

THE VOICE

JANUARY 29, 2017

ST. GERALD

ROMAN CATHOLIC
CHURCH

A Servant Church Of
The Archdiocese of Detroit

21300 Farmington Road
Farmington, Michigan 48336
Phone: 248-477-7470
Fax: 248-477-3878
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.
and 12:00 Noon

WEEKDAYS

Monday, Tuesday, Friday:
9:15 a.m.
Thursday Evening: 7:00 p.m.

RITE OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays: 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.



4th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.
Blessed are the clean of heart,
for they will see God.”

- Mt 5:7-8

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

The Pilgrimage to Poland
May 10 - 20, 2017

Please note that the deadline to sign up for the Pilgrimage to Poland with Father Kris Nowak on the above dates is February 10th. For more information on this pilgrimage, pick up a flyer found on the table in the main entrance of the church. Spread the word, invite a friend! Many activities have been planned for this 11 day excursion. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak with Fr. Kris.

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.

WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS

JANUARY 30 - FEBRUARY 4



Monday 9:15 AM

Ernestine Floyd
 Requested by Brenda Hayes

Tuesday 9:15 AM

Genese Mack
 Requested by Brenda Hayes

Wednesday
NO MASS

Thursday 7:00 PM

Edward Olschansky
 Requested by Mary Lou Olschansky

Friday 9:15 AM

Derek and Beth McLaughlin
 Requested by Croitori Family

Saturday 9:15 AM

For All Our Blessings in 2016
 Requested by Sandeep John and Family

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY: HEB 11:32-40/PS 31/MK 5:1-20
TUESDAY: HEB 12:1-4/PS 22/MK 5:21-43
WEDNESDAY: HEB 12:4-7, 11-15/PS 103/MK 6:1-6
THURSDAY: MAL 3:1-4/PS 24/HEB 2:14-18/LK 2:22-40 OR 2:22-32
FRIDAY: HEB 13:1-8/PS 27/MK 6:14-29
SATURDAY: HEB 13:15-17, 20-21/PS 23/MK 6:30-34
NEXT SUNDAY: IS 58:7-10/PS 112/1 COR 2:1-5/MT 5:13-16
 LITURGICAL PUBLICATIONS INC
 (FOR A LIST OF DAILY READINGS: GO TO [HTTP://WWW.USCCB.ORG/NAB](http://www.usccb.org/nab))

Offertory Snapshot

Actual Offertory for Weekend of January 15 . . . \$ 10,083.00
 Budget Offertory for Weekend of January 15 . . . \$ 8,800.00
 Actual Offertory July 1 - Jan. 15 \$271,513.00
 Budget Offertory July 1 - Jan. 15 \$255,200.00



LET US WELCOME
 OUR NEWEST MEMBERS:

BLENURE CARDOZO
PHILIP DAVIS
ARNOLD AND BARBARA JOHNSON

FEBRUARY 5, 2017
FIFTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00 PM February 4 Fr. Kris		
For Mary David Requested by Family	Servers	Servers Needed
	Lector/ Ushers	Timothy Westfall 5:00A
8:30 AM February 5 Fr. Kris		
For Teagan & Nowak Families Requested by Mary & Paul Nowak & Prayers of God's Blessing for Dorota Mierzicka	Servers	Servers Needed
	Lector/ Ushers	Jim Bergin 8:30B
10:15 AM February 5 Fr. Seweryn		
For Onesta, Antonio, Giuseppe & Neil Morelli Requested by Josephine Rotondo & Family	Servers	Servers Needed
	Lector/ Ushers	Rob Gulick 10:15C
12:00 PM February 5 Fr. Seweryn		
For Paul George Requested by Wife, Children & Grandchildren	Servers	Servers Needed
	Lectors/ Ushers	Chris Greig 12:00A

Sacristan Schedule for Next Two Weeks

February 4 and February 5 February 11 and February 12
 Team B Team C

2016 St. Gerald Contribution Statement

If you need a copy of your 2016 Contribution Statement, please send your request to 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!

ELECTRONIC DEPOSIT OF DONATIONS IS AVAILABLE AT ST. GERALD. FORMS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE PARISH OFFICE OR ON OUR PARISH WEBSITE

TIM'S TIDBITS

Living the Paschal Mystery

The Beatitudes seem to describe behaviors and attitudes that we generally ascribe to those we call "saints." Yet, all of us can name good people we know – truly *good* people. We can name the qualities and actions that lead us to judge them truly *good*. These (and we ourselves) are truly *good* – the blessed.

It is awesome to think that our own halting efforts at being really *good* – at extending mercy, justice and righteousness to others as God has extended them to us – are one means for bringing God's blessedness to others! Simply sharing in God's work of salvation – providing for those in need – is a blessing in itself that brings unequalled happiness. Our deepest happiness comes not from fulfilling our own needs and wants, but from reaching out to others as God reaches out to us in blessing. Happiness that comes from our own desires and efforts is fleeting; the blessings of God that are showered upon us as we live humbly, justly and faithfully last forever. Here's the truly amazing part: the happiness we share now is but a taste of our great reward in heaven!

May God's blessings be upon each of us this week.

BOTSFORD COMMONS COMMUNION MINISTRY

If you are an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, you may want to offer your services to minister to those who reside at Botsford Commons. A group from St. Gerald's conducts a Communion Service every other Sunday at 10:30 AM. One person usually leads the service and others take Eucharist to those who cannot attend the service. At the present, we have three teams and are looking for more help. This ministry is a rewarding experience. Join us on the February 4 training session on Saturday morning at 11:00 AM and it will only last an hour. For more information, please contact Candy Desjarlais, Christian Service Coordinator at extension 204 or Tim Westfall, Pastoral Associate at extension 202. Our email addresses are located on page 6 of the bulletin.

ST. GERALD MOM'S AND WOMEN'S CLUB

The St. Gerald Mom's and Women's Club is a group for women of all ages - from ages 18 through seniors! We get together for fellowship, fun and more!

Our February event will be a Meet and Greet welcoming of our newest members in the Parish Social Hall on Tuesday, February 7th at 6:30 PM. We will have casual conversation and play the game Pictionary. Bring an appetizer or dessert to share, and a beverage of your choice. All women are welcome. As always, feel free to bring a friend. Please RSVP to the Parish Office at 248-477-7470 if you will be attending.

Be sure to check the Voice and the church website for upcoming activities.

FIRST COMMUNION CANDIDATES BEGIN THEIR PREPARATION FOR THE RECEPTION OF THE SACRAMENT OF EUCHARIST



During the 10:15 AM Mass this weekend the children preparing to receive First Communion received their First Eucharist study books. These books are used in the home study portion of the preparation program. Please keep the following children, and their families, in your prayers as they prepare for the reception of their First Holy Communion on April 30th during the noon Mass. They are: **Connor Ast, Kyle Austen, Natalie Bugeja, Mariella Hartman, Vaughn Hoffmayer, Franklin Imel, Anneliese Kelly, Matthew Kelly, Romy Kelly, Addison Kruger, Anna Kruger, Vikoria MacDougall, Molly Medellin, Megan Millar, Ethan Muir, Opal Murray, Kyle Raman, Seth Rutter, Jack Truant and Paige Williams.**

We welcome to the
Body of Christ

Stefania Sikorski
baptized Sunday,
January 22, 2017
by Rev. Krzysztof Nowak

Stefania is the daughter of
Lukasz Sikorski
&
Kate Bensmiller



Food Pantry
Donations Needed

- Peanut Butter
- Jam/Jelly
- Canned Fruit and Soup
- Tuna Helper
- Tuna Fish
- Mac and Cheese
- Juice
- Cereal
- Crackers



Please join us for coffee, donuts and fellowship next Sunday following all the Masses in the Social Hall.

Music Ministry



New Year ... New Plan!

I would like to try this again. I am hoping to practice with children in grades 2 through 6 to begin a children's choir that will sing at the 12 noon Mass on Sundays. The music will be slightly more contemporary and vibrant. I have not had any luck with practices before or after Masses so I will be attempting to have practice on Monday and Tuesday evenings after the Faith Formation classes until 7:30 PM. I will have them promptly out by 7:30 PM as I know there will always be issues of homework and such. This will begin January 30th and January 31st immediately following Faith Formation in the church. They would begin singing in February, 2017 at the 12 noon Mass. They will alternate with the Teen/Youth Choir. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Melonio at mmelonio@aol.com or 734-578-4179.



New Year – Super Plan!

Make a Joyful Noise ... all of you! I am inviting all 7th graders through high school and beyond to join the St. Gerald Teen Group. We will sing at the 12 noon Mass once or twice a month. You will ALSO play instruments, usher, greet, read, serve and everything else needed for a joyful and exhilarating celebration of the MASS!

After Mass, we will join in fellowship with a small meal (or big meal), discussions, games and entertainment. We could incorporate small skits add a movie; all of which will be planned in advance as to notify the parents when to pick up if needed. This would occur once a month to start and possibly grow to twice a month. Mark your calendar!!!! Sunday, January 29th, 2017 will be our next meeting at 7 PM in the Social Hall. Come and share ideas, let's plan events and socialize. See you then! Please contact Mary Melonio at mmelonio@aol.com or 734-578-4179 if you have any questions.

FATHER FESTUS MEDICAL MISSION UPDATE

Father Festus wants to share with everyone the success of his CORE Nigeria 2017 mission. More people than ever came to his medical mission for free treatment, medications and, because Nigeria is in a recession, just to receive food. Children received treatment for fever, malaria, coughs, asthma, etc. The adults were treated for diabetes, high blood pressure, asthma, arthritis and eye issues.

Father visited a government hospital where care is nearly non-existent and managed to relocate some patients to better hospitals. He also negotiated the release of 12 patients who were held against their will for non-payment of their hospital bills. He placed down-payments for others and, depending on how much money he has left, will try to gain their release.

One particularly sad case was an 11 year old boy who needed life-saving cancer surgery but the family had no money. Father managed to relocate him to a better hospital and arrange to pay the cost of the surgery and care. Father said, "The parents are thrilled and beyond themselves."

Father Festus stated, "Please pray that I can accomplish all I have proposed in this visit. I am truly thankful for all those who made this relief effort possible. May God reward every one of my supporters. Blessing to all."

St. Gerald Mom's Corner



St. Gerald Mom's Corner is hosting a table at the February 5th Fellowship Sunday for the moms and their children of the parish to join in making a St. Valentine's Day craft!



"Enjoy fellowship with members of the group and an opportunity to sign up and join us!" There will be a craft for every child!

The purpose of St. Gerald Mom's Corner is to provide mothers with fellowship, support and opportunities to grow their Christian faith to nurture their children with confidence and Christian values. Through activities such as service projects, parties, speakers, outings and discussion – moms are given the opportunity to connect with other moms in support and friendship. The meetings will take place the 3rd Sunday of the month after 12:00 mass in one of the classrooms.



Wanda Reiner
Tony Wadrick
Loretta Zahn
Dick Campbell
Charles Minear
Rita Knight
John MacDougall
Josephine Meyers
Corinne Wedge
Wanda Johnson
Ralph Wenski
Laurie Aldrich
Mary Ann Alcalá
Andy Vermiglio
Joan Gonica
Bill Borchert
Nadeen Ouellette
John Dillon

Beth Croitori
Bill Walker
Carol Reinke
Erin Malloy-Tingle
Andy Mosher
Cyndy Fenech
Emily Choike
Dennis Hill
Megan Schroeder
Stephen Cleary
Nancy Kolliker
Margaret Joyal
Joan Preston
Gerry Makowski
Sue Kowzan
Gabbie Frey
Betsy Hunter

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.



KNIGHTS CORNER

Power Outage Failed to Dim Pancake Breakfast Success; Exact Numbers Next Week

Last Sunday’s Pancake Breakfast was a big success in spite of a power failure midway through the 10:15 AM mass and minutes before the second serving left the Social Hall in the dark. By the time mass finished, the Knights had found and lit about 80 candles and moved trays of ham and sausage from the electric convection oven to the gas-fired oven. Pancake production was unaffected since it is done on a propane gas-fired griddle. A few minutes after the second serving began, parishioner Jon Esper arrived with a gasoline-fired generator and produced more light to supplement the candlepower.

“In spite of the power problems, we probably served the most people in the last five or six years,” Event Manager Dave Bednarski said. “Thanks to all the St. Gerald folks for supporting this effort to help the parish Religious Education Technical Fund.” Bednarski said a big “Atta Boy” is due the 24 Knights who produced the event. They were Rich Blewett, Bill Croitori, Justin Dulong, Doug Foley, Grand Knight Fred Gerometta, Terry Grabinski, Shatomi Kerbawy, Bob Koenig, Ken May and Pat McDonald. Also Tom McPhail, Mike O’Dea, Bruce Roberts, Mike Rometty, Rich Rosowski, Armin Russenberger, Thom Seabolt, Roger Stacey, Tony Wagner, Dennis Weberlein, Andy Williams and Bednarski.

Bednarski also had praise for the eight Confirmation students who bussed tables and served coffee. “They did a great job; you have to admire their enthusiasm and energy,” he said. A big Thank You to Peter Baracco, Emma DuLong, Ryan Hulbert, Steven Ihm, Kevin Szwarc, Carlos Tello, Allison Thomson and Ben Webber from the St. Gerald Knights.

Although expense figures hadn’t been tabulated at press time, Treasurer Rich Rosowski said the event produced a sizeable amount for the Religious Education program. Final figures will be available in next week’s Knights Corner, he said.

If you haven’t paid your 2017 Council dues, Financial Secretary Bob Kuhr has a second invoice headed your way. If there is some difficulty that makes it impossible for you to pay your dues, tell the problem to Bob at 248-888-9335 or to Grand Knight Fred Gerometta at 248-763-3196.

We Need New Members; Ask That Man Who Shares Your Sunday Pew to Join!

ST. GERALD CATHOLIC CHURCH

Office Hours

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

STAFF

Parish Office (248) 477-7470

- Reverend Krzysztof Nowak, Administrator x 203
- 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

Music and Youth Ministry

- Mary Melonio x 222
Email: mmelonio@aol.com

Maintenance
Tom Kruger

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. Kris 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. Kris 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? Please call Tim Westfall (248) 476-7677 x202 or Fr. Kris (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. Kris can work with you to find a favorable solution.

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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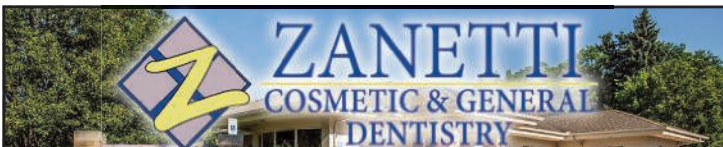
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