

# Third Sunday of ADVENT

## 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](http://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, Friday: 9:15 a.m.  
Thursday Evening: 7:00 p.m.

### RITE OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays: 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

## ST. GERALD PARISH ADVENT/CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE 2016-2017

### The Advent/Christmas Mass Schedule

Daily Mass—M, T, F-9:15 AM; Th-7:00 PM &  
First Saturday-9:15 AM

Weekend Mass—Dec. 17-18

Saturday, 5:00 PM; Sunday, 8:30 AM, 10:15 AM, 12 Noon

**Christmas Eve**—Saturday, Dec. 24

4:00 PM, 6:00 PM Children's Mass, 10:00 PM Choir Mass &  
Midnight Mass

**Christmas Day**—Sunday, Dec. 25

8:30 AM Mass, 10:15 AM & 12 Noon Masses

**New Year's Eve**, Saturday, December 31

5:00 PM Mass

**New Year's Day, Feast of Mary,  
Holy Mother of God**

Sunday, January 1 - 8:30 AM, 10:15 AM & 12 Noon Masses

**Feast of the Epiphany**

Saturday, Jan 7 - 5:00 PM,  
Sunday, Jan 8 - 8:30 AM, 10:15 AM, 12 Noon

### The Advent Reconciliation/Confession Schedule

**Regular Reconciliation/Confession every**

**Saturday at 3:30 PM**

**(No Confession Dec. 24)**

**Monday, Dec. 19 -**

**Parish Reconciliation Service —7:00 PM**



**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.

**WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS**

**DECEMBER 12 - DECEMBER 16**

Monday 9:15 AM

**Marino Dall'Olmo**

Requested by Graziano Canini

Tuesday 9:15 AM

**Suzanne Petter**

Requested by Bob and Monica Koenig

Wednesday

**NO MASS**

Thursday 7:00 PM

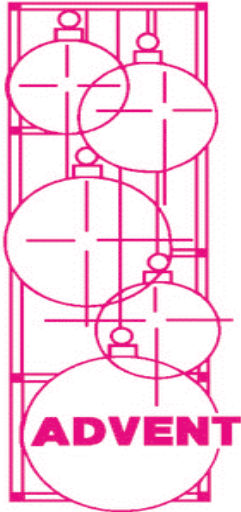
**Dobbs, Kemp, Trayer, Robrecht and Donarman Families**

Requested by C. Kemp

Friday 9:15 AM

**Marino Dall'Olmo**

Requested by Graziano Canini



**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**MONDAY:** ZEC 2:14-17 OR RV 11:19A; 12:1-6A, 10AB/JDT 13/LK 1:26-38 OR LK 1:39-47

**TUESDAY:** ZEP 3:1-2, 9-13/PS 34/MT 21:28-32

**WEDNESDAY:** IS 45:6B-8, 18, 21B-25/PS 85/LK 7:18B-23

**THURSDAY:** IS 54:1-10/PS 30/LK 7:24-30

**FRIDAY:** IS 56:1-3A, 6-8/PS 67/JN 5:33-36

**SATURDAY:** GN 49:2, 8-10/PS 72/MT 1:1-17

**NEXT SUNDAY:** IS 7:10-14/PS 24/ROM 1:1-7/MT 1:18-24

LITURGICAL PUBLICATIONS INC

(FOR A LIST OF DAILY READINGS: GO TO [HTTP://WWW.USCCB.ORG/NAB](http://www.usccb.org/nab))

**DECEMBER 18, 2016  
 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

5:00 PM December 17 Fr. Kris

For <b>Matthew Boyer</b> Requested by Ken & Joan Galica	Servers	Isabelle Gerhart Eli Gerhart
	Lector/ Ushers	Alice Sheehan 5:00A

8:30 AM December 18 Fr. Kris

<b>For All Our Parishioners</b>	Servers	Gabe Smith John Smith
	Lector/ Ushers	Candy Rosowski 8:30B

10:15 AM December 18 Fr. Kris

For <b>Ed Fenech</b> Requested by Yolanda Fenech	Servers	Luke Horsburgh
	Lector/ Ushers	Nancy Stone 10:15C

12:00 Noon December 18 Fr. Roodbeen

For <b>Irene Fiori</b> Requested by Joan Fiori	Servers	Servers Needed
	Lectors/ Ushers	Paul Radzilowski 12:00A

**Sacristan Schedule for Next Two Weeks**

December 17 and December 18

Team D

December 24 and December 25

Team B

**St. Gerald Parish Advent Reconciliation Service with**

**individual confession and absolution  
 7 PM on Monday, December 19**

***Blessing of Baby Jesus for Family  
 Creche after all the Masses next  
 weekend, December 17 and 18***



*Welcome Our  
 New Members*

Let us welcome  
**Daniel and Oludare Ezekwudo and Family**  
 and  
**Donald and Debra Padalis and Family**  
 who recently joined St. Gerald.  
 Welcome to our Parish!

**Offertory Snapshot**

Actual Offertory for Weekend of December 4 \$ 10,205.00

Budget Offertory for Weekend of December 4 \$ 8,800.00

Actual Offertory July 1 - December 4 \$221,062.00

Budget Offertory July 1 - December 4 \$202,400.00

**ELECTRONIC DEPOSIT OF DONATIONS IS AVAILABLE AT  
 ST. GERALD. FORMS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE PARISH  
 OFFICE OR ON OUR PARISH WEBSITE**

Children of the parish in grades Preschool-6 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 17th at 11:00 AM in the church. Please contact Mary Taylor to sign up at 248 476-7677, ext. 201 or taylor.mary04@yahoo.com.

**HELP PROVIDE A HOLIDAY FOOD BASKET FOR OUR CHRISTMAS FAMILIES**



- |                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Oatmeal          | Cereal            |
| Cans of Frosting | Mac & Cheese      |
| Pancakes & Syrup | Canned Vegetables |
| Canned Fruit     |                   |




Christmas Wafers (Oplatki) are available in the Parish Office during our regular office hours: Monday through Thursday, 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM. If you would like an Oplatki and are unable to come during office hours, please call 248-477-7470 and other arrangements can be made. A freewill donation would be appreciated!

**Christmas Decorating Schedule**  
 Many hands are needed. Please consider coming to help decorate the church on the following dates:  
**Wednesday, December 21 – starting at 1 PM**  
**Thursday, December 22 – starting at 1 PM**  
**Friday, December 23 – starting at 2 PM**  
 No RSVP is needed, but consider helping out when you can. Thank you!!

WE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF  
 THE SOUL OF  
**JOSEPH COUCHMAN**  
 +  
 APRIL 18, 1926  
 NOVEMBER 30, 2016

ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO JOSEPH O LORD,  
 AND MAY PERPETUAL LIGHT  
 SHINE UPON HIM



**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.

**TIM'S TIDBITS**

*Living the Paschal Mystery*

Advent is a time for joyfully seeking the comings of the Messiah. It is also a time to increase our own self-knowledge as those who continue Jesus' saving ministry. Just as Jesus pointed to his good works to reveal his identity as the Messiah, so must we live so that our own good works witness to who we are: those baptized into Christ's saving mystery and who share his identity. We are the Body of Christ. Like Jesus, we are to reach out to those blinded by their own selfishness, lamed by their own indifference, diseased by their own callousness, deafened by their own conceit, deadened by their own selfishness. To be humble as was John the Baptist, we must always remember that it is not what we do, but what Christ accomplishes in and through us. We are to be Christ's messengers, pointing to his good works. (Living Liturgy, 2017)

The Christmas Memorial Poinsettia fund information is listed elsewhere in the bulletin. You have the opportunity to donate towards the Christmas decorations and poinsettias that are purchased for the Christmas church environment. As in years past, we will list the names of those remembered in the parish bulletin and their names will appear on a tree located in the main entryway of the church. The donation is \$10.00 per name. Thank you for your donations. If you wish to contribute to the flower fund, but don't wish to have a name placed, you can note on your check or envelope, "Christmas Flowers."

If you are looking for a place to purchase your live Christmas tree this year, I would encourage you to go to Tryban's Christmas Tree Farm at 24233 Orchard Lake Rd, just North of Ten Mile. They have trees and wreaths. Over the years, they have donated the large evergreen wreaths that have hung inside and outside of our church. Have a prayerful week!

**ADVENT TEA THANK YOU!**  
 What a success! Many were here last Monday at our annual Advent Tea. We could not have made this evening happen without our volunteers! A great big thank you to the Coordinators of the Advent Tea: Diane and Fred Gerometta, and Johanna Ward. Also, many helped with the serving, clean up and hospitality. We couldn't ask for a more special evening! Thank you.



- |                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Wanda Reiner     | Beth Croitori      |
| Tony Wadrick     | Bill Walker        |
| Robin Kafcas     | Carol Reinke       |
| Dick Campbell    | Erin Malloy-Tingle |
| Charles Minear   | Andy Mosher        |
| Rita Knight      | Cyndy Fenech       |
| John MacDougall  | Emily Choike       |
| Josephine Meyers | Dennis Hill        |
| Corinne Wedge    | Erin Malloy-Tingle |
| Wanda Johnson    | Stephen Cleary     |
| Ralph Wenski     | Nancy Kolliker     |
| Laurie Aldrich   | Margaret Joyal     |
| Mary Ann Alcalá  | Joan Preston       |
| Andy Vermiglio   | Gerry Makowski     |
| Joan Goniea      | Sue Kowzan         |
| Bill Borchert    | Gabbie Frey        |
| Nadeen Ouelette  | Megan Schroeder    |

**FATHER FESTUS AND HIS NIGERIAN MISSION**

Father Festus is now at Sts. Peter and Paul Parish in Washington, MI but wants all his past St. Gerald Parishioners and friends to know that his Nigerian Mission continues. He established a non-profit corporation in 2014, CORE Nigeria, to support his Mission and is again planning to spend four weeks this January meeting the needs of the poor in his Nigerian community. He will be hosting his annual multi-day medical mission that provides no-cost doctor, nursing, medicine and equipment to anyone who presents themselves in need of care. He will maintain his food pantry and, if he has sufficient financial resources, he hopes to address educational needs and “rescue” imprisoned people who are unable to pay their medical bills. In essence, Father Festus still has an aggressive plan to continue doing God’s work in Nigeria!

The St. Gerald Community has been extraordinarily supportive of Father Festus’ Mission. We are aware of the many demands on your income but respectfully request you to prayerfully consider contributing again to Father’s Mission. CORE Nigeria envelopes are in the greeting area of the Church and can be mailed, given to Mary Hoots or placed in a regular Mass offertory collection. Your donation will be recognized by an appropriate charitable contribution receipt. Whether you can contribute or not, your prayers and support are always appreciated and you will remain in Father’s prayers.

**RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS**

Aging religious need your help. Senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have offered their lives in service to others—educating the young, comforting the sick, seeking justice for the oppressed. Today, many are frail, elderly, and in need of assistance. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps to furnish medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please give generously to today's second collection.

**CHRISTMAS BUTTONS**



While supplies last, St. Gerald’s Knights of Columbus members will be passing out “Say Merry Christmas, It’s OK” buttons after Mass as part of their Keeping Christ in Christmas campaign. The buttons are free, but a small donation to offset the cost is welcome.



Festive children from St. Gerald and the former St. Damian’s Children’s Choirs. Pictured are the beautiful Kaylie and Opal from St. Gerald on the far left.



**ST. GERALD CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL POINSETTIAS 2016**

This Christmas Season the church will once again be decorated with memorial poinsettias in gold metallic pot covers.



Parishioners have the opportunity to remember loved ones who have passed away through donations toward the purchase of these poinsettias and other festive greenery.

*Suggested donation this year is \$10.00 per name.*

Just fill out this form! Place your form and donation in an envelope marked “Poinsettias” and drop it in the collection basket at weekend Masses or bring it to the Parish Office. If you have more than one name, then just make your list and submit that with your name and phone number. Thank you. A list of the donors and memorial names will appear in the bulletin for our New Year’s Edition.

*(DEADLINE FOR DONATIONS IS MONDAY, DECEMBER 19)*

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please legibly print name of deceased)

Remembered by: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Your name)

Your phone number: (       ) \_\_\_\_\_

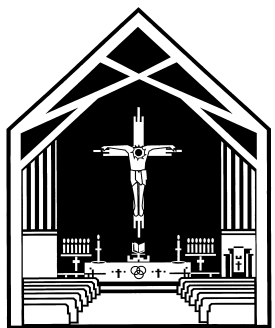
# Crafts for Christmas



Many enjoyed themselves last Saturday working on craft projects for Christmas. Santa even stopped in for a visit.



## Welcome



I am the gate.  
Whoever enters through me  
will be safe.

My Church is composed of people like me. I help make it what it is.  
It will be friendly, if I am.  
Its' pews will be filled, if I help fill them.  
It will do great work, if I work.  
It will make generous gifts to many causes, if I am a generous giver.  
It will bring other people into its worship, if I invite and bring them.  
It will be a church of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith, and a church with a noble spirit, if I, who make it what it is, am filled with these same things.  
Therefore, with the help of God, I shall dedicate myself to the task of being all of the things that I want my church to be. Amen.



**KNIGHTS CORNER**

*K of C Expanding into More Countries While Increasing Charitable Giving and Volunteer Hours*

There's an old saying – We often can't see the forest for the trees – that describes when we get too close to something that leads us to ignore the big picture. As a Knight our focus is on the local scene – the Council – obscuring our vision of the large organization, the Knights of Columbus, to which we belong.

The world's largest organization of Catholic men has 1.92 million members who live in the United States, Canada, Mexico, the Philippines, Poland, the Ukraine, Lithuania, France and South Korea. The Order is looking to expand in other European countries and in several African nations. The membership is organized into about 15,300 Councils and about 3,000 Assemblies of Fourth degree members. The insurance program is rated as one of America's best and is expected next year to have more than \$100 billion of life insurance in force.

Our Order is dedicated to Charity and for the 17<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, Knights set a record for charitable giving. In 2015, Knights donated more than \$175 million plus providing 73.5 million service hours. Texas led all jurisdictions in giving; Michigan was seventh. The list of organizations receiving these gifts is too long to mention here, but go to [www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org) for a look at some.

Closer to home, our Council's Food for Families collected more than 1,300 pounds of food for the St. Gerald Pantry plus provided more than \$1,000 to the parish St Vincent de Paul Society as well nearly \$500 to the mentally impaired in our community.

If you haven't received your bill for your 2017 dues, tell Financial Secretary Bob Kuhr at 248-888-9335. If you haven't received tickets for the 2017 State Charity Raffle, contact PGK Bruce Roberts at 248-756-9257. Great prizes this time should make selling tickets easier.

*When returning State Raffle Tickets, Write Our Council and Your Membership Number on the Stub!*

Catch up on Archived Knights Corners at [www.stgeraldparish.org/bulletins](http://www.stgeraldparish.org/bulletins)

**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**

**Parish Office (248) 477-7470**

- Reverend Krzysztof Nowak, Administrator ..... x 203
- Timothy Westfall: Pastoral Associate ..... x 202  
Email: [timwestfall.sgp@gmail.com](mailto:timwestfall.sgp@gmail.com)
- Mary Hoots, Administrative Assistant.....x 212  
Email: [stgeraldsecretary@yahoo.com](mailto:stgeraldsecretary@yahoo.com)

**All other offices dial (248) 476-7677**

**Christian Services**

- Candy Desjarlais: Christian Service Coordinator ..... x 204  
Email: [desjarlais.candy@gmail.com](mailto:desjarlais.candy@gmail.com)

- St. Vincent de Paul ..... x 220

**Education**

- Mary Taylor: Director Religious Education ..... x 201  
Email: [taylor.mary04@yahoo.com](mailto:taylor.mary04@yahoo.com)

**Music and Youth Ministry**

- Mary Melonio ..... x 222  
Email: [mmelonio@aol.com](mailto:mmelonio@aol.com)

**Maintenance**

Tom Kruger

**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 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. 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 Tim Westfall (248) 476-7677 x202 or 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.