

THE VOICE

January 10, 2021

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.



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

This is what John the Baptist proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." - Mk 1:7-8

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

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As we begin another year, I would like to thank everyone who has helped in any way this past year. Thank you, also for all the well wishes and gifts given to our St. Gerald staff and me. With 2020 behind us and our faith and belief in the Savior who has come to us this Christmas in the form of a baby, I wish you and your families many of God's blessings in 2021.

Fr. Kris

Happy New Year

WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS



JANUARY 11 – JANUARY 15

Monday 9:15 AM
Stephan Coticchio
Requested by Wojnar Family

Tuesday 9:15 AM
Edward Weberlein
Requested by Barbara Valasek

Wednesday NO MASS

Thursday 7:00 PM
Dobbs, Kemp, Trayer,
Robrecht and Goderman Families
Requested by C. Kemp

Friday 9:15 AM
Peter Zanotti (1st Anniv.)
Requested by Armanda Zanotti and Family

Readings for the Week

Monday: Heb 1:1-6/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 6 and 7c, 9 [cf. 7c]/Mk 1:14-20

Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf. 7]/Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9 [8a]/Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: Heb 3:7-14/Ps 95:6-7c, 8-9, 10-11 [8]/Mk 1:40-45

Friday: Heb 4:1-5, 11/Ps 78:3 and 4bc, 6c-7, 8 [cf. 7b]/Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: Heb 4:12-16/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15 [cf. Jn 6:63c]/Mk 2:13-17

Next Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10 [8a, 9a]/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42

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



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

2020 ST. GERALD CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

If you need a copy of your 2020 Contribution Statement, please send your request to stgeraldsecretary@yahoo.com or call 248-477-7470. The Parish Office is open Monday through Thursday, from 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM. With a prior request, statements will be available for pick up in the Parish Office during the hours indicated above or they can be sent to you electronically. Please allow one week to process your request. Thank you!

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

January 17, 2021

5:00 PM January 16 Fr. Kris		
For Edward Weberlein Requested by Dennis & Sharon Weberlein	Lector	Diane Blankenship
8:30 AM January 17 Fr. Kris		
For Florence Murray Requested by Victor Winiarski	Lector	Hannah Smith
10:15 AM January 17 Fr. Briffa		
For Maria Pegoraro Requested by Armanda Zanotti	Lector	Angela McLoughlin
12:00 PM January 17 Fr. Kris		
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 call the Parish Office for instructions. Thank you for your continued support of St. Gerald Parish.

Offertory Snapshot

Actual Offertory for Weekend of December 27	\$ 5,931.00
Budget Offertory for Weekend of December 27	\$ 8,407.00
Year-to-Date Actual Offertory as of December 27	\$216,571.00
Year-to-Date Budget Offertory as of December 27	\$226,989.00

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.



For Right-to-Life information, please visit the Archdiocese website at www.aodonline.org

CSA UPDATE . . .

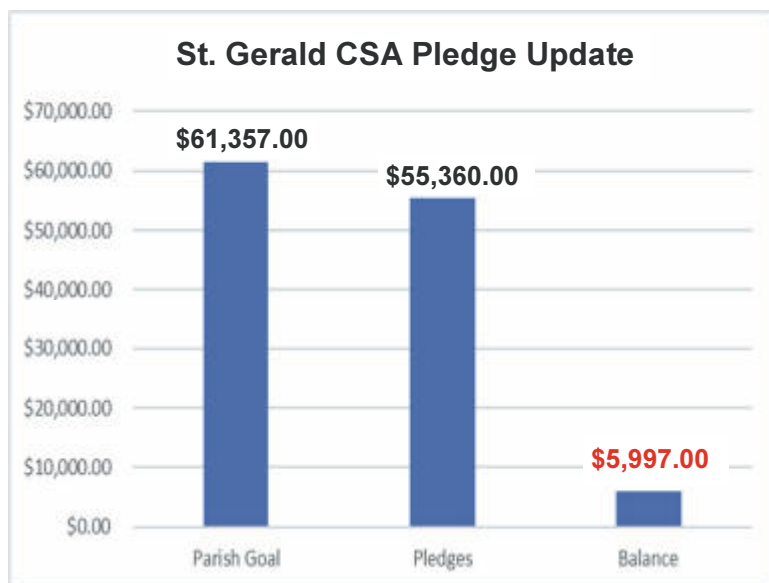
We are still \$5,997.00 short of our goal. If you have not made a donation to the 2020 CSA, it is still no too late to help us reach our goal of **\$61,357.00**.

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 to the Archdiocese of Detroit for payment, please be patient, as they are processing the payments as quickly as they can.

If you have any questions, please call the Parish Office at 248-477-7470.

**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.**

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 the office at:

stgeraldsecretary@yahoo.com

and their name will be added to our prayers.



REMEMBER
in your prayers

Joan Goniea	Sally Battishill
Deloris Macknosky	Chloe Lynn Roberts
Robert Retelle	Raymond Rudzki
Marlene Bergin	Mary Duemler
Bill O'Donohue	

GOSPEL MEDITATION**ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE**

We need history. We need it in order to understand ourselves, personally and collectively. The pieces of our histories may not have always been the most positive, honest, exemplary, dignified, proud and best moments of our lives, but they are ours. We have to acknowledge, remember, accept, and often heal them. We cannot forget them or pretend that they never existed. As horrible as the atrocities of events like Auschwitz, brutal injustices committed throughout the human journey, or personal painful experiences in our own stories, we need to remember. These times when humanity in general or people in particular have lost their way are times that need to be reconciled and redeemed.

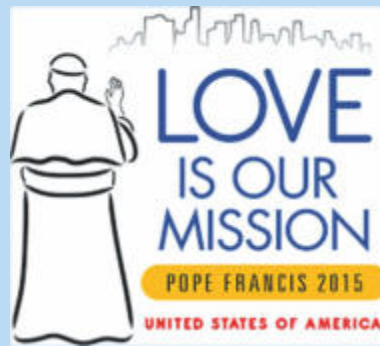
If we lose the memories, we will make the same mistakes again. The human soul needs a strong sense of affirmation, direction, and clear purpose. Without these essentials, we will easily run amuck and repeat the sins of our past. God's voice throughout history has spoken precisely about this! We are reminded through the voices and example of many prophets and witnesses not to make the same mistakes again, come back to center, discover the purpose given to us by God, maintain a sense of proper direction, seek healing for wounds and be reconciled to our Creator.

Baptism is so incredibly important for the salvation of humankind, not only eternally but here and now. Our existence depends upon it. It gives us the affirmation we need from God by gifting us with the same intimate relationship Jesus had with the Father. We are blessed with the direction and clear purpose we need in order to be productive stewards and faithful Christians. Baptism calls us to remember, accept, and deal with the sins and inequities of our past regardless of how hurtful and serious. We consciously choose to turn away from them and put on the new life of Christ. To do this well, we must look hard and long at our sins and failings, listen to what they are saying and learn from them. If we ignore the past, collectively or personally, or pretend that it never happened, we will never grow. We will surely die.

People need to hear the message, lived and spoken, delivered by the baptized members of the Body of Christ. It is an essential message of hope that is layered with visions of justice, peace, reconciliation, redemption, blessing, and healing. It is a message that helps us remember what has gone before, the graces and the sins, and bring ourselves by God's help where we need to be. We are called to do much more than sit home behind our closed doors. We have a message to deliver. Are we ready to do so? ©LPi

**CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK PAGE!**

When you are looking for Mass Times or other special events at St. Gerald, please visit our website at www.stgeraldparish.org or "like" our Facebook page at St. Gerald Catholic Church, Farmington.



The words “Thank You” do not seem enough to say to St. Gerald parishioners. I now know where the word “Godsend” comes from. Because that’s what your helpfulness was to the families we were able to help this Thanksgiving and Christmas...a Godsend!!

Thanks to you, we were able to feed 24 families at Thanksgiving and 22 at Christmas. Thank you to those individuals who donated food and those who made a financial contribution (parishioners donated \$2775 and Knights of Columbus \$1000 in food cards). During Thanksgiving we gave out \$1243.80 in food cards for meat, milk, etc. plus the food you donated. This amount also included extra food purchased for the potatoes, pies, rolls and butter. At Christmas we gave out \$955 food cards for meat, milk, etc. and we purchased potatoes and butter for \$94.08, which totals \$1049.08. Since we did not have gift tags this year and we had an abundance of Meijer cards, we decided to give a \$20 card to each person in the families so they could purchase Christmas gifts which totaled \$1550.

Even with Covid messing up the year and unfortunately lots of people losing their lives and jobs, St. Gerald Parishioners made this a very happy year for some of our neighbors. May God Bless you for being His hands and feet, and truly showing that love is our mission here at St. Gerald. You truly live out the bible verses in Matthew 25: 35-40.

But, I would be remiss if I forgot to thank those who shopped, made phone calls, carried food from the church to the pantry so the bags could be packed and those who packed it. Also, those who stood out in the cold to hand out bags and cards for Thanksgiving. And those who carried the bags for Christmas from the pantry over to the church and those who gave them out on December 19. We truly have very caring loving people here and you all show it every year.

God Bless You! SVDP

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

When God Whispers

“You don’t need to shout. My hearing works just fine.”

Are you a parent that has used that one on your kids? I’m not sure at what age they realize that the volume of their voice doesn’t correlate to the likelihood of receiving a favorable reply — it might be sometime in the teenage years, when the talking slows down altogether.

But I’ve got to admit, it would be nice if God always gave us a loud and dramatic sign when He wanted something — the booming voice and the torn-open heavens (“This is my beloved Son!”) really get the message across. Sometimes I find myself envious of the Apostles, who were able to witness such things in person.

The fact of the matter is, in the year 2021, God is more likely to speak in a whisper than in a shout. The prophet Isaiah forewarns that Christ himself will not be a noisemaker — for all his preaching, he will not cry out or shout to bring forth justice to the nations. His way is altogether different than that.

We are not the Apostles, and we do not have the privilege of seeing the Holy Spirit descend on Christ like a dove. But here’s the good news: God doesn’t need to shout. Our spiritual hearing works just fine. We just have to be listening.



Let’s wake up each morning ready to hear God’s whispers throughout the day. Let’s make a conscious effort to invite those whispers into our hearts, where they can become a catalyst for grace in this world. — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

LOST AND FOUND

Through the past few months many items have been left in the church pews and throughout the building. Could one of them be yours? During your next visit to the church, please take a look in the Lost and Found drawer, located in the cabinet in the gathering space of the church, in the lower left drawer. There are items such as toys, gloves, jewelry, etc. We would love to see them find their way back home. Items that are not pick up will be donated to our St. Vincent de Paul. Thank you!



**Let us
welcome to
our Parish:**

**Douglas and
Paulette Mullen**

**We are glad
you are here!**

Activities Within our Community

MARRIAGE COACHING – HELP FOR YOUR MARRIAGE

Are you struggling in your marriage or in need of a marriage refresher and not sure where to turn for help?

The Marriage Support Office of the Archdiocese of Detroit is pleased to offer the Marriage Coaching program – a couple-to-couple mentoring opportunity designed to assist couples live out God's plan for their marriage.

When differences begin dividing, hurt is hardening the heart, “growing pains” are becoming “regular pains”, and the passion and affection is lacking, then your marriage needs help. Like our vehicles that need preventative care, tune-ups or repairs to prevent major damage, so do our marriages.

Trained Coaching Couples will give the support and practical tools needed to help couples restore and realize the fullness they desire for their Catholic marriage. The Marriage Coaching program consists of seven main coaching sessions that are strictly confidential and provided at no cost.

To learn more and get started with the help you need for your marriage contact:

313-237-4680 or www.aod.org/marriagecoaching familyministry@aod.org. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

Whether you are wanting a marriage tune-up, feeling stalled, or experiencing a downward spiral, you need not settle for anything less than the fullness that God intends for your marriage relationship.

No need to delay, there is help for your marriage ...contact us today!

Sponsored by the Archdiocese of Detroit, Office for Marriage Support



St. Fabian Catholic School is hosting a Preschool Open House on Sunday, January 31st from 1:00-4:00 PM. Private family tours will be offered. Please contact Renee Pompei, Advancement Director at 248-553-4610, ext. 777 if you should have any questions.

MOTOR CITY CARAVAN FOR LIFE

**January 30, 2021
12:30 PM**

Purpose: To locally honor the 48th Anniversary of Roe v. Wade and the National March for Life taking place in Washington DC in a safe, socially distanced manner. To give public witness to a culture of life and end to abortion in Metro Detroit.

The Event: We will caravan in the comfort of our own vehicles through Oakland and Wayne County on Woodward Avenue, displaying peaceful, positive pro-life signs and/or LIFESPAN car magnets. Car magnets and signs will be available at our Starting Point or make your own peaceful, positive, non-political pro-life sign. This caravan is NOT a parade, so we will be abiding by all normal traffic regulations.

The Starting Point: St. Hugo of the Hills Parking Lot - Near Square Lake and Woodward.

The Route: Round trip on Woodward Avenue to Downtown Detroit and back to Long Lake Road. Then head east to White Chapel Cemetery where we will pass by a Wreath Laying Ceremony at the grave of our 5 aborted babies.

Contact: Any Chapter Office (Oakland/Macomb: 248-816-1546 or Wayne: 734-422-6230)

Visit miLIFESPAN.org for more details.

Retrouvaille has helped troubled marriages for 44 years. 175,000+ marriages helped worldwide. Only one matters; YOURS. Let us help. Next program begins January 15, 2021.

HelpOurMarriage.org or call 800-470-2230.

MANRESA JESUIT RETREAT HOUSE

Weekend Retreat for Everyday Living (Offered through Zoom)

Leaning into Life:

Attending to Ourselves, Those Close to Us and the Community

Friday, January 29 (begins at 7 PM) to

Sunday, January 31 (ends by 12 Noon)

Rosemary Insley and Paula Dow will co-facilitate this retreat. Rosemary has her Master's degree in Pastoral Studies and clinically – oriented Social Work, is a certified chaplain (retired) and currently serves as a hospice bereavement counselor. Paula completed Manresa's Internship in Ignatian Spirituality in 2005. She facilitates lectio divina and trains others to lead this way of praying with Scripture.

The cost for this three-day online retreat is \$150. A \$50 non-refundable, non-transferable deposit is required for registration and the balance is due on or before Wednesday, January 27.

Register online at www.manresa-sj.org/012921-care or call 248-644-4933, ext. 0.

Upon full payment, Zoom access details will be provided.

WHY HOLD HANDS?

Question:

Why do we hold hands during the Our Father?

Answer:

The practice of members of the assembly holding hands while praying the Lord's Prayer during the Mass is a custom that developed organically in the 1970s and 1980s. While some commentators acknowledge that the practice varies from place to place, it is a fairly universal reality in parishes across the United States. For some, this action symbolizes the communion of Christians praying together as one family of believers honoring the Father of All. Critics of the practice sometimes express concern that holding hands can be a distraction from the more significant unity that is experienced when we process to the altar to receive sacramental communion.

And so, we're left to ask, what is the answer?

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal (the document that offers specific instructions for the celebration of the Mass) is silent on the practice, saying only that "all the faithful say the prayer" with the priest. The website of the US Bishops simply observes that "No position is prescribed in the Roman Missal for an assembly gesture during the Lord's Prayer." And so, we're left to discern within ourselves and within our parish and religious communities what is an authentic gesture of praise during this important point of the Mass. For some, this means continuing to hold hands, while for others, this may mean adopting another posture of prayer.

©LPi

BAPTISM OF THE LORD



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
Cell: 313-205-8633
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 x 202

Norma Battel

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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