

St. Michael Church
106 N. Western
Girard, Ks. 66743
620-724-8717
www.stmichaelgirard.com

Sunday, Feb. 4, 2024

St. Joseph Church
100 S. 8th – PO Box 948
Arma, Ks. 66712
620-347-4525
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
620-724-2051

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

Feb. 3 – Feb. 11, 2024

Saturday	2/3	4:00 PM (Arma) 5:30 PM (Girard)	† Joe & Mary Jean Martin Pro Populo
Sunday	2/4	8:00 AM (Arma) 10:00 AM (Girard)	† Sharon Cizerle Rick Bland
Monday	2/5	No Mass	No Mass
Tuesday	2/6	5:30 PM (Arma)	† No Mass
Wednesday	2/7	6:30 PM (Girard)	† No Mass
Thursday	2/8	8:00 AM (Arma)	† No Mass
Friday	2/9	7:30 AM (Girard)	† No Mass
Saturday	2/10	4:00 PM (Arma) 5:30 PM (Girard)	† Frances Ales Pro Populo
Sunday	2/11	8:00 AM (Arma) 10:00 AM (Girard)	† Bill Harman & Linda Davied Alice Davied

Dates of Importance

Feb. 5 - 11 Father gone to retreat
Feb. 6: Knight of Columbus meeting
Feb. 13: Daughters of Isabella
Feb. 14: Ash Wednesday

Bible Study

There will not be Bible study on Tuesday, February 6.
Father will be gone on retreat.
Class will resume on February 13.

OCIA

There will not be OCIA on Thursday, February 8.
Father will be gone on retreat.
Class will resume on February 15.

Altar Ministers for Next Weekend

	<u>Saturday (2/10)</u>	<u>Saturday (2/10)</u>	<u>Sunday (2/11)</u>	<u>Sunday (2/11)</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	Carly Reif Volunteer	Brayden Reese Zen Davied	Isabella Walsh Elijah Walsh
<u>EME</u>	Sharon Giacometti	Linda Moore	Joan Black	Chelsea Smith
<u>Lector</u>	Anna Meyer	Donna Martin	Joe Broyles	Ruth Duling
<u>Gifts</u>	Georganne Galichia Volunteer	Volunteers	Mary Sayre Joyce Klinkon	Volunteers
<u>Ushers</u>	Mark VanLeewen Don Zornes	Dave Garrett (Lead Usher)	Ron Black Greg Bogina	Bob Davied (Lead Usher)

<i>Ash Wednesday 3:15 PM Girard No Mass (Just Ashes)</i>	<u>Altar Servers</u> -	<u>EME</u> Chris Sponsel	<u>Lector</u> -	<u>Gifts</u> -
<i>Ash Wednesday 2/14 (5:30 PM) Arma</i>	Cody & Tyler Burns	Sharon Giacometti	Pat Westhoff	Volunteers
<i>Ash Wednesday 2/14 (7:00 PM) Girard</i>	Aiden Ashbacher Seth Wilson	Linda Garrett	Denny Heidrick	Volunteers



St. Michael Collections:

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>July 2023 to Date</u>
Contributions:	\$2,068	\$113,838.49
Expenses:	\$ -	\$133,076.89
Over/(Under)		(\$19,238.89)



St. Joseph Collections:

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>July 2023 to Date</u>
Contributions:	\$1067.00	\$40,911.40
Expenses:	\$ -	\$59,742.32
Over/(Under)		(\$18,830.92)

Next Week Schedule

Father will be gone all of next week for a retreat. We will have Father Bob Wachter from Galena as our visiting priest next weekend.

Please welcome Father Wachter and pray that Father Vacca has a fulfilling retreat and returns safely.

St. Joseph Ministry Schedule

Correction

On your Ministry Schedules that were mailed out,
*The Ash Wednesday mass in Arma will be at **5:30 PM***
NOT 7:00 PM, as listed on your schedule.

Daughters of Isabella

February meeting of Daughters of Isabella St. Luke's Circle will be on Tuesday, February 13, 2024, at St. Francis Parish Hall, St. Paul, Kansas.

The meeting begins at 6:30pm with the Audit meeting beginning at 6:00 pm. Hostesses are Joan Davied, Kathie Grosdidier and Susan Coeme. D of I is an international organization of Catholic Women.

*All the ladies from St. Michael and St. Joseph parishes are invited to attend.

Happy Birthday!!!

February 9th is Jan Harman's Birthday!!

Happy Birthday Jan!



Knights of Columbus

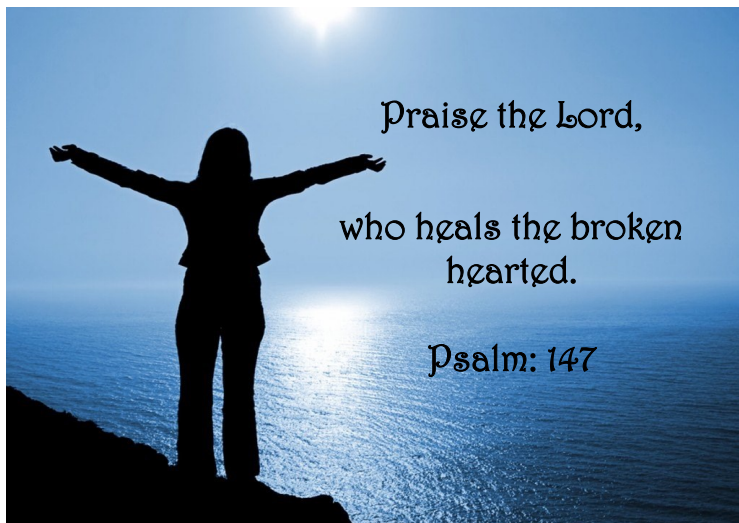
The Knights will have a meeting on Tuesday Feb. 6th.
It will be at 7:00 PM in the St. Michael Hall



Praise the Lord,

who heals the broken
hearted.

Psalm: 147



Understanding the Mass (by Father Vacca)

#21 Most people know that the longest prayer in the Mass is the Eucharistic Prayer, but what most do not know is when that prayer specifically begins. You might think it begins after the Holy, Holy is sung, when we kneel down; but in fact, it begins before that when the priest says "The Lord be with you" and "Lift up your hearts". From that dialogue to the Great Amen is the Eucharistic Prayer, including the Holy, Holy and the Preface.

The word Eucharist means thanksgiving, so this prayer of thanksgiving to God is announced by the words "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God". And it is God the Father to whom this prayer is directed, as the Preface makes clear. The Preface may include the day's theme and introduces the song of the angels: "Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts..."

From the dialogue to the Great Amen, it might not seem like one prayer given the variations that occur, but it is possible for the entire thing to be sung, if a priest is willing and able. But it is not just the priest's prayer; in fact, it is the prayer of the whole faith-filled community to God the Father.

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Feb 2: The Presentation of the Lord



On Fri. Feb. 2, the Church celebrated the feast of the Presentation of the Lord. The occasion is also cited in the rosary's 4th Joyful Mystery. In the U.S. & several world nations, when Feb 2 is mentioned, what comes to mind is Groundhog Day, when we all concentrate on whether the little fellow will see his shadow (6 more weeks of bad weather) or not. However, unlike the uncertainty of the weather, the feast of the Presentation of the Lord has a sense of certainty about it. Here, the Church celebrates the certainty of the fulfillment of God's promise to Israel that is realized in Jesus---now extended to the entire world! Observe that God continually reaches out towards us & invites us into a relationship with Him.

Forty days ago, we celebrated the joyful feast of the birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Now, we recall the day when he was presented in the temple, fulfilling the law of Moses and, simultaneously, going to meet his faithful people. Since the 5th century, the Church has recognized this event. Much earlier, Mary & Joseph followed Moses' law and journeyed to Jerusalem, 80 miles from their home in Nazareth, to present their son to God at the Temple. They carried with them their offering, a pair of turtle doves. Unable to afford a lamb, their offering indicates their poverty. Her Son, Jesus, was the true Lamb of God. Simeon, the Prophet, the devout caretaker of the Temple, had been anxiously waiting for the coming of the Messiah. Upon entering, Mary placed the Child in Simeon's arms. He uttered, "My eyes see Your salvation...a LIGHT for the Gentiles and glory for Your people Israel." This is the first time that Jesus is referred to as "The Light of the World". He is the Light; we are the Gentiles, and for this reason, the day is known as CANDLEMAS DAY, as the Church blesses the candles to be used for the coming year. This day formally ends the Christmas cycle.

Simeon also declared, after holding the Child in his arms, that he was ready for death: "Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace." Anna, an elderly woman, had prayed & fasted there day after day in hopes of seeing the Messiah.

Feb. 2 is also known as the Purification of Mary, for in those days, when Jewish women gave birth, a purification ceremony followed in due time to account for any uncleanness involved with the birth process. Purification restored her purity before God. Mary, being the Immaculate Conception, did not require this, but participated to set an example--as Jesus allowed John to baptize Him. Candlemas, the Festival of Light, says farewell to the glory of Christmas and looks forward to the splendor of Easter when Christ is Resurrected!

This weekend, specifically Feb. 3, marks the feast of St. Blaise, a 4th century (300s) medical doctor, a priest, & later named the Bishop of Armenia (part of modern Turkey). During the persecution under Roman Emperor Licinius, Blaise withdrew to a cave outside the city to live. One day, Roman soldiers, seeking wild beasts for the amphi-theater, found Blaise & arrested him. On his way to prison, he healed many sick, among them a boy near death from a fishbone that had pierced his throat. At Blaise's intercession, the child's throat healed. The Emperor had Blaise tortured to get him to commit apostasy (re-nouncing one's faith). This failed & he was beheaded in 316 A.D. (anno domini, meaning 'in the Year of Our Lord'). The Church canonized him & set Feb. 3 as Blaise's feast day. On this day, or nearby, we're given the opportunity to have our throats blessed. Former Pastor Father Donald Thissen told us in a homily, "There's nothing superstitious about this blessing. It must be approached with FAITH, for the throat is the 'center of life', itself. Here, food and air pass into our bodies as well as speech. And the last part of the blessing is important: 'and every other evil'." Our response to the blessing is 'Amen'.

---Marcel Normand



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