

# Our Lady at St. Germaine

Our Lady at St. Germaine Parish Center: 708-636-5060

9711 S. Kolin Avenue

Oak Lawn, Illinois 60453

St. Germaine School: 708-425-6063

July 16, 2023

15th Sunday in Ordinary



15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Whoever has ears ought to hear.”  
- Mt 13:3, 7-9

## A Letter from the Pastor

Dear Parish Family of Our Lady at St. Germaine,

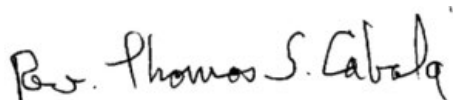
The teaching of Jesus is grounded firmly in the Jewish world of the 1st Century. For most of his listeners, that world was an agricultural one and so the stories Jesus told were about the everyday realities of peoples' lives. He told stories about vineyards, wheat fields, building houses, planting seeds and reaping harvests. The imagery he used was drawn from the lived experience of those he taught. Jesus used a style of storytelling that was popular at the time: parable. A parable is a story with a moral or a lesson. A parable teaches the listener about how to live or how to behave.

Another feature of parables is that they can be understood at different levels. At one level, there is the literal meaning of a parable – what it says is what it is about. In today's gospel, the parable of the sower can be read or heard as a literal story about sowing seed and the lesson one might take from it is to be careful where you throw the seed when sowing.

At another level, parables have a metaphoric meaning. In this instance, Jesus actually explains the symbolism of the parable to his disciples. There is a further, interpretive level of a parable where a modern reader asks, 'What has that story got to say to me here and now?' Our world is so different from the world when Christ walked the earth. But, it is the same fruit of the earth and work of human hands that comes the center of our lives in Christ.

We believe the bread and wine of the Eucharist, which we say are "the fruit of the earth and the work of human hands," are changed into Christ present among us. May these Eucharistic gifts rooted in our soil, effect in us a change that might enable us to have ears to hear the groans of God's people, who are hungry and thirsty, as we also are, for the nourishment that Christ gives us in the Eucharist; so that, we may be sowers of peace and justice, life and his love.

Sincerely,



### PARISH CENTER SUMMER HOURS

Monday –Thursday 9:00am-2:00pm

Fridays 9:00am-12:00pm

If you need assistance outside of these hours please call 708-636-5060 x200 to make arrangements.



### Prayer Shawl Ministry

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, August 16th, 10:30am until noon in the Parish Center. Looking forward to seeing everyone again and perhaps some new faces. Thank you all!!!

~Eleanor Stone

### CALENDAR SCHEDULING

**All organizations who need to reserve a meeting or event space for the upcoming July through June of 2024 should email their requests to [jenstazak@yahoo.com](mailto:jenstazak@yahoo.com) ASAP.**



**MASS INTENTIONS****Monday, July 17-Weekday**

8:30AM Mass:

Members of Our Lady at St. Germaine

**Tuesday, July 18-St. Camillus de Lellis**

8:30AM Mass:

Lorna Kendall

**Wednesday, July 19-Weekday**

7:00AM Mass: Rev. William Malloy

8:30AM Communion Service:

**Thursday, July 20-St. Apollinaris**

8:30 AM Mass:

Quentin Coughlin

**Friday, July 21-St. Lawrence of Brindisi**

8:30 AM Mass:

Jose Osorio, Winnie Weslowski,

Mr. &amp; Mrs. Wiatr

**Saturday, July 22- St. Mary Magdalene**

8:30 AM: Earl Stazak, Marilyn Wiatr

4:00 PM: Leo Aripoli, Joan C. Bissing

**Sun, July 23-16th Sun. in Ordinary Time**

7:30AM- Walter Petner,

9:30AM-Liz Pender, Arlene Brdecka

11:30AM-Joan McConville, Arlene Brdecka

**REMEMBER OUR BELOVED DEAD**

Anna Winters

Sharon Voss

**Please pray for those who are sick, their families & caregivers, including:**

David Akai, Kathe Anhalt, Michael Anhalt, Baby Leo Baker, Michael Barry, Brian Bednarski, Chris Benjamin, Virginia Bovilsky, Catherine Cotter Brady, Diane Cernivivo, Pat Cesak, Geri Chaput, Taylor Collard, Mary Connolly, Ann Contorno, Elizabeth Czajka, Jericho Jeffrey DeVivo, Marie Dillon, Emily DiPierro, Adriana Elgas, Paige Epstein, Patty Fadden, Karen Finn, Walter Furtner, Patsy Galecki, Bill Geegan, Giblin Family, Lynn Groebe, Gerardo Gonzalez, Pearl Goworowski, Peg Hansen, Kaitlyn Hedderman, Debbie Heitz, Cathy Hinz, Gina Jakelski, Robert "Mitch" Jones, Liz Kapovich, Dennis Kelsch, Garry Keller, Alvina Kita, Richard Kita, Joe Kress, Charles Lee, Kim Lewis, Ray Lynch, Eileen Carroll Lynch, Stas Maciasz, Rita Martin, Eugene Martyn, Michael Mattaliano, Raimonda Miknius, Dean Ojeda, Raul Osornio, Katherine Pape, Nicolas Rossio, Frank Roti, Guadalupe Martin Ruvalcaba, Marty Safstrom, Sharon Safstrom, Norma Salas, Devin Sanchez, Audrey Schmitz, Monica (Ranalli) Schuberth, Mary Schwappach, Phillip Scropp, Ellie Smith, Ryan Smith, Joe Smyth, Kayla Smyth, Carol Spero, Michael Stupay, Rita Daniels Suchor, Jay Szewczyk, Patty Tapia, Kimberly Thielen, Mary Ann Trop, Vickie Vertucci, Casey Wiedenski, Adrienne Wild, Susan Zak, Gussie Zawaski

**Religious Education and Formation**

**Registration is ongoing. Please register now to help us have books and supplies ready.**

**Catechists and Aides needed. If you are interested in being a catechist or an aide, please call the office.**

**Ministers' Schedule for July 22 & 23, 2023**

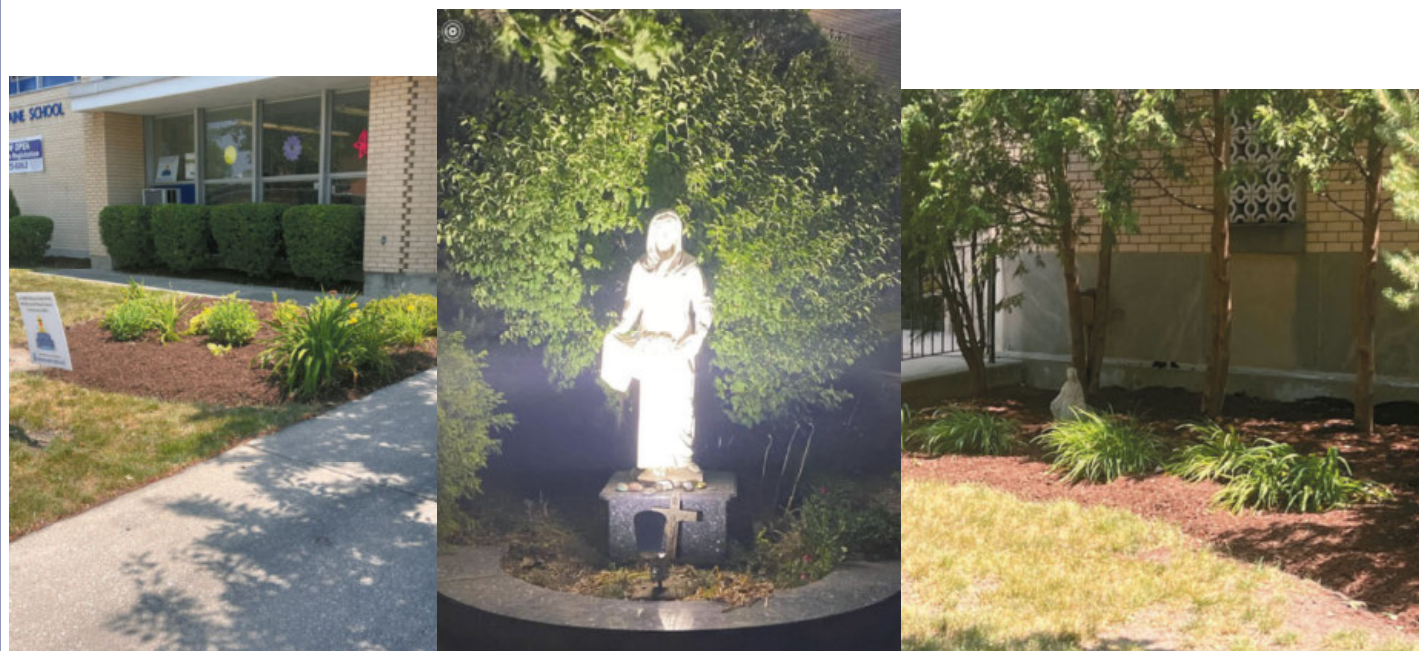
	SAT 4:00 PM	SUN 7:30 AM	SUN 9:30 AM	SUN 11:30 AM
Proclaimer	J. Pender	J. Akai	E. McDermott	S. Chimera
Eucharistic Ministers	P. Vlasis J. Tiffy	D. Clark J. Antos	D. Mayo M. Panarella	J. Maughan G. Maughan
Altar Servers				

## THANK YOU!!!

*HUGE thanks to Brian Swiatek, John Cody, Bob Finn, Jack Malone, Gene McNulty, Jim Ruzich and Jack Sullivan for the new lighting near the statues.*

*BIG thanks to The Germazing Mighty Ducks, Men's Club and Athletic Association for their donation to the first phase of redoing the landscaping around the property.*

***EVERYTHING LOOKS AMAZING!!!***



### Readings for the week of July 9, 2023

Monday: Gn 28:10-22a/Ps 91:1-2, 3-4, 14-15ab/Mt 9:18-26

Tuesday: Gn 32:23-33/ Ps 17:1b, 2-3, 6-7ab, and 15/Mt 9:32-38

Wednesday: Gn 41:55-57; 42:5-7a, 17-24a/Ps 33:2-3, 10-11, 18-19/Mt 10:1-7

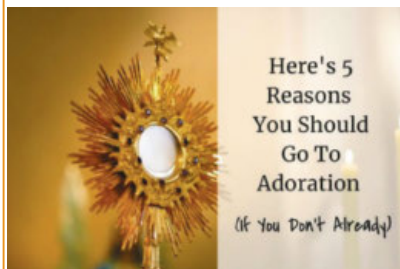
Thursday: Gn 44:18-21, 23b-29; 45:1-5/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21/Mt 10:7-15

Friday: Gn 46:1-7, 28-30/Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40/Mt 10:16-23

Saturday: Gn 49:29-32; 50:15-26a/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7/Mt 10:24-33

Next Sunday: Is 55:10-11/Ps 65:1, 11, 12-13, 14 (Luke 8:8)/Rom 8:18-23/Mt 13:1-23 or 13:1-9

**Urgent Request for Adorers!** Adoration Chapel is in need of Adorers for Tuesdays 12pm-1pm and 2pm-3pm. Please Call Fran Barba at 708-567-6119. Any help would be appreciated.



### **FEEL GOD'S LOVE FOR YOU AND GROW IN DEEPER LOVE FOR HIM**

"In the Mass and in Eucharistic Adoration we meet the merciful love of God that passes through the Heart of Jesus Christ." – St. John Paul II

Sometimes I get so caught up in taking care of my family's needs that, by the end of the day, I'm spent – wiped out, with nothing left to give anyone, let alone God. My spiritual director keeps telling me, "God favors you" or "You are His beloved daughter," but I don't really feel that in my heart. I think it's because I'm too tired to allow myself to just bask in His love for me.

When our oldest daughter, Felicity, was in religious education last year, our parish offered Eucharistic Adoration on the same evening. I would drop Felicity off and stay at church for

the next hour-and-a-half, sitting before Jesus who was exposed in love, ready to give me what I was able to receive.

At first, it was difficult. I found my thoughts wandering and was fraught with worry about all the things I "should" be doing instead. But I disciplined myself to sit before Him and just allow Him to love me. The tears would often follow – tears of exhaustion, of gratitude, of peace. If you long to be loved and filled with God's endless mercy; if you need your cup to overflow with healing and hope, then turn to Him in Eucharistic Adoration.

### **OBTAIN ETERNITY FOR TORMENTED SOULS**

"The Eucharist bathes tormented souls in light and love." – St. Bernadette Soubirous

As a grief author, I get a lot of comments about assurance of heaven for their deceased loved ones. Of course, we cannot presume to know exactly if a soul is in heaven, hell, or purgatory (unless canonized by the Church, of course), but we can turn to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament to beckon His mercy upon their souls. Many saints have written or spoken about the power of Eucharistic Adoration in obtaining salvation for tormented souls. When we reach out to Jesus by making the effort to visit Him in the many tabernacles we pass throughout our days, He responds with an outpouring of grace, especially for those who have died or are dying. While you are quietly praying, offer a Chaplet of Divine Mercy for the souls in most need, and name your deceased loved ones with each bead offered.

### **ADORATION IS POWERFUL PROTECTION AGAINST SPIRITUAL ATTACK**

"Make frequent visits to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and the devil will be powerless against you." – St. John Bosco  
It's no secret that spiritual attack intensifies as we grow closer to God. Often, when you are approaching a spiritual breakthrough or perhaps are readying yourself for a mission trip with the teens at your parish; initiating a weekly family rosary; volunteering at your local homeless shelter; or a number of other holy acts that will deepen your relationship with God, the backlash from the enemy increases. Why is this? In some cases, it's because Satan obviously wants us to fall. He knows our weak spots and problem areas, so he preys upon the areas of our life where we are making the most effort to improve or repair our love for God. Run to Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration, despite the adversary's attempts to thwart your getting there, and beg for protection against these attacks. You will regain renewed vigor to persevere through your current trials if you do.

### **HOLY HOURS STRENGTHEN FAMILY LIFE**

"Jesus has made Himself the Bread of Life to give us life. Night and day, He is there. If you really want to grow in love, come back to the Eucharist, come back to that Adoration." – St. Teresa of Calcutta

Family division is highly common in our modern era. I've never met a person who did not have some sort of strife, rift in relationships, or estrangements going on in their immediate or extended families. Obviously, we see divorce as commonplace, as well as siblings who refuse to communicate – perhaps for decades – among some of the issues facing families today. Years ago, I made a retreat with my family of origin (before I was married with my own kids), and my mom emerged from a session of spiritual direction from one of the resident priests, beaming mischievously. "Fr. Norbert told me that 'your family will be the means of your sanctification,'" she told me. I've thought about that statement off and on throughout these years, and it seems to be a universal message: God gives us each member of our family, not to annoy us or cause permanent brokenness, but instead to help us grow in holiness. Some of the most difficult people to live with are meant to give us more opportunities to practice patience, kindness, and charity.

Take your family and all its complicated troubles to Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration. He will extend the grace beyond you to all your loved ones.

### **YOU WILL GAIN PEACE AND CLARITY**

"How sweet and full of comfort are the moments spent before the Blessed Sacrament! Are you in trouble? Come and throw yourself at his feet." – St. John Vianney

Most people struggle with restlessness and confusion. Again, these are meant to be clouds of diversion from the enemy. His tactics are to lead us away from finding clarity in our mission and purpose in life by leading us to stall and stumble far before we even begin. During the many crossroads of your life, especially if they deal with major life decisions, bring every question to Eucharistic Adoration. Jesus will take each one and grant you the clarity you need – sometimes in a quiet inspiration of the heart, sometimes after you open your Bible or hear a song – but the answer will be so obvious to you that your soul will be flooded with peace. Regardless of how or when you decide to visit Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration, the key is to simply begin somewhere. It doesn't have to be entire Holy Hour right away, but start with ten or fifteen minutes and build the habit on a weekly or monthly basis. Make it a family affair and go for dinner or ice cream afterwards. Jesus is pleased with everything you give Him, no matter how small, and will bless you abundantly.



## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

*Please be generous in your support of our parish ministries and services.*

**July 9, 2023**

Sunday: \$7,858.00  
 Sunday (GIVE CENTRAL): \$3,060.00

**SUNDAY TOTAL: \$10,918.00**

\*AID ED(GIVE CENTRAL): \$30.00  
 Food Baskets: \$240.00  
 Summer Mission: \$331.00  
 Assumption: \$15.00  
 PRMAA: \$1.00  
 Peter's Pence: \$60.00  
 Aid to Education: \$25.00

\*GIVE CENTRAL & ACH ARE IN ADDITION TO REGULAR COLLECTION

## Split The Pot Drawing



Envelope number **1777** was drawn for last week's "Split the Pot" raffle. The parishioner assigned that number made at least the minimum contribution to both the Sunday and "Split the Pot" collections and is the winner of **\$3,227.50**.

Congratulations!

### MONEY MATTER TIP:

**Use a pen that contains indelible black gel ink** to write your checks. This type of ink cannot be washed away. Avoid regular blue ink or black ink pens. These contain dye-based ink that can easily be washed away.

## CAN YOU HELP??

If you are interested in helping with any special events within the Parish, we would LOVE to have you!!  
 Please call Jen at 708-636-5060 to let us know!



Thank you to the **288** donors who have started off our ***Raise the Roof*** campaign pledging **\$397,701.69!**

We continue to receive pledge cards in the mail and will keep you updated on how successful this campaign is.  
 Thank you for your sacrifice and generosity.

Can you help us raise the roof?

## FOOD PANTRY

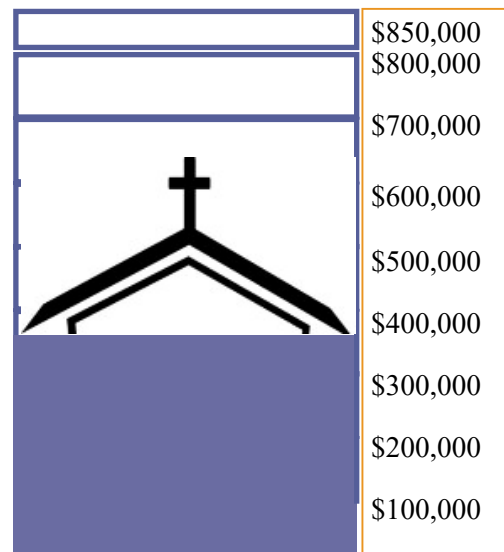
Needed this month....

Pasta-Roni, Rice-a-Roni, Boxes of Pasta, Creamette, Rigatoni, Soup, Ramen, Pasta Sauce, Jelly, Canned Fruit, Chili, Stew, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Cleaning Supplies and Gift Cards



**We Appreciate You!!**

**THANK YOU FOR ALWAYS HELPING US HELP OTHERS**



## ***HAVE YOU TRIED THE MANNA PROGRAM?***

The Manna Program is one of the school's most successful fundraisers. Families that participate purchase gift cards from local vendors who rebate a portion of the purchase price to the school. For example, if a family purchases a \$100 Jewel card, they receive the full \$100. Jewel rebates about 4% to the school (\$4.00). So that rebate of 4% then gets split between the school and the family. That can be used for tuition for School, Religious Education or high school tuition. Even if you try using it for groceries and gas, it would help out! The beauty of the program is that it provides "free money" from sources outside of the parish with no extra expenses to anyone. During the 2021-2022 school year, the total rebates from all vendors was \$25,860.00.



Manna certificates are sold throughout the summer from 9:00am until 12:00pm in the school office on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays. The office will be closed the week of July 4<sup>th</sup>. The program is open to everyone in the parish and provides a huge support to the school budget. For more information, contact the school office at 708-425-6063.

There is a Manna order form on the website that you can fill out, drop at church with a check and schedule a pick up.

## **CHRISTMAS IN JULY**

Each Christmas, we sponsor our Families in Need Project through our "Marion Tree". Each year, many people at Our Lady at St. Germaine are so generous to our families. Unfortunately, so many of our families are in need every day of the year that we are asking for your kindness once more.

This year has flown by and many are still struggling. This time of year brings the thoughts of back to school and extra expenses with Fall and Winter coming. Many families are still struggling with loss of jobs or cuts in paychecks.



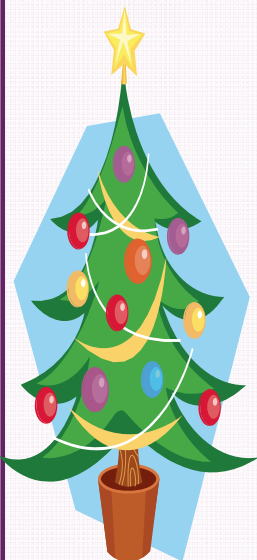
This year we will help many parish and neighborhood families who need a little help to get by along with the homeless. We ask that if you have any gift cards that can be used for groceries, household supplies, clothing, prescriptions, back to school supplies, fast food places or gas cards to be handed to any of those in need, to please do so.

Any donations can be put in an envelope marked with "Christmas in July" and put in the collection basket or can be brought to the Parish Center.

Because the Family of Our Lady at St. Germaine is always so generous, we are hoping that you will be able to help these families. Remember, when we help each other, we are helping Jesus himself.

If you would like more information about any specific family's' and their needs, or know of a family who needs assistance, please call us at the Parish Center (636-5060 x200).

Please keep these families in your prayers. Thank you in advance for your generous support always.



**ATTENTION:  
ALL ORGANIZATIONS**

As we begin to “clean up” for summer. We ask that you go through any and all storage areas and help us stay organized.

We ask that you take inventory of what you have and need. Then please label all boxes and containers “7/23” and initial who cleaned up.

If you have “community supplies” please label.

*Does your child need a tutor?*

*The St. Germaine School  
teachers are offering tutoring  
over the summer.*

*If you are interested, please call  
the School office at  
708-425-6063.*

Germazing Race  
Save the Date

October 21, 2023

Stay tuned for the most up  
to date information!



**PERPETUAL NOVENA TO ST. RITA OF CASCIA**

***“Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.”  
- 2 Corinthians 3:17***

**Join us for the monthly Perpetual Novena to St. Rita of Cascia on  
Thursday, July 6, 2023 at 7:00p.m.**

All are invited to the next monthly St. Rita of Cascia Novena Mass to be held **Thursday, July 6, 2023** at the St. Rita of Cascia Shrine Chapel, 7740 S. Western Avenue, Chicago, IL. Confession is available at 6:00 p.m. Mass and novena prayers will begin at 7:00p.m. Stay after mass to enjoy a slice of the famous Racine Danish Kringle and socialize with new friends. Secure and ample parking is available. Visit our website at [stritashrinechicago.com](http://stritashrinechicago.com) for more information.



# Fall House Crawl

SIGN-UP TO-



SATURDAY, AUGUST 26  
5:30PM

DON'T MISS OUT!!

SIGN UP NOW FOR FUN FILLED NIGHT TO MEET  
NEIGHBORS, FRIENDS AND OUR PARISH COMMUNITY!

\$50 per person (by July 31st)

\$65 per person (Aug 1-16th)

*Includes goody bag, beer, seltzer, signature drink  
at each house & food*

*To Pay drop off at Parish Center or in collection basket.*

Sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080C4FACA92CA7FE3-house>

Return this sheet to school or Parish Center

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# of Guests: \_\_\_\_\_

Email : \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_



## Car Show

The Knights of Columbus Council #14553 is having its 2nd Annual Car Show on **Saturday, September 16th, 2023**, at Our Lady at St Germaine

Rain Date will be September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023.

This is a judged show, trophies will be awarded.

*Fee: \$20.00*

*Check in time 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM*

*Judging starts at 11:30 AM*

*Show Time 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM*

*Awards given at 2:00 PM*

Free spectator admission. Food and beverages will be available for sale.

Proceeds will go to Knights of Columbus charities including intellectually disabled people, food for homeless & single parent families in need.

Car show chairman Mike Waters

For more information call Darin Widmer at (708) 297-7626

McDonald's Presents...

# Fries with a Firefighter!



### WHERE?

McDonald's, 10533 S. Cicero, Oak Lawn

### WHEN?

Sunday, July 23, 2023

11:00 am - 1:00 pm

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- ✓ **FIRETRUCK TOUR**
- ✓ **FREE GIVEAWAYS**
- ✓ **FUN FOR ALL AGES**



## OUR LADY AT ST. GERMAINE PARISH

### ST. GERMAINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

9711 S. Kolin Avenue Oak Lawn Illinois

Parish Office: 708-636-5060 Fax: 708-636-8007

School Office: 708-425-6063

Parish Center Hours:

Monday—Thursday 9:00am ~ 2:30pm

Friday 9:00am-12:00pm

Website: [ourladyatstgermaine.org](http://ourladyatstgermaine.org)

#### WEEKDAY MASS:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday: 8:30AM Mass  
Wednesday: 7:00AM Mass, 8:30AM Communion Service

#### WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturday: 4:00 PM; Sunday: 7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM

**RECONCILIATION:** Saturday from 2:45-3:30 PM

#### ADORATION CHAPEL:

Tuesdays 9-6pm, Wednesdays 9-8pm, Thursdays 9-6pm

#### Welcome to Our Lady at St. Germaine Parish!

To register in the parish, or for information about any of our organizations, ministries, services, or educational opportunities, please call the Parish Center at 636-5060.

BAPTISMS— Call Parish Center to schedule.

Fr. Thomas S. Cabala

Jack Malone

Joe Gonzalez

Frank Mamolella

Amy Condon

Philip O'Rourke

Marianne Powers

Sr. Regina DeVitto CND

Dan Arens

Casey Wiedenski (636-6647)

Nancy Dunne

Molly O'Grady (636-8001)

Jen Stazak

Bulletin Editor

Pastor

Senior Deacon, Prison Ministry

Permanent Deacon

Permanent Deacon

Operations Director

School Principal

Director of Children's Faith Formation

Liturgy & Worship

Liturgy & Music

Minister of Care

Minister of Care

COURAGE

Office Manager

[jenstazak@yahoo.com](mailto:jenstazak@yahoo.com)

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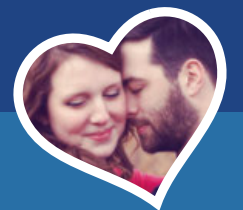
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