

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

Sunday, Dec. 31st, 2023

St. Joseph Church
100 S. 8th –PO Box 948
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 8:30 AM -12:30 P.M.

St. Michael

Pastoral Council:

Carrie Smith - Chair

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. Daniel 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.

OCIA

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

Bulletin

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

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 Dec. 30 – Jan. 7th, 2023

Saturday	12/30	4:00 PM (Arma) 5:30 PM (Girard)	† Jim Clark Verl Diskin
Sunday	12/31	8:00 AM (Arma) 10:00 AM (Girard)	† Pro Populo Marjorie Geifer
Monday	1/1	No Mass	No Mass
Tuesday	1/2	5:30 PM (Arma)	Bryce Reese
Wednesday	1/3	6:30 PM (Girard)	Pauline (Pat) Davied
Thursday	1/4	8:00 AM (Arma)	Frances Ales
Friday	1/5	7:30 AM (Girard)	Gary Dowling
Saturday	1/6	4:00 PM (Arma) 5:30 PM (Girard)	† Betty & Wally Rons Pro Populo
Sunday	1/7	8:00 AM (Arma) 10:00 AM (Girard)	† Bill Harman & Linda Davied Alice Davied

Dates of Importance

Jan. 2: Bible Study
 Jan. 2: St. Joseph Parish Council
 Jan. 4: OCIA
 Jan. 4: St Michael Finance Council
 Jan. 9: St. Joseph Finance Council
 Jan. 10: St. Anne Altar Society
 Jan. 10: PSR resumes
 Jan. 14: St. Joseph remove Decorations
 Jan. 16: St. Michael Parish Council

Parish office

The parish office will be closed on
Monday, January 1st, 2024.

Happy New Year!!



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

Altar Ministers for Next Weekend

	<u>Saturday (1/6)</u>	<u>Saturday (1/6)</u>	<u>Sunday (1/7)</u>	<u>Sunday (1/7)</u>
	<u>4:00 PM</u>	<u>5:30 PM</u>	<u>8:00AM</u>	<u>10:00 AM</u>
<u>Altar Servers</u>	Volunteers	August Amershek Volunteer	Brayden Reese	Charlotte Burke Aydin Sisney
<u>EME</u>	Volunteer	Carrie Smith	Joan Black	Chelsea Smith
<u>Lector</u>	Pat Westhoff	Linda Moore	Carol Cole	Denny Heidrick
<u>Gifts</u>	Georganne Galichia Anna Meyer	Chris & Mary Leritz	Ron & Joan Black	Dan & Dana Augustine
<u>Ushers</u>	Don Zornes Volunteer	Dave Garrett (Lead Usher)	Joe Broyles Ron Black	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!



St. Michael Collections:

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>July 2023 to Date</u>
Contributions:	\$TBA	\$92,948.46
Expenses:	\$ -	\$ -
Over/(Under)		\$92,948.46



St. Joseph Collections:

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>July 2023 to Date</u>
Contributions:	\$TBA	\$33,605.36
Expenses:	\$ -	\$ -
Over/(Under)		\$33,605.36

Daughters of Isabella

Daughters of Isabella, St. Luke Circle, will not have a meeting in January.
*D of I is a National Catholic Women's Organization.
All ladies from St. Michael's and St Joseph Parish are encouraged to join.

St. Michael Finance Council Meeting

St. Michael Finance Council will have a meeting on January 4th, 2024 at 5:30 PM.

St. Michael Parish Council Meeting

St. Michael Parish Council will have a meeting on January 16th, 2024 at 6:30 PM.

Holy Day (The Solemnity of Mary)

(Not an Obligation this year)

The Solemnity of Mary lands on Monday, January 1st. Since it lands on a Monday, it will not be an obligatory Holy Day, therefore there will **NOT** be mass.
(It is not a Holy Day of Obligation this year)



St. Joseph (Christmas Decorations)

The Christmas decorations in the church will be taken down after the 8:00 AM Mass on Sunday, January 14. All volunteer help is always appreciated.

St. Joseph Parish Council Meeting

St. Joseph Parish Council will have a meeting on January 2nd, 2024 at 6:00 PM.

St. Joseph Finance Council Meeting

St. Joseph Finance Council will have a meeting on January 9th, 2024 at 6:00 PM.

St. Anne Altar Society Meeting

St. Joseph Altar Society will meet on January 10th, at 2:00 P.M. in the rectory.

A Special Thank You

Thank You for all of the Christmas cards and gifts I received.

Father Vacca

Understanding the Mass (by Father Vacca)

#16 The Nicene Creed we recite at Mass has been used since the 4th century. It serves as a summary of our faith.

If you are ever asked what Catholics believe, simply point to the Creed as a listing of the basic non-negotiable articles of our faith. It was used in baptism rituals as a clear statement of faith for those to be baptized.

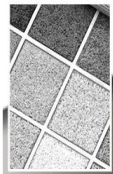
We recite it at the end of the Liturgy of the Word because that is when those not yet baptized in olden times would have to leave. The unbaptized were not allowed to be present for the rest of Mass until they had become one in faith with the Christian community.

In the old Mass, the Liturgy of the Word was called the Liturgy of the Catechumens, meaning those not yet baptized could be present. The second half of Mass called the Liturgy of the Eucharist used to be called the Liturgy of the Faithful, so only the faithful could remain. Since we no longer follow those customs of separation, the names of these parts of Mass have changed accordingly.

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Be It Resolved: Getting Better From The Inside Out

Very soon, we will be entering a New Year. Not long ago, we entered a new Millennium, 2000. Time moves quickly & everything seems to change with it. We also change, outward and inward. Look in the mirror! These past two decades have been unsettling to say the least. The chaos began on September 11, 2001, when our homeland was invaded in New York, Washington D.C., and in Pennsylvania, causing some 3000 plus American deaths in one day! This sent shock waves through our nation and around the world. That horrendous day saw a new culture begin to emerge, new values, too. We became more patriotic, seeing courage as a virtue instead of something to laugh at. Pearl Harbor was our day of infamy; Sept. 11 will be our children's. We no longer felt invulnerable or invincible. We changed from easygoing to more armaments, more suspicious of one another. It's like we lost our innocence on that fateful day.

Wars followed Sept. 11, first Iraq, then Afghanistan; protesting and riots have become commonplace. We heard about anthrax letters, suicide bombers and new technological advances frequently. If the last 20 years have brought forth new inventions that make for better living, they were followed by the consequences of war---famine, mass destruction, tragic injuries and many deaths. Fueled by evil nations, the fighting has recently spread to Ukraine, Israel, and the Gaza strip. Much of these power grabs has been due to racism along with poor leadership. God and prayer seem to be less important, which leads to conquest and general misery for the people.

The start of a new year brings thoughts of a fresh start, full of hope and potential. In other words, it's a good time to connect with loved ones. It should be a time for nations to seek peace. Whether you're planning to celebrate in a close circle or far from each other, the right words can help make the New Year a good beginning. Life should be more than expecting, hoping, or wishing; it should be more about doing, being, & becoming. The task at hand always seems impossible until it is done. Martin Luther King, Jr., once said: "You don't have to see the whole staircase; just take the first step." Although no one can go back & make a brand new start, anyone can start from now and make a brand new ending!

The Christian world must return to God's Commandments, to the peace of the crib. That scene is simple---a man, woman, & baby and we all know who they are. Even small children can name them. A plain setting, yet intense. The manger is the trough for food & takes on new meaning as Christ becomes our source of food for our souls. God has a passionate love for humanity. Jesus was the object of His affection. We are the objects of His everlasting love! It is customary to make resolutions on Jan. 1. We won't make much change in the new year if we concentrate on 'outer' changes such as dieting, exercising, or getting better organized. A Protestant minister whom I have known in Fort Scott is Rev. Ken Ansell. In one of his weekly columns he said, "Change in the New Year should be less about you and more about Him." Remember it was John, the Baptist who spoke this line, "I must decrease so that He might increase." Ken told me it should be less of me in 2024 and more of Him. He continued, "When getting better no longer matters to us---it is then when we'll get better from the 'inside' and we won't even be able to help it (it will be a God-Thing). Getting better happens when we stop trying and start trusting." Therefore, we have to learn how to sit still long enough to allow Jesus to 'get through' to us. Listening and trusting Him will create a better me from the inside out! Think about that and I hope the New Year will bring you many blessings and may you have peace in your heart.

---Marcel Normand



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