



THE VOICE

ALL ARE WELCOME

No matter what your present status in the Catholic Church;
 No matter what your current family or marital situation;
 No matter what your past or present religious affiliation;
 No matter what your personal history, age, background, race, or color;
 No matter what your self-image or esteem;
 You are invited, welcomed, accepted, loved and respected at
 St. Gerald Catholic Church.

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME SEPTEMBER 27, 2015

We must never underestimate the power of family ties. Of all the ways people are related to each other, family kinship has always been the strongest bond. Blood relationships are treated with ultimate, even religious, seriousness. The church is a spiritual family. But the ties that bind a particular congregation may be spiritually inclusive or based on merely practical considerations.

First reading – Numbers 11:25-29

Moses showed the right spirit toward people of goodwill. He recognized that the Spirit of God could work through people who did not have his own personal stamp of approval on them. When his followers challenged these outsiders, Moses put them in their place: “Would that the Lord might bestow his spirit on them all.”

Second reading – James 5:1-6

James the apostle was not impressed by wealth or fame. He knew that these marks of worldly success carried no weight in the Christian community. The same is true today. The true friends and followers of Jesus in every age are the people who love justice and do kindness.

Gospel – Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

Jesus was never a party loyalist. He did not limit the work he was doing on behalf of God to those who marched under his own banner. He welcomed all allies in the struggle for wholeness and happiness. Those who were not working against him were welcome as his friends.

You could search through every reference to Jesus in the New Testament and you would not find a hint of exclusiveness. To the contrary, you would find that he always had a special concern for the victims of exclusiveness, the ones who had been left out. Put ninety-nine sheep out of one-hundred safely in the sheepfold and most people would be thoroughly satisfied. Not Jesus. He is the shepherd out in the wilderness, searching for the one lost sheep until he finds it and brings it safely home. Such was the reach of his compassion. Such was the strength of his faith. Always there was room for one more. His was no little country club movement, catering to the select few. It was inclusive, open; the welcome mat was out to all kinds of people. Jesus’ concern was comprehensive, universal, catholic. The disciples said, “He is not of our company.” Jesus said, “Anyone who is not against us is for us.” This leaves room for great diversity within the fellowship of his followers.

We call our parish the St. Gerald Catholic Church. We call ourselves Catholics. This is a big word. We must never make it something small, something sectarian. It will not be easy to live up to our name. The only way we can ever do it is to follow in the footsteps of our Lord. We cannot walk with him and remain little people. We cannot follow him and be restrictive, selective people. His mind was open to all kinds of truth. His heart was open to all kinds of people. Our Lord personified the true catholic spirit. Let us be faithful to that spirit.

Have a Blessed Week! Fr. Festus

ST. GERALD

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

A Servant Church Of
 The Archdiocese of Detroit

21300 Farmington Road
 Farmington, Michigan 48336
 Phone: 248-477-7470

Rectory Fax: 248-477-3878
 Ministries Fax: 248-381-5803
 Website: stgeraldparish.org

OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Thursday
 9:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 p.m.
 Sunday: 8:30 a.m., 10:15 a.m.
 12:00 Noon

WEEKDAYS

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, First Friday:
 9:15 a.m.

Thursday Evening: 7:00 p.m.

RITE OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays: 3:30–4:30 p.m.

A Week Ahead

WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS SEPTEMBER 28 - OCTOBER 3



Monday 9:15 AM
Kazmierski Family
Requested by Family

Tuesday 9:15 AM
For All Our Parishioners

Wednesday 9:15 AM
Dobbs, Kemp, Robrecht and Donarman Families
Requested by Cynthia Kemp

Thursday 7:00 PM
Dobbs, Kemp, Robrecht and Donarman Families
Requested by Cynthia Kemp

Friday 9:15 AM
Ron and Mary Plagnes
Requested by Friends

Saturday 9:15 AM
For All Our Parishioners

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY: ZEC 8:1-8/LK 9:46-50

TUESDAY: DN 7:9-10, 13-14 OR RV 12:7-12AB/JN 1:47-51

WEDNESDAY: NEH 2:1-8/LK 9:57-62

THURSDAY: NEH 8:1-4A, 5-6, 7B-12/LK 10:1-12

FRIDAY: BAR 1:15-22/MT 18:1-5, 10

SATURDAY: BAR 4:5-12, 27-29/LK 10:17-24

NEXT SUNDAY: GN 2:18-24/HEB 2:9-11/MK 10:2-16 OR 10:2-12

Liturgical Publications Inc

(For a list of daily readings: go to <http://www.usccb.org/nab>)

Saint Francis says:

Let us bless the pets!

Sunday,
October 4th
at 1:30 PM in the
parish parking lot



First Friday, October 2

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
following 9:15 AM Mass until
9 AM Saturday**

**Scheduled Adorers Needed
Sign-up sheets in narthex**

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Please call the Parish Office at 248-477-7470 if you would like a name added to the Prayers for the Sick.

OCTOBER 4, 2015 TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00 PM October 3 Fr. Kaiser

For
**Bernice, Louis
& Dennis
Kaye**
Requested by
Joe Pavco

Servers

Lector/
Ushers

Alice Sheehan
5:00A

8:30 AM October 4 Fr. Festus

For
**James
Meloche**
Requested by
Family

Servers

Lector/
Ushers

Gabe Smith
John Smith

Paul Borchert
8:30C

10:15 AM October 4 Fr. Festus

For
William Shea
Requested by
Family

Servers

Lector/
Ushers

Ashley Grabinski
Sarah Weber

Ray Pisani
Mary Power
10:15A

12:00 Noon October 4 Fr. Festus

For
T. R. Rathbun
Requested by
Aunt Mary Jane
& Uncle Paul

Servers

Lectors/
Ushers

Angela Guerra
Fernando Guerra

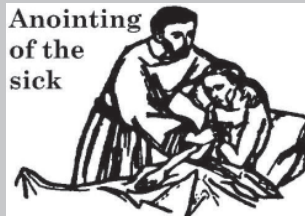
Tim Wardle
12:00A

Sacristan Schedule for Next Two Weeks

October 2 and October 3
Team #4

October 9 and October 10
Team #6

Anointing
of the
sick



The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be at all Masses the weekend of October 10th and 11th.

FORMATION

ELEMENTARY RELIGIOUS FORMATION CLASSES STARTING SEPTEMBER 28TH AND 29TH



If you are new to the parish or did not have a child in the program last year please contact Mary Taylor at 248-476-7677, ext. 201 or via email at taylor.mary04@yahoo.com and a registration form will be mailed to you.

Students in grades 1-6 may begin classes this Monday from 5:30 PM-6:45PM or Tuesday from 5:15PM-6:30PM, the 28th and 29th of September. The Preschool and Kindergarten (4 and 5 year olds) class are held during the 10:15 AM Mass, which began Sunday, September 20th. If you have any questions, contact Mary Taylor at 248-476-7677 or taylor.mary04@yahoo.com.

REMINDER: Following the guidelines of the Archdiocese of Detroit children of the parish are to receive two full years of religious formation before reception of a sacrament.

CHRISTIAN SERVICE

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



We are pleased to announce that our "Friends of the Poor Walk" will be on October 17th at Belle Isle. This new location has such rich history and natural beauty, we are excited to be hosting it! For more information, please contact the Christian Service Office at 248-476-7677, ext. 204.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL NEEDS YOUR HELP!

The St. Gerald St. Vincent de Paul Conference provides financial aid to families living within our parish boundaries. This aid may be for rent, utilities, or other basic needs. We could not have done this without the generous support of our parish community. For this we are deeply grateful, especially to those who are consistent donors.

However, with our expanded parish area the number of people we serve has significantly increased. For this fiscal year, which ends on September 30, we have conducted 122 home visits to needy families compared with 41 for the prior fiscal year resulting in a 75% increase in expended funds. And the upcoming fiscal year could see an even larger increase.

We are asking you to help our efforts by participating in a special collection scheduled for the weekend of October 3rd and 4th. There are envelopes in the pews this weekend. We ask you to take one home and pray about what you can do to help us in our work. You can deposit your envelope in the second collection on October 3rd or 4th, drop it off at the parish office, or mail it in.



- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Juice 64 oz. | Mac and Cheese |
| Canned Fruit | Pork and Beans |
| Canned Chicket/Spam | Lg. Can of Soup |
| Cake Mix | Laundry Detergent |
| Dish Detergent | Coffee 11 oz. |

Youth Group News

I am looking for Faithful, and fun loving kids! Youth Group meets on Sunday evening from 6:00-8:00PM. We challenge each other with games, and have food and discuss the topic of the evening! All High school teens and their friends are welcome. See the calendar for dates. This Sunday is "You are your Keeper" Join Us!!!!

CALANDER OF EVENTS

- | | |
|------------|--|
| Sept. 27 | 6 PM Youth Group |
| Oct. 17-18 | Hot Dog Sales at St. Alexander's Estate Sale |
| Oct. 24 | Trunk or Treat and Monster Mash! |
| Oct. 25 | Painting Pumpkins at Ashley Court Nursing Home |



Times to be announced!

KARING KIDS!!

ST. GERALD IS STARTING SOMETHING NEW!! All 5th through 7th Grade kids are invited to Karing Kids!! This is a once a month gathering for the kids to get together for games, food and to do something for others. We will meet from 3:00-4:30 PM in the

Social Hall on:

- October 25, 2015
- November 15, 2015
- December 13, 2015
- January 24, 2016
- February 21, 2016
- March 6, 2016
- April 10, 2016
- May 8, 2016

OUR LORD

NEEDS FROM US
NEITHER GREAT DEEDS
NOR PROFOUND THOUGHTS.
NEITHER INTELLIGENCE, NOR TALENTS.

HE CHERISHES
SIMPLICITY.

-St. Therese of Lisieux

INTERCESSORY PRAYER CHAIN

If you know someone who could use our prayers and would like them added to our prayer chain, please call the Parish Office at 248-477-7470 or email stgeraldsecretary@yahoo.com and their name will be added to our prayers.

WORSHIP

Tim's Tidbits

Last weekend we hosted our Festival of Ministries here at St. Gerald. If you had time to stop by and visit you would have seen all the various opportunities there are for you to share your time and talent with your parish community. There are two flyers in the bookrack in the gathering space. One is the variety of ministries with explanations and the other is a list to check off your interest. Please take some time to prayerfully consider a ministry to become involved in the life of the parish.



The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) has been a yearly process here at St. Gerald Parish. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Catholic Church or need to make your First Communion and/or Confirmation, please call me to set up a time to meet. If you have questions as well, please call me at 248-476-7677, Ext. 202 or email me at timwestfall.sgp@gmail.com. We look to start classes in October.

The Estate Sale planning is underway. It will be held at the St. Alexander property. This will happen the weekend of October 16 - 18. Both the former rectory and convent will be opened with many, many items. The sale hours will be, Friday, Oct. 16 from 10 AM to 5 PM, Saturday, Oct. 17 from 9 AM to 4 PM and Sunday, Oct. 18 from 12 Noon to 4 PM.

Your help is needed! Please call me at 248-476-7677, Ext. 202 or email me at timwestfall.sgp@gmail.com. You can assist with the sale for a few hours that weekend or come and help sort and price items in the weeks prior. We are wrapping up sorting through things in the Rectory and now will be moving to the Convent.

Don't forget about the Pet Blessing coming up on October 4th in the parish parking lot at 1:30 PM. We look forward to seeing all animals great and small.

Let us keep our Holy Father, Pope Francis in prayer as he wraps up his visit to the United States this weekend.



HEALTH MINISTRY NEWS

Blood Pressure screenings will be on the third Sunday each month. It will coincide with the Knights of Columbus donut Sunday. Our first blood pressure screening will be **October 18** after each Mass. We will be set up in the social hall, just follow the signs.

FLU CLINIC

We will be having a Flu Clinic (flu shots) on Sunday, October 25 from 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM. There will be a sign up sheet in the social hall at the Health Ministry table. We need to know an approximate number so the VNA (Visiting Nurses Association) knows how many nurses to provide.



There is a list of all the insurances that they accept, including Medicare. If you have any questions, please contact Barbara Seabolt at bseabolt@mi.rr.com or call 248-477-4752.

EVANGELIZATION

SHARING GOD WITH OTHERS

St. Gerald Evangelization Committee has created a schedule of events for parish members, and their family and friends, to participate in.

Upcoming events to put on your calendar:

Friday, November 20 - Friday Fellowship (theology on tap, Q & A) where adult parish members meet to share reflections of Bible passages and how they impact on our daily lives and perspectives. First held at Gerryanna & Frank Luscri's home at 36778 Kenmore Drive, Farmington Hills.

Saturday, January 9, 2016 - Movie Night (13+ and adult) We will be showing the film *For Greater Glory* starring Andy Garcia & Eva Longoria. Sponsored by St. Gerald Youth Group

See The Voice for details and more information as dates approach.

Feel free to invite others to these events and enjoy the hospitality of our church. Please consider joining the Evangelization Committee and sharing your ideas for our parish.

EVANGELIZATION THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"To win souls to Christ, you must grow faithful in prayer. Being faithful in prayer allows God's grace to well up within you and flow forth, reaching untold numbers of people." St. Francis



St. Alexander Church Estate Sale will be held October 16 through October 18. Volunteers are

needed. If you can volunteer your time please call Tim Westfall at 248-476-7677 ext. 202.

SAVE THE DATE!

**St. Alexander
Rectory & Convent
ESTATE SALE
October 16 - 18**

**27835 Shiawassee
Farmington Hills MI 48336
248-477-7470**

Hours:

**Friday, October 16 from 10 AM to 5 PM
Saturday, October 17 from 9 AM to 4 PM
Sunday, October 18 from 12 Noon to 4 PM**

VOCATIONS

Go and Make a Difference

Go and make a difference. Be God's love through prayer, service and sacrifice.

You may notice these words on the poster in the Gathering Space from Vocations Central, the vocation office for the Priests of the Sacred Heart (SCJs). The Priests of the Sacred Heart are priests and brothers inspired by God's love "to live together simply, to pray together and to be, especially among the poor, prophets of love and servants of reconciliation." (From the Mission Statement of the US Province)

If you or someone you know is hearing the call to religious life as a priest, brother, sister or deacon, you are invited to take a card from the poster and send it in for more information. They welcome your questions about religious life and the priesthood. Or, you can contact them by email at vocationcentral@wi.twcbc.com or call 800-609-5559.

The future of the Church depends on people answering the call. Here I am Lord. Is it I Lord?



Do you know someone who would like to become a full member of the Catholic Church? Have you been baptized and need to be confirmed or receive First Eucharist? What is the RCIA process?

Is God calling you to become a full member of the Catholic Church? Please come to the RCIA. Are you getting the feeling that you should be learning more about your relationship with God and how He works in your life by become a full member of the Catholic Church? Please come to the RCIA. Do you have questions? Come to the RCIA. To join, speak to Fr. Festus after Mass or call Tim Westfall at (2) 476-7677, press 2 or email timwestfall.sgp@gmail.com



DETROIT CATHOLIC CENTRAL MOTHERS' CLUB ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE

DCC Mothers' Club will hold their annual Rummage Sale, open to the public, on Saturday October 10th. Doors are open 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM. The popular \$2.00 Bag Sale will be held at noon. The Rummage Sale brings you the best selection of clothing, toys and games, electronics, sporting equipment, linens, furniture, kitchen ware and more! The Rummage Sale is held in the CC Gymnasium, 27225 Wixom Road, Novi.

Offertory Snapshot

Actual Offertory for Weekend of September 20	\$ 7,769.00
Budget Offertory for Weekend of September 20	\$ 9,334.00
Actual Offertory July 1 - September 20	\$92,071.00
Budget Offertory July 1 - September 20	\$102,666.00

BULLETIN REMINDER

All organizations and individuals are reminded to submit articles and announcements for the parish bulletin by 12 noon on Mondays. We ask that you please computer generate your submissions and send them via e-mail to stgeraldsecretary@yahoo.com. All articles subject to approval and may be edited to create space. Thank you.

A WEEK AHEAD

27	28	29	30	1	2	3
<p>26th Sunday in Ordinary</p> <p>K of C Pancake Breakfast</p> <p>8:30 am Mass</p> <p>10:15 am Sunday School</p> <p>10:15 am Mass</p> <p>12:00 pm Mass</p> <p>1:15 pm Baptism</p> <p>6:00 pm Youth Group</p>	<p>9:15 am Mass</p> <p>5:30 pm Elementary Religious Formation</p>	<p>9:15 am Mass</p> <p>9:45 am Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions</p> <p>5:15 pm Elementary Religious Formation</p>	<p>9:15 am Mass</p> <p>7:00 pm Vicariate Bible Study</p>	<p>10:30 am SVDP Meeting</p> <p>7:00 pm Mass</p>	<p>First Friday Eucharistic Adoration following 9:15 am Mass</p> <p>9:15 am Mass</p> <p>8:00 pm AA Mtg.</p>	<p>9:15 am Mass for Life</p> <p>3:30 pm Conf.</p> <p>5:00 pm Mass</p>

ST. GERALD CATHOLIC CHURCH

Office Hours

9:00 AM - 4:30 PM Monday thru Thursday. Closed Friday.
(secretary at lunch Noon—12:30)

STAFF

Reverend Festus Ejimadu, Pastor(248) 477-7470
Timothy Westfall: Pastoral Associate x 202
Email: timwestfall.sgp@gmail.com
Mary Hoots, Administrative Assistant..... . 248-477-7470.....x 212
Email: stgeraldsecretary@yahoo.com

All other offices dial (248) 476-7677

Christian Services

Laura Meier, Christian Service Coordinator x 204
Email: csstgerald@yahoo.com

St. Vincent de Paul x 220

Education

Mary Taylor: Director Religious Education x 201
Email: taylor.mary04@yahoo.com

Youth Ministry

Theresa Smith..... x 203
Email: stgeraldym@gmail.com

Music Ministry

Mary Zelinski, Director of Music 734-516-0133

Maintenance

Mark Koss

Accountant

Kim Shepard

Ministries Assistant - Purchaser

Cathy Long X 222 Email: clong123@gmail.com

SACRAMENTS

Rite of Reconciliation:

Saturdays from 3:30-4:30PM

Sacrament of the Sick:

Please call the office

Baptism:

Please be aware that first time parents must attend a short baptism prep class prior to the baptism of their child. Arrangements for baptism may be made by calling the Parish Office.

Matrimony:

St. Gerald Parish is pleased to marry registered parishioners and their children. Arrangements must be made at least six months in advance of the wedding date. Please call the Parish Office.

Registration of new members:

Please see Fr. Ejimadu after Mass or call the office. Registration forms are located on the shelf in the classroom hallway for your convenience. After you fill it out, just give it to Fr. Ejimadu or drop it off in the Parish Office. Thank you!

RCIA: Would you or someone you know want to become a full member of the Catholic Church? The St. Gerald RCIA group meets each week on Thursdays. Please call Tim Westfall (248) 476-7677 x202 or Fr. Ejimadu (248) 477-7470 for more information.

WE WELCOME YOU TO ST. GERALD CATHOLIC PARISH!

If you are new to the area, we look forward to meeting you personally. If you have not been active in the practice of the Catholic faith, we encourage you to return. If a previous marriage has kept you from receiving the Sacraments, we invite you to call the rectory at 248-477-7470. In many cases, Fr. Ejimadu can work with you to find a favorable solution.

St. Alexander Food Pantry Contact Information

Phone: 248-474-8231

Calls taken Tuesday through Friday from 9:30 AM - to 11:00 AM

ST. GERALD MISSION STATEMENT

St. Gerald Roman Catholic Church is a welcoming, inclusive parish striving to be a reflection of Christ. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we are dedicated to strengthening our faith through reverent and uplifting worship, serving those in need, and living the fullness of the Gospel with all God's people.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS

We'll be rolling out the griddle this weekend and cooking breakfast for St. Gerald parishioners after the 8:30 and 10:15 AM masses, all for the benefit of the parish St. Vincent de Paul Society. That group does so much for the needy of our parish and area.

There will be a 1st degree October 12 here at St. Gerald for all new prospects joining our council. Time of the degree will be determined. All members are welcome to attend.

October has its share of birthday celebrations; John Plichota 10-4, Gerald Meller 10-13 and Arnold Lemieux 10-24. HAPPY BIRTHDAY brother Knights.

October is just a week away and with it will come a mailed packet from the State K of C containing tickets for the annual State raffle which raises funds for the many charities supported by the Michigan K of C. PGK Bruce Roberts is the Council's coordinator for the raffle, which can raise important funds for the Council's charitable efforts. For every \$5 ticket a Council member sells, \$1 is returned to our Council, a 20% return.

Coming up in October is the Chain of Life demonstration Oct. 3; our annual Tootsie Roll sale after all the masses Oct. 10-11 with PGK Jim Malloy as Event Manager; the St. Vincent de Paul Walk for the Poor Oct. 17 (Bob Kuhr is the contact), and cooking at the Trunk 'N' Treat for the kids on Oct. 24. Program Director Tom McPhail and Larry Swanson are Event Managers for the latter event.

Keep in Informed, read the Knights Corner Sundays in The Voice!

FALL SCRIPTURE STUDY

THE GOSPELS OF LUKE AND MATTHEW

Father David Santoro, O.P., Chaplin at the Blessed Sacrament Monastery in Farmington Hills will lead the study using the Ignatius Bible Study Guide. The study will continue with Luke moving into Matthew.

Location: **St. Gerald's Church hall**

Time: Wednesday evenings 7 - 8:30 PM

Now through **November 18, 2015**

All are Welcome to this Inter-Parish Scripture Study. Bring your Bible and/or Ignatius Study guides. No need to register.

Contact Diane Blankenship (dlb882@gmail.com), Sharon Weberlein (shrweber@aol.com) if you have questions or 248-477-7470.

Have you considered putting St. Gerald Church in your Will? Please call Fr. Festus at 248-477-7470.

He would be happy to discuss this with you.

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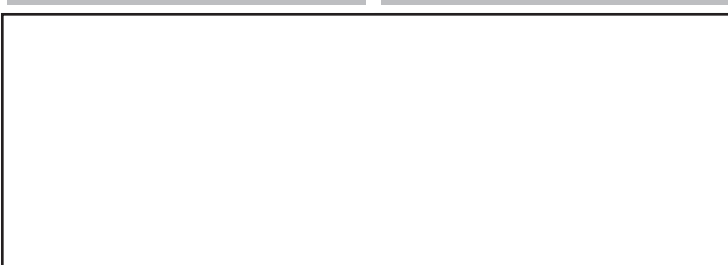
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