

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.

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 10, 2016

The long Gospel reading for the Third Sunday of Easter ends with the resurrected Jesus saying to Simon Peter, “Follow me.” Jesus’ divine directive to his followers before and after his resurrection remained consistent: in the midst of everyday struggles, “follow me.”

The first reading is from the Acts of the Apostles. In the storyline, immediately following Luke’s report of the apostles’ remarkable success at evangelization (Acts 5:12-16, heard last Sunday), the religious leaders of Jerusalem publicly arrested Peter and the apostles and put them on trial for disobeying the Sanhedrin’s direct orders not to preach about the resurrected Jesus in the streets of Jerusalem. Today’s reading is an abbreviated version of the entire trial narrative from Acts 5:17-42. Luke’s main point comes through even in this brief excerpt: Peter and the apostles boldly proclaimed Jesus as the crucified and resurrected Messiah, despite the threat of torture and imprisonment. As followers of Christ, they followed their conscience and gave witness to the truth of what they experienced in Jesus resurrected from the dead: “We must obey God rather than men.” The reading ends with Luke commenting that the apostles were “rejoicing that they had been found worthy to suffer dishonor for the sake of the name.” Within the larger narrative of Acts 5:17-42, we are told that the apostles were actually “flogged” for their public witness to Jesus’ resurrection (Acts 5:40a). A public flogging, which included being stripped naked and severely whipped, was meant to shame and torture prisoners into submission. The apostles’ courageous witness to Jesus’ death and resurrection should not be underestimated.

As we continue to hear from the Revelation of John for our second reading, some background to this writing is helpful. John’s theology in Revelation is shaped by his apocalyptic worldview. For John, the world was soon to be the site of a cosmic battle between good and evil, with God in ultimate control of the battle and its outcome. In the present (around AD 90–110), John would maintain that he and the seven churches of Asia Minor to which he writes live in a time of crisis and anticipation. According to Revelation 2–3, they face significant challenges ranging from persecution by outsiders to the presence of false Christian teachers (rival leaders) and disillusioned believers within their communities. Most significantly, they will face an unprecedented level of persecution by the forces of evil operative in and throughout the Roman Empire. Throughout Revelation, John weaves together a message of encouragement and a stern warning for beleaguered believers who may be tempted to compromise their faith.

Today’s reading is the ending of John’s initial vision of heaven, Revelation 4:1–5:14. In this vision, John sees God seated on a throne. Surrounding God are twenty-four “elders” on their thrones and “four living creatures,” all of whom sing praises and glory to God. John sees God holding a sealed scroll whose contents only Jesus, depicted as the slain and resurrected “Lamb,” can reveal. (The scroll is thought to contain God’s plan for salvation.) In the Revelation of John, the dominant image of Christ is that of the “lamb” of God; John uses it twenty-eight times as a title for Jesus. All those in heaven, including “countless” angels, worship and offer praise to God and Jesus for they know God and the resurrected Christ control and command salvation history.

The Gospel reading is the final Resurrection appearance of Jesus in John. Its focus is primarily on Peter who is forced to come to terms with his human failings in light of his faith in Jesus. Peter’s struggle mirrors our own journey as people of faith in the resurrected Christ. *Dr. Daniel J. Scholz*

A Week Ahead



WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS APRIL 11 - APRIL 14

Monday 9:15 AM

Rita Levangie
Requested by Wojnar Family

Tuesday 9:15 AM

Walter Winiarski
Requested by Joe Pavco

Wednesday 9:15 AM

Carol Kronk
Requested by Mark Kronk and Family

Thursday 7:00 PM

Marino and Rosa Benedettini
Requested by Graziano Canini

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**MONDAY: ACTS 6:8-15/PS 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30/
JN 6:22-29**

**TUESDAY: ACTS 7:51--8:1A/PS 31:3-4, 6-8, 17, 21/
JN 6:30-35**

WEDNESDAY: ACTS 8:1B-8/PS 66:1-7/JN 6:35-40

**THURSDAY: ACTS 8:26-40/PS 66:8-9, 16-17, 20/
JN 6:44-51**

FRIDAY: ACTS 9:1-20/PS 117:1-2/JN 6:52-59

SATURDAY: ACTS 9:31-42/PS 116:12-17/JN 6:60-69

**NEXT SUNDAY: ACTS 13:14, 43-52/PS 100:1-3, 5/
RV 7:9, 14B-17/JN 10:27-30**

Liturgical Publications Inc

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



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.**

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 book shelf 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.

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.

April 17, 2016 FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

5:00 PM April 16 Fr. Festus		
For Mary & Julian Stachowski Requested by Delphine Midura	Servers	Jackie Hoerner Mandy Millar
	Lector/ Ushers	5:00B
8:30 AM April 17 Fr. Festus		
For Ken Buchanan Requested by Tom & Arlene McPhail	Servers	Clarisa Russenberger
	Lector/ Ushers	Jim Bergin 8:30A
10:15 AM April 17 Fr. Kaiser		
For Frances Casey Requested by John Casey	Servers	Luke Horsburgh
	Lector/ Ushers	Angela McLoughlin 10:15A
12:00 Noon April 17 Fr. Festus		
For Marino & Rosa Benedettini Requested by Graziano Canini	Servers	Fernando Guerra Angie Guerra
	Lectors/ Ushers	Susan Wardle 12:00A

Sacristan Schedule for Next Two Weeks

April 16 and 17
Team C

April 23 and 24
Team A

Offertory Snapshot

Actual Offertory for Weekend of March 27	\$ 14,468.00
Budget Offertory for Weekend of March 27	\$ 9,334.00
Actual Offertory July 1 - March 27	\$339,062.00
Budget Offertory July 1 - March 27	\$363,996.00

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



- Canned Fruit
- Canned Vegetables (other than green beans)
- 64 oz. Juice
- Tuna Helper
- Dish Detergent
- Snacks for Children
- Juice Boxes
- Tuna Fish

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 | Andy Vermiglio |



FORMATION



RECEPTION OF THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Save the date!
Celebration of the Reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation

April 16th
5:00 PM Mass

The Most Reverend Bishop Francis Reiss celebrant.

All parishioners are invited to join us for this celebration. Please keep our Confirmation candidates, families and sponsors in your prayers.

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR RELIGIOUS FORMATION CATECHISTS AND AIDES



With formation classes coming to an end this week, we want to extend many thanks to the following people who have answered the call to serve as catechists and aides in our Religious Formation program.

Sunday School, Elementary, Middle School and Confirmation Catechists: **Michelle Plichota, Roman Plichota, Tracey Connolly, Marisa Ferrari, Sandi Liwak, Susan Hill, Carol Ferguson, Carolyn Arlen, Joyce Kopp, Mary Power, Gail Bierschbach, Shirley Murray, Theresa Smith, Michele Ficyk, Jenny Long, Gerryanna Luseri, Gina Horsburgh, Crystal Flood, Shatomi Kerbawy, Bob Kuhr, Sherry Kuhr and Allie Smith.**

Support volunteers and substitutes: **Steven Koponen, Kelly DuLong, Jacob Honer, Justin Honer, Nohemi Perez, Katy Baracco, Ronette Chojancki, Mary DiPonio, Mary Width, Julie Poisson, Laurel Hoetger and Sharon Weberlein.**

We have been very blessed to have these wonderful volunteers who give so generously of their time and talents every week in our Religious Formation Program.

PARLEZ VOUS FRANCAIS?

On Sunday, May 15th, the Solemnity of Pentecost will be upon us. We, as members of the Church, will celebrate the gift of the Spirit to all people on Pentecost Sunday, the Birthday of the Church.

We will be proclaiming the Scriptures in various languages; the first reading in particular. If you can read or speak in another language, and wish to participate in the reading please contact Tim Westfall at the Parish Office. Maybe you would like to proclaim the Scriptures in your native language or a learned language. We will have copies of the readings available. Just let us know of your interest. If interested, please call or email. Thank you.



EVANGELIZATION

**Jesus commissioned us to invite others to know HIM...
To be dynamic, transformed, and enriched
by Unleashing the Gospel in our lives.**

Join us for Synod 2016 at St. Gerald Church on Monday, April 25th at 7:00 PM
Hospitality and refreshments will be available.

“Synods are by God’s grace something powerful in the life of the Church, a way to grow together. Our community will come together in the midst of the Holy Spirit to discern where He seems to take us in order to re-evangelize ourselves and our culture.

By listening to what the members say in the synod, I will be able to discern and ratify the work of the Holy Spirit, and it will be a time of great grace.”

Most Rev. Allen H. Vigneron, Archbishop of Detroit

For information on other dialogue locations, go to:
www.aod.org/our-archdiocese/archdiocesan-synods/synod-16/parish-dialogue-gatherings/

Our church community is working together to provide opportunities for meaningful social interaction with one another.

Please consider joining the movement of Evangelization and Love.



OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Saturday, April 30th - Amazing Grace Conference at St. Gerald 8:00 AM
- Friday, May 6th - Theology on Tap at The Italian-American Club of Livonia
- June - Movie Night “The Way” with Martin Sheen
- Future Game Night dates to be announced soon.
- (save the dates and watch for details)

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. **Thank you!!** to those who plan our events, and all those who participate in making them successful.

Go St. Gerald Parish!

Look ahead:

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
8:40 am Rosary 9:15 am Mass 5:30 pm Elementary Religious Formation Classes	8:40 am Rosary 9:15 am Mass 9:45 am Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions 5:15 pm Elementary Religious Formation Classes	8:40 am Rosary 9:15 am Mass 11:00 am Funeral Mass for Alda Quiton 7:00 pm Parish Council Meeting Including SYNOD Discussion	6:20 pm Rosary 7:00 pm Mass 7:00 pm Confirmation Rehearsal	7:30 pm Holy Hour 8:00 pm AA Meeting	3:30 pm Confessions 5:00 pm Confirmation Mass	4th Sunday of Easter World Day of Prayer for Vocations 8:30 am Mass 10:15 am Mass 10:15 am Children’s Liturgy of the Word 12:00 pm Mass 1:15 pm Baptisms

KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS FOR ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

We thank all of you who have enrolled your Kroger Plus Cards with our St. Vincent de Paul Conference here at St. Gerald. As a result, we have received \$1,129.96 from Kroger over the past year. This, along with all the other support we receive from our generous parishioners, enables us to help the less fortunate in our area with food, rent, utility assistance, and other needs.

For a person to re-enroll simply go to www.krogercommunityrewards.com.

- Click "sign-in".
- Put in your e-mail address and password that you used to enroll your card.
- Put in the group number 90868
- Choose the correct organization. Click "Enroll"

If you have not already done so, you can enroll your Kroger Plus Card with us by following the steps below. **This will in no way effect the rewards you receive personally from your card.**

If this is the first time you are registering, you will need to set-up an account first.

Go to www.krogercommunityrewards.com.

- Click "Create an account"
- Put in your e-mail address and create a password. Confirm the password.
- Enter plus card or alternate ID number
- Go to Community Rewards (near bottom)
- Follow the steps (name, address, etc.)
- Choose Organization 90868. Click Enroll.


You will be enrolled for the May 1st 2016 to April 30th 2017 year.

WE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF
THE SOULS OF

STEPHEN WOLFF
+
APRIL 12, 1959
APRIL 1, 2016

AND

ALDA QUITON
+
FEBRUARY 3, 1938
APRIL 1, 2016



ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO STEPHEN AND ALDA
O LORD,
AND MAY PERPETUAL LIGHT
SHINE UPON THEM

Evangelization

"Keep the joy of loving God in your heart and share this joy with all you meet, especially your family." Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta

**YOUR HELP IS GREATLY NEEDED ON SATURDAY,
APRIL 23TH AT 9:00 AM
ST. GERALD SPRING CLEAN-UP!**

All help is appreciated! Please bring your own rakes, gloves, garden tools, and a willingness to work. (Please label your tools so they are easily identified.) If you can't bring your own tools, limited numbers of tools are available. Teens who need community service hours this is your opportunity to serve outside! Gardeners who wish to help out we need your hands too. Many hands make lighter the load.



Thank you so much for those who donated yard waste bags for church use! We go through them quickly and we will be needing bags all season long. Please drop the bags off in the designated brown bag in the social hall.

Each Garden Region is in need of at least one helper for each region so that the region is always being cared for in the spring, summer and fall seasons. Please sign up on the region board in the social hall under the region you would like to help maintain.

Refreshments and snacks will be provided. (You may want to bring your own personal water bottle.)

If you have questions you would like answered before you sign on, please feel free to call: NANCY at 248-943-6272 or GERRYANNA at 734-341-1999

THANK YOU!!



To all the Garden Helpers who have signed up to adopt a garden and those who have already worked on their area. We appreciate you and your willingness to keep St. Gerald's looking inviting and well kept. Many people pass our church and we hope to show off how vibrant and active St. Gerald Church Community really is.

**FOR WIDOWED MEN AND WOMEN
LUNCH, CONVERSATION AND BINGO
DELUCA'S RESTAURANT IN WESTLAND**

Widowed men and women of all ages are invited to join us at DeLuca's Restaurant, 27424 Warren in Westland (corner of Warren and Inkster) for lunch & Bingo on Tuesday, April 26 at 11:30 AM. Enjoy a delicious lunch which includes an entrée, vegetable, mostaccioli, salad, bread, dessert, coffee/tea and pop, tax and tip for only \$15! Pay at the door, cash only. Following lunch, stay and play a few games of bingo. RSVP by April 20 to Elaine at 734-717-0303. Sponsored by Widowed Friends, a "peer" support group in the Archdiocese of Detroit. For further information about Widowed Friends, come visit our website at www.widowedfriends.org





KNIGHTS CORNER

New Grand Knight On the Horizon as Losey declines a Second Term due to Job Move

The Council will be getting a new leader when the new fraternal year begins July 1. GK Darren Losey has announced that he will decline nomination for a second term because he will be moving the family home to Troy. He already has a new job there.

Following a succession policy adopted several years ago, DGK Fred Gerometta is next in line for the top spot. He has indicated he will accept a nomination for GK when nominations will be accepted during the April 19 membership meeting. Nominations for new one year terms for all other elected positions except Trustee will open at that meeting.

Trustees are elected for three years; Bill Croitori's term ends June 30. The terms of the other Trustees, PGKs Bruce Roberts and Patrick Rogers, end in 2017 and 2018 respectively. Nominations will close during the May 17 meeting when elections will take place.

To be eligible for office, a Knight must be in good standing and have received the second and third degrees of our Order. A degree ceremony is scheduled for Monday, May 9 at nearby Our Lady of Sorrows. There is no cost to the member. If interested, contact Membership Director Shatomi Kerbawy at 248-434-7561.

Keep Informed of Your Council's Doings, Read the Knights Corner in The Voice!

St. Gerald will host the following:

**AMAZING GRACE CONFERENCE
CELEBRATING THE 25TH
ANNIVERSARY
OF THE MARIAN PEACE CENTER
OF DETROIT**

Saturday, April 30, 2016

Speakers:

Patti Armstrong, Fr. Aaron DePeyster, Seminarian Mark Livingston

8 AM Rosary followed by Mass and May Crowning

Two talks by Patti, renowned author and speaker and testimony by Mark Livingston

Cost: \$20 - Includes morning refreshments, lunch, cake, and beverages

For more information: Lil, 248-559-4544 or Eleanor, 586-268-3731

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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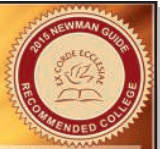
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