

The Church of St. Gerard Majella

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

JANUARY 5, 2020

ADDRESS

9600 Regent Avenue North
Brooklyn Park, MN 55443-1499

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday: 9 am-5 pm
Friday: 9 am-1 pm
Saturday, Sunday: CLOSED

EUCCHARIST

Weekdays: 8:25 am
Saturday: 5 pm
Sunday: 8:30, 10:30 am

RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 4:00 pm

WEBSITE: www.st-gerard.org



Like us on FACEBOOK



St. Gerard's Youth TWITTER handle:
@StGerardYM



St. Gerard's Youth INSTAGRAM:
@StGerardYouth

Parish Office: 763-424-8770
Fax Number: 763-424-4327
Victim Assistance: 651-291-4475

PASTORAL Services

Fr. John Klockeman
Fr. Joseph-Quốc Thiện Vương
Karl Kornowski - Parish Administrator
Amy Wittak - Liturgical Ministry
Open Position - Dir. of Liturgical Music
Open Position - Communications
Open Position - Dir. of Faith Formation

SUPPORT Services

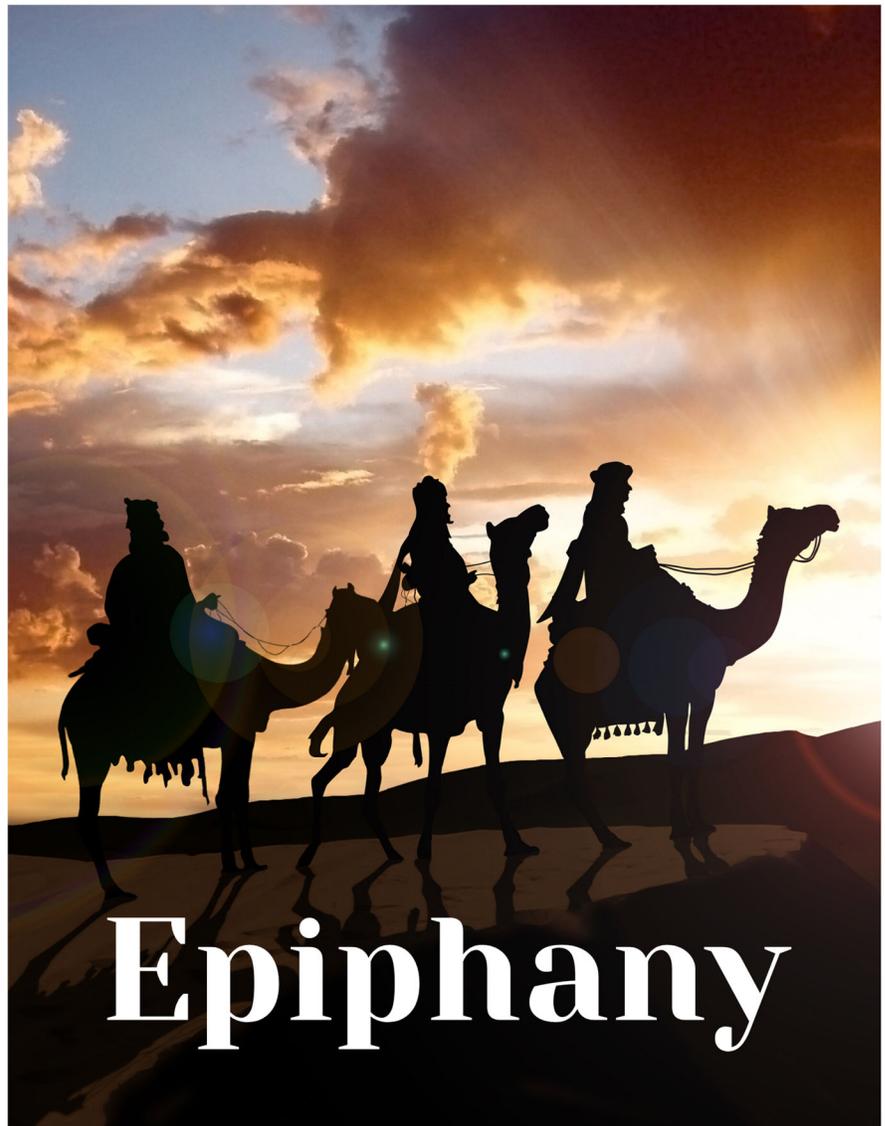
Sue Czerniak - Secretary/Receptionist

MAINTENANCE Services

Geoff Moore - Custodian
Bob Imholte - Facilities Care Coordinator



All Are Welcome
To Encounter Christ!



Hearing Assistance Devices are available at the Sound Desk in the Church.
Low-Gluten hosts are available.
Please call the parish office for more information.

A NOTE FROM THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR

My brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus,

This weekend we are with the whole Church celebrating the Epiphany of the Lord. The word "epiphany" comes from two Greek words, the preposition *epi* and the verb *phainen*, and can variously mean, "to shine upon," "to reveal," or "to appear, manifest." I read an article a while ago that said: in the ancient Greco-Roman world, an epiphany referred to the appearance of one of the gods to mortals. Since Hellenistic kings and Roman emperors were considered by many to be gods, the word epiphany was also used as a term for divine majesty. Therefore, the Epiphany of the Lord is the Christian festival that is celebrated in the early Church still today. We are Christians who celebrate this feast in many ways through signs, miracles, and preaching that Jesus revealed Himself to the world as Christ, God Incarnate, and King of kings.

There are many places in the Gospels that emphasize this feast. For instance, the visit of the Magi (Matthew 2:1-12), the baptism of Jesus (Mark 1:9-11), and the miracle at Cana (John 2:1-11). However, the visit of the Magi that we celebrate this weekend is chosen to be the most appropriate for this feast. I do not know why the early fathers of the Church chose to celebrate this feast rather than other times emphasized in the Gospels. But I think it is a phenomenal way to celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord, linking it with the visit of the Magi to the Christ Child in Bethlehem. The baptism of Jesus, we know the Father in Heaven revealed His Son to man. The miracle at Cana, Jesus showed his wonder to man. But at the visit of the Magi, man was looking for God. Man engages its' will to God's will. Man responds to God and acknowledges the Lord Jesus Christ is the God of gods, the King of kings and the Savior of man.

We begin to understand the joy and wonder of the Epiphany of the Lord when we read the story of the Magi who were not the Israelites and they were far apart lead by the shining star and at last they had come to adore the Christ Child with gifts they brought. The Magi are representing each of us today who live around the world and seek God with our will that matches God's will. We follow the Light of Christ who will lead us to an everlasting life. We all come and adore Christ. The other story that also helps us to understand this feast is the Simeon story (Luke 2:22-35). Simeon was a devout elderly man who lived in Jerusalem. The Holy Spirit had revealed to him that he would not die until he had seen the promised Messiah with his own eyes. When Saint Joseph and Blessed Mary brought baby Jesus to the temple to be consecrated, according to Jewish law regarding firstborn males, Simeon realized that this infant was the Christ. In joyful response to this

personal epiphany, the old man took the baby Jesus in his arms and chanted a magnificent song of thanksgiving. Let us also, along with Simeon, sing:

"Now, Master,
you may let your servant go in peace,
according to your word,
for my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you prepared in sight of all the peoples,
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and glory for your people Israel."

Rev. Joseph-Quoc Vuong

DECEMBER NEW MEMBERS

We would like to extend a heartfelt welcome to new members. We are so happy to have you with us!

- Michael and Terese Zwolski
- Nathan Johnsen
- Luke Nguyen & Tuyen Le; David Nhac



DECEMBER BAPTISMS

In December, Connor Gregory Bohl was made a member of the Church through the saving waters of baptism. May God continue to bless his family and our parish as we continue the vital work of teaching what it means to follow Christ.

NEXT BAPTISM CLASS

The next Baptism Prep Class at St. Gerard's will be at 9:30am on Saturday, **January 18**. Classes are typically the third Saturday of the month. Please call the Parish Office at 763-424-8770 to register for the preparation class and schedule a date for the baptism. Parents are also asked to register as members of our parish.

WEDDING PLANS?

Interested in getting married at St. Gerard's? Contact Amy Wittak (amyw@st-gerard.org or 763-424-8770) for more information. Congratulations on your engagement!

DAILY MASS AT ST. GERARD

Did you know that St. Gerard's has daily Mass in the Chapel on Tuesday - Friday at 8:25am (and a Communion Service at 8:25am on Monday)? Did you also know that you can stay after Mass (on the second Friday of each month) and enjoy fellowship and breakfast with each other? Breakfast alternates by month for "eating in" in St. Francis Hall or "eating out" at a local restaurant. This month (Friday, January 10) will be at a local restaurant (TBD). You are invited to attend! All are welcome!

SISTER PARISH MISSION TRIP - MCALLEN, TX

The Sister Parish Ministry (the St. Gerard and San Rafael team) will celebrate this Immigration Sunday (January 5, 2020) at the border in McAllen, TX! It will be a week of working with respite centers, listening to stories of the migrants, and talking with Border Patrol and Immigration lawyers. Please pray for the St. Gerard and San Rafael team as they live out the call of our faith to minister to the orphans, widows, and homeless and seek to be the hands of Christ to the people they meet at the border.



DECEMBER CEAP DONATIONS

Did you know St. Gerards collects donations for CEAP throughout the whole year? For the month of December, the Church of St. Gerard has collected and donated 399lbs of food to CEAP (Community Emergency Assistance Programs). Donations can be placed in the collection bins in the Gathering Space or at the altar in church. Checks can be made out to CEAP and placed in the Sunday collection baskets or brought to the parish office. Thank you St. Gerards for your generosity!



GET INVOLVED IN OUTREACH AT ST. GERARD'S

St. Gerard's has many wonderful ways to make a difference!

Loaves & Fishes: Help prepare/serve food to people in need on the fourth Friday of the month.

Sharing & Caring Hands: Help prepare/serve lunch at Sharing & Caring Hands on the 1st Saturday of the month.

Justice/Outreach Commission: Help develop and implement a social justice strategy for St. Gerard's. The commission meets on the first Monday of the month.

San Rafael Sister Parish: Participate in building a relationship between our parishes. The committee meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month.

Youth Homelessness Project: Help educate about youth homelessness in our community and work to eliminate the problem. Group meets the second Monday of the month.

Funeral Hospitality: Help families during a difficult time. Help serve or cleanup at funeral luncheons.

For more information, visit www.st-gerard.org.

WELCOME BACK!

Happy New Year! We hope you had a blessed Christmas break. We would like to welcome back all Faith Formation students and families. We are very excited! This year (2020) is going to be awesome! Please note that all classes will resume this week: Wednesday, January 8 and Sunday, January 12.

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

St Gerard's Faith Formation has an opportunity to help feed children in need. Faith Formation grades 1 – Confirmation, and their parent(s), will be able to help pack meals for children in need. The date is **February**

19, 2020 from 6:00 – 8:30pm. The event will be held at the Egan Company in Champlin (117th Ave N & Hwy 169). We still have some slots available. Please visit the link on our parish website, www.st-gerard.org, to register.

For more information, please contact the parish office.



FF FAMILY NIGHT - JANUARY/FEBRUARY

There will be no Faith Formation Family Night on January 8. The next Family Night will be February 19 which is the Feed My Starving Children event at the Eagan Center in Champlin. There will be no classes on February 19 due to the Feed My Starving Children event.

FIRST RECONCILIATION

First Reconciliation will be celebrated on Wednesday, **January 15** at 6:00pm. Please pray for our students and their families as they enter the final preparations for this special sacrament.

FIRST EUCHARIST PARENT MEETING

There will be a First Eucharist parent meeting on Wednesday, **February 12** from 6:00 - 7:15pm. This meeting is for parents who have a child making their First Eucharist this spring (2020).

CONFIRMATION RETREAT

Attention Confirmation students and families! Mark your calendars! The Confirmation retreat is scheduled for Saturday, **April 4, 2020** from 10:00am - 9:00pm. More information to follow.

EPIPHANY ACTIVITY

Tonight, gather your family together and look out into the night sky and look up at the stars and wonder at the gift of Jesus and what the magi discovered when they offered their gifts to Jesus.

Announcements

WELCOME TO ST. GERARD'S!

If you are visiting St. Gerard's today and would like more information about the parish or how to become a member, please stop by the Welcome Desk in the Gathering Space and sign our guest registry. You can also visit the "I Am New" tab of our website (www.st-gerard.org) or parish app ("St Gerard Majella" in the app store)! And check out our facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/churchofsaintgerard>)! Thank you for worshipping with us today!



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEMBERSHIP

The St. Gerard's Knights of Columbus are looking for men in our parish to join us in our mission to support our parish, our faith, and our Catholic way of life. As you may know, the Knights are one of many valued parish groups whose work brings a variety of benefits to our parish and community. Through many visible activities, we support our parish youth groups and people with special needs in our community and beyond. We support our seminarians and our priests in special projects not always visible. Finally, we host events and invite our parish to get together as a family so that the fabric of our parish community is strengthened. If you are interested in membership and would like to receive information, please visit our website at kc13001.mnknights.org or email knights13001news@gmail.com

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS

"Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." (Matthew 2:11)

The image of the Magi kneeling before the infant Jesus and opening their treasure chests for Him is an image that we should all try to follow each day. In gratitude for all that we have been given, we are called to generously share all of our gifts, not just the ones we pick and choose. God wants us to be generous with everything, but especially that one thing that means the most to us.

EASY GIVING FOR ST. GERARD'S!

- **Website:** www.st-gerard.org GIVE page
- **Mobile App:** GIVE page
- **QR Code:** scan the QR Code (inside flap of the bulletin)
- **Auto Withdrawal:** Contact the parish office at 763-424-8770

Thank you for your continued support!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



2020

This Week at St. Gerard's

INTENTIONS

M-F 8:25 AM - Eucharist, Liturgy of Hours

TUE 9:00 AM - Perpetual Help Devotion

DAILY MASS IS IN THE CHAPEL.

MONDAY, JANUARY 6

8:25 am - Communion Service

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7

8:25 am -

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8

8:25 am - Robert & Gerald Steffens

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9

8:25 am -

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10

8:25 am -

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11

5:00 pm - Brian Dupay †

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12

8:30 am - Eric Richardson †

10:30 am - St. Gerard & San Rafael



PLEASE PRAY for the sick and ailing members of our parish community, and all those in our Parish Prayer Book.

Also remember those loved ones who have died.

JANUARY 12, 2020

Baptism of the Lord

IS 42:1-4, 6-7

ACTS 10:34-38

MT 3:13-17

PARISH EVENTS

MONDAY, JANUARY 6

7:00 pm - Justice & Outreach Meeting

7:30 pm - Scouts Meeting

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7

9:00 am - Perpetual Help Devotion

9:15 am - Womens Prayer/Support Group

7:30 pm - Regent AA

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8

9:00 am - Eucharistic Adoration

6:00 pm - Faith Formation: Grades 1-5

7:00 pm - Music Rehearsal

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9

10:00 am - Cornerstone Scripture Study

6:00 pm - Centering Prayer

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10

9:00 am - Daily Mass Group Breakfast

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11

4:00 pm - Individual Confessions

5:00 pm - Eucharist

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12

8:30 am - Eucharist

8:30 am - Children's Liturgy of the Word

9:30 am - KC Pancake Breakfast

10:30 am - Eucharist

10:30 am - Children's Liturgy of the Word

10:30 am - St. G's Kids

11:30 am - KC Pancake Breakfast

6:00 pm - Faith Formation: EDGE & Confirmation

SACRAMENTS:

BAPTISM

Call the Parish Office to schedule a date and register for the preparation class.

RECONCILIATION

Saturday at 4:00 pm or any time by appointment.

MARRIAGE

Please contact the parish office at least six months prior to the desired date.



Get the App



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