

The VOICE



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.

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER OR DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

April 3, 2016

The psalmist wrote: “You shall not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday.” (Ps. 91:5-6) The biblical point of view, throughout, is that some degree of fear is inevitable in this life, and fear often works to protect us. But our faith is in God’s love, from which nothing can separate us.

First reading – Acts 5:12-16

After Jesus’ resurrection the disciples found themselves facing the responsibility of carrying out the work of their Master. He was no longer there to tell them what to do and what to say. Fortunately, they had the example of Jesus to guide them in this new chapter of Christian faith. They began their work by ministering to the sick and needy.

Second reading – Revelation 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19

John was granted a magnificent vision of the resurrected Christ during his imprisonment on the isle of Patmos. Being uncertain about his own future, John put his trust in the One who holds the keys to life and death in his hands. John discovered that he had nothing to fear as long as he followed his Master faithfully.

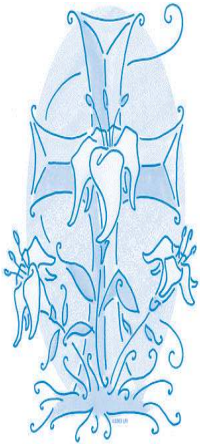
Gospel – John 20:19-31

After their Master had been put to death, the disciples were terrified for their own lives and feared they faced a similar fate. They did the only sensible thing they knew to do; they went into hiding behind locked doors. But Christ appeared to them, giving them courage to go out boldly to teach his truth and carry out his mission.

Today’s gospel reading tells us of an extremely fearful situation in which the first followers of Jesus found themselves. It was the Sunday evening after their Lord had been crucified on Friday. The horror of that event was excruciatingly etched in their minds. They were huddled together in a room somewhere in Jerusalem. It may have been the same meeting place where they had been with Jesus the previous Thursday evening. If so, this room, previously a place of worship, was now more akin to a jail cell. The disciples were prisoners because they had essentially lost their freedom. The state hadn’t taken it away, nor had the religious authorities. The disciples had forfeited their freedom. This led them to lock the doors of the place where they were staying for fear of the Jews.

We can all relate to this. Surely we can see some similar experience in our own lives. But not all our enemies are “out there” somewhere. Many of them are inside us. These enemies have just as much power to incarcerate us, to take away our freedom, as any judicial system in the world. One such enemy is fear. The disciples were afraid for their lives. Having witnessed the brutal death of Jesus, they assumed that some similar fate awaited them. They lived in fear, fear of a knock at the door, fear of the sound of footsteps on the stairs. But fear is universal among sentient creatures. All of us are fearful with regard to something - - our health, our finances, our jobs, our families, our future. All of us here have some kind of struggle taking place inside us, and a part of that struggle involves fear. We will never be totally free from it, not in this life. To be human is to deal with fear, to cope with it. But we need not be paralyzed by it. Our faith does not promise immediate and complete eradication of fear. But it provides the courage and wisdom to manage it. We can get rid of some of our fears, but we have to learn to live with some of them. We must not allow our fears to take control of our lives. Easter Blessings! Fr. Festus Ejimadu

A Week Ahead



WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS APRIL 4 - APRIL 7

Monday 9:15 AM
Marino and Rosa Benedettini
Requested by Graziano Canini

Tuesday 9:15 AM
Ed Olschansky
Requested by Mary Lou Olschansky

Wednesday 9:15 AM
Marino and Rosa Benedettini
Requested by Graziano Canini

Thursday 7:00 PM
For All Our Parishioners

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY: IS 7:10-14; 8:10/PS 40:7-11/
HEB 10:4-10/LK 1:26-38

TUESDAY: ACTS 4:32-37/PS 93:1-2, 5/JN 3:7B-15

WEDNESDAY: ACTS 5:17-26/PS 34:2-9/JN 3:16-21

THURSDAY: ACTS 5:27-33/PS 34:2, 9, 17-20/
JN 3:31-36

FRIDAY: ACTS 5:34-42/PS 27:1, 4, 13-14/JN 6:1-15

SATURDAY: ACTS 6:1-7/PS 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19/
JN 6:16-21

NEXT SUNDAY: ACTS 5:27-32, 40B-41/PS 30:2,
4-6, 11-13/RV 5:11-14/
JN 21:1-19 OR 21:1-14

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

April 10, 2016 THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

5:00 PM April 9 Fr. Roodbeen		
For John and Ann Niwa Requested by Lorraine Boore	Servers	Servers Needed
	Lector/ Ushers	Diane Blankenship 5:00A
8:30 AM April 10 Fr. Roodbeen		
For Frank Bialk Requested by Bill and Joanne Croitori	Servers	John Smith Gabe Smith Carter Cannon
	Lector/ Ushers	Thad Radzilowski 8:30C
10:15 AM April 10 Fr. Morris		
For Giovanni Rotondo Requested by Josephine Rotondo and Family	Servers	Ashley Grabinski
	Lector/ Ushers	Tim Wardle, Jr. 10:15C
12:00 Noon April 10 Fr. Morris		
For Bernadette Grix Requested by Barbara Yaich	Servers	Jack DuLong Emma DuLong
	Lectors/ Ushers	Fernando Guerra 12:00B

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.



Remembered with Lilies this Eastertide (Names not included in the Easter weekend bulletin)



In Memory Of:
Carlos Cabrera
John Hoffman
Marge and Mike Kasinec
Howard Petter
Henry Rotenheber
Mary and Joseph Rytel
Ed Smigelski

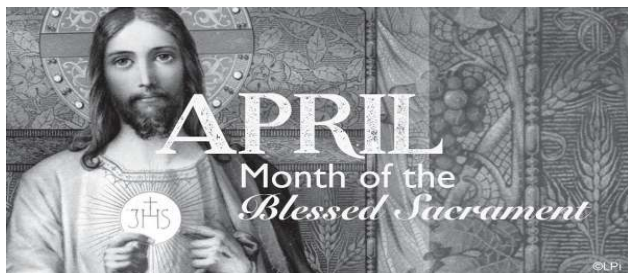
Remembered By:
Nirma Sullivan
Joan Hoffman
Diane Petter
Diane Petter
Rotenheber Family
Joan Hoffman
Stankovich Family

Offertory Snapshot

Actual Offertory for Weekend of March 20	\$ 9,875.00
Budget Offertory for Weekend of March 20	\$ 9,334.00
Actual Offertory July 1 - March 20	\$324,594.00
Budget Offertory July 1 - March 20	\$354,662.00

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.

Our CSA Drive for 2016 will be starting soon. If you haven't already done so, please complete your commitment for the 2015 CSA Drive. Thank you as always for your continued support.



Parish calendar for next week is on Page 4

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!

OPERATION RICE BOWL

As we continue our Operation Rice Bowl journey, let us remember in prayer that all humanity has been made in the image of God. Through our actions we must express that each person is precious and that the lives and welfare of all people are priorities. Please note that Rice Bowls are to be returned to the Christian Service Office the week of April 12!

ATTENTION SENIORS OF ST. GERALD

We will be hosting bingo along with sit and chat on April 12th at 9:45 AM in the social hall. Spread the word and come have some fun and socialize. Prizes will be awarded.

Exciting Parish Events

- April 16th ...Confirmation and Reception/Rice Bowls due Back!
- April 24th...First Communion and Reception
- April 30th . .Rebuilding Oakland County
- May 1st ... Crop Hunger Walk



- Juice 64 oz.
- Canned Fruit
- Canned Chicken, Beef, Ham
- Cookies
- Dish Detergent
- Snacks for Children
- Cleaning Products
- Paper Napkins

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 Miele |
| Joan M. Preston | Dennis Hill |
| Stephen Cleary | Patricia Drobot |
| Robert Lindenmuth | Laurie Aldrich |
| Paula Springer | |



FORMATION

SAVE THE DATE

Celebration of the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation



Saturday, April 16, 2016
During the 5:00 PM Mass

Bishop Francis Reiss will be our celebrant at this Mass. All are welcome!

EVANGELIZATION

Are you working toward improving yourself?
Have you spent time with God?
Are you ready to be resurrected with Jesus Christ?
Come to church and spend some time in His presence.

Monday, April 25th at 7:00 PM ~ SYNOD 2016

...is both an event and a process.

The purpose is to focus on how we can make evangelization our most important pastoral activity Please plan to attend a dialogue meeting here at St. Gerald, to provide your feedback to the Archdiocese of Detroit as we work to evangelize about Jesus Christ and our Catholic faith. Dates and times to be posted soon. www.aod.org

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.

We welcome to the Body of Christ

Julianne Veronica Kovach

*baptized Saturday,
March 26, 2016*

by Rev. Festus Ejimadu

Julianne is the daughter of
Nicholas Kovach
&

Cindy Vargas

Godparents are

Ricardo and Victoria Vargas

Easter Egg Hunt on Holy Saturday



Many participated in the St. Gerald Easter Egg Hunt, sponsored by the Education Commission, which began in church with a blessing of bread and butter lambs, then continued outside on the parish grounds hunting for all those hidden eggs.



FUN WAS HAD BY ALL!



SPRING CLEAN-UP AT ST. GERALD

Your help is needed on Saturday, April 23rd at 9:00 AM



Any help is appreciated. Bring your rake, gloves, garden tools and a willingness to work. Teens who need community service hours, gardeners who wish to lend a hand... . we need you ALL. Many hands make lighter the load.

Thank you for those who donated yard waste bags for church use. We will need more through the seasons, so please drop all bag donations in the large box in the social hall.

There are only a few garden areas that need to be adopted. Sign up on the garden plot board to claim your garden now.



Thank you St. Gerald Parishioners, We asked for your help and you responded with great abundance! Thank you to each and every person who donated a bag or two of groceries before Easter to St. Alexander's Food Pantry. On March 19th we distributed Easter Boxes to 100 needy families in our community. We only wish that you could have seen the smiling faces and heard the expressions of gratitude from the happy recipients on that morning! About 150 bags of food were donated, which was a tremendous help in filling the boxes. May God bless you for your generosity. Know that you have made a huge difference in the lives of others! St. Alexander's Food Pantry

Please help us 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!

We pray for our loved ones serving in the Armed Forces and for peace in the world.



KNIGHTS CORNER

Council Officers Meet Tuesday; State Charity Raffle Ticket Returns Due ASAP

Council Officers will meet at 7 PM Tuesday to discuss plans for the remaining three months of the Council year. Among the agenda points is the progress of DGK Fred Gerometta’s talks with members who have not yet paid their 2016 dues. If you are unpaid to date, avoid a call from Fred by contacting Treasurer Bob Kuhr (248-888-9335) and arrange to send him a check for your dues.

Also on the agenda will be the appointment of a Nominations Committee who will conduct the nomination and election of Council Officers at the April and May meetings respectively, plans for our annual Memorial Mass in May and discussions about other coming events.

If you have returns for the State Charity Raffle tickets you’ve sold, mail them to the State K of C ASAP. The drawing is April 12. You’re invited to the drawing party at De Carlos Banquet Center, 6015 E. Ten Mile, Warren. A light lunch will be provided; a cash bar will be available. Doors open at 1:30 PM. The drawing will be at 4:30 PM.

The national K of C (also known as the Supreme Council) has overhauled its website. Take a look at www.kofc.org. Two other websites you should have listed in your favorites are the state site, www.mikofc.org, and our parish site, www.stgeraldparish.org. If you miss a Sunday reading of this article, the parish site has back issues of *The Voice* archived. Handy too, if you go on vacation.

A reminder to the 18 members who lack their third degrees: Membership Director Shatomi Kerbawy is organizing a group to attend an advance degree ceremony Monday, May 9 at nearby Our Lady of Sorrows Church. Registration is at 6 PM. More details from Shatomi (248-434-7561).

Don’t Forget to Use Knights Red Bags When Providing Food for Parish Pantry!

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: stgeraldym@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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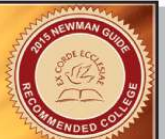
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