

The Family of Saint Gerald
9310 S. 55th Court
February 4, 2024
Oak Lawn, Ill. 60453
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

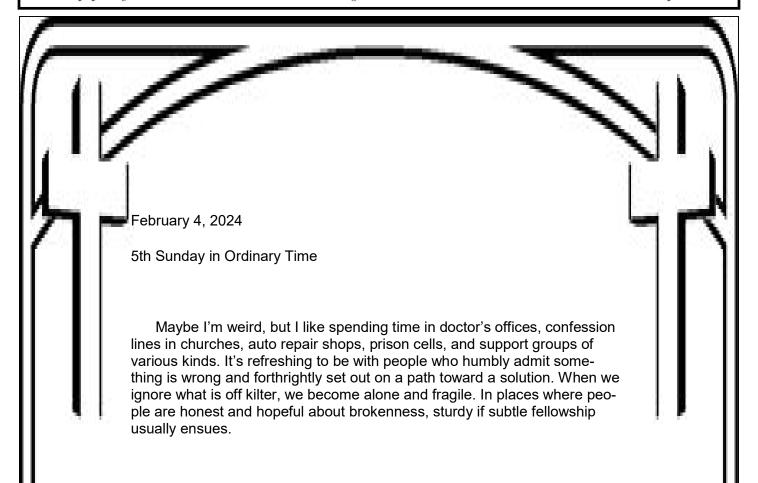


Blessing of the Throat Irayer

"Through
The intercession of
St. Blaise,
bishop and martyr,
may God deliver you
from every disease
of the throat and from
every other illness:
In the name of the
Father, and of the
Son, and of the Holy
Spirit.

Amen"

St. Blaise



Consider the image we see of Jesus in the Gospel of Mark. "...they brought to him all who were ill or possessed by a demon. The whole town was gathered at the door." The entire human community is afflicted in various ways, and so it gradually forms a strange new community around Jesus. The healer from Nazareth is like a sun of health around which orbits a throng of humanity absorbing his healing rays. These blessed souls can't fix themselves and become healthy, and they know it. But they have found in him the living source of all imaginable healing.

It's the Church, isn't it? A sin-sick community gathered and healed is what happens at the beginning of every Mass. We shuffle in through the door from everywhere and announce that we are not okay, and we can't fix it. In doing so, we are drawn into the orbit of the healing power of Christ — and into a renewed community with the whole human family. It's nothing to fear or rush. Maybe we can even learn to enjoy more how good it is to be in such a happy place.

Fr. John Muir

Dear Friends,

Before we begin the season of Lent I would like to share with you some of the updates, but before I do that I just need to say how proud I am to see so many of you in the pews on weekends. It is such a joy to see your faces in church at Mass, and I know you put a smile on Jesus' face too. You are so amazing and I have so much faith in you! Thank you so much for your attendance at Mass and for all you do for St. Gerald.

Thank you for all Christmas gifts to St. Gerald, your generosity is greatly appreciated. I am also very grateful to all from whom I received a personal Christmas gift - I am very grateful and I keep you in my prayers always.

Thank you to Holy Name Society for their gift of \$10,000 gift to our Building and Renovation Fund. Now they are getting ready to run the Casino Night which becomes their tradition and it is done very professionally. Please stop by the Gym on Feb. 10th, and enjoy the evening.

I am so grateful to the entire team of very creative people who organized the Open House at our St. Gerald School last Sunday. It was a great way to promote what we offer and who we are. Someone once told me; you cannot compete with schools offering free education, and I disagree with that, I think it is the other way around. It is the schools offering free education who cannot compete with us, the Catholic St. Gerald School. We are offering safe environment, real care and love, deep faith formation and so much more. So please consider sending your children or grandchildren to our School.

After a few successful pilgrimages we are getting ready to go to Italy. There are a few open spots so if you are interested please call REK Travel at 773-777-7733 and sign in. It is all inclusive 2 weeks pilgrimage, which includes airfare, very good quality hotels, three meals a day and medical insurance. And the most important thing to keep in mind is that the price is very affordable, it is only \$4,150 for all of that. Plus you get to see beautiful sights, you make new friends and come back home refreshed and wiser.

Finishing, let me write a few things about our future projects.

Priority right now will be to upgrade the convent for our Carmelite Sisters. Generally, the convent is the place of enclosure, which means only the Sisters can get in. But last year during heavy rains, there was a leakage in the walls and roof and I had to get in to the convent. We all know that we have very nice Sisters who never complain, but what I saw shocked me. The convent is in need of immediate upgrade. There is mold on the walls, windows don't close or open as they should, bathrooms are super old, the place was not painted/refreshed for years, and there is much more to be done. That is why this Lent I am asking you to please take the Almsgiving Brown Box with you and return it with a generous donation to help us to fix the convent, so our Sisters may live in normal and humanitarian conditions, because at this point living there is a health hazard. I know we can count on you and I am so grateful in advance. Let us put all our efforts into helping our Sisters to live in a place that feels like home.

Also please save the date of April 4th, which is Thursday, at 7pm we will have an evening of prayer (similar to what we had in church on December 6th). Then we will celebrate the upcoming Divine Mercy Sunday and as the merciful and loving people should, we will also be raising money to help our Carmelite Sisters on that night.

We are also looking into replacing windows in Arnold Hall, and we are hoping to have it done before next winter. We should be able to cover that expense with the money raised during one of the past campaigns. But windows will be just a beginning of making the Arnold Hall (including the hallway and bathrooms) a beautiful and welcoming space for our students, teachers, ministries and groups to hold meetings and events. So being generous to our Building and Renovation Found (which always help with urgent repairs) and to the Annual Catholic Appeal is also very important, because all the profits will help us to reach our goals and upgrade the Arnold Hall.

So we have many plans, but I am very hopeful because I know St. Gerald is surrounded by generous and loving Parishioners who care and are always willing to help. There is no other place like St. Gerald and I hope you too are proud to be part of this family.

Once again I have to say how proud I am of you and I am so grateful for all your love, generosity and care.

May God bless you all, Fr. Robert



families in our parish will be receiving the Annual Catholic Appeal mailing from Cardinal Cupich. On behalf of those served by the ministries, parishes and schools who receive funding from the Appeal, we thank you for your gifts. Please return your response as soon as possible. The Annual Catholic Appeal offers a wonderful opportunity to answer the call "Together at the table." We encourage giving at all levels to support this initiative. In addition to providing for ministries and services throughout the archdiocese, the Annual Catholic Appeal funds services in our own parish. For example, Appeal funds support recruitment, education and formation of lay ministers and deacons and continuing education & spiritual formation of priests. When we financially support the work of our parish, our archdiocese and the Catholic Church throughout the world, we experience a feeling of deep gratitude, especially when we contemplate God's many gifts to us personally. By sharing our wealth through gifts to the 2024 Annual Catholic Appeal, we demonstrate our commitment to the Church and each other.



Please join us on the second Saturday of each month as we pray the Rosary and pray for the Divine Mercy Chaplet. We will meet in front of the Grotto of Mary at 12:00 (noon). It will be determined where we will Pray due to inclement weather.



Tray 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 Michael Griffin-3 Jackie Hokinson-1 Nelson Hathcock-1

Clara Hobson-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 Joelee MacMaster-1 Jovce Meredith-4 Lillian Miszkiewicz-4 Michael Moran-1 Catherine Motyka-3 Brian O'Callahan-3 Michael O'Keefe-2 Karen Ortiz-1

Dave Pawlak-1 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 Karen Singer-1 Ryan Smith-4 Susan Speaber-1 Linda Stearns-4 Joe Streit-3 Ann Thomas-3 Dave Tishka-1 Rita Tucholski-4 Cindy Venditti-4 Tom Vodicka-1 Robert Walsh-4 John Wickman-4 Stella Wisniewski-4 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, February 4

8:00am Connie Gotto, Edward Hanania

9:30am Bob Belin, Megan Hurckes,

50th Wedding Anniversary for:

Stanislaw & Genowefa Rutkowski

11:00am Jerome Litrenta. Jo Vanick.

Salvatore Vancheri, Anita Maska, Fei Fam.,

Grant Fam, All Souls in Purgatory

Monday, February 5

8:30am Ron Cipriani, Spec Int for Baby C.

Tuesday, February 6

8:30am Clem Hojnacki, Spec Int for Emma Dearth

Wednesday, February 7

8:30am Richard and James Kern

Thursday, February 8

8:30 am Gerry Gabriel, Mildred Steffek

Friday, February 9

8:30am Clem Hojnacki, Spec Int for Jerry Hurckes

Saturday, February 10

5:00pm Robert Szcinski, Marion Safranek.

Dennis Ross, Jeff Redmond, Arlene O'Connor

Sunday, February 11

8:00am Spec Int for Baby C.

9:30am Patricia Nicosia

11:00am Fei Fam., Grant Family.

All Souls in Purgatory, Joan Bueche,

James McGrath, Mary Kaye McBride,

John McBride, Kevin Martyka



Parish Office will be closed:

Presidents Day 2/19/24 Good Friday 3/29/24 Easter Monday 4/1/24

Adoration Schedule in the Church

Feb 7 & 21 Mar 6

April 3 & 17

May 1 & 15

June 5 & 19

Adoration is 1st and 3rd Wednesdays 6-8pm

The Stewardship of our Family of Saint Gerald

 1/28/24

 Masses
 \$ 9,287.00

 Dropped Off
 273.00

 Utilities
 107.00

 Give Central
 1827.00

 Candles
 194.00

 Building & Ren
 887.00

 Total
 \$ 12,575.00

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.

Christmas as of 1/28/24 \$47,001.00

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.



JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY MEET AND GREET

When: February 17th-18th

After mass

Where: Church Vestibule

"They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers."

Acts 2:42



THE 3RD ANNUAL

Casino Nicht



SATURDAY FEB. 10TH, 2024 JONATHAN COLLINS ACTIVITY CENTER 9310 S 55TH COURT

TICKET COST: \$65

\$1000 IN POKER CHIPS, CANNED BEER, WINE, & LIGHT APPETIZERS INCLUDED WITH TICKETS

DOORS OPEN 6PM GAMING 6:30-1 OPM

ADDITIONAL RAFFLES HELD THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT

SCAN HERE TO PURCHASE TICKETS!



VISIT WWW.STGERALDHNS.COM OR EMAIL INFO@STGERALDHNS.COM FOR MORE DETAILS



Hello Ladies!

We invite all ladies to join us for our next meeting on Thursday, February 8th. We will begin with the Rosary in church at 6:30pm followed by a brief meeting at 7pm in Arnold Hall-Room 121.

We look forward to welcoming you.

St. Gerald
Annual Boxing Show
Presented by the St. Gerald Holy Name



The Main Event
Saturday, March 23rd
Doors will open at 6:00pm
Concessions, split the pot raffles
More information to come in the following bulletins.

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.

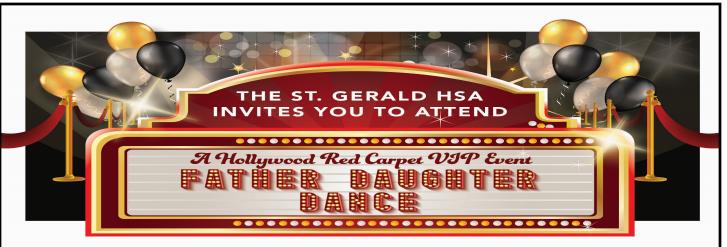


Weddings should be scheduled six months in advance. Please contact the Wedding Coordinator.

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.



WHO: Preschool-8th grade girls and their dad or "special someone"

WHEN: Saturday, February 24, 2024 | 6:30pm – 9:30pm *Dinner will be served at 7pm*

WHERE: Gaelic Park | Tara Room 6119 147th St, Oak Forest, IL

COST: \$35 for Dad and \$20 per Daughter *Option to pre-purchase a wrist corsage for \$8 on the registration form for pick up at the dance.

DRESS CODE: Red Carpet Ready

RSVP: BY TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH

Formal Dinner | Desserts | DJ | Dancing | Photobooth

Dads and daughters are also invited to attend 5pm mass prior to the dance on February 24th for a special blessing.

REGISTRATION FORMS WENT HOME IN STUDENT FOLDERS. PLEASE FILL OUT AND RETURN WITH PAYMENT BY FEBURARY 6TH.

CONTACT HALEE ALTENBURG AT 309-825-9785 OR WANDA ANTOGNOLI AT 708-270-5741 WITH ANY QUESTIONS.



An Invitation to Come and See

We believe everyone should have the chance to explore the Catholic Christian faith, ask questions and share their point of view.

Alpha is a series of sessions exploring our faith. Each talk looks at a different question and is designed to create open conversation. Dinner is included, Everyone is welcome.

Our first season will begin on Tuesday, February 20 at 7pm in Gathering Space of the JCAC - Parish Activity Center.

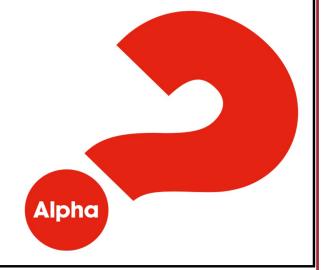
To learn more about St. Gerald Alpha or to sign up visit stgerald.com/alpha

St. Gerald Alpha

Tuesday · February 20 at 7 pm JCAC - Parish Activity Center



stgerald.com/alpha



Reading I

Job spoke, saying: Is not man's life on earth a drudgery? Are not his days those of hirelings? He is a slave who longs for the shade, a hireling who waits for his wages. So I have been assigned months of misery, and troubled nights have been allotted to me. If in bed I say, "When shall I arise?" then the night drags on; I am filled with restlessness until the dawn. My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle; they come to an end without hope. Remember that my life is like the wind; I shall not see happiness again.

Reading II

Brothers and sisters:

If I preach the gospel, this is no reason for me to boast, for an obligation has been imposed on me, and woe to me if I do not preach it! If I do so willingly, I have a recompense, but if unwillingly, then I have been entrusted with a stewardship. What then is my recompense? That, when I preach, I offer the gospel free of charge so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel. Although I am free in regard to all, I have made myself a slave to all so as to win over as many as possible. To the weak I became weak, to win over the weak. I have become all things to all, to save at least some. All this I do for the sake of the gospel, so that I too may have a share in it.

Gospel

On leaving the synagogue Jesus entered the house of Simon and Andrew with James and John. Simon's mother-in-law lay sick with a fever. They immediately told him about her. He approached, grasped her hand, and helped her up. Then the fever left her and she waited on them. When it was evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were ill or possessed by demons. The whole town was gathered at the door. He cured many who were sick with various diseases, and he drove out many demons, not permitting them to speak because they knew him Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed. Simon and those who were with him pursued him and on finding him said, "Everyone is looking for you." He told them, "Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come." So he went into their synagogues, preaching and driving out demons throughout the whole of Galilee.





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



Thursday **>** Feb. 15th, 2024 **>** 4pm - 8pm

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 CHURCH · OAK LAWN, IL

Lent Schedule 2024

A SEASON OF RENEWAL

ASH WEDNESDAY · February 14

8:30 am Mass · 5:00 pm Ash Service · 7:00 pm Mass

ALMSGIVING TO HELP OUR CARMELITE SISTERS

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 help to update the convent where our Nuns live!

STATIONS OF THE CROSS · Every Friday at 7:00 pm during Lent except Good Friday

Prayerful Stations led by our St. Gerald Ministries

Friday · Feb. 16......Fr. Stan Stuglik

Friday · Feb. 23......Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors

Friday · Mar. 1.......Holy Name Society

Friday · Mar. 8.......St. Gerald Home and School Association

Friday · Mar. 15......Religious Ed. High School Class

Friday · Mar. 22......Sister Ann and her 4th Gr Class

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Wednesday · February 21 & March 6 · 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm in Church Holy Thursday · March 28 following Mass until 11:00 pm in Church

BIBLE STUDY · Thursday · March 7 · 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm in the Parish Office

PRAY THE ROSARY OUTSIDE AT GROTTO OF MARY-The second Saturday of each month (2/10/24 & 3/9/24)

IRISH/FEAST OF ST. GERALD MASS · Saturday · March 9 · 5:00 pm mass · Children's Choir

LENTEN CONFESSIONS · Monday · March 18

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm in Church with Eucharistic Adoration (No confession Mar. 23 or Mar. 30)

PRAYER SERVICE - Thursday - April 4

Fundraiser for our Carmelite Sisters in Church (See bulletin for more details)

HOLY THURSDAY PILGRIMAGE · March 28 · 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 \cdot March 28 \cdot 8:30 am Prayer Service \cdot 7:30 pm Mass

Good Friday · March 29 · 8:30 am Prayer Service · 3:00 pm Stations of the Cross

Good Friday · March 29 · 7:30 pm Liturgy of the Passion of our Lord

Holy Saturday · March 30 · 8:30 am Prayer Service · 7:30 pm Vigil Mass

BLESSING OF EASTER FOOD & BASKETS · Saturday · March 30 at 11:30 am in Church

EASTER MASSES

Saturday · March 30 Vigil Mass at 7:30 pm

Sunday · March 31 at 8:00 am, 9:30 am and 11:00 am

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY - April 7

When Pope John Paul II canonized Sister 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 all the masses on Sunday · April 7.

ST. GERALD PARISH STAFF

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Rev. Robert Pajor	Pastor	frrpajor@stgerald.com
Rev. Stanley Stuglik	Associate Pastor	frsstuglik@stgerald.com
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Anthony Pape	Principal	apape@stgerald.com
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School Office	708-422-0121	Fax: 708-422-9216
Religious Ed Office	708-423-0458	
Convent	708-422-0280	
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