

# St. Michael Catholic Church

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**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	\$ 4,182.96	\$ 147,631.73
Expenses - April	\$ 9,357.26	\$ 119,615.81
Over/(Under)		\$ 28,015.92
Building Fund Contributions	\$ -	

Mass Schedule & Intentions for May 13-21			
05/13 Sat	4:00pm	Bernie O'Brien	Arma
	5:30pm	Ned Sauer	Girard
05/14 Sun	8:00am	Pro Populo	Arma
	10:00am	Verl Diskin	Girard
05/15 Mon		NO MASS	
05/16 Tues	8:00am	Rosemary O'Toole	Arma
05/17 Wed	8:00am	Bernie O'Brien	Girard
05/18 Thurs	8:00am	Helen Normand	Arma
	8:30am-12:30pm Eucharistic Adoration		Arma
05/19 Fri	7:30am	Bonnie Schupert Sponsel	Girard
	8:00am - 5:00pm Eucharistic Adoration		Girard
05/20 Sat	4:00pm	Ned Sauer	Arma
	5:30pm	Bernie O'Brien	Girard
05/21 Sun	8:00am	John Schaub	Arma
	10:00am	Pro Populo	Girard

Altar Ministers for Next Weekend		
	Saturday (05/20) 5:30pm	Sunday (05/21) 10:00am
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Aydin Sisney & Brinley Weir	Isabella & Elijah Walsh
<b>EME</b>	Janel Scales	Linda Garrett
<b>Lector</b>	Butch Reif	Connie Sponsel
<b>Gifts</b>	Marilyn Bradshaw & Anita Boatman	Derick & Katrina Burke Family

## MOTHER'S DAY BLESSING

Holy God, you compared your own love for your people to the love of a mother for her children. Look with kindness on our mother who has shared in your creating love by the gift of her children.

We thank you for the joys and sorrows of her life, the giving and sharing, and, especially for your love that has formed us in your image.

Listen to our prayers and bless the mother who has nurtured and sustained us. Give her patience in abundance and let her find joy and satisfaction in all her work.

Glory and praise to you, loving God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, and who reigns with you in the glory of heaven, for ever and ever. Amen.

*-Blessings and Prayers for Home and Family*

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2023 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Trevor Amershek Sara Goble Brandon Leritz  
 Luke Niggemann Jaden Norris Kaleb Scales

## BLESSING OF GRADUATES

Eternal God, in your will we find purpose, and in your wisdom we find our joy.

Bless these graduates who have completed a course of study and now begin a new part of their lives. Let them not be troubled about yesterday, nor anxious about tomorrow, but let them live fully this day which you have made.

Let them use the gifts they have received in their studies that they may become a source of inspiration and blessing for the world. And when each day is ended, give them delight in knowing that the good work you have begun in them shall come to completion in you. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*-Diana Macalintal, adapted from The Work of Your Hands*

## PRAYERS FOR OUR PARISHIONERS

Please pray for Liv Anderson, Carolyn Banning, Rick Bland, Kelli Bradshaw, Audrey Casassa, Maggie Casassa, Jerry Davenport, Gary Dowling, Tyler Edwards, Rosemary Gardner, Fred & Marjorie Giefer, Mary Gilpin, Peter Graham, Ron Gray, Denny Heidrick, Tom Kovach, Marita Lopeman, Mary Kay Mason, Richard Mason, Bob Moore, Joseph Muia, John Oplotnik, Josie Oplotnik, Mary Sayre, Anna Snow, Carly Twarog-Carnes, Dan Wendt, and Grant Wilks 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!

## DROPS OF LIGHT

Have you ever had a "more than coincidence" experience – something you "just knew" was a gift from above, a spiritual intervention, or a sign meant for you when you most needed it? *Drops of Light* is the title of an upcoming book; a collection of true, personal, spiritual, "more than coincidence" stories of God's presence in our lives. Please consider sending your own "more than coincidence" stories to [a.beasley.pittsburg@gmail.com](mailto:a.beasley.pittsburg@gmail.com). Whether short and simple or lengthy and complex, your story should not be dismissed or forgotten. For more information, contact Amber Beasley at the email address above. Thank you!

## GOD LOVES US: HOW DO WE RETURN THAT LOVE?

Our faith is our most valuable gift given to us by God. If we want to KNOW GOD better, we must LIVE OUR FAITH daily. Two excellent ways to make that contact are through the EUCHARIST and CONFESSION. Both are available on any given day. Begin attending a daily Mass; go to Confession more frequently. You will meet the Lord doing either. There are other ways to draw closer to Him and assist our Church at the same time. You've no doubt have noticed that only a few parishioners assist Fr. Klag as he celebrates Mass. Look closer and you'll see that it is the same few, week after week, who handle these duties. Some of these positions are more challenging than others such as a lector or the extraordinary minister of Communion. However, there are other positions that require less training such as bringing up the gifts, ushering, or being a greeter before Mass. Yet, each week, the bulletin says 'Volunteer' because no one steps up.

Three other areas that cry for assistance are: altar servers, religion teachers for fall, and people to help fill the hourly slots for Adoration. Parents with children old enough to serve Mass should encourage them to serve. This is excellent preparation for teaching them loyalty to Jesus by assisting the priest as he makes the Lord present on the altar. If you are uncertain, why not ask Father about it. Both of our sons served around kindergarten age until college. We saw firsthand the tangible benefits for our children and the Church had reliable servers each weekend during their time. Religion teachers are needed if we're to teach the young people about their faith. Speaking from experience, when I said 'yes' to Father Middleton in the late 60s for teaching high school religion, I'd have to admit, I knew very little on the subject, having just undergone conversion to the faith a few years earlier! Father gave me a catechism book and I stayed a chapter ahead of the students. It was a busy year, but I believe that I learned more than the students!! I never imagined that I would do that for 25 years. Now, often I see my former students and they usually come up to me and thank me again. We have a kind of bond which is hard to describe. I never regretted those years when I taught religion to young teens. If anyone would like to try to be a religion teacher, at any level, in Girard or Arma, I would be happy to tell you my method for being effective with kids. The third area that calls for help from all of us is hourly adoration once a week, in St. Joseph's, it is on Thursday; at St. Michael's, it is on Friday. Just speak to Fr. Klag or someone you know who is active in Adoration. They would tell you which hours are available, where they have no one at present. On that day and hour, you come to the Church and use the hour in various ways: adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament which is right on the altar. you can say your rosary, perhaps a few memorized prayers, anything that links you to Jesus. And you will find that the hour goes quickly! It is all between you and the Lord, no papers to fill out. Believe me, you can form a very close relationship with Him after only a few sessions. Bishop Fulton Sheen used to spend an hour EVERYDAY in Adoration. He said in an interview that he felt 'drawn to the Holy Hour; he couldn't resist a visit.'!

Just think a moment of the many chances afforded you right here in your parish, to come to know Jesus better. Why do we, as Christians, have such anxiety when it comes to knowing the Lord? Some have said, "I can see why He loves my grandma or my dad, but me? What does he love about me? How do I know for sure?" To answer those questions, we must go back to what we spoke of in earlier weeks: Why do you love your mother? your grandpa? your boyfriend? your wife? The answer lies in the years that you've known them and the love they gave you. YOU CAN'T LOVE WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW! God proved His love for us, even while we were still sinners, by allowing His Son to die for us. St. Thomas Aquinas explains that Christ suffered in such a horrific way to prove His love for us and to stir us to love Him in return. The parable of the Prodigal Son that Jesus tells is really Jesus' description of His Father's love for us, told in tender detail, details which only the Begotten Son, alone, would know and wants us to know. I'd recommend that when you can, turn to the parable of the Prodigal Son and read it slowly and carefully. It is Jesus, the teller, letting us know how much God loves us. (Luke: Ch.15) ---Marcel Normand

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