

St. Michael Catholic Church

106 N. Western Ave. Girard, KS 66743
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 www.stmichaelgirard.com



Pastor: Fr. Vacca **Email:** fathervacca@gmail.com
Secretary: Faith Paoni **Bookkeeper/Bulletin Editor:** Janel Scales jmscales414@gmail.com

COLLECTIONS		
	Last Week	July 2023 to Date
Contributions	\$ 3,547.20	\$ 3,547.20
Expenses	\$ -	\$ -
Over/(Under)		\$ 3,547.20
Building Fund Contributions	\$ 40.00	

Mass Schedule & Intentions for July 8-16			
07/08 Sat	4:00pm	Francis Buche	Arma
	5:30pm	Jim O'Toole	Girard
07/09 Sun	8:00am	Wally Rons	Arma
	10:00am	Pro Populo	Girard
07/10 Mon	11:30am	David & Ruby Westhoff	Girard
07/11 Tues	11:30am	Alice Davied	Girard
07/12 Wed	11:30am	Ned Sauer	Girard
07/13 Thurs	11:30am	Clifford "Bud" Scales	Girard
		NO Eucharistic Adoration	Arma
07/14 Fri	11:30am	Evelyn Severt	Girard
		NO Eucharistic Adoration	Girard
07/15 Sat	4:00pm	Helen Normand	Arma
	5:30pm	Melissa Grant	Girard
07/16 Sun	8:00am	Pro Populo	Arma
	10:00am	Carol Battitori	Girard

Altar Ministers for Next Weekend		
	Saturday (07/15) 5:30pm	Sunday (07/16) 10:00am
Altar Servers	Carly Reif & Charlotte Harrison	Elijah & Isabella Walsh
EME	Linda DeGarmo	Eileen Bland
Lector	Butch Reif	Doug Lopeman
Gifts	Wayne & Ruth Leritz	John & Trish Humble Family

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, Peter Graham, Ron Gray, Denny Heidrick, Tom Kovach, Marita Lopeman, Mary Kay Mason, Richard Mason, Herman Masser, 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. Thank you!

ADVERTISING

If you would like to support the parish bulletin expenses through advertising in our weekly bulletin, please email Janel at jmscales414@gmail.com. The cost is \$100/year and is tax deductible.

ALTAR SOCIETY

Calling all ladies of St. Michael Parish! Did you know that by being a member of St. Michael Parish, you are also a member of the Altar Society? The Altar Society will be meeting on Monday, July 17th at 6:30pm in St. Michael Parish Hall. All ladies are invited to attend, learn more about Altar Society, and join in the planning of upcoming parish events.

PART-TIME SECRETARY

Father Vacca is seeking a part-time secretary to work in the St. Michael Parish office. Computer skills preferred or willingness to develop such skills. Pay will be based on experience. For more information and/or set up an interview, please contact Father Vacca by email: fathervacca@gmail.com or call the rectory at 620-724-8717.

TOTUS TUUS

Totus Tuus kicks off this Sunday evening for youth grades 7-12 from 6:30pm-8:30pm and will continue thru Thursday evening. Students in grades 1-6 will meet Monday thru Friday from 9am-3pm. Each family is asked to bring a sack lunch daily (gr 1-6 who meet during the day) & a healthy snack like fruit to share the first day of the program. Enrollment forms are available at the back of the church, bring them the first day/evening of Totus Tuus. You do not need to be a parishioner to participate, but all participants must have signed enrollment forms. Contact Beth Wilson if you can help be a dinner host or provide lunch for the team one day.

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Please note that the weekday Mass schedule for the upcoming week will change to accommodate the Totus Tuus schedule. There will be no weekday Mass in Arma on Tuesday or Thursday, instead it will be at 11:30am Monday thru Friday in Girard. Also, there will be no Eucharistic Adoration in Arma or Girard this week.

JESUS FOUNDED A CHURCH, NOT A BOOK

Jesus Christ did not give us the Bible. He gave us the Church, and the Church gave us the Bible. We continue our study of the Bible's origins. Much of my understanding on the subject came from Fr. John Reinkemeyer, who pastored this church and the mission church at Mulberry during the period of 1961-1966. I credit Fr. Joseph Gorentz, a classmate of mine at Arma High School, who had persistently nudged me to take instructions in the Church. Helen and I married in 1962 and Fr. Joe would visit us at our home in Arma when he returned from the seminary during holidays. In mid-1964, he arranged for us to meet this amazing priest whom he often quoted. We were taken by Fr. John's boundless knowledge of the Church and also his unique delivery kept us listening! Fr. Joe was right about him--we wanted to hear more! My brother, Richard, and his wife, Nancy, also joined us with weekly instructions for several months. I took exhaustive notes from his weekly conversations with us and they've served me well as a primary source when I needed definitive answers for common questions asked by students at St. Mary's-Colgan High School where I taught religion for 12 years. I've also read from writings of some of our great religious thinkers and their opinions have also influenced me; however, I've concluded that Fr. Reinkemeyer seems to have an insight on God's Truths. That's why it may seem that I write with such authority, but it isn't mine, but the quality of mentors I've had.

Fr. Reinkemeyer baptized the four of us on Christmas Eve, 1964, the day of the first Mass in the new Church. Unfortunately, we weren't able to keep Fr. John very long, for in early 1966, the Bishop called him back to Wichita to serve another parish.

To return to the Bible's origins, we stated that Christ didn't give us the Bible. He gave us the Church and the Church gave us the Bible. 'The Bible is a collection of inspirational books written by Fathers of the Church under the Divine Influence of the Holy Spirit for the benefit of the Church. Jesus founded the Church on the Apostles, with Peter as visible head. He promised the Church the aid of the Holy Spirit to keep it "One in Truth". It took the authority of the Church to define which scriptures were divinely inspired.

Without the Church, we would have no Bible and No Authority of God, telling us, which among many false writings, were authentically the written Word of God. There is No Church or Biblical Teaching which says that each one who reads the Bible is divinely guided to interpret it correctly. Different interpretations of the Bible have led to hundreds of differing Christian churches. Recall that Jesus prayed "that all may be one."

Jesus Christ was God, but He was also a human being --- a person like us in every way but sin. He was aware of the Old Testament and was known to quote from it. He accepted it as the inspired word of God, the Father. Much of the Old Testament is based upon authentic accounts. It was compiled mainly in Hebrew and Aramaic, the language of Palestine and also, Jesus. The years are in doubt, but several manuscripts agree on dates between 1500 B.C. and 200 B.C. Around 200 B.C. some 70 Greek scholars in Alexandria translated the Old Testament into Greek. Jesus often quoted from these Greek translations. We'll speak more of the two Testaments next time. Former Wichita Bishop Jackels said in a 2007 homily: "Resist the temptation to put aside your Bible." ---Marcel Normand

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