

# 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	\$ 2,224.00	\$ 66,528.01
Expenses	\$ -	\$ 53,492.17
Over/(Under)		\$ 13,035.84
Building Fund Contributions	\$ -	

Mass Schedule & Intentions for Nov 26-Dec 4			
11/26 Sat	4:00pm	Virginia Buche	Arma
	5:30pm	Pat Jr & Vera Diskin	Girard
11/27 Sun	8:00am	Schaub-Youvon Family	Arma
	10:00am	Pro Populo	Girard
11/28 Mon		NO MASS	
11/29 Tues	8:00am	Donna Little	Arma
11/30 Wed	8:00am	Rosemary O'Toole	Girard
12/01 Thurs	8:00am	Wally Rons	Arma
	8:30am-12:30pm Eucharistic Adoration		Arma
12/02 Fri	7:30am	Donna Little	Girard
	8:00am-5:00pm Eucharistic Adoration		Girard
12/03 Sat	4:00pm	Virginia Buche	Arma
	5:30pm	Verl Diskin	Girard
12/04 Sun	8:00am	John Schaub	Arma
	10:00am	Pro Populo	Girard

Altar Ministers for Next Weekend		
	Saturday (12/03) 5:30pm	Sunday (12/04) 10:00am
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Brandon Leritz & Jsxton Smith	Sara Goble & Marli Sisney
<b>EME</b>	Janel Scales	Anna Goble
<b>Lector</b>	Linda Moore	Ryan Severt
<b>Gifts</b>	Hank & Carrie Smith	Austin & Chelsea Smith Family

## PRAYERS FOR OUR PARISHIONERS

Please pray for Audrey Casassa, Jerry Davenport, Mary Davied, Gary Dowling, Rosemary Gardner, Fred & Marjorie Giefer, Tom Kovach, Marita Lopeman, Mary Kay Mason, Richard Mason, Herman Masser, Bob Moore, Joseph Muia, John Oplotnik, Josie Oplotnik, Betty Purdon, Frank Purdon, Mary Sayre, Anna Snow, Dan Wendt, and Judy Widner 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](mailto:jmscales414@gmail.com). Thank you!

## POINSETTIAS

St. Michael's will have poinsettias on the altar closer to Christmas, if anyone would like to make a donation in memory of loved one(s). Envelopes will be in the back of the church before next weekend. You can list multiple loved ones on one poinsettia or request multiple poinsettias, with a suggested donation of \$10/poinsettia. As envelopes are turned in, name cards will be placed on the poinsettias. An announcement will be made sometime after Christmas, for anyone who would like to take their poinsettia(s) home.

## ADVENT WREATH BLESSING

Today we begin to prepare, through prayer and works of charity, for the coming of the Lord at Christmas. Let us ask God's blessing upon this wreath that we will use to mark the days until the Lord's coming. *A pause for silent prayer . . .*

Father of all creation and Lord of light, bless our wreath of evergreens and candles. Come into our homes and hearts this Advent, as we await, with prayer and charity, the coming of your Son. May our hearts reflect the lights of these candles, that Christmas will find us joyfully ready to receive the Savior, Jesus Christ, your Light to all the world. Amen.

-Deacon Jay Cormier, *The Advent Wreath: Blessings and Prayers for Families and Households*

## MASS-ADORATION-EVENING PRAYER SCHEDULE

Sunday, November 27th  
 \*\*4pm Adoration & Evening Prayer with Confession at St. Bridget in Scammon

Sunday, December 4th  
 \*\*3pm Christmas Cantata at St. Joseph's  
 \*\*4pm Adoration & Evening Prayer with Confession at Sacred Heart in Frontenac

Wednesday, December 7th, Immaculate Conception of The Blessed Virgin Mary Vigil  
 \*\*5:30pm Mass at St. Joseph's  
 \*\*7pm Mass at St. Michael's

Thursday, December 8th, Immaculate Conception of The Blessed Virgin Mary  
 \*\*8am Mass and Adoration at St. Joseph's  
 \*\*5:30pm Mass at St. Michael's

Sunday, December 11th  
 \*\*4pm Adoration and Evening Prayer with Confession at St. Michael in Girard

Sunday, December 18th  
 \*\*4pm Adoration and Evening Prayer with Confession at Our Lady of Lourdes in Pittsburg

Friday, December 23rd  
 \*\*No 7:30am Mass or Adoration at St. Michael's

Saturday, December 24th, Christmas Eve  
 \*\*4pm Mass at St. Joseph's  
 \*\*5:30pm Mass at St. Michael's

Sunday, December 25th, Christmas Day  
 \*\*8am Mass at St. Joseph's  
 \*\*10am Mass at St. Michael's

\*\*There will be extra times for Confession before Christmas and those times will be announced.

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

No, it's not January 1 yet, but that's not the only "New Year's Day" in our multicultural world. A new year begins on various days on the Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, Chinese, Mayan, and so many other calendars. So it should not seem strange that the Christian New Year begins four Sundays before Christmas, which this year is already on November 27 (technically, at sunset that Saturday).

Ours is not the kind of "new year" celebrated by secular culture on January 1—full of festivity and good cheer, not to mention resolutions, alcohol, and fireworks! The tone of the Christian New Year and the Advent season is more akin to Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, which begins a time for evaluating one's life before God that concludes on Yom Kippur, the day of atonement and repentance.

While our Advent season is not primarily penitential, it does include some wake-up calls! The Advent Scriptures challenge us to keep in mind that life on earth is not endless or perfect. The Lectionary readings call us to take an honest look at our lives and at our world and yet to continue living in joyful hope. Our beautiful rituals, like lighting the candles of our Advent wreath, gently remind us that we have reason to see, foster, and increase the hope-filled light that shines in the darkness. They also help us to long for the coming of Jesus, who is the true light of the world.

The word "Advent" comes from Latin *adveniens*, which means "coming" or "arrival." In ancient times it usually referred to the anticipated arrival of an emperor, king, or other important person, for which one had to prepare carefully. Our Christian New Year also begins with anticipation: someone important is coming for whom we must prepare! Although many think Advent is primarily the season for preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus at Christmas, it is also a time for us to prepare for the "Parousia," our Lord's promised return in glory at the end of time.

The Advent Scriptures speak about the various "comings" of our Lord in the past and future, but also in the present. At the beginning of Advent, Isaiah and other prophets call us to prepare for the (future) coming of the Day of the Lord. Near the end of Advent, the readings focus on the biblical events that happened just before the birth of Jesus. But in the middle of Advent, we hear the preaching of John the Baptist, the "forerunner" or "precursor" who prepared the people of his time for the coming of the Lord. Meditating on the Baptist's words—calling the people to repent and to recognize the "one who is mightier" - is also a good way of preparing ourselves for his coming to us here and now. There's no need to wait until the end of our lives, or the end of time, to be alert to God's desire to come to us in the present. Advent can help us invite Jesus to come into our midst each and every day of our lives. Or, as the early Christians said, "Maranatha, Come Lord Jesus!" -Fr. Felix Just, SJ

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