

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.

ANGELS AT EASTER

The Gospel for the Easter Vigil this year is from Luke. In his account, the women who come to the tomb encounter “two men” (Luke 24:4). Who are these men, and why are they there? The short answer is that they are angels. But if that is the case, why does Luke identify them as “two men”? Luke is simply following normal biblical practice. There is no single word in the Bible that identifies an angel. Instead, there are a variety of terms that refer to beings of heavenly status who are distinct from God and humans. Angels can be called “sons of God” (Job 38:7), “the holy ones” (Ps 89:6-8), “watchers” (Dan 4:10), and even “gods” (Ps 82:1). The most common word to designate an angel is “messenger.” The Hebrew word for messenger is *malak*. The Greek equivalent is *aggelos*, from which we derive the English word “angel.” Yet in many biblical passages angels are described as “men.” This is the case of the “three men” who visit Abraham (Gen 18:2) and the “man” who wrestles with Jacob at the Jabbok River (Gen 32:25). In such passages we can only detect the presence of an angel from the context or by the way the characters act.

This is true of the “two men” Luke places at the empty tomb. He could have called them angels (messengers), but he does not have to do so. We know they are heavenly messengers by what they do. They announce Jesus’ resurrection. The women certainly recognize the “two men” as angels. The two disciples on the road to Emmaus reveal this as they speak to Jesus. They say that the women of their company who were at the tomb “came back and reported they had indeed seen a vision of angels who announced that he was alive” (Luke 24:23).

Continued on next page....

COLLECTIONS

	Last Week	July 2021 to Date
Contributions	\$ 3,023.20	\$ 130,327.38
Expenses-March	\$ 8,471.56	\$ 119,089.82
Over/(Under)		\$ 11,237.56
Building Fund Contributions	\$ 250.00	

Just as the “two men” in Luke are angels, the same is true of the “young man” Mark places in his account of the empty tomb (Mark 16:5). Matthew and John are more specific. Matthew speaks of “an angel of the Lord” (28:2). John has “two angels” address Mary of Magdala (20:12). The Gospel writers agree that angelic messengers were present at the empty tomb, even though they do not always identify them as such.

Most of us prefer charity. The ambiguous way the Bible presents angels can, therefore, unsettle us. Yet there is a spiritual message to be found in such vagueness. None of us encounter God face-to-face. Our relationship is always mediated through created realities. Whether it be through an angel, another human, an experience of nature, or the impact of a significant event, our contact with God is indirect. Nor is God tied to one manifestation. God can speak to us in the face of a stranger, the support of a friend, the magnificence of a sunset. We might expect God to speak to us at church or during private prayer. But God is just as likely to meet us at the supermarket, on the soccer field, or as we doze on the backyard patio.

Like angels, God comes to us in diverse ways. It is our honor to welcome the encounter.

-Fr. George M. Smiga
George M. Smiga, STD, teaches at St. Mary Seminary and Graduate School of Theology and speaks frequently on the topics of Scripture and homiletics. Author of the recently released book Angels in the Bible, his website is Building on the Word: A Resource for Scripture, Culture, and Faith.



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, Josie Oplotnik, David Peak, Betty Purdon, Frank Purdon, Tina Ruma, Anna Snow, 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. Thank you!

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

The Mass of Easter Day

Acts 10:34a, 37-43 / Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 / Col 3:1-4 / Jn 20:1-9
Poor Peter. What a week. Followed Jesus for three years. Chased him across a sea and sank. Gave up his fishing gig just when he caught the motherload. Fell asleep in Gethsemane. Said goodbye to Jesus by pretending he didn’t even know him, not once, but three times. Watches Jesus die, be buried and then disappear. Poor Peter. Yet, who does Mary of Magdala run to when she finds the tomb empty, Peter. Despite all of Peter’s frailties and inadequacies, Peter is the go-to guy. Why? Apparently, the other disciples saw what Jesus saw, a rock. Not the rock that guarded an empty tomb, but the rock that would guard and defend the truth, even unto death. What kind of rocks are we? As missionary disciples we aren’t idle stones guarding empty tombs, but Easter rocks, fully alive sent to be witnesses of the amazing Good News of the Gospel! Saint Peter—you rock!

SEK Ultreva:

St. Andrew Parish, in Independence, will be hosting Ultreyas for area Cursillistas and those interested in Cursillo. The goal is to meet the 3rd Thursday of each month in the St. Andrew Parish Center. Please bring a snack to share, because when we meet we eat! For those interested in attending a Cursillo: the next Women's Weekend will be April 28th - May 1st and the Men's Weekend is scheduled for June 16th - 19th.

SERRA

Serra in Southeast Kansas will meet on Saturday April 23rd in the Activity Center at Our Lady of Lourdes in Pittsburg at 1:00pm. Miles Swigart, a seminarian for the Diocese of Wichita, will be our speaker. All are welcome to join us as we gather to pray for vocations and discuss the future of this club. For more information please call Angela at 620-870-9580 or email vowella@gmail.com

Mass Schedule and Intentions for April 16-24

Date	Time	Intention	Minister
Apr 16 Sat	4:00pm	NO MASS	Arma
	8:30pm	Jim O'Toole	Girard
17 Sun	8:00am	Ted Yoakam	Arma
	10:00am	Pro Populo	Girard
18 Mon		NO MASS	Girard
19 Tues	8:00am	No Intention	Arma
20 Wed	8:00am	Regina Butler	Girard
21 Thurs	8:00am	No Intention	Arma
	8:30am - 12:30pm	Eucharistic Adoration	Arma
22 Fri	7:30am	Donna Little	Girard
	8:00am - 5:00pm	Eucharistic Adoration	Girard
23 Sat	4:00pm	Jean Wilson	Arma
	5:30pm	Regina Butler	Girard
24 Sun	8:00am	Joe Maghe	Arma
	10:00am	Pro Populo	Girard

Altar Ministers for Next Weekend

Saturday (04/23/22)	Sunday (04/24/22)
5:30pm	10:00am
Altar Servers: Brandon Leritz & Carly Reif	Isabella & Elijah Walsh
E.M.E.: Macy Reif	Jerry Hanson
Lector: Butch Reif	Michelle Puckett
Gifts: Mike & Kathy O'Toole	Wayne & Marilyn McCracken

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