



DECEMBER 24, 2023

Fourth Sunday of Advent

St. Gerald

Roman Catholic Church
A Servant Church
of the Archdiocese of Detroit

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday
8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend Mass

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

Weekday Mass

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

RITE OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays: 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

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.

My Brothers and Sisters!

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. Several years ago I received a Christmas card with this message on the cover: "This Christmas, I wish you Jesus." On the inside it read: "Isn't it nice to have everything!" That does sum it up pretty well, doesn't it? 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 thank you for your presence and prayers with our parish family of St. Gerald. I extend a special welcome if you are joining us for the first time, if you are visiting from any other places or faith traditions, or if you do not worship with us on a regular basis. Also 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 are truly appreciated. Just as the shepherds were led to a humble stable in Bethlehem to worship the infant Jesus, so have we been led to be together at this time and in this place to sing with the angels: Glory to God in the highest and peace to all people on earth! I hope that God's presence will be made known to you not only today but every day. Know that we pray for you, your loved ones and your intentions. Thank you for lifting us in prayer as well. May you have the grace to find happiness and joy this Christmas and throughout the New Year... and may we meet each day in our prayers! Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! May Christ abide in your hearts always!

Fr. Krzysztof Nowak



DECEMBER 26—DECEMBER 29

Tuesday 9:15 AM
**Fr. Kris and the Dobbs, Kemp, Trayer,
 Robrecht and Goderman Families**
 Requested by: C. Kemp

Thursday 7:00 PM
Agazzi Family
 Requested by the Family

Friday 9:15 AM
Msgr. Easton
 Requested by: Father Kris



Readings for the Week

Tuesday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17/Mt 10:17-22
 Wednesday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
 Thursday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8/Mt 2:13-18
 Friday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6/Lk 2:22-35
 Saturday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Lk
 Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 or 2:22, 39-40 Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40:36-40

Please remember in your prayers

- | | |
|---------------|------------------|
| Joan Goniea | Winifred Maguire |
| Marie Bolivar | Josie Boore |
| Maria Rea | Leonard Lemanski |

Offertory Snapshot as of 12/10/23	
Actual Offertory	\$ 6,533
Budget Offertory	\$ 8,105
Year-to-Date Actual Offertory	\$ 180,896
Year-to-Date Budget Offertory	\$ 194,532



Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Dec 30 5:00PM
Mary Blankenship
 Requested by Mary Taylor

Dec 31
 8:30AM
Fr. Kris
 10:15 AM
Fr. Kris
 12:00 Noon
Fr. Kris

**Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
 January 1, 2024
 10:00AM—FR. Thomas Puzio**



Fourth Sunday of Advent

Reading 1

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16

When King David was settled in his palace, and the LORD had given him rest from his enemies on every side, he said to Nathan the prophet, "Here I am living in a house of cedar, while the ark of God dwells in a tent!"

Nathan answered the king, "Go, do whatever you have in mind, for the LORD is with you." But that night the LORD spoke to Nathan and said: "Go, tell my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD: Should you build me a house to dwell in?'"

"It was I who took you from the pasture and from the care of the flock to be commander of my people Israel. I have been with you wherever you went, and I have destroyed all your enemies before you. And I will make you famous like the great ones of the earth. I will fix a place for my people Israel; I will plant them so that they may dwell in their place without further disturbance. Neither shall the wicked continue to afflict them as they did of old, since the time I first appointed judges over my people Israel. I will give you rest from all your enemies. The LORD also reveals to you that he will establish a house for you. And when your time comes and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your heir after you, sprung from your loins, and I will make his kingdom firm. I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me. Your house and your kingdom shall endure forever before me; your throne shall stand firm forever."

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29

Reading 2

Rom 16:25-27

Brothers and sisters:

To him who can strengthen you, according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery kept secret for long ages but now manifested through the prophetic writings and, according to the command of the eternal God, made known to all nations to bring about the obedience of faith, to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Gospel

Lk 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you." But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.

"Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." But Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?" And the angel said to her in reply, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God." Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.



Christmas Eve

Reading I

Is 62:1-5

For Zion's sake I will not be silent, for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet, until her vindication shines forth like the dawn and her victory like a burning torch. Nations shall behold your vindication, and all the kings your glory; you shall be called by a new name pronounced by the mouth of the LORD. You shall be a glorious crown in the hand of the LORD, a royal diadem held by your God. No more shall people call you "Forsaken," or your land "Desolate," but you shall be called "My Delight," and your land "Espoused." For the LORD delights in you and makes your land his spouse. As a young man marries a virgin, your Builder shall marry you; and as a bridegroom rejoices in his bride so shall your God rejoice in you.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29.

Reading II

Acts 13:16-17, 22-25

When Paul reached Antioch in Pisidia and entered the synagogue, he stood up, motioned with his hand, and said, "Fellow Israelites and you others who are God-fearing, listen. The God of this people Israel chose our ancestors and exalted the people during their sojourn in the land of Egypt. With uplifted arm he led them out of it. Then he removed Saul and raised up David as king; of him he testified, 'I have found David, son of Jesse, a man after my own heart; he will carry out my every wish.' From this man's descendants God, according to his promise, has brought to Israel a savior, Jesus. John heralded his coming by proclaiming a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel; and as John was completing his course, he would say, 'What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. Behold, one is coming after me; I am not worthy to unfasten the sandals of his feet.'"



Gospel

Mt 1:18-25

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home. He had no relations with her until she bore a son, and he named him Jesus.

**Merry Christmas And A
Blessed New Year
From The St. Gerald Staff**

**Fr. Krzysztof Nowak
Norma Battel
Tom Kruger
Emily Long
Gerryanna Luscri
Mary Melonio**

Christmas Day

Reading I

Is 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings glad tidings, announcing peace, bearing good news, announcing salvation, and saying to Zion, "Your God is King!" Hark! Your sentinels raise a cry, together they shout for joy, for they see directly, before their eyes, the LORD restoring Zion. Break out together in song, O ruins of Jerusalem! For the LORD comforts his people, he redeems Jerusalem. The LORD has bared his holy arm in the sight of all the nations; all the ends of the earth will behold the salvation of our God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6.

Reading II

Heb 1:1-6

Brothers and sisters:

In times past, God spoke in partial and various ways to our ancestors through the prophets; in these last days, he has spoken to us through the Son, whom he made heir of all things and through whom he created the universe, who is the refulgence of his glory, the very imprint of his being, and who sustains all things by his mighty word. When he had accomplished purification from sins, he took his seat at the right hand of the Majesty on high, as far superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

For to which of the angels did God ever say: You are my son; this day I have begotten you? Or again: I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me? And again, when he leads the firstborn into the world, he says: Let all the angels of God worship him.

Gospel

Jn 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came to be through him, and without him nothing came to be. What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came to be through him, but the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, but his own people did not accept him. But to those who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to those who believe in his name, who were born not by natural generation nor by human choice nor by a man's decision but of God.

And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth. John testified to him and cried out, saying, "This was he of whom I said, 'The one who is coming after me ranks ahead of me because he existed before me.'" From his fullness we have all received, grace in place of grace, because while the law was given through Moses, grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. The only Son, God, who is at the Father's side, has revealed him.





Christmas is many things to many people. For most of us, it's an opportunity to reconnect with family and friends. For children, it might be the anticipation and excitement of receiving gifts. For others, it might be a strong sense of gratitude for God's grace. For all of us, it is remembering the reason for the season: "For today in the city of David a Savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord".

Warmest wishes from the Knights of Columbus for a joyful Christmas and a grace-filled New Year. We give thanks for the wonderful generosity of the Parishioners of St. Gerald, which makes it possible for us to help others.

Merry Christmas!!

Want to know more about the Knights of Columbus or how to become a Knight? Please call Rich Smith, our Membership Director, at (313) 421-0204.



**ST. GERALD PARISH
CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE**

**Sunday, December 24:
8:30AM, 10:15AM**

**Christmas Eve –
4:00PM, 6:00PM,
12:00Midnight**

**Christmas Day–Monday,
December 25
9:00AM Mass and 11:00AM
Mass**

**The Holy Family of Jesus,
Mary and Joseph
Saturday, December 30;
5:00PM**

**Sunday, December 31
8:30AM Mass, 10:15AM Mass,
& 12 Noon**

**New Year's Day, Feast of Mary,
Holy Mother of God
Sunday, December 31; 5:00PM
Monday, January 1
10:00AM Mass**

**Feast of the Epiphany
Saturday, January 6 – 5:00PM
Sunday January 7 – 8:30AM,
10:15AM
and 12 Noon Mass**

ST. GERALD CATHOLIC CHURCH

Office Hours

8:00 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 Melonio, Administrative Assistant. x 212
Email: stgeraldsecretary@yahoo.com

All other offices dial (248) 476-7677

Christian Services x 204

St. Vincent de Paul x 220

Education

Emily Long: Coordinator of Faith Formation x 201
Email: Faithformation.sgp@gmail.com

Music Ministry

Mary Melonio: Director of Music x 222
Email: dulcemusika@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.

LICENSED & INSURED
MASTER PLUMBER



24 Hour Emergency Service

248-213-9248

WaterWorkPlumbing.com

\$20 OFF ANY SERVICE

WIETECHAS MONUMENT CO.

22602 W. Warren

313-278-0380

25685 W. 10 Mile Rd

248-356-7625

www.monuments1947.com

CHARLES STEP FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICES

CHARLES R. STEP (2014)

CHARLES J. STEP

MONTY S. WULFF

18425 Beech Daly Road

313-531-1888



LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS

Place Your Ad Here
and Support Our Parish!

CONTACT ME
Dave Polansky

dpolansky@4LPi.com
(800) 477-4574 x6326

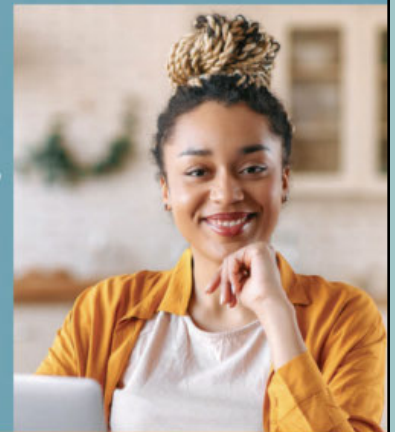
WE'RE HIRING!

AD SALES EXECUTIVES



BE YOURSELF.
BRING YOUR PASSION.
WORK WITH PURPOSE.

- Paid training
- Some travel
- Work-life balance
- Full-Time with benefits
- Serve your community



Contact us at
careers@4lpi.com or
www.4lpi.com/careers

NEVER MISS OUR BULLETIN!

SUBSCRIBE

Have our bulletin
emailed to you
every week.



Visit www.parishesonline.com

Place Your Ad Here and Support our Parish!

Instantly create and
purchase an ad with

AD CREATOR STUDIO



4lpi.com/adcreator



MIKE'S PLUMBING

Complete Plumbing
Sewer & Drain Cleaning

Master Plumber

MICHAEL J. WOOD

734-421-4633

THE ORIGINAL BUDGET TREE SERVICE

Over 20 Years Experience • Licensed & Fully Insured

*Not affiliated with any other budget tree service

TREE & SHRUB REMOVAL • LOT CLEARINGS
TREE & SHRUB TRIMMING • STORM DAMAGE • FIREWOOD

FREE ESTIMATES **800-964-7785**

24 Hour Emergency Service • *ASK FOR AXEL OR ERIC

30% OFF For Seniors

with coupon • Limit 1 coupon per job • Limited time offer on coupon

VIKING PLUMBING, INC.



All Residential
Plumbing Services,
Drain Cleaning
and Video Inspection

Call Mark Buckhave
(248) 471-5010

Licensed Master Plumber

HEENEY-SUNDQUIST FUNERAL HOME

*Farmington's Catholic and Family Owned
Funeral Home since 1850*

Traditional Funerals, Cremation & Memorial Services



23720 Farmington Rd
Downtown Farmington

248-474-5200

Parish Members

WWW.HEENEY-SUNDQUIST.COM



FREE AD DESIGN

with purchase
of this space

CALL 800-477-4574

WEINGARTZ

EVERYTHING FROM LAWN TO SNOW
WEINGARTZ.COM

THAYER-ROCK FUNERAL HOME

33603 Grand River Ave., Farmington, MI 48335

248.474.4131

Catholic Family Owned and Operated



DON'S PLUMBING

248-349-0675

Expert Plumbing Sewer
& Drain Cleaning

LICENSED MASTER PLUMBER

Donald J. Wood

SUPPORT OUR
ADVERTISERS!

SCRAMBLERS

BREAKFAST • BRUNCH • LUNCH

10% OFF YOUR TOTAL BILL

Cannot be combined with any other offer.
Limit one coupon per table. Expires 12/31/22

248-994-7388

27909 Orchard Lake Rd.

Farmington Hills