

# The Church of St. Gerard Majella

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 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](http://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.

## A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

This Sunday we have entered into the liturgical season of Lent. Our observance of Lent started on Ash Wednesday but this is the first Sunday liturgical celebration. I hope that you find that the preparations that we have made for Lent is helpful in your spiritual journey. We have tried to plan the liturgy in a manner that will encourage your Lenten practices and disciplines. Hopefully, these next days of prayer and preparation for the great feast of Easter will be time well spent for all of us.

Last weekend we enjoyed together a wonderful volunteer dinner. This year we tried a little something different in our choice of menu and entertainment and it seemed to be well received. We certainly enjoyed a robust attendance. The vibrancy and the life of the parish community of St. Gerard was on full display. An enjoyable evening was the general evaluation of the effort and the gathering.

Last Sunday our Confirmation candidates went on a full days retreat in preparation for the reception of the sacrament. Our Faith Formation Director Judy and her team led the experience and there was a wonderful attendance. Hopefully the day was helpful for our candidates as they prepare to enter fully into the sacramental life of the Church. Again, it was a great day for all of us and it demonstrated the energy and the vitality of our parish community.

Unfortunately, we have had to cancel the Shrimp and Crawfish Boil that we had planned for May. We were unable to generate the expertise that we needed with our volunteer staff. Within the last few weeks Frater Chung, Father Thanh and others were faced with more and more conflicts in their schedules and some choices needed to be made. It was a huge undertaking and a huge effort and there was not much room for error or for the unknown in the planning of the event. It was determined that it would be better to cancel the event at this point then to try and pull something off at the last moment that would not meet or exceed our expectations. It will be necessary to go back to the drawing board and see what we can come up with for future events of this nature.

A big thank you to the *Knights of Columbus* for all of the work that they have devoted to the painting and the general repair of the men's bathroom in our gathering space. Work has begun on the women's bathroom and the same kind of update and repair will be engaged. Both bathrooms were beginning to "show their age" and so a much needed facelift and repair was initiated. This is only one example of repairs that are being planned. The maintenance committee is hard at work prioritizing what needs to be accomplished. Some of the repairs need to be attended to as soon as possible while still others can be postponed but monitored. It is much better in the long run to make maintenance repairs as part of an ongoing project. Waiting until the last moment or until there is no other choice more often than not drives up the cost of the repair. I am so

grateful that we have so many qualified and concerned parishioners who provide their expertise for this effort.

We have also had some very productive and essential meetings of our parish council and finance council over the last few weeks. We continue to try and discern together what needs to be done, how it might best be accomplished, while at the same time trying our best to balance the many needs that we face. Again, the expertise that we are able to rely upon in this process is truly a great gift, and it is not limited to just these few committees. Our Faith Formation commission is also hard at work and some of the other commissions are in the process of being re-energized and focused. It is an ongoing and a much-needed process that is again a sign of our vitality and energy as a parish family.

Well, that is about all for this week. I guess job one is to determine a way to continue to "enjoy" our record setting Minnesota weather. I do not know what I am more proud of: our groundbreaking sub-zero temperatures or the amount of snow that we received. It is just so hard to choose when records are being broken all around you! Have a great week and let us continue to remember each other in our thoughts and in our prayers. Let us make this Lent a real season of grace and opportunity for each of us.

Fr Tom Santa, C.Ss.R.

For the Redemptorist Community and Staff

## LENT/TRIDUUM/EASTER SCHEDULE

**Weekends:** Saturdays 5:00pm, Sundays 8:30 and 10:30am

**Weekdays:** Monday – Friday 8:30am Mass (in the Church)

**Communal Reconciliation Service:** April 4 at 7:00pm

**Palm Sunday:** April 13 at 5:00pm,

April 14 at 8:30 and 10:30am

**Holy Thursday:** April 18 at 7:00pm

**Good Friday:** April 19

3:00pm, Taize Service with Veneration of the Cross

7:00pm, Service with Veneration of the Cross

**Easter Vigil:** Saturday, April 20 at 8:00pm

**Easter Sunday:** April 21 at 8:30 and 10:30am

## "PRESENT TO THE PASSION" MUSICAL

Join us at the Church of St. Gerard's for an uplifting original musical about God's passionate love for us, exploring the fascinating women and men of the passion narratives. Presented by Tim and Julie Smith and the St Gerard's Music Ministry. This free, event will be Saturday, April 13, at 7:30pm and Sunday, April 14, at 2:30pm.

## A HEARTFELT WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS!

We are so happy to have you with us!

- Marilyn Bargelski; Darryl, & Denise
- Stephen Godwin; Bright
- Claudio Naji; Ashley
- Julie Bourque; Hope Rivers
- Trai Nguyen & Huong Le T. H.; Thong, Tri, Tiew, & Thvan





### MARCH AGAINST HUNGER IN MN

St. Gerard's will collect both food and cash donations throughout the month of March! For the last 45 years, CEAP has been the neighborhood food shelf for the Brooklyn Park and Brooklyn Center communities. Every year, when the calendar turns to March, CEAP coordinates efforts to bring together individuals, businesses, civic groups, and faith communities, to raise both food and funds to March Against Hunger in MN. CEAP's 2019 goal is to raise \$245,000 and 210,000 pounds of food for our community. A portion of every dollar and pound raised for CEAP will be matched by Minnesota FoodShare in this joint effort to eradicate hunger in Minnesota. Please help by filling a grocery bag or making a cash donation. Make checks out to CEAP and either place in the Sunday collection baskets or drop off at the parish office.

### LOAVES AND FISHES

St. Gerard hosts Loaves and Fishes on the 4th Friday of every month. Our next date is Friday, **March 22**. We serve from 5:00 to 7:00pm 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.



St. Gerard's Loaves and Fishes Group needs volunteers to help put together a monthly meal made here at St. Gerard's. If you can help in our kitchen every 4th Friday of the month in the morning, please contact Anne at [anet@st-gerard.org](mailto:anet@st-gerard.org) or call 763-424-8770 ext 120. Thank you!

### ENCOUNTER LENT - ENCOUNTER NORMA

In Guatemala, we encounter Norma, who as a young mother, supports her family and shares her skills with her community. Reflect on the importance of family in your life. How can you contribute to support families in your community? Visit [crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org) for more info and stop by the Gathering Space if you would still like to pick up a CRS Rice Bowl. Thank you!

### 2019 HOMELESS DAY ON THE HILL

Join hundreds of advocates at the Capitol on Wednesday, **March 13**, to lobby for statewide housing stability. Learn the issues, meet with legislators and make your voice heard! To register, visit the Catholic Charities website at: <https://www.cctwincities.org/20225-2/>

### CONFIRMATION RETREAT

The confirmation retreat was a great success! The youth attended a retreat at Camp Eden Wood in Eden Prairie where they spent 8 hours in discussion, prayer and many fun activities. Thanks to all who helped plan and execute the retreat, especially their small group facilitators!

### RITE OF SENDING

What is a Rite of Sending and Election? Today at the 10:30am mass we will be celebrating a very important rite for those becoming catholic in full communion with the Catholic Church. For those in RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) who are unbaptized (Catechumen) and baptized (Candidate), this is the final step to receiving the sacraments at the Easter Vigil. We as a parish "send" them to the Cathedral of St. Paul where the bishop will "receive them" at the Rite of Election. Those un-baptized will be introduced to the bishop and elected to continue to the sacraments at Easter Vigil. On the same day, we will be celebrating the Rite of Sending for our Confirmation Candidates who will then receive the sacrament of Confirmation at the Basilica of St. Mary in Minneapolis on Saturday, March 16th at 10:00am Please keep all of these youth and adults in your prayer as they complete their journey of Faith.

### ADULT FAITH SCRIPTURE STUDY PACKETS

Are you looking for a simple and creative scripture study for now through Lent? The Sunday by Sunday Scripture study is published and written locally by the Sisters of St. Joseph in St. Paul and are written only 3 months in advance. There is a page for each Sunday's readings and can be done a week prior, which makes hearing the readings the following Sunday more meaningful. They are located on the Welcome Desk in the Gathering Space. Please take only 1 per family or individual. We have limited amounts, but if you wish to order a copy, please contact Judy Foster at the parish office and we will order more. They are published year round.

### 2019 WOMEN'S RETREAT

SAVE THE DATE for the 2019 Women's Retreat coming Saturday, **April 27**. Join the women of St. Gerard's for a morning to reflect on "All Things New: A Day of Reflection and Renewal." The guest speaker will be Lisa Ervin. The morning will begin at 8:30am with hospitality and continue from 9:00am to 1:00pm. Lunch will be included. Retreat fee is \$25. Registration and more information to come. We hope you will join us!



# 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](http://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!

## LENTEN BOOKLETS

Lenten booklets, in both English and Vietnamese, are available in the Gathering Space to strengthen your Lenten journey!

## CORNFEST IS AUGUST 9-10, 2019!

Corn Fest planning is underway. Our next meeting is **Thursday, March 14**, at 7:00pm. The goal for our 49th annual Corn Fest is to be a true community-builder, inviting everyone to join in the blessings our Parish has to offer. If you have ideas or suggestions on how to make this happen, email [cornfest@outlook.com](mailto:cornfest@outlook.com) or call Craig, 763-200-3949. Cornfest is Aug 9-10! I promise NO snow all weekend!



## KC 40 CANS FOR LENT/MN FOODSHARE

The St. Gerard's Knights and the Justice/Outreach Ministry are accepting non-perishable food donations during Lent. All donations go to CEAP. Minnesota Food Share, the Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches and the Knights of Columbus match a portion of every dollar and every pound of food raised for CEAP. The Knights will be collecting donations through the month of March.

## HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC ADOPTION AGENCY

Since 2001, Holy Family Catholic Adoption Agency of MN has followed in the footsteps of St. Mother Teresa and offers adoption as a loving answer to an unplanned pregnancy. For more information, visit [www.holyfamilyadoption.org](http://www.holyfamilyadoption.org) and please prayerfully consider a financial gift to HFCAA.

# Presiders

## 2nd Sunday of Lent

March 16, 5:00pm - Rev. Matthew Bonk  
March 17, 8:30am - Rev. Matthew Bonk  
March 17, 10:30am - Rev. Matthew Bonk

## 3rd Sunday of Lent

March 23, 5:00pm - Rev. Thomas Santa  
March 24, 8:30am - Rev. Thomas Santa  
March 24, 10:30am - Rev. Thomas Santa

## 4th Sunday of Lent

March 30, 5:00pm - Rev. Thomas Santa  
March 31, 8:30am - Rev. Thomas Santa  
March 31, 10:30am - Rev. Thomas Santa

# This Week at St. Gerard's

## INTENTIONS

**M-F 8:30 AM** - Eucharist

**TUE 9:00 AM** - Perpetual Help Devotion

**MONDAY, MARCH 11**

8:30 am - Communion Service

**TUESDAY, MARCH 12**

8:30 am - Richard Potvin †

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13**

8:30 am -

**THURSDAY, MARCH 14**

8:30 am - James F. Waehner †

**FRIDAY, MARCH 15**

8:30 am -

**SATURDAY, MARCH 16**

5:00 pm - Parish Families

**SUNDAY, MARCH 17**

8:30 am - Grace Onuoha †

10:30 am - Bill Johnson †

**Daily Mass will be in the church for Lent.**

## PARISH EVENTS

**MONDAY, MARCH 11**

6:30 pm - Community Garden Meeting

7:00 pm - Youth Homelessness Meeting

**TUESDAY, MARCH 12**

9:00 am - Perpetual Help Devotion

9:15 am - Womens Prayer/Support Group

7:30 pm - Regent AA

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13**

9:00 am - Eucharistic Adoration

7:15 pm - Music Rehearsal

**THURSDAY, MARCH 14**

10:00 am - Cornerstone Scripture Study

6:00 pm - Centering Prayer

7:00 pm - Corn Fest Meeting

7:00 pm - KC's Open House

**FRIDAY, MARCH 15**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 16**

9:30 am - Baptism Prep Class

10:00 am - Confirmation at the Basilica

4:00 pm - Individual Confessions

5:00 pm - Eucharist

**SUNDAY, MARCH 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

10:30 am - FF St. G's Kids



**PLEASE PRAY** for the sick and ailing members of our parish community, and all those in our Parish Prayer Book, especially:  
**Phillip (Lee) Holmer**  
**Donna Curtiss**  
**Laurie Carroll**

Also remember those loved ones who have died.

**MAR 17, 2019**

2nd Sunday Lent

**GN 15:5-12, 17-18**

**PHIL 3:17-4:1**

**LK 9:28B-36**

### **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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Text Giving:

**763-225-1078**