

St. Michael Church
106 N. Western
Girard, Ks. 66743
724-8717
www.stmichaelgirard.com

Sunday, Nov. 26th, 2023

St. Joseph Church
100 S. 8th
Arma, Ks. 66712
347-4525
www.stjosepharma.com



St. Michael Mass Times:

Saturday: 5:30 P.M.
Sunday: 10:00 A.M.

Confessions:

Saturday: 2:00 P.M. - 2:30 P.M.

Adoration: Friday 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

St. Joseph Mass Times:

Saturday: 4:00 P.M.
Sunday: 8:00 A.M.

Confessions:

Saturday: 3:15 P.M. - 3:45 P.M.

Adoration: Thursday 8:30AM -12:30 P.M.

St. Michael

Pastoral Council:

Secretary: Paula Severt

Finance Council:

Tony Stonerock - Chair

DRE:

Kristen Graham
kristen.j.graham@gmail.com

Prayer Squad

Nancy Bauer
bauerbackes@yahoo.com
724-2051

Staff:

Pastor: Fr. Vacca
Email:
fathervacca@gmail.com

Secretary: Barb Duling
Email:
dulingbarb@gmail.com

Bookkeeper: Janel Scales
Email:
jmscales414@gmail.com

St. Joseph

Pastoral Council:

Pat Westhoff - Chair

Finance Council:

Linda Broyles - Chair

Hall Rent Manager:

Linda Broyles
lkbroyles3445@gmail.com

Prayer Chain:

Bev Presley
bevpresley18@gmail.com
620-704-7693

Welcome Newcomers

With great joy, we welcome you to our parish family. We invite you to call the Rectory to register.

Baptism

Please call the Rectory to make arrangements.
Baptismal preparation is required before
your first baby is baptized in the parish.

Bulletin

Please have all bulletin items in the
parish rectory by Noon on Wednesday.

RCIA

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults
is a process for those interested in
becoming Catholic or those
inquiring about the Church.
Please call the rectory.

Matrimony

Make an appointment with Father before setting your date
of marriage at least six months in advance.

Anointing of the Sick

If you're approaching surgery or facing significant illness,
connect with Father to receive the Anointing of the Sick.
(a source of comfort and Spiritual renewal.)

Mass Schedule & Intentions Nov. 25– Dec. 3, 2023

Saturday	11/25	4:00 PM (Arma) 5:30 PM (Girard)	† Pro Populo Carly Carnes Twarog
Sunday	11/26	8:00 AM (Arma) 10:00 AM (Girard)	† Betty & Wally Rons Stanley Thomas
Monday	11/27	No Mass	No Mass
Tuesday	11/28	5:30 PM (Arma)	† Mary Jane Cavanagh
Wednesday	11/29	6:30 PM (Girard)	† Daughters of Isabella
Thursday	11/30	8:00 AM (Arma)	† Ruby & David Westhoff
Friday	12/1	7:30 AM (Girard)	† Rick Bland
Saturday	12/2	4:00 PM (Arma) 5:30 PM (Girard)	† Sharon Cizerle Pro Populo
Sunday	12/3	8:00 AM (Arma) 10:00 AM (Girard)	† Pro Populo Kevin O'Brien

Dates of Importance

Nov. 28: Bible Study
Nov. 30: RCIA
Nov. 27: St. Michael Altar Society
Dec. 3: Arma Cantata
Dec. 7: Holy Day Mass (Girard)
Dec. 8: Holy Day Mass (Girard & Arma)
Dec. 12: D of I, St. Luke Circle Christmas

Office Closed

The Church Office will be closed
Thursday, Nov. 30 - Friday, Dec. 1

***Bulletin submissions will need to be
made by Tuesday at noon.**

Altar Ministers for Next Weekend

Saturday (12/2)

4:00 PM

Altar Servers Volunteers

EME Sharon Giacometti

Lector Anna Meyer

Gifts Georganne Galichia
Anna Meyer

Ushers Mark VanLeeuwen
Don Zornes

5:30 PM

Carly Reif
Jaxton Smith

Carrie Smith

Connie Sponsel

Dave &
Linda Garrett

Dave Garrett
(Lead usher)

Sunday (12/3)

8:00AM

Cody & Tyler Burns
Zen Davied

Joan Black

Joe Broyles

Mary Sayre
Joyce Klinkon

Ron Black
Greg Bogina

10:00 AM

Quin Sisney
Aydin Sisney

Chris Sponsel

Middle & High
School Students

Middle & High
School Students

Bob Davied
(Lead usher)

Bible Study

Father offers a Bible Study for anyone that would like to attend.
They are being offered in both parishes on Tuesdays.

10:00 A.M. in St. Michael Hall

4:15 P.M. in St. Joseph Rectory

We hope to see you there!



Scan this QR code,
for todays Sunday Gospel
activities for children.



St. Michael Collections:

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>July 2023 to Date</u>
Contributions:	\$2,184.20	\$77,857.26
Expenses:	\$ -	\$ -
Over/(Under)		\$77,857.26



St. Joseph Collections:

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>July 2023 to Date</u>
Contributions:	\$1,192.00	\$28,017.25
Expenses:	\$ -	\$ -
Over/(Under)		\$28,017.25

St. Michael Altar Society Meeting

St. Michael Altar Society will have a meeting on Monday, November 27th., 6:00 PM.

Book of Remembrance

For the month of November, positioned at the front of the church will be our "Book of Remembrance".

If you have a loved one that has passed in the past year, please sign their name in this book, so we can be mindful of them during this month of remembering our deceased. †

Arma Community Choir Christmas Cantata

"Silent Night" by Sally DeFord
Sunday, December 3, 3 PM
Arma United Methodist Church



The St Joe Altar Society uses this as an annual fundraiser to assist families in need during the holidays with food baskets and other essential needs. We are thrilled to have Fr. Vacca join us this year!

Daughters of Isabella St. Luke's Circle

D of I (St. Luke's Circle) will meet for a Christmas Party on **Tuesday, December 12, at 12:00 pm** at St. Ambrose Church Hall, Erie, Kansas.

All members are asked to bring Finger Food, with a \$15 wrapped Exchange Gift for your Secret Prayer Partner. Your Secret Prayer Partner will be revealed. Please bring 3 or 4, \$1 or \$2 wrapped gifts for Bingo Prizes. *Daughters of Isabella is an International Organization of Catholic Women.

Christmas Food Baskets

The Arma Cantata Fund is preparing food baskets for local families and gifts for children, to be distributed before Christmas. We welcome donations of non-perishable foods, which may be left at the entry of St. Joseph Church until Dec. 3, (day of the Cantata).

Thank you for your generosity.

Liturgical Calendars

The 2024 liturgical calendars are available in the back of the church. Please take one per household.

The Word Among Us Advent Books

In the back of the church there are several "Word Among Us" books for you to take home.

It is a book of Daily Mass Readings and Daily Meditations for the season of Advent

Holy Day Mass Schedule

The Immaculate Conception of The Blessed Virgin Mary

Thursday, December 7 - 6:30 PM in Girard
Friday, December 8 - 7:30 AM in Girard
Friday, December 8 - 12:00 PM in Arma



Understanding the Mass (by Father Vacca)

#11 Our Bible has 150 psalms. They were written to be sung, and some of them even give their own musical instructions. On Sundays we usually repeat a response between the verses – hence, the name, Responsorial Psalm.

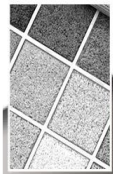
But the psalms can be very helpful for personal prayer since you can find a psalm for almost every different mood or feeling you may have. The words can help give voice to what is going on inside your soul. A large number of the psalms are laments.

We know that Jesus prayed the psalms because all Jews prayed certain psalms every day. There are psalms for the morning and psalms for the evening which constitutes what we as Catholics call the Liturgy of the Hours. Monks in monasteries gather at certain times of the day to pray psalms. Catholic priests pray them as well, usually in black books called their Divine Office book. But anyone can pray the psalms, so ancient and yet ever new.

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WHO NEEDS THE LOTTERY?

Around Thanksgiving, several years ago, when I taught at St. Mary's-Colgan High School, I recall a memorable homily given by one of our pastors, Father Joseph Gile, before we were dismissed for the holiday weekend. He posed this question to the entire student body and other adults in attendance, "What would you do if you won the lottery?" He acknowledged that no one whom he knew had won it, but we DO have many gifts to think about such as our faith, family, friends, health, home, and our freedom. He continued, "Most of the world goes to bed each night and DREAMS of living a life that we take for granted. With all that we've been given, who needs the lottery?"

This past Thursday, we observed Thanksgiving Day, a good, old traditional American holiday that seems to have remained untarnished by all the exploitation that has corrupted so many of our other holidays. In fact, rather than being targeted, IT HAS BEEN IGNORED! Look around and you'll see what I mean. We've already skipped to Christmas a few weeks before Thanksgiving's arrival. Christmas trees are visible in many homes & businesses, Christmas sales, even BLACK FRIDAY is already passed, cities have hung their colored lights across main streets, and the official season hasn't even begun! There doesn't seem to be much commercialization of Thanksgiving. It's definitely an 'American' holiday, for it doesn't commemorate any wars or patriotic events. In fact, there isn't much TALK surrounding it except FOOD & the anticipation of a splendid table for our guests to enjoy on the special day. However, it all began simply, around 1621, when the infant Plymouth Colony in Massachusetts, made up chiefly of Pilgrims who escaped religious persecution in England, offered thanks to God for a good crop and their lives by having a feast of thanksgiving. History records that around 90 Indians came to join these hearty folks for a three-day celebration! Other such feasts have occurred for years, but it wasn't until Pres. George Washington proclaimed Thanksgiving Day that it became an annual federal holiday. Christians here observe it faithfully with a religious service and/or a large family dinner with the main thrust centered on food and giving thanks. Catholics like to emphasize that the word, 'Eucharist', means Thanksgiving in Greek. We hear it each time we attend Mass where "Jesus gave thanks, broke the bread, etc." The first Mass said on American soil was in 1512 by Spanish explorers. We do have much to be thankful for & this holiday reminds us of what we possess such as: 1) God made us & formed us for eternal happiness in heaven; 2) He has given each of us the gift of faith, if we but act upon it; 3) we have the sacraments and can use them if we are in a state of grace as God is always available to us; 4) we have a family, home, and the basic necessities of life; and 5) we can even be thankful for our crosses, for God is shaping us for living.

Back to # 2--God offers each of us during our lifetime the opportunity to accept the gift of Faith. Many are fortunate and acquire it in childhood while others need assistance from parents, a teacher, or even one's boss at work or a good friend. Faith needs to be tested to grow. We don't acquire full faith overnight. Just like muscles, they must be used to acquire strength. Problems we encounter in life will test our faith. When God closes a door, He opens a window. Watch and keep that in mind during your life. So, thank Him for the 'lightness' of your crosses. You could have been born in a poor country. In Africa, there is much poverty everywhere and those who work receives much lower wages than in our country; hardly enough for any advancement. Remember St. Philip Neri & his view of life: "There but for the grace of God goes Philip" he'd say whenever he saw someone in dire need, alcoholic, or other infirmities of life. Just count your blessings & thank God for the world He has provided for us. And, in conclusion, think back a few days--- Thanksgiving wasn't so bad: a couple of days off; you didn't have to buy presents, send cards, put up with fireworks, or color eggs!! Seriously, our debt is endless. The best way to give thanks to God is to attend Mass on that day. Going to Mass on the weekend is a 'have to' case. Try going on a weekday and you will feel differently. Hope your Thanksgiving was great!

---Marcel Normand



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