

St. Michael Catholic Church

106 N. Western Ave. Girard, KS 66743
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 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	\$ 1,789.45	\$ 141,438.52
Expenses	\$ -	\$ 110,258.55
Over/(Under)		\$ 31,179.97
Building Fund Contributions	\$ -	

Mass Schedule & Intentions for April 29-May 7			
04/29 Sat	4:00pm	Margaret Ann Davied	Arma
	5:30pm	Jim O'Toole	Girard
04/30 Sun	8:00am	Betty Rons	Arma
	10:00am	Pro Populo	Girard
05/01 Mon		NO MASS	
05/02 Tues	8:00am	Virginia Buche	Arma
05/03 Wed	8:00am	Bernie O'Brien	Girard
05/04 Thurs	8:00am	Respect Right to Life	Arma
	8:30am-12:30pm	Eucharistic Adoration	Arma
05/05 Fri	7:30am	Helen Coomes	Girard
	8:00am - 5:00pm	Eucharistic Adoration	Girard
05/06 Sat	4:00pm	Helen Normand	Arma
	5:30pm	Rosemary O'Toole	Girard
05/07 Sun	8:00am	Wally Rons	Arma
	10:00am	Pro Populo	Girard

Altar Ministers for Next Weekend		
	Saturday (05/06) 5:30pm	Sunday (05/07) 10:00am
Altar Servers	Trevor & August Amershek	Sara Goble & Gabby Graham
EME	Rachel Ausemus	Chris Sponsel
Lector	Donna Martin	Austin Smith
Gifts	Henry & Jill Ashbacher Family	Ryan & Savanna Ashmore Family

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

There will be no K of C meeting this Tuesday, May 2nd.

TOTUS TUUS: JULY 9-14, 2023 SAVE THE DATE!

**Please mark your calendars for fun & energetic week at St. Michael's parish hall to participate in Totus Tuus - a parish-based summer catechetical program for youth, dedicated to sharing the Gospel and promoting our faith through evangelization, catechesis, Marian devotion & fun! The program is led by college students and seminarians, teaching and inspiring youth in participating parishes throughout the diocese. Totus Tuus, a Latin phrase meaning "totally yours," was the motto of St. John Paul II and signifies our desire to give ourselves entirely to Jesus Christ through Mary. This is a FREE program, each family is asked to bring a sack lunch daily & a healthy snack like fruit to share the first day of the program. Children in grades 1-6 meet Monday-Friday from 9-3 and youth grades 7-12 meet Sunday-Thursday in the evenings. Enrollment forms will be available in June the back of the church. All are invited to attend the potluck dinner on Wednesday. Parishioners are needed for dinner hosts and provide lunch for the team each day.

**Totus Tuus is a summer Catholic education program committed to bringing our parish youth closer to Christ through the sacraments, prayer, and fun. A Totus Tuus team will be here at St. Michael's July 9-14. To create a successful event, we need help from our parish families by providing lunches and dinners for the four-person leadership team, who will be visiting us, as well as two hosts families (one for 2 females and one for 2 males, all college-age young adults) to provide lodging and a grab-a-go type breakfast. Please text or call Beth Wilson 620-724-3380 with an offer to help in whatever way you would like to serve. Also, we are in need of someone to supervise activities during the day on Thursday, July 13 and Friday, July 14 of that week. Thank you for considering.

PRAYERS FOR OUR PARISHIONERS

Please pray for Liv Anderson, Carolyn Banning, Rick Bland, Kelli Bradshaw, Audrey Casassa, Maggie Casassa, Jerry Davenport, Gary Dowling, Tyler Edwards, Rosemary Gardner, Fred & Marjorie Giefer, Mary Gilpin, Peter Graham, Ron Gray, Tom Kovach, Marita Lopeman, Mary Kay Mason, Richard Mason, Bob Moore, Joseph Muia, John Oplotnik, Josie Oplotnik, Mary Sayre, Anna Snow, Carly Twarog-Carnes, Jody Walsh, 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!

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

Church Women United will meet at noon May 5. It will be at the Lutheran church. Please bring a covered dish to share.

MAY CROWNING

We will have May Crowning on Sunday, May 7, 2023. The 8th grade class will lead our Marian procession at the 10 am mass.

NEAR DEATH EXPERIENCES; HOW SCIENCE WORKS WITH RELIGION

My motive to devote a column to a longtime, confusing subject, near-death-experiences, henceforth to be NDE, took root when I saw and heard Evangelist, Chris Stefanick, interview well-known Catholic priest, Father Robert Spitzer, of EWTN. He's a strong believer that science supports religion in amazing ways. His explanation of NDE gives actual proof of their close connection.

A NDE occurs when someone experiences a heart attack or a drowning victim is pulled from water and efforts are made to stimulate breathing. At the time, the brain shows a flatline and, as the responder attempts to bring him back, the victim may experience a NDE as he is declared clinically dead. Yet, Fr. Spitzer emphasizes, the body can see, hear, and remember. Father says up to 81% of such victims can see during this time. He cited a 16-year-old boy, blind from birth: his spirit went outside of the hospital, right through the wall, the boy recalls. He also remembers seeing a train passing nearby and he described it intricately (much detail). Fr. Spitzer said that apparently, we have visual imagination during this time. We need to keep in mind that, medically, at this stage, there is no activity in the cerebral cortex of the brain, yet this soul sees all these things and records these experiences outside his body! Raymond Moody, author of "Life After Life", states that none of this can be explained unless you believe in a soul. A 2010 survey of scientists showed that 51% of them believed in God, 21% were agnostic (doubting), and 20% were atheists. The younger the scientist, the more likely the belief in God was stronger.

What does one experience in a NDE? Results showed a) most found their bodies elongated (taller) b) 35% went to another world, perhaps heaven, some saw deceased relatives whom they never knew; an 8 yr old girl went through the experience and an older lady greeted her as her grandmother. She told the girl, "Your mother and I had a secret name for your doll, which she told the little girl. The girl was resuscitated and in the course of what occurred, the girl said she met her grandma whom she didn't recognize, but grandma told her of a secret that the two of them kept: the name they gave her doll. The mom was astonished when she heard it! One fellow in his late 50s had a NDE where he met his grandfather. He didn't recognize him, for he was thinking of an older man. After resuscitation, he was shown his grandfather as a man of 35. He quickly told the family, "Yeah, this is the grandpa I remembered!" Fr. Spitzer told his interviewer, Chris Stefanick, "apparently the body we're given may not be the one we died in!" Back to what people experience during NDE: c) a small percentage have dark encounters and d) On the positive side, most NDE convince the individual to lose their fear of death from then on.

Most saw a very bright light possibly meaning an encounter with God while others felt an overwhelming sense of love/ Some, who had suffered terrific pain in their lives reported all pain gone! Fr. Spitzer said the beauty of the Catholic faith is that Jesus gives HOPE. We should go to Hope when we're lonely or sad and these scientific findings should give us Hope--Hope in Jesus's love for us. Those of you who are interested further, can go to U-Tube and type in Fr. Spitzer's name. Father cites many scientific journals in his talk, making the information very credible.

---Marcel Normand

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