

The Church of St. Gerard Majella

THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FEBRUARY 10, 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



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

Another week of wintry mix. I guess this is one way to remind us that it is still winter and not to get our hopes up too soon. That being said, I also realize that there are some people who love winter and look forward to the season. I used to be one of those people, when I was much younger. I can easily recall saying to everyone, "I just love the change in seasons." Now, not so much. I like the change from spring to summer and then to autumn but after that I just find myself anxiously waiting for the next round that begins in the spring. Judging on how many parishioners find themselves migrating this time of year to the south, I do not think I am alone with these feelings.

I truly enjoyed the TET celebration at the vigil mass last Saturday. It was such a wonderful and prayerful way to celebrate the beginning of the Lunar New Year. The blend of culture(s) at mass was for me a very intense moment of awareness: I was drawn to the sacredness of the experience. In particular, during the praying/singing of the Our Father, I found myself grateful for the continued experience of the grace of God at work in our lives. Thank you to Father Thanh Nguyen, C.Ss.R. and all of the volunteers that worked with him to help us make this a great celebration. The festive meal that followed was also absolutely wonderful. I hope that we can find a way to make this celebration an ordinary manifestation of the spirituality and the spirit of our parish in the years that come.

For the next few weeks we will be participating with all of the parishes of the archdiocese in the Catholic Services Appeal. All those who donated last year during the appeal should have received a letter from the Archbishop this past week encouraging your continued support and participation in the appeal. I ask that all parishioners seriously consider participating and contributing to this annual appeal. The support that the appeal receives goes directly to the ministry of the archdiocese and to people who are most in need. Unfortunately, I need to remind everyone, that none of the money received is used for any other purpose. This reminder is necessary in order to encourage the fullest participation possible: there are many, and rightfully so, who do not want any of their money to be used for any other purpose than serving those most in need. The CSAF is one way that this happens for each of us and it is a worthwhile effort, worthy of your support.

The Scouts, as of February 1, 2019 are now welcoming both boys and girls into the scouting ranks. Here at St. Gerard we are the Charter Supporters for a scouting troop and have been for a number of years. With this new change on the national level we will continue to be a Charter Supporter for Scouting. We will have one committee and two troops: one for boys and one for girls. I am looking forward to our continued working with the Scouts. Please do not forget the Spaghetti Supper on Saturday, February 23, in support of our scouts. All are invited to attend;

tickets are available upon request.

That is all for this week. I hope that everyone continues to be filled with a sense of gratefulness for the work of the Spirit of God among us. We are all pretty good at asking God for what we need. Perhaps we should also spend some time just thanking God for what we have received. I know in my personal life I have pretty much abandoned the prayer of petition and find myself praying more and more often prayers that reflect my feeling of gratitude. It is not that I am no longer in need, that would be far from the truth, but it is rather that I am trying to engage a practice and a belief championed by a saint from the middle ages. Julian of Norwich often reminded those around her that "All will be well." I think those are powerful words to live by and they speak a powerful and a "freeing" truth. They acknowledge that when all is said and done, that the will of God is made manifest in our world, in our community, and in the individual lives of our families and each and every one of us. Have a great week.

Fr. Tom Santa, C.Ss.R.

For the Redemptorist community and staff

2019 MEN'S RETREAT

All men are invited to a Men's Retreat at the Church of St. Gerard on Saturday, **February 16**, from 9am - 3pm in the Fireside Room. Fr. Tom Santa, C.Ss.R., will present on the topic "*Truth To Power: Finding your path when absolutes collide.*" Lunch will be served. No fee to attend. RSVP at www.st-gerard.org (NEWS & EVENTS) or to suec@st-gerard.org or call the parish office, 763-424-8770.

CORN FEST MEETING

Tired of cold and snow? Think warm thoughts and join us at the Corn Fest planning meeting on Thursday, **February 21** at 7:00pm. New members are especially welcome this year as many long time members have stepped down. Please join us as we prepare for our 49th gathering of Faith, Family and Community (August 9-10, 2019). Call Craig at 763-200-3949 or email cornfest@outlook.com with questions.



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 area. An independent non-profit organization, CSAF partners with 20 varied outreach ministries, thousands of individual donors, and over 185 Catholic parishes to serve the poor, support life, and strengthen the Catholic faith. We invite you to learn more about each ministry supported by the Foundation, and to join us in transforming lives through the Gospel! Visit www.csafspm.org to learn more, and please prayerfully consider how you might give back via the CSAF.

ST. GERARD'S COMMUNITY GARDEN

Come grow with us! St. Gerard's Community Garden will begin accepting registrations on Monday, **February 11**, for the 2019 growing season. There are 14 individual 20 ft x 20 ft garden plots available for 2019.

Both parishioners and the public will be able to rent an individual plot for growing fresh and healthy food. Goals include serving low income and diverse groups within the Brooklyn Park community and promoting and providing access to healthy food. One of the garden plots will be reserved for parishioners to grow fresh vegetables to be donated to the Community Emergency Assistance Program (CEAP). If you would like further information or to volunteer, contact Anne Tiller at annet@st-gerard.org or 763-424-8770 ext 120. For more info on the community garden, visit www.st-gerard.org (NEWS & EVENTS).

ST. GERARD'S COMMUNITY GARDEN NEEDS YOUR HELP!

A Garden Coordinator is needed for the coming growing season. Many benefits, including free garden plot for the growing season. For additional information and a job description, contact Anne at annet@st-gerard.org or call 763-424-8770 ext 120.

LOAVES & FISHES

St. Gerard's hosts Loaves & Fishes on the 4th Friday of every month. Our next date is Friday, **February 22**. 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 questions.

RECOGNIZING TRAUMA

Join the Catholic Charities Advocacy Team to learn from a panel of experts how childhood, historical and current trauma can alter those who are dealing with it and the role of support the community plays. The event takes place Wednesday, **February 27**, from 5:30 - 8:30pm (program begins at 6:00pm), at the Woulfe Alumni Hall, Anderson Student Center, at the University of St. Thomas, St. Paul. For more info and to register, visit: www.cctwincities.org

AVENUES FOR HOMELESS YOUTH - CONCERT

You are invited to a benefit concert for Avenues for Homeless Youth on Sunday, **March 3** from 3:00-4:30pm at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church (7217 West Broadway Ave, Brooklyn Park, 55428.) The Caritas Vocal Ensemble will be performing. Since 2002, Caritas has raised over \$180,000 for diverse, local, charitable organizations! For more information, visit: www.caritasvocalensemble.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!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR WOMEN AND WINE

The Women and Wine presentation is coming on Friday, February 15. We are in need of women who can help serve wine, help briefly with prep, and clean up following the event. Volunteers attend FREE! Please consider helping us with this amazing event. Contact Judy Foster at the parish office if you can help.

FIRST EUCHARIST PREP TO BEGIN

Our families will meet during regular Faith Formation sessions starting **February 20**. Children and parents will gather to journey toward receiving Christ in the Eucharist and we encourage prayer partners to continue their support. They will receive the Sacrament on Saturday, May 18 at the 5:00 pm Mass and Sunday, May 19 at the 10:30 am Mass.

PRESIDENT'S DAY REMINDER

President's Day weekend is fast approaching and both Confirmation and EDGE youth will not have sessions on Sunday, **February 17**.

EDGE

On **February 24**, our EDGE (grade 6-8) youth will be joining the challenge of St. Joseph's in New Hope to participate in a service project at Feed My Starving Children. This event replaces the evening session. We remind parents to get their permission forms in so we can meet the challenge and have a great turn out! Please pray for them as they help feed families around the world!

CONFIRMATION RETREAT

All Confirmation candidates are expected to register and attend the upcoming retreat on Sunday, **March 3**. Registration is now available on our website, www.st-gerard.org (go to FAITH FORMATION/YOUTH FF). The candidates will start at St. Gerard attending the 8:30am mass and then are transported to Camp Eden Wood in Eden Prairie. They will then return home at about 7:30pm that evening. Please pray for our candidates as they continue to the reception of the sacrament on March 16.

Announcements

DID YOU RECENTLY JOIN ST. GERARD'S?

We would like to invite you to a New Member Brunch on Sunday, February 24 after the 10:30 Mass. We will meet at the Welcome Desk in the Gathering Space. The brunch will also include a tour; time to meet some staff members and other new parishioners; and tons of helpful information. Please RSVP online at www.st-gerard.org (I AM NEW page) or by emailing succ@st-gerard.org or by calling the parish office (763-424-8770).



BOY SCOUT TROOP 575 SPAGHETTI DINNER

St. Gerard's Boy Scout Troop 575 invites you and your families to join us on Saturday, **February 23** from 5-8 pm in the hard floor area for our **27TH ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER, DESSERT BAR AND SILENT AUCTION!!!** This is our biggest fundraiser of the year. Price: \$8, age 4 and under free. Monetary donations also accepted. Hope to see you there!

KC BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

The parishioners of St. Gerard responded wonderfully to the Knights of Columbus Baby Bottle Campaign in October. We recently presented a check for \$2,700 to the Robbinsdale Women's Center. The St. Gerard's Knights of Columbus and RWC thank you for your generous support that helps the RWC serve women and couples who face unplanned pregnancies and to choose life for their unborn babies.



NW FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN MOBILE PACK

We need your help with the NW FMSC Metro Mobile Pack! St. Gerard's has reserved spots for our community to pack food at the FMSC Mobile Pack. The Knights of Columbus will have a table in the Gathering Space with information on how you can volunteer or donate to FMSC. Join us! It would be great to volunteer together. Wear your St. Gerard's t-shirt to the event. If you don't already have one - pick one up in the parish office. Thanks for living your faith out in the community!

IS GOD CALLING ME?

Come see how Secular Franciscans live joyfully in the world and celebrate God's creation "In the Footsteps of St Francis". Please join the St. Alphonsa Franciscan Fraternity in prayer and fellowship on Sunday, February 24, 2-4pm at Epiphany Catholic Church in Coon Rapids. Questions? Laurie Lacina, 763-561-7125.

Presiders

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

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 23, 5:00pm - Rev. Thomas Santa
February 24, 8:30am - Rev. Thomas Santa
February 24, 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, FEBRUARY 11

8:25 am - Communion Service

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

8:25 am - Stephen Potvin Family

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

8:25 am - Parish Families

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14

8:25 am -

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15

8:25 am -

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16

5:00 pm - Eric Potvin Family

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17

8:30 am - Terese Thole †

10:30 am - Kokoe Amu & Myra Kolor

PARISH EVENTS

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11

6:30 pm - Community Garden Meeting

7:00 pm - Youth Homelessness Meeting

7:30 pm - Scouts #575 & Parent Meeting

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

9:00 am - Perpetual Help Devotion

9:15 am - Womens Prayer/Support Group

7:00 pm - RCIA

7:30 pm - Regent AA

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

9:00 am - Eucharistic Adoration

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

7:15 pm - Music Rehearsal

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14

10:00 am - Cornerstone Scripture Study

6:00 pm - Centering Prayer

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15

7:00 pm - Women & Wine

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16

9:30 am - Baptism Prep Class

10:00 am - Men's Retreat

4:00 pm - Individual Confessions

5:00 pm - Eucharist

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17

8:30 am - Eucharist

8:30 am - Liturgy of the Word for Children

9:30 am - Anointing of the Sick

10:30 am - Eucharist

10:30 am - Liturgy of the Word for Children

11:30 am - New Member Brunch



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:

Eddie Henry

FEB 17, 2019

6th Sunday OT

JER 17:5-8

1 COR 15:12, 16-20

LK 6:17, 20-26

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