

# St. Michael Catholic Church

106 N. Western Ave.  
Girard, KS 66743  
(620)724-8717



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

**CONFESSION** **GIRARD** **ARMA**  
Saturday 2:00-2:30pm 3:15-3:45pm  
Weekdays before Mass, anytime by appointment

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

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

**STAFF** Pastor: Fr. Floyd McKinney  
Secretary: Faith Paoni  
Bookkeeper: Janel Scales  
Bulletin Editor: Janel Scales  
jmscales414@gmail.com

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

## From the Pastor

I wonder if at the 'end' of our present situation, as a collective body in our nation, we will feel like Lazarus coming out of the tomb. The idea of Lazarus coming out of the tomb reminds us of what we are preparing to celebrate on Easter; Jesus rose from the dead to bring us to a new life of grace. The gospel helps us to hear the voice of Jesus calling to us as we have courage in this time of illness. He is asking us to come out of our tombs... no, not permission to have group meetings again, but to know that He is with us at this time and we are able to know that the clouds of unknowing will be lifted. We are called to come into the Light. We are called to come to the Life. The gospel calls us to walk to the Lord. "Come out, Lazarus!" Jesus is calling us. We are all Lazaruses. He is calling us to come out of the darkness, and come into His Light. He is calling us to come out of the place of death and come into His Life. In his second book on Jesus, Pope Benedict XVI points out that the early Christians referred to themselves as *The Living*. That is what we are called to be, alive in an otherwise dead world. Out of the tomb, into the light, out of the tomb, into His Life we experience indescribable joy. We are one with Jesus. We are at peace. We no longer view others as threats to our happiness. No, others become a road to happiness as we serve the presence of God within them. Out of the tomb, away from our sins, we see others as unique reflections of God, as people who can bring us to a deeper understanding of God's love. So, we ask ourselves today, "Am I happy with myself? Am I comfortable with my life? Am I happy with my relationship with God?"

What have you been doing in this time of 'self-reflection'? By self-reflection I am meaning this time of Lent, but you can also use this time of unknowing as a possibility to look inside of yourself to answer personal questions. Am I working on my relationship with the Lord? Am I doing something to bring family together? Even a united family must continue to love to stay united. Lazarus coming out of the tomb helps us to recognize that we too are constantly moving forward on our journey.

As we continue on our Lenten journey, may it be for us a time for us to remember how the Lord suffered for us, gave of His time for us, allowed us to know that we are loved and wanted. The Lord is almighty and is able to help us in our needs; we trust in that power and grace present to us.

## TOTUS TUUS

Mark your calendars for Totus Tuus this summer. It will be held the week of June 22-26. If you are willing to help with housing or providing meals, please contact Beth Wilson at 724-3380. Thank you!

## COLLECTIONS

	Last Week	July 2019 to Date
Contributions	\$ 565.00	\$ 99,221.80
Children's Offering	\$ -	\$ 400.86
Expenses	\$ -	\$ 95,400.08
Over/(Under)		\$ 4,222.58
Building Fund Contributions	\$ -	

## MISSING THE MASS?

Isolation and quarantine are words that most Americans find difficult to understand or endure. During this coronavirus that we're experiencing now, we're beginning to ascertain the full implications of the meanings of those words. Heretofore, we had the choice as to whether we wanted to be alone; now, the decision is being removed from us. We find that we can no longer go to church, or anywhere that people congregate. Being gregarious people, most of us aren't happy with the present situation and yearn for life to return to 'normal'. For example, as Catholics, we're devoted to attending Mass on weekends and often during the week. This widespread epidemic has caused most institutions---government, education, religious, to cooperate with health officials to keep the disease from spreading, hence many closures and our church is one of them! In the B.C. period, (before coronavirus) we knew Mass was said daily and we could attend anytime we wished. We took it for granted as most humans do when they know something is always available. Now watching the Mass on EWTN or streaming live from our computer is 'better than nothing', but it won't ever be replaced by the actual Sacrifice that we observe before us at every Mass. We miss our priests who bring the Sacrifice to us from our parish church. It's like electricity or friends, taken for granted, but sorely missed when absent.

I began thinking why we miss the Mass so much, even though, in normal circumstances, we assist without such deep thought---again, taken for granted. I have heard priests say over and over again that the Mass is the greatest and most powerful form of Prayer. So that's the reason that we attend so dutifully. At your hour of death, the Holy Masses you've offered devoutly will be your greatest consolation and attend you at your Judgment. Every Mass diminishes your temporal punishment due to your sins. Your Purgatory is shortened by every Mass you've assisted. At Holy Mass, God forgives your venial sins that you haven't confessed and He forgives you any unknown sins you have never confessed. The power of Satan over you is diminished. I just chose a few, but there are many more benefits from assisting at Mass. When we recall that we were taught that every Mass wins for us a higher degree of glory in Heaven, it is easier to believe that we would miss it when it isn't available to us. When this calamity is over, I'm confident that many of us will gladly return to St. Michael's or St. Joseph's with a renewed desire to appreciate our membership here and assist at Mass with a restored vigor and thankfulness to Our Lord Jesus Christ. Hope to see you soon.

----Marcel Normand

## PRAYERS FOR OUR PARISHIONERS

Please pray for Audrey Casassa, Nancy Church, Allie Davied, Gerald Davied, Karen Davied, Mary Davied, Tom Kovach, Herman Masser, David McGowan, Samuel Bradshaw Morris, John Oplotnik, Bernard Purdon, Tina Ruma, Edward Luke Walsh and Tom Weston who are ill or in need of prayers. Please note that individuals on our prayer list are left on until a request is made to remove them. Requests to be added or removed can be sent to [jmscales414@gmail.com](mailto:jmscales414@gmail.com). Thank you!

## DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA

There will be no D of I meeting on April 14<sup>th</sup>. We will see what happens for our May meeting, so everyone stay safe and God Bless.

## JUST SO YOU KNOW

Some people have been asking how to handle their contributions in this time of social spacing. I appreciate that those who are able to give are still wanting to live their stewardship way of life. You may mail your contribution to the office at 106 N Western or if you desire you can wait till the next time you can come to church and make a 'total' contribution for the allotted time. I do want to express to those who are experiencing a lack of possibilities to donate, even though you want to thank the Lord for all that you have received, if all of us do what we can the parish will be OK. Again, thank you to all who are doing what you can, the Lord is with us. Fr. Floyd

## MASS INTENTIONS

WHY REQUEST A MASS INTENTION? One part of Catholic culture that is sometimes hard to understand and very often misunderstood is the custom of offering Mass intentions. The Church considers the Mass to be one of the greatest prayers of intercession. When a priest celebrates Mass each day, he offers each Mass for a particular intention. By doing so he applies special graces from God upon that person or intention. That intention can be for a living person's health and well-being, or for the eternal rest of a deceased person, or any other prayers you wish to be offered up to Christ for a loved one. Pope Paul VI said, "The Mass is the most perfect form of prayer!" It has immense power and countless miracles and conversions have occurred throughout the centuries by offering Masses for a specific intention or person. Mass intentions are a great treasure of the Church and have a spiritual weight that is incalculable. Requesting Mass Intentions: Mass intentions make beautiful gifts for any special occasion: birthday, anniversary, in thanksgiving for a prayer answered, an intention for someone who is struggling with a serious illness or other life trauma. If you have a particular date or time on which you want the Mass, you need to turn in the information at least a month in advance (Masses are scheduled that much ahead of time). Call the parish office to schedule OR place the information of who or what the Mass is for, and who is offering the Mass, along with a phone number in case we have questions. The suggested stipend for Mass intentions is \$10.00 payable via cash or check, you can donate less or more.

## Mass Intentions for March 28-April 5

Mar 28 Saturday	Ursula Sue Parsons	Arma
	Bernadine Shively	Girard
29 Sunday	Dave McGowan	Arma
	Pro Populo	Girard
30 Monday	NO MASS	
31 Tuesday	No Intention	Arma
Apr 01 Wednesday	Wayne Kanute	Girard
02 Thursday	No Intention	Arma
03 Friday	Special Intention	Girard
04 Saturday	Audrey VanLeeuwen	Arma
	Ron Breneman	Girard
05 Sunday	Harry VanLeeuwen	Arma
	Frank Oplotnik	Girard

++Father Floyd & Father Lee will be celebrating Mass privately, but will continue to honor the Mass Intention for that day.

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