



September/October, 2019 Newsletter



BRINGING THE GOSPEL TO ELBURN DAYS

This year we did something that we never did before at our annual Elburn Days town festival. From Friday through Sunday **St. Gall had a booth** among the other “non-food commercial” organizations. We were not really selling anything. **We were just trying to give out the Gospel for free.**

Our set up was pretty simple. We had a table with a beautiful tall crucifix displayed. We had a shoe box with a slot cut out as our prayer intention box. We had a big bright orange sign with the words “NEED PRAYER?” emblazoned on it. Another sign said: “WE WILL PRAY FOR YOUR INTENTIONS EVERY THURSDAY FOR A YEAR” (Thursday being our weekly day of Eucharistic adoration in the church).

Our approach was simple. We smiled at people walking by and invited them to come write down a prayer intention and place it in the box. There were no strings attached and no commitment needed.

We did have some literature about Catholic teaching in case anyone had questions or wanted to learn more. We were prepared to share our own experiences of faith in Jesus if the conversation and the Holy Spirit opened up the door. We did not, however, wave pamphlets in people’s faces or aggressively try to debate or “convert” anyone (only the Lord can convert a soul). If someone came to the table to write a prayer intention we also casually asked if they would like a free rosary or a little card that gave them some easy steps on how to pray. In many cases, conversations about faith, church, and prayer followed.

How did people respond? Very positively! Because we assumed a friendly and no-pressure posture, a lot of people looked at our booth with curiosity and felt safe to come closer. Many people made comments like, “this is such a good idea!” and “I love this!” A Polish Catholic woman from St. Charles delighted at seeing a crucifix on display at the fair. On Friday night we had one man, let’s call him “Joseph,” who came up to our booth. He was struggling with some things in his personal life. He was suffering from loneliness and a lack of community. Our Deacon-candidate Greg Farrell spoke to Joseph for a good thirty minutes while I and a couple other parishioners greeted and engaged others fair-goers. Once Greg’s shift was over Joseph also talked to me. I could tell that Joseph needed someone to listen to him. He needed to know that someone cared about him. His father is Catholic and Joseph was baptized Catholic but not raised in the Faith. I tried to encourage him and let him know that he would be welcome to visit us at St. Gall. He said that he would. Finally, I prayed for him out loud and gave him a blessing. Would you believe that he actually showed up for the 10:30am Mass on Sunday? He had a good experience and says that he will be back. I told him that I would help him prepare for Confirmation and First Communion if he wanted.

We received 110 prayer intentions! We had many other conversations that weekend. We talked with a woman who is not Catholic but is married to a Catholic and is trying to give their daughter greater exposure to the Catholic faith—we talked about our youth ministry offerings. We talked with a lot of practicing Catholics from various parishes, but also more than a few non-practicing Catholics. We talked with Christians who attend Protestant communities like Christ Community. Even young children, middle-schoolers, and teens came up to our booth!

Of course, we had many people also just look at our booth and keep walking. Some smiled and returned a friendly “hello.” Some smirked and snickered and made jokes among their friends about needing prayer. Some averted their gaze. I was surprised with how comfortable I was even with the light rejection. It was not a big deal. If Our Lord Jesus was not accepted by everyone why would we think that we should be spared rejection? Perhaps the most surprising thing was to hear that a couple *practicing Catholics* thought that our prayer tent was “weird.” I heard that one Catholic likened what we were doing to the Jehovah’s Witnesses! The Jehovah’s Witnesses certainly have many strange and heretical beliefs. They are famous for going door-to-door and passing out literature in order to win people to their sect. Is it wrong for Catholics to try to publicly share our faith simply because some strange sects also try to share their religion in public? Evangelization is good and necessary, if done in the right way.

Maybe as Catholics we have not been raised to speak about faith and prayer in public. Maybe we were taught that religion is a private thing. The reality is that *every* Catholic is called to cultivate an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ through prayer, the study of Scripture, the reception of the sacraments, and community life, and worship at Mass. **Every Catholic needs to get comfortable talking about their faith with other people**—most especially with their spouse, children, grandchildren, relatives and friends. Gone are the days when we can just have our children go to Catholic school or religious education classes, see them through First Communion and Confirmation, and expect them to remain Catholic. The culture that we live in is hostile to Christianity, in general, and Catholicism, in particular. We need to find a way to evangelize, to share the Good News of salvation in Jesus Christ by talking about our personal experience of Jesus and by inviting others to prayer and to Mass. We need to model what it looks like to live the life of a disciple of Jesus Christ—even though we are all imperfect sinners. We need to be authentic witnesses to the Christian life for the next generation. **If we do not do that then we should not be surprised when we see more and more of our children and grandchildren fall away from the Catholic faith and never come back.**

You might ask, “but Father! It is awkward to talk about my faith! I never learned how to do that. I don’t know my faith well enough. I might get rejected!” Whatever our excuses are we need to get over them. We need to rededicate ourselves to knowing our Faith, living it, and sharing it. **We talk a lot about the need to evangelize these days. We need to do less talking about it and actually get out in the public square and start to do it!** We will be doing more things like this in the future.

I want to thank all the volunteers who staffed the booth at different times. We will definitely be back next year!

God bless,
Fr. DiTomo

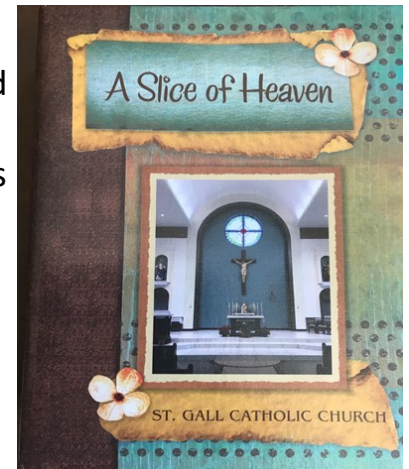




Summer/Fall Events

The Saint Vincent de Paul Society has been very active lately including a sidewalk table for Elburn Days on August 16th, Venturing Crew Pancake Breakfast after both morning Masses on Sunday, August 25th. Upcoming events include a 7:30 pm Mass to celebrate St. Vincent de Paul founder Blessed Frederic Ozanam on his feast day, September 9th and Annual Walk for the Poor on Saturday, September 28th.

Elburn Days. Hope you stopped by our SVdP sidewalk table to find out more about our mission to serve the poor and to pick up your copy of the St. Gall *"A Slice of Heaven Cookbook"*. The Cookbook is also available for \$18 at the parish office, the Old Second Bank in Elburn across from Jewel, and Old Second Bank in Wasco. Checks should be made payable to the Saint Vincent de Paul Society. The Cookbook makes a great gift for local friends and family!



Venturing Crew Pancake Breakfast: The Venturing Crew and Saint Vincent de Paul Society had their Fall Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, August 25th after the Sunday morning Masses. Ream's sausage was served with the best pancakes around. It's fun to work with the Venturing Crew on this fundraiser. We look forward to our next pancake breakfast!

St. Gall Church Mass for Those in Need: St. Vincent de Paul's service to the poor put into action Christ's desire that we serve those in need. "Bear one another's burdens, and thereby fulfill the law of Christ." (Galatians 6: 2). We'll celebrate the feast day of St. Vincent de Paul's founder Blessed Frederic Ozanam on Monday, September 9th, with a 7:30 pm Mass. Vincentians from other parishes are expected to attend. Come join us.

Walk for the Poor: Our annual Walk for the Poor fundraiser is on Saturday, September 28th, at the Fabyan Forest Preserve, 1925 S. Batavia Avenue in Geneva. The walk begins at 9:00 am and ends at 11:00 am. To register or donate, go to www.fopwalk.org, select Illinois, then SOUTHEAST DISTRICT FOP WALK, and then St. Gall. Thank you for supporting the poor through your donation.



Relevant Radio 950 AM
Radio 930 AM/1270 AM
www.relevantradio.com
Download the FREE App!
More information at: relevantradio.com/APP. Tune in for encouragement, uplifting stories and answers to faith questions. Relevant Radio offers dynamic programming from a Catholic perspective.

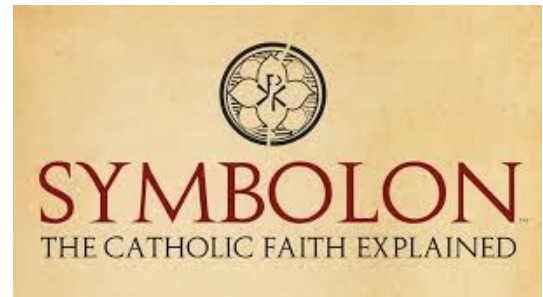
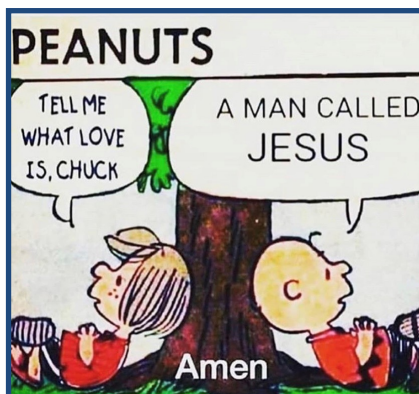


Eternal Word Television Network is a global television network which presents around-the-clock Catholic-themed programming and news coverage. Go to www.ewtn.com

to find your TV channel. Click on EWTN Faith Factory for Kids. Click on EWTN Kids Village Program Schedule Meet the Characters Get your kids involved.



Formed provides access to the best Catholic audio talks, movies, ebooks, and video-based studies from trusted providers like Augustine Institute, Ignatius Press, Catholic Answers and more. Just type in your web browser st.gall.formed.org and sign up for free. Catholic faith on demand. GET FORMED!



For all men in our Parish! Our monthly meetings for the Fall will begin:

Saturday
September 14th at 6:00 AM

We will be using the Symbolon program instead of the That Man is You program. Join us as we use the Symbolon video program which will take us through the basics of the faith, what the Church teaches and how to apply it to our lives. Contact Greg Ferrell at: greg@stgall.com for more information.

St. Gall 2019

Pictorial Directory



We are happy to announce that the 2019 pictorial directory will arrive in mid September. All parishioners who had their picture taken will receive a complimentary copy. Thank you to all who

helped make this happen. Each one of you is amazing and we are confident that the new directory will unite us as we shine for Jesus

Free Blood Pressure Screening

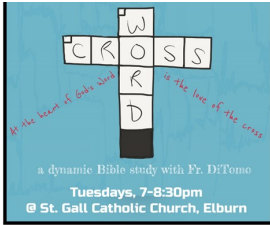
Come to a free blood pressure screening. Have your blood pressure checked. Learn how to monitor and control your blood pressure. Gain helpful insights on living a heart healthy lifestyle. The American Heart Association's new guidelines for healthy **blood pressure** levels will be followed. Please note that the purpose of this event is not diagnostic and should not replace your physicians' recommendations.

Date: Sunday, October 6, 2019

Time: After 8:30 and 10:30 am masses

Registration not required

Open to adults 18 and older



Fr. DiTomo's
CrossWord Bible
Study is BACK with
a new study!

“Lectio: Eucharist” from Formed. This is a wonderful Bible Study that examines where we find the Mass in the Old Testament and the New Testament! “The Lamb of God,” “The Bread of Life,” “The Body and the Blood of Christ” These are phrases we know from the Mass. But do we understand what they mean in the greater and deeper context of Scripture and Church teaching? Join us to discover firsthand how Christ’s body and Blood are an integral and wondrous part of God’s plan for our salvation.

Never done a Bible study before? No worries! All you need to bring is your Bible. Newcomers welcome!



TUESDAY EVENINGS

7:00-8:15 PM

Rooms 5-6 in the Church

The Bible Study will include the following sessions:

- 9/10 - Session 1: Source and Summit (Introducing the Eucharist)
- 9/17-Session 2: In The Beginning (Garden of Eden and Sacrifice)
- 9/24-Session 3: Lamb of God (Sacrifice of Isaac and the Passover Lamb)
- 10/1-Session 4: Miracles of Exodus (Manna and Water)
- 10/8-Session 5: Mysteries of the Tabernacle (The Bread of the Presence)
- 10/22-Session 6: Miracles of Jesus (Water, Wine, and Loaves, and Fish)
- 10/29-Session 7: Bread of Life Discourse (John 6 and the Real Presence)
- 11/19-Session 8: The Last Supper and the Cross (The New Passover of Christ)
- 11/26-Session 9: The Mass (Emmaus and the Mystery of the Eucharist)
- 12/3-Session 10: Revelation (Heavenly Worship and the End of Time)

St. Gall Men's Mini-Retreat

Friday, September 27

In a world where there is more and more confusion about what it means to be a man...in a culture shaped by #metoo and opposition to “toxic masculinity”...what is TRUE masculinity and how do we live it? Join us for this thought-provoking evening. More details to come.

St. Gall Men's Mini-Retreat

“Reclaiming Manhood”

with Fr. Beekman
Pastor, St. Mary, Sycamore

-dinner & drinks
-inspiring talk
-fraternity with
other men

**Friday,
September 27
6-8pm**

RSVP: greg@stgall.com

ST. GALL CATHOLIC CHURCH - ELBURN, IL
www.stgall.com

Ladies R & R Event (Reflect & Rejoice)

SAVE THE DATE

Come and enjoy an evening of song and inspiration with Paula Sentovich on **Friday, October 25th** from 7:00-9:00 PM

“You Are Beloved”

ST. GALL CATHOLIC CHURCH - ELBURN, IL

**Ladies' R&R
(Reflect & Rejoice)
Friday
October 25
7-9pm
Paula
Sentovich**

an evening of song and inspiration with **Sentovich**



SEPTEMBER

SCHEDULED EVENTS



- Sept. 1 **LABOR DAY WEEKEND**
 Sept. 2 **OFFICE CLOSED Happy Labor Day!**
 7:00 PM Rosary for Life
 Sept. 3 8:00 PM AA Meeting (Rms 5-6)
 Sept. 4 4:30 PM F.F. Grades 1-4
 6:00 PM F.F. Grades 5-6
 Sept. 5 9:00 AM Little Lambs
 7:30AM-9:00PM ADORATION
 Sept. 6
 Sept. 7 8:30 AM Mass
 9:00 AM Art & Environment
 9:15 AM Carpool to Planned Parenthood
 9:00 AM St. Gall Community Service Days
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- Sept. 8 8:30 AM LOWC & Joyful Sunday(Pre-6)
 5:00 PM Mass and Confirmation (Gr 7-8)
 5:00 PM Curriculum Night
 6:00 PM Middle School Youth Group Meeting
 Sept. 9 7:00 PM Rosary for Life
 Sept. 10 9:30 AM Tuesday Morning Bible Study
 7:00 PM Crossword Bible Study
 "Lectio: Eucharist"
 8:00 PM AA Meeting (Rms 5-6)
 Sept. 11 4:30 PM FF Grades 1-4
 6:00 PM FF Grades 5-6
 7:00 PM Building and Grounds Mtg (Rm 8)
 Sept. 12 7:30 AM-9:00 PM ADORATION
 9:00 AM Little Lambs
 6:00 PM Corbella Banquet
 7:00 PM St. Vincent dePaul Mtg(Rm 7)
 Sept. 13
 Sept. 14 6:00 AM St. Gall Men's Group
 9:00 AM Art & Environment
 Catechetical Weekend
 K of C Tootsie Roll Drive
-
- Sept. 15 8:30 AM Commissioning of Catechist
 Catechetical Sunday
 8:30 AM LOWC (Pre-6)
 10:30 AM Mass and First Reconciliation
 Family Retreat
 6:00 PM Middle School Youth Group
 K of C Tootsie Roll Drive
 Sept. 16 7:00 PM Rosary for Life
 Sept. 17 9:30 AM Tuesday Morning Bible Study
 7:00 PM Crossword Bible Study
 8:00 PM AA Meeting (Rms 5-6)
 Sept. 18 5:30 PM Catechist In Service (Rms 1-4)
 6:30 PM Respect for Life Meeting
 No FF Classes
 Sept. 19 7:30 AM-9:00 PM ADORATION
 9:00 AM Little Lambs
 7:00 PM Pastoral Council Mtg (Breakroom)
 7:00 PM Venturing Crew Committee Mtg
 Sept. 20
 Sept. 21 6:00 AM St. Gall's Men's Group
 7:30 AM Holy Hill Parish Pilgrimage
 Food Pantry "Pick Up" Slips

- Sept.22 8:30 AM LOWC & Joyful Sunday (Pre-6)
 5:00 PM Confirmation (Gr 7-8)
 Food Pantry "Pick Up" Slips
 Sept. 23 6:00 PM Altar Rosary Society Mtg (Rms 1-4)
 7:00 PM Rosary for Life
 Sept. 24 9:30 AM Tuesday Morning Bible Study
 7:00 PM Project 5:41(Narthex)
 7:00 PM Fr. DiTomo's Crossword Bible Study
 8:00 PM AA Meeting (Rms 5-6)
 Sept. 25 4:30 PM FF Grades 1-4 (Adoration)
 6:00 PM FF Grades 5-6 (Adoration)
 Sept. 26 7:30 AM-9:00 PM ADORATION
 9:00 AM Little Lambs
 Sept. 27 6:00-9:00 PM St. Gall Men's Mini-Retreat
 Sept. 28 6:00 AM St. Gall's Men's Group
 9:00 AM Art & Environment
 9:00 AM SVdP Friends Walk for the Poor
 Catechist Blitz @ St. Mary, DeKalb Level 1
 Food Pantry "Return Items"
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- Sept. 29 **DONUT SUNDAY**
 8:30 AM LOWC (Pre-6)
 6:00 PM High School Youth Group
 Food Pantry "Return Items"
 Sept. 30 7:00 PM Rosary for Life



September 2019

Sun	Mo	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					



OCTOBER SCHEDULED EVENTS



- Oct. 1 9:30 AM Tuesday Morning Bible Study
7:00 PM Fr. DiTomo Crossword Bible Study
8:00 PM AA Meeting (Rms 5-6)
- Oct. 2 4:30 PM FF Grades 1-4
6:00 PM FF Grades 5-6
- Oct. 3 7:30 AM-9:00 PM ADORATION
9:00 AM Little Lambs
- Oct. 4
- Oct. 5 6:00 AM St. Gall's Men's Group
9:00 AM Art & Environment
9:15 AM Carpool to Planned Parenthood
10:00 AM Pet Blessing
- Oct. 6 8:30 AM LOWC & Joyful Sunday (Pre-6)
1:30 PM Rosary for Life Chain
2:00 PM Nation-Wide Life Chain
5:00 PM Mass and Confirmation (Gr 7-8)
- Oct. 7 7:00 PM Rosary for Life
- Oct. 8 9:30 AM Tuesday Morning Bible Study
7:00 PM Fr. DiTomo Crossword Bible Study
8:00 PM AA Meeting
- Oct. 9 4:30 PM FF Grades 1-4
6:00 PM FF Grades 5-6
Encounter Club
7:00 PM Finance Council Mtg
- Oct. 10 7:30 AM-9:00 PM ADORATION
9:00 AM Little Lambs
7:00 PM St. Vincent DePaul Mtg (Rm 8)
- Oct. 11
- Oct. 12 6:00 AM St. Galls Men's Group
9:00 AM Art & Environment
9:00 AM High School Youth Group
(Starve Rock)
DIOCESAN MISSION APPEAL
- Oct. 13 6:00 PM High School Youth Group Mtg
DIOCESAN MISSION APPEAL
- Oct. 14 7:00 PM Rosary for Life
- Oct. 15 9:30 AM Tuesday Morning Bible Study
8:00 PM AA Meeting
- Oct. 16 St. Gall Feast Day!
No FF Classes
6:00 PM Mass with Reception to follow
6:30 PM Respect for Life Mtg
- Oct. 17 7:30 AM-9:00 PM ADORATION
9:00 AM Little Lambs
7:00 PM Pastoral Council (Breakroom)
7:00 PM Venturing Crew Committee Mtg.
- Oct. 18
- Oct. 19 6:00 AM St. Galls Men's Group
9:00 AM Art & Environment
Food Pantry "Pick Up" Slips
- Oct. 20 8:30 AM LOWC & Joyful Sunday (Pre-6)
5:00 PM Mass and Confirmation Grades 7-8
Food Pantry "Pick Up" Slips
- Oct. 21 7:00 PM Rosary for Life
7:00 PM Project 5:41
7:30 PM Heaven's Children Mass
- Oct. 22 9:30 AM Tuesday Morning Bible Study
7:00 PM Fr. DiTomo Crossword Bible Study
8:00 PM AA Meeting

- Oct. 24 7:30 AM-9:00PM ADORATION
9:00 AM Little Lambs
- Oct. 25 7:00 PM Ladies R & R
- Oct. 26 6:00 AM St. Galls Men's Group
9:00 AM Art & Environment
7:00 PM Feed My Starving Children-Parish Event
Food Pantry "Return Items"
- Oct. 27 **DONUT SUNDAY**
8:30 LOWC(Pre-6)
Food Pantry "Return Items"
- Oct. 28 7:00 PM Rosary for Life
- Oct. 29 9:30 AM Tuesday Morning Bible Study
7:00 PM Fr. DiTomo Crossword Bible Study
8:00 PM AA Meeting
- Oct. 30 4:30 PM FF Grades 1-4
4:30 PM Saints Parade for Grades 1-4
6:00 PM FF Grades 5-6
- Oct. 31 7:30 AM-9:00PM ADORATION



9:00

AM Little Lambs



October, 2019

Sun	Mo	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Faith Formation For Pre-K to 12th Grade 2019-2020

Catechists, Aides and Volunteers are needed for Fall!

Please consider teaching our children in the new school year. Not only will you help grow *their* faith, *your* faith will be enriched, too!

Volunteers are needed for office help and class prep. We need more **Outdoor/Safety Volunteers** to ensure parking lot safety for classes. Maybe you could be a Substitute Catechist?

Catechists needed:

JOYFUL SUNDAYS Grade 3 & 4 (8:30-11:30am)
Wednesday Grade 6 (6:00-7:30pm)

Catechist Aides needed:

Wednesday Grade 1 (4:30-5:45pm)

Like to cook or bake?

We need food coordinators and donations for the new family program JOYFUL SUNDAYS and Gr.7-8 Confirmation classes 2x a month. Sunday mornings include a light breakfast following the 8:30am Mass. Confirmation includes a light potluck dinner following the 5:00pm Mass. Contact Donna Doherty at donna@stgall.com to find out how you can help! Drop off cookies or muffins on Saturday or Sunday. See our calendar for dates



Eucharistic Adoration

September 25 and October 9
5:30-5:45pm and 6:00-6:30pm
During Wednesday classes!
Families are welcome to join us!

Adoration will be during the Wednesday classes again this year.

Everyone is invited to join Grades 1-6 once a month on Wednesdays in Church to spend a little time with our Lord.

Need a little peace?

Liturgy of the Word for Children (LOWC)

LOWC is for Pre-K to 1st Grade during the Sunday 8:30am Mass! No LOWC on September 1 for the holiday weekend.

CONTEST

Children's Bulletins are available before all Masses for Ages 3-6 and 7-12! Just ask an usher for a bulletin with games and puzzles based on the Sunday Gospel.



Contest! Put your completed children's bulletins in the box in the Parish Library to enter and win a Bible or other prizes! First drawing is September 25!

What's going on in Faith Formation?

Calendar: www.stgall.com—Faith Formation

Facebook: [St. Gall Faith Formation Facebook Page](#)

First Day of Class

Wednesday classes began on August 21.

Parent meetings for JOYFUL SUNDAYS and CONFIRMATION are held during the first day of class on September 8.

One parent should attend class with their student. Meet your Catechists at the beginning of class with your student. Students will go to class. Parents stay for the remainder of class time for a meeting. There will be information, signup sheets and time for questions. If you miss it, please schedule a time with Donna Doherty to be sure you have all necessary information.

JOYFUL SUNDAYS—Grades PK-6 **September 8—8:30-11:30am**

Our family program begins with the 8:30am Mass and includes a light potluck breakfast. Bring a dish to pass!

Confirmation Grades 7-8 **September 8—5:00-8:00pm**

This program begins with the 5:00pm Mass to prepare for this important Sacrament and includes a light potluck dinner. Bring a dish to pass!

It's not too late to register!

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

Grade 2—First Reconciliation Family Retreat

September 15—10:30am-2:00pm

Our retreat begins with the 10:30am Mass, includes a spaghetti lunch and activities. 2nd grade students attend with a parent. Siblings are welcome. Please register so we know how much food to have and in order to provide childcare for siblings.

Grades 5-6—Encounter Club

Our first Club meeting is **October 9** during class with Mass! These are large group youth ministry experiences with our Youth Minister with prayer and activities for both grades. Mass is from 6:00-6:30pm. Families are invited!

Other Events

Pet Blessing—October 5

10:00am

Life Chain—October 6

1:30-3:30pm

Feed My Starving Children

October 26 from 11:30am-1:30pm

Register at fmsc.org—St. Gall Faith Group

FMSM Log-in or Register:

<https://tinyurl.com/y24qfcax>

Location: Aurora

Join Code:

GVD5PL



STAY WITH US

Don't miss your Commissioning at Mass on Sunday, September 15 at 8:30am Mass. Catechists, Aides and Volunteers will receive a blessing during Mass!

This year, the Church will celebrate Catechetical Sunday on September 15, 2019. The 2019 theme will be **"Stay with Us."** Those who the Community has designated to serve as catechists will be called forth to be commissioned for their ministry. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith.

St. Gall Faith Formation Scripture Focus:
Rejoice with me because I have found my lost sheep. **Luke 15:17**

Bishop Robert Barron's Welcome Message:

We live in an increasingly secularized society, which powerfully influences our young people, often compelling them to leave the Church altogether. The 2018 Saint Mary's Press study, *The Dynamics of Disaffiliation in Young Catholics*, includes extensive research on young Catholics who have left the church. One of their most alarming findings was that youth stop identifying as Catholics at a median age of 13 for reasons ranging from disbelief to dissatisfaction with Church teaching.

Sociologist Christian Smith, renowned for his investigation of the phenomenon of disaffiliation, notes that many of the young people who have stopped identifying as Catholics tended to have "weak signs of attachment to the church" in the first place. In other words, they were not formed very well in the faith.

At the same time, we have signs of hope. I was blessed to participate in the Vatican's October 2018 Synod of Bishops on young people, the faith, and vocational discernment", which found that young people who end religious practice do not necessarily end their spiritual desire. The church must walk with young people and their families, listen to them with attention and love, and then be ready intelligently to give a reason for the hope that is within us.

Our resources this year are aimed on assisting the many dedicated faithful in their outreach to as missionary disciples particularly to the disaffiliated. Under our theme, Stay with Us, we have produced a variety of articles, videos and podcasts focusing on the encounter, and accompaniment which builds a community that then sends forth as missionary disciples. In his recent Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation, *Christus Vivit!* Pope Francis reminds us that in addition to doctrine and morality *"It is likewise important that it have two main goals. One is the development of the kerygma, the foundational experience of encounter with God through Christ's death and resurrection. The other is growth in fraternal love, community life and service... All Christian formation consists of entering more deeply into the kerygma and incarnating it ever more fully in our lives. (213-214)*

May our lives be an imitation of Jesus' encounter with the two disciples on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35) and accompany those entrusted to us into full community and discipleship.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop Robert Barron, Chairman

Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Find out more—

UNITED CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

www.usccb.org—Stay With Us

We are a missionary Church. Jesus defined the Church as missionary through His Great Commission when He said, "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations..."

(Matthew 28:19). This is our missionary mandate. It is who we are. Pope Francis puts it succinctly: "What would happen if we were to take these words seriously? We would realize that missionary outreach is *paradigmatic for all the Church's activity*" (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 15). Elsewhere he succinctly states: "The Church is herself a missionary disciple..." (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 40).

Clearly mission territory is everywhere, but one particular group that demands our attention today is the "Nones," the rapidly growing group of people who choose not to affiliate with formal religion. In fact, recent studies have identified this group as the fastest growing religious demographic in America.

Pope Francis calls us "to go forth from our own comfort zone in order to reach all the 'peripheries' in need of the light of the Gospel" (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 20).

On Mission to the Nones – The Leadership Conversion and the Call to Disciple-Making

Rich Harter, Director of New Evangelization & Marriage and Family Life—Milwaukee Archdiocese

Catechist In-Service—St. Gall (no regular classes)

**WED, September 18
5:30-7:30pm**

How can we prepare our students to understand their faith and be able to talk about it? We will discuss ways to incorporate the Catechetical Theme from the USCCB, upcoming events and projects, learn and pray. Earn 2 hours Continuing Education credit! RSVP! Bring your Bible and CCC along with a snack to share!

Catechist Blitz—3 Level 1 Classes Saturday, September 28 St. Mary, DeKalb from 9am-2:15pm

9:00-10:30am—**Sacramental Life of the Church**—Cindy Vincent, Regional Director
10:30-12:00pm—**Understanding Scripture**
12:00-12:45pm—Lunch
12:45 - 2:15pm—**Moral Life and Decision Making**—Classes with Donna Doherty, Dir. of Faith Formation
To register, email to donna@stgall.com

ST. GALL YOUTH MINISTRY

ENCOUNTER JESUS FORGE RELATIONSHIP SEEK HOLINESS

Middle and High School Small Groups launching THIS MONTH!

St. Gall Youth Ministry is running small groups based off of the same model that was used in the young life of Pope John Paul II. When he was a teenager, he met with a group of people the same age group, and same gender, regularly, and they were mentored by a member of their community. The majority of the boys in that small group went on to be priests in occupied Poland during WWII! We want teens to know Jesus. We can see the fruit of intentionally following Jesus in a small group setting through the life of JP II.

Our small groups will meet two or three times a month, in the homes of the group members, or out in the community (wherever is most convenient for the group). Mentors will lead discussions based off of material given by the youth ministry office. Our goal is to help teens lean into discipleship and authentic relationship with their peers, and Jesus; we want everyone in Heaven.

Interested? Sign your teens up today!

Email: katie@stgall.com

Or call: 815.761.5496



ST. JOHN PAUL THE GREAT

"I plead with you--never, ever give up on hope, never doubt, never tire, and never become discouraged. Be not afraid."

FALL EVENTS!

Middle School

- Large Group: 9/15 6-8pm in the youth room
- All Saints Day Party! : 11/1 8-10pm in the youth room
- Large Group: 11/24 6-8pm in the youth room
- Retreat Day! : 12/7 Belonging 2020! 10am-2pm

High School

- Large Group: 9/29 6-8pm in the youth room
- Hike @ Starved Rock!: 10/12, cars leaving at 9am!
- Large Group: 11/10 6-8pm in the youth room
- Large Group: 12/29 6-8pm in the youth room
- Small groups meeting September–December



Venturing Crew 413

Crew 413 is a community service and outdoor adventure crew. It is for boys **and girls** between the ages of 13–20. Crew 413 is youth led under the guidance of highly qualified and trained adult advisors. Our meetings are held at Elburn Fire Station #1 on the 2nd & 4th Sunday's of the month from 7p – 9 pm. For information contact:

Bruce Aderman at 630-404-6113 or email Brucejaderman@gmail.com


Linda Potvin at 630-531-0061 or email Linda.potvin61@gmail.com

Visit us at www.facebook.com/VenturingCrew413/

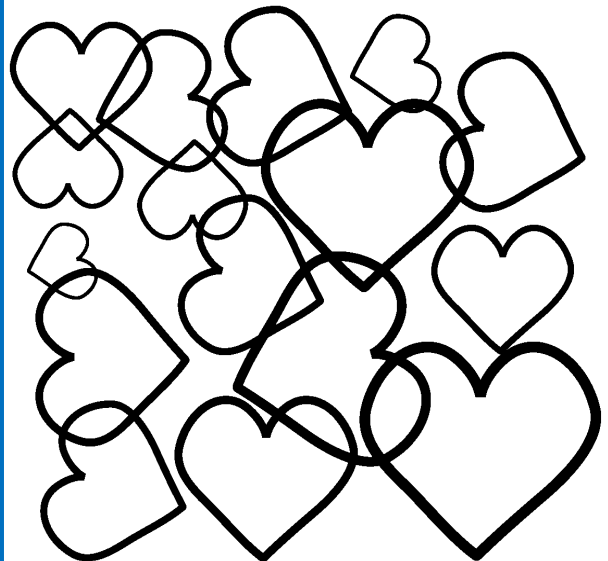
Growing with the GOSPEL

 Read the Gospel and Color



 Puzzle

How many hearts can you count?



©LPI

The answer is sixteen



Sharing the Gospel: If you act bossy, you might get your way, but you won't make many friends. Jesus shared a secret about making friends. When you treat other kids with kindness, they will want to be your friends. Instead of telling other kids what to do, ask other kids to choose a game. If you want to play tag with other kids, offer to be "it" first. If it is time to line up to go outside, offer to go to the back of the line and let other kids in front of you.

Prayer: Dear God, help me to be a good friend.

ST. GALL-RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE NEWS

JOIN US The first Saturday of every month as we carpool to the Planned Parenthood Facility in Aurora to pray quietly and peacefully for those entering the facility seeking an abortion, and for the medical staff to have a conscience change of heart. For those wishing to carpool, we will leave St. Gall parking lot at 9:15 AM. The prayer vigil is from 10:00 AM-11:00 AM. Upcoming dates: **Saturday September 7 and October 5th**
Questions? Contact the Parish Office at 630 365-6030.



On Thursday, Sept. 12th, the Corbella Clinic will hold its annual banquet at the Q Center in St. Charles, from 6-9 pm.

St. Gall has hosted a table at the last two events and is planning to do so again to support this life-affirming pregnancy resource center. It is a wonderful social evening, providing a chance to hear some testimonials and success stories from Corbella, and is the major fund raiser for the year. Cost is \$50 per person. To purchase tickets or to support their mission to save lives, go to www.corbellaclinic.org or call 847-697-0200



ROSARY FOR LIFE EVERY MONDAY EVENING AT 7:00 PM BEFORE THE 7:30 PM MASS: We invite everyone to come and **PRAY FOR LIFE** and stay for Mass.

Illinois Right to Life Update on Pro-Life Legislation

Title: House Bill 4210-Down Syndrome Abortion Ban

Summary: HB 4210 "prohibits a physician from intentionally performing an abortion with knowledge that the pregnant woman is seeking the abortion solely on account of the fetus having a test result indicating Down syndrome, a prenatal diagnosis of Down syndrome, or any other reason to believe that the fetus has Down syndrome. Effective immediately." go to: Illinoisrighttolife.org for more information

Nation-Wide Life Chain

We will once again be participating in the annual Nation-Wide Life Chain on **Sunday, Oct.6th.**

Rosary for Life will be prayed at 1:30 PM in the Church followed by the "Life Chain" from 2:00-3:00 PM.

We will be standing along Route 47 (far enough back on the mowed grass section) and along Hughes Rd., (entrance to our Church)

We provide the signs for those who wish to hold one during the Life Chain. Do bring your Rosary.

PLEASE, please take one hour out of your busy schedule and take a STAND FOR LIFE.

We encourage ALL CONFIRMATION Students to attend!



"Heaven's Children Mass"

Nothing can prepare a home for the death of a child. Such a tragedy requires time and the love of family to heal deep wounds. To help and provide care in this process, St. Gall will celebrate our 3rd annual "**Heaven's Children Mass**" for these our children and their parents/families on **Monday, October 21st at 7:30 PM.** The rosary will be recited at 7:00 PM. All are welcome.

You may submit your child/children's names by going to our website: www.stgall.com and filling out the form or call the office at 630 365-6030 and leave their name(s).

Invite family and friends who have also lost a child.

All of these beautiful children's names will be mentioned at this Mass.

"Gone but never forgotten"

St. Gall Cemetery Columbarium

St. Gall Cemetery now has a Columbarium. The Columbarium holds urns with cremated remains. Niches in the Columbarium are now available for sale. There are 84 niches available and can be used as double occupancy if requested.

The cost for the niches are \$2000.00—\$2200.00 depending on the level. The niche markers are cast bronze for an additional \$600.00.

For more information please contact Mary Fran Korth in the Business Office at 630-365-6030 x 2 or maryfran@stgall.com



ST. GALL ONLINE GIVING

St. Gall has ways to give via your smart phone and electronic giving. You can choose GivePlus Church by downloading the mobile app on your smart phone. Create an account and choose how to login by either Touch ID/Fingerprint, PIN or password. You can safely store bank account information so you don't have to enter it again. Choose to donate one-time as a guest OR set up an account that allows you to conveniently schedule recurring donations. You are in complete control.

GivePlus Text allows you to contribute with a text. Simply send a text message to **630-884-5632** with the amount you would like to contribute. You will be sent a link to register for the first time use. For future giving, send a text with the amount you want to give and it will process automatically.

GivePlus Church and GivePlus Text can be used for Sunday Offering, Religious Education, Youth Ministry, St. Vincent dePaul, Faith Formation, Future Facilities, Church Maintenance, Holiday Giving and Vacation Bible School.

For those of you enrolled in electronic giving, you may continue to do so without any changes. If you should have any questions, please contact Mary Fran Korth at 630-365-6030 x 2 or maryfran@stgall.com

GIVEPLUS⁺

St. Gall Community Days

Community Serve Days allow St. Gall families and parishioners a chance to reach out and serve the wider community. Fun, Friends, and Faith! We will schedule certain days throughout the year where St. Gall parishioners, individuals and families, all ages, can go out together and serve the wider community in a fun way. We want to bring the love of God to others through faith-fueled service. Doing service together is a way for family members to grow closer and for our families to form friendships.

To view upcoming St. Gall Community Days go to our website: stgall.com Click on News & Events (upper right hand side); click on Community Days Event.

Our next St. Gall Community Days will be Saturday, September 7th from 9:00-11:00 AM. It will be held at HorsePower which is located at 43W276 Route 38 Maple Park (HorsePower shares the same grounds as Fox Chase.) Come and learn about safety, being kind, horse temperament and community work. We will learn from Carrie Capes, co-founder of HorsePower about how she created the non-for profit special needs organization. Her and her team focus on meeting the needs of everyone including family members. We get to pet a kind horse, pull weeds in the arena, maybe pick apples and learned about Tonka. Tonka is Carrie's horse who has lost one eye and is blinded in the other. He wears a device that helps him sense around his perimeter. He has a friend with him named Sunny. Sunny has friended him and we witness him not taking an apple from Tonka, because he's so kind to his friend. You'll fall in love this farm and organization. If you'd love to help out check their Facebook page: HorsePower

If you plan to attend, please wear closed toe shoes to be in the arena with the horse.
Also, let Tina Murdock know you're coming at 630-361-3220 or tinamurdock5@yahoo.com

Below are donation items needed for Pennies for Ponies. There will be a bin in the St. Gall Church narthex the weekends of Aug. 30/Sept. 1 and Sept. 7/Sept. 8 to collect your donations. Thank you!

Gift Cards to Valley Vet, Farm and Fleet, Office Max, Walmart, Aldi, and Amazon
Lysol Disinfectant Spray
Sharpie and Wipe Off Markers
Copy Paper
Business Sized Envelopes
Sticky Note Pads
Small Coin-Sized Envelopes
Rolls of Postage Stamps
Spray Sunscreen and Bug Spray
Peppermints
Non-Chocolate Granola Bars



ST. GALL CHURCH LIBRARY

We have a few new books for our church Library!!

They will be on display for a few weeks so you can take a look at them.
Check them out, they are some great reads!



The Catholic All Year- Compendium Liturgical Living For Real Life by Kendra Tierney

A great book for families or anyone else looking for ways to bring celebration to the church's liturgical year.

A Bloody Habit a Novel by Elenor Bourg Nicholson

A cross between Dracula and the Exorcist written with the literary flourish of the former and the Catholic sensibility of the latter. A heavenly hybrid on a hellish theme.

Eight Ways of Loving God Revealed by Love Himself by Jeanette Flood

If you or someone you know is searching for an understanding of our faith and a deeper relationship with God and the sacraments, this book is a gentle, friendly shove in the right direction.

The Reed of God by Caryll Houselander

This book gives us a privileged peek into the soul of a holy woman as she engages beautiful biblical texts in prayer.

The Power of Silence Against the Dictatorship of Noise by Robert Cardinal Sarah

Profound insights into the importance of silence.

Joseph the Man Who Raised Jesus by Fr. Gary Caster

Focusing on the virtues of Joseph Fr. Gary Caster explores what the bible tells us about this great saint.

Breath of God Living a Life Led by the Holy Spirit by Dave Pivonka

Fr. Dave Pivonka's reflections on the Holy Spirit

God's Door Keepers Padre Pio, Solanus Casey, and Andre' Bessette by Joel Schorn

Three saints that could have been easily overlooked yet in their lifetime untold numbers found physical and interior healing through their ministries.



PILGRIMAGE to ITALY

Nov. 8-20, 2020

Highlights include:

- Papal Audience;
- Four Major Basilicas of Rome;
- Martyrdom site of St. Paul;
- Vatican Museums;
- Sistine Chapel and more!

Fr. DiTomo will be joining us! For more information or to register, contact

For His Glory Tours: ForHisGloryTours@gmail.com

Price announced early 2020



MASS SCHEDULE:

Sunday Obligation:

Saturday: 4:30 PM

Sunday: 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM and 5:00 PM

Daily Mass:

Monday: 7:30 PM

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
7:00 AM

Friday: 12:10 PM

Saturday: 8:30 AM

Confession times

ST. GALL CATHOLIC CHURCH - ELBURN, IL

www.stgall.com

MONDAY 6:30-7:15PM

TUESDAY 7:30-7:45 AM

WEDNESDAY 7:30-7:45AM

THURSDAY 7:30-7:45 AM

& 6:00-6:15PM

FRIDAY 12:45-1PM

SATURDAY 9-9:30 AM

& 3:30-4:15PM

SUNDAY 9:45-10:15AM

Eucharistic Adoration

Every Thursday

from 7:30 AM-9:00 PM

Enjoy quiet prayer time in the presence of the Lord! Come and stay for an hour or just five minutes...whatever your time allows.

"Oh Jesus, we adore Thee..."

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Please refer to the CONFESSION SCHEDULE on the schedule on the left.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Parents are expected to attend a pre-baptism session with the Pastor prior to the baptism of the baby. Contact the Parish Office to make arrangements.

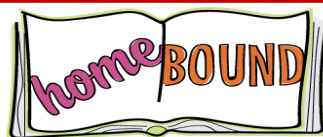
SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY: Arrangements at least 6 months in advance. One partner must be registered and actively practicing the Faith at St. Gall at least 6 months before any wedding date will be set. Both parties must be 19 years of age.

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING: The Sacrament is administered at Masses during Lent and Advent. At other times by request. Contact the office when desired.

RCIA: Interested in becoming Catholic? Contact Fr. DiTomo to inquire about how you can prepare to receive the sacraments of initiation through our RCIA program or private instruction. We can also work with older children who would like to prepare to receive their sacraments.

VISITATION OF THE SICK: Anyone who cannot attend Mass because of illness or age and would like to receive the sacraments is asked to call the parish office. Eucharistic Ministers to the homebound are available to bring Communion to the home.

REGISTRATION: New Parishioners are most welcome and formal registration is essential for the sacraments, letters for sponsorship, etc. Please call Parish Office, visit the parish website at www.stgall.com or fill out a registration form found in the Library.



Homebound Parishioners

If you or your loved ones are homebound or temporarily unable to attend Mass and would like to receive the Most Holy Eucharist, we would be pleased to visit you. Please contact the Parish Office at 630-365-6030.

HOLY HILL TRIP

National Shrine of Mary,
Help of Christians
30 miles NW of Milwaukee, Wisconsin

September 21

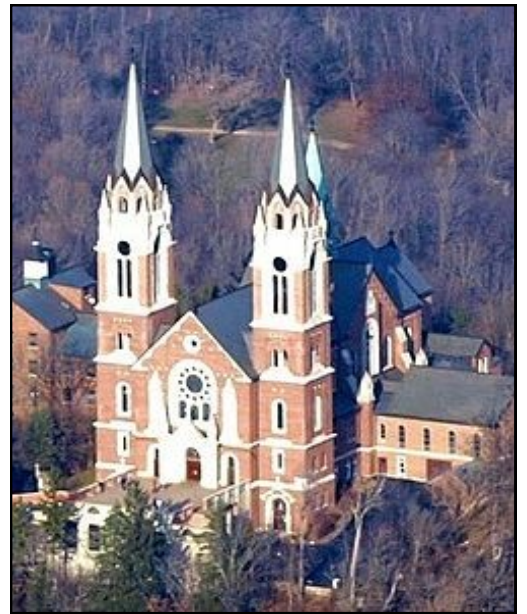
7:30 am depart St. Gall
Return around 7:30 pm

Join Fr. DiTomo and St. Gall parishioners for a fun and faith-filled pilgrimage to this beautiful shrine! Walk the grounds, enjoy the fair, food and entertainment, attend Mass, visit the Basilica's Gift Shop. Bring additional money for food, fair and other expenses.

Call Jen Thiel at 630 204-4605 to register.

Craft and Art Fair: \$5 from 10am-5pm (children under 12 are free)

11am Mass-Basilica Oratory



ST. GALL *Catholic Church*

43W885 Hughes Rd.,
Elburn, IL 60119

ST. GALL MOTTO
Glorify God
Grow in Holiness
Give Jesus to Others




Follow us online



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@StGallElburn



www.flocknote.com/stgall?reg=true#overlay=register/overlay/102815