

The VOICE



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.

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.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 17, 2016

The readings for the Fourth Sunday of Easter speak to some of the challenges faced by the earliest believers in Jesus as the crucified and resurrected Messiah. Despite rejection and duress, the early Christians kept their faith in the resurrected Jesus as their shepherd.

In the Acts of the Apostles, Luke records the apostle Paul going on three missionary journeys: Acts 13:4—14:27; 15:36—18:22; 18:23—21:16. Scholars have estimated that Paul traveled an astonishing ten thousand miles for his missionary work over his thirty-year career of evangelization. Today's reading from Acts offers some details of Paul's first mission to the Gentiles at Pisidian Antioch. In brief, the Jews rejected Paul and his coworker Barnabas, but the Gentiles accepted them. This Jewish rejection-Gentile acceptance is a pattern that emerges in Paul's first mission (13:44-52; 14:1-7, 8-20), which involved journeying to the island of Cyprus (13:4-12) and the regions of Pamphylia, Pisidia, and Lycaonia in the province of Asia Minor. On this first mission, according to Luke, despite rejection and even persecution by the Jews, Paul and Barnabas established churches among Gentile believers in Pisidian Antioch (heard in today's reading), as well as Iconium and Derbe (Acts 13:13—14:28). Curiously, Paul viewed his evangelization of his fellow Jews as his first priority: "It was necessary that the word of God be spoken to you first." And he also saw his Jewish opponents are integral to God's plan: "but since you reject it and condemn yourselves as unworthy of eternal life, we now turn to the Gentiles. For so the Lord has commanded us, *I have made you a light to the Gentiles, that you may be an instrument of salvation to the ends of the earth.*"

The second reading from the Revelation of John is part of the initial vision of heaven heard last Sunday. The entire first vision, Revelation 4:1—8:1, contains both the vision of the scroll and the lamb and the breaking of the seven seals. Still in heaven, John now witnesses the Lamb (Jesus) breaking the seven seals of the scroll in turn. The breaking of each of the first six seals in heaven corresponds to cataclysmic events that are to occur on Earth in the near future to all unbelievers. Before the seventh seal is broken, John sees two other visions: the 144,000 "marked" (saved) from the twelve tribes of Israel and those who kept the faith, those who faithfully endured and "survived the time of great distress," and who now receive their reward in heaven. Today's second reading presents this second vision, the triumph of the elect. John offers an enduring message of hope for Christians of all ages who suffer for their belief in the resurrected Christ.

The Gospel reading is actually a pre-Resurrection story from the Gospel of John and follows Jesus' Good Shepherd discourse (Jn 10:1-21). In today's reading, following the Good Shepherd discourse, Jesus is engaged in a larger debate with some of the Jews who challenge him on his identity as the Messiah. Jesus rejects the criticism of his Jewish opponents on the grounds that they are unbelievers who do not "hear" his "voice." In the Gospel of John, those who believe in Jesus as the Son of God, the "Word made flesh" (Jn 1:14) is a gift given by the Father: "My Father ... has given them [believers] to me."

The opening words in today's Gospel reading present an interesting definition of Christian discipleship: "My sheep hear my voice." For Jesus, true followers are able to discern his voice among all the noise that clutters and claims our attention.

Dr. Daniel J. Scholz

A Week Ahead



WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS APRIL 18 - APRIL 21

Monday 9:15 AM

Marino and Rosa Benedettini
Requested by Graziano Canini

Tuesday 9:15 AM

Laurina and Giuseppe Marciano
Requested by Armando Zanotti

Wednesday 9:15 AM

Simon and Anna Lati
Requested by Bill and Joanne Croitori

Thursday 7:00 PM

John Violante
Requested by Wojnar Family

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY: ACTS 11:1-18/Ps 42:2-3; 43:3-4/JN 10:1-10

TUESDAY: ACTS 11:19-26/Ps 87:1-7/JN 10:22-30

WEDNESDAY: ACTS 12:24--13:5A/Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8/JN 12:44-50

THURSDAY: ACTS 13:13-25/Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25, 27/JN 13:16-20

FRIDAY: ACTS 13:26-33/Ps 2:6-11/JN 14:1-6

SATURDAY: ACTS 13:44-52/Ps 98:1-4/JN 14:7-14

**NEXT SUNDAY: ACTS 14:21-27/Ps 145:8-13/RV 21:1-5A/
JN 13:31-33A, 34-35**

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(FOR A LIST OF DAILY READINGS: GO TO [HTTP://WWW.USCCB.ORG/NAB](http://www.usccb.org/nab))



BUNDLE DAYS

**Time to start your spring cleaning!
On the weekend of**

**May 7 and 8 the St. Vincent de Paul truck will be
here for your donations.**

(Unwearable clothing and shoes are welcome for recycling)

CELEBRATION OF FIRST COMMUNION



**Sunday, April 24th,
12:00 PM Mass**

All are welcome!

**Please keep our First Communion
Candidates and
their families in your prayers.**

World Day of Prayer for Vocations



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.

April 24, 2016 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

5:00 PM April 23 Fr. Festus

For Joann Pavco Requested by Joe Pavco	Servers	Servers Needed
	Lector/ Ushers	Tim Westfall 5:00A

8:30 AM April 24 Fr. Kaiser

For Bernadette Grix Requested by Jim & Karen Ziegler	Servers	John Smith Gabe Smith Carter Cannon
	Lector/ Ushers	Ray Pisani 8:30B

10:15 AM April 24 Fr. Festus

For Robert Smith Requested by Fr. Festus & Staff	Servers	Grace Pagnucco Ashley Grabinski Claire Pagnucco
	Lector/ Ushers	Gerryanna Luscri 10:15B

12:00 Noon April 24 Fr. Festus

For Sante Tullio Requested by Mr. & Mrs. Nazzareno Troiani	Servers	Servers Needed
	Lectors/ Ushers	Mary Power 12:00B

Sacristan Schedule for Next Two Weeks

April 23 and 24

Team A

April 30

Team D

Offertory Snapshot



Actual Offertory for Weekend of April 3	\$ 9,588.00
Budget Offertory for Weekend of April 3	\$ 9,334.00
Actual Offertory July 1 - April 3	\$348,650.00
Budget Offertory July 1 - April 3	\$373,330.00



FOOD PANTRY NEEDS . . .

Canned Fruit
Tuna Helper
Macaroni and Cheese
Microwaveable Boxed Entrees
Dish Detergent
Tuna Fish
Snacks for Children
Cleaning Products

CHRISTIAN SERVICE



St. Gerald is taking on a community project and is in need of your help. We need about 26 volunteers on April 30th to help a family in our area who is in need of assistance in home repairs.

We are also looking for people who have expertise in electrical, carpentry, plumbing etc. If you can volunteer, call Christian Service at 248-477-7471, ext. 204.

You can also go to their website at Rebuilding Together Oakland County and sign up on their website.

We are also looking for monetary donations to help with the purchase of materials for the work day. You can drop donations off at the Parish Office on Monday through Thursday. Thank you!

HEALTH MINISTRY NEWS . . .

May Health Observances

www.cdc.gov/stroke/stroke_awareness_month.htm

Better Hearing and Speech...

www.asha.org/bhsm

June Health Observances

National Cancer Survivors Day...

www.ncsd.org

Dates to remember:

April 27 - Heartsaver CPR/AED class 10:30 AM to 2:00 PM
(please contact Mary Hoots to register)

May 3 - Heartsaver First Aid Class
10:30 AM to 2:00 PM (please contact Mary Hoots to register)

May 15 - Blood Pressure Screening

July 17 - Blood Drive 8 AM to 1:45 PM

*more details to follow

Future plans:

October-Flu Clinic

Blood Pressures- none in June, July, August

Please check out the Health Ministry table in the social hall. Help yourself to any of the handouts.

Barbara Seabolt

Parish Health Ministry

blseabolt@mi.rr.com

FORMATION



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CONFIRMANDI

On Saturday, April 16th, twenty young people were received as full members of the Catholic Church through the Sacrament of Confirmation conferred by Bishop Francis Reiss. We congratulate them as they continue on their faith journey. They are: **Grace Bednarski, Luke Braska, David Buckley, Justin Bugeja, Rosemarie Burns-Pavlik, Kenneth Davis, Matthew Dennison,**

Eleanor Gagner, Isabelle Gerhart, Troy Gietek, Elaine Girsch, James Hanrahan, David Harrison, Jaclyn Jose, Jenna Keeney, James Neuhaus, Emily Pace, Grace Pagnucco, Maria Piasentin and Matthew Williams.

SAVE THE DATE!



*June 20th thru June 24th
9:00 AM-12:00 PM*

*at St. Fabian Church
and*

*August 3rd thru August 7th
10:15 AM-12:45 PM
at St. Gerald Church*

PARLEZ VOUS FRANCAIS?

On Sunday, May 15th, the Solemnity of Pentecost will be upon us. We, as members of the Church, will celebrate the gift of the Spirit to all people on Pentecost Sunday, the Birthday of the Church.

We will be proclaiming the Scriptures in various languages; the first reading in particular. If you can read or speak in another language, and wish to participate in the reading please contact Tim Westfall at the Parish Office. Maybe you would like to proclaim the Scriptures in your native language or a learned language. We will have copies of the readings available. Just let us know of your interest. If interested, please call or email. Thank you.

MONTHLY UPDATE FROM ST. ALEXANDER'S FOOD PANTRY

March proved to be an especially busy month for us at the Food Pantry this year because of the earlier than normal date for Easter on March 27th. Not only did we serve 109 families during a shortened month since we were closed during Holy Week, but we also prepared 100 Easter Food boxes which were distributed on March 19th. We are so very grateful for the support from the St. Gerald parishioners who accepted our invitation to fill a grocery bag or two for our Easter Food project. All of you should take great pride in the fact that approximately 150 bags were returned to church which absolutely put us over the top in terms of meeting our food needs! A shout out of appreciation also goes to the Knights from St. Gerald who broke down 500 pounds of potatoes a few days prior to the distribution.

Thank you to each and every person who continues to support our outreach program including all of the individual donors during the month of March. We are equally appreciative of our group donors including parishioners from St. Gerald, Our Lady of Sorrows, St. Fabian, Nardin Park United Methodist, First Presbyterian, St. John Lutheran, Faith Covenant, North Congregational Church, the Knights of Columbus from Our Lady of Sorrows, Gleaners, Forgotten Harvest, Focus Hope, the Senior Center at the Costick Center, Wing Stop of Livonia, Club General Motors, Costco, Detroit Burger Bar, the Grand Tavern, Starbucks of Downtown Farmington and Busch's Market.

It has been said that it takes a village to raise a child. It is also worth reminding that it takes a caring community to support an outreach program that feeds the hungry citizens of our community! May God bless all of you for your generosity. **St. Alexander's Food Pantry**



EVANGELIZATION

**Jesus commissioned us to invite others to know HIM...
To be dynamic, transformed, and enriched
by Unleashing the Gospel in our lives.**

Join us for Synod 2016 at St. Gerald Church on Monday, April 25th at 7:00 PM
Hospitality and refreshments will be available.

“Synods are by God’s grace something powerful in the life of the Church, a way to grow together. Our community will come together in the midst of the Holy Spirit to discern where He seems to take us in order to re-evangelize ourselves and our culture.

By listening to what the members say in the synod, I will be able to discern and ratify the work of the Holy Spirit, and it will be a time of great grace.”

Most Rev. Allen H. Vigneron, Archbishop of Detroit

For information on other dialogue locations, go to:

www.aod.org/our-archdiocese/archdiocesan-synods/synod-16/parish-dialogue-gatherings/

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST. GERALD:

Saturday, April 30th - Amazing Grace Conference at St. Gerald 8:00 AM



Friday, May 6th - Theology on Tap at The Italian-American Club of Livonia

June - Movie Night “The Way” with Martin Sheen

Future Game Night dates to be announced soon.

(save the dates and watch for details)

Volunteers interested in promoting St. Gerald Church at the Farmington Founder’s

Festival Thurs-Sat. July 14, 15, 16 are asked to call

Gerryanna at 248-477-5098. **Thank you!!**

to those who plan our events, and all those who participate in making them successful.

CATHEDRAL CULTURAL SERIES

The Cathedral Cultural Series presents “Monteverdi 1610 Vespers” at the Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Detroit next Sunday, April 24.

Renowned early music ensemble Dark Horse Consort will join up-and-coming chamber choir Audivi to present the liturgical masterpiece. Noah Horn will conduct this first performance of the Vespers in Detroit on period instruments.

Sacred music is an important part of the new evangelization. Your gifts to the Catholic Services Appeal fund music ministries at the Cathedral and St. John’s, as well as throughout the Archdiocese, including the Cathedral Cultural Series and the Archdiocesan Chorus.

Tickets for the performance, which begins at 3 PM, are \$30 or \$15 for students. For more information about this and other CSA-funded ministries, programs, and services, please go to www.aod.org.

A week ahead:

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8:40 am Rosary	8:40 am Rosary	8:40 am Rosary	10:30 am SVDP Meeting	7:30 pm Holy Hour	9:00 am Parish Grounds Clean-up	5th Sunday of Easter
9:15 am Mass	9:15 am Mass	9:15 am Mass	6:20 pm Rosary	8:00 pm AA Meeting	3:30 pm Confessions	8:30 am Mass
5:30 pm First Communion Rehearsal	9:45 am Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions	11:00 am Sophia Sisters	7:00 pm Mass		5:00 pm Confirmation Mass	10:15 am Mass
	7:00 pm K of C Membership Meeting	7:00 pm Vicariate Bible Study	7:00 pm K of C Open House			12:00 pm First Communion Mass with Reception following
						6:00 pm Youth Group

KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS FOR ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

We thank all of you who have enrolled your Kroger Plus Cards with our St. Vincent de Paul Conference here at St. Gerald. As a result, we have received \$1,129.96 from Kroger over the past year. This, along with all the other support we receive from our generous parishioners, enables us to help the less fortunate in our area with food, rent, utility assistance, and other needs.

For a person to re-enroll simply go to www.krogercommunityrewards.com.

- Click "sign-in".
- Put in your e-mail address and password that you used to enroll your card.
- Put in the group number 90868
- Choose the correct organization. Click "Enroll"

If you have not already done so, you can enroll your Kroger Plus Card with us by following the steps below. **This will in no way effect the rewards you receive personally from your card.**

If this is the first time you are registering, you will need to set-up an account first.

Go to www.krogercommunityrewards.com.

- Click "Create an account"
- Put in your e-mail address and create a password. Confirm the password.
- Enter plus card or alternate ID number
- Go to Community Rewards (near bottom)
- Follow the steps (name, address, etc.)
- Choose Organization 90868. Click Enroll.

You will be enrolled for the May 1st 2016 to April 30th 2017 year.

**YOUR HELP IS GREATLY NEEDED ON SATURDAY,
APRIL 23TH AT 9:00 AM
ST. GERALD SPRING CLEAN-UP!**

All help is appreciated! Please bring your own rakes, gloves, garden tools, and a willingness to work. (Please label your tools so they are easily identified.) If you can't bring your own tools, limited numbers of tools are available. Teens who need community service hours this is your opportunity to serve outside! Gardeners who wish to help out we need your hands too. Many hands make lighter the load.



Thank you so much for those who donated yard waste bags for church use! We go through them quickly and we will be needing bags all season long. Please drop the bags off in the designated brown bag in the social hall.

Each Garden Region is in need of at least one helper for each region so that the region is always being cared for in the spring, summer and fall seasons. Please sign up on the region board in the social hall under the region you would like to help maintain.

Refreshments and snacks will be provided. (You may want to bring your own personal water bottle.)

If you have questions you would like answered before you sign on, please feel free to call: NANCY at 248-943-6272 or GERRYANNA at 734-341-1999

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

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK...

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Wanda Reiner | Beth Croitori |
| Bill Walker | Robin Kafcas |
| Daron Tilburt | Andy Mosher |
| John MacDougall | Emily Choike |
| Corinne Wedge | Wanda Johnson |
| Ralph Wenski | Erin Malloy-Sidaway |
| Sofia Weiland | Nancy Kolliker |
| Margaret Joyal | Mary Ann Alcalan |
| Lorrie Aldrich | Joan Miele |
| Joan M. Preston | Dennis Hill |
| Stephen Cleary | Patricia Drobot |
| Robert Lindenmuth | Laurie Aldrich |
| Paula Springer | Andy Vermiglio |

We pray for our loved ones serving in the Armed Forces and for peace in the world.

**WE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF
THE SOULS OF
JOSEPH JOYAL**

+

JUNE 24, 1924

APRIL 11, 2016

AND

SYLVIA KERZKA

+

SEPTEMBER 14, 1925

APRIL 5, 2016

AND

GERALD KOPASZ

+

MARCH 1, 1937

APRIL 11, 2016



ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO JOSEPH, SYLVIA AND GERALD O LORD, AND MAY PERPETUAL LIGHT SHINE UPON THEM



KNIGHTS CORNER

Nominations for Council Officer Positions Open at Tuesday's Membership Meeting

Nominations for new one year terms for most Council officers will open at Tuesday's April 19 membership meeting. The nominating process will remain open until closing during the May 17 membership meeting. The election will take place at the May session. With the announcement by GK Darren Losey that he will not seek a second term, a succession policy adopted several years ago will take effect. That policy provides that when the GK post is vacated, the Deputy GK will step up and the Chancellor move up to DGK. DGK Fred Gerometta and Chancellor Dave Bednarski said they will accept nomination for GK and DGK respectively. All Council elected positions except two of the Trustee posts are involved in the election process. Trustee terms continuing past June 30 are held by PGKs Bruce Roberts (2017) and Patrick Rodgers (2018). Terms of appointees Financial Secretary Bob Kuhr, Membership Director Shatomi Kerbawy, Lecturer Fernando Guerra and Program Director Tom McPhail also end June 30. Nominees must be members in good standing and have received the third degree of our Order. A member can nominate himself or have a fellow Knight do it. A list of Council officer position with a brief description of their duties will be provided members prior to Tuesday's meeting. Terms are for one year beginning July 1 except that of Trustee, which is for three years.

Members with handyman skills are sought for three projects. The first is an April 23 clean up of the parish grounds – see details elsewhere in this issue. The second is a Christian Service Commission project April 30 that involves home repairs – also see details elsewhere in this issue. Our Council also is supporting the home repair project with a \$300 donation. The third project is painting an outdoor breeze way May 13 -14 at the Sacred Heart Monastery on Inkster Road south of Northwestern Highway along with Knights from nearby Councils. This is a continuation of work started last Fall by the Knights.

St. Gerald will be hosting:
AMAZING GRACE CONFERENCE
CELEBRATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MARIAN PEACE CENTER OF DETROIT
 Saturday, April 30, 2016
 8 AM Rosary followed by Mass and May Crowning
 Two talks by Patti, renowned author and speaker and testimony by Mark Livingston
Speakers:
 Patti Armstrong, Fr. Aaron DePeyster, Seminarian Mark Livingston
 Cost: \$20 - Includes morning refreshments, lunch, cake, and beverages
 For more information: Lil, 248-559-4544 or Eleanor, 586-268-3731

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

- Candy Desjarlais: Christian Service Coordinator x 204
 Email: desjarlais.candy@gmail.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

Ministries Assistant - Purchaser

- Cathy Long x 222
 Email: clong123@gmail.com

Maintenance

Mark Koss

Accountant

Kim Shepard

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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