

# 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: 316-619-5095

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

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

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

## A LIBERATING SIGN OF LOVE

[T]he Christian gospel is more than a transcendent reality, more than “going to heaven when I die, to shout salvation as I fly.” It is also an immanent reality—a powerful liberating presence among the poor right now in their midst, “building them up where they are torn down and propping them up on every leaning side.” The gospel is found wherever poor people struggle for justice, fighting for their right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Bee Jenkins’s claims that “Jesus won’t fail you” was made in the heat of the struggle for civil rights in Mississippi, and such faith gave her strength and courage to fight for justice against overwhelming odds. Without concrete signs of divine presence in the lives of the poor, the gospel becomes simply an opiate; rather than liberating the powerless from humiliation and suffering, the gospel becomes a drug that helps them adjust to this world by looking for “pie in the sky.”

. . . God’s word is paradoxical, or, as the old untutored black preacher used to say, “inscrutable,” a mystery that one can neither control nor fully understand. It is here and not here, revealed and hidden at the same time. “Truly, you are a God who hides himself, O God of Israel, the Savior” (Isa 45:15).

Nowhere is that paradox, that “inscrutability,” more evident than in the cross. A symbol of death and defeat, God turned it into a sign of liberation and new life. The cross is the most empowering symbol of God’s loving solidarity with the “least of these,” the unwanted in society who suffer daily from great injustices. Christians must face the cross as the terrible tragedy it was and discover in it, through faith and repentance, the liberating joy of eternal salvation.

James H. Cone, *The Cross and the Lynching Tree*  
*James H. Cone (1938-2018), known as the founder of black liberation Theology, was regarded as one of the most influential theologians in America. He was the Charles Augustus Griggs Distinguished Professor of Systematic Theology at Union Theological Seminary until his death.*

## COLLECTIONS

	Last Week	July 2021 to Date
Contributions	\$ 2,131.00	\$ 26,648.84
Expenses (July & Aug)	\$ 28,218.71	\$ 28,218.71
Over/(Under)		\$ (1,569.87)
Building Fund Contributions	\$ 250.00	

## PRAYERS FOR OUR PARISHIONERS

Please pray for Audrey Casassa, Mary Davied, Gary Dowling, Rosemary Gardner, Jessica Goff, Lisa Goff, Waylon Humble, Tom Kovach, Marita Lopeman, Mary Kay Mason, Herman Masser, Ronnie Michael, Bob Moore, John Oplotnik, David Peak, Betty Purdon, Frank Purdon, Sheila Reif, Tina Ruma, and Dan Wendt 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!

## Children's Religious Education Help Needed

If you are willing to teach or be on a team of teachers please get a hold of Kristen Graham at 620-875-6133 or [kristen.j.graham@gmail.com](mailto:kristen.j.graham@gmail.com).

## GREENBUSH DAYS

Due to COVID going strong again, we feel it is in the best interest of all concerned to once again cancel our Greenbush Day Pig Roast. While we miss seeing everyone your health and safety, as ours also, is our number one concern. WE plan on being back in 2022. So mark your calendars for the third Sunday in September 2022 and we will see you all again! Stay healthy and safe.

## SPECIAL PRAYERS

Constitution Week is September 17-24, please offer a prayer for our Country and our Service men and women during this week and September 17 weekend.

## CONFIRMATION

\*\*There will be practice after the 10am Mass this Sunday, September 12th.  
\*\*Confirmation will be on Sunday, September 19th during the 10:00am Mass.

## DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA

The next D of I meeting will be on Tuesday, September 14, 2021 at 6:30 at St. Francis Hall, St. Paul, Kansas. All ladies from St. Michael and St. Joseph Parishes are invited. Daughters of Isabella is an international organization of Catholic Women. All members are asked to bring school supplies to be donated. Hostesses for the meeting are Jolene Born, Linda DeGarmo, Louise Jarboe and Jane Schibi. Come and join us for an enjoyable evening.

## STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

### Get Behind Me

*Is 50:5-9a / Jas 2:14-18 / Mk 8:27-35*

“Who do you say that I am?” Jesus poses this question to His disciples, and He poses it to us as well. Like Peter, we should be able to give a correct response — the Messiah, my Savior, the Son of God — any of these would be theologically accurate responses. But do we actually allow Jesus to be those things? Do we recognize His divinity and step in place to follow and learn from Him? Or do we sometimes grow a bit smug in our knowledge and step in front of Him? In today’s Gospel, Peter oversteps a boundary and rebukes Jesus for accepting the suffering that is ahead of Him. In turn, Jesus reminds Him to fall back in place — to watch and to follow. Peter is beginning to understand, but he still has much to learn and accept about the reality of his Messiah. This is likely true of us in our discipleship as well. Like Peter, we might get ahead of ourselves and abandon our FIAT. Suffering and “unanswered prayers” can usually draw us back to our knees in surrender to God and His will for our lives. Jesus reminds us that our lives are not our own, and that whoever dedicates his life to Jesus and the Gospel will have everlasting life.

## PRAYER TO OUR LADY OF SORROWS

Our mother of sorrows, with strength from above you stood by the cross, sharing in the sufferings of Jesus, and with tender care you bore him in your arms, mourning and weeping.

We praise you for your faith, which accepted the life God planned for you. We praise you for your hope, which trusted that God would do great things in you. We praise you for your love in bearing with Jesus the sorrows of his passion.

Holy Mary, may we follow your example, and stand by all your children who need comfort and love.

Mother of God, stand by us in our trials and care for us in our many needs. Pray for us now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

## PRAYER OF GRATITUDE FOR CREATION

God of the universe, we thank you for your many good gifts: for the beauty of Creation and its rich and varied fruits, for clean water and fresh air, for food and shelter, animals and plants.

Forgive us for the times we have taken the Earth’s resources for granted, and wasted what you have given us. Transform our hearts and minds so that we would learn to care and share, to touch the Earth with gentleness and with love, respecting all living things.

We pray for all those who suffer as a result of our waste, greed, and indifference. And we pray that the day will come when everyone has enough food and clean water. Help us to respect the rights of all people and all species and help us to willingly share your gifts today and always. Amen.

-Fiona Murdoch, Eco-Congregation Ireland

Mass Schedule and Intentions for Sept 11-19				
Sept 11 Sat	4:00pm	Verl & Ursula Parsons	Arma	
	5:30pm	Claire Weston	Girard	
12 Sun	8:00am	Pro Populo	Arma	
	10:00am	Regina Butler	Girard	
13 Mon		NO MASS		
14 Tues	8:00am	Ted Yoakam	Arma	
15 Wed	8:00am	Marvin Brees	Girard	
16 Thurs	8:00am	John Schaub	Arma	
	8:30am - 12:30pm	Eucharistic Adoration	Arma	
17 Fri	7:00am	Joe McClintock	Girard	
	8:00am - 6:00pm	Eucharistic Adoration	Girard	
18 Sat	4:00pm	Gerald White	Arma	
	5:30pm	Verl Diskin	Girard	
19 Sun	8:00am	Emil Pronier	Arma	
	10:00am	Pro Populo	Girard	

Altar Ministers for Next Weekend	
Saturday (9/18/21) 5:30pm	Sunday (9/19/21) 10:00am
Altar Servers: Broc & Kaleb Scales & Camden Leonard	Isabella & Elijah Walsh
E.M.E.: Janel Scales	Linda Garrett
Lector: Donna Martin	Doug Lopeman
Gifts: Ryan & Savanna Ashmore Family	Joe & Kim Curran Family

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