

The Church of St. Gerard Majella

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 20, 2019

ADDRESS

9600 Regent Avenue North
Brooklyn Park, MN 55443-1499

OFFICE HOURS

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

EUCCHARIST

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

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

Rev. Thomas Santa, C.Ss.R.
Rev. Tuan Pham, C.Ss.R.
Rev. Matthew Bonk, C.Ss.R.
Karl Kornowski - Parish Administrator
Anne Tiller - Director of Justice and Outreach
Amy Wittak - Liturgical Ministry
Tim Smith - Dir. of Liturgical Music
Colette O'Brien - Communications
Judy Foster - Dir. of Faith Formation

SUPPORT Services

Sue Czerniak - Secretary/Receptionist
Dianne Goodwin - Secretary/Receptionist

MAINTENANCE Services

Dave Neuman - Maintenance Operator
Roger Popham - Custodian

All Are Welcome!

We are a Catholic community striving to love God and our neighbors. No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

“Who Am I To Judge?”

--Pope Francis



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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 PASTOR

Please note that on Saturday, February 2 at the 5:00pm Vigil Mass we will celebrate TET, the Lunar New Year. The mass will be celebrated in English and in Vietnamese. Traditional TET celebrations will be incorporated into the liturgy on that day. We expect an increase in attendance at the mass and we further expect that the mass will be longer than usual. Please plan accordingly. At the conclusion of the mass there will be a TET celebration in St. Francis Hall for all participants. Pho will be served as the main course, prepared by volunteer Vietnamese family chefs. A good time is anticipated by all and all are invited to attend and to join in the festivities.

The weekend of February 2-3 is the weekend where we also traditionally bless the throats of all parishioners at the conclusion of mass. Throats will be blessed on Sunday morning following the 8:30 and the 10:30am masses. Throats will not be blessed at the Saturday evening Vigil so again it is wise to plan accordingly.

We are experiencing a longer than usual period of Ordinary Time before we begin Lent this year. Ash Wednesday is not until Wednesday, March 6. As a result of this late date, very unusual in the liturgical calendar, we have the opportunity to use our time well, not only in anticipation of Lent but also in our community planning for Lent. The staff has already agreed upon a theme, the liturgical music has been selected, and some of our Lenten practices are in the process of being planned. I think we have a real opportunity to make this Lent a real experience of spiritual growth and development for each of us. I know I am excited about the possibilities.

We are also working very hard trying to position our parish community and the services that we offer in a manner that is reflective of the growth that we are experiencing and the changes in our cultural representations within our community. On more than one occasion I have been engaged in conversation with long-time parishioners who have shared with me how they marvel at the real diversity that we are experiencing as a community, all the while noting the changes that this diversity entails. It is both a blessing and a challenge but we are trying our best to identify what needs to be done and how the tasks that we are faced with need to be prioritized. For this to be a real discernment process we are relying heavily on staff, commissions, and councils. I also want to encourage anyone who has a particular concern or interest to share it with me or with another member of the staff. All opinions, perceptions, joys, blessings, in short everything is welcomed and encouraged. The Holy Spirit of God is not manifested in only one way or in one person but rather in the community of the faithful who have gathered together in the Name of Jesus.

I am always surprised when a particular event, display, sermon, remark or whatever captures the attention of individual people or sometimes a group of people. More

often than not there is little or any comment on our day to day activities but every once in a while something seems to be of interest and generates commentary. I am not very good at anticipating what will generate commentary and this explains my surprise. This year the commentary was on the Christmas Creche. There was an overwhelming response of delight and satisfaction that the creche was central to our Christmas decorations and that it was in a prominent place in church. So many families took the opportunity to visit the creche and many pictures were taken. There was also a few comments from parishioners who did not care for the placement of the creche and would have preferred a much different placement and encouraged that we rethink it for next year. I thank everyone for their comments and their suggestions and I can assure you that everything was duly noted by liturgy, art, and environment.

That is all for this week. You will notice that I will not be present next weekend for masses but will rather be at St. Bridget for the weekend. This weekend is the major discernment for the parish community and my presence is required. Keep all of us in your prayers as we wrap-up the discernment process and begin a new experience of church in the St. Bridget community.

Fr. Tom Santa, C.Ss.R.

For the Redemptorist Community and Staff

MỪNG XUÂN KỶ HỢI 2019

Giáo Xứ trân trọng kính mời toàn thể Ông Bà Anh Chị Em và Gia Quyển đến tham dự Thánh Lễ Mừng Xuân Kỷ Hợi 2019 vào lúc 5 giờ chiều Thứ Bảy, Ngày 2 Tháng 2 Năm 2019.

VIETNAMESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION 2019

Saint Gerard Parish cordially invites you to attend the Eucharistic Celebration of the Vietnamese New Year 2019 at 5pm on Saturday, February 2, 2019.

ST. GERARD'S WELCOME COMMITTEE

The Welcome Committee needs you! Help assist those interested in becoming members, ensure a welcoming atmosphere for all who attend our parish, and help transition new members into parish life. This important ministry hosts the New Member Brunch, the SPONSOR program, and the welcome desk. If you have any questions or are interested in participating, please contact Bob Bazinet at bazinetre@gmail.com or 763-315-4364.

CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL

In response to the Gospel call to serve the poor and spread the Good News, the Catholic Services Appeal Foundation of the Saint Paul and Minneapolis Area (CSAF) works as Christ's hands and feet throughout the 12-county Archdiocese. An independent non-profit organization, CSAF partners with 20 outreach ministries, thousands of individual donors, and over 185 Catholic parishes to serve the poor, support life, and strengthen the Catholic faith. Learn more about the CSAF at www.csafspm.org

JANUARY IS POVERTY AWARENESS MONTH!

During Poverty Awareness Month, join the U.S. Bishops, the Catholic Campaign for Human Development and the Catholic community in the United States in taking up Pope Francis' challenge to live in solidarity with the poor! Visit our website or facebook page for a link to a daily reflection calendar on the challenges of poverty.

HYGIENE KIT COLLECTION

St. Gerard's will continue to collect items for hygiene kits throughout 2019 to be donated to Hennepin County Health and Human Services. These items will be distributed to people experiencing homelessness. For a list of items needed visit www.st-gerard.org (NEWS & EVENTS). Items can be labeled (hygiene) and placed in the CEAP bins.

PRAYER SERVICE AND MARCH FOR LIFE RALLY

Join Archbishop Bernard A. Hebda for the Annual Prayer Service for Life on Tuesday, **January 22** at 10:30am at the Cathedral of St. Paul, St. Paul. Immediately following the prayer service, we will walk to the state capitol for the MCCL March for Life Rally. All are invited and welcome. For more information, visit www.st-gerard.org (NEWS & EVENTS.)

LOAVES AND FISHES

St. Gerard's hosts **Loaves and Fishes** on the **4th Friday** of every month. Our next date is Friday, **January 25th**. We serve from 5-7pm at St. Stephen's in Minneapolis. Sign up to serve on the easel in the Gathering Space. Contact Karen Brenteson at 763-561-7411 with any questions.



SHARING AND CARING HANDS

St. Gerard's prepares and serves a lunch at Sharing and Caring Hands every **1st Saturday** of the month. Our next date is Saturday, **February 2**. No need to sign up, just come on Saturday morning at 9:00am to St. Gerard's kitchen and help prepare the food. Then at 10:50am help pack up the food, take it to Sharing and Caring Hands on 7th Street (Minneapolis), and help serve at 11:30am. Questions? Call John, 763-561-3841.



JRLC DAY ON THE HILL

Mark your calendar for **February 7, 2019!** JRLC's Day on the Hill is the annual policy briefing and lobby day. Participants are briefed on the JRLC (Joint Religious Legislative Coalition) issues that are being debated and voted on at our State Capitol. Clergy and lay people from across the state attend to show our interfaith commitment to social justice. The event includes prayer, issue briefings, time to meet with your district and opportunities to take action. For more information and to register (Feb 1 deadline), visit: <https://jrlc.org>

FAITH FORMATION 1-5

Our next family evening will be very special. On Wednesday, February 6 we will be welcoming once again our presenter, Rachael Kroog who will talk about "Safe Touch". Her energetic and engaging presentation helps both children and parents to recognize adults who they can trust and deal with, respecting our bodies and other important information for their families. This event completes our requirements from the Archdiocese on "Safe Child Initiative" for all children and youth to address issues of abuse prevention and awareness.

EDGE

Our middle school age youth will be participating in a "Feed My Starving Children" packing event on February 24 in place of their regularly scheduled Formation session. Service is such an important element of youth formation and can set a lifetime of following Jesus' command to love and serve those in need. Continue to pray for them as they continue to seek a personal relationship with Jesus Christ through relationships, service and prayer.

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation is fast approaching! The candidates will be going on their discernment retreat on Sunday, March 3 at True Friend's Retreat Center, Edenwood, in Eden Prairie. If you are a prayer partner, you might write a note that we can give to them the day of the retreat; just put their name and "confirmation retreat" on the note and we will see it gets to them. Otherwise, all prayers are appreciated! We have over 60 candidates this year!

WOMEN AND WINE - FEB 15



Come enjoy an evening of community as we enjoy wine and hors d'oeuvres and reflect on "A Love That Does Justice." Suzanne Belongia Bernet will be the guest speaker on Friday, **February 15, 7-9pm** in the St. Gerard's Atrium. All women are welcome! Suggested donation \$10. RSVP at www.st-gerard.org (NEWS & EVENTS) or suec@st-gerard.org or call the parish office at 763-424-8770. For more information, visit our website!

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP - LIFE NIGHT

Life Night, St. Gerard's youth group for students currently in grades 9-12, will meet again Sunday, **February 24** from 7:30-9:00pm in the youth room for snacks, games, conversation and fun! No registration necessary, just come and have fun! Hope to see you there!

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, pick up a new member info packet, and sign our guest registry. You can also visit the "I Am New" tab of our website (www.st-gerard.org) or app (search for "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!

WEEKEND BULLETINS & HOMILIES ARE ONLINE!

Visit our website, www.st-gerard.org, or mobile app to read the bulletin or listen to the weekend homily. Also check out current parish events, online giving, and ways to get involved in the parish!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FREE THROW CONTEST



The Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship for boys and girls aged 9-14 (as of January 1, 2019) will be held on Monday, **January 23** at Woodland Elementary School, Gym A from 6:30-8:00pm. The contest is free and open to anyone who has not already participated in another local contest. Please bring a copy of a birth certificate to show proof of age. Girls and boys compete separately in 6 age groups. The winners will move on to compete at the district level. For more info, contact Mike Galante, 612-272-1369.

2019 WOMEN'S DAY OF REFLECTION

The St. Alphonsus Council of Catholic Women's Day of Reflection is Saturday, **February 16**, 8:00am-2:00pm, at St. Alphonsus Catholic Church, Brooklyn Center. Mary Kellet, founder and executive director of Prenatal Partners for Life, will share her message on "The Gift of Our Life" and "Self Care for Care Givers." Our day begins with the parish Mass followed by a continental breakfast, Mary's message, Rosary, Benediction and lunch. Tickets are \$15 and must be purchased before Sunday, February 10 from the St. Alphonsus Parish Office or by contacting Deb Cone, 612-578-6046.

Presiders

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 26, 5:00pm - Rev. Tuan Pham
January 27, 8:30am - Rev. Tuan Pham
January 27, 10:30am - Rev. Tuan Pham

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 2, 5:00pm - Rev. Thanh Nguyen
February 3, 8:30am - Rev. Thomas Santa
February 3, 10:30am - Rev. Thomas Santa

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 9, 5:00pm - Rev. Thomas Santa
February 10, 8:30am - Rev. Tuan Pham
February 10, 10:30am - Rev. Tuan Pham

This Week at St. Gerard's

INTENTIONS

M-F 8:25 AM - Eucharist, Liturgy of Hours
TUE 9:00 AM - Perpetual Help Devotion

MONDAY, JANUARY 21

8:25 am - Communion Service

TUESDAY, JANUARY 22

8:25 am -

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23

8:25 am - Ibarek Gebregziabher †

THURSDAY, JANUARY 24

8:25 am - Parish Families

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25

8:25 am -

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26

5:00 pm - Mary Hand †

SUNDAY, JANUARY 27

8:30 am - Jean Eidem †

10:30 am - Richard Potvin †

PARISH EVENTS

MONDAY, JANUARY 21

MLK - OFFICE CLOSED

7:30 pm - Scouts #575 Meeting

TUESDAY, JANUARY 22

9:00 am - Perpetual Help Devotion

9:15 am - Womens Prayer/Support Group

7:00 pm - RCIA

7:30 pm - Regent AA

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23

9:00 am - Eucharistic Adoration

6:00 pm - Faith Formation 1st-5th

7:15 pm - Music Rehearsal

THURSDAY, JANUARY 24

10:00 am - Cornerstone Scripture Study

6:00 pm - Centering Prayer

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25

8:30 am - Loaves & Fishes Prep

5:00 pm - Loaves & Fishes at St. Stephens

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26

4:00 pm - Individual Confessions

5:00 pm - Eucharist

SUNDAY, JANUARY 27

8:30 am - Eucharist

8:30 am - Liturgy of the Word for Children

10:30 am - Eucharist

10:30 am - Faith Formation - St. G's Kids

10:30 am - Liturgy of the Word for Children

11:30 am - Anointing of the Sick

6:00 pm - EDGE Faith Formation

6:00 pm - Confirmation



PLEASE PRAY for the sick and ailing members of our parish community, and all those in our Parish Prayer Book, especially:
Joan Blashack

Also remember those loved ones who have died, especially:
Steven Gunn-Smith

JAN 27, 2019

3rd Sunday OT

NEH 8:2-4A,5-6,8-10

1COR 12:12-30

LK 1:1-4; 4:14-21

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



Donate Online

Text Giving:

763-225-1078