

# 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.

## A PRAYER FOR UNITY

"I pray not only for them, but also for those who will believe in me . . . that they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you, that they also may be in us, that the world may believe that you sent me. And I have given them the glory you gave me, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may be brought to perfection as one, that the world may know that you sent me, and that you loved them even as you loved me."  
-John 17:20-23

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, observed now January 18-25, dates back to 1908. The Decree on Ecumenism promulgated by the Second Vatican Council in 1964 gave new impetus to the work of mutual understanding and respect among Christian churches in the hope of ultimate reunification. But in a world as fragmented as ours is today—where religious, ethnic, and political differences quickly yield division, and division just as quickly turns to hostility and violence—disillusionment has dimmed enthusiasm. Jesus' prayer for unity, as fine an ideal as it expresses, seems almost to have become an impossible dream.

Yet the fragmentation is by no means new. Divisions among us go back to the biblical stories of human beginnings: the first idyllic marriage fell into mistrust and mutual accusations, and human bonds disintegrated from there. And still do. Over time circumstances have changed, motives differed, but the reality of that pattern of antagonism giving rise to mutual destruction has remained. We have only to check the news of the day. The root cause, past and present, seems to be misperception of the other, thanks to the deceptive tactics of evil.

COLLECTIONS		
	Last Week	July 2021 to Date
Contributions	\$ 6,504.20	\$ 89,455.58
Expenses	\$ -	\$ 82,815.07
Over/(Under)		\$ 6,640.51
Building Fund Contributions	\$ 250.00	

## 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, Richard 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

### Best Fruit of the Vine

Is 62:1-5 / 1 Cor 12:4-11 / Jn 2:1-11

The story found in today's Gospel reading of the wedding feast at Cana is certainly a familiar one. At the request of his mother, Jesus is asked to perform his first public miracle. The wedding banquet host, for his part, is facing public humiliation for falling short of his guests' expectations because he has run out of wine. For Jesus's part, the stakes which he faces before the assembled wedding guests are even greater. By performing his first public miracle, Jesus's "hour" is about to begin. The generous and abundant gift of wine, perhaps as much as one-hundred and eighty gallons of the very best fruit of the vine, would indeed signal the beginning of Jesus's public ministry. Having "so revealed his glory," the miracle at Cana would send him along the path to Calvary, where an even greater gift of redemption would soon be given.

## RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

The Red Cross is experiencing the worst blood shortage in over a decade. The dangerously low blood supply levels have forced some hospitals to defer patients from major surgery, including organ transplants. Your donation is desperately needed. The next blood drive to be held at St. Michael's Catholic Hall will be on Tuesday, February 8th from 11:30am to 5:30pm. If you are willing and able to donate, please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) today to schedule your appointment.

## myEoffering

Just a friendly reminder...myEoffering is a service we've teamed up with to give you the ability to send your offerings online in the same way that many of you already pay bills and purchase products. We chose to use myEoffering because they are part of a trusted, Christian family-owned company, who have been serving the needs of churches for nearly 100 years. Their product is solid, secure, easy, and convenient. If you are interested, you can find instructions on how to get set up on the parish website.

What Jesus prayed for on the night of the Last Supper was not simply the mending of cracks in the human mirror meant to reflect the God who is One in love. In Jesus' public ministry, he did re-gather those separated by sickness and sin. But in his paschal mystery he went below surface fragmentation into the deep destruction inflicted by evil and sin. There he rejoined all that had been shattered since Eden. At a level we cannot see, he brought all of divided humanity together into communion with the God of life and love. He made human brokenness into his own Body (see Eph 2:11-14). This is the unity for which he prayed, lived, died—and for which he works still. It is a unity we can only guess at and do not yet live, but it must be our ultimate hope.

Jesus' goal includes Christians but excludes no one. It is all humanity that is made to be one in the image of a God who is unity in a Trinity of love (cf. Gen 1:26). This transformation of reality demands a radical readjustment of our perception of one another. How we accomplish that is a puzzle we have yet to solve. But we are called to work at it constantly, not just with our minds but with all the love of God: that others may know we love them as God loves them.

Let us not disparage the hard, gritty, often thankless work of those who seek even in today's world a real unity of belief and life among Christians—and let us not stop there. Jesus didn't—and doesn't.

Sr. Genevieve Glen

*Genevieve Glen, OSB, is a contemplative nun of the Abbey of St. Walburga in northern Colorado. She is author of Sauntering Through Scripture and the recently released By Lamplight.*

## 2021 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

Your 2021 Contribution Statements will be mailed to your home over the course of the next week. Thank you for your generosity!

Mass Schedule and Intentions for January 15-23				
Jan 15	Sat	4:00pm	Violet Pazzie	Arma
		5:30pm	Wayne & Betty Coomes	Girard
16	Sun	8:00am	Pro Populo	Arma
		10:00am	Mary Lepoglow	Girard
17	Mon		NO MASS	Girard
18	Tues	8:00am	Ted Yoakam	Arma
19	Wed	8:00am	Donna Little	Girard
20	Thurs	8:00am	Ted Yoakam	Arma
		8:30am-12:30pm	Eucharistic Adoration	Arma
21	Fri	7:00am	Mary Lepoglow	Girard
		8:00am-6:00pm	Eucharistic Adoration	Girard
22	Sat	4:00pm	Ursula Parsons	Arma
		5:30pm	Gerald Davied	Girard
23	Sun	8:00am	John Schaub	Arma
		10:00am	Pro Populo	Girard

## Altar Ministers for Next Weekend

Saturday (01/22/22)	Sunday (01/23/22)
5:30pm	10:00am
Altar Servers: Carly Reif & Nolan Leonard	Evan & Quin Sisney
E.M.E.: Macy Reif	Jerry Hanson
Lector: Butch Reif	Michelle Puckett
Gifts: Rachel Ausemus Family	John & Julye Smith Family

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