

# 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

## REAL FAITH CANNOT BE TAKEN FROM YOU!

In today's Gospel, Philip said to Jesus, "Master, show us the Father, and that will be enough for us." Jesus responds with, "Have I been with you for so long a time and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father?'?" Philip made the request because he couldn't imagine what Jesus said could be true. Philip expected some much bigger sign, such as an earthquake or parting of waters--the way that the presence of God was shown in the Old Testament. What he didn't expect was that Jesus, who was standing before him, was God, Himself!!

Aren't we much like Philip in our daily lives when it comes to believing something? Most of the time, we ask 'to be shown' the evidence before we will believe. The 'doubting' Thomas reacted similarly. He only believed when 'he saw it with his own eyes'. When things seem impossible in our minds, we end up saying, 'show me', like when a child tells us that she's found a treasure. We believe it when we see it. You'll recall that Jesus told Thomas, 'blessed are those who believe, but have not seen.' This is the very definition of FAITH. You might remember that we, as Catholics, have been told a myriad of times that 'Faith is a gift'. For those who believe, no explanation is necessary; for those who won't, none is possible. An example would be the changing of the bread and wine into the body and blood of Christ through what the Church calls transubstantiation. Few Catholics question the 'how' of it because of their firm belief in our Savior's words. For those who insist upon evidence, their logic is composed of 'absolute proof' prior to belief. Some will doubt the 'Christmas story' or Christ's miracles as stories told by individuals who passed them down to others and, perhaps, exaggerated them in the process. Yet, Scripture mentions eye-witnesses to many of these events such as the Crucifixion. Shall they all be called liars? This is a common affliction of doubters---prove it! This type of logic can be stretched to the ridiculous---do these folks believe that George Washington was our first President? Prove it and historians have made the effort through books they've written. They have taken their 'evidence' from eye-witnesses of the times. Remember the statement made in this very paragraph: 'for those who won't believe, none is possible.' You see, believing might upset their little applecart. They've held the former belief for so long that such a change of mind might involve some serious study. Many doubters are just too lazy to really think about it or simply too weak to be good.

Back to the first premise: "Faith is a gift of God," and that means, obviously, that GOD gives it. You can spot the guy or gal who 'has it'---the right relationship with God. The highest power that God gave you is YOUR MIND and that's why FAITH is such an important virtue. Faith

COLLECTIONS		
	Last Week	July 2019 to Date
Contributions	\$ -	\$ 104,689.20
Children's Offering	\$ -	\$ 400.86
Expenses	\$ -	\$ 101,544.85
Over/(Under)		\$ 3,545.21
Building Fund Contributions	\$ -	

entails not only believing, but to believe ALL the truths that God has revealed, to believe them firmly, and to believe them until the last breath of life! St. Paul said, "without faith, it is impossible to please God." If you feel that you don't have it completely, no doubt you need a full course of instructions (even though you're already a Catholic) to look at it honestly. You aren't going to believe it unless God gives you the GRACE to believe it. Real prayer and honest intent will bring forth a day when you can say, "I believe". The 'gift' comes in many ways and this is one of them. If you're skeptical in certain areas of the faith, spend time in prayer, asking Our Lord to come to you. Talk to a priest about it. Pray before the Blessed Sacrament with your concerns. God will do the rewarding. Your uncertainty and distrust will fade and the strength of faith that you want will come to you. I belonged to no religion until marriage. I always knew that the gift had eluded me. Good friends like Fr. Joseph Gorenz and Fr. John Reinkemeyer subdued my doubt. Helen and I converted to Catholicism in 1964 and we have had no regrets since. If you have friends/relatives who you care deeply about and want them to have what you have, invite them to try these techniques. If they are sincere about wanting the faith, they will achieve it. Pray for them.

---Marcel Normand

## PRAYERS FOR OUR PARISHIONERS

Please pray for Audrey Casassa, Nancy Church, Allie Davied, Gerald Davied, Karen Davied, Mary Davied, Cheryl Francis Greer (Fr. Greer's mom), Tom Kovach, Herman Masser, David McGowan, Samuel Bradshaw Morris, John Oplotnik, Bernard Purdon, Sheila Reif, Tina Ruma, and Edward Luke Walsh 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!

## TOTUS TUUS

Please note that the Catholic Diocese of Wichita has decided to cancel all Totus Tuus programs that were scheduled for this summer.

**If you are reading this online and know someone who does not do 'online', let me know or maybe deliver a bulletin to them.**  
**Peace, Fr. Floyd**

## Program Coordinator of St Dismas Ministry to the Incarcerated, Catholic Diocese of Wichita:

The Catholic Diocese is seeking an individual to serve as the primary liaison between detention and correctional facilities staffs and Catholic volunteers in order to establish and maintain Catholic worship, programming and materials for all the incarcerated in the Diocese of Wichita. The Coordinator is also responsible for oversight of the Mentoring program and the Ministry to Incarcerated Juveniles. Deadline for accepting resumes is noon, May 19, 2020. For information regarding requirements, please check our job posting at <https://catholicdioceseofwichita.org/careers/>

## 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 May 9-17

May 09 Saturday	Bill Harman	Arma
	Frank Oplotnik	Girard
10 Sunday	Ursula Sue Parsons	Arma
	Pro Populo	Girard
11 Monday	NO MASS	
12 Tuesday	Harry VanLeeuwen	Arma
13 Wednesday	Wayne Kanute	Girard
14 Thursday	No Intention	Arma
15 Friday	Ed Perrin Jr.	Girard
16 Saturday	Dave McGown	Arma
	Joe George	Girard
17 Sunday	Bill Harman	Arma
	Pro Populo	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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