan the QR codes to the left to visit our REY webpage for additional information and to download a registration form and our full Open Registration Instructional. For additional information not found on our website, please contact the REY office at 708-423-0458 or rey@stgerald.com.

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

