



## THE VOICE

DECEMBER 23, 2018

# 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.  
and 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.

Christmas is here –

We have made it to Christmas. We are celebrating the arrival of Jesus Christ today. There were days when I thought that I had plenty of time to get ready. Yet, now the day is here with no more time to plan. It is time to celebrate, once again the incarnation of Jesus Christ. Jesus loves us so much that he became one of us, to experience life not just look on it from afar. He came to understand human beings from the inside.

What does that mean for us? Jesus knows what it means to be human. The struggles, the worries, and the celebrations are all a part of our lives and he knows them too. We have a God who knows us and still loves us.

Merry Christmas from all the staff at St. Gerald Parish, we pray that you have a very blessed Christmas Season and a Happy Holy New Year.

I would like to make a special thank you to the staff and volunteers at St. Gerald Parish for making this a wonderful year. Your efforts and dedication make this the best parish in Archdiocese of Detroit, if not the world (in my humble opinion).



Also, I would like to add a personal thank you for all the gifts that you have given to me, not just during the past month but all year long.

May Christ abide in your hearts always!

Fr. Kris

## WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS

DECEMBER 24-DECEMBER 28

Monday Christmas Eve

4:00 PM **Pavco & Kaye Families**  
Requested by Joe Pavco

6:00 PM **Michael & Phyllis Albis**  
Requested by Taylor Family

10:00 PM **For All Our Families**

Tuesday Christmas Day

12:00 AM **For All Our Parishioners**  
(Mass at Midnight)

9:00 AM **Kevin Filary**  
Requested by Karen Grossbart

11:00 AM **All Living & Deceased  
Morelli & Rotondo  
Families**  
Requested by J. Rotondo  
& Family

Wednesday

No Mass

Thursday 7:00 PM

**Karen & Dave Hall**  
Requested by Croitori Family

Friday 9:15 AM

**For All Our Parishioners**



**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

MONDAY: 2 SM 7:1-5, 8B-12, 14A, 16/PS 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 AND 29 [2]/LK 1:67-79

TUESDAY: VIGIL: IS 62:1-5/PS 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 [2A]/ACTS 13:16-17, 22-25/MT 1:1-25 OR 1:18-25

MIDNIGHT: IS 9:1-6/PS 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 [LK 2:11]/TI 2:11-14/LK 2:1-14

DAWN: IS 62:11-12/PS 97:1, 6, 11-12/ TI 3:4-7/LK 2:15-20

DAY: IS 52:7-10/PS 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3C]/ HEB 1:1-6/JN 1:1-18 OR JN 1:1-5, 9-14

WEDNESDAY: ACTS 6:8-10; 7:54-59/PS 31:3CD-4, 6 AND 8AB, 16BC AND 17 [6]/MT 10:17-22

THURSDAY: 1 JN 1:1-4/PS 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/JN 20:1A, 2-8

FRIDAY: 1 JN 1:5—2:2/PS 124:2-3, 4-5, 7CD-8 [7]/MT 2:13-18

SATURDAY: 1 JN 2:3-11/PS 96:1-2A, 2B-3, 5B-6 [11A]/LK 2:22-35

NEXT SUNDAY: 1 SM 1:20-22, 24-28/PS 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [CF. 5A]/1 JN 3:1-2, 21-24/LK 2:41-52

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



### Christmas Office Hours

Parish Offices will be closed from December 24 through January 1st. If you have any emergency and you need to reach someone in the Parish Offices, please leave a message on extension 212 and someone will return your call. If you need to reach Fr. Kris, please call 248-987-6412.

## DECEMBER 30, 2018 FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

5:00 PM December 29 Fr. Roodbeen

For  
**Mildred Dudek**  
Requested by  
Loving Family

Lector/  
Ushers

Diane Blankenship  
5:00A

8:30 AM December 30 Fr. Kris

For  
**Msgr. Easton**  
Requested by Fr. Kris Nowak

Lector/  
Ushers

Jim Bergin  
8:30A

10:15 AM December 30 Fr. Roodbeen

For  
**Teresa Wrukowska**  
Requested by Grandparents

Lector/  
Ushers

Caron Kott  
10:15C

12:00 PM December 30 Fr. Kris

For  
**All Our  
Parishioners**

Lector/  
Ushers

Rob Seely  
12:00B

### Church Cleaning Schedule for Next Week

**December 29 and December 30**

Team B

Team #2 is scheduled for Botsford Commons Sunday,  
December 23 following the 8:30 AM Mass.



### December 24 and 25



### Christmas Eve

4:00 PM Mass  
6:00 PM Children's Mass  
10:00 PM Choir Mass  
12:00 Midnight Mass

### Christmas Day

9:00 AM Mass  
11:00 AM Mass



**SAVE THE DATES:**

Super Bowl Sub Sale notices will be coming soon. Sales will begin the weekend of January 26th and 27th. Sub making day will be Saturday, February 2nd and sub order pick up will be after all masses on February 2nd and 3rd.

Thursday, February 7th from 7 PM to 9:30 PM will be REBOOT! A high-energy 2 and 1/2 hour renewal event for teens. Cost will be covered by Youth Ministry Fund. Check out more details at [RealLifeCatholic.com/reboot](http://RealLifeCatholic.com/reboot).

**EVANGELIZATION**

Sharing the Good News of the Gospel and living by example is our commission as baptized Catholics. We belong to a membership of faith. Our faith is in the Gospel, the Holy Trinity, and the mission of Jesus. He was born to us as an ideal example to bring peace on earth.

We can improve our lives and be happy for all eternity if we follow Jesus' teachings. Share your love with others through charity, service and giving. Share a smile, a greeting, or a deed of kindness. Let's make this Christmas Season more like HEAVEN ON EARTH!



A big "Thank You" from St. Gerald Knights of Columbus members is due parishioners who responded to the call for gift sweatshirts for the youth at Holy Cross Services, the former Boysville. Past Grand Knight Rich Smith (left) said he collected 71 sweatshirts, doubling last year's gifts. "I am amazed at the generosity of our parish members," Smith said, "they are a major factor of in our Council's charitable giving."

**CHRISTIAN SERVICE MERRY CHRISTMAS!!**

On behalf of the Christian Service commission and myself here at St. Gerald, I would like to thank each and every one of you here at the parish for your support throughout the year. Without you many of the things that we do here would not be possible. Now it's time to look forward to the coming year and some very fun things that are to come. As always, we will be having our annual pancake supper on Shrove Tuesday the night before Ash Wednesday and the annual soup supper during the Lenten season. Also, on Sunday June 9<sup>th</sup> will be the annual parish picnic. I look forward to seeing you at these wonderful events in the coming year. Merry Christmas! Matt

*All Religious Formation classes will break for the Christmas Holiday.*

*Classes will resume Monday, January 7, 2019*

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!*



**From all of us at St. Gerald:**

Rev. Krzysztof Nowak  
Norma Battel  
Mary Hoots  
Tom Kruger  
Gerryanna Luscri  
Mary Melonio  
Shawntay Munker  
Kim Shepard  
Mary Taylor  
Matthew Yokom

**ANGEL TREE**

As you enter church this weekend please take notice of the beautiful Christmas tree in the gathering space covered in angels. Memorial names will be included in the Voice on the weekend of December 29 and 30. Thank you to the wonderful volunteers (pictured below) who hung all of the angels on the tree!

**Upcoming Pilgrimage to Poland**

September 8 through September 17

Fr. Kris Nowak will be the tour guide.

Further information will be available in upcoming bulletins.

Please speak to Fr. Kris if you have any questions.



# Advent Tea December 5th



Here are a few pictures from the Advent Tea on December 5th. Everyone's table was so beautifully set! What a special evening. Fun was had by all!



Just a reminder that the Christmas collection is the one collection that the entire dollar amount remains directly here at St. Gerald Parish. The rest of the donations to the parish throughout the year are subject to a 7% assessment by the Archdiocese of Detroit. As always, thank you for your generous support and consideration.

## DONATIONS TO ST. GERALD FOR CHRISTMAS THROUGH SIMPLEGIVE

If you are making your donations to St. Gerald online through Simple Give and would like to make a donation to the parish for Christmas, you can do so now through January 6th.  
Thank you!

**EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP**

Easter is coming! What an odd thing to say at Christmas! For most of us, on this day, Easter is far from our thoughts or imagination. We might be focusing on the gift God gave to us in the Incarnation. God the Father gave to us His only begotten Son. However, our society focuses too much on this one part of the story. The truth is that this is the beginning of a story. This is the start of a gift. The true gift is not that God gave to us His Son in birth, but instead God gave us His Son in death.

If Jesus did not die and rise from the dead, would Christmas be such a wonderful and meaningful time? It would be an interesting and cool story, but Jesus was born to die and then conquer death for all of us. On this day, the true Paschal Lamb was born into the world. This is not a day of innocence but a day that makes true reconciliation for our transgressions possible.

This awareness does not make Christmas a sad time but instead a more joyous occasion. Can there be a greater love than to lay down one's life for another? The crucifixion would not occur for about another 33 years, but on this day, our God laid down the life of His Son. He laid him down in a manger and set into motion a series of events that redeemed all of creation. There is no sadness, because today Jesus is alive and well! May your Christmas be filled with Easter joy for He is today, tomorrow, and forever the greatest gift our God could ever give us.

*-Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS*

*Week at a Glance*

**Monday, December 24**

**Christmas Eve Day**

**Parish Offices Closed**

4:00 PM Mass

6:00 PM Family Mass

10:00 PM Choir Mass

12:00 AM Midnight Mass



**Tuesday, December 25**

**Christmas Day**

**Parish Offices Closed**

9:00 AM Mass

11:00 AM Mass

**Wednesday, December 26**

**Parish Offices Closed**

No Mass

**Thursday, December 27**

**Parish Offices Closed**

No 12:00 PM Pinochle

6:20 PM Rosary

7:00 PM Mass

7:45 PM Holy Hour

**Friday, December 28**

**Parish Offices Closed**

8:40 AM Rosary

9:15 AM Mass

9:45 AM Divine Mercy

8:00 PM AA Meeting

**Saturday, December 29**

No 3:30 PM Confessions

5:00 PM Mass

**Sunday, December 30**

**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**

8:30 AM Mass

10:15 AM Mass

12:00 PM Mass

**CHARITY CASINO BUS TRIP**

Firekeepers Casino in Battle Creek

Wednesday, January 9, 2019

Tour leaves St Gerald Parish

at 9 AM and returns at 6 PM.

For information and to sign up call:

Rich Smith 313-421-0204

Bruce Roberts 248-756-9257

Richard Rosowski 248-477-2511

Sponsored by the St. Gerald Knights of Columbus

**“Let the Church always be a place of mercy and hope, where everyone is welcomed, loved and forgiven.”**

*Pope Francis*

**Please pray for:**

Doug Foley	Sofia Weiland	Kimberly Thompson
Tim O'Brien	Thomas Jacques	Erin Malloy
Shel Levine	Jim Sockow	Wanda Reiner
Joyce LaMarra	Rose Hickey	Pat Fanilone
Ralph Wenski	Roberta Provenzano	Nancy Kolliker
Joan Goniea	Yolanda Fenech	Pam Akey
Gerry Maxey	Monica Koenig	Anna Iadipaolo
Stase Nemanis	Genevieve Browne	Michael Polcyn

**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**

***May the Blessings of Christmas be with You and Your Family***

Merry Christmas! May the blessings of Christmas be with you and your family. As we celebrate the birth of our Savior at a Christmas Eve or Day Mass, let us include a prayer for our fellow Knights as we pray for our family members.

A reminder to the officers that their January meeting has been moved to Wednesday, January 2 due to the New Year Day holiday. The 7 PM starting time is unchanged.

A big “Atta Boy” to PGK Rich Smith and to brother Brian Gulick for their leadership in making two of our Christmas season projects a success. Brother Smith led the sweatshirt gift program for Holy Cross Services (HCS), the successor to Boysville. His efforts resulted in 71 gifts for the HCS youth, double last year’s total. Brother Gulick led our “Keep Christ in Christmas” campaign. He led the sale of nearly 300 manger scene auto magnets with that message as well as coordinated our involvement with other area Councils in the creation of several billboards with the same legend.



Two of our members – Claude Centers and Program Director Tom McPhail – attended the first Michigan K of C retreat earlier this month at St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center. In addition to getting their spiritual batteries recharged, they shared ideas with 26 other area Knights on how Councils can implement the new *Faith in Action* program being advocated by the Supreme Council. Claude (at left) also was honored with a label pin, marking his 60<sup>th</sup> retreat with the Paulists. Only two others have made more retreats at that Center. Another all Knights retreat is planned for the first weekend in December, 2019.

**BITS AND PIECES:** Congratulations to our December Knight of the Month Doug Foley. Brother Doug is a regular usher and has been a consistent helper at the pancake breakfasts... If you missed doing the live December 11 webinar on the *Faith in Action* program, it is available on demand from the Supreme Council website, [www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org) anytime.

**Keep Informed of Council Doings – Read the Knights Corner in The Voice Every Sunday**

**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, Pastor ..... x 203
- Mary Hoots, Administrative Assistant ..... x 212  
Email: [stgeraldsecretary@yahoo.com](mailto:stgeraldsecretary@yahoo.com)

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

- Christian Services**
- Matthew Yokom: Christian Service Coordinator ..... x 204  
Email: [myokom.sgp@gmail.com](mailto:myokom.sgp@gmail.com)
- St. Vincent de Paul** ..... x 220
- Education**
- Mary Taylor: Director Religious Education ..... x 201  
Email: [marytaylor.sgp@gmail.com](mailto:marytaylor.sgp@gmail.com)
- Music Ministry**
- Mary Melonio: Director of Music ..... x 222  
Cell: 734-578-4179 or Email: [mmelonio@aol.com](mailto:mmelonio@aol.com)
- Worship Ministry** ..... x 202  
Norma Battel  
Email: [stgeraldworship@gmail.com](mailto:stgeraldworship@gmail.com)
- Youth Ministry**
- Gerryanna Luscri ..... x 208  
Email: [gerryanna.youthministry@gmail.com](mailto:gerryanna.youthministry@gmail.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 Parish Office. Registration forms are located on the shelf in the classroom hallway and the gathering space of the church 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 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.**

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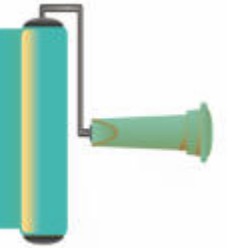
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