



# St. Michael Catholic Church

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



## From the Pastor

It's almost Christmas. I will be going to Parsons to the home of one of my sisters who lives there in order to celebrate the day. That is one of the "perks" of being here in Girard; I am close to holiday celebrations with family. All through Advent we've all been waiting and watching. We use the calendar to count down the days until presents can be opened. But we all know that there is a different 'presence' and that is the reason we pay attention to counting down the days. The Son of God came into our world and that is a very good 'reason for the season' to remember how much God loves us.

The season has its own challenges – preparing for Christmas by decorating and buying presents, for some, getting ready to travel. And with all the stress it can be overwhelming and distracting. It's sometimes hard to stay focused on the goal.

The first reading talks about the little town of Bethlehem that seemed too small and insignificant to make any difference for anything, but is remembered and revered (and sung about in Christmas carols) to this day as the birthplace of the savior whose "greatness shall reach to the ends of the earth; he shall be peace." In the Gospel, when the pregnant Mary visits the pregnant Elizabeth, Elizabeth's baby (who will be John the Baptist) recognizes the Lord who will be born this week. The baby leaps for joy in his mother's womb. John will be the voice in the wilderness preparing the way for the Lord. And we spend Advent making our spiritual and secular preparations. This week is Christmas. In present tense we celebrate his birth. We should leap for joy today in anticipation of the birth that will save us. The Lord is come. This week the Lord is born, and he continues to live in our lives and in our hearts.

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

**PARISH WEBSITE:**  
www.stmichaelgirard.com

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

### Mass Schedule and Intentions for Dec. 22 - 30

Dec. 22	Saturday	4:00pm	Jack Wilson	Arma
		5:30pm	Claire Weston	Girard
23	Sunday	8:00am	Francis Buche	Arma
		10:00am	Pro Populo	Girard
24	Monday	4:00pm	Harry VanLeeuwen	Arma
		8:00pm	Ed Walsh	Girard
25	Tuesday	8:00am	No Intention	Arma
		10:00am	Mary Katherine Madl	Girard
26	Wednesday	6:30pm	Verl Diskin	Girard
27	Thursday	8:00am	No Intention	Arma
		8:30am-12:30pm	Adoration	Arma
28	Friday	7:00am	Ron Breneman	Girard
		8:00am-6:00pm	Adoration	Girard
29	Saturday	4:00pm	Jack Wilson	Arma
		5:30pm	Bob Niggemann	Girard
30	Sunday	8:00am	Francis Buche	Arma
		10:00am	Jim Davied	Girard

### Altar Ministers for Dec. 24 - 30

	Mon. (12/24) 4:00pm	Tues. (12/25) 8:00am	Sat. (12/29) 4:00pm	Sun. (12/30) 8:00am
Altar Servers: Volunteers	Volunteers	Volunteers	Macy & Carly Reif	Aydin, Marli, & Evan Sisney
EMHC:	Marilyn McCracken	Chris Sponsel	Rachel Ausemus	Jerry Hanson
Lector:	Butch Reif	Ryan Sevart	Linda Moore	Ruth Duling
Gift Bearers	Volunteers	Volunteers	Wayne & Ruth Leritz	Denny Heidrick & M.A. Heidrick

**ESB EXCHANGE State Bank**  
108 E. St. John PO Box 187  
Girard, KS 66743 620-724-4911  
*Banking with friends!*  
Go Mobile [www.esbks.com](http://www.esbks.com)  
Member FDIC

**O'TOOLE CONSTRUCTION INC.**  
Improve Your Land - Increase Your Worth  
952 W. 47 HWY Girard, KS 66743  
Jim O'Toole 620-724-8536 620-724-3225 c  
Ronnie O'Toole 620-632-5165 620-724-2754 c  
Tim O'Toole 620-724-8990 620-238-0430 c

**CARPET · TILE · VINYL · HARDWOOD · CABINETS**  
FURNITURE · AREA RUGS · MATTRESSES · LIFT CHAIRS · RECLINERS & MORE!  
Locally owned and operated  
in Brazilton KS for nearly 50 years!  
**DERAILED COMMODITY**  
FLOORING & FURNITURE  
EST. 1967  
620-395-2141

## **CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE**

The mass schedule for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day is as follows:

- Monday, Dec. 24: 4:00pm at St. Joseph, Arma  
8:00pm at St. Michael, Girard  
Tuesday, Dec. 25: 8:00am at St. Joseph, Arma  
10:00am at St. Michael, Girard

## **ST. MICHAEL'S ANGELS**

St. Michael's Angels would like to express their thanks to all who donated to their mission. Together, we were able to provide Christmas for 14 children this year.

## **CHRISTMAS CALL TO SHARING**

"The priesthood is the love and the heart of Jesus. When you see a priest, think of our Lord Jesus Christ." Please consider a gift this year to Christmas Call to Sharing for the benefit of the education of our seminarians and retired priests.

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Please be aware that we do not schedule ministers for holiday Masses because it is not known when you would prefer to attend, so if you would be so kind as to volunteer 'early' before Mass starts you will receive extra grace.

- Thank you, Fr. Floyd.

## **SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD**

Tuesday, Jan. 1, 2019, we celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, a Holy Day of Obligation. The mass schedule for the Holy Day is as follows:

- Monday, Dec. 31: 4:00pm at St. Joseph, Arma  
5:30pm at St. Michael, Girard  
Tuesday, Jan. 1: 8:00am at St. Joseph, Arma  
10:00am at St. Michael, Girard

## **FIRST RECONCILIATION**

Congratulations to Marrone Schupbach who celebrated the Sacrament of First Penance / Reconciliation at Saint Michael parish on Dec 18.

## **CONFIRMATION STUDENTS**

All confirmation class participants are required to attend the Confirmation retreat scheduled for Feb 9, 2019. It will be held at the St. Pius X Student Center at PSU from 9-5 pm. There will be no alternate retreat available.

## **PSR CLASSES**

No PSR classes on Dec 26 & Jan 2. Classes resume Jan 9.

## **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.

<b>COLLECTIONS</b>	Last Week	July 2018 to date
Contributions	\$2,108.18	\$64,139.89
Children's Offering	\$15.40	\$340.10
Expenses		\$64,485.02
Over / (Under)		(\$5.03)
Building Fund Contributions	\$0	
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.

## **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.

*Wishing you a Very Merry  
& Blessed Christmas!*

