



The Family of Saint Gerald
9310 S. 55th Court
December 10, 2023
Oak Lawn, Ill. 60453
2nd Sunday of Advent

THE SECOND SUNDAY
IN ADVENT:

PEACE



December 10, 2023

2nd Sunday of Advent

We like to think we are totally free, but the bitter truth is we simply are not. Or better put, our freedom is limited on every side — by governments, corporate giants, physical and mental frailties, genetic shortcomings, and even the boundaries of time and space, and above all, the burden of our sins and pending deaths. In our day, we are perhaps particularly aware that we are not free to disconnect from the technocratic rulers of the air. If you doubt me, try not paying your internet bill and see what happens. We are not totally free.

It's nothing new, of course. In Jesus' day, everyone felt the crushing weight of the Roman Empire. You can say you're free all you want. But try not paying your taxes to Rome and see what happens.

Once we feel this burden in our own lives — however it comes — we are ready to hear the stunning announcement that commences Mark's gospel, "The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God." It's not a simple perfunctory introduction, but a dramatic announcement of new freedom. The word "gospel" was a political, even military, term. It meant: a great victory has been won and a new king is in charge. This Jesus — not the Roman emperor — is God's son, and he has defeated all that crushes human freedom. It's time to follow him and be truly free. This week let's refuse to submit our freedom to false rulers — especially that of sin. And let's rejoice that Christ is coming to make us perfectly free from all our oppressors.

Father John Muir



St. Gerald's EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM

YOUR KIDS DESERVE THE BEST EDUCATION.

Preschool and Kindergarten matter because they are the foundation of your child's education.

St. Gerald Early Childhood Program provides a safe, loving, "first school" experience for all our students. Where growth and development of the whole child is nurtured and supported and each child is seen as unique and loved by God. Children experience a rich curriculum through small/whole group instruction, free play, and centers. Special classes include library, gym, music and Spanish. Our Early Childhood Program readies preschoolers and kindergarteners for future learning. Since every child is unique, our curriculum creates the ideal early childhood experience. Technology is important in our world! Student learning is enhanced using interactive lessons on Vibe boards. Our teachers are highly qualified holding Bachelor degrees in Education and specializations in Early Childhood.

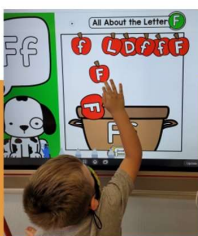
Half Day Schedule 7:50 am - 11:00 am | Full Day Schedule 7:50 am - 2:20 pm

Hot Lunch Program available for Full Day Students | Extended Care Available Before and After School



Preschool 3

- Available to children who turn 3 by Sept. 1st of the current year
- Class meets TUES, WED and THURS
- Optional MON and/or FRI



Pre-Kindergarten

- Available to children who turn 4 by Sept. 1st of the current year
- Class meets MON, TUES, WED and THURS
- Optional FRI



Kindergarten

- Full Day Kindergarten
- 1:1 Chromebooks
- Class meets MON thru FRI



To learn more about why St. Gerald is the right choice for your family visit us at school.stgerald.com and follow us on Facebook @StGeraldSchool

Request a tour (708) 422-0121 or school.stgerald.com/request-a-tour
St. Gerald School | 9320 S. 55th Court | Oak Lawn, IL 60453



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. Forious 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 PreCana 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

REMINDER

We will not have Confessions on Saturday, December 23rd or Saturday, December 30th.



Pray for the sick list



Frank Apicella-2
Baby Reese-2
Charles Barsevick-1
Laura Bingenheimer-2
Susan Bingenheimer-2
Maria Cabarello-3
Cameran-1
Karen Cartolano-1
Ron Cerevic-4
Shirley Cerf-1
Adriene Cervantes-4
Mary Coffman-2
John Coleman-2
Maureen Collins-3
Chris Courtney-4
Erin Culik-2
Theresa Curtin-2
Jack Daley-1
Evan Danner-1
Patrick Davis-2
Donna D-1
Ron Dryier-2
Pat Earnest-1
Diane Gomez-4
Michael Griffin-3
Jackie Hokinson-1
Nelson Hathcock-1

Lucie Kavaliauskas-3
Mike Kelly-1
Michael Kennelly-3
Mary Klus-4
Laura Knapp-1
Catherine Kolbe-2
Leonard Kosacz-4
Katherine Kroeck-2
MaryAnn Krupa-3
Dorothy Kubala-3
Laverne Leahy-1
Joyce Lewandowski-1
Trish Lunn-1
Bernadette Magana-1
Monica Martancik-3
Gene Martyn-3
Maureen-4
Maureen C.-1
Mary McMullen-4
Joyce Meredith-4
Lillian Miskiewicz-4
Michael Moran-1
Catherine Motyka-3
Brian O'Callahan-3
Michael O'Keefe-2
Lucas Patrick-3
Carol Paprocki-4

Charles Petraitis-2
Andrea Pierzynski-3
Randy-1
Bruce Renz-1
Grace Ritter-4
Art Rivas-4
Milo Rusin-2
Savannah-4
Merideth Scaglione-3
Deirdre Scott-3
Ryan Smith-4

Linda Stearns-4
Joe Streit-3
Ann Thomas-3
Dave Tishka-1
Rita Tucholski-4
Cindy Venditti-4
Robert Walsh-4
John Wickman-4
Stella Wisniewski-4
Linda Wydra-3
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.

Thank you.

Sunday Dec. 10

8:00am Czamecki Family, Foley Family,
Edith Fisher, Josephine Gajda

9:30am Clem Hojnacki, Richard Wisniewski,
Daniel Morales, Michael Sheeran, Paul Tishka

11:00am Michael P. Sheeran, Dolores Tynan

Monday, Dec. 11

8:30am Joe & Josefina Chavez, Clem Hojnacki,
John Mroszczak

Tuesday, Dec. 12

8:30am Cipriani & Ericksen Fam., Clem Hojnacki,
Guillermo, Manuela, Fred Gonzales,
Colleen Sinodinos, Ralph Dusek

Wednesday Dec. 13

8:30am Michael & Hannah Boland, Clem Hojnacki,
Louise Sajdak, Diane Teague

Thursday, Dec. 14

8:30 am Patrick McClory, Clem Hojnacki,
Vidinich Family, Spec Int for Fr. Robert,
Spec Int Fr. Stan

Friday, Dec. 15

8:30am Robert Coffman Sr., Eileen Pierucci,
Clem Hojnacki, Bud McGrail, Rita & Dave Walsh,
Laverne Franek, Spec Int for Pat O'Connell

Saturday, Dec. 16

5:00pm Robert Lou Ferris, Joseph Nicolozzi,
Anna & Rudolph Petrokovitch, Clem Hojnacki,
Robert E. Vorberg, Fred Preuss, Lorraine Tepper
Joe & Patricia Greene, Edward Hanania

Sunday Dec. 17

8:00am Edith Fisher, Casey Mrozak

9:30am Maria Panettieri, Aniano T. Razo,
Clem Hojnacki, Tor Salazar, Paul Tishka

11:00am Louis & Anna Fanelli, Patrick Killen,
Wladstaw Gawlak, Jerome Litrenta,
Rosemary Bingenheimer-Rissler, Bertina Gallina,
Carolyn Krauss, James Wagner,

Decd Members of the HNS
Liv & Decd Member of St. Gerald Women's Club

Deaths

Lorraine Tepper
Stanley Bzdyk

May Choirs of angels welcome them.

The Stewardship of our Family of Saint Gerald

	11/12/23	11/19/23	11/26/23
Masses	\$9,326.00	\$8843.00	\$8250.00
Dropped Off	1535.00	950.00	290.00
Utilities	593.00	94.00	210.00
Give Central	1596.00	1791.00	1861.00
Candles	343.00	267.00	308.00
Building & Ren	604.00	1210.00	361.00
Total	\$ 13,997.00	\$13,155.00	\$11,280.00

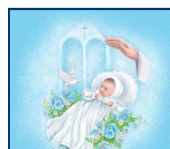
These figures include masses, give central and mailed in. Thank you for your continued support.

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**

Eleanor Louise Arnold

Dtr. of Jacob & Margaret Norton Arnold

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.



Parish Office will be closed:

Christmas Day 12/25

Tuesday 12/26

New Years Day 1/1/24

Martin Luther King Jr. 1/15/24

Presidents Day 2/19/24

Reading I

Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her service is at an end, her guilt is expiated; indeed, she has received from the hand of the LORD double for all her sins. A voice cries out: In the desert prepare the way of the LORD! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill shall be made low; the rugged land shall be made a plain, the rough country, a broad valley. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken. Go up on to a high mountain, Zion, herald of glad tidings; cry out at the top of your voice, Jerusalem, herald of good news! Fear not to cry out and say to the cities of Judah: Here is your God! Here comes with power the Lord GOD, who rules by his strong arm; here is his reward with him, his recompense before him. Like a shepherd he feeds his flock; in his arms he gathers the lambs carrying them in his bosom, and leading the ewes with care.

Reading II Brothers and sisters:

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years and a thousand years like one day. The Lord does not delay his promise, as some regard "delay," but he is patient with you, not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a mighty roar and the elements will be dissolved by fire, and the earth and everything done on it will be found out. Since everything is to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be, conducting yourselves in holiness and devotion, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved in flames and the elements melted by fire. But according to his promise we await new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, since you await these things, be eager to be found without spot or blemish before him, at peace.

Gospel

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet: *Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in the desert: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths."* John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins. John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

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!



PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS



Lord, come lead them in their prayers and answer them clearly, that they might be channels for your peace, ambassadors of justice, and bringers of hope. May you guard their hearts with your love, their minds with your truth and their bodies with your power. We ask all this in the wonderful name of Jesus. Amen.

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

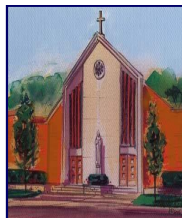
MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY 8:30AM

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.

Requests for 2024 Mass Intentions

Please fill out this form and return it to the Parish Office. We will try and honor as best as we can the dates and times that you have requested, if not possible we 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 (03/28/24), Good Friday (03/29/24), Holy Saturday (03-30-24) and All Souls (11/02/24). 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 request 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 \$15.00 per mass intention. We ask that you include the donation with this request form. We will contact you by mail with confirmation of your requests. When completing this form, please be sure to have a 2024 calendar on hand. Thank you for your patience, understanding and support.

Names of Intention Requested Date/Time Confirmed/Changed

Your Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address _____

**Memorial Brick Garden Blessing
10/29/2023**

Many gathered in prayer to honor the memories of their loved ones. Those memories are engraved in the memorial garden bricks with heartfelt sentiments. Fr. Robert blest the garden with holy water, there was meditative music, respectful altar servers and lectors leading all in prayer. Each family presented a flower in tribute to their loved one. It was a chilly, cloudy day, but the group prayed together in unity and in support of each other. The garden was installed in 2004 and has over 750 memorial bricks today.





Women's Club Meeting & Cookie Exchange

Bring 3 dozen cookies to share

Thursday - Dec. 14

7pm

Arnold Hall

Rosary in church at 6:30pm

We will also have a holiday
table decorating contest.

For details:

stgwomensclub@gmail.com





UPCOMING EVENTS

12.10.23 - Breakfast w/ Santa
 2.10.24 - Casino Night
 3.9.24 - St. Pat's Party
 3.23.24 - Boxing Show

SUMMER 2024
 St. Gerald Carnival
 Fr. Malcolm Golf Outing



MEETINGS

FRIDAYS DEC 8
@ 7:30 PM JAN 5
CHAPEL FEB 9
HALL MAR 8
 APR 12
 MAY 3
 JUN 7

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.

Beginning in September, drawings will be once a month at the end of the month.



***St. Gerald Church
Christmas & New Year's Schedule 2023-2024***

**Confessions--Wednesday, 12/20/23 from 6-7 pm
There are no confessions on Sat. 12/23 or Sat 12/30**

***Saturday, Dec.23, 2023 - 5 pm mass for Sunday Obligation
Sunday, Dec. 24, 2023, for Sunday Obligation
8 am, 9:30 am & 11 am Masses***

***Christmas Eve Masses, Sunday, Dec. 24, 2023
4pm and 11 pm***

***Christmas Day, Monday, Dec. 25, 2023
8 am, 9:30 am & 11 am Masses***

***Saturday, Dec.30th - 5 pm mass for Sunday Obligation
Sunday, Dec. 31, 2023, for Sunday Obligation.
8 am, 9:30 am & 11 am Masses***

***Vigil Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, Sunday, Dec.31, 2023
5 pm Mass***

***Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, Monday, January 1, 2024
9:30 am & 11 am Masses***



NONNA'S COMMUNITY Fundraising Event

Proudly hosted by



NONNA'S
PIZZA, PASTA & SUBS

Present this flyer when ordering at the location below and
50% of your purchase will benefit:



Thursday 🎵 Dec. 21st, 2023 🎵 4pm - 8pm

Nonna's Location:

9602 S Cicero Ave, Oak Lawn, IL

www.NonnasPizzeria.com



**MOVING FORWARD
BY GIVING BACK.**

**Flyer must be presented when ordering.
Not valid with any Gift Card or Coupon.**

ST. GERALD PARISH BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

DECEMBER 10TH 2023

AFTER 9:30 MASS

OPEN TO ALL FAMILIES OF THE PARISH

**Full breakfast including carving & omelet
stations. There is no charge for breakfast, but
donations are certainly accepted.**

Picture with Santa \$2

**Please RSVP @
stgeraldhns.com**

**Sponsored by
St Gerald Holy Name Society**



ST. GERALD PARISH STAFF

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