

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.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER APRIL 24, 2016

In the Gospel reading for the Fifth Sunday of Easter, Jesus issues a “new commandment” to his disciples: “love one another.” Living out this love commandment would become one of the defining characteristics that guided and grounded the early church.

The first reading from the Acts of the Apostles is the concluding comments by Luke on Paul’s first missionary journey (13:4—14:27). This final leg of their missionary journey is actually quite shocking. Paul and Barnabas’ preaching in the city of Lystra ended in near disaster: “Some Jews from Antioch and Iconium,” two cities they evangelized before arriving in Lystra, “stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing that he was dead” (Acts 14:19). In the opening remarks in today’s reading, we hear that Paul and Barnabas actually “returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch” (emphasis added). Despite being nearly stoned to death, Paul went back to those cities (after recovering) in order to make a bold statement: “It is necessary for us to undergo many hardships to enter the kingdom of God.” Paul’s courageous witness to the faith and unconditional commitment to his call from the risen Lord to bring the good news to the Gentiles “opened the door of faith to the Gentiles.” Luke preserves these details about the life of Paul that allow us to see why Paul became so legendary even during his own lifetime. Paul’s willingness to endure suffering while loving even his enemies provided a role model for believers in the early church.

Throughout the Easter season, we have been hearing from the Revelation of John. For these final three Sundays, the second readings will offer details from John’s final vision. In today’s reading, John sees a new heaven and a new earth where God and humans dwell together in everlasting peace. The new heavenly Jerusalem is beautifully adorned, and the faithful live in perfect union with God and the Lamb: “Behold, God’s dwelling is with the human race.” There are no tears, no more pain, and even no more death. The “old order” has passed away, and God declares, “Behold, I make all things new.” In John’s apocalyptic worldview, all of history is being orchestrated to this end. For those who have kept the faith during the times of distress (cataclysmic events anticipated by John to occur within the lifetime of the Johannine congregations), a new heaven and a new earth awaits them as an eternal reward.

The Gospel reading comes from the opening scene of John’s farewell discourse, John 13–17. In the immediate aftermath of washing the feet of the disciples and announcing that Judas would betray him, Jesus began to speak about himself (as Son of Man) and God in terms of being “glorified.” The word “glory” is first mentioned in the Prologue (“And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father’s only Son, full of grace and truth,” 1:14). Between the Prologue and the farewell discourse, John uses the term “glory” or “glorified” a total of twelve times. In today’s reading, Jesus speaks of the “glory” of God made manifest in his upcoming victory over death on the cross: “Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him.” Jesus then invites the disciples to share in this glory between the Father and the Son by following his “new commandment” to love one another just as he has loved them. Jesus uses the term *agapē* to describe the depth of love he is requiring of those who would call themselves his “disciples.”

In today’s readings, Paul models this depth of love that Jesus expects of his followers. And John (in the Revelation of John) challenges members of his congregations to do the same.

Dr. Daniel J. Scholz

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

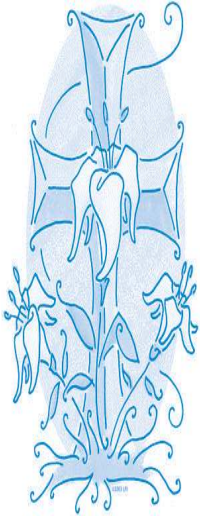
WEEKDAYS

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 APRIL 25 - APRIL 28

Monday 9:15 AM
Laurius and Carmen Pierre
 Requested by Corkery Family

Tuesday 9:15 AM
Dennis Paslawski
 Requested by Christine Paslawski

Wednesday 9:15 AM
Maria Camilleri
 Requested by Family

Thursday 7:00 PM
**Dobbs, Kemp, Trayer,
 Robrecht and Donarman Families**
 Requested by C. Kemp

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**MONDAY: 1 PT 5:5B-14/PS 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17/
 MK 16:15-20**

**TUESDAY: ACTS 14:19-28/PS 145:10-13, 21/
 JN 14:27-31A**

WEDNESDAY: ACTS 15:1-6/PS 122:1-5/JN 15:1-8

THURSDAY: ACTS 15:7-21/PS 96:1-3, 10/JN 15:9-11

FRIDAY: ACTS 15:22-31/PS 57:8-10, 12/JN 15:12-17

SATURDAY: ACTS 16:1-10/PS 100:1-3, 5/JN 15:18-21

**NEXT SUNDAY: ACTS 15:1-2, 22-29/PS 67:2-3, 5-6, 8/
 RV 21:10-14, 22-23/JN 14:23-29**

LITURGICAL PUBLICATIONS INC

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

May 1, 2016 SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

5:00 PM April 30 Fr. Festus		
For Irene Fiori Requested by Joan Fiori	Servers	Servers Needed
	Lector/ Ushers	Lyda DelRosario 5:00B
8:30 AM May 1 Fr. Festus		
For Harold Barr Requested by Donna Greca	Servers	Servers Needed
	Lector/ Ushers	Paul Borchert 8:30C
10:15 AM May 1 Fr. Roodbeen		
For John Wolski Requested by Josephine Meyers	Servers	Luke Horsburgh Sarah Weber Carter Cannon
	Lector/ Ushers	Caron Kott 10:15C
12:00 Noon May 1 Fr. Festus		
For Bernadette Grix Requested by Jim & Karen Ziegler	Servers	Fernando Guerra Angie Guerra
	Lectors/ Ushers	Paul Radzilowski 12:00A

Sacristan Schedule for Next Two Weeks

April 30
Team D

May 7 and May 8
Team B



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)

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*

Offertory Snapshot



Actual Offertory for Weekend of April 10	\$ 9,658.00
Budget Offertory for Weekend of April 10	\$ 9,334.00
Actual Offertory July 1 - April 10	\$358,308.00
Budget Offertory July 1 - April 10	\$382,664.00



FOOD PANTRY NEEDS . . .

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

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.

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!

Tim's Tidbits

Happy Easter for the 5th Sunday! Christ is Risen! Indeed, He has Risen!! A word of *thank you* to **all** (everyone) who helped with the soup suppers, the Palm Sunday décor, Triduum and Easter décor. I have heard many wonderful comments made by folks about the décor. One lady came running up to me after one of the Masses and was saying, "There is color, color everywhere!" Praise to our Creator! Who created us with color!

Below in the bulletin, you will see two articles about Pentecost. The reading from the Acts, can be done with different languages. If you can read or speak another language, please let me know. Either by calling me at 248-476-7677 x202 or emailing at timwestfall.sgp@gmail.com. Also, wear **Red** to Church on **Pentecost**, and bring along a red geranium that day. They will be planted on the campus to beautify our parish grounds.

Our Synod Dialogue Sessions have taken off. There will be one this Monday, April 25. It is discussed elsewhere in today's bulletin. Synods can change Archdiocesan policy and how it does its business. They do not happen often. In fact, in the Archdiocese, we have only had 10 synods since 1833, the last being in 1969. It's important to receive your input, if you cannot make it to one of the sessions we have at St. Gerald's, there are other neighboring parishes that are having sessions. Please go to aod.org/synod16 and click on the "Parish Dialogue Sessions" link. This will provide you with information about the sessions being held locally.

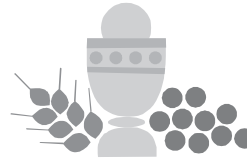
PARLEZ VOUS FRANCAIS?

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.

RED GERANIUMS FOR PENTECOST

On **Pentecost Sunday**, which is May 15th this year, the church celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit with the symbolic color of red. We invite you to bring a potted red geranium to decorate our sanctuary with on Pentecost Sunday. Just bring a potted **red** geranium and place it in the sanctuary. The following week, the red geraniums will be planted on the parish grounds to beautify our campus all season long. Thank you.

FORMATION



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FIRST COMMUNICANTS

On Sunday, April 24th, fifteen children received the sacrament of First Communion. We congratulate them as they continue on their faith journey. They are, **Zak Burns-Pavlik, Andrew Corkery, Kara Hoerner, Lydia Kamn, Charles Karl, Marissa Koon, David Levine, Abigail Losey, Heidi Lukas, Benjamin Machowicz, Katie Martinchick, Alexander Nolan, Karly Swaine, Giuliana Truant and Luke Williams.**

Each child designed their own pew banner, which hung at the end of each family's pew during the Mass. These banners will be on display beginning next weekend, but will soon go home with the children as a reminder of their special day. Many children also served as Prayer of the Faithful readers, gift bearers, greeters and cross bearers.

Thank you to the First Communion catechists who gave so much of their time in helping to prepare these children, they are: **Sandi Liwak and Susan Hill.** Thank you also to the many parishioners who served as ushers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, servers and lector. Finally, a very special thank you to **Mary Zelinski and the St. Gerald Parish Choir** for the lovely music, **Michele Hylko, Candy, Tom, Zach and Hunter Desjarlais, along with First Grade families** for the gracious reception hosted for our communicants.

Finally, a very special thank you to **Joseph Pavco** for making arrangements to have all the First Communicants remembered by the Priests of the Sacred Heart in a special celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

HEALTH MINISTRY NEWS . . .

May Health Observances
www.cdc.gov/stroke/stroke_awareness_month.htm
 Better Hearing and Speech...
www.asha.org/bhsm

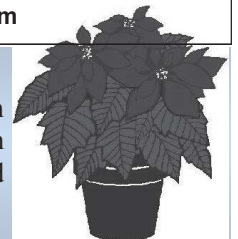
June Health Observances
 National Cancer Survivors Day...
www.ncsd.org

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

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





Archbishop Vigneron encourages everyone, of any age, to participate in SYNOD 2016.

Join us here at St. Gerald, on Monday, April 25th at 7:00 PM or Saturday, May 14th at 9:00 AM to give your input at a dialogue session with other parish members and our community.

Hospitality and refreshments will be available.

Other area churches are also offering dates that may suit your schedule; visit AOD.org for more details.



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

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST. GERALD:

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.

A look at the week ahead:

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
8:40 am Rosary	8:40 am Rosary	8:40 am Rosary	6:20 pm Rosary	7:30 pm Holy Hour	8:00 am Mass and Speaker/ Marian Peace Center	6 th Sunday of Easter Fellowship Sunday
9:15 am Mass	9:15 am Mass	9:15 am Mass	7:00 pm Mass	8:00 pm AA Meeting	3:30 pm Confessions	8:30 am Mass
7:00 pm Parish Synod Dialogue Session	9:45 am Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions	10:30 am CPR Training			5:00 pm Mass	10:15 am Children's Liturgy of the Word
		7:00 pm Vicariate Bible Study				10:15 am Mass 12:00 pm Mass

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.



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

**We welcome to the
 Body of Christ**

Lily Grace Gentry
 and
Charles Alexander Stinson
 baptized Sunday,
April 17, 2016
 by Rev. Festus Ejimadu

Congratulations to those who made the Sacrament of Confirmation last Saturday at our 5:00 PM Mass with Bishop Francis Reiss. Please keep them in your prayers.



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.

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 M. Preston |
| Rita Knight | Dennis Hill |
| Stephen Cleary | Patricia Drobot |
| Robert Lindenmuth | Laurie Aldrich |
| Paula Springer | Andy Vermiglio |
| Stanley Ptak | Dick Campbell |



KNIGHTS CORNER

Third Degree Ceremony Nearby May 9; Volunteers Needed for Parish, Council Work Projects

Brothers who lack their second and third degrees can qualify to hold a Council office by taking part in the May 9 degree ceremony at nearby Our Lady of Sorrows Church. Registration is at 6 PM with the ceremonies starting at 6:30 PM. Candidates must present their first degree membership card. Contact Membership Director Shatomi Kerbawy at 248-434-7561 so he can reserve a spot and arrange for another Council member to accompany you.

A couple of work projects are in need of volunteers. One is the Christian Service Commission's Rebuilding Together Project April 30. The Council is also supporting this effort with a \$300 donation. See more details on page 3 of this issue.

The painting of an outdoor breezeway is set to continue May 13-14 at the Sacred Heart Monastery on Inkster Road north of the Sara Fisher property. Knights from several area Councils did some scraping and priming earlier this month. The May effort will complete the work, part of a major rehabbing of the facility which is home to cloistered nuns. Frank Gariepy (248-982-7782), the Council's leader for this project has more details.

Plans are being made for a second annual Memorial Mass next month to honor our deceased Council members. Following the mass we will host a reception in the Social Hall for the surviving family members. To help either with mass or the reception contact PGK Rich Smith (313-421-0204). If unable to help, plan on attending with your spouse. Approval of the date is pending; it will be Thursday, May 19 or May 26.

Save These Dates: May 17 – Election of Officers at membership meeting; May 19 or May 26 – Council Memorial Mass and Reception, June 5 – Parish Picnic.

**SCRIPTURE STUDY –
THE GOSPEL OF
MATTHEW
AT ST. GERALD PARISH
WEDNESDAY EVENINGS
AT 7:00 PM**

Father David Santoro, O.P., Chaplain 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.

All are Welcome to this Inter-Parish Scripture Study.

Bring your Bible and/or Ignatius Study guides. No need to register.

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: stgeraldm@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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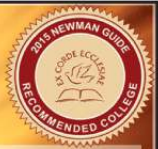
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