



The Family of Saint Gerald
9310 S. 55th Court
December 31, 2023
Oak Lawn, Ill. 60453
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph



December 31, 2023

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

I remember the first time my older sister asked me if I wanted to hold her newborn son. Terrified, I told her I didn't think it was a good idea. My résumé had nothing to suggest I would be a qualified baby holder. But she warmly told me, "I'll help you hold him." It struck me that she is baby's mother. She is the one who decides who is qualified to hold him. I took him in my arms and soon I began to feel comfortable with that tiny little warm cooing creature in my arms, and soon I no longer feared holding him. Now, twenty-seven nieces and nephews later, holding a newborn child is one of the great joys of my life.

Do we sometimes think that Jesus is given only to the highly qualified, special religious people? In the Gospel of Luke today we hear about the presentation of the Lord in the temple. The newborn son of God is passed around like a baton in a relay race, not guarded like a precious jewel or a breakable china dish. We can see him going from the arms of Mary to Joseph, then to the priest performing the ceremony, then to Simeon the old man, then to Anna the old widow. Each one receiving him and then handing him to the next. A tidal wave of joy and thanksgiving follows wherever he is placed.

Believe me, you are qualified to hold Jesus in your arms. How can I say that with such confidence? Because the mother decides who is qualified. The Blessed Virgin, embodied in the Church, holds him out to you and me. She rejoices to place him in our arms to hold, and to hand him onto, to.

Fr. John Muir

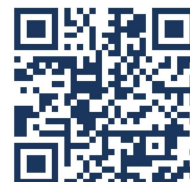


ST. GERALD CATHOLIC SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

JAN. 28, 2024

MASS AT 9:30 AM

OPEN HOUSE 10:30 AM - 1 PM



LEARNING • LEADING • SERVING • SUCCEEDING

FAITH BASED AND CHRIST CENTERED
SAFE FAMILY ENVIRONMENT
BEFORE AND AFTER EXTENDED CARE
HOT HOMESTYLE LUNCHES
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ACCEPTING STUDENTS PRESCHOOL - 8TH GRADE

- Meet teachers/staff and take a student led tour
- Receive admission and curriculum information
- Ask parents and students all your questions
- Learn how your child will excel in a Catholic School

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

Call for a private tour (708) 422-0121
9320 S. 55th Court | Oak Lawn, IL 60453



Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community



CELEBRATING CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK 2024



Lou Malnati's®

PIZZERIA

5261 95th Street
Oak Lawn, IL
(708) 425-2600



**Present this flyer when ordering and
20% of your purchase will benefit**

St. Gerald Music Ministry

**Wednesday • January 3rd
4 pm - 10 pm**



Pray for the sick list



Frank Apicella-2
Baby Reese-2
Charles Barsevick-1
Robert S. Belin-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
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
David Kowalewski-1
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
Andrea Pierzynski-3
Randy-1
Bruce Renz-1
Grace Ritter-4
Art Rivas-4
Dennis Ross-1
Milo Rusin-2
Savannah-4
Merideth Scaglione-3
Deirdre Scott-3
Ryan Smith-4

Susan Speaber-1
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.

Mass Schedule

Sunday Dec. 31

8:00am Mildred Uidl, Joe Doria
9:30am Clem Hojnacki, Kirkpatrick Family,
 Paul Tishka, Patrick & Marlene Curran
11:00am Cathy Fixel, Michael Sheeran
5:00pm Michele Cesaro, Colette McGinnis

Monday, January 1

9:30am Mildred Uidl, Clem Hojnacki, James Murray,
 James & Nellie O'Grady, Spec. Int. for Fr. Robert,
 Spec. Int. for Fr. Stan,
 Spec. Int. for St. Gerald Office Staff
11:00am Poor Souls in Purgatory

Tuesday, January 2

8:30am Eileen Sinclair

Wednesday, January 3

8:30am Dave and Audrey Reardon,

Thursday, January 4

8:30 am Joseph and Therese Langan

Friday, January 5

8:30am Thomas J., Betty, and John Forbes

Saturday, January 6

5:00pm John, Rosemary and Timothy McGinty

Sunday January 7

8:00am Mary Seroka

9:30am Charlotte & Michael Feret,
 Stanislaw Pierzchala

11:00am Jerome Litrenta

The Stewardship of our Family of Saint Gerald

	12/3/23	12/17/23
Masses	9782.00	9578.00
Dropped Off	1435.00	1105.00
Utilities	735.00	481.00
Give Central	1647.00	1853.00
Candles	231.00	343.00
Building & Ren	476.00	570.00
Total	\$ 14,306.00	13930.00

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.



Parish Office will be closed:

New Years Day 1/1/24
 Martin Luther King Jr. 1/15/24
 Presidents Day 2/19/24



Deaths

Concetta Conticello
Kathleen Kulig

May Choirs of angels welcome them.

Monday, January 1, 2024 is The Solemnity of Mary
It is a Holy Day of Obligation. Please see Page 9 of
this bulletin for Mass times.

MORNING OF REFLECTION

"Growing in Grace and Holiness"

Wednesday, January 10th 10:00-1:30

- Each month's Morning of Reflection includes prayer, meditation, and time for sharing.
- Continental Breakfast and Lunch will be served.
- \$30 Donation requested.
- Mount Assisi Center (former high school) 13860 Main St. Le-mont.

Please RSVP by FRIDAY, January 5th to Carrie Peters
630-257-7844 ext. 223

carriepeters2@sbcglobal.net

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.

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

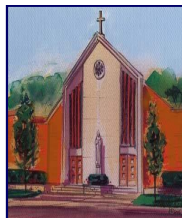
MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY 8:30AM

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.



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:

St. Gerald
Music Ministry

Thursday 🎵 Jan. 18th, 2024 🎵 **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.**



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

Reading I

God sets a father in honor over his children; a mother's authority he confirms over her sons. Whoever honors his father atones for sins, and preserves himself from them. When he prays, he is heard; he stores up riches who reveres his mother. Whoever honors his father is gladdened by children, and, when he prays, is heard. Whoever reveres his father will live a long life; he who obeys his father brings comfort to his mother. My son, take care of your father when he is old; grieve him not as long as he lives. Even if his mind fail, be considerate of him; revile him not all the days of his life; kindness to a father will not be forgotten, firmly planted against the debt of your sins a house raised in justice to you.

Reading II

Brothers and sisters: Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do. And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection. And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Wives, be subordinate to your husbands, as is proper in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, and avoid any bitterness toward them. Children, obey your parents in everything, for this is pleasing to the Lord. Fathers, do not provoke your children, so they may not become discouraged.

Gospel

When the days were completed for their purification according to the law of Moses, They took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, just as it is written in the law of the Lord, *Every male that opens the womb shall be consecrated to the Lord*, and to offer the sacrifice of a *pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons*, in accordance with the dictate in the law of the Lord. Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon. This man was righteous and devout, awaiting the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Christ of the Lord. He came in the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to perform the custom of the law in regard to him, He took him into his arms and blessed God, saying: "Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in sight of all the peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel." The child's father and mother were amazed at what was said about him; and Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted—and you yourself a sword will pierce—so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed." There was also a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived seven years with her husband after her marriage, and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple, but worshiped night and day with fasting and prayer. And coming forward at that very time, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were awaiting the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had fulfilled all the prescriptions of the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.



**St. Gerald Church
Schedule 2023/ 2024**

***Vigil Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, Sunday, Dec. 31, 2023
5:00 pm Mass***

***Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, Monday, January 1, 2024
9:30 am & 11:00 am Masses***

\$4195

ALL INCLUSIVE

DISCOUNT \$200*
WITH A PAYMENT \$1500/
PERSON BY 12/15/23

Pilgrimage to Italy

April 13-26, 2024

Under spiritual guidance of:
Fr. Robert Pajor

Venice, Padua, Florence, Assisi, Loretto, Lanciano, Monoppello,
San Giovanni Rotondo, Pompei, Sorrento, Capri, Rome, Vatican

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Enrollment starts: 12/01/2023. Final payment: January 31 st, 2024

Zelle, cash or check issued to Rek Travel Services LLC. Memo: Pilgrimage to Italy

ST. GERALD PARISH STAFF

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