

THE VOICE

September 13, 2020

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

OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Thursday
9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

MASS SCHEDULE

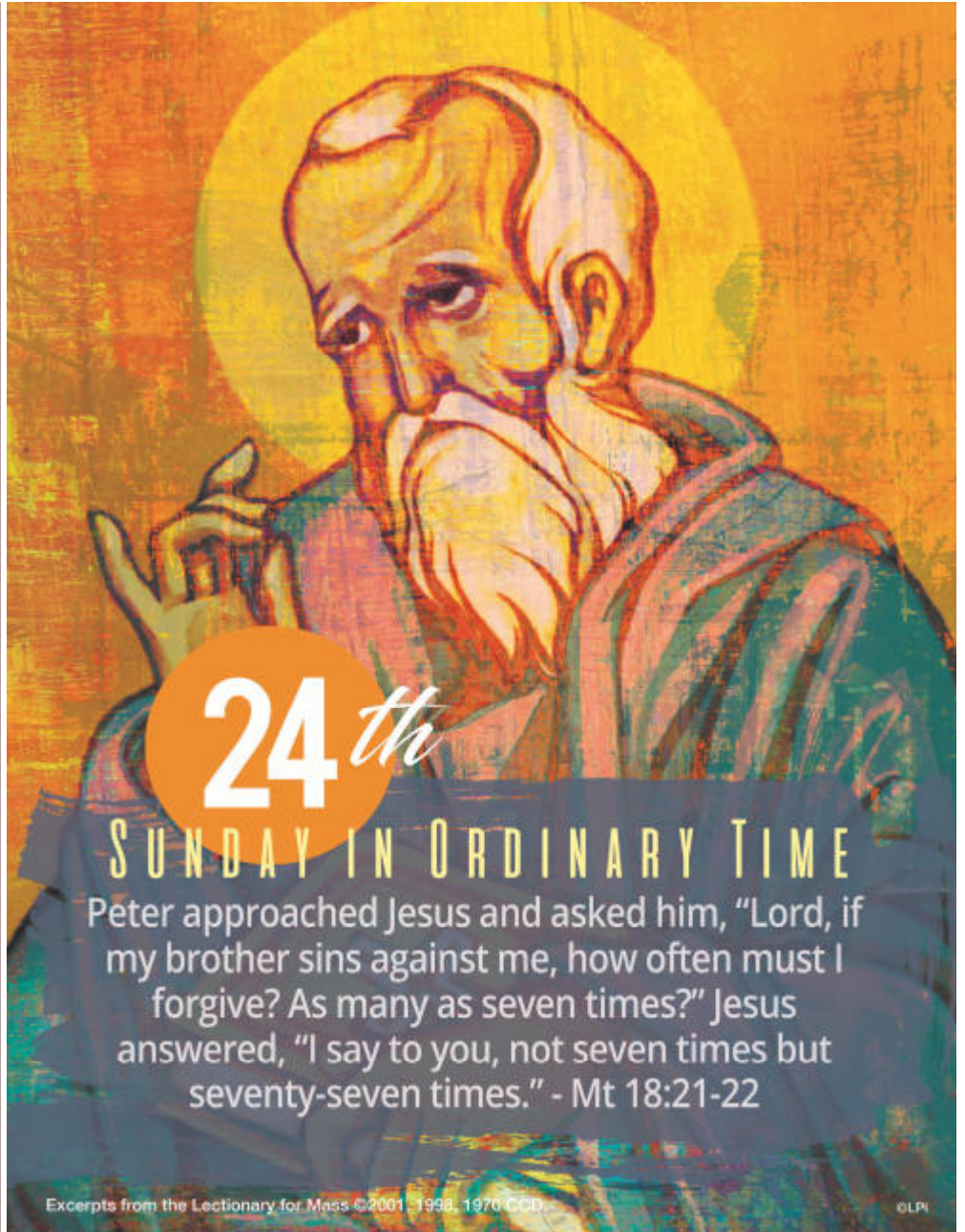
Saturday Vigil: 5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 8:30 a.m., 10:15 a.m.
and 12:00 Noon

WEEKDAYS

Monday, Tuesday, Friday:
9:15 a.m.
Thursday Evening: 7:00 p.m.

RITE OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays: 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.



24th

SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Peter approached Jesus and asked him, "Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus answered, "I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times." - Mt 18:21-22

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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“So will my heavenly Father do to you, unless each of you forgives your brother from your heart.”
Mt 18:35

WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS



SEPTEMBER 14 - SEPTEMBER 18

Monday 9:15 AM
Norma Augustine

Requested by Steve Augustine

Tuesday 9:15 AM
Michael Stec

Requested by Milkiewicz Family

Wednesday NO MASS

Thursday 7:00 PM
Fr. James Wright

Friday 9:15 AM
Elmer and Barbara Nowicki
Requested by Steve Augustine

Readings for the Week

Monday: Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38 [cf. 7b]/
Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17
Tuesday: 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a/Ps 31:2 and 3b, 3cd-4, 5-6,
15-16, 20 [17]/Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35
Wednesday: 1 Cor 12:31—13:13/Ps 33:2-3, 4-5, 12 and 22
[12]/Lk 7:31-35
Thursday: 1 Cor 15:1-11/Ps 118:1b-2, 16ab-17, 28 [1]/Lk 7:36
-50
Friday: 1 Cor 15:12-20/Ps 17:1bcd, 6-7, 8b and 15 [15b]/Lk 8:1
-3
Saturday: 1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49/Ps 56:10c-12, 13-14 [14]/Lk
8:4-15
Next Sunday: Is 55:6-9/Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18 [18a]/Phil 1:20c
-24, 27a/Mt 20:1-16a

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To have the daily readings
sent to your email, go to
www.usccb.org/nab



**Canned Meats, Stews, Chili,
Toothbrushes, Jelly, Cookies, Tuna Helper,
Mac and Cheese Cups
and Crackers**

If you're going to listen to something, let it be GOOD!

Catholic and Christian Radio Station options:

990 AM Ave Maria Radio (avemariaradio.net)
94.3 FM Family Life Radio ((myflr.org)
103.5 FM The Light (WMUZ)
106.3 FM KLOVE (klove.com)

Take a listen; learn and grow in faith.

FEELING ILL?

If you have a fever or cough or are not feeling well, please stay home until you feel better. Remember it is not a sin to miss Mass because you are ill. **We are asking that you wear a mask when you come to church.**



**TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

September 20, 2020

5:00 PM		September 19	
For Lucille Strick Requested by Dennis & Sharon Weberlein	Lector	Diane Blankenship	
8:30 AM		September 20	
For Joseph Brown Requested by Laura Williams	Lector	Hannah Smith	
10:15 AM		September 20	
For Saints Cosma and Damiano Requested by Josephine Rotondo & Family	Lector	Caron Kott	
12:00 PM		September 20	
For All Our Parishioners	Lector	Paul Radzilowski	

ST. GERALD ONLINE GIVING



Online Giving of Donations through Simple Give is available and simple to use. Please visit our Parish Website at stgeraldparish.org and click on [Online Giving](#) to get started or pick up the instruction sheets on the bookcase in the gathering space of the church. Thank you for your continued support of St. Gerald Parish.





The CSA Goal for 2020 is \$61,357.00. We are asking each family to contribute **\$205.00** this year to help us reach our goal. We know there are some families who can afford more and some families who cannot afford anything. That is why we say *it is not an equal gift, it is an equal sacrifice.*

It is important to remind you that any shortfall in meeting this goal, will be made up from our savings account; however, any extra we collect over our committed amount, we get to keep. Your generous support of past CSA efforts at St. Gerald have been most appreciated.

Gifts to the CSA make possible more than 100 ministries, programs, and services that touch the lives of thousands throughout the Archdiocese every day. No one parish could provide all of these blessings, which benefit so many. Please prayerfully consider the most generous gift possible to support the 2020 Catholic Services Appeal.

Look for the mailing sent to you from the Archdiocese of Detroit for all the necessary information to make your pledge. **Please note that the phone number printed on your CSA card is incorrect. The correct phone number is 1-888-331-8695.**

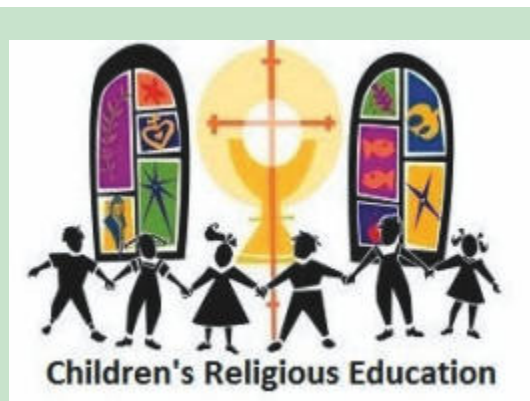
Three mailings will be sent to you through October.

Instructions for On-line Giving:

- You can donate on-line by going to give.aod.org.
- Click on “**Make a Gift to CSA 2020**”.
- Log in or click on “**quick give**”.
- Fill out your information.
- Make sure to indicate the fund is for **CSA 2020** and select **St. Gerald - Farmington** for the parish.

If you are sending a check in for payment, please follow the instructions given on the letter sent from the Archdiocese of Detroit.

If you have any questions, please call the Parish Office at 248-477-7470. Thank you for your generosity to the CSA, and for helping us reach the above goal.



Religious Formation classes will begin the last week in September. We have been developing a creative comprehensive program that will meet the needs of our children and families. Our curriculum and schedule will remain flexible in order to adhere to whatever guidelines are in place at the time. Families who are registered in the program should have received a registration form and letter detailing the program. Please contact Mary Taylor at 248-476-7677 ext. 201 or marytaylor.sgp@gmail.com if you would like more information, are new to the parish, or have any questions.

REMINDER: *Following the guidelines of the Archdiocese of Detroit, children of the parish are to receive two full years of religious formation before the reception of a sacrament.*





The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) has been a yearly process here at St. Gerald Parish. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Catholic Church or need to make your First Communion and/or Confirmation, please contact Fr. Kris Nowak or the Parish Office at 248-477-7470.

Have a good week ahead and take some time out to give thanks to God for all God has done for you.

MERCY IN ACTION - DAY OF SERVICE

Everyday we turn on the news and we hear about events being canceled or postponed until a later date. Believe it or not, one event has not been cancelled, the annual Mercy in Action day. This year it will take place on **Saturday, October 17th** starting at St. Fabian and then branching off to the different projects. Sign ups will be starting soon and more information will be coming your way. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the Christian Service office at 248-476-7677, ext. 204. God's Blessings! Matt

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
CASINO BUS TOUR**

Please call one of the numbers below if you would like to be added to our next casino trip on Wednesday, November 11. Thank you!

Richard Smith 313/421-0204 or
Bruce Roberts 248/756-9257 or
Richard Rosowski 248/477-2511



Flu Shots will be available at St. Gerald on Sunday, October 11 from 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM. There will be plenty of senior and regular shots available. More information will follow.

Please contact Barbara Seabolt at 248-477-4752 or email blpseabolt@gmail.com if you have any questions.



Let us welcome our newest members:
Henry & Diane Huynh & Family
Truong & Hong Nguyen & Family
Vuong and LA Nguyen

Welcome to St. Gerald.
We are glad you are here!



Margaret Williams Joan Goniea Sally Battishill
Raymond Rudzki

If you would like a name to be added to the Prayer Request List, please email stgeraldsecretary@yahoo.com or call 248-477-7470. Thank you!

GOSPEL MEDITATION

What right do we have to limit the amount and degree of forgiveness we show to others when we are so desperately in need of it ourselves? In not wanting someone who hurt us to downplay or forget the gravity of their wrong, we cling to anger, resentment, and wrath as a way of maintaining control. It is a way to acknowledge and express our deep hurt. We fail to realize that in doing so we hold ourselves hostage to these destructive feelings and actually become mired in the bondage of sin. All we gain is further alienation from ourselves, others, and especially God. We are no longer free but tethered to all of this unresolved negativity. Don't we really want to let it go? The fact is that we need to.

A good self-reflective posture will quickly show us that when the shoe is on the other foot and we are the ones in need of forgiveness, we desire it above anything else. This is especially true with our relationship with God. It is hypocritical to want one thing for ourselves and something else for another. Yet, many act in precisely this way.

Perhaps we think that in offering forgiveness, even for the most grievous of wrongs, somehow excuses the person of their wrong and makes it almost acceptable. This is what makes revenge, retaliation, and punishment so attractive. We see forgiveness as being an eraser that easily wipes away the offense without consequence. Or, we may believe that in offering forgiveness I must somehow forget the wrong and open myself as a victim of even greater possible hurts in the future. In fact, forgiving my sister or brother of their wrongful actions or attitudes involves none of this. It does not erase anything or position me vulnerably as a doormat to be walked on.



Forgiveness is an act of freedom that restores honest dialogue, shares true, and heartfelt feelings and acknowledges the consequences of an action. It admits that the wrong has caused a hurt that must be healed and squarely positions responsibility on the offender. The act of forgiveness recognizes our sinfulness and brokenness. It also admits that the most saintly among us is capable of doing very grave and deep harm to another person. It sees that we all can be victims of our passions and works in progress that deserve unlimited chances to get it right. With forgiveness, I release myself from the bonds of negativity and pursue a path of restoration, wholeness, and healing. I do not forget the wrong nor do I dismiss it. Sometimes, we have to stay far away from the one who hurt us. But we can still heal internally and be free.

For the one who wants to be forgiven and the one who needs offer forgiveness, the journey can be an adventure in learning what brought us to this place and what is needed to move forward. This is exactly how God treats us. Why would we not want to do the same for others? ©LPi



EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Should I Stay or Should I Go?

Life is not always easy on us and it can be hard to figure out the next step to take in our journey. We can even become immobilized by indecisiveness and fear about making the wrong move or choosing the incorrect path. I think of the song, *Should I Stay, or Should I Go*, as a mantra for many times in my life. Should I stay in this house, this job, or this car? Should I go here or there? When those times of decision surface, I usually turn to my wife, my friends, or even my children. Talking it out can help, and their perspectives give me more data to consider. When I lean on others to help me make a decision, it helps me become more confident in my choices.

Discerning the will of God is not easy either. Rarely do we understand God's calling clearly at first. God's calling is always more easily discerned within a community of faithful disciples. Our stewardship way of life can suffer greatly if we refuse to allow others to assist us in the process of discernment. What gifts or talents are needed for the task at hand? Where do I fit best into God's plan? Where is God leading me? No one should have to decide the answers to these questions alone. We need to always lean on the Body of Christ to help us see the path that God has laid before us. Without a little help along the journey, over time we might find ourselves stuck in the same place where we started. – Tracy Earl Welliver©LPi

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL DONATION BIN

The bins located behind our garage in the parking lot are there for your donations of clothing. We are asking that if you come to make a donation and the bins are full, please do not leave your donation in the parking lot. You can bring your donation back the following week after the bins have been emptied and then place your donation in the bin. Thank you for your cooperation!



Equip yourself to share the Gospel

Did you know that classes at Sacred Heart Major Seminary aren't just for priests, seminarians, and religious? They also offer academic programs for laity to grow in their knowledge of the faith through courses in Catholic theology, catechesis, and various areas of ministry.

Students have the option to take classes online, in-person, or a combination of both online and in-person. Learn about the academic programs, financial services, and available courses below and contact the Sacred Heart admissions team for more information!

Learn more at shms.edu or call admissions at (313) 883-8696.

ALPHA ONLINE FALL 2020



Alpha is a series of sessions exploring the basics of the Christian faith. Run over 11 weeks, each session looks at a different question that people can have about faith and is designed to create conversation. Alpha is a safe, non judgmental, friendly, and welcoming space to explore life's big questions together. Join us for an engaging talk and small group conversation. This version of Alpha is being offered online due to the Covid19 pandemic. It is being sponsored by Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit and will include the involvement of some seminarians as small group discussion animators. Registration is free. To find out more please visit shms.edu/alpha.

**ST. PAUL OF THE CROSS PASSIONIST RETREAT CENTER
MINI-RETREAT FOR MEN AND WOMEN**

"Come to me, all who are weary . . . and I will give you rest." MT 11:28

Take a few hours to lay your burdens down and experience the renewal only Christ can give.

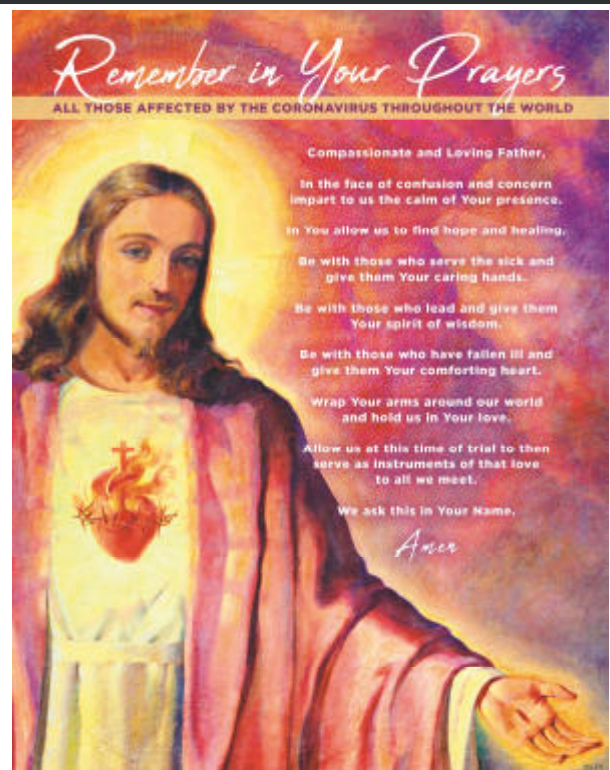
- Weekday events from 10 AM to 2 PM
- Time for quiet personal reflection as well as group sharing and prayer
- Lunch will be served
- Cost is \$65 per person

Dates: September 23, October 28, November 18, January 6, March 10 and April 14

Register online at stpaulretreat.org

Questions? Contact Cathy at cadamk@stpaulretreat.org or (313) 286-2800.

St. Paul is located at 23333 Schoolcraft, Detroit, MI 48223



Please help us keep our parish records up-to-date. If you move, have a change of phone number or any other change, please call the Parish Office at 248-477-7470 or email stgeraldsecretary@yahoo.com.

CHOOSING ORGAN DONATION

Question:

Are Catholics allowed to donate their organs?

Answer:

Yes, Catholics are allowed to donate their organs. In fact, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* praises this practice when it notes that, “Organ donation after death is a noble and meritorious act and is to be encouraged as an expression of generous solidarity” (no. 2296).

The Church has a series of guidelines for health care providers called The Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Services. This document helps us see organ donation as an act of charity, but it also reminds us that we have to be sure that donations of organs by living donors do not “sacrifice or seriously impair any essential bodily function and the anticipated benefit to the recipient is proportionate to the harm to the donor” (no. 30); trained medical professionals can help to make this assessment. In the case of organ donation at the end of life, we must be sure of the intentions of the donor or of their proxy are always respected, and that the dignity of the human body is always respected.

In the end, we can look to Pope Saint John Paul II and his encyclical *Evangelium Vitae*, where he noted that organ donation is a beautiful act of expressing the culture of life, when “performed in an ethically acceptable manner, with a view to offering a chance of health or even of life itself to the sick who sometimes have no other hope” (no. 86).

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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

All other offices dial (248) 476-7677

Christian Services

Matthew Yokom: Christian Service Coordinator x 204
Email: myokom.sgp@gmail.com

St. Vincent de Paul x 220

Education

Mary Taylor: Director Religious Education x 201
Email: marytaylor.sgp@gmail.com

Music Ministry

Mary Melonio: Director of Music x 222
Cell: 734-578-4179 or Email: mmelonio@aol.com

Worship Ministry

Norma Battel x 202
Email: stgeraldworship@gmail.com

Youth Ministry

Gerryanna Luscri x 208
Email: 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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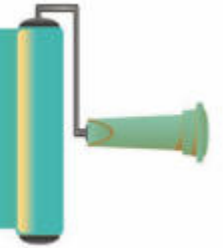
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