

# 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

\*\*Bulletins are being posted on the website once again.

\*\*Quarterly Mass Duty schedule is also posted on the website.

## The Star Shines On

Those who have tried to follow the Creator of the stars often find themselves in the midst of an Epiphany. They are called to follow stars that seem beyond their reach.

Once a mother whose son had been murdered saw a star that said, "Forgive." The star led her to a prison, to the murderer. The light of the star enabled her to discover within her own heart a mercy she didn't know she possessed. The mercy belonged to the Creator of the stars but it was hers to use when she was in need. She used it well.

There was another woman who had an Epiphany that wouldn't stop. The star she saw shone right into the hearts of the poor. The compassionate ministry that continues in the Catholic Worker houses has turned Dorothy Day into a star that keeps on shining...

Martin Luther King, Jr., saw a star that is still shining. It was a star of hope for those who were suffering from the oppression and evil of racism and prejudice. He followed that star to his death. He is the patron saint of those who find it hard to follow stars.

And then, there was that man of God from San Salvador. His name? Oscar Romero! He was elevated to the office of archbishop because it was believed he would be a safe, middle-of-the-road person, one who keeps peace by being silent. Perhaps that is who Oscar used to be, but everything changed one day. He had an Epiphany. He saw a star of truth that shone straight through all the lies, impelling him to speak out against injustice. He spoke. He died. His star shines on.

And you? You must add your own names to this list.

Sr. Marcina Wiederkehr, *Seasons of Your Heart*

## COLLECTIONS

	Last Week	July 2021 to Date
Contributions	\$ 1,889.00	\$ 80,373.60
Expenses	\$ -	\$ 73,298.21
Over/(Under)		\$ 7,075.39
Building Fund Contributions	\$ -	

## PRAYERS FOR OUR PARISHIONERS

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

## STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

### Seek Him

*Is 60:1-6 / Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 / Mt 2:1-12*

Today's Gospel presents us with the story of the manifestation of Jesus to the Gentiles through the visitation of the Magi. With the birth of Jesus, the world as a whole is able to see God in a new way. The word Epiphany is often used to describe a moment in which you suddenly see or understand something in a new or very clear way. And so it was with the birth of Christ. Rightfully understood, God was no longer to be thought of simply as the God of the Israelites but as the God of the Universe, who would sacrifice Himself for all of mankind. May we also seek Him, that we may pay him homage, to prostrate ourselves and place our gifts—our very selves—before Him.

## EPIPHANY BLESSING

O God of light and peace,  
whose glory, shining in the child of Bethlehem,  
still draws the nations to yourself:  
bless us abundantly and dispel the darkness that shrouds  
our path, that, like the wise men, we may come to kneel  
before Christ in true worship,  
offer him our hearts and souls,  
and return from his presence to live as he has taught,  
now and for ever and ever. Amen.

*-Blessings and Prayers for Home and Family*

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

K of C will meet on Tuesday, at 7pm in the St. Michael Parish Hall.

## BLESSING FOR A NEW YEAR

Remember us, O God;  
from age to age be our comforter.  
You have given us the wonder of time,  
blessings in days and nights, seasons and years.  
Bless your children at the turning of the year  
and fill the months ahead with the bright hope  
that is ours in the coming of Christ.  
You are our God, living and reigning, forever and ever. Amen.  
*-Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers*

## A CHERISHED TRADITION

Few days in the liturgical calendar have a history as interesting as January 1st! As early as the seventh century, the Catholic Church in Rome celebrated a feast in honor of Mary on this day. As other Marian feasts like the Annunciation and the Assumption entered the calendar, January 1st began to be known as simply as the Octave (8th day) of Christmas.

By the year 1300, January 1st was being celebrated as both the Feast of the Circumcision and the Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus. Even after the Reformation, the Catholic, Lutheran, and Anglican churches continued to celebrate the Feast of the Circumcision on January 1st for many centuries. It was only in 1969 that the Catholic Church officially designated January 1st as the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, which was presented as a restoration of an ancient practice.

The Scripture scholar Fr. Raymond Brown once suggested that the loss of the Feast of the Circumcision may have been a missed opportunity for the Church to build bridges with the Jewish community. In addition to the Gospel speaking of Jesus' circumcision, St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians speaks of Jesus being "born under the law," the Jewish Torah. Mary the Mother of God was also the mother of a Jewish child.

We cannot understand and love Jesus if we do not understand the religious tradition that shaped him so decisively. Perhaps a good New Year's resolution for all Christians would be to commit to growing in our understanding of that tradition and our brothers and sisters who continue to cherish it.

Deacon J. Peter Nixon

*J. Peter Nixon is a deacon serving in the Diocese of Oakland, California. A regular contributor to Give Us This Day, he holds a Master's degree in theology from the Jesuit School of Theology at Santa Clara University.*



## Mass Schedule and Intentions for January 1-9

Date	Time	Intention	Minister
Jan 01 Sat	4:00pm	Ted Yoakam	Arma
	5:30pm	Charles Snow	Girard
02 Sun	8:00am	John Schaub	Arma
	10:00am	Pro Populo	Girard
03 Mon		NO MASS	Girard
04 Tues	8:00am	Ted Yoakam	Arma
05 Wed	8:00am	Karen Davied	Girard
06 Thurs	8:00am	Ted Yoakam	Arma
	8:30am-12:30pm	Eucharistic Adoration	Arma
07 Fri	7:00am	Mary Lepoglow	Girard
	8:00am-6:00pm	Eucharistic Adoration	Girard
08 Sat	4:00pm	Jean Wilson	Arma
	5:30pm	Regina Butler	Girard
09 Sun	8:00am	Bill & Linda Harman Family	Arma
	10:00am	Pro Populo	Girard

## Altar Ministers for Next Weekend

Saturday (01/08/22)	Sunday (01/09/22)
5:30pm	10:00am
Altar Servers: Trevor & August Amershek	Isabella & Elijah Walsh
E.M.E.: Makaila Ausemus	Chris Sponsel
Lector: Nancy Bauer	Volunteer
Gifts: Ryan & Savanna Ashmore	Hank & Carrie Smith

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