



# 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.**

## THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME OCTOBER 25, 2015

In the Gospel reading for the Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, we hear the story of Jesus healing the blind man, Bartimaeus. Within the Gospel of Mark, there is more to this story than just Jesus miraculously healing a blind man.

Each of the New Testament Gospel writers handles the mighty deeds of Jesus somewhat differently, depending on their individual theological outlook. For example, in the Gospel of Mark, Jesus' miracles are often tied directly to the faith of the recipient. This is clearly seen in today's reading: Jesus credits the healing of Bartimaeus based on his faith in Jesus as the "son of David" (a title implying a belief in Jesus as the long-awaited messianic king in the line of David). Jesus replies to the blind man: "Go your way; your faith has saved you." Immediately he received his sight." Connecting miracles to faith occurs throughout Mark (see, for example, Mk 5:21-43; 7:24-30). Mark even offers examples of failed miracles because of people's lack of faith (for instance, Mk 6:1-6; 8:22-26). John, on the other hand, doesn't even refer to Jesus' mighty deeds as miracles; he refers to them as "signs." In the Gospel of John, Jesus' mighty deeds are signs of his identity as the "Word made flesh" (Jn 1:14). John includes exactly seven signs because in the Bible, the number seven indicates completion or perfection. For John, Jesus' seven "signs" communicated the complete or perfect portrait of Jesus as the Word incarnate.

Of the many miracles of Jesus preserved by Mark, exorcisms being the most frequently occurring, there are only two healing stories of blind men: 8:22-26 and 10:46-52 (today's reading). These two blind man stories form what is sometimes called a "Markan sandwich." There two stories bracket the three Passion predictions (8:31-33; 9:30-32; 10:32-34) and may actually be as much a commentary by Mark on the disciples as the stories are a presentation of Jesus' mighty deeds.

Some scholars have theorized that these two blind men may function (in part) as a metaphor for the disciples and their relative blindness to Jesus' identity as the suffering Messiah. In the first blind man story (8:22-26), the miracle of healing the blind man does not initially work. Jesus has to touch the man twice for him to fully see. This coincides with the disciples' blindness to Jesus' identity up to this point in the Gospel, and certainly to his suffering as the Messiah (8:32; 9:32). By the healing of the second blind man (10:46-52), the disciples no longer wonder about Jesus' identity as the suffering Messiah.

They, like Bartimaeus, see clearly who Jesus is. Today's Gospel reading shows the power of Jesus as well as the mastery of Mark as a theologian and storyteller.

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  
OCTOBER 26 - OCTOBER 29



Monday 9:15 AM  
**Judy Taylor**  
Requested by Diedo Family

Tuesday 9:15 AM  
**Enrico and Ida Canini**  
Requested by Graziano Canini

Wednesday 9:15 AM  
**Bob and Monica Koenig**  
Requested by Family

Thursday 7:00 PM  
**Enrico and Ida Canini**  
Requested by Graziano Canini

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**MONDAY: ROM 8:12-17/LK 13:10-17**  
**TUESDAY: ROM 8:18-25/LK 13:18-21**  
**WEDNESDAY: EPH 2:19-22/LK 6:12-16**  
**THURSDAY: ROM 8:31B-39/LK 13:31-35**  
**FRIDAY: ROM 9:1-5/LK 14:1-6**  
**SATURDAY: ROM 11:1-2A, 11-12, 25-29/LK 14:1, 7-11**  
**NEXT SUNDAY: RV 7:2-4, 9-14/1 JN 3:1-3/MT 5:1-12A**  
 Liturgical Publications Inc  
 (For a list of daily readings: go to <http://www.usccb.org/nab>)



Dennis Beiting	Wanda Reiner
Beth McLaughlin	Corinne Wedge
Bill Walker	Wanda Johnson
Robert Sikorski	Robin Kafcas
Ralph Wenski	Bernie Fox

## ADVENT TEA

Please join us on Monday evening, December 7, 2015 at 6 PM in the Social Hall. All are welcome at the Annual St. Gerald Advent Tea.



It has been a St. Gerald tradition for the women of the parish to come together in the season of advent to break bread with a group of their friends. Hostesses provide festive place settings for their table and a dessert to pass; St. Gerald's provides a seasonal program and a light supper with tea and coffee.

You may host a table or come as a single person and we will provide a place for you. The cost is \$11 per person.

Please contact Diane Gerometta at 248-763-3193 or [diane.gerometta@aon.com](mailto:diane.gerometta@aon.com) to make your reservations or for any questions.

Tables fill up quickly; reserve your spot early so you are not disappointed!

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.

## NOVEMBER 1, 2015 THE FEAST OF ALL SAINTS

5:00 PM October 31 Fr. Kaiser		
For <b>Bernice, Louis &amp; Dennis Kaye</b> Requested by Joe Pavco	Servers	
	Lector/Ushers	Alice Sheehan 5:00A
8:30 AM November 1 Fr. Festus		
For <b>Margaret Keating</b> Requested by Katie O'Brien	Servers	Gabe Smith John Smith
	Lector/Ushers	Candy Rosowski 8:30A
10:15 AM November 1 Fr. Festus		
For <b>Frank &amp; Edna Cannizzaro</b> Requested by Yolanda Fenech	Servers	Luke Horsburgh Jack DuLong
	Lector/Ushers	Mary Power Nancy Stone 10:15B
12:00 Noon November 1 Fr. Festus		
For <b>Howard Petter</b> Requested by Diane Petter	Servers	Angela Guerra Fernando Guerra
	Lectors/Ushers	Rich Kohler 12:00A

## Sacristan Schedule for Next Two Weeks

October 30 and October 31  
Team #2

November 6 and November 7  
Team #6

**ALL ARE INVITED  
TO REMEMBER OUR DECEASED  
LOVED ONES  
ESPECIALLY THOSE WHOSE  
FUNERALS WERE DURING THIS PAST  
YEAR  
AT A  
MASS OF REMEMBRANCE  
ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2  
AT  
7:00 PM  
AT ST. GERALD CHURCH**



Please come and pray for those who have died.

**CHRISTIAN SERVICE**

**CHRISTIAN SERVICE COMMISSION**

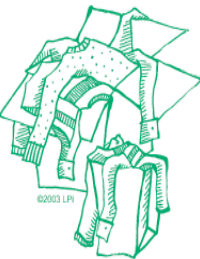
Our next Parish Council meeting will be on Tuesday, November 10th at 7 PM in the Social Hall followed by our Commission meeting. Our group is open to everyone and we need Parishioners to plan and execute service activities and hospitality events throughout the year. If you cannot make the meeting but are interested in Parish Life, please call 248-476-7677, ext. 204 or email [csstgerald@yahoo.com](mailto:csstgerald@yahoo.com).



**THANK YOU FROM YOUR ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CONFERENCE**

“Ask and you shall receive.” Well, we asked and you delivered. Your generous donations during our special collection the weekend of October 3/4 amounted to \$9,838.00. This will certainly help us continue the work of aiding the needy in our community. Also, a special thank you goes out to our Knights of Columbus. They donated the net proceeds from their recent pancake breakfast to our conference totaling \$721.45.

We are surely blessed with a generous parish community!



**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL BUNDLE DAYS**

Mark your calendars! On November 7th and 8th the St. Vincent de Paul truck will be here for your donations!

**We're Collecting**

**Food for the Needy.  
Can You Help?**



- |              |                   |
|--------------|-------------------|
| Juice 64 oz. | Mac and Cheese    |
| Canned Fruit | Saltines          |
| Cookies      | Canned Chicken    |
| Canned Spam  | Lg. Can of Soup   |
| Cake Mix     | Laundry Detergent |
| Paper Towels |                   |

**FORMATION**

**BOOK DRIVE TO BENEFIT JAIL MINISTRY AND OUTREACH**



The Education Commission is again sponsoring a Book Drive to benefit the children of those incarcerated in our correctional facilities as well as the prisoners themselves.

All new books for toddlers to 18 years of age are greatly welcomed and distributed to children who have a parent in jail. These books are distributed to the children of the incarcerated at Christmas.

Jail Ministry and Outreach would welcome copies of The Life Recovery Bible. These bibles are given to the many people who pass through their doors and is the most popular book in the Chaplin's office. Any book that helps in working through grief and anger are particularly beneficial. Care Notes from Abby Press, comic books and magazines that are in good condition are also welcome as well as books on spirituality, theology and world religions. Please note that books staying at the jail need to be soft covered.

If you wish to support this Work of Mercy in a way other than books they can use regular bath size bars of soap in wrappers and stamps! Sr. Peggy, of Jail Ministry and Outreach, tells us that they “also need stamps for Christmas cards. We have had several thousand cards distributed but need the forever stamps.”

First and foremost is our outreach to the children! Please consider picking up a book or two and placing your donation in the plastic bin located in the church vestibule or bringing your donation directly to the Education Office before November 15th.

If you have any questions, please contact Mary Taylor at 248-476-7677, ext. 201 or [taylor.mary04@yahoo.com](mailto:taylor.mary04@yahoo.com).

**Youth Group  
News**

We are all embracing the new Evangelization that is being demonstrated by our new Pope. This means that youth ministry, along with our Education Commission, and Christian Service Commission are planning for family fun nights, services for the younger kids and tons of fellowship and faith sharing. So join us! Details will be found in the Voice and posted.

**Calendar of Events:**

- Oct. 24 Trunk or Treat and Monster Mash!
- Oct. 25 6-8 PM Painting Pumpkins with Ashley Court Nursing Home

**KARING KIDS!!**

ST. GERALD IS STARTING SOMETHING NEW!! All 5<sup>th</sup> through 7<sup>th</sup> Grade kids are invited to Karing Kids!! This is a once a month gathering for the kids to get together for games, food and to do something for others.

We will meet from 3:00-4:30 PM in the Social Hall on:

- October 25, 2015
- November 15, 2015
- December 13, 2015
- January 24, 2016
- February 21, 2016
- March 6, 2016
- April 10, 2016
- May 8, 2016

# WORSHIP

## Tim's Tidbits



A special thank you goes out to all who volunteered their time to assist with the Estate Sale at the former St. Alexander site. We had close to 50 volunteers help: from those who assisted in sorting, pricing and organizing to those who staffed the houses on the weekend. It was a tremendous undertaking and I appreciate all who stepped up to help. A grand thank you goes out to Team Leaders, **Karen Goheen, Gerryanna Luscri and Nancy Lacey**. They went above and beyond the call of duty and made sure things flowed smoothly.

As you are aware, during the Mass, folks are asked to bring forward the gifts of bread and wine. Please, if an usher asks you to bring them up, say yes! It is an honor to do so, as what is brought forward becomes Christ's Body and Blood. Article 73 of the General Instruction of the Roman Missal states, "At the beginning of the Liturgy of the Eucharist the gifts which will become Christ's Body and Blood are brought to the altar."

We are working on enriching our outreach to the homebound. This is an important ministry to those who cannot attend Mass for one reason or another. There is a need for "Ministers of Care" to take communion to the homebound, either in their home or a care facility. Most likely it would be done on a Sunday, after Mass. If you are interested in this ministry, please call me at 248-476-7677 Ext 202 or email me at [timwestfall.sgp@gmail.com](mailto:timwestfall.sgp@gmail.com). Training and on-going formation will be provided and a meeting will be set up in the near future. If you do this already, please let me know, as well.

Our Evening of Remembrance is coming up on November 2 at 7:00 PM. We will celebrate the Eucharistic Liturgy for all those who were buried from our parish community since last year. There will be a reception with light refreshments afterwards. Susan Donnelly from Angela Hospice will be on hand to discuss Grief Support. In a special way, our Book of Remembrance is placed out for the month as a way to remember our loved ones as well. We pray that they enjoy the Heavenly Banquet Christ has prepared for them.



### CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL - YOUTH MINISTRY

Jim Beckman, a 20-year veteran of youth ministry, will present "Practical Implementation: A New Approach to Youth Ministry" at Sacred Heart Major Seminary on Thursday, November 5.

Jim has served in various roles of leadership in youth ministry on local, regional, and national levels. He has developed catechetical and youth ministry training resources for years, and has served as a trainer for many national organizations.

The Office of Youth Ministries in the Archdiocese of Detroit is coordinated through the Department of Evangelization, Catechesis, and Schools, along with Young Adult and Campus Ministries.

For more information about CSA-funded ministries, programs, and services, please go to [www.AOD.org](http://www.AOD.org).

### FALL SCRIPTURE STUDY

#### THE GOSPELS OF LUKE AND MATTHEW

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 with Luke moving into Matthew.



Location: **St. Gerald's Church hall**  
Time: Wednesday evenings 7 - 8:30 PM  
Now through **November 18, 2015**

**All are Welcome to this Inter-Parish Scripture Study.** Bring your Bible and/or Ignatius Study guides.

Contact Diane Blankenship ([dlb882@gmail.com](mailto:dlb882@gmail.com)), Sharon Weberlein ([shrweber@aol.com](mailto:shrweber@aol.com)) if you have questions or 248-477-7470.

<p><b>26</b></p> <p>9:15 am Mass</p> <p>5:30 pm Elem. Religious Formation Classes</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>9:15 am Mass</p> <p>5:15 pm Elementary Religious Formation</p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>9:15 am Mass</p> <p>9:45 am Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions</p> <p>7:00 pm Vicariate Bible Study</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>7:00 pm Mass</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>7:30 pm Holy Hour</p> <p>8:00 pm AA Meeting</p>	<p><b>31</b></p> <p>Food Pantry Donation Bags available for pickup</p> <p>3:30 pm Confessions</p> <p>5:00 pm Mass</p> <p>Happy Halloween</p>	<p><b>1</b></p> <p><b>Feast of All Saints</b></p> <p>Food Pantry Donation Bags available for pickup</p> <p>Fellowship Sunday 8:30 AM Mass</p> <p>10:15 am Children's Lit. of the Word</p> <p>10:15 am Mass</p> <p>10:15 am Sunday School</p> <p>11:15 am 7th Grade Rel. Formation</p> <p>12 pm Mass</p> <p>6 pm 8th &amp; 9th Grade Confirmation</p> <p>FALL BACK</p>
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**HEALING SERVICE**

Emmanuel Healing Ministry invites you to come to a Healing Service on Thursday, November 5 at the National Shrine of the Little Flower from 7-9 PM. Confessions will be available at 6:20 PM. Mass with the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be offered followed by the opportunity to be prayed over for *any* intention. Fr. Alex Kratz will preside. Call Margaret Williams (248) 477-0767 for information.

Alex Kratz, OFM Duns Scotus Friary 2599 Harvard Rd. Berkley, MI 48072 Home phone: (248) 291-5418 "The pupil should be glad to become like his Teacher." (Mt. 10:25)



St. Gerald keeps a Book of Remembrance in our gathering space during the month of November. We invite you to write the names of your deceased loved ones in this book at any time during the month of November. The deceased listed in the Book of Remembrance are remembered during the Prayers of the Faithful at each of our weekend Masses in November.

We realize that this time following the death of your loved one has been a difficult time for you and your family and we pray that you might find comfort in our Lord and our Blessed Mother, Mary. Please know that you are remembered in the prayers of our Parish community.



WE PRAY FOR THE  
REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF  
**FLEURETTE COLWELL**  
+  
JANUARY 15, 1929  
OCTOBER 16, 2015  
ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO  
FLEURETTE O LORD, AND MAY  
PERPETUAL LIGHT SHINE UPON HER

**EVANGELIZATION**

**SHARING GOD WITH OTHERS**

The Evangelization Committee of St. Gerald is committed to our parish community. The aim is to transform our culture and provide conversation about our Catholic faith. It is a call to holiness. Please share the invitation with others.

Mark your calendar for upcoming activities:

**Friday, November 20 - 7:30 PM Theology on Tap** where adults meet to ask questions about faith. We will have a guest to answer questions and share perspectives. BYOB, and a dish to pass.

Our first meeting will be held at Frank and Gerryanna Luscri's home at 36778 Kenmore Drive, Farmington Hills  
RSVP to [luscryfallfamily@hotmail.com](mailto:luscryfallfamily@hotmail.com)

**Saturday, January 9, 2016 - Movie Night** (13+ and adult) We will be showing the film *For Greater Glory* starring Andy Garcia & Eva Longoria. Pizza, pop and popcorn. Sponsored by St. Gerald Youth Group

We encourage you to listen to **Ave Maria Radio AM 990**; you'll be surprised at how interesting our faith is. Listen and be informed. It isn't your grandmother's Catholic Church

**EVANGELIZATION THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**

When you step forward in faith as an apostle and say, "Here I am Lord, send me.", you must also be on guard against your own weaknesses that can hinder your efforts to explain and share the faith. Strive daily to cultivate the virtues of kindness, tact, gentleness, humility and consideration for others. *Patrick Madrid*

**BOOK LIST FOR OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER:**

- ◆ Walking With Jesus, by Pope Francis
- ◆ Words Made Flesh, by Fran Ferder
- ◆ Francis and Clare (Saints of Assisi), by Helen Walker Homan
- ◆ The Cloister Walk, by Kathleen Norris
- ◆ The Name of the Promise is Jesus, by Michael Card
- ◆ All You Really Need to Know About Prayer You Can Learn From the Poor, by Louise Perrotta
- ◆ Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations, by Robert Schnase
- ◆ Why Do Catholics Do That?, by Kevin Orlin Johnson, Ph.D.
- ◆ The Usual Suspects, by Karl Keating
- ◆ In His Light, by Rev. William A. Anderson, D.Min., Ph.D.

*Parish Support*

<b>Offertory Snapshot</b>	
Actual Offertory for Weekend of October 18, 2015	\$ 6,995.00
Budget Offertory for Weekend of October 18, 2015	\$ 9,334.00
Actual Offertory July 1 - October 18, 2015	\$122,315.00
Budget Offertory July 1 - October 18, 2015	\$140,002.00

**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**

Laura Meier, 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**

Mark Koss

**Accountant**

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.



***Knights Focus on Keeping Christ in Christmas, Gifts to Others and a Search for a Santa Suit***

It is early but the Council leadership is thinking about Christmas. First it is about keeping Christ in Christmas; bucking a trend that has made a wish of "Merry Christmas" politically incorrect. Second, in providing gifts to others and third in a search for a Santa suit.

Our Council has joined with other K of C Councils in underwriting the rental of 10 billboards in metro Detroit that promote keeping Christ in Christmas. The nearest location to St. Gerald is on Telegraph north of Eaton in Dearborn Heights. The boards will be displayed from Dec. 7 through Jan. 2, 2016.

Again this year we will be providing sweatshirts for distribution to at-risk kids at Holy Cross Children Services. And the Council again is providing \$500 in food cards and \$500 in gas cards to the St. Gerald Christian Service Commission for distribution to needy families in the area.

The Santa suit is a key element in our practice of providing a free picture with Santa to parish moms, saving them an expensive session with their kids with a mall Santa. The Knight with the Santa suit transferred out of our Council. If any one has a Santa suit that we can borrow it would be greatly appreciated. Contact PGK Richard Smith (248-747-6817) if a suit is available for the Dec. 6 event.

Many thanks to brothers Dan Meier and Jerome Williams for organizing the Octoberfest meal at last week's general meeting. It was a yummy time. And thanks to the Knights who helped with the Oct. 24 Trunk 'n' Treat event put on by the Christian Service Commission.

Watch your mail box at home for a packet from the Michigan K of C containing tickets for the big raffle that supports a major portion of the state Council's charitable efforts. For every \$5 ticket we sell, \$1 is returned to our Council, a 20% return. PGK Bruce Roberts is the coordinator for this activity. See him if you have any questions.

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