THE VOICE

NOVEMBER 25, 2018

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

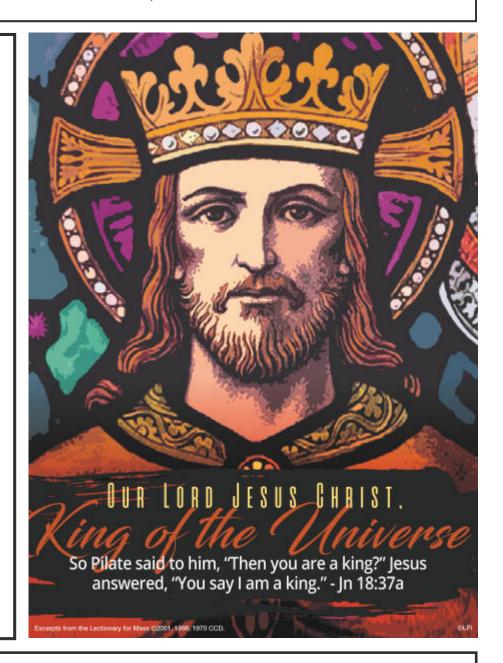
Saturday Vigil: 5:00 p.m. Sunday: 8:30 a.m., 10:15 a.m. and 12:00 Noon

WEEKDAYS

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

RITE OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays: 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.





TAIZE PRAYER SERVICE Sunday, December 2nd at 5:00 PM

Join us for a service of music, prayer and quite reflection. This prayer service is exactly what we need to slow down and remember what is truly important during this holy season of Advent.



MASS INTENTIONS

NOVEMBER 26 - DECEMBER 1

Monday 9:15 AM
Dobbs, Kemp, Trayer, Robrecht
and Goderman Families
Requested by C. Kemp

Tuesday 9:15 AM

Raul and Iolanda Tambornini

Requested by Peter and Armanda Zanotti

Wednesday - No Mass

Thursday 9:15 AM

Edward and Donald Koenig Requested by Bob and Monica Koenig

Friday 9:15 AM
Eric and Karl Koenig
Requested by Bob and Monica Koenig

Saturday 9:15 AM For All Our Parishioners

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY: RV 14:1-3, 4B-5/PS 24:1BC-2, 3-4AB, 5-6 [CF. 6]/ LK 21:1-4

TUESDAY: Rv 14:14-19/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13 [13B]/ Lk 21:5-11

WEDNESDAY: Rv 15:1-4/Ps 98:1, 2-3AB, 7-8, 9 [Rv 15:3B]/ Lk 21:12-19

THURSDAY: RV 18:1-2, 21-23; 19:1-3, 9A/PS 100:1B-2, 3, 4, 5 [RV 19:9A]/LK 21:20-28

FRIDAY: ROM 10:9-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [10 OR JN 6:63]/ MT 4:18-22

SATURDAY: RV 22:1-7/PS 95:1-2, 3-5, 6-7AB [1 COR 16:22B; CF RV 22:20C]/LK 21:34-36

NEXT SUNDAY: JER 33:14-16/PS 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14 [1B]/ 1 THES 3:12--4:2/LK 21:25-28, 34-36

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(FOR A LIST OF DAILY READINGS: GO TO HTTP://WWW.USCCB.ORG/NAB)

ST. GERALD ONLINE GIVING UPDATE

Online Giving of Donations through Simplegive is available. Please visit our Parish Website at stgeraldparish.org and click on <u>Online Giving</u> to get started or pick up the instruction sheets on the bookcase in the gathering space of the church. Thank you for your continued support of St. Gerald Parish.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP

At St. Gerald we welcome all and encourage anyone 18 years of age and older to become registered members of the Parish.

Registration is a simple process that is done at the Parish Office during office hours 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM Monday through Thursday or by picking up a Registration form located on the bookshelf in the gathering space of the church and sliding a completed form under the Parish Office door. Keeping our records current is also important. If you have a change of address, phone number or email address, please call the information into the Parish Office at 248-477-7470. If you are moving from our parish, please let us know.

DECEMBER 2, 2018 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

5:00 PM D	ecember 1		
For Lucille Strick	Servers	Isabelle Gerhart Adrianna Gerhart	
Requested by Dennis & Sharon Weberlein	Lector/ Ushers	Sharon McCarthy 5:00A	
8:30 AM De	ecember 2		
For Mary & Anne Focich	Servers		
Řequested by Croitori Family	Lector/ Ushers	Candy Rosowski 8:30C	
10:15 AM December 2			
For Lucy Wrukowska Requested by Grandparents	Servers		
	Lector/ Ushers	Caron Kott 10:15B	
12:00 PM December 2			
For All Our Parishioners	Servers	Knights of Columbus	
	Lector/ Ushers	Knights of Columbus 12:00B	

Church Cleaning Schedule for Next Week December 1 and December 2 Team B

Team #3 is scheduled for Botsford Commons Sunday, November 25 following the 8:30 AM Mass.





In a special way, our Book of Remembrance is placed out for the month of November as a way to remember our loved ones. You may fill in

names of your beloved dead. We pray that they enjoy the Heavenly Banquet Christ has prepared for them.



THANKSGIVING FOOD BASKET THANKS!

A huge thank you to all the parishioners of St. Gerald who helped make our Thanksgiving basket drive such a huge success. We were able to help many families this Thanksgiving. Each family received a gift card to purchase their meat, and all the trimmings to make a delicious Thanksgiving meal. Also included in the box was additional food to help in the

coming days. Thank you again, you are all such a blessing!

OPLATEK OR "CHRISTMAS WAFER"



The Christmas wafer is a Central European Christian Christmas tradition celebrated in Polish, Slovak, Lithuanian and Italian families during Wigilia (Christmas Eve Vigil). The unleavened wafers are baked from pure wheat flour and water, are usually rectangular in shape

and very thin; they are identical in composition to the <u>Host</u> used during a <u>Catholic mass</u> however, they are not consecrated. Wafers are embossed with Christmas related religious images, varying from the <u>nativity scene</u>, especially <u>Virgin Mary</u> with baby <u>Jesus</u>, to the <u>Star of Bethlehem</u>. Family members and friends break off a small piece of the <u>oplatek wafer</u> and give it to one another along with a <u>blessing</u>. Breaking off and exchanging part of <u>oplatek</u> with someone is symbol of forgiveness between two people and is meant to remind participants of the importance of Christmas, God, and family. The tradition of sharing the wafer is one of the rich variety of traditions that Poles still celebrate during **Christmas Eve Supper**, which is the most elegant and pompous evening in the whole year. Why not start a new tradition this year. Oplateks are available in the Parish Office and will be available after all the Masses on the weekends of December 8/9 and December 15/16. A Free Will donation is not required, but would be appreciated!

GROUNDS CLEAN UP UPDATE...

Mother Nature chilled the Fall Clean-up on Saturday, November 10th, driving the decision to cancel! Hopefully, we can reorganize and look to warmer weather and no snow.

Meanwhile, we ask our area heads and any of their friends/workers to independently choose their available times and weather, days, etc. to clear their areas. The need remains and we may call for a group work date to meet the goals Father and the garden committee set since the parking lot work.

God bless those who showed up on that Saturday! Our volunteers are the best!

Children of the parish, preschool-5th grade, are invited to participate in the *St. Gerald Gospel Enactment* of the Christmas Story at the 6:00 Christmas Eve Mass.



There will be one rehearsal on

Saturday, December 15th at 11:00 AM in the church. Please contact Mary Taylor by December 5th to sign up, 248-476-7677, ext. 201 or marytaylor.sgp@gmail.com.

ST. GERALD PARISH ADVENT/CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

The Advent/Christmas Mass Schedule
Daily Mass—M, T, F-9:15 AM;
First Saturday-9:15 AM; Th-7:00 PM

Weekend Mass—December 1-2, 8-9, 15-16, 22-23 Saturday, 5:00 PM; Sunday, 8:30 AM, 10:15 AM, and 12 Noon

Feast of the Immaculate Conception—
(Holy Day of Obligation)

Saturday, December 8 - 9:15 AM Mass

Christmas Eve—Monday, December 24 4:00 PM Mass, 6:00 PM Children's Mass, 10:00 PM Choir Mass & Midnight Mass

Christmas Day—Tuesday, December 25 9:00 AM Mass & 11:00 AM Mass

New Year's Eve, Monday, December 31 9:15 AM Mass & 5:00 PM Vigil Mass

New Year's Day, Feast of Mary, Holy Mother of God Tuesday, January 1 - 10:00 AM Mass

First Friday observance-adoration,

Friday, December 7 & January 4
Adoration begins after the 9:15 AM Mass and ends at
5:00 PM with Benediction

First Saturday Masses

Saturday, December 1- 9:15 AM Mass & January 5—9:15 AM Mass with Sacrament of Anointing

Feast of the Epiphany

Saturday, January 5 - 5:00 PM Mass, Sunday, January 6 - 8:30 AM, 10:15 AM, & 12 Noon Masses

<u>The Advent Reconciliation/Confession Schedule</u>
Regular Reconciliation/Confession every Saturday at
3:30 PM

Monday, December 10—
Parish Reconciliation Service —7:00 PM



The word Advent means coming. In the early church Advent was a season of preparation for the baptism of new Christians at the January feast of the Epiphany. Christians would spend 40 days in penance, prayer, and fasting in preparation of this celebration. It wasn't until the 6th century, that Roman Christians tied Advent to the coming of Christ. Not the first coming in Bethlehem, rather his second coming. It wasn't until the Middle Ages that the Advent season was explicitly linked to Christ's first coming at Christmas.

This year Advent begins on December 2nd and lasts for four Sundays. In the next few weeks, in *The Voice* we will explain some of the symbols, songs and liturgical practices of Advent. The Advent wreath, candles, etc.

Let's not get "wrapped up" in the commercialism of the holiday season, rather let's be a part of the CHRISTmas season!

EVANGELIZATION

We are thankful for all our members here at St. Gerald and look forward to seeing you at some of our functions coming up, and through the holidays. Contact Gerryanna at gerryanna.youthministry@gmail.com if you would like to be involved in any of the following activities:

- Family Feud Night on Friday, November 30th (off-site at the Italian Club of Livonia). RSVP required, call 734-953-1137 (press 2).
- Farmington Holly Days on Saturday, December 1st (downtown Farmington).
- Christmas Caroling (11 AM -12 PM on Saturday, December 15th)

If you are a *NEW member*, be sure to introduce yourself and join in on our mission of service.

Mark your calendar for our *Evening of Welcome for all new members on Thursday, April 11th.* Details will be coming in a letter in 2019.





The Knights of Columbus here at St. Gerald need your help by gifting a hooded sweatshirt to the children at Boysville (Holy Cross Children's Services). This may be the only Christmas gift these children will receive. Hooded sweatshirts (men's sizes large and extra large) are needed with sports, high school or college names

printed on sweatshirts. Please drop them off no later than Sunday, December 9th on the Knight's table in the social hall. Thank you for your generosity Contact Richard Smith, chairperson at 313-421-0204 for additional information.

UNLEASH THE GOSPEL

Our world, our region, and our Church need to hear the message of the Gospel now more than ever.

This 6-Day Challenge is an opportunity to learn more about the action of God in our region and the role you have in this great mission.

Will you join the movement?

Simply text the word "gospel" to the number 484848 in your cellphone. You will receive a link into which you will put your email and parish name. The following day will start your 6 Day Challenge with a short video and reflection.

This movement has already prompted a wave of renewal in our church and archdiocese.

We are the CHURCH, prove you belong to the mission of Jesus Christ and share love through the WORD of the Gospel.

Be Bold, Be Proud, BE CATHOLIC!



Monday, November 26 8:40 AM Rosary 9:15 AM Mass 9:45 AM Divine Mercy 5:30 PM Elementary Religious Formation

Tuesday, November 27
8:40 AM Rosary
9:15 AM Mass
9:45 AM Mother of Perpetual Help/Divine
Mercy
5:00 PM Elementary Religious Formation

Wednesday, November 28 7:30 PM Choir Practice No Mass

Thursday, November 29 12:00 PM Pinochle 6:20 PM Rosary 7:00 PM Mass 7:45 PM Holy Hour

Friday, November 30 8:40 AM Rosary 9:15 AM Mass 9:45 AM Divine Mercy 8:00 PM AA Meeting

Saturday, December 1 First Saturday 9:15 AM Mass 3:30 PM Confessions 5:00 PM Mass

Sunday, December 2
First Sunday of Advent
8:30 AM Mass
10:15 AM Mass
10:15 AM Children's Liturgy of the Word
12:00 PM Mass
1:00 PM Baptism
5:00 PM Taize Prayer Service





CHRISTMAS GIFT TAG WEEKEND

Christmas tags are available this weekend. Everyone is welcome to take one or more tags to help the needy in our community. Please note the gifts are due back the weekend of December 8th and 9th. This year the tags will be on a decorated board in the back corners of the church. As in prior years, if you take a tag from the board, please sign your name on the sheet indicated so we may know who has the gift should we need to call you. I would like to thank you for your generosity and continued support for the needy of our community. God Bless, Matt Yokom!!



ST.GERALD PARISH ADVENT TEA - SAVE THE DATE WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2018 6:00PM PARISH SOCIAL HALL \$12 PER PERSON

Entire tables can be reserved. Round tables seat 8 or rectangles seat 10. You may also join us as a single individual and we will find you a seat. All are welcome!

White tablecloths, coffee, tea, sugar, cream, water and a dinner are provided by St. Gerald.

Hostesses provide place settings, cups, silverware, water glass, centerpiece and a dessert to be shared with your table. How you set your table is entirely up to you.



There will be a short Advent Reflection.

Please call Diane Gerometta for additional information and to hold your table or make your individual reservation at 248-763-3193.

Please make your reservations soon as space is limited and room capacity fills quickly.

ST. GERALD 2018 CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL ANGEL TREE

This year St. Gerald will have a special live CHRISTmas Tree with colored glass angels. These angels will be a memorial gift to the families who would like to contribute towards our CHRISTmas decorations. After CHRISTmas, the families who have contributed will be able to take an angel home as a remembrance of their loved one(s).

If you would like to contribute, the suggested donation is \$10.00 per name. Just fill out this form. Place your form and donation in an envelope marked "Angels" and drop it in the collection basket at weekend Masses or bring it to the Parish Office.

Please, clearly print your name, phone number and each memorial name. A list of the donors and memorial names will appear in the New Year's edition of the Voice.

(Deadline for donations is Monday, December 10, 2018)

In Memory of:	(Please legibly print name of deceased)	
Remembered by:	(Your Name)	5
Your phone number:	(In case we need to verify the spelling of a name)	4000

Please make checks payable to St. Gerald Church.



Knights Corner

October Recruiting Efforts Add Four To Our Roster - Welcome Gentlemen

The late October recruiting drive paid dividends for our Council in November resulting in one new Knight plus two others who returned to our Order. Our new Knight is a long time parish member, Bob Beiting. He was initiated into our Order in a ceremony on November 12 at Holy Family Council. Returning to the fold were Ken Devine who

dropped out two years ago and Gregory Pochmara who previously had belonged to the Father O'Kelly Council in Dearborn. Last month, recruiting efforts by Financial Secretary Bob Kuhr resulted in Michael Husky taking his First Degree October 17 at Our Lady of Sorrows Church. Welcome, Gentlemen. We look forward to getting to you know you and having you become involved in the many projects of our Council. A big "Atta Boy" to Membership Director Rich Smith, FS Bob Kuhr and GK Dave Bednarski

for leading the October 24-25 recruiting drive.



New Knight Bob Beiting

Maintenance

Tom Kruger

Two Council Christmas projects are underway. PGK Rich Smith is leading the annual drive that will put the gift of a sweatshirt under the Christmas Tree at Holy Cross Services, formerly Boysville. In many cases, the sweatshirt is the only gift that youngster will receive. Smith will be collecting shirts next week. He asks that, if possible, donors box and gift wrap the sweatshirts and mark the size on the outside of the box.

The other activity is making manger scene car magnets available that promote the theme of *Keeping Christ in Christmas*. Brother Brian Gulick is leading this project. He could use some help after the weekend Masses manning tables at the church doors. You can contact Brian at 248-231-9910. The Council is asking for a donation of \$5 to cover the cost of the magnets.

A few Knights are being asked to help serve food at the December 5 Advent Tea for parish women. The event is sponsored by the Parish Worship Committee. If you can spare an hour or so, contact PGK Fred Gerometta (248-763-3196) or Program Director Tom McPhail (248-875-1185). For more details, see the article about the Tea on Page 5 of this bulletin.

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

St. Vincent de Paul x 220
Education Mary Taylor: Director Religious Education
Music Ministry Mary Melonio: Director of Music
Worship Ministry
Youth Ministry

Email: gerryanna.youthministry@gmail.com

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 Parish Office. Registration forms are located on the shelf in the classroom hallway and the gathering space of the church 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 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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