THE VOICE

September 6, 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

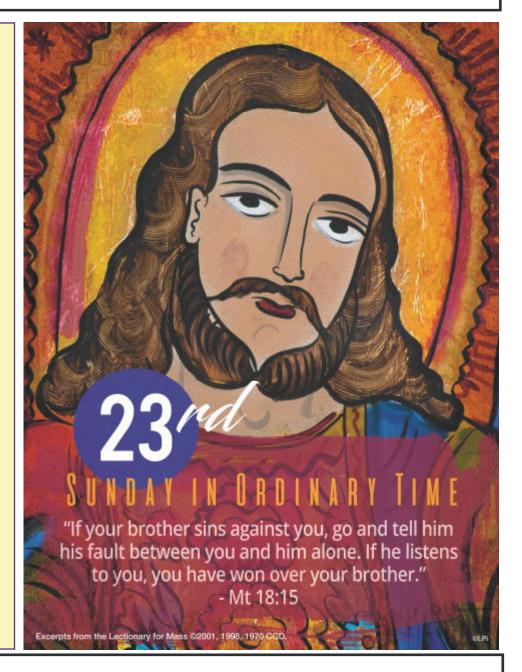
Saturday Vigil: 5:00 p.m. Sunday: 8:30 a.m., 10:15 a.m. and 12:00 Noon

WEEKDAYS

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

RITE OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays: 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.





PARISH OFFICES
WILL BE CLOSED ON
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH IN
OBSERVANCE OF LABOR DAY.

WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS



SEPTEMBER 7 - SEPTEMBER 11

Monday 9:15 AM Cindy Weberlein Requested by Barbara Valasek

Tuesday 9:15 AM Special Intention

Wednesday NO MASS

Thursday 7:00 PM Alyssa Schuetz Requested by Celina Empedrado

Friday 9:15 AM Dobbs, Kemp, Trayer, Robrecht and Goderman Families Requested by C. Kemp

Readings for the Week

Monday: 1 Cor 5:1-8/Ps 5:5-6, 7, 12 [9]/Ps 5:5-6, 7, 12 [9]/Lk 6:6-11 Tuesday: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Ps 13:6ab, 6c [ls 61:10]/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23

Wednesday: 1 Cor 7:25-31/Ps 45:11-12, 14-15, 16-17 [11]/Lk 6:20-

Thursday: 1 Cor 8:1b-7, 11-13/Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 23-24 [24b]/Lk 6:27-38

Friday: 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27/Ps 84:3, 4. 5-6, 12 [2]/Lk 6:39-42 Saturday: 1 Cor 10:14-22/Ps 116:12-13, 17-18 [17]/Lk 6:43-49 Next Sunday: Sir 27:30—28:7/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 [8]/Rom 14:7-9/Mt 18:21-35

> LITURGICAL Publications, Inc



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

September 8th



TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN **ORDINARY TIME**

Santambar 12 2020

		September 13, 2020
5:00 PM	Septembe	er 12
For Wilda McAskin Requested by Bob & Diane Blankenship	Lector	Sharon McCarthy
8:30 AM	September 13	
For Doc & Julie Woodard Requested by Croitori Family	Lector	Rosa Russenberger
10:15 AM September 13		
For John Kuhr Requested by Angelosanto, Mackson and Battel Families	Lector	Angela McLoughlin
12:00 PM September 13		
For All Our Parishioners	Lector	Rob Seely

PARISHMX NSUPPORT

Offertory Snapshot

Actual Offertory for Weekend of August 23 5,995.00 **Budget Offertory for Weekend of August 23** 8,407.00 Year-to-Date Actual Offertory as of August 23 59,598.00 Year-to-Date Budget Offertory as of August 23 \$ 67,256.00

Thank you for your continued support of our parish!

Gerald Parish.

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.

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

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.





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.

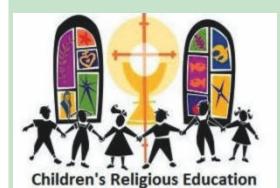
Three mailings will be sent to you through October.

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

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

Claire Oppenlander and Scott Tomey

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 -ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

It's all about reconciliation and conversion, not punishment. Relationships are not static adventures but wonderful gifts that continue to develop, grow, change, and mature. We are meant to be social beings, so isolating ourselves from others is rarely helpful. But, because human beings are on the one hand tremendously gifted, talented, and blessed creations, they are on the other also flawed, broken, and sinful. We all need to humbly admit that we are works in progress and not only capable of enriching each other's lives but causing deep hurts and wounds as well. Hence, we always need to be reconciled. We are always growing, changing, and expanding our knowledge of who we are and how we are meant to share life together.

Because reconciliation and conversion are always part of the mix of life, honesty is crucial. Without honesty, we can easily find ourselves living a lie and causing more harm than good. Being able to freely share our feelings, especially those involving pain and hurt, is a charism necessary to pursue and an art to learn. When we are wronged or wrong someone else, we do not enjoy the confrontation that can and needs to come. We are taught to keep our feelings to ourselves, especially when they are negative, and we tend to avoid difficult conversations. Hence, we never really learn how to confront another, successfully resolve conflict, find reconciliation, and welcome conversion. When we hurt or wrong someone, it does not mean that we are a bad or sinful punishment person who deserves only excommunication. Quite the opposite! We are simply a human person who can make poor choices and sin and can be forgiven. We can restore and deepen the relationship that has been affected and find our way home again.



Jesus clearly wants to avoid shame because it has no purpose in achieving reconciliation and conversion. All broken relationships deserve a chance at reconciliation. Every person has room for

growth and a need for conversion. We have to learn to be okay with honesty and not be afraid to hear and process what someone needs to say, even if it is difficult for us to hear. Severing a relationship, both personally or with the church community as a whole, ought to definitely be a last resort and only pursued when all else has failed. ©LPi



LIGHTHOUSE OF MICHIGAN HOME OF SOUTH OAKLAND SHELTER



Lighthouse has been working hard to help ensure their families are taken care of during the COVID-19 crisis. They are now serving thousands of individuals each week with emergency food. They need our help!

Volunteer Opportunities

<u>Food Distributors - Volunteers</u> will help with room set-up, unload pallets of food, help carry food to vehicles, and more.

<u>Warehouse Drivers - Volunteer drivers are needed to support the pick-up of food at various locations throughout the metro-Detroit area during this tremendous time of need. Pack Food Boxes - Volunteers will pack non-perishable, shelf stable food in Waterford to be delivered to seniors and other vulnerable populations.</u>

<u>Deliver Food Boxes - Volunteers will deliver emergency</u> food boxes to seniors & other vulnerable populations. Food boxes will be delivered contact-free via porch pick-up.

<u>Unload/Load Truck - Volunteers will help unload and load food boxes onto a truck in Waterford.</u>

<u>Pontiac Food Pantry - Volunteers will sort, pack, and distribute emergency food boxes to individuals in need.</u>
<u>Emergency Shelter Meals - Purchase & drop off meals for their emergency shelter residents - lunches and/or dinners.</u>

Donate

During the COVID-19 pandemic South Oakland Shelter has increased its client population to 90 from the usual 30-35 by accepting all qualified applicants and waiving the usual 90 day shelter stay limit. As such, Lighthouse is currently spending about \$90,000 per month to house and feed their South Oakland Shelter guests.

You can help by donating at: https://lighthousemi.org/how-to-help/give/



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.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

The Blessing of the Community

I have been blessed to be a member of my parish community for 28 years. For much of that time I was serving as a member of the parish staff, but it was still the community that I call home. I have been fortunate to be able to remain in that parish even as my life has encountered new chapters and callings. I am so grateful to God that I have been able to grow, be nourished, and find companionship in a parish for this long of a time.

It is a natural tendency for human beings to desire belonging to something bigger than themselves. Not everyone is fortunate enough to find the community, big or small, that fulfills that need. Unfortunately, that means that many communities suffer from not having the benefit of the gifts, skills, and talents that any member can offer. Communities are in many ways living organisms that move and breathe based upon the individuals who form that body. A community is truly the sum of its parts.

Your parish community reflects you and everyone else in that community. The more each member gives to the community, the stronger that community finds itself. If you hold back, your community suffers, and you gain little. I know firsthand what being a part of a community can mean to a person. I would be no one at all – and you would not be reading this – if it weren't for the life I have had in my parish community.

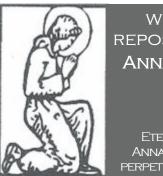
- Tracy Earl Welliver ©LPi

RIGHT TO LIFE - LIFESPAN National Day of Remembrance

Join us for a brief, but powerful ceremony at White Chapel Cemetery, 621 W. Long Lake Road, Troy, MI. We will remember all of the innocent babies who have been killed in the United States by abortion since 1973. The National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children is Saturday, September 12 at 1 PM. Due to COVID-19 we plan to follow proper social distancing at this event. Please bring a mask and prepare to join people in solidarity from 6 feet apart. For more information call LIFESPAN's Main Office at 734-524-0162.



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



WE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF ANNAMARIE RATALSKY

> JULY 25, 1929 AUGUST 26, 2020

ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO ANNAMARIE O LORD, AND MAY PERPETUAL LIGHT SHINE UPON HER.

Knights Corner

St. Gerald's Knights Still In Business Although Corona Virus Limits Activities

St. Gerald's Knights are still in business. We have not gone anywhere; we just took a pause like the rest of Michigan while the coronavirus raged on.

We did make some progress. We elected a new leadership team who started work July 1. Frank Gariepy is the new Grand Knight. He will be assisted by Deputy Grand Knight Terry Grabinski and Chancellor Jerry Weigold. New to the leadership team are Warden Scott Horsburgh and Guard Brian Gulick.

Serving for another year are Financial Secretary Bob Kuhr, Treasurer Rich Rosowski, Recorder Roger Stacey and Advocate Jerome Williams. Immediate Past GK Dave Bednarski was elected a Trustee, a position filled the last three years by PGK Bruce Roberts who was elected a Guard.

One of Gariepy's first acts was to reappoint PGK Rich Smith as Membership Director and Tom McPhail as Program Director. He later appointed Bob Beiting as Lecturer.

The Council continued its support of the priesthood, sending \$500 checks to two seminarians at Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit. And when we were unable to serve our annual dinner because the South Oakland Shelter week at North Congregational Church was canceled, we donated \$300 to Lighthouse, the nondenominational sponsor of the Shelter.

The virus shutdown really crimped our calendar. We had to scrub our June and August Casino bus trips, a pancake breakfast, our

annual Memorial Mass, our summer pot luck dinner, our Corn Toss Tournament and our work at the Parish Picnic and the Lenten Soup Supper. Technology bailed out our twice-a-month meetings. We met on schedule using Zoom. We are eager to get back to full operation as are most of our parishioners.

A Face Mask is a Proven Virus Defense; Be Pro-Life and Wear Yours! Protect Others!









Frank Gariepy

Terry Grabinski

Jerry Weigold

Brian Gulick

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	

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
Worship Ministry
Youth Ministry Gerryanna Luscri

Maintenance

Tom Kruger

SACRAMENTS

Rite of Reconciliation: Sacrament of the Sick: Saturdays from 3:30-4:30PM Please call the office.

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

Accountant

Kim Shepard

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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