

The Church of St. Gerard Majella

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 27, 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



to bring *glad tidings* to the poor.

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.

The Church of St. Gerard

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A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

It was wonderful to have Father Don Willard, C.Ss.R., the pastor of Saint Alphonsus Church, with us for the weekend liturgies last weekend. I appreciate that he was able to sub for Father Tuan and I. He felt very welcomed by our St. Gerard parish community. I was confident that it would be a good experience for him but also for us.

This weekend I am at St. Bridget parish for the weekend masses completing our lengthy discernment process. This is the weekend where the final components of the discernment process will be gathered. At the conclusion of the weekend masses I will be meeting with the trustees of the parish, the parish finance council and also the pastoral council and we will come to a decision about our uses of the campuses. One campus will emerge as the physical manifestation of St. Bridget parish and the other campus will be closed. As you may know that is a difficult decision and a decision that is necessary in order for the parish to continue to grow and to prosper. As difficult as the decision might be to choose, not to make a decision would be even more painful in the long run and ruin any possibility of future growth. I am pleased that so many of the parishioners of St. Bridget have generously entered into the discernment process.

As St. Bridget is engaged in this process, other parishes, such as our own St. Gerard, continue in our unique discernment process. The issues are not the same in one sense but in another sense there are similarities: each parish community is trying their best to discern how best to be the witness of Jesus in our geographical neighborhood and with/for the people that we serve. In one sense you could argue that there is more that unites our effort than divides our effort, even though the particular details might be in stark contrast. One example comes to mind for me.

For a very long period of time, one of the unique focuses of our St. Gerard parish community was to pay down/off the debt that the parish owned as a result of the building of the church. At one time this debt was staggering but through real concentrated effort and diligence the finance council was able to lead our community to the point where we were able to significantly retire the debt. In order for this to happen, and there were many circumstances that influenced that decision process as it unfolded, some efforts and even needs were prioritized over others. Not unlike what each of us do in our own households and in our own families, we prioritize what is possible and what is not possible. Although the goal was to completely retire the debt before we turn our attention to our needs, this proved to be difficult and perhaps not sustainable.

We have some significant safety issues that need to be addressed and really should not be postponed. We have some maintenance challenges that are to the point where if we further postpone taking care of them we will be past the point of routine maintenance and will be rather looking at

something much more substantial. As a result of these real needs and safety issues, and presented with the opportunity to once again refinance our debt and to claim some much needed capital to address these issues, we have made the decision to proceed. As a result of this decision, we have increased our total debt to a level that we believe is manageable, extended the payment terms, and reduced our monthly contribution to paying down the debt. This will enable us to address two significant safety issues that should not be postponed any longer: the pavement of the parking lot and the flooring of St. Francis Hall. In addition, we will be doing some work in the kitchen which will enable us to expand the use of our kitchen and hopefully increase opportunities for even more and focused use of the kitchen and our hall for the benefit of all.

In a few weeks, I intend to talk at length about all of these issues and the decisions that have been made at our weekend liturgy. At the same time, we will incorporate some other efforts and focuses that are part of the lived context of who we are as a parish community. Hopefully, when all of this takes place, not in isolation but rather in unison and with a real sense of creative energy and integration, we will all be the better for it.

Have a great week. Remember the people of St. Bridget in your prayers this weekend and let us continue to remember each other. As I have said many times, none of us completely understand how prayer works, we just know that it does!

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.

FEAST OF ST. BLAISE

Join us after both the 8:30 and 10:30am masses on Sunday, **February 3** for the Feast of St. Blaise Blessing of Throats.

CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL

The Catholic Services Appeal Foundation supports 20 designated outreach ministries that help those in need: the hungry, the orphan, the sick, suffering, dying and grieving. You can help in ministering to the imprisoned, evangelizing Catholic youth and college students, and strengthening families. Two newly added ministry partners this year include Abria Pregnancy Resources and The Society of St. Vincent de Paul – Twin Cities. Learn more about each of the vital ministries! Visit www.csafspm.org today.

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.

OVERCOMING HATRED

You are invited to attend "Overcoming Hatred: *The Shoah and the Transmission Memory.....listening, educating, and growing into the 21st Century*" featuring guest speakers Ken Engel, Chair of CHAIM (Children of Holocaust Survivors Association in Minnesota), and Anoka County Sheriff James Stuart. The event will take place *this* Sunday, **January 27**, 6:30-8:00pm at the Church of St. Timothy, Blaine. For more information, visit www.st-gerard.org (NEWS & EVENTS page.)

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 (**February 1** deadline), visit: <https://jrlc.org>

CATHOLICS AT THE CAPITOL 2019 - ST. PAUL, MN

Now is the time to begin to transform politics in Minnesota. Join your local bishop and 2,000+ Catholics in St. Paul on Tuesday, **February 19** to learn how you can build relationships with your newly elected officials and advocate for life and human dignity. Get your tickets, register for transportation, and find more details about this inspiring day of prayer, education, and advocacy by visiting www.CatholicsAtTheCapitol.org

WOMEN AND WINE - FEB 15

Attention ladies! You are invited to attend an evening of fellowship and 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!

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!

GIFT BEARERS SIGN UP!

You and your family are invited to sign up to bring up the gifts at mass. A sign-up sheet can be found in the Gathering Space on the table next to the Welcome Desk. All are welcome!

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 ("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!

MEN ARE YOU READY TO ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE?



Our communities need strong Catholic men to answer the call to lead with faith, to protect our families, serve others and defend our values. For over 100 years the Knights of Columbus have done exactly that, standing up for the Church, serving the least among us, and strengthening our parishes and families. Eligible Catholic men can now join the Knights of Columbus online in a simple streamlined process. As a member, you join a worldwide community of two million men, including 41,000 here in Minnesota who stand together. Men have a duty to lead, protect, serve and defend. The world needs more committed, unified Catholic men to answer the call. Will you answer? Visit kofc.org/joinus to learn more about the many benefits of membership in the Knights of Columbus.

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 at 612-578-6046.

Presiders

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

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 16, 5:00pm - Rev. Tuan Pham
February 17, 8:30am - Rev. Thomas Santa
February 17, 10:30am - Rev. Thomas Santa

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 28

8:25 am - Communion Service

TUESDAY, JANUARY 29

8:25 am - Gladys Kotsmith †

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30

8:25 am - Dennis Kelly Family

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31

8:25 am -

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1

8:25 am - Parish Families

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2

5:00 pm - Waldo Carlson †

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3

8:30 am - Parish Families

10:30 am - Ibarek Gebregziabher

PARISH EVENTS

MONDAY, JANUARY 28

7:30 pm - Scouts #575 Meeting

TUESDAY, JANUARY 29

9:00 am - Perpetual Help Devotion

9:15 am - Womens Prayer/Support Group

7:00 pm - RCIA

7:30 pm - Regent AA

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30

9:00 am - Eucharistic Adoration

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

7:15 pm - Music Rehearsal

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31

10:00 am - Cornerstone Scripture Study

6:00 pm - Centering Prayer

6:30 pm - FF Commission Meeting

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2

9:00 am - Sharing & Caring Hands

4:00 pm - Individual Confessions

5:00 pm - Eucharist, TET - Lunar New Yr

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3

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 - Baptisms



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:

Lorraine Hentges

FEB 3, 2019

4th Sunday OT

JER 1:4-5,17-19

1 COR 12:31-13:13

LK 4:21-30

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