

# The VOICE



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## 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](http://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.

### 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.

### SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

January 17, 2016

Today begins a short stretch of four Sundays in ordinary time. The four Gospel readings cover the early stages of Jesus' public ministry. Because we are in Year C, most of the Gospel readings in ordinary time are taken from Luke. One exception is today's reading from the Gospel of John. The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, in fact, is taken each year from John. Today we hear about the wedding feast at Cana where Jesus performs his first sign, turning water into wine.

The first reading today is taken from the last section of the Book of Isaiah (chapters 56–66) often termed "Third Isaiah." Isaiah proclaims he cannot be silenced until Israel (Zion and Jerusalem) is pardoned. Offering words of comfort to Israel in the wake of their nearly seventy years in exile, Isaiah speaks of Israel's "vindication"; that is, Israel being freed from the sin that led them into captivity in Babylon. Isaiah prophesies the "glory" of God is being revealed in bestowing upon Israel a "new name." No longer known as "Forsaken" or "Desolate," Israel, according to Isaiah, will be called "My Delight" and the land of Jerusalem, "Espoused." Isaiah pronounced to the returning exiles that "nations shall behold your vindication and all the kings your glory."

The image of Israel being God's delight and in some sense espoused to God is captured in the Gospel reading of the wedding feast at Cana. In John, Jesus' turning the water into wine is the first of seven signs that Jesus performs, which reveal God's "glory" and points to his divine identity as "the Word made flesh" (Jn 1:14). At the wedding reception, when Mary saw that the wedding party had run out of wine early, she brought the problem to Jesus' attention. Interestingly, according to John, Jesus is somewhat reluctant to perform a sign at this wedding since his "hour has not yet come." (The coming hour in John's Gospel is a metaphor for Jesus' approaching passion). Nonetheless, Jesus honors Mary's request and turns the standing water ("six stone water jars... each holding twenty to thirty gallons") into wine. With over one hundred twenty gallons of wine, this must have been a sizable wedding. John concludes the story by commenting that the water turned to wine in Cana was "the beginning of his signs" and "revealed his glory" to the disciples. Witnessing this first sign, "his disciples began to believe in him." As Isaiah had prophesied nearly five hundred years earlier, all the nations would behold God's glory revealed in Israel.

The second reading is taken from the twelfth chapter of the First Letter to the Corinthians, where Paul is discussing the various spiritual gifts that serve to unite the community of believers. From 1 Corinthians 12 we derive the idea of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Among the numerous concerns that Paul had for the Christian congregation in Corinth was the divisions between the community members (see chapters 1–4). Paul saw an opportunity to find unity in the congregation by holding up the many gifts of the Spirit evident in their gatherings: the divine gifts of knowledge, faith, healing, prophecy, and speaking and interpreting tongues. Paul stressed that in these different gifts there was the same Spirit at work. Rather than the differences being a source of division, Paul urged the Corinthians to see their diversity as a source of unity.

Over the next four Sundays, we will hear about the beginning stage of Jesus' public ministry. In Jesus, the prophecies are fulfilled and the glory of God is revealed.

Dr. Daniel J. Scholz

# A Week Ahead



## WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS JANUARY 18 - JANUARY 21

Monday 9:15 AM

**Florence Murray**  
Requested by Victor Winiarski

Tuesday 9:15 AM

**Dobbs, Kemp, Trayer,  
Robrecht and Donarman Families**  
Requested by C. Kemp

Wednesday 9:15 AM

**Intentions of Jeannette Inamdar**  
Requested by Family

Thursday 7:00 PM

**Beatrice and Joseph Frendo**  
Requested by Yolanda Fenech

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**MONDAY: 1 SM 15:16-23/PS 50:8-9, 16-17, 21, 23/  
Mk 2:18-22**

**TUESDAY: 1 SM 16:1-13/PS 89:20-22, 27-28/Mk 2:23-28**

**WEDNESDAY: 1 SM 17:32-33, 37, 40-51/PS 144:1-2, 9-  
10/Mk 3:1-6**

**THURSDAY: 1 SM 18:6-9; 19:1-7/PS 56:2-3, 9-13/  
Mk 3:7-12**

**FRIDAY: 1 SM 24:3-21/PS 57:2-4, 6, 11/Mk 3:13-19**

**SATURDAY: 2 SM 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27/PS 80:2-3, 5-7/  
Mk 3:20-21**

**NEXT SUNDAY: NEH 8:2-4A, 5-6, 8-10/PS 19:8-10, 15/1  
COR 12:12-30 OR 12:12-14, 27/LK 1:1-4; 4:14-21**

Liturgical Publications Inc

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

## JANUARY 24, 2016 THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00 PM January 23 Fr. Roodbeen

For <b>Anne M. Kean</b> Requested by Joe & Libby Panetta	Servers	Need Servers
	Lector/ Ushers	Diane Blankenship 5:00A

8:30 AM January 24 Fr. Roodbeen

For <b>Nicholas &amp; Margret Arclean</b> Requested by Bill & Joanne Croitori	Servers	John Smith Gabe Smith
	Lector/ Ushers	Candy Rosowski 8:30C

10:15 AM January 24 Fr. Medina

For <b>Shirley Funk</b> Requested by Eldon Funk	Servers	Eli Gerhart Isabelle Gerhart
	Lector/ Ushers	Tim Wardle, Jr. 10:15A

12:00 Noon January 24 Fr. Kaiser

For <b>Valentina Berti</b> Requested by Graziano Canini	Servers	Fernando Guerra Angela Guerra
	Lectors/ Ushers	Paul Radzilowski 12:00A

### 2015 St. Gerald Contribution Statement

In an effort to reduce expenses, the 2015 St. Gerald Contribution Statements will not be mailed out. If you need a copy of your contribution statement, please send your request to [stgeraldsecretary@yahoo.com](mailto:stgeraldsecretary@yahoo.com) or call 248-477-7470. The Parish Office is open Monday through Thursday, from 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM. With a prior request, statements will be available for pick up in the Parish Office during the hours indicated above. Please allow one week to process your request. Thank you!

### Sacristan Schedule for Next Two Weeks

January 22 and January 23  
Team # 4

January 29 and January 30  
Team #6

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.



### Church Support

**PLEASE**  
join us

ST. GERALD PARISH  
FINANCIAL TOWN HALL  
MEETING  
Sunday, January 17th  
3:00 - 4:00 PM

Please join us for an information session in the parish social hall regarding the current financial position of the parish.

### Offertory Snapshot

Actual Offertory for Weekend of January 3	\$ 9,450.00
Budget Offertory for Weekend of January 3	\$ 9,334.00
Actual Offertory July 1 - January 3	\$225,056.00
Budget Offertory July 1 - January 3	\$251,998.00

# Vocations and the Call to Social Justice

ST. GERALD EDUCATION COMMISSION



Barbara was blessed to grow up as part of a large extended family in northwest Detroit (Our Lady Gate of Heaven parish). During her 12 years of Detroit Public School education, she never seriously considered becoming a nun. After a year and a half in the world of work, she entered Marygrove College where she was touched by the IHM Sisters' dedication. Thinking she would spend her life teaching children, she became a member of this congregation.

The IHM sisters – Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary – have been a major force in Detroit Catholic education for the past century. Aside from the many parishes where they have taught, the IHM sisters also operated Girls Catholic Central 1927 to 1969, Immaculata High School from 1941 until 1983, and Marian High School, 1959 to the present.

The IHM Motherhouse in Monroe is a registered “Green Building” in the United States. It is the largest sustainable renovated residence in the Midwest. The sisters say that sustainability is the moral mandate for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

The universe called her into wider worlds—working with migrant farmworkers, homeless and other marginalized peoples, Palestinians, and peace-community activists. She found a creative way of “working sideways” with those in jail. Currently she works as a campus minister, service learning coordinator and adjunct at Marygrove and volunteers as a community board member in Hamtramck.

**Sr. Barb will be speaking to the youth of our parish on Sunday, January 31<sup>st</sup> at 4:00 PM. All are welcome !**

## Tim's Tidbits

Last week I spoke of a short evaluation of our Christmas décor. If you have the opportunity, please answer the following questions: What you liked? What you disliked? Did the environment enhance the liturgical space? Were you drawn into prayer by it? And any additional comments you may have. Either email it to me directly or write a note and slip it into the collection basket on Sunday. Don't forget to sign your name to the note.

This month of January, we need to focus on a major component of our Liturgies here at St. Gerald. There is an **extreme need for Liturgical Ministers** in various capacities at all of our Liturgies. A few **Lectors** are needed to add to the schedule. **Eucharistic Ministers are desperately needed**, especially at the Sunday Noon Mass. For both of these ministries, it is required that you have received the sacrament of Confirmation. **Altar Servers** are needed, especially at the Saturday Evening Mass. Anyone, third grade and above can be an Altar Server.

For Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers, training will consist of one two-hour session. Some theology and a practicum will enable you to minister effectively. If you would like to become a Lector, please email me or call and we can set up a meeting time for a one to one training. If you would like to become a Communion Minister, training will be held on Wednesday, January 20 at 6:30 PM in the Church and a repeat of it will be on Saturday, January 23 from 11:00AM to 1:00 PM. **Please call me at 248-477-7470 x 202 or email me at [timwestfallsgp@gmail.com](mailto:timwestfallsgp@gmail.com) to reserve your spot for the training.**

For those interested in becoming an Altar Server, training will consist of some explanation as to why we do things, a tour of the church and a practice. Altar Server Training will be held on Saturday, January 23 from 1:30 PM to 3:00 PM and will continue on the following Saturday, January 30 from 11:00 AM to 1:30 PM. Please call or email if you are interested or have questions.

Another aspect of Liturgical Ministry is families. In some parishes that I know of, they have what is called a Family Ministry for the Liturgy. Sometimes a family will serve and take on other roles in the Liturgy. I am exploring the idea of this ministry here at St. Gerald and the possibility of having this at one of the masses each week or monthly.

If you are “on” Facebook, you might want to “like” our parish page there. Just look up, *St. Gerald Catholic Church* and “like” us! Or go to the following link: <https://www.facebook.com/St-Gerald-Catholic-Church-217736158327755/?ref=hl>. We will provide a link every week to our parish bulletin and post articles, pictures and other information. May God's blessings be upon each of us this week.

## CORE NIGERIA NEWS FROM FATHER FESTUS

Dear Parishioners,

I arrived late into Lagos on the 3rd of January, stayed a night and flew out to my hometown on the 4th. Since the morning of my arrival, I have been working and delegating some people to assist me preparing for the medical mission and Soup kitchen. Having heard that I came home, many have come to make sure we're continuing this mission of mercy especially not knowing if my father's death would terminate the mission. Some have also come to express their condolences regarding my father's death since they didn't get the chance to do so during my father's burial.

I have commenced setups for this weekend as I was told by the pastor that the announcement was made and the congregation went into an uncontrollable applause. So, I anticipate a bigger crowd this time around. I have also contacted the Sister Dr. who assured me that seven doctors have committed to come. I will keep you posted as things develop. Keep us in your prayers as I promise to pray for you too.

**Blessings! Fr. Festus**

# Youth Group News

This evening we are having subs with Buds! Join us at 5:00 PM -7:00 PM for subs, and miracle games! All confirmation students and high school teen and their friends are invited. Our next Youth group is March 13,2016 and we are going for laser tag!

## Youth Ministry Calendar:

- January 17 Youth Group 5 - 7 PM
- January 24 Karin Kids 3 - 4:30 PM  
Confirmation Session 8, 6 - 8 PM
- January 31 Sr. Barb Vocations presentation 4 PM  
Confirmation Session 9, 6 - 8 PM
- February 6 Mardi Gras Party

### “Why JESUS Matters,” Fr. Patrick Gonyeau Tuesday, January 26 from 7:00 - 9:00 PM St. Gerald Church

Fr. Gonyeau, once a fallen-away Catholic, experienced a great period of conversion that not only led him back to the Catholic Faith, but also to his vocation. Come and hear his fascinating story! Following his talk there will be an opportunity to ask questions. Father will complete the evening with a slow motion Mass. Free will offering.



### SAVE THE DATE

St. Gerald Parish  
Mardi Gras Celebration  
Saturday, February 6th  
6:30 PM - 9:30 PM  
Music and entertainment  
for all ages

### Food Pantry Items needed:

- |                     |                             |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Tea Bags 48 ct.     | Canned Ham or Chicken       |
| Tuna Helper         | Spaghetti Sauce and Noodles |
| Canned Fruit        | Cookies                     |
| Snacks for children | Big Cans Soup               |
| Shampoo             | Juice Boxes                 |

Place donations in bins located in main entrance of church. Thank you!



Support elderly religious. A parishioner writes, "As a Catholic school student from grades K-12, I was formed to be the person I am by many religious brothers and sisters, and I am forever grateful." Show your appreciation for the senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who made a positive difference in so many lives. Please give generously to next week's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Please take an envelope home, from the end of the pew, and return next weekend in the second collection basket. Thank You!

### PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK. . .

- |                 |                     |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Wanda Reiner    | Kimberly Plonka     |
| Beth McLaughlin | Corinne Wedge       |
| Bill Walker     | Wanda Johnson       |
| Robin Kafcas    | Ralph Wenski        |
| Bernie Fox      | Erin Malloy-Sidaway |
| Daron Tilburt   | Sofia Weiland       |
| Gina Riggi      | Frank Adams         |
| Nancy Kolliker  | Andy Mosher         |
| Emily Choike    |                     |



## Pancake Breakfast



Please join us for a pancake breakfast on Sunday, January 24th, hosted by our Knights of Columbus. The breakfast will be offered following the 8:30 AM and 10:15 AM Masses. Tickets will be sold at the door. The prices are as follows:

- \$7.00 Adults
- \$3.00 Child (K thru 8th Grade)
- \$20 Family (2 adults and 3 children)



## EVANGELIZATION

### EVANGELIZATION...What's your role?

It is our commitment to act justly, protect human dignity, and to share God's love with others. That is evangelization. That is our role in the community. Share by invitation; if you're here, bring a friend to share it with you.

Mark your calendar for upcoming activities: **2016** (all events held in the Social Hall, unless specified)

**Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup> @ 8:00 PM - Adult Date Night**  
Couples are invited to attend a night of adult fellowship, games and music. Euchre, charades, and other games are planned. BYOB, and a snack to share. Feel free to bring your own game preference.

Become **RADIO-ACTIVE**: listen to *Ave Maria Radio AM 990*; you'll enjoy learning more about faith and practices. Listen, be informed...and **PASS IT ON!**

If you, or someone you know is interested in joining the Evangelization Committee, please call our parish secretary at 248-477-7470 for next meeting date.

**POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR JANUARY**  
Vatican City, 2015 (VIS) – The Holy Father's universal prayer intention for January 2016 is: "That sincere dialogue among men and women of different faiths may produce the fruits of peace and justice".

His intention for evangelisation is: "That by means of dialogue and fraternal charity and with the grace of the Holy Spirit, Christians may overcome divisions".

To the Parish Family of St. Gerald:  
As Fr. Festus had mentioned a couple weeks ago during the weekend masses, we are trying to update our parish data system and are encouraging registered members to use their contribution envelopes each week when attending Mass. If you contribute electronically, we understand that you do not use parish envelopes, and we will not take you off St. Gerald as a registered member. If you are going through financial difficulties, please put your empty envelope in the collection basket, so we know you are practicing your faith as a parishioner at St. Gerald. Thank you for your cooperation!

### LENT/SPRING SCRIPTURE STUDY – THE GOSPEL OF 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 the Gospel of Matthew.



Location: **St. Gerald's Church hall**  
Time: Wednesday evenings 7:00 to 8:30 PM  
Dates: **March 2 – May 4, 2016**

**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.

### MOMS GROUP

My name is Susan Horsburgh and I am the Family Representative for our parish. Years ago, when I started attending church in this building, there was a group formed where I met lots of people and made lots of new friends. It was a Moms group. Some of our activities included: moms night out, play groups, babysitting co-ops, and annual moms Christmas party, Euchre, etc. As your family rep., I would like to start up a group like that again. This group is open to moms of ALL ages. If this is something you are interested in, please contact the parish office at 248-477-7470 and leave your name and contact information and I will get back with you or if you have any suggestions concerning family matters at St. Gerald Church, just call 248-477-7470; leave your contact information and a description of the matter and I'll get back with you. Thank You!



**Observed:  
January 18, 2016**

### UPDATE FROM ST. ALEXANDER'S FOOD PANTRY

While the Christmas holiday is becoming a distant memory, St. Alexander's Food Pantry is still reflecting on the many blessings that we received during the month of December 2015. Although we were only open 12 days during the month, we served 113 families in addition to preparing 150 food boxes for our Christmas Distribution on December 19th. None of this would have been possible without the efforts and donations of many, many people.

Thank you to all of our donors, especially St. Gerald Church, Our Lady of Sorrows, St. Fabian, Nardin Park United Methodist, Faith Covenant, First Presbyterian, St. John Lutheran, the Senior Center at the Costick Center, Starbucks of Downtown Farmington, the Goodfellows, Toys for Tots, the Harley Hogs, Heartfelt Harvest, Costco, Wing Stop, Forgotten Harvest, Todd Lipa, Knights from the St. Francis Council and Knights from St. Gerald.

We are fortunate that residents in our community share our mission and our vision and work cooperatively to help provide for those who need assistance. Happy New Year to all! St. Alexander's Food Pantry




**KNIGHTS CORNER**


**Knights Serve Pancakes Next Sunday; Unite at Family Communion Mass Jan. 31**

A new wrinkle for this pancake breakfast is a \$1 OFF coupon is being offered on the flyers announcing the event. Because of increased prices by our suppliers, a \$1 increase in an adult ticket was deemed necessary. To soften the effect on seniors and others on limited incomes, the coupon was authorized.

Event Manager Dave Bednarski will have a signup sheet at Tuesday’s membership meeting for those of you who can work the breakfast. A couple of hours of your time will be a big help. A couple of things to keep in mind if you volunteer: wear your Council shirt, cap and apron, if you have one, and workers eat free, the family must have a ticket.

Speaking of our red aprons – we have several members who are eligible to receive a free one, having worked enough events. However, they are not third degree members as required. Another major degree is scheduled in our district for May 9. Membership Director Shatomi Kerbawy will have more information on the subject at Tuesday’s meeting.

A few members and their spouses are needed on January 31 when the Council will be staffing the Sunday fellowship after all the Sunday masses. We also will join together for a Family Communion Mass at 10:15 AM. Please remember to sit in the reserved pews in the right center section in front of the ambo. 



**The Stewardship Commission Needs Your Help**  
 In order to get a head start on the St. Gerald outside grounds clean up and maintenance for this Spring, a committee is being formed. No experience is needed. Because of the size of our property, many hands are needed. If you are interested in becoming part of this committee, please call the parish office at 248-477-7470. Please consider getting involved to help keep the outside grounds of the church neat and tidy, so we can be proud of our parish and set a good example to our surrounding community. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

**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.....x 212  
 Email: stgeraldsecretary@yahoo.com

**All other offices dial (248) 476-7677**

- Christian Services**
- 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**                      **Accountant**
- Mark Koss                              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.**

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