

ST. KIERAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

February 7, 2021: The Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time



5th Sunday IN ORDINARY TIME

He cured many who were sick with various diseases, and he drove out many demons, not permitting them to speak because they knew him. - Mk 1:34



Mallia's Moments

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

Today's first reading is from Job. Now, most people will talk about Job and refer to his patience, but today's reading does not reflect a patient man at all. In fact, the reference to Job's patience comes from the very beginning of the Book of Job with no real understanding of the rest of the book. Job is not always patient. Actually, the reading of today points to a depressed Job, a man without hope.

It is very easy to allow the things of life that are difficult to get us down. This time of year, we long for days of sunshine, even if it means it will be cold. The greyness of the sky, the lifeless look of nature, the drudgery of life under COVID restrictions, working from home and the persistent shrinking of so many of my clothes that for some reason do not seem to fit the way they used to; all add up to a depressed and hopeless time of year. But, should we lose hope?

I do not mean this to sound "Pollyannaish", but the answer should be no, we should not allow ourselves to give into the sense of hopelessness. We know that in a couple of months, the weather will turn, leaves will return to the trees and the temperatures will rise; just as it does every year. Yes, we may have put on a few pounds, but Lent is coming and we can begin to lose what has been put on. Again, no reason to lose hope. Even COVID, like pandemics in the past, will be in the rear-view mirror of life and will only serve as a marker of time rather than a constant threat to our lives. St. Paul rightly reminds us that, hope never fails.

The reason that hope does not fail, is that hope comes from God and because it is based on a confident assurance that God is always faithful. No matter what happens in my life or in the world, God is always faithful to his word. I do not need to fear and I should never give in to the ever-wavering emotions of my heart. Hopelessness comes from our failure to recall the faithfulness of God. Like the Apostles who hid in the upper room even after they saw the resurrected Jesus, we cannot remain encased in our fear. Everyday I remind myself that God is faithful. I am weak and things can be difficult but I can always rely on the Lord who has promised to be with me, by my side, in the midst of the dark valley and in the shadow of death, because the Lord is always faithful.

Job forgot about the faithfulness and greatness of God and so he gives in to the point that he thinks he will never see happiness again. Sound familiar? But God is faithful and we are in his hands. So, do not look downcast any longer. Lift up your eyes to the hills from which comes our help, we read in the Psalms. Even in today's Responsorial Psalm we read, "Praise the Lord, for he is good; sing praise for he is gracious". The next time you start to feel down, lift up your voice and cry out not in anguish or despair but with a heart filled with hope, Great is my God who is always faithful. Praise be God, this day and always. God bless you all.

Last call for palms

If you have any old palms from previous years laying around your house and you want to get rid of them (which you should by the way), please bring them to church by next weekend so that we can burn them for our celebration of Ash Wednesday.

Start your Lenten planning now!

Here are some early reminders to prepare for Lent:

1) Though Ash Wednesday is not a holy day of obligation, you are encouraged to come to church that day to begin Lent by reflecting on the purpose of the season. There will be Mass at 6:30 am, 8:00 am and 7:00 pm. There will also be two Scripture Services with the distribution of ashes. Please check the parish paper for further details.

2) Plan what reading you are going to do this year now and have the book ready to go. Do not rush into or through Lent this year. If you are going to use FORMED to guide your Lent, make sure you have a date and time set aside either daily or weekly to follow through with your Lenten journey and make it holy so that nothing can sway you away from your time. The greatest threat to Lent is the phrase, "I'll get to it later".

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
Shirley Besler
Kathleen Brest
Angie Coyle
Marina Darling
Gedediah Dowd
JoAnn Gozdor
Joyce Hornfischer
Kevin Klott
Jesse Malczyk
Bob Marks
Carmella Martz
Alice Mirochna
William Olszewski
Charlotte Pelshaw
Mike Powers
Tony Rallo
Raymond Schihl
Michelle Soylds
Tresa Spencer
Regan Thomas
Janina Uruski*

MILITARY LIST

*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)*

3) Remember that Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting and abstinence. That means you are not allowed to eat meat these two days and that you can only eat one full meal. All Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence which means you are not to eat meat on these days.

4) It is always a good idea to try to get to confession during Lent or during the Easter season. If you have not been to confession in a while, it might be a good idea to plan a date and not push it down the line either.

Gone for a few days

I will be leaving for a small break after Mass today and returning to the office Thursday February 11th. If there is anything you need, the parish staff is more than capable to handling things while I am gone. If you need to talk to me directly, please contact me after my return. There will be Mass offered every day while I am away.

A present spiritual danger in our midst

I am going to challenge all of us to do a bit of a spiritual examination of our souls. Is our heart becoming COVID complacent during this time? For example, have we gotten used to Mass being online and we have no real passion to return to Mass? Have we stopped praying each day? Have we not found ways to support the parish or to help with outreach programs to help those worse off? Have we allowed our social distancing to become emotional as well as physical?

The danger for me beyond the physical affects of COVID is that we are becoming spiritual isolationists. The impact is that we could allow the fear of the disease to steal away our joy, our hope and our desire to be involved in a faith community. The segregation of ourselves from others can lead to the illusion that we are able to do this on our own.

I firmly believe that the level of anger in the world is directly due to the lack of social interaction and the exclusion of loving physical contact with other people. Another reason for what we see, is the limited exposure we have had to our common celebration of faith. That is why I urge all of us to take time to explore our hearts to see if we have allowed COVID to make us spiritually complacent and if it is affecting our relationship with God. Have a great week.



On February 6, the Church honors the 26 Martyrs of Nagasaki, a group of native Japanese Catholics and foreign missionaries who suffered death for their faith in the year 1597. Brother Paul Miki, himself from Japan, has become the best known among these martyrs. The son of a wealthy military leader, Miki was born in 1562 and entered the Church along with the rest of his family. He joined the Jesuits as a young man, and helped many Buddhists to embrace Christianity.

During the 16th century, the Catholic faith reached the "Land of the Rising Sun" by the efforts of the missionary Saint Francis Xavier. Jesuit outreach to the Japanese continued after his death, and around 200,000 Japanese had entered the Church by 1587. Religious tensions led to a period of persecution during that year, and many churches were destroyed forcing missionaries to work in secret. A few martyrdoms took place during this time, and within a decade, 100,000 more Japanese became Catholic despite the restrictions.

In 1593, Franciscan missionaries came to Japan from the Philippines by order of Spain's King Philip II. These new arrivals gave themselves zealously to the work of charity and evangelism, but their presence disturbed the delicate situation between the Church and Japanese authorities. Suspicion against Catholic missionaries grew when a Spanish ship was seized off the coast of Japan and found to be carrying artillery. Toyotomi Hideyoshi, a powerful imperial minister, responded by condemning 26 Catholics to death.

The group was comprised of three native Jesuits, six foreign Franciscans, and several lay Catholics, including some children. Sentenced to die by crucifixion and lancing, they were first marched 600 miles to the city of Nagasaki. During their journey, they underwent public torture meant to terrorize other Japanese believers in Christ. But all of the 26 held out courageously, even singing the hymn of praise (the "Te Deum") when they arrived at the hill where they would be crucified.

Paul Miki was an extremely strong witness to the faith. His last act of evangelism took place as he hung on his cross, preaching to the crowds: "The only reason for my being killed is that I have taught the doctrine of Christ," he announced. "I thank God it is for this reason that I die. I believe that I am telling the truth before I die. After Christ's example, I forgive my persecutors. I do not hate them. I ask God to have pity on all, and I hope my blood will fall on my fellow men as a fruitful rain."

When missionaries returned to Japan in the 1860s, at first, they found no trace of Christianity. But after establishing themselves, they found that thousands of Christians lived around Nagasaki and that they had secretly preserved the Catholic faith. Beatified in 1627, the martyrs of Japan were finally canonized in 1862. St. Paul Miki and companions, pray for us!

Hope to see you at Mass!

Peace, Deacon Russ

Living Faith

**STARTING FEBRUARY 24TH!
7:00-8:30pm**

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FORMED

Do you think life has a purpose?

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Will be offered both in-person and virtually. Masks are required.

**Please contact Susan Weyland to register
sue@stkieran.org or
(586)781-6515 EXT. 112.
PLEASE REGISTER BY
FEBRUARY 14TH.**



**ENCOUNTER
GROW
WITNESS**

52 SUNDAYS . . .

Prayer for Family Members—Jesus still heals and takes care of people's needs today. Take time to pray for the needs of those in your family.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit Amen.

Lord Jesus, protect (list of names) physically, spiritually, emotionally, and psychologically this day. Help them to know that they can turn to you for strength and guidance. Keep evil far from them and help them to trust you as their refuge and strength. Make them strong and courageous in the presence of danger, recognizing that with you they can face any challenge. Take care of them in all the circumstances of their lives. Amen.

The Gospel For All Ages...Family Catechesis

Take the Challenge!

Job 7:1-4, 6-7; First Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23; Mark 1:29-39



About the Gospel

In Galilee, Jesus cured the sick and drove evil from the town. Everyone wanted to meet Jesus and see him heal people. The Gospel also reminds us that Jesus took time to pray so he could carry out his healing ministry.

Discussion:

Who models a discipleship of service that you try to follow?

Who serves the Christian community in a way you can see yourself doing?

How does Jesus make a difference to people in need? Venture (Grades 4—What does it mean to serve others? Who do you know that serves others? Gospel Question: How does Jesus serve and help people?

In Church:

When the Prayer of the Faithful is read, listen carefully for the names of people who are sick and pray specifically for them.

Family Prayer: Jesus, help us to do your work of feeding your people. Amen.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Offered every Friday during Lent at 7:00pm.

February 19

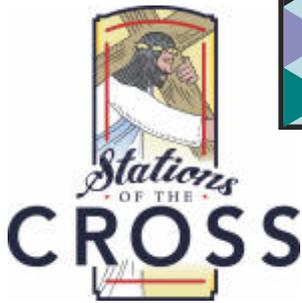
February 26

March 5

March 12

March 19

March 26



SKY
Saint Kieran Youth

SKY was able to get out and enjoy a social. We rented out our own, private movie theater at AMC 30 and watched the movie "Pursuit of Happyness" (the movie title is intentionally spelled incorrectly). The movie is an amazing, true story about how a hard working, smart man and his son become homeless and work their way back. It fits perfectly with the service opportunity we are doing this Sunday-organizing and packaging "care packs" for homeless in Detroit.

This Sunday, February 7, SKY will meet and attend 11:30 mass together. After mass, we will be participating in the service opportunity in the gym. These care packages will be delivered by St. Al's Ministry.

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 at our next get together on Wednesday, February 10 at 7:00 pm. Destination will be determined as the date gets closer. Look on the St. Kieran website, YA facebook page, or contact Jenny Greuling for details. Bring a friend. All are welcome (ages 18-40).

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 connect 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 A.S.K.S.'s group is excited to announce, the monthly "First Friday Breakfast" and "Lunch Around the World" are RETURNING SOON! Mark your calendars: Thursday, March 18 is lunch at Ike's and Friday, April 2 is breakfast at Marcus Grill.

"Monday Movie with Munchies". Mondays, at 2 pm, in the Green room, St. Kieran will provide the safe distance seating, the movie, coffee, tea, water, and munchies. Masks must be worn properly to enter the building and when not eating. If you would like to join, please R.S.V.P. to Jenny Greuling. Our next movie will be Monday, February 8

Also, just a reminder, the St. Kieran gym is open Monday-Friday from 8:30 am- 4:30 pm. Keep it in mind for walking!

Christian Service Matters

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



VOLUNTEER NEEDED AT AGAPE CENTER

The Agape Center, an emergency food/financial assistance non-profit organization located at 347 S. Main St. in Romeo, is seeking a volunteer to fill a regular Thursday evening shift. The hours are 5:30 – 7:00 PM. Qualified applicants will submit approval for a background check and must attend a Protecting God’s Children workshop within six months of volunteering. If you are interested in learning more about this volunteer opportunity, please visit our website at www.agapenorthmacomb.org and click on the “contact us” link.



Our recent pantry Drive for Agape was an overwhelming success!

Stewardship Reflections

Pray. Share. Give.



“Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed...He told them, ‘Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come.’”- Mark 1:35, 38

In today’s Gospel reading we see a perfect example of stewardship. Jesus gives His time to do all that God wishes - healing the sick and preaching. But before He begins, Jesus makes time to be alone with God in prayer. It is through prayer, spending time with God, that we find the strength to do what He wishes us to do. Be sure to find time every day to be with God.



Knights Corner

What have the Knights been doing during the restricted times? Well, since we are restricted on the number of members attending in person gatherings, we have continued our Council meetings via ZOOM but hope to start in person meetings in February! Our meetings have been informative with religious video presentations being made and starting to plan for the upcoming year. What have we got planned in the near future? Here are some of the upcoming activities;

- Unfortunately we have lost four of our members since October, but they have been remembered in our prayers and since all of them were members of the Fourth Degree of Knighthood, a Chalice, that has their name engraved on it, will be presented to a needy Priest to be used in his daily celebration of the Eucharist.

- February 26th is the Council 15th Anniversary so watch for information about what we have done since our formation.

- February we will donate an additional 7 cases of Casey (KofC) teddy bears to the Shelby Twp. Fire & Rescue squad to be given to children that are involved in a traumatic event affecting them and/or a family member during an emergency situation.

- March 13th we will be holding our Corporate Communion celebration Mass at 9:30.

- April plans for our annual Free Throw Contest with date TBD.

- Memorial Day weekend is our State Convention on Mackinac Island. Hopefully it will be in person this year.

- Check out the Knights of Columbus spot in the Parish website for a copy of our Knight Letter with details about other activities that we have been involved in.

- Any Practicing Catholic man, over the age of 18, is eligible to join our organization, NO DUES are required for NEW members through June 30th! Just go to <http://www.kofc.org/joinus> fill out the application and select St. Kieran Council #13983 as your preferred Council. Once completed, you will be contacted by one of our members. Easy to do and you will benefit from being with like minded Catholic men who are striving to improve the practice and belief in their faith and plan activities that will support those in need.

Vivat Jesus from your St. Kieran Knights

**RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE MEETING
2/10/2021**

The Respect Life Committee will host a 2021 planning meeting via Zoom on February 10 at 7 pm. Please contact Mary Peleman, marp480@aol.com for further information/meeting link, or Christian Service, 586-781-4942 ext 132, marilyn@stkieran.org.



Be a part of our new tradition:

Bring your palms so we can burn them to make ashes for distribution on Ash Wednesday!

Please bring your palms in by February 14.

Baskets will be in the Narthex.

**St Kieran's Ushers 100 Club Raffle
Tickets are available**

The St. Kieran's Usher's Club 100 raffle for 2021 will start soon. The drawing dates are from February 7, 2021 thru January 31, 2022.

There are one hundred numbers from which two numbers are drawn every week for fifty-two weeks. There are two weekly prizes of \$26.00.

When a number is drawn, that number is returned back to the container and is eligible to be drawn again each week.

At the end of every quarter, a number is drawn for a prize of \$599.00.

The entry for the drawings is \$104.00 for the year.

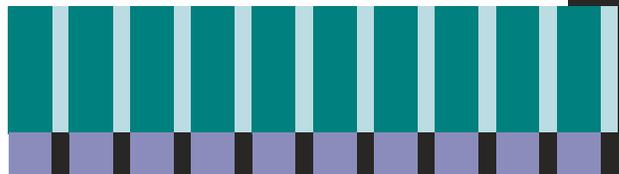
We currently have several numbers open for purchase.

If you are interested, please contact John Dziwanowski at 586-864-4111

As you will remember, we recently asked for suggestions to name some of the individual rooms of our parish. The following names have been decided. An icon or picture with their name, will be placed by the door of each room.

Chapel	St. Francis
Green Room	Blessed Solanus Casey
White Room	Blessed Carlo Acutis
White Room Kitchen	St. Martha
Music Room	St. Cecilia
Gym	Blessed Gorgio Frassati
Room 1	St. Theresa of Lisieux
Room 2	St. Padre Pio
Room 3	St. Bernadette
Room 4	St. Dominic Savio
Room 5	St. Maria Goretti
Room 7	St. Michael the Archangel
Room 8	St. Kateri Tekakwitha
Room 9	St. Joseph
Room 10	Blessed Mother Mary

We will begin calling the rooms by these names when the icons have been placed.



Celebrating Children at St. Kieran

TO THE PARENTS OF OUR YOUNG CHILDREN, MAY WE SUGGEST ...

Relax! God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house.

Sit toward the front where it is easier for your little ones to see and hear.

Quietly explain the parts of the Mass.

Sing the hymns, pray, and voice the responses.

Children learn liturgical behavior by copying you.

If you have to leave Mass with your child, please feel free to do so, but please come back.

Remember that the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to Church, to God, and to Jesus. Let them know they are at home in this Liturgical gathering.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THIS PARISH ...

A smile of encouragement is always welcome to the parents with small, active children.

WEEKEND LITURGY SCHEDULE—FEBRUARY 13/14, 2021

Day/Time	Saturday 4:30 pm	Sunday 8:00 am	Sunday 9:30 am	Sunday 11:30 am
Mass Intentions	Lillian Rossi By The Szydowski Family	Danuta Kropidlowski By Alexandra Pryciak	Eugene & Marcella Henige By Tom & Marcia Westerlund ----- Laura Pataky By Mom & Dad	Leonard Wisz By His wife, Marcy ----- Giuseeppe & Benedetta Sofia By Angie Greenslade
Music	Jeff Bednar	Elizabeth Gondert	Natalie Wienckowski	As Assigned
Lectors	Tim Berry Krissy Bolda	Angie Coyle Ralph Engler	Jan Czarnota Douglass Hartley	Pam DeClercq Gary Miglio
Altar Servers	Team 9	Team 10	Team 11	Team 12

WEEKDAY LITURGY SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY 8-12, 2021

Monday 7:00 pm Mass Lector: Bev Jakubowski	Dennis Zyczynski by Don & Laura Krempa & family Terry Hansen by James & Shelia Augustitus Peter & Nora Martin by James & Shelia Augustitus Gerald Koral & Charles Ashmore by Family Vincent Koral by Family
Tuesday 8:00 am Mass	Roy & Melvena Souva by James & Suzanne Souva For the "Special" intention of Tresa Spencer by Denise Spencer
Wednesday 8:00 am Mass	For the "Special" intention of Luigi Camaj by Lisa Shkreli For the "Special" intention of Jeanette by Lisa Shkreli
Thursday 8:00 am Mass	Richard Malcolm by Michael Tanari
Friday 8:00 am Mass	Stephen S. Radecki by Family

***CHANGE TO YEAR END ***

GIVING STATEMENTS

In an effort to reduce costs, including printing and postage, we will now mail year end contribution statements *BY REQUEST ONLY*.

There are 3 ways to request a statement:

- Mail or drop the completed form in the offertory basket
- Email the office at jeanee@stkieran.org
- Phone 586.781.4901

Thank you for your support of the parish.

2020 Giving Statement

Name _____

Envelope# _____

Address: _____

Phone Number _____

ST. KIERAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

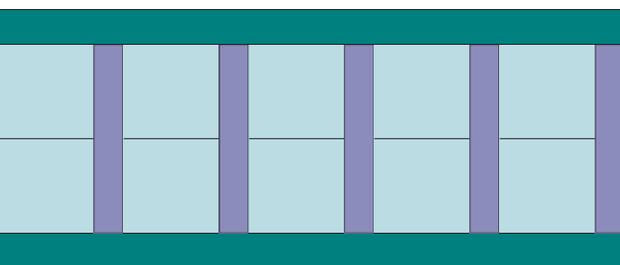


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Thank you for your support of St. Kieran. We now can accept gifts via text message!



Daily Readings for the Week of 2/7

Sunday: Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. 3a]/1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39

Psalm 147: Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted

Monday: Gn 1:1-19/Ps 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10 and 12, 24 and 35c [31b]/Mk 6:53-56

Tuesday: Gn 1:20—2:4a/Ps 8:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [2ab]/Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday: Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17/Ps 104:1-2a, 27-28, 29bc-30 [1a]/Mk 7:14-23

Thursday: Gn 2:18-25/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1a]/Mk 7:24-30

Friday: Gn 3:1-8/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7 [1a]/Mk 7:31-37

Saturday: Gn 3:9-24/Ps 90:2, 3-4abc, 5-6, 12-13 [1]/Mk 8:1-10

Next Sunday: Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11 [7]/1 Cor 10:31—11:1/Mk 1:40-45

Psalm 32: I turn to you, Lord in time of trouble and you fill me with the joy of salvation

North Macomb Vicariate 53600 Mound Road
Archdiocese of Detroit Shelby Township, Michigan
Allen H. Vigneron, Archbishop 48316
Parish Website: www.stkieran.org

Pastor: Father Joe Mallia
 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.

Pastoral Associate: Patricia Radacsy ext 114
 E Mail: pat@stkieran.org

Youth/Young Adult/Senior Adult Minister:
 Jennifer Greuling ext 119
 E Mail: Jenny@stkieran.org

Christian Service: Marilyn Floreno ext 132
 E Mail: marilyn@stkieran.org

Fran Zajac: fran@stkieran.org ext 123

Evangelization/Outreach:
 Marcia DiMambro ext 128

Faith Formation - Religious Education: 586-781-6515

Secretary: Nancy Kicinski ext 116
 E Mail: nancy@stkieran.org

Absence Hot Line : ext 135

Director K-5: Rose Churilla ext 117
 E Mail: rose@stkieran.org

Director 6-8: Sue Weyland ext 112
 E Mail: sue@stkieran.org

9th Grade Confirmation
 Sue Weyland ext 112
 E Mail: sue@stkieran.org

Children's Sacrament Prep: Ann Larocca ext 125
 E Mail: ann@stkieran.org

Business Manager: Paula Klozik ext 113
 E Mail: business_manager@stkieran.org

Parish Secretary: Jeanee Snider ext 110
 E Mail: jeanee@stkieran.org

Parish Bookkeeper: Lisa Sammut ext 115
 E Mail: lisa@stkieran.org

Maintenance Manager: Steve Mattei ext 130
 E Mail: steve@stkieran.org

Knights of Columbus:
 John Berg - Grand Knight 586-214 8923

Ushers:
 Dennis Jacks 586-580-2551

Sacristan:
 Christine Albrecht ext 131

Bulletin Editor and Social Media Coordinator:
 Lindsay Valentine
 Bulletin E Mail: lindsay@stkieran.org
Deadline: Wednesday 1:00pm

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