

THE VOICE

December 15, 2019

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

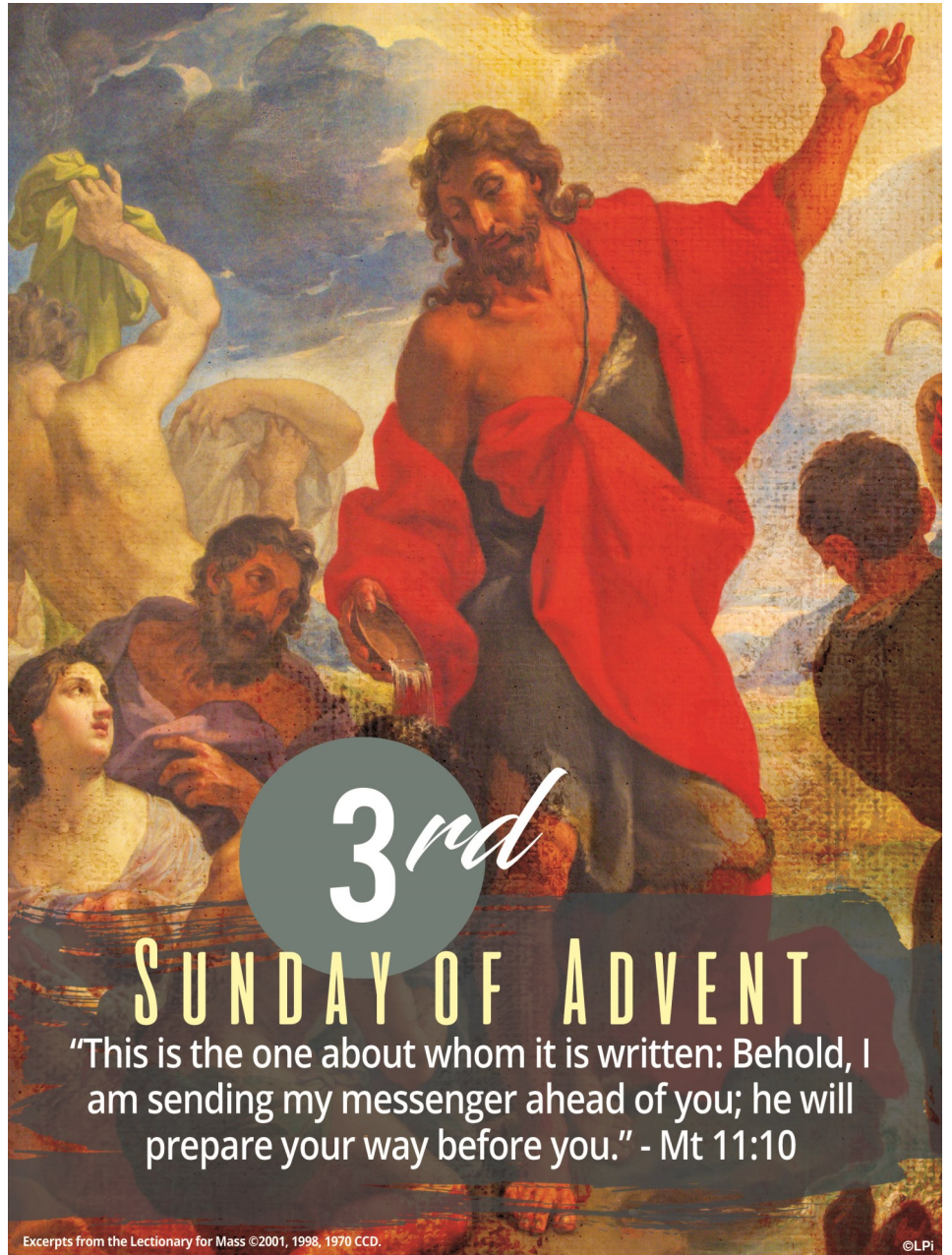
Saturday Vigil: 5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 8:30 a.m., 10:15 a.m.
and 12:00 Noon

WEEKDAYS

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

RITE OF RECONCILIATION

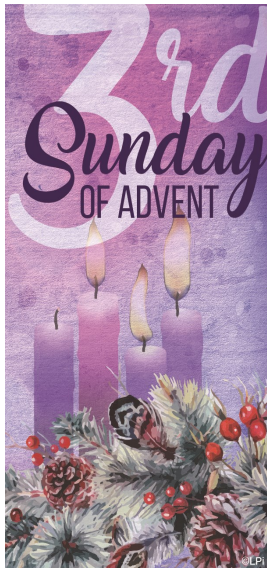
Saturdays: 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.



Advent

hope • peace • joy • love

WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS



DECEMBER 16 - DECEMBER 20

Monday 9:15 AM
Walter Lazar and Joseph Sandacz
 Requested by
 Ken Galica

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

Wednesday
 No Mass

Thursday 7:00 PM
Nemesio Barreto
 Requested by Blen Cardozo

Friday 9:15 AM
James Mayotte
 Requested by Hunckler Family

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [4]/
 Mt 21:23-27
 Tuesday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:1-17
 Wednesday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:18-25
 Thursday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17 [cf. 8]/
 Lk 1:5-25
 Friday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 7c and 10b]/Lk 1:26-38
 Saturday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21
 [1a;3a]/ Lk 1:39-45
 Next Sunday: Is 7:10-14/ Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [7c, 10b]/Rom 1:1-7/
 Mt 1:18-24

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

Pray for our Sick:

Nicole Zapinski Victoria Angelosanto Yolanda Fenech
 Rick Stone Claire Marie Tuite-Yoder Jennifer Mondoux

If you would like a name to added on the prayer list, please email
stgeraldsecretary@yahoo.com or call the Parish Office at
 248-477-7470. Thank you!



Your Christmas Offering

Just a reminder that the Christmas collection is the one collection that the entire dollar amount remains directly here at St. Gerald Parish. The rest of the donations to the parish throughout the year are subject to a 7% assessment by the Archdiocese of Detroit. As always, thank you for your generous support and consideration.

If you wish to make an offering for Christmas through Simple Give on-line, you can do so from December 18 until January 1.



December 22, 2019

5:00 PM December 21 Fr. Kris

For
Edward Weberlein
 Requested by
 Dennis & Sharon Weberlein

Lectors/
 Ushers Ellen Stacey
 5:00B

8:30 AM December 22 Fr. Kris

For
Edward Weberlein
 Requested by
 Barbara Valasek

Lector/
 Ushers Rosa Russenberger
 8:30A

10:15 AM December 22 Fr. Kris

For
**All Living & Deceased
 Morelli & Rotondo Families**
 Requested by
 J. Rotondo & Family

Lector/
 Ushers Angela McLoughlin
 10:15C

12:00 PM December 22 Fr. Roodbeen

For
**All Our
 Parishioners**

Lector/
 Ushers Sharon McCarthy
 12:00A

Church Cleaning Schedule for Next Week

December 21 and December 22

Team A

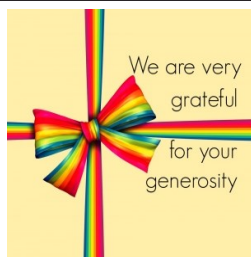
Team #1 is scheduled for Botsford Commons Sunday,
 December 22 following the 8:30 AM Mass.

ST. GERALD ONLINE GIVING

Online Giving of Donations through Simple Give is available. Please visit our Parish Website at stgeraldparish.org and click on Online Giving to get started or pick up the instruction sheets on the bookcase in the gathering space of the church. Thank you for your continued support of St. Gerald Parish.

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.

Those who wish to give to Retirement Fund For Religious through online giving, can do so now through December 15th.



CHRISTMAS PROGRAM A SUCCESS!

There are not words that can show our appreciation for the wonderful gifts and gift cards that were purchased for our Christmas Program this year. Your generosity will definitely help to bring joy into the lives of many in our community. Thank you again, we couldn't have done it without you!

The Marian Peace Center of Detroit presents Fr. Ronan Murphy Saturday, January 25 St. Gerald Parish

Tentative Schedule:
8:00 AM Registration
8:30 AM Rosary
9:00 AM Holy Mass

Talk will follow Mass and ends at approximately 1:30 PM. Brunch is included. Registration fee: \$20.00.

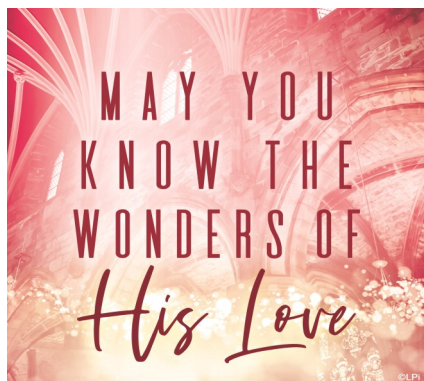
Fr. Ronan will be speaking on Devotion to Mary - Sign of Predestination and Our Lady Star of the Sea.

Fr. Murphy hails from Dublin, Ireland and is a priest of the Camden Diocese. Ordained on the feast of Our Lady of Fatima, May 13th in the Jubilee Year 2000. Father has served as Parochial Vicar in St. Mary's Parish, Gloucester City, St. Peter's in Merchantville and St. Teresa's Church in Runnemede. He also served at All Saints, Perth City in Australia for three years and has given missions and conferences in many countries. He has returned to the United States and is presently chaplain to a Carmelite Monastery in New York and giving retreats and International Conferences.

To register, or for more information, please see the flyer on the board in the main entrance of the church.

THANK YOU TO THE TEENS AT ADVENT TEA

Thank you to the teen volunteers who helped serve and clean up at our annual Advent Dinner. They are Kyle Braska, Molly and Peter Baracco, Lauren and Christopher Ihm, Molly Hansen, Jessalee and Tami O'Connor, Sarah and Ben Weber, and Madeline Sypitkowski. You were all a great help and are appreciated for your service. Also, thank you to the Worship Commission and the Knights of Columbus for working with our teens in so many ways.



OPLATEK OR "CHRISTMAS WAFER"

Christmas Wafers (Oplatki) are available this weekend after all the Masses and in the Parish Office during our regular office hours: Monday through Thursday, 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM. If you would like an Oplatki and are unable to come during office hours, please call 248-477-7470 and other arrangements can be made. A freewill donation would be appreciated!

Each December, the Catholic Television Network of Detroit (CTND) features programming focused on the true meaning of Christmas, helping families throughout the Archdiocese of Detroit prepare for the birth of our savior, Jesus Christ. Gifts to the CSA has allowed CTND to broadcast faith-filled programming since 1985 that informs, educates, inspires, and entertains 900,000 homes in southeast Michigan. Since 2011, CTND has been an affiliate of Boston-based CatholicTV Network. CTND's program schedule can be found on the Archdiocese of Detroit website. For information about CSA-funded ministries, programs, and services, go to aod.org.

ST. GERALD PARISH ADVENT/CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

The Advent/Christmas Mass Schedule
Daily Mass—M, T, F—9:15 AM; Th—7:00 PM;
First Saturday—9:15 AM

Weekend Mass—Dec. 21-22
Saturday, 5:00 PM; Sunday, 8:30 AM, 10:15 AM, 12 Noon

Christmas Eve—Tuesday, December 24
4:00 PM Mass, 6:00 PM Children's Mass, 10:00 PM Choir Mass & Midnight Mass

Christmas Day—Wednesday, December 25
9:00 AM Mass & 11:00 AM Mass

New Year's Eve, Tuesday, December 31
9:15 AM Mass & 5:00 PM Vigil Mass

New Year's Day, Feast of Mary, Holy Mother of God
Wednesday, January 1 - 10:00 AM Mass

First Friday observance-adoration,
Friday, January 3
Adoration begins after the 9:15 AM Mass and ends at 5:00 PM with Benediction

First Saturday Mass
Saturday, January 4—9:15 AM Mass
with Sacrament of Anointing

Feast of the Epiphany
Saturday, January 4 - 5:00 PM,
Sunday, January 5 - 8:30 AM, 10:15 AM & 12 Noon

The Advent Reconciliation/Confession Schedule
Regular Reconciliation/Confession every Saturday at 3:30 PM
Saturday, December 28 no 3:30 PM Confession

St. Gerald Parish Women's Euchre Tournament

When: February 8, 2020
6:30 PM Arrival Time
(7:00 PM Tournament Begins)
Where: St. Gerald Parish Social Hall
Why: To bring together women from St. Gerald Parish and women from other parishes and/or faiths to share Christian fellowship in the form of a friendly Euchre Tournament.

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS

Today's Scripture passages illuminate the joy and healing the whole world will experience with the coming of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. In St. Matthew's Gospel, the evangelist emphasizes the extraordinary deeds of Jesus's earthly ministry: ... *the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised* ... to the gift of new life, and the poor are made rich with the Good News of Christ proclaimed to them. Christian stewards are commissioned to continue Christ's mission to the world through the Church. This Advent season, in a spirit of evangelization, ask a neighbor or family member who has been away from the Church to join you for the celebration of the Mass.

BEST

Advent

EVER

Amazing Possibilities
God Sees Them All.
It's Time You See Them Too!

Join Matthew Kelly, and the Dynamic Catholic team for BEST ADVENT EVER - a free email program that will help you enjoy a few minutes of peace and prayer each day during the hectic Holidays!

Take the first step toward discovering your amazing future at **BestAdventEver.com**

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Leading the Way

There are many examples of false prophets in history. Some of these gifted charlatans have led people away from family and friends. They have led people to do evil things, like stealing, torture, or even murder. It is amazing how those gifted with charisma can lead others down such a destructive path. In today's modern world filled with so much technology and sophisticated communication platforms, one must be careful not to buy into a lie or scam so easily.

John the Baptist didn't have any modern technology in his toolbox as he was preparing the way for the Messiah, Jesus. He moved people with a profound message and by the way he lived his life. People questioned whether he was the One who was to come, but he assured them that he was not the One. Instead, all he did was to prepare people for Jesus' coming.

You and I can either lead people to Jesus by our words and actions, or we can lead them away from him. Our stewardship can be a powerful witness to how Jesus has changed our lives. Unfortunately, if we are not changed and instead act in ways that are contrary to a mature disciple, we can lead people down the wrong path. During the Advent season, there is much to be done in our homes and with our families to get ready for the celebration of Christmas. However, this is not about a day; it is about Jesus. May our actions and words bear witness to the transformative power of Jesus Christ in our lives, not just during this season, but all year long. — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS©LPi

Week at a Glance

Monday, December 16

8:40 AM Rosary
9:15 AM Mass
5:30 PM Religious Formation

Tuesday, December 17

8:40 AM Rosary
9:15 AM Mass
9:45 AM Mother of Perpetual Help
5:00 PM Religious Formation
6:30 PM K of C Membership Meeting

Wednesday, December 18

No Mass
5:00 PM 8th Grade Confirmation Class
7:30 PM Choir Practice

Thursday, December 19

12:00 PM Pinochle
6:20 PM Rosary
7:00 PM Mass
7:45 PM Holy Hour

Friday, December 20

8:40 AM Rosary
9:15 AM Mass
8:00 PM AA Meeting

Saturday, December 21

3:30 PM Confessions
5:00 PM Mass

Sunday, December 22

Fourth Sunday of advent

8:30 AM Mass
10:15 AM Mass
10:15 AM Children's Liturgy of the Word
12:00 PM Mass

PARISH MEMBERSHIP

At St. Gerald we welcome all and encourage anyone 18 years of age and older to become registered members of the Parish.

Registration is a simple process that is done at the Parish Office during office hours 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM Monday through Thursday or by picking up a Registration form located on the book shelf in the gathering space of the church and sliding a completed form under the Parish Office door. **Keeping our records current is also important. If you have a change of address, phone number or email address, please call the information into the Parish Office at 248-477-7470.** If you are moving from our parish, please let us know.

Joy

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ST. GERALD 2019 CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL ANGEL TREE

This year St. Gerald will once again have a special CHRISTmas Tree with colored glass angels. These angels will be a memorial gift to the families who would like to contribute towards our CHRISTmas decorations. After CHRISTmas, the families who have contributed will be able to take an angel home as a remembrance of their loved one(s).

If you would like to contribute, the suggested donation is \$10.00 per name. Just fill out this form. Place your form and donation in an envelope marked "Angels" and drop it in the collection basket at weekend Masses or bring it to the Parish Office.

Please, clearly print your name, phone number and each memorial name. A list of the donors and memorial names will appear in the New Year's edition of the Voice.

(Deadline for donations is Monday, December 16, 2019)

In Memory of: _____
(Please legibly print name of deceased)

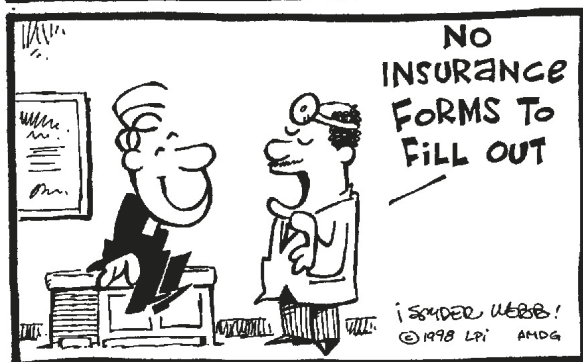
Remembered by: _____
(Your Name)

Your phone number: _____
(In case we need to verify the spelling of a name)



Please make checks payable to St. Gerald Church.

3rd SUNDAY IN ADVENT



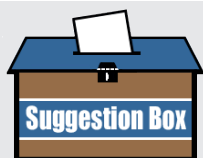
ANOTHER WAY PREGNANCY CENTER CHRISTMAS

On Monday, December 16, from 3:00 to 6:00 PM at Farmington Hills Church of God, located at 25717 Power Road in Farmington Hills, Another Way is celebrating Christmas with their clients and their families. Would you like to help us make this season extra special? We're asking for donations as well as volunteers to serve at the event.

Donation Requests are: 35 dozen Christmas cookies; refreshments (cheese and crackers, chips, small water bottles, juice boxes); door prizes (small gift baskets, holiday DVDs, etc.); giveaway items for babies and also giveaway items for moms and dads. We also need 30 volunteers to help at the event. Please call 248-471-5858 if you can help or email clientservices@awpc4life.com

Holy Land Pilgrimage

Terra Sancta Pilgrimages with Franciscan friar Fr. Alex Kratz will be leading a Catholic Pilgrimage to the Holy Land from **April 20-May 4, 2020**. This life-changing experience walking in Jesus' footsteps includes daily Mass and Rosary, biblical readings on site, time for prayer and spiritual guidance, and meeting local Christians. Cost is \$4,299 (all expenses included, round trip from Detroit, 3 daily meals, all tips and taxes). \$500 deposit due at registration. **Orientation Meeting is February 9** at St. Joseph Chapel our headquarters (400 South Blvd. West, Pontiac, MI 48331). Next pilgrimage: November 30-December 14, 2020. For information, contact Fr. Alex: (313) 727-9784 or abunaalex@yahoo.com.



We have placed a comment/suggestion box on the table at the main entrance of the church for parishioners to share their thoughts about our parish. These comment sheets will be read by the Pastor and then, if needed, forwarded to the appropriate Area Representative for action. **It is important that you put your contact information on these sheets so that we can respond to your comment or suggestions.**

We truly value your input!

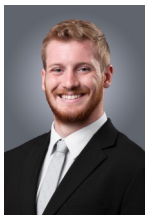


KNIGHTS CORNER

Have You Reported the Dish You'll Bring to Tuesday's Meeting Chow Pot Luck?

If you plan to enjoy the chow before Tuesday's Membership Meeting and haven't reported on the dish for eight that you are bringing, you should pick up your phone now and call either Hospitality Chair Ken May or Program Director Tom McPhail. Tuesday's meeting chow for the first time will be a pot luck with the Council providing a baked ham as the main dinner item. "Please let me or Tom know what you plan on bringing so we can try and keep this organized so that we have a great dinner and aren't eating just ham and pie," May said. He can be reached at 248-763-4589. McPhail can be reached at 248-875-1185.

A member's dish should be one of four categories; starch such as potato or rice, vegetable, green or fruit salad and desert. A hot dish should be brought hot as close to 6:20 PM as possible. "If you need to warm something up, please allow enough time to warm it and make sure the dish is in an oven-proof container," May said. The plan is to serve food at the usual 6:30 PM time with the business meeting opening as close to the regular 7 PM starting time.



John Wachtel

The major item on Tuesday's agenda will be a request for the membership to endorse a decision by the Officers to again have the Council provide a \$500 grant to a seminarian enrolled in the Archdiocese of Detroit's Sacred Heart Seminary. The Council's net cost is \$400 since the Supreme Council, which established the RSVP program, will pay a \$100 rebate. The seminarian assigned to us by the Archdiocesan Vocations Office is John Wachtel, a second year college student and a native of White Lake, Michigan. John talks about his call to the priesthood in a video (<http://vimeo.com/369651335>) provided by the Archdiocese.

You should have received your 2020 dues statement by now, either via an email from Financial Secretary Bob Kuhr or through the U.S. Mail. Included in that statement is a request for two optional donations. One is the "\$10 for Charity" fund which finances the State Council's year-round giving to about 60 entities. The other is a request for a gift of \$6 for the State Council's effort to build a \$1 million tuition endowment fund for Sacred Heart Seminary. Began in April of last year, the fund has reached \$200,000. As always, if the Council dues impose an extra burden on a member having economic difficulties that member should privately contact Brother Kuhr or GK Dave Bednarski.

Heading to the Sun? Keep Informed of Council News in The Voice at www.stgeraldparish.org

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
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 Luscari 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.