

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

**Sunday, March 10,  
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 March 9 – March 17, 2024

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>3/9</b>	4:00 PM (Arma) 5:30 PM (Girard)	† Helen Normand Richard Saporito
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>3/10</b>	8:00 AM (Arma) 10:00 AM (Girard)	† Frances Ales Pro Populo
<b>Monday</b>	<b>3/11</b>	No Mass	No Mass
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>3/12</b>	5:30 PM (Arma)	† Geneva McGown
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>3/13</b>	6:30 PM (Girard)	† Louie & Judy Raymond
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>3/14</b>	8:00 AM (Arma)	† Rick Bland
<b>Friday</b>	<b>3/15</b>	7:30 AM (Girard)	† Bob Niggeman
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>3/16</b>	4:00 PM (Arma) 5:30 PM (Girard)	† Margaret Scassellati Bill O'Toole
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>3/17</b>	8:00 AM (Arma) 10:00 AM (Girard)	† Pro Populo Marjorie Giefer

### Dates of Importance

March 12: St. Joe Soup and Salad  
 March 12: Bible Study  
 March 12: Daughters of Isabella  
 March 13: St. Anne Altar Society  
 March 14: K of C Movie Night  
 March 14: Stations (Arma)  
 March 15: Stations (Girard)



### No PSR this week

This week is Spring Break!  
No PSR this Wednesday.

**Have a great week students and teachers!**

## Altar Ministers for Next Weekend

	<u>Saturday (3/16)</u>	<u>Saturday (3/16)</u>	<u>Sunday (3/17)</u>	<u>Sunday (3/17)</u>
	<u>4:00 PM (Arma)</u>	<u>5:30 PM (Girard)</u>	<u>8:00AM (Arma)</u>	<u>10:00 AM (Girard)</u>
<b><u>Altar Servers</u></b>	Volunteers	Aiden Ashbacher Jaxton Smith	Jaxen & Jase Schaub	Gabby Graham Andrew Graham
<b><u>EME</u></b>	Sharon Giacometti	Josh Smith	Tracey Bogina	Eileen Bland
<b><u>Lector</u></b>	Barry Bedene	Donna Martin	Ron Pommier	Denny Heidrick
<b><u>Gifts</u></b>	Volunteers	Hank & Carrie Smith	Mary Sayre Joyce Klinkon	Dan & Dana Augustine
<b><u>Ushers</u></b>	Volunteers	Dave Garrett (Lead Usher)	Dan Cole Greg Bogina	Bob Davied (Lead Usher)



### Stations of the Cross

\*St. Joseph Stations (Arma) will be on Thursdays at 12:30 PM  
 \*St. Michael Stations (Girard) will be on Fridays at 6:00 PM

### Bible Study

Father offers a Bible Study for anyone that would like to attend.

They are being offered in both parishes on Tuesday's.

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>
<b>Contributions:</b>	\$2,052.10	\$128,683.79
<b>Expenses:</b>	\$ -	\$133,076.89
<b>Over/(Under)</b>		(\$4,393.10)



### St. Joseph Collections:

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>July 2023 to Date</u>
<b>Contributions:</b>	\$ 1,867.00	\$47,619.40
<b>Expenses:</b>	\$ -	\$59,742.32
<b>Over/(Under)</b>		(\$12,122.92)

### K of C Spring Movie Night

Come join the Knights on **March 14th at 6:00 PM**  
at the **St. Michael's Hall**

They will be serving Hotdogs and Popcorn,  
and showing

**The Super Mario Bros. Movie.**

(Runtime is 1hr 32min.)

**Everyone is Welcome!**



### St. Joseph Soup and Salad

St. Joseph Church will be hosting a soup and salad dinner  
on Tuesdays during lent.

(except for March 19, election day)

The dinner will be after the 5:30 PM mass and  
will end at 7:00 PM.

Free Will Donations accepted

**Everyone is Welcome!!**

### Saint Anne Altar Society Meeting

Saint Anne Altar Society will have a meeting on  
March 13, at 2:00 PM in the St. Joseph rectory.

### Celebrating our RCIA Candidates

This Sunday we would like to celebrate  
our four Candidates that are being received  
into the Catholic Church.

**Congratulations!!**

#### From St Michael's - Girard:

Mindy Goble  
Janice Nienhouse  
Scott Wilson

#### From St Joseph's - Arma:

Edna Waldren



*Be Strengthened by our prayers  
for your new life in Christ.*

### Daughters of Isabella

February meeting of Daughters of Isabella

St. Luke's Circle will be on **Tuesday, March 12, 2024**,  
at St. Francis Hall, St. Paul, Kansas.

**The meeting will begin at 6:30 pm.**

Hostesses are Marlene Clark, Mary Jane Gouvion, and  
Tammy Goodyear.

\*D of I is an international organization of Catholic Women.  
All the ladies from St. Michael and St. Joseph parishes are  
invited to attend.

### Lenten Rice Bowls

We will be collecting CRS Rice Bowl  
donations during Palm Sunday weekend.

They can be placed at the  
entrance of the church.

## **Understanding the Mass (by Father Vacca)**

**#26** The four Eucharistic Prayers can be likened to the four Gospels. Since the Roman Canon draws upon Matthew's Gospel, the three newer Eucharistic Prayers each draw characteristics from the remaining Gospels.

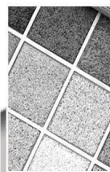
Eucharistic Prayer #4 presents the whole history of salvation in just a few lines: from Creation and the Fall to Incarnation and Redemption. It beautifully describes how Christ brought good news to the poor, freedom to prisoners, and joy to those in sorrow. And we remember not just the faithful, but "all who seek you with a sincere heart" and "all the dead whose faith You alone have known."

Unfortunately, we don't hear this 4<sup>th</sup> Eucharistic Prayer too often because it has its own preface which can only be used during Ordinary Time and when not celebrating some other saint or feast. This preface recalls the "countless hosts of angels" who serve the Lord "night and day" and how the Lord seeks to bless us with every blessing.

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### **February: A Short, But Interesting Month**

Ten days ago, we left February, known for cold weather, President's Month, and a 'date', Feb. 29th, that plays hide and seek with us, appearing once every four years! This year, 2024, is a 'Leap Year' when an extra day was added to February. You ask why? To trace Leap Year back in history, it gets a bit technical. A calendar year is typically 365 days. These are the number of days it takes the Earth to complete one orbit around the Sun. Let us go back to the year 46 BC when Julius Caesar and his astronomers created the Julian Calendar. They noticed that the old Roman calendar was out of step with the seasons so they introduced 'Leap Year', an idea they acquired from the Egyptians, who were precise with calculations. That figure, 365 days mentioned above, was a rounded off number, but when the astronomers re-figured, they found it to be more like 365.242 days to orbit the Earth around the Sun, or specifically, about 365 days 6 hours. So, to compensate for the lost time (approx. 6hrs), an extra day was added to the calendar in the 4th year. ( $4 \times 6 = 24\text{hrs}$ )

What would happen if we didn't have a Leap Year every 4 years? That 'extra time', those 24 hours would have to be accounted for somehow, otherwise seasons would be affected. After so many years not making up the 'extra 24 hrs.', the seasons would begin to drift. Summers would begin to slip into early fall and Christmas season could end up in the spring as the calendar and delayed seasons met. This could be devastating for farmers who plant in season. The Julian Calendar began to add more 'leap years' than necessary and by 1577 A.D. (anno domini=in the year of Our Lord), scientists found a 10 day discrepancy in the years, so Pope Gregory XIII introduced the Gregorian Calendar in 1582, which is the calendar that we use today. It actually dropped 10 days in October of 1582 that returned the new Gregorian Calendar in tune with the earth's seasons.

To complicate this further, we should add that Leap Years happen almost every 4 years. 2024 and 2028 are listed as Leap Years. There is an exception to this once-every-four-year rule. If we added a Leap Day every 4 years, we'd make the calendar longer by 44 minutes. Over the years, those extra 44 minutes added annually would cause the seasons to gradually move into months that would complicate our lives as we said before. So, a formula was devised to prevent such complications: Years that are easily divided by 100 are NOT leap years, with the exception of years that are evenly divisible by 400 DO have a leap day. 1900 had no leap day, while 2000 did. If you don't get all of this, you are not alone! But, that's the way the Leap Year Day is calculated.

The word, February, was named after the Roman festival of Purification, called FEBRUA, during which people were ritually cleaned. We know that Mary's Purification occurred on February 2, at the time that Jesus was presented in the Temple.

February has been associated with 'the ladies' privilege' for years. The story is about St. Bridget who was unhappy in 5th Century Ireland that women had no chance to propose marriage. She complained about it to St. Patrick and he recommended a change whereby every 7 years, women could take the initiative in proposing marriage. She wore him down to every 4 years, thus we have what Europeans call "The Ladies Privilege" or Leap Year!

I'll close this column with a familiar poem that 'says it all'!

Thirty days hath September  
April, June, and November,  
All the rest have thirty-one  
Save February, she alone  
Hath twenty-eight, tis fine  
Til Leap Year makes it 29!

---Marcel Normand



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