

ST. KIERAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

January 3, 2021: The Epiphany of the Lord



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." - Mt 2:1-2

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

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A Farewell Letter...

When I joined St Kieran in February of 2014, I had no idea just how much this parish would change my life. I have grown immeasurably in my faith, my abilities as a musician and coordinator, and as a minister of music. The staff here is extraordinary and I have enjoyed working with them on projects and events. They have guided me and supported me 100% and I couldn't have asked for a better group of colleagues. St Kieran is blessed to have them! Recently an opportunity presented itself to work closer to home (I live in Detroit), and with that being said, I will be leaving St Kieran January 10th and heading over to St Joan of Arc in St Clair Shores. My time at St Kieran has strengthened me and I've found that I have deepened my faith and abilities. It has been my pleasure and honor to guide and direct the choirs here. I have enjoyed getting to know the families here and watching kids grow up and head off into their lives. You each have left an indelible mark on my heart and I am so grateful and blessed to know you all.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to be your music minister and if you are ever in St Clair Shores, please stop by!

Peace,

Catherine Thomas



Mallia's Moments

A Gospel reflection from Father Joe and an update on upcoming events happening around the parish

Happy New Year! So, now that the calendar has flipped and we have left 2020 behind us, everything is magically made better right? Wrong! In fact, nothing ever changes because you turn the page on a calendar, the only way things really change is if they change in you and not around you.

Every year I hear people say that “this year is going to be different”; exactly how is it going to be different? The custom of making resolutions, of offering a “wish” for a better year is like a puff a smoke that goes away with the slightest hint of a breeze. Change is a process and it is hard work; it is not the result of simply wanting things to be better.

I do not mean this to be a “downer” on the first weekend of the year, but I do want to stress the importance of our role as individuals and as a community in working together to make things better for ourselves and others. In fact, if we are really committed to making things better, this could be the first weekend of an incredible year. Truly, I don't want to forget about 2020, I want to build on it.

Think of all the adversity and subsequent creativity that has come out of it that has set the ground work for some incredible opportunities. More people have become comfortable with technology and so our outreach to the homebound can be more impactful. The numbers of people who are viewing our live stream Masses has been remarkable and many of our parishioners who were excluded from worshipping with us because of illness, are now able to join us in active Sunday worship from their own homes. Our staff has been exploring new and creative ways to use FORMED, the on-line resource we have provided to everyone in our parish and to anyone who wishes to use it. I look forward to seeing how we can expand our use of this technology in both gathered and non-gathered ways.

This past year may be remembered for what was not able to be done, but I prefer to see it as having been a year when new things were done and a new appreciation for what we have taken for granted was established. Maybe now we really will be thankful for the time we have actually being with our family and friends. Maybe now we have grown in appreciation for those times when people can gather for games, concerts, civic activities, parades or anything else that may have included more than 10 people. Most importantly I hope we are grateful for the opportunity to once again gather here at church for Mass, religious education, social activities, bible study, small group discussions and all the other aspects of life that makes St. Kieran a special place to belong. Personally, I am looking forward to seeing what you all look like!

It would be easy to view 2020 with a look of disdain and a sense of relief that it is over, but unless we learn from it and unless we grow from it, we will be bound to only repeat it. If 2021 is going to be a better year, we will have to change and we will have to work better together. I pray that 2020 was the springboard to a better future, just as past generations had forged ahead after their challenges. That is, until the time comes when we will have again forgot what we have learned; start taking things for granted again and nature will force us to re-evaluate. God bless you all.

Continued on page 3

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE REQUESTING PRAYER

Names will remain on our sick list for 6 weeks. After 6 weeks contact the Parish Office if you wish to place the name back on the list. Names will remain on our military list for 1 year.

SICK LIST

*Harold Bates
Patricia Bartkowski
Kathleen Brest
Richard Connor
Carla Daniels
Ken DeNeweth
Jack Devereux
Sean Devereux
Gedediah Dowd
Nancy Gorski
JoAnn Gozdor
Michael G. Hessen
Richard Jakubec
Kevin Klott
Betty Kuntz
Jesse Malczyk
Alice Mirochna
William Olszewski
Charlotte Pelshaw
Mike Powers
Tony Rallo
June Sadowski
Jerry Schroeder
Tresa Spencer
Diane Zanke*

MILITARY LIST

*Bill Boeve-A
Joseph Deagan-N
Brian Hasse—N
Spenser Horwedel-AF
Mike Kwasnik-N
Rick Kwasnik-N
Daniel Otten-A
Joseph Pellerito— CG
Capt Steven Pickett-M
Jacob Risner-A
Patrick Roberts-A
Scott Socia-AF*

MALLIA'S MOMENTS (continued)

Thank you

I wish to thank those of you who were so kind to me this past Christmas. I very much appreciated the cards, gifts and other sweet things that were dropped off at the office. I promise, I shared all the treats with the staff. I was most humbled again, by your goodness to me. Thank you
COVID VACCINE

The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith in Rome, the US Catholic Bishops Conference and our Archbishop with all the Bishops of Michigan have put out documents that clarify the official stance of the Catholic Church in regards to taking the COVID vaccine. It is their learned opinion that though the research was done in a way that we know alternatives could have been used and would have complied with our moral views, the actual production of the vaccine in no way crosses any moral lines. Therefore, it is morally acceptable to receive the vaccine. All those who are able and wish to are free to do so. Of course, no person is obligated to take the vaccine. We must be careful not to disparage any person who either chooses to receive the vaccine or those who chose to abstain from it.

Thank you, Catherine Thomas

As has been announced previously, Catherine has decided for her own personal reasons, to accept a position at a Catholic church closer to her home. We are most grateful for her years of service to our community and for her willingness to share her talents and lead us in praise of our God. Next weekend will be her last weekend with us. We wish her well in her new position and we pray that God continue to bless her and the people of St. Joan of Arc.

At the same time, we are in the process of interviewing candidates to fill our subsequent position. I have used my contacts to help me sort through potential candidates both locally and nationally who would be qualified and willing to serve our parish. The hope is to have someone in place prior to the start of Lent. Until that time, Catherine has already created the Mass plans for those Masses and we will have substitute musicians leading us in worship until that time. Please pray that we find the right person for our parish. Have a great week and God bless you all. Happy New Year and Merry Christmas!



Happy New Year! As we begin 2021, my prayer for you, your family, our community, our country, and, indeed, the entire world, is one of newness of hope, good health, and the joyful light of Christ in minds and hearts. Let us thank God for the blessings of the past year, even while they were mixed with some sorrows and sufferings, and let's remain steadfast in faith and trust, that our God holds all the world in the palm of His hand!

Today we will remember an extraordinary woman who persevered through many trials, becoming a great saint – and she was from our very own country! Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton was the first Native born American to be canonized, and her feast day is January 4.

Elizabeth Ann Bayley Seton was born into a wealthy Episcopalian family in New York City on August 28, 1774. Her father was a doctor and one of the first health officials in New York City. Her mother died when Elizabeth was only three years old. At 19, she married a handsome, wealthy businessman, William Magee Seton. She enjoyed a full life of loving service to her family, care for the underprivileged, and religious development in her Episcopal faith. After his business failed, her husband died of tuberculosis while they were in Italy in a failed hope to improve his health. At the age of 30, Elizabeth was widowed, penniless, with five small children to support.

But while in Italy, Seton learned about Roman Catholicism for the first time. She was especially drawn to the doctrine of the Eucharist as the real presence of Christ. She returned to New York in June 1804 and continued to feel conflicted between the Episcopal and Catholic faiths. After almost a year, she officially converted to Roman Catholicism on March 14, 1805. Seton's choice to convert resulted in three years of financial struggle and social discrimination. Her boarding house for boys was successful until the student's parents discovered that she was Catholic, and promptly removed their children from the home.

Seton and her family were invited by several priests to move to Baltimore, Maryland. They moved in June 1808 to open a school for girls. She founded the first American religious community for women, the Sisters of Charity, and was named first superior and given the title of "Mother." She served in that role for the next twelve years. Elizabeth also opened the first American parish school, and established the first American Catholic orphanage.

Although she passed away at a young age (46), her legacy lived on. Beatified by Pope John XXIII on December 18, 1959, she was canonized, on September 14, 1975, by Pope Paul VI. She is the patron saint of seafarers and widows, and an inspiration to those called to persevere in the midst of great struggles. St. Elizabeth Seton, pray for us!

Hope to see you at Mass!

Peace,

Deacon Russ



COMING SOON!

WEEKLY DISCUSSION/FAITH SHARING GROUP
on the book:
*"More Than You Could Ever
IMAGINE"*

By Bernie Owens. SJ

Fr. Bernie Owens fulfills his goal of providing a rich and comprehensive description of our spiritual journey toward transformation into God. We are offered a glimpse of what we shall become, both individually, and as a human race transformed in Christ.

Introductory meeting will be Thursday January 21
6:30 pm— 7:30 pm in the green room.

Discussion group will continue January 28
6:30 pm— 8:00 pm for 9 weeks.

Course will be facilitated by Marcia DiMambro and offered both in-person with limited seating and virtually if there is interest.

For more information, contact Susan Weyland at (586)781-6515, ext. 112 or sue@stkieran.org.

**COMING SOON!
THE SEARCH**

Do you wonder why happiness is fleeting?

Explore life's mysteries with
The Search,

a video based program that explores life's big questions.

WATCH HERE FOR MORE DETAILS OR CONTACT

SUSAN WEYLAND AT sue@stkieran.org or

(586)781-6515 EXT. 112.

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
WITH FATHER JOE!**

WHEN: THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 2021

TIME: 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

WHERE: GREEN ROOM (will move to Church if necessary to follow social distancing guidelines)

Come to an evening where your questions will be answered. You can ask anything about liturgy, prayer, moral questions, etc. Our goal is to simply provide a trustworthy forum for dependable Catholic guidance and information, so go ahead and ask your questions. . . . Open to ALL ages.

We ask that you kindly wear a mask.

For more information, please contact

Susan Weyland

at (586)781-6515 extension 112 or

sue@stkieran.org.

The Gospel For All Ages...Family Catechesis

Take the Challenge!

Isaiah 60: 1-3; Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-12



QUESTIONS:

How do you do homage to God in the presence of the lowly and disadvantaged?

To whom is Jesus' birth important when it happens?

ABOUT THE GOSPEL

Jesus is here! Finally, after all the waiting and preparation, our Savior is here. The Gospel says that it is a time of great joy.

IN CHURCH

Spend a few minutes in front of the Nativity scene at church. Notice the ways it is different from the one you may have at home.

FAMILY PRAYER:

Today, we remember Jesus' birth. Please be born in our hearts, Amen.



Believe. Grow. Share.

FAITH FORMATION NEW YEAR'S PICK-UP PARTY

When: Saturday, January 16th
Time: 11:00 am-12:00 pm
Where: North Parking Lot
Why: For all Faith Formation families to pick up their 3rd Quarter Faith Formation materials.

Service Opportunity

Asking for

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Personal Hygiene products:

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| deodorant | soap |
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Questions? Please contact:

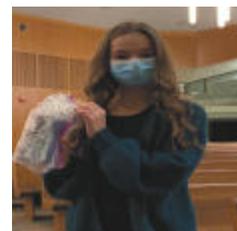
Rose Churilla
(586)781-6515 ext. 117
rose@stkieran.org

OR

Susan Weyland
(586)781-6515 ext. 112
sue@stkieran.org

SKY

Saint Kieran Youth



Pictures of SKY's annual White Elephant Exchange. SKY will gather next on Sunday, January 10. Look for details as it gets closer. Any questions about SKY, please contact Jenny Greuling (Youth Minister) at 586-781-5759 ext. 119



Verso L'alto

Saint Kieran Young Adults

Join us for our next YA get together on Wednesday, Jan. 13. Watch for details as it gets closer.

Did you know you can text DetroitCYA to 33777 and receive a monthly link to all things happening with Detroit Catholic Young Adults? For an example, The Archdiocese of Detroit continues providing more daily resources and inspiration for you with great articles, videos, podcasts and more at <https://www.unleashthegospel.org>

Are you a Catholic young adult, looking to connects with others? Do you have ideas about getting Catholic young adults together and finding a space for them? Please contact Jenny Greuling with any ideas. 586-781-5759 ext.119 .

A.S.K.S.

Active St. Kieran Seniors

The monthly breakfast and lunch gatherings for Active St. Kieran Seniors are on hold. The "First Friday Breakfast" and "Lunch Around the World" will be rescheduled once restrictions are removed. Keep in mind, St. Kieran gym is open Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m.– 4:30 p.m. It is available for walking.

Happy New Year, Active St. Kieran Seniors!
Any questions, please contact Jenny Greuling, Senior Adult Ministry 586-781-5759 ext. 119

Christian Service Matters

Christian Service: the act of doing things for God with a willingness in the heart.



Christmas Blessings and Seekers of Justice Committee Update

This year, we've been able to directly assist at least 4 immigrant families (including 22 children) with food and gifts. We have attended educational webinars (viewable at www.strangersnolonger.org) and contacted our legislators regarding a bill for driver's licenses for undocumented individuals. We also thanked them for passing the RAISE THE AGE bill, so 17 year olds can't be prosecuted as adults in most instances. Recently, we lobbied on behalf of a Guatemalan teen for a stay of deportation so she can finish up another year's treatment for a crippling condition before heading back to her country. Assisting us with support letters were our pastors, Fr. Steve, Fr. Festus and Fr. Joe. We have been blessed this year to be servants & advocates. Please join us at our 3rd Thursday monthly meeting any time. Contact Ro Schultz at roschultz49@comcast.net.

Stewardship Reflections

Pray. Share. Give.



"...they fell down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh..." - Matthew 2:11

Notice the order of events in the Magi's visit. First, they knelt before Jesus and prayed to Him. Then they presented Him with their gifts. We, too, must take time to pray before we present our gifts to the Lord. We never know what God may be asking us to share!



Knights Corner

The Knights of Columbus invite you to participate in praying the Rosary every Sunday afternoon at 1:00pm via ZOOM Meeting. We have been gathering this way for several months, and thought now would be an ideal time to invite parish families and friends to join us. Please sign in at: zoom.us/join with Meeting ID 160 781 160 and the password is 704979.

We recommend that you login 5-10 minutes prior to the start time to get situated. The subject note for the meeting will indicate K of C Family Rosary. Our intentions are for an increase in vocations to priesthood and religious life, an end to abortion, world peace and prayers for the sick and those in need. Hope to see and hear from more of you on Sunday afternoons.

In light of today's work environment and health issues, this may be an opportunity for you, a family member and/or friend that is in need of a well paying and rewarding job in the Knights of Columbus. You will be the connection to family members when they become in need for life coverage, protection and assistance in the future.

Due to the growth in the area, the Knights of Columbus has a career opportunity available for an energetic, career minded person.

Career Opportunity:

The Knights of Columbus is seeking a Field Agent for a career opportunity representing their insurance program. They offer a complete benefits package with this full-time position. In order to qualify, one must be eligible for membership in the Knights of Columbus. For more information, please contact, Don M. Wesley FICF, General Agent, at 888-393-7539, or don.wesley@kofc.org

CSA 2020 Wrap Up

Thank you for your generous support of CSA 2020. As of this week, we have surpassed our goal by \$38,670!

Donating to CSA helps the parish in two ways:

- 1) Since our goal is mandatory, we are obligated to meet the target
- 2) Any money received over the target are refunded to us monthly and the total refund amount is NOT included in the calculation of the diocesan assessment of 7%.

We are grateful to all that have made a pledge and payment to CSA 2020. Thank you for your support of the parish and of CSA.

CSA 2020 as of Jan. 1, 2021

Target: \$165,335

Total Pledged: \$204,005

CSA Anticipated Refund: \$38,670

Participation:

of parish families: 3,205

Pledges: 517

Parish Participation: 16%

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

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

KNIGHT'S KORNER (continued)

As we prepare for the start of a New Year, it might be a good time to reflect on planning for our future and those that we hope to leave a legacy for.

During a presentation by Mr. Tom Hegna, a noted Author of “Don't Worry Retire Happy” and speaker these were the thought he presented during a webinar meeting to the Michigan Knights of Columbus in December. There are 7 steps to successful planning for you and those who continue on with your successful financial planning;

1: Make a plan with an accredited Financial, Funeral and Church professional planner.

: You can plan for church services, Mass readings, pall bearers, casket, etc.

: Preplanning doesn't guarantee that every one of your wishes will be carried out, but it does make clear what you desire.

2: Maximize your Social Security benefits by considering to not take them at the earliest date you are eligible. A delay could increase your monthly income.

3: Develop a Hybrid plan by working several more years full or part time.

4: Protect for inflation.

5: A continual stream of income should be your goal.

6: Long Term care will be a necessity.

: Decrease your clutter now rather than putting the burden on others later.

: Do you really need to save items that are not used by the current generation?

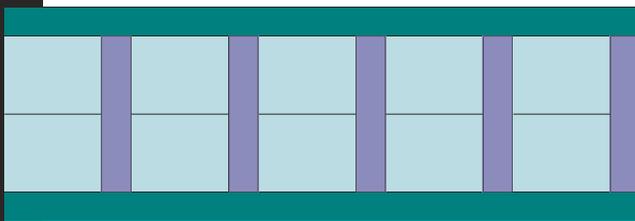
7: Use your Home Equity wisely.

8: AN EXTRA, Don't leave your family any money. Spend it all and leave them insurance benefits!

I hope these points create some thoughts that inspire you to review your present, and future plans, for that day we anxiously await and enjoy what is called, “RETIREMENT”! Another presentation will be coming in Spring 2021 and will be open to all Parish members, not just the Knights of Columbus.

WEEKEND LITURGY SCHEDULE—JANUARY 9/10, 2021

Day/Time	Saturday 4:30 pm	Sunday 8:00 am	Sunday 9:30 am	Sunday 11:30 am
Mass Intentions	Glenn Warrington (5th Anniversary) By Doris Washington ----- David Siloac By Ed & Jean Novak	Conrad Kelpin By Ron and Monica Thimm	Lorraine Zielinski By Ron & Monica Thimm ----- Larry Gietzen By Ron and Monica Thimm	Teresa Michel By Rose Budry
Music	Contemporary Group	Elizabeth Gondert	Praise & Worship	Elizabeth Gondert/ Adult Choir A
Lectors	Maria Kayser Ken Mehr	Mary Phil Rose Roger Quitter	Joe Riggs Paula Ziegler	Monica Thimm Tom Valentine
Altar Servers	Team 2	Team 3	Team 4	Team 5



WEEKDAY LITURGY SCHEDULE

JANUARY 4-8, 2021

Monday 7:00 pm Mass Lector: Ken Mehr	All Souls in Purgatory by Julie Szydowski
Tuesday 8:00 am Mass	
Wednesday 8:00 am Mass	
Thursday 8:00 am Mass	
Friday 8:00 am Mass	

Stewardship Resolutions for 2021

Stewardship is a commitment of mind and heart to the Lord; a way of life that needs constant renewal and transformation. This time of year has always been one of looking forward to a new year, reflecting on the changes we need to make in our lives and resolving to follow through on those changes. Perhaps those who seek to make resolutions to be better stewards might find inspiration in the following examples:

Stewardship of Prayer: Resolve to strengthen your relationship with the Lord. Notice how often you pray and what hinders you from praying. Commit to short, daily prayer times.

Stewardship of Family: Resolve to set aside more time to stay connected with your family. Eat dinner together, schedule regular dates with your spouse, plan family outings and go to Mass together.

Stewardship of Health: Resolve to get those medical and dental checkups. Adopt healthier eating habits. Add exercise and other physical activity to your daily routine.

Stewardship of Possessions: Resolve to possess a little more “lightly” this year. Consider the amount of your possessions. Distinguish between those items that are necessary and those that are considered luxurious and unnecessary.

Stewardship of the Parish Family: Resolve to serve your faith community in some way this year such as a liturgical minister, in the parish’s outreach or education and formation efforts.

Provided by the International Catholic Stewardship Council

ST. KIERAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

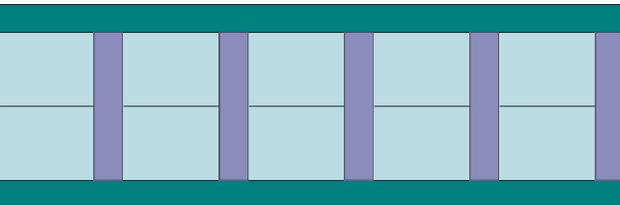


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Daily Readings for the Week of 1/3

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12
Psalm 72: Lord, every nation on Earth will adore you
 Monday: 1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a [8ab]/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
 Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8 [cf. 11]/Mk 6:34-44
 Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Mk 6:45-52
 Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17 [cf. 11]/Lk 4:14-22a
 Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 [12a]/Lk 5:12-16
 Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Jn 3:22-30
 Next Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Mk 1:7-11 or Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [3])/1 Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-11
Psalm 40: Here am I Lord, I come to do your will

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Archdiocese of Detroit Shelby Township, Michigan
Allen H. Vigneron, Archbishop 48316
Parish Website: www.stkieran.org

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 Email: frjoe.mallia@gmail.com ext 111
Deacon: Deacon Russ Ortisi
 E Mail: DeaconRuss@stkieran.org
Parish Office: 586-781-4901
Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
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Director of Music: Catherine Thomas ext 118
 E Mail: catherine@stkieran.org
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 Fran Zajac: fran@stkieran.org ext 123
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