

The VOICE

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me...
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free.*
— Lk 4:18



Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass © 2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. Cover Design © Liturgical Publications Inc. | Photos © 2016 iStock Photos.com/Thibault

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.

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

January 24, 2016

We hear in the Gospel reading for the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time the opening verses of the Gospel of Luke and the start of Jesus' public ministry. As an Evangelist, Luke offers us the most detailed information about his work as a Gospel writer and the specifics of the early stages of Jesus' ministry in Galilee.

Luke is the only Evangelist that provides us with a formal prologue to his Gospel. In Luke 1:1-4, the first part of today's Gospel reading, we hear four historical and literary facts about Luke's Gospel. First, at the time of his writing (around AD 80-85), Luke tells us that "many" others are also compiling narratives on the life and impact of Jesus. Scholars are confident that Luke is referring to the Gospel of Mark, and may well be referring to the Gospel of Matthew (both written a decade or two before Luke). Luke may also be referring to earlier versions of the Gospel of John and some non-canonical gospels, such as the gospel of Thomas and the Q sayings document. Second, Luke tells us he still has access to "eye witnesses" and "ministers of the word" in the writing of his Gospel. In other words, Luke belongs to the second generation of believers. Third, Luke has carefully investigated for himself the events associated with Jesus and has attempted to offer a fresh and more accurate and "orderly" perspective. And finally, Luke tells us who his audience is: "most excellent Theophilus." Scholars suspect Theophilus may be the patron who sponsored Luke in the writing of his Gospel, since writing a Gospel would have been a costly and time-consuming endeavor.

In the second half of today's Gospel reading, we hear about the start of Jesus' ministry in Galilee that will lead to his rejection at Nazareth. Luke's account of Jesus' rejection at Nazareth is a good case study in some of the remarks he makes in the prologue. It is very likely that Luke had access to Mark's version of the rejection (Mk 6:1-6). According to Mark, Jesus arrives in Nazareth with his disciples weeks (and likely months) after the start of his Galilean ministry, only to be rejected by the Nazorean villagers. But note the differences in Luke's version: Jesus' visit to Nazareth occurs at the very beginning of Jesus' public ministry, and Jesus is alone when he arrives in Nazareth, having not yet called any disciples to follow him. In other words, Luke is presenting, from his perspective, a more accurate version of the details and a more orderly sequence of the events associated with Jesus' rejection at Nazareth.

Another detail that Luke includes in his telling of Jesus' rejection at Nazareth is the inclusion of the scriptural text that Jesus recited that day in the synagogue. While Mark tells us that Jesus taught in the synagogue, he does not cite any scriptural texts. Luke quotes Isaiah 61:1-2 as the prophetic text read by Jesus. This is an important Jewish prophetic text, since it not only affirms an incident that has already occurred in Jesus' life ("The Spirit of the Lord is upon me," which occurred at his baptism), it also foreshadows some of the main features of Jesus' upcoming ministry: preaching good news to the poor and captives and healing the sick and blind. In other words, part of Jesus' message to his countrymen involved the fulfillment of prophecy. This is why Jesus, according to Luke (and absent from Mark) proclaims to all in the synagogue: "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing."

Luke tells us that Jesus chose to begin his public ministry in the village in which he was raised. And at least initially, he was "praised by all."

Dr. Daniel J. Scholz

A Week Ahead



WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS JANUARY 25 - JANUARY 28

Monday 9:15 AM

**Dobbs, Kemp, Trayer,
Robrecht and Donarman Families**
Requested by C. Kemp

Tuesday 9:15 AM

Bob Koenig
Requested by Monica Koenig

Wednesday 9:15 AM

Valentina Berti
Requested by Graziano Canini

Thursday 7:00 PM

Patricia Soto and George Ingham
Requested by Jess Soto

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**MONDAY: ACTS 22:3-16 OR 9:1-22/PS 117:1-2/
Mk 16:15-18**

**TUESDAY: 2 TM 1:1-8 OR TI 1:1-5/PS 96:1-3, 7-8, 10/
Mk 3:31-35**

WEDNESDAY: 2 SM 7:4-17/PS 89:4-5, 27-30/Mk 4:1-20

**THURSDAY: 2 SM 7:18-19, 24-29/PS 132:1-5, 11-14/
Mk 4:21-25**

**FRIDAY: 2 SM 11:1-4A, 5-10A, 13-17/PS 51:3-7, 10-11/
Mk 4:26-34**

**SATURDAY: 2 SM 12:1-7A, 10-17/PS 51:12-17/
Mk 4:35-41**

**NEXT SUNDAY: JER 1:4-5, 17-19/PS 71:1-6, 15-17/1 COR
12:31--13:13 OR 13:4-13/LK 4:21-30**

Liturgical Publications Inc

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

2015 St. Gerald Contribution Statement

In an effort to reduce expenses, the 2015 St. Gerald Contribution Statements will not be mailed out. If you need a copy of your 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!



Retirement
Fund for
Religious

Please give to those
who have given
a lifetime.

Aging religious need your help. Senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests spent years working in Catholic schools, hospitals, and agencies-often for little pay. Their sacrifices leave their religious communities without adequate savings for retirement and eldercare. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious collection helps provide prescription medications, nursing care, and more. Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

JANUARY 31, 2016 FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00 PM January 30 Fr. Roodbeen		
For Angelo Russo Requested by Family	Servers	Jackie Hoerner
	Lector/ Ushers	Lyda DelRosario 5:00B
8:30 AM January 31 Fr. Kaiser		
For Valentina Berti Requested by Graziano Canini	Servers	John Smith Gabe Smith
	Lector/ Ushers	David Wells 8:30A
10:15 AM January 31 Fr. Munz		
For Tom & Arlene McPhail (59 years) Requested by Family	Servers	Emma DuLong Jack DuLong
	Lector/ Ushers	Mary Power 10:15B
12:00 Noon January 31 Fr. Munz		
For Antonio Morelli Requested by Josephine Rotondo & Family	Servers	Need Servers
	Lectors/ Ushers	Fernando Guerra 12:00B

Sacristan Schedule for Next Two Weeks

January 29 and January 30

Team # 6

February 5 and February 6

Team #1

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.



Church Support

Offertory Snapshot

Actual Offertory for Weekend of January 17	\$ 7,803.00
Budget Offertory for Weekend of January 17	\$ 9,334.00
Actual Offertory July 1 - January 17	\$242,868.00
Budget Offertory July 1 - January 5	\$270,665.00

CATHOLIC CHARITIES JOINS STATE WIDE EFFORTS DURING FLINT WATER CRISIS



As Flint continues to struggle with water woes, Catholic Charities is providing help to those in need through its Center for Hope Community Closet. Families and individuals in need are able to take home bottled water, as supplies allow. Located at 517 E. Fifth Ave. in Flint, the Center for Hope Community Closet is open Monday through Friday, 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

Community members can do their part to provide relief by donating cases or gallons of water, water filter kits and replacement filters, cash or checks. Donations of all kinds, including clothing, personal hygiene, and household items, are accepted Monday through Friday, 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM at the Center for Hope, 517 E. Fifth Ave., Flint. Items are given to those in need at no charge. Monetary donations may be mailed to 901 Chippewa St., Flint, MI 48503. Please include "water relief" on the memo line of your donation. All gifts are tax deductible. For more information, please contact Catholic Charities at 810-232-9950, ext 325 or email givehope@ccsgc.org. *Information taken from Catholic Charities of Shiawassee and Genesee Counties website.*



MASS INTENTIONS

If you would like to request a mass intention for a loved one deceased or living, please contact the Parish Office at 248-477-7470.

THE WEEK AHEAD:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
9:15 AM Mass 5:30 PM Elementary Religious Formation Classes	9:15 AM Mass 5:15 PM Elementary Religious Formation Classes 7:00 PM Speaker on "Why Jesus Matters"	9:15 AM Mass 6:30 PM Liturgical Ministers Training	7:00 PM Mass	7:30 PM Holy Hour 8:00 PM AA Meeting	11:00 AM Altar Server Training 3:30 PM Confession 5:00 PM Mass	4th Sunday in Ordinary Time 8:30 AM Mass 10:15 AM Mass 10:15 AM Children's Liturgy of the Word 10:15 AM Sunday School 12:00 PM Mass 4:00 PM Vocations Presentation 6:00 PM 8th and 9th Grade Confirmation

"WHY JESUS MATTERS,"

FR. PATRICK GONYEAU

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 26 FROM 7:00 - 9:00 PM
ST. GERALD CHURCH**

Fr. Gonyeau, once a fallen-away Catholic, experienced a great period of conversion that not only led him back to the Catholic Faith, but also to his vocation. Come and hear his fascinating story! Following his talk there will be an opportunity to ask questions. Father will complete the evening with a slow motion Mass. Free will offering.

**St. Gerald Education Commission
PRESENTS:**

Sr. Barbara Beesley, IHM

**"Vocations and the Call to Social
Justice"**

**Sunday January 31, 2016
St. Gerald Parish Social Hall
4:00 PM**



Sister Barb will discuss vocations and social justice - all are welcome! Sr. Barb is a campus minister, service learning coordinator and adjunct professor of Social Justice at Marygrove College in Detroit.

BULLETIN REMINDER

All organizations and individuals are reminded to submit articles and announcements for the parish bulletin by 12 noon on Mondays. We ask that you please computer generate your submissions and send them via e-mail to stgeraldsecretary@yahoo.com. All articles subject to approval and may be edited to create space. Thank you.

Youth Group News

All confirmation students and high school teen and their friends are invited. Our next Youth group is March 13, 2016 and we are going for laser tag!

Youth Ministry Calendar:

- January 24 Karin Kids 3 - 4:30 PM
Confirmation Session 8, 6 - 8 PM
- January 31 Sr. Barb Vocations presentation 4 PM
Confirmation Session 9, 6 - 8 PM
- February 6 Mardi Gras Party

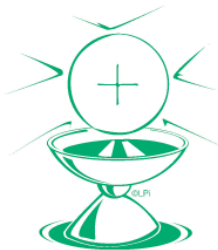


SAVE THE DATE

St. Gerald Parish
Mardi Gras Celebration
Saturday, February 6th
6:30 PM - 9:30 PM
Music and entertainment
for all ages

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

During the 10:15 AM Mass next weekend, January 31st, the children preparing to receive their First Communion will receive their First Communion study books. These books are used in the home study portion of the program. Please keep these children and their families in your prayers as they prepare for the reception of the sacrament.



Food Pantry Items needed:

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Tea Bags 48 ct. | Canned Ham or Chicken |
| Tuna/Chicken Helper | Pasta |
| Peanut Butter | Cookies |
| Saltines | Snacks for children |
| Big Cans Soup | Shampoo |
| Juice Boxes | |



Place donations in bins located in main entrance of church. Thank you!

A VALENTINE EVENING OF LOVE

Come to Capuchin Retreat on Sunday, February 14 for a, Dinner Date with your Spouse, held at 62460 Mt. Vernon, Washington, MI 48094. Let your heart be moved by coming together to share with each other and become more open to God's Love. This is an evening of positive loving and joyful sharing with one another. Presented by Fred Cavaiani, Psychotherapist, Spiritual Director and Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist. Refreshments and appetizers start at 4:30 PM followed by a delicious dinner and a 2 hour program. \$60/ couple. Register by calling 248.651.4826 or online at: www.CapRetreat.org

CHARITY CASINO BUS TRIP

Wednesday March 9, 2016

Firekeepers Casino in Battle Creek

Tour bus leaves St. Gerald at 9 AM and returns at 6 PM

For information call: Richard Smith at 248/747-6817, Bruce Roberts at 248/756-9257 or Richard Rosowski at 248/477-2511

Sponsored by St. Gerald Knights of Columbus

PROJECT RACHEL

A number of national collections are included in the Catholic Services Appeal each year, such as the Catholic Communication Campaign.

Technology and media have become integral to our lives, affecting how we learn about the world, how we interact with each other, and even how we share our faith. The Catholic Communication Campaign provides grants for projects in the United States and all over the world to more effectively reach out and proclaim the Gospel message of mercy and salvation. Because of this collection, more people hear about and join together in faith, worship, and witness.

Other national collections benefiting from your gifts to the Catholic Services Appeal include those for the Catholic University of America, the Church in Latin America, Catholic Home Missions, the Holy Land, and Black and Indian Missions.

For more information about CSA-funded programs, services, and ministries, go to www.AOD.org.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK. . .

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Wanda Reiner | Kimberly Plonka |
| Beth McLaughlin | Corinne Wedge |
| Bill Walker | Wanda Johnson |
| Robin Kafcas | Ralph Wenski |
| Bernie Fox | Erin Malloy-Sidaway |
| Daron Tilburt | Sofia Weiland |
| Frank Adams | Nancy Kolliker |
| Andy Mosher | Emily Choike |



ELECTRONIC DEPOSIT OF DONATIONS ARE AVAILABLE AT ST. GERALD. FORMS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE PARISH OFFICE.

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.

EVANGELIZATION

EVANGELIZATION...What's your role?

It is our commitment to act justly, protect human dignity, and to share God's love with others. That is evangelization. That is our role in the community. Share by invitation; if you're here, bring a friend to share it with you.

Mark your calendar for upcoming activities: **2016** (all events held in the Social Hall, unless specified)

Saturday, February 27th @ 8:00 PM - Adult Date Night
Couples are invited to attend a night of adult fellowship, games and music. Euchre, charades, and other games are planned. BYOB, and a snack to share. Feel free to bring your own game preference.

Become **RADIO-ACTIVE**: listen to *Ave Maria Radio AM 990*; you'll enjoy learning more about faith and practices. Listen, be informed...and **PASS IT ON!**

If you, or someone you know is interested in joining the Evangelization Committee, please call our parish secretary at 248-477-7470 for next meeting date.

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



LENT/SPRING 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
Dates: **March 2 – May 4, 2016**

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

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

MOMS GROUP

My name is Susan Horsburgh and I am the Family Representative for our parish. Years ago, when I started attending church in this building, there was a group formed where I met lots of people and made lots of new friends. It was a Moms group. Some of our activities included: moms night out, play groups, babysitting co-ops, and annual moms Christmas party, Euchre, etc. As your family rep., I would like to start up a group like that again. This group is open to moms of ALL ages. If this is something you are interested in, please contact the parish office at 248-477-7470 and leave your name and contact information and I will get back with you or if you have any suggestions concerning



COME JOIN THE FUN!

family matters at St. Gerald Church, just call 248-477-7470; leave your contact information and a

description of the matter and I'll get back with you. Thank You!

THE STEWARDSHIP COMMISSION NEEDS YOUR HELP

In order to get a head start on the St. Gerald outside grounds clean up and maintenance for this Spring, a committee is being formed. No experience is needed. Because of the size of our property, many hands are needed. If you are interested in becoming part of this committee, please call the parish office at 248-477-7470. Please consider getting involved to help keep the outside grounds of the church neat and tidy, so we can be proud of our parish and set a good example to our surrounding community. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

To the Parish Family of St. Gerald:

In order to update our parish data system we are encouraging registered members to use their contribution envelopes each week when attending Mass. If you contribute electronically, we understand that you do not use parish envelopes, and we will not take you off St. Gerald as a registered member. If you are going through financial difficulties, please put your empty envelope in the collection basket, so we know you are practicing your faith as a parishioner at St. Gerald. Thank you for your cooperation!



KNIGHTS CORNER

St. Gerald's Knights Provided 2,581 Hours of Free Service to Others During 2015

Next Sunday is another Family Communion Mass for the Knights and their families. Please come early to the 10:15 AM mass so we can sit together in the reserved pews in the right center section before the ambo. It is one of several times we can set a public example of our prayerfulness.

One of reports we file each year with the national K of C is one that shows how many hours of volunteer service we do for others. Our Council members provided 2,581 hours of helping others or raising money to give to others in 2015. We served on Church commissions, mentored students, assisted the St. Al's pantry and St. Gerald's St. Vincent de Paul Society, fed the homeless, collected and repaired unused eyeglasses and rosaries, and supported the parish Christian Service Commission at various functions to name a few activities. The 2,581 hours is the equivalent of one Knight working around the clock more than two days each week all year long.

For the Knights who have yet to attain their third degree, there are ceremonies Feb. 14 in Pickney and Feb. 27 in Grosse Pointe Park and in Westland. You will be accompanied by a fellow Knight and the ceremony is free. Contact Membership Director Shatomi Kerbawy (248-434-7561) for more details.

When sending in the returns from the sale of State K of C raffle tickets, make the check payable to "Michigan State Council" and put "State Raffle" on the memo line. Also be sure to mark each stub with our Council number – 13673 – so we get the \$1 seller commission. You are welcome to witness the prize drawings at 4:30 PM April 16 at the DeCarlo Banquet Center, 6015 W. Ten Mile, Warren. Doors open at 1:30 PM.

Keep in Touch With Council 13673 News, Read the Knights' Corner in *The Voice*

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

- 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.

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