

St. Michael Catholic Church

106 N. Western Ave. Girard, KS 66743
 (620)724-8717
 www.stmichaelgirard.com



Pastor: Fr. Mike Klag In Case of Emergency: 316-619-5095
Secretary: Faith Paoni **Bookkeeper/Bulletin Editor:** Janel Scales jmscales414@gmail.com

COLLECTIONS		
	Last Week	July 2022 to Date
Contributions	\$ 3,234.00	\$ 78,801.72
Expenses	\$ -	\$ 59,217.84
Over/(Under)		\$ 19,583.88
Building Fund Contributions	\$ -	

Mass Schedule & Intentions for Dec 17-25			
12/17 Sat	4:00pm	Mike Gebhardt	Arma
	5:30pm	Donna Little	Girard
12/18 Sun	8:00am	Danny Black	Arma
	10:00am	Pro Populo	Girard
12/19 Mon		NO MASS	
12/20 Tues	8:00am	Virginia Buche	Arma
12/21 Wed	8:00am	George Stonerock	Girard
12/22 Thurs	8:00am	Wally & Betty Rons	Arma
	8:30am-12:30pm Eucharistic Adoration		Arma
12/23 Fri	7:30am	Rosemary O'Toole	Girard
	8:00am-5:00pm Eucharistic Adoration		Girard
12/24 Sat	4:00pm	Wally Rons	Arma
	5:30pm	Rose Ann Azember	Girard
12/25 Sun	8:00am	Verl & Ursula Parsons	Arma
	10:00am	George Stonerock	Girard

Altar Ministers for Next Weekend		
	Saturday (12/24) 5:30pm	Sunday (12/25) 10:00am
Altar Servers	Volunteers	Volunteers
EME	Volunteer	Volunteer
Lector	Volunteer	Volunteer
Gifts	Volunteers	Volunteers

PRAYERS FOR OUR PARISHIONERS

Please pray for Liv Anderson, Audrey Casassa, Jerry Davenport, Tyler Edwards, Rosemary Gardner, Fred & Marjorie Giefer, Tom Kovach, Marita Lopeman, Mary Kay Mason, Richard Mason, Joseph Muia, John Oplotnik, Josie Oplotnik, Mary Sayre, Anna Snow, Dan Wendt, and Grant Wilks 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!

O ANTIPHONS

December 17: O Wisdom of our God Most High, guiding creation with power and love: come to teach us the path of knowledge!

December 18: O Leader of the House of Israel, giver of the Law to Moses on Sinai: come to rescue us with your mighty power!

December 19: O Root of Jesse's stem, sign of God's love for all his people: come to save us without delay!

December 20: O Key of David, opening the gates of God's eternal Kingdom: come and free the prisoners of darkness!

December 21: O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice: come and shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

December 22: O King of all nations and keystone of the Church: come and save man, whom you formed from the dust!

December 23: O Emmanuel, our King and Giver of Law: come to save us, Lord our God!

-Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers

MASS-ADORATION-EVENING PRAYER SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 18th
 **4pm Adoration and Evening Prayer with Confession at Our Lady of Lourdes in Pittsburg

Friday, December 23rd
 **No 7:30am Mass or Adoration at St. Michael's

Saturday, December 24th, Christmas Eve
 **4pm Mass at St. Joseph's
 **5:30pm Mass at St. Michael's

Sunday, December 25th, Christmas Day
 **8am Mass at St. Joseph's
 **10am Mass at St. Michael's

EXTRA CONFESSION TIMES

Tuesday, December 20: 5:30-6:00pm at St. Joseph
 Wednesday, December 21: 5:30-6:00pm at St. Michael
 Thursday, December 22: 5:30-6:00pm at St. Joseph
 Friday, December 23: 12:-12:30pm at St. Michael
 Saturday, December 24: NO 2pm Confession at St. Michael

POINSETTIAS

St. Michael's will have poinsettias on the altar closer to Christmas, if anyone would like to make a donation in memory of loved one(s). Please use the envelopes marked for Poinsettias located on the religious articles glass case. You can list multiple loved ones on one poinsettia or request multiple poinsettias, with a suggested donation of \$10/poinsettia. As envelopes are turned in, name cards will be placed on the poinsettias. An announcement will be made sometime after Christmas, for anyone who would like to take their poinsettia (s) home.

ST. MICHAEL'S ANGELS

If you would like to donate to the St. Michael's Angels for this coming Christmas, please use the "St. Michael's Angels" envelopes that are located on the religious articles glass case in the entrance of the Church.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SALE

The Knights of Columbus Council raised \$375 from the sale of the K of C Religious Education raffle tickets. These funds will go towards the St. Michael's Religious Education program.

DAVID: QUESTIONS AT CHRISTMAS

In this final week of Advent, as we direct eyes and hearts toward the celebration of Jesus' nativity, the figure of David appears, posing a double question to us. In the December 20 "O Antiphon," he is named as a rather mysterious key holder. Beginning on Saturday, David will appear in the Christmas liturgies. The opening line of the Gospel for the Christmas Vigil Mass is the very first verse of Matthew: "The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham." And Luke tells us that it was in David's city of Bethlehem that Joseph reported to the census takers, "because [Joseph] was of the house and family of David." And it was to this same "city of David" that the angels sent the shepherds to find the newborn savior (Luke 2:4, 11, Mass During the Night).

Jesus' genealogies are literary-theological explorations of his very real humanity and his place in the line of the expected Davidic Messiah. Matthew's genealogy ends with Joseph, a man of David's line but not Jesus' biological father. No Gospel provides a Davidic genealogy for Jesus' one human parent, Mary. Nevertheless, the Gospels refer repeatedly to Jesus as "son of David."

But we know David as so much more than a name in Jesus' family tree. We know him as the brash shepherd boy who brought down a giant with only a slingshot, as the psalmist who sweetened Saul's dark moods, as Jonathan's faithful friend. We know him as a courageous warrior whose God-centered conscience made him refuse an opportunity to kill Saul, God's anointed King. But David was no perfect hero. In his story's ugliest episode, he took Bathsheba, the wife of one of his soldiers, and used her for his own illicit pleasure. She became pregnant. He tried to cover up his adultery, and when he failed, sent her husband to his death by trickery. Then David bitterly repented for betraying his God.

David thus was a revered hero yet a very human blend of fidelity to God and self-serving choices. His story tells us more vividly than any theological tract that his descendant, Jesus, came of truly human stock—son of a village woman but also Son of God.

And herein are the questions David asks us: As Advent winds to a close, are we prepared to pray in awe before the baby haloed with light in the manger, exult in the songs of angels proclaiming his glory, hail him as one honored by those magnificent strangers with gifts fit for a king and a God? Can we at the same time kneel in awe before "the Word made flesh" who dwells among us" (John 1:14, Mass During the Day)? Real flesh. David's flesh. Our sinful flesh, made sinless in the "Son of David."

As Tuesday's "O Antiphon" tells us, David is the key to the gate that God will open before us at Christmas. And Jesus is that gate through which alone we can reach salvation (John 10:9). Jesus, Word of God but also Son of David, is our entryway into the full completion of our humanity that we call "heaven."

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

Farmers Bank
 A BRANCH OF GOPPERT STATE SERVICE BANK
 WALNUT | HEPLER | ST. PAUL | GIRARD
 (620)354-6435 | (620)368-4311 | (620)449-2800 | (620)724-4774

O'TOOLE CONSTRUCTION INC.
 LAND IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTORS
 952 W. 47 HWY GIRARD, KS 66743
 Improve Your Land-Increase Your Worth
 Margaret O'Toole office 620-724-8536
 Ronnie O'Toole 620-632-5165 620-724-2754 c
 Tim O'Toole 620-724-8990 620-238-0430 c

CARPET · TILE · VINYL · HARDWOOD · CABINETS
 FURNITURE · AREA RUGS · MATTRESSES · LIFT CHAIRS · RECLINERS & MORE!
 Locally owned and operated
 in Brazilton KS for nearly 50 years!
DERAILED COMMODITY
 FLOORING & FURNITURE
 EST. 1967 620-395-2141

EXCHANGE State Bank
 108 E. St. John PO Box 187
 Girard, KS 66743 620-724-4911
 Banking with friends!
 Go Mobile www.esbks.com
 Member FDIC

PAINTED BARRELS
 ON · THE · SQUARE
 DECOR · GIFTS · VENDORS · CONSIGNMENT
 127 S. Summit, Girard, KS
www.paintedbarrels.com

BEDENE FUNERAL HOME
 Barry W. Bedene
 517 East Washington
 Arma, Kansas 66712
 (620) 347-4200