



# St. Michael Catholic Church

106 N. Western Ave.  
Girard, KS 66743  
(620) 724-8717  
Pastor: Fr. Floyd McKinney



## From the Pastor

The saying is "If it's not broke, don't fix it." We all have an inclination to tell someone about things that have helped us to live better lives. It might be a diet, a book we have read, an exercise that made us healthier, or anything that we see as beneficial. The response we receive can be 'Yeah, that's nice', or it can be an interested 'How's that going?' or we could even have the person ask questions because they are actually wanting to know more about the topic. When someone truly wants to improve their life, they are willing to listen to something that could be of help to them.

One of the biggest barriers to proclaiming our faith is that people think their lives are not broken spiritually so they see no reason to listen to something that will fix their lives. They are content to say a few prayers now and then, but mostly they keep their focus on this world instead of on the next. If they think about the next world at all, they assume they'll end up in "the Good Place" with all their friends and family. In other words, there is no problem, so why should they look for a solution? If someone thinks they are guaranteed heaven, or doesn't think heaven exists, or doesn't care either way, then they won't be a receptive audience; they will see the Faith as nothing more than a nice hobby.

Yet people recognize that something is wrong in the world, that something is wrong within them. They can know, deep down, that they are broken, but they might hide from their brokenness through busyness or entertainment or drugs. Before we say a word about Jesus, our task as evangelists may be to help people uncover their brokenness so that they might truly seek to repair it through Christ. He is the one we prepare to celebrate.

So, yes, we need to talk about hell more. But most people have no concept of hell other than a comic-book idea of fire and a horned man in red pajamas, so just telling people they might be bound for hell is unlikely to be effective in most situations. We can, however, focus on the emptiness of the world's promises, the things that give no lasting happiness or peace. Only in Christ can we find the contentment and joy we all search for. We can help fix the broken.

## ST. MICHAEL'S ANGELS

St. Michael's Angels will be preparing baskets for the needy of our community. They are also helping the elderly this year with personal hygiene goods, if you would like to donate items for this. There are envelopes at the church entrances for monetary donations and a box in the back for products.

## CHRISTMAS CALL TO SHARING

Priests play an essential role of sanctifying, teaching and leading. They are servants to all, so we could not practice our Catholic faith without their life and ministry. You should have received or will soon receive an invitation from Bishop Kemme asking you to consider a gift to the Christmas Call to Sharing. Your gift will be used to benefit the 37 men now studying for the priesthood in the Wichita Diocese and the 19 priests in retirement. I would ask you to prayerfully consider a special gift at this most holy time of year to support our priests.

## DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA

Daughters of Isabella has scheduled their Christmas Party for Tuesday, December 11, at 1:00pm in St. Ambrose Hall. A reminder for all members, bring a finger food dish. There will be a \$5.00 gift exchange. Secret Prayer Partners will be revealed with a card. There will be no formal meeting but a collection for our special charity "Birthline". Christmas cards will be signed for PMRV residents. Reminder ladies, there will be NO JANUARY MEETING. Hosting the festivities will be Lois Carlson, Mary Jo Ireland, Katherine Watkins, Juanita Wilkerson and Diana Woldrum.

## EXTRA CONFESSIONS

There will be "extra" confessions on December 12 at 2pm (three priests) and 7pm (two priests). Also I, or Fr. Lee, will be in the confessional after each weekend Mass. - Fr. Floyd

## COOKIE/CRAFT SALE

The Annual Holiday Cookie & Craft Event sponsored by First Christian Church in Girard will be Friday Dec 14 from 7am till sold out. First Presbyterian Church, 202 N Summit. Delicious Homemade Cookies and Candy, and Delightful Crafts.

## POINSETTIA MEMORIALS

There are envelopes on the holy water font in the main entrance of the church for anyone wanting to purchase a poinsettia in memory of a loved one. If you are interested in making such a donation, insert ten dollars and put the name of your loved one on the envelope and put it in the collection basket. You can purchase more than one. Thank you.

## WESTRIDGE ACTIVITIES

Father leads a 'scripture study and sharing' two times a month at the Westridge facility in Girard, on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 10:30 AM. If you would like to join us, feel free. On the other Wednesdays of the month, some of our parishioners are present to lead a rosary or other spiritual activity.

COLLECTIONS	Last Week	July 2018 to date
	Contributions	\$2,722.00
Children's Offering	\$12.00	\$294.45
Expenses		\$53,466.44
Over / (Under)		\$5,837.72
Building Fund Contributions	\$10.00	
Building Fund Loan Balance	-	

## PRAYERS FOR OUR PARISHIONERS

Please pray for Audrey Casassa, Nancy Church, Allie Davied, Gerald Davied, Mary Davied, Jason Diskin, Gary Dowling, Ron Lallemand, Crystal Larmer (Marilyn Bradshaw's sister), Donna Little, Herman Masser, John Oplotnik, Rosemary O'Toole, Janice Madl Pennewell (daughter of Alban Madl), Alvin Perrin, Bernardine Shively, George Stonerock, Edward Luke Walsh, and Tom Weston who are ill or in need of prayers.

## ST. PAUL'S GROUP

The St. Paul's Group (for widows, widowers, and single seniors) will hold their Christmas Party at 1pm on Sunday, Dec. 16 at the KOC Bldg, 11th & Joplin in Pittsburg. We will have a covered dish luncheon, please bring your favorite dish. We will also do a Secret Santa Exchange. If you want to participate, bring a wrapped \$10 gift. Looking forward to lots of fun and good food, so join us and bring a friend! For more info, call Maxine, 231-7802 or Rosemary, 231-4594.

## LATIN MASS

The Traditional Latin Mass is held the first Sunday of each month at 11:00am, at the Newman Center on the campus of Pittsburg State University. All are welcome.

## SUPPORT FOR MADISON

Madison Smith, daughter of Hank and Carrie Smith, would appreciate your prayers and support as she prepares for her upcoming mission. To follow her experiences, you can read Madison's blog at [www.madisonelaine.home.blog](http://www.madisonelaine.home.blog). You can also help support her financially by sending donations to Family Missions Co., 12624 Everglade Rd., Abbeville, LA 70510. You can also receive weekly updates and contribute online at [www.madisonsmith.familymissionscompany.com](http://www.madisonsmith.familymissionscompany.com). Madison is going into the world representing our parish family, let us support her as she dedicates herself to serving God's children.

## BUILDING FUND

The building fund envelopes will remain in the pews so those who wish to continue to help us be prepared for the future may contribute to the cause. We do not have any immediate plans for building, but our buildings do need to be maintained so having the resources is a benefit and a blessing.

MASS SCHEDULE	GIRARD	ARMA
Saturday	5:30 pm	4:00 pm
Sunday	10:00 am	8:00 am

CONFESSION	GIRARD	ARMA
Saturday	2:00-2:30 pm	3:15-3:45 pm
Before all Masses, anytime by appointment		

## RECTORY HOURS & INFORMATION

Tuesday-Friday: 9:00 am - Noon  
Rectory: (620) 724-8717  
In case of Emergency: (785) 917-1828

**STAFF** Pastor: Fr. Floyd McKinney  
Secretary: Faith Paoni  
Bookkeeper: Janel Scales  
Bulletin Editor: Nancy Bauer  
[bauerbackes@yahoo.com](mailto:bauerbackes@yahoo.com)

**PARISH WEBSITE:**  
[www.stmichaelgirard.com](http://www.stmichaelgirard.com)

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:**  
Fridays from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm

## Mass Schedule and Intentions for Dec. 8 - 16

Date	Day	Time	Intention	Minister
Dec. 8	Saturday	4:00pm		Arma
		5:30pm		Girard
9	Sunday	8:00am		Arma
		10:00am		Girard
10	Monday	NO MASS		
11	Tuesday	5:30pm	No Intention	Arma
12	Wednesday	6:30pm	Bob & Patty Haderlein	Girard
13	Thursday	8:00am	No Intention	Arma
		8:30am-12:30pm	Adoration	Arma
14	Friday	7:00am	Daughters of Isabella	Girard
		8:00am-6:00pm	Adoration	Girard
15	Saturday	4:00pm	Francis Buche	Arma
		5:30pm	Charles Gouvion	Girard
16	Sunday	8:00am	Linda Davied	Arma
		10:00am	Pro Populo	Girard

## Altar Ministers for Next Weekend

	Next Saturday 12/15/18 5:30 pm	Next Sunday 12/16/18 10:00 am
<b>Altar Servers:</b>	Langsten, Layla, & Laklyn Arthur	Seth Wilson, Carson Severt, Sara Goble
<b>EMHC:</b>	Savannah Ashmore	Anna Goble
<b>Lector:</b>	Ned Sauer	Beth Wilson
<b>Gift Bearers:</b>	Dave & Linda Garrett	Ken & Cheryl Giefer

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