

The St. Gerald Voice

Roman Catholic Church

February 23, 2025

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

*A Servant Church
of the Archdiocese of Detroit*

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday
8:00 am—4:00 pm

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.



7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Give, and gifts will be given to you."
- Lk 6:38

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

UPCOMING:

FIRST SATURDAY

March 1, 2025

21300 FARMINGTON ROAD, FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN 48336
Phone: 248-477-7470 | Fax: 248-477-3878 | Website: stgeraldparish.org



FEBRUARY 24 - FEBRUARY 28

Monday 9:15 AM

Edgar Zammit +

Requested by Mary Zammit

Tuesday 9:15 AM

Mark Paul Vallespir

Requested by Vallespir Family

Wednesday No Mass

Thursday 7:00 PM

Lisa Bednar +

Requested by Diane Bonadeo

Friday 9:15 AM

Angeline Plourde +

Requested by Russ & Francine Jager

First Saturday 9:15 AM

For All Caregivers

Readings for the Week

Monday: Sir 1:1-10/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5/Mk 9:14-29

Tuesday: Sir 2:1-11/Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40/Mk 9:30-37

Wednesday: Sir 4:11-19/Ps 119:165, 168, 171, 172, 174, 175/Mk 9:38-40

Thursday: Sir 5:1-8/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Mk 9:41-50

Friday: Sir 6:5-17/Ps 119:12, 16, 18, 27, 34, 35/Mk 10:1-12

Saturday: Sir 17:1-15/Ps 103:13-14, 15-16, 17-18/Mk 10:13-16

Next Sunday: Sir 27:4-7/Ps 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16 (see 2a)/1 Cor 15:54-58/Lk 6:39-45

2024 St. Gerald Contribution Statement

If you need a copy of your 2024 contribution statement from St. Gerald, please send your request to stgeraldsecretary@yahoo.com or call 248-477-7470. The Parish Office is open Monday through Thursday, from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. With a prior request, statements will be available for pick up in the Parish Office during the hours indicated above. If you are unable to pick up your statement, they can be emailed or mailed to you upon your request. Please allow one week to process your statement. Thank you!

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MARCH 2, 2025

5:00 PM			Mar. 1	Fr. Kris
For Mary Ann Blankenship + Requested by Bob & Diane Blankenship	Lector	Diane Blankenship		
8:30 AM			Mar. 2	Fr. Kris
For Paul Borchert + Requested by Barb Kopf	Lector	Candy Rosowski		
10:15 AM			Mar. 2	Fr. Henry
For Eglantina Valente + Requested by Cosimo Valente	Lector	Scott Horsburgh		
12:00 PM			Mar. 2	Fr. Kris
For All Of Our Parishioners	Lector	Jeff Antoun		

If you wish to request a **Mass Intention** for a loved one, please stop by the parish office and we will be happy to add them to the calendar of weekday and weekend Masses!



All intentions are listed in the bulletin and the intention is said aloud during the Prayers of the Faithful at the selected mass time.



Please pray for our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ, who are suffering

Gwen Korody
Chloe Roberts
John Wassell
Shirley Murray
Marlene Bergin
Roseanne McQueen
Phyllis Dombe
Tim Westfall
Lyla Waterstreet
John Maguire
Fred Gerometta
Robert Bliss

Margaret Williams
Ron Briggs
Winifred Maguire
Valerie Kenney
Barry Russell
Jim Bergin
Tom McPhail
Patrick Rogers
Chris Malecke
Jerome Williams
Jerry Weigold
Kathleen Radzilowski

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Reading I

1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23

In those days, Saul went down to the desert of Ziph with three thousand picked men of Israel, to search for David in the desert of Ziph. So David and Abishai went among Saul's soldiers by night and found Saul lying asleep within the barricade, with his spear thrust into the ground at his head and Abner and his men sleeping around him. Abishai whispered to David: "God has delivered your enemy into your grasp this day. Let me nail him to the ground with one thrust of the spear; I will not need a second thrust!" But David said to Abishai, "Do not harm him, for who can lay hands on the LORD's anointed and remain unpunished?" So David took the spear and the water jug from their place at Saul's head, and they got away without anyone's seeing or knowing or awakening. All remained asleep, because the LORD had put them into a deep slumber. Going across to an opposite slope, David stood on a remote hilltop at a great distance from Abner, son of Ner, and the troops. He said: "Here is the king's spear. Let an attendant come over to get it. The LORD will reward each man for his justice and faithfulness. Today, though the LORD delivered you into my grasp, I would not harm the LORD's anointed."

Responsorial Psalm

Reading II

1 Corinthians 15:45-49

Brothers and sisters: It is written, *The first man, Adam, became a living being*, the last Adam a life-giving spirit. But the spiritual was not first; rather the natural and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, earthly; the second man, from heaven. As was the earthly one, so also are the earthly, and as is the heavenly one, so also are the heavenly. Just as we have borne the image of the earthly one, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly one.

Alleluia

Gospel

Luke 6:27-38

Jesus said to his disciples: "To you who hear I say, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. To the person who strikes you on one cheek, offer the other one as well, and from the person who takes your cloak, do not withhold even your tunic. Give to everyone who asks of you, and from the one who takes what is yours do not demand it back. Do to others as you would have them do to you. For if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do the same. If you lend money to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, and get back the same amount. But rather, love your enemies and do good to them, and lend expecting nothing back; then your reward will be great and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. "Stop judging and you will not be judged. Stop condemning and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven. Give, and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing, will be poured into your lap. For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you."

The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom. May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally. May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen

Knowing that very few of us can travel to Rome to pass through the jubilee's Holy Doors in the Eternal City, Archbishop Vigneron has designated several pilgrimage sites throughout the Archdiocese, where the faithful will be able to pray the official prayer for Jubilee Year 2025 and unite themselves spiritually with all who will journey as pilgrims to Rome.



WHAT DO I DO WITH MY PALMS FROM LAST YEAR

To "destroy" blessed palms, the proper way is to burn them and bury the ashes; this is considered the most respectful method as it treats the blessed item with reverence, aligning with Catholic tradition where blessed items should be returned to the earth through burning or burying.

Because we already have the ashes that will be used for the Ash Wednesday service, ***please do not bring them to church.***

INSTEAD, WE RECOMMEND:

• **BURNING AT HOME:**

If you choose to burn them at home, make sure to do so in a safe and controlled environment, and then bury the ashes afterwards.

• **DO NOT THROW AWAY:**

Avoid throwing blessed palms in the regular trash as it is considered disrespectful.



FAITH FORMATION

2025 Scripture Study



Come study Scripture with us!
We will begin study of **Acts** of the Apostles
Led by Father David Santoro, O.P.,
Chaplain at the Blessed Sacrament Monastery in
Farmington Hills

Location: St. Gerald Parish Social Hall
Tuesdays 10:30am-12pm
Mar 4- May 13 (no session April 15)

Coffee, cookies, and Bibles provided
All are welcome to this Inter-Parish Scripture study
Questions: Emily Long at 248.476.7677, Ext. 201
or email faithformation.sgp@gmail.com

2024 CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL UPDATE

In October, we announced that our 2024 CSA Goal of \$55,164.00 was reached with all your help. We once again, want to say CONGRATULATIONS and Thank You. At this point, we are approximately \$5,200.00 over our goal and those funds will come back to St. Gerald 100%.

As a reminder, all payments due for CSA 2024 must be received by the Archdiocese of Detroit by April 30, 2025, to be applied to 2024. If your pledge dollars are not received by this date, St. Gerald will be responsible for any balance due.

Address for funds to be mailed:

Archdiocese of Detroit
CSA Gift Processing Center
PO Box 6047
Albert Lea, MN 56007-6647.

Please make sure all checks are payable to :
the Archdiocese of Detroit.

Again, we thank you and appreciate your support and love you have for St. Gerald.

If you would like to make a donation for the **Church in Central/Eastern Europe** through **Amplify**, you can do so now through **March 9, 2025**

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



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. Joining the Knights does not obligate anyone to spend any more than they want to on our projects. It does provide a great opportunity to help others, and you will get to spend some time with some great guys on a regular basis. We remain, Good Men doing Good Works!

CHARITY CASINO BUS TOUR



Join us at Firekeepers Casino in Battle Creek on Wednesday, March 5th. The bus leaves St. Gerald parking lot at 9 AM and returns at 6 PM. For information and to sign up call: Richard Smith (313-421-0204), Bruce Roberts (248-756-9257) or Richard Rosowski (248-477-2511).

Food Pantry Items Needed:

- Laundry Detergent
- Mac & Cheese Deluxe
- Saltine Crackers
- Cookies
- Diced Tomatoes
- Baked Beans
- Mac & Cheese Cups
- Tuna
- Tuna Helper

*Please NO perishable items



Food Pantry Donations Needed

Over the course of the next year, we will be highlighting different things that we as Catholics do, things we believe and things that happen at mass. We will explain what the priest wears, what utensils are used at mass and various other occasions. Why it is important to sing aloud and to respond to the prayers and invocations in unison with your fellow parishioners. We will try to answer questions you may have and explain them in a simple, understandable way to help enhance your church going. We will use pictures and charts to help in a visual way when possible. We will go through the Stations of the Cross, explain the rosary, why First Friday and First Saturday are important. What Adoration is and why we have Benediction. As we enter into Lent and Holy Week, we will delve into why this is such an important part of our faith. This is only a small sample of what we hope to cover over the next few months.

We begin today by explaining the Liturgical Calendar, the colors used during the year and a *little* about Ash Wednesday which is on March 5, 2025 this year.

ADVENT	JESUS IS COMING
CHRISTMAS	JESUS IS BORN
ORDINARY TIME	JESUS TEACHES US
LENT	JESUS WILL DIE AND RISE
PASCHAL TRIDUUM	JESUS SUFFERS AND IS CRUCIFIED
EASTER	JESUS HAS RISEN

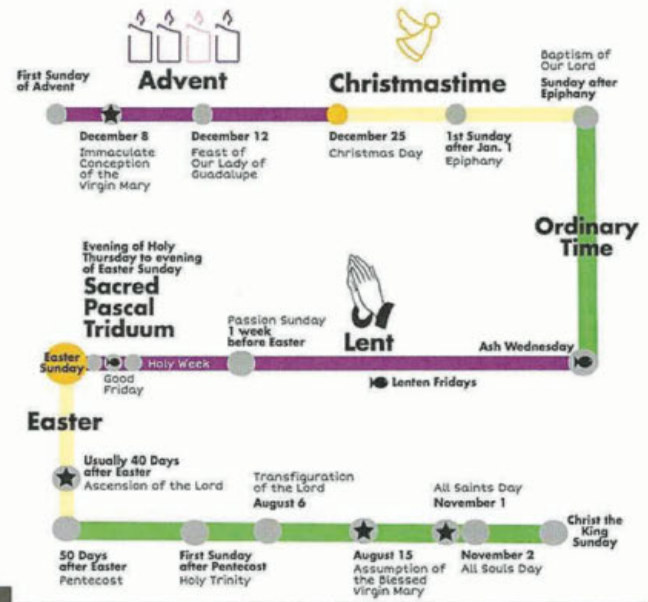
In the Catholic Church we follow what is known as a Liturgical Calendar. Our calendar is divided into sections corresponding to what is happening in the Church as well as in our everyday lives.

The Catholic Liturgical Year

Seasons

- Holy Days of Obligation
- Days of Abstinence

The Liturgical year begins on the first Sunday of Advent. It is divided into six seasons. The shortest but most holy season is the three-day Sacred Pascal Triduum leading up to Easter.



Liturgical Calendar

Parish of the Holy Sacrifice
Restaurante Dineo in Christo

@parishoftheholysacrifice
 parishoftheholysacrifice.ph
 (02) 926-9496

CATHOLIC EXTENSION www.CatholicExtension.org

We are currently in Ordinary Time and will begin The Season of Lent on Ash Wednesday, March 5, 2025. Lent is a special time; a time to reflect and prepare our souls by doing penance and good deeds.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday is one of the most popular and important holy days in the liturgical calendar. It takes place 46 days before Easter Sunday. It opens Lent, a season of penitential prayer and fasting, which prepares us for Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday, through which we attain redemption.

The practice includes the wearing of ashes on the head. The ashes symbolize the dust from which God made us. As the priest applies the ashes to a person's forehead, he speaks the words: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return" Or "Repent and believe in the Gospel."

Priests administer ashes **during** Mass. All are invited to accept the ashes as a visible symbol of penance. Even non-Christians and the excommunicated are welcome. The ashes are made from blessed palm branches, taken from previous year's Palm Sunday Mass. The ashes are christened with Holy Water. While the ashes symbolize penance and contrition, they are also a reminder that God is gracious and merciful to those who call on Him with repentant hearts. This is also a reminder that our earthly life passes away.

In ages past, Christians who had committed grave faults (sins) were required to perform public penance. It began with the wearing of a hair shirt, a garment made from coarse animal hair. The hair shirts were blessed by the bishop and ashes made from the prior year's palms were sprinkled over them. The penitents were not allowed to return to the church until Maundy Thursday, having done their forty days of penance and receiving sacramental absolution.

Today Catholics and many other Christians receive ashes as a form of preparation for the forty days of Lent leading up to Holy Week and Easter.

Ash Wednesday, March 5, 2025 Masses at 9:15 am and 7:00 pm

Ashes will be distributed only at the masses.

LITURGICAL COLORS

Green is used during the Ordinary Times of the Year. Green is a symbol of Hope.

Purple represents Humility and Penance. It is used during Advent and Lent.

Rose symbolizes Joy and Hope and is used on the Third Sunday of Advent and the Fourth Sunday of Lent also known as Laetare Sunday. Laetare means Rejoice in Latin.

White is used on the Feast days of our Lord Jesus, Blessed Mother Mary, and Saints that were not martyred. It is used at Christmas and Easter, times of great celebration. White vestments are also worn at baptisms, weddings and ordinations.

Red a symbol of the blood shed for Christ and Fire of Charity. It implies the blood of Christ, the Holy Spirit and the Martyrs. The priest puts on red for confirmations and on Pentecost.

Black is rarely used but may be worn during the Office of the Dead and on Good Friday.

40 DAY LENTEN CHALLENGE

Lent begins Ash Wednesday, March 5

How will you **DECREASE** the excess in your life and **INCREASE** your devotion to Jesus and his mission?

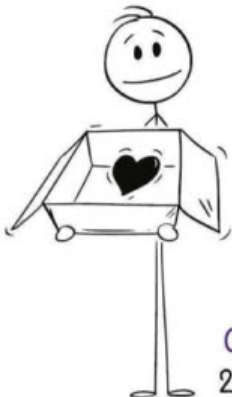
HERE IS A CHALLENGE FOR YOU!



Each day of Lent, remove one item from your closet that you no longer wear or need, pass on a book, or CD that could inspire or inform someone else. After the forty days, donate them to a place that can share them with others who can really use them!

IT'S A WIN-WIN!

Consider charitable organizations such as:



SALVATION ARMY

33600 Plymouth Rd, Livonia
43600 Grand River Ave, Novi
730 N Pontiac Trail, Walled Lake

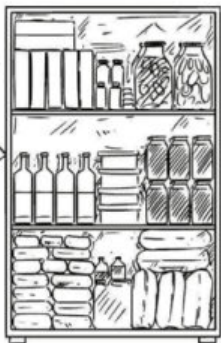
GOODWILL

12651 Middlebelt Rd, Livonia

OAKLAND COUNTY FOSTER CLOSET

24400 Sinacola Ste. B, Farmington Hills

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27835 Shiawassee St,
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10-6pm

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Gerald's Evangelization Team

SOUP SUPPER



TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2025
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

COST: FREE WILL OFFERING

DINNER INCLUDES:

HOMEMADE SOUPS:

If you would like to bring homemade soup in a crock pot, fill out the form below and either place it in the collection basket or drop it off in the parish office by February 23, 2025.

ROLLS, BUTTER, CRACKERS, DESSERTS, COFFEE, TEA, AND JUICE

=====

Name

Phone #

Type of Soup

WORSHIP

**IMPORTANT
CALENDAR DATES**

March 1, 2025
First Saturday Mass 9:15 am

March 4, 2025
Soup Supper 5:00 – 7:00 pm

March 5, 2025
ASH WEDNESDAY
Masses at 9:15 am and 7:00 pm
Ashes **ONLY** at the masses

March 7, 2025
First Friday
Mass 9:15 am
Adoration immediately after mass
Benediction at 5:00 pm

March 16, 2025
Fellowship Sunday

March 31, 2025
Lenten Reconciliation Service at 6:30 pm

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays at 7:00 pm

March 7, 2025
March 14, 2025
March 21, 2025
March 28, 2025
April 4, 2025
April 11, 2025

April 17, 2025

HOLY THURSDAY

Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00 pm
Garden of Repose 8:00 – 10:00 pm

April 18, 2025

GOOD FRIDAY

Stations of the Cross 12:00 pm
Liturgy 12:45 pm
Private Veneration 2:00-3:30 pm

April 19, 2025

HOLY SATURDAY

Blessing of Food Baskets 11:00 am
Easter Egg Hunt 11:15 am
VIGIL MASS 8:30 pm
NO CONFESSION



ST. GERALD CATHOLIC CHURCH

Office Hours

8:00 AM - 4:00 PM Monday thru Thursday. Closed Friday.

STAFF

Parish Office (248) 477-7470

Reverend Krzysztof Nowak, Pastor x 203
Kathy Smith, 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.

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