

The Church of St. Gerard Majella

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 17, 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.

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Someone sent me a clipping from a church sign that read: "We are impressed with whomever it is that is praying for snow. Now, please stop! Pray for world peace instead!" I think we can all identify with the desire for a change in scenery, and thankfully it has already started. It might take a little longer than we anticipate but we will soon be arriving to the rituals of spring. I truly look forward to it. Even the thought of cutting grass instead of shoveling snow makes my heart skip a happy beat in anticipation.

Before we depart for the spring I must again thank the snow removal teams that move in so quickly after a storm and clear our parish sidewalks and clear our entrances into church. It is truly an act of generosity and an act of service to our parish community. It most certainly is not something that should be taken for granted and it is not a routine ministry at Catholic parishes. Both at St. Bridget and at St. Alphonsus we do not have teams that clear the snow. It is sometimes a little dicey trying to navigate the sidewalks and the paths to where the cars are parked. Even getting out of the garage can be a real challenge on some days. Again, thank you so much for your generous service.

Thankfully we are blessed with so many parishioners who serve the community in so many different ways. I made mention of the high response we have in volunteers in the transitional paperwork that is part of the transition process for the Archdiocese to a new pastor. It was one of the real strengths that I noted, along with our sense of welcome, a real and measurable sense of service, our liturgical celebrations, openness to the Word of God and to the preached Word, our liturgical music, and the diversity of cultures that make up our parish community. It was not at all difficult to list these strengths and they came easily to mind. It speaks well of who we are as a parish community.

Speaking of the transition process to new pastoral leadership. Karl and I met with a representative from the Archdiocese to review the process that is in place for this transition. In the next few weeks we will be forming a team of parishioners who are willing to serve on a transition committee. This committee should be as representative of the parish as possible. We are of course interested in making sure that the committee serves the process well and so if you are personally interested in being a member of the committee, please inform us of your interest. (For the sake of clarification: this is not an interview committee, it is a committee in service to the process of transition.) This is only a first step, there are many steps that will be engaged, including some of the events that we have already planned and announced over the last few weeks.

This week we welcome Father Matthew Bonk to our weekend liturgies as the presider. I am out of the parish for the weekend but will return the first part of the next week and will be present for the rest of Lent and through Easter. The reason I am away from the parish is because I am visiting one of our Redemptorist confreres who lives

alone because of the constraints of the ministry that he is engaged in. He has struggled with health issues on and off over the years; I have been privileged to be a support for him during these times. Now he is at a point where another decision about ministry needs to be made since the ministry site that he is serving in will cease operations at the end of the calendar year. His ministry is highly specialized and not easily transferred from one place to another. That changing reality will also serve as the background for our conversation. Hopefully, we will be able to arrive at a decision that we can recommend to the Provincial Council that makes sense for everyone. Your prayers are appreciated.

In my spare time I am a book award judge for the *Catholic Press Association*. Each year the CPA sponsors an award program for the best of Catholic reading and most publishers enter the process. I have been assigned three categories: first time author, memoir, and Church History. All in all I have thirty-five books to review and to judge. I appreciate the opportunity to be part of the process. It provides me with free reading material (I get to keep the books). It provides me with a sense of what people are concerned about and what the larger Catholic population may be reading. And, in some cases (when the book is pretty bad), what they will not be reading. I think I have been asked to do this for the last ten years or so, maybe longer. I kind of lost track.

That's all for this week. Enjoy our changing weather. Keep up your Lenten practices and disciplines. Let us remember to keep each other in our thoughts and in our prayers.

Fr. Tom Santa, C.Ss.R.

For the Redemptorist Community and Staff who serves you

GLOBAL SOLIDARITY SUNDAY - MARCH 30/31

March 30/31 is Global Solidarity Sunday weekend in the archdiocese with the theme: "**Taste and see the goodness of the Lord**" (Psalm 34). This is an opportunity to be in solidarity with those around the world who thirst for God's mercy and love. On this Sunday, a special collection will be taken for four global priorities of the U.S. Catholic Bishops: Africa, Latin America, Central and Eastern Europe, as well as humanitarian activities of Catholic Relief Services. Please be as generous as you are able. Thank you.

FEBRUARY BAPTISMS

Victoria Catherine Airey, Drew Mason Hinrichs, and Connor Brady Schmitz were made members of the Church through the saving waters of baptism. May God continue to bless their families and our parish as we continue the vital work of teaching them what it means to follow Christ.

BUSY BAGS FOR KIDS

If your child accidentally brought home a kid's "Busy Bag", please try to return it to the church before Easter so we have enough bags for everyone. Thanks so much!

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 annet@st-gerard.org or call 763-424-8770 ext 120. Thank you!

JUSTICE & OUTREACH COMMISSION

Grounded in Catholic social teachings, this commission is primarily responsible for developing, communicating, and implementing a social justice strategy for St. Gerard's members. We are responsible for supporting all the St. Gerard's outreach ministries such as: Community Garden, Loaves and Fishes, Sharing and Caring Hands, CEAP, etc... Monthly meetings are the first Monday of the month at 7:00pm. Contact Anne Tiller at annet@st-gerard.org or call 763-424-8770 ext 120 for more information.

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.



ENCOUNTER LENT - ENCOUNTER ANNET

In Uganda, we encounter Annet and her family, children forced to flee violence, searching for stability. How are we called to welcome the stranger in our midst? How can you support those, worldwide, who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities? Visit crsricebowl.org for more.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY CONFIRMED!

Our confirmation candidates received the sacrament at the Basilica in Minneapolis and the presider was Bishop Cozzens, and Fr. Tuan joined us to make the day a very special one. We remember that this is not the end of their journey, but the beginning and we encourage them to become active Members in full communion with the Catholic Church.

RCIA

The Catechumen and RCIA candidates had a busy day last Sunday as we "sent" them to be "elected" by Bishop Cozzens to journey to full initiation through reception of the sacraments at the Easter Vigil. They were supported by family and friends. Thank you for your continued prayers!

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP - LIFE NIGHT

Life Night, St. Gerard's youth group for students currently in grades 9-12, will meet again *this* Sunday, **March 17** from 7:30-9:00pm in the youth room for snacks, games, conversation and fun! No registration necessary, just come!

NO FAITH FORMATION

There will be no classes on the following dates:

Confirmation - Sunday, March 17

EDGE - Sunday, March 24

St. G's Kids - Sunday, March 24

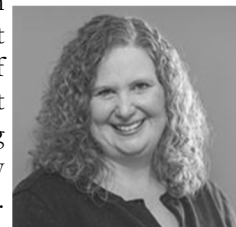
1-5 Faith Formation - Wednesday, March 27

ADULT FAITH SCRIPTURE STUDY PACKETS

Looking for a simple and creative scripture study for 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. 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.

2019 WOMEN'S RETREAT

Registration is NOW OPEN for the 2019 Women's Retreat on 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 at www.st-gerard.org or in the parish office. We hope you will join us!



Announcements

LENT/TRIDUUM/EASTER SCHEDULE

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

Throughout Lent, we will be reflecting on different people present to the Passion of Jesus. Each week we will focus on one woman, and one man from the Passion narratives. Each character will be brought to life on stage (here at St Gerard's) during Palm/Passion Sunday weekend **April 13 and 14**. For the next 4 weeks we will reflect on these characters and ponder their experiences/journeys. The song that brings their story to life will be available to meditate on each week at www.st-gerard.org



This week's People of the Passion:

1) **Malchus** is the servant of the high priest mentioned in all 4 Gospels although the details are different in each. In Matthew (26:51) and Mark (14:47) this servant's ear is cut off. And only in Luke (22:49), Jesus heals his ear. In John (18:10) we learn his name. Listen to the song "A Power Stronger Than My Sword" and, this week, reflect on your own quick judgement or temper and how Jesus can heal you.

2) **Veronica** is the traditional name given to one of the women who met Jesus on the road to Calvary (found only in Luke 23:27). Her name developed from the phrase "Vera icon" which is derived from the Latin "true image" of the face of Jesus, venerated for centuries as the Shroud of Turin. As you listen to "Love Has Left It's Mark on Me" reflect on the ways you see the face of Christ in distressing disguises around you and how it changes you.

KC CHURCH MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

The St. Gerard's Knights of Columbus will be conducting their Church Membership Drive on the weekend of **March 30,31**. The Knights 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. Ask a member of the Knights in the Gathering Space following Mass about this great Catholic fraternal service organization and become a member.



Presiders

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

This Week at St. Gerard's

INTENTIONS

M-F 8:30 AM - Eucharist

TUE 9:00 AM - Perpetual Help Devotion

MONDAY, MARCH 18

8:30 am - Communion Service

TUESDAY, MARCH 19

8:30 am - Lorraine Hentges †

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20

8:30 am - Parish Families

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

8:30 am -

FRIDAY, MARCH 22

8:30 am -

SATURDAY, MARCH 23

5:00 pm - Burt Stock †

SUNDAY, MARCH 24

8:30 am -

10:30 am - Stephen Perry †

Daily Mass will be in the church for Lent.

PARISH EVENTS

MONDAY, MARCH 18

7:30 pm - Scouts #575 Meeting

TUESDAY, MARCH 19

9:00 am - Perpetual Help Devotion

9:15 am - Womens Prayer/Support Group

6:30 pm - KC's Council Meeting

7:30 pm - Regent AA

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20

9:00 am - Eucharistic Adoration

6:00 pm - 1st Eucharist Prep Parent/Child

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

7:15 pm - Music Rehearsal

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

9:00 am - Loaves & Fishes Bread Buttering

10:00 am - Cornerstone Scripture Study

6:00 pm - Centering Prayer

FRIDAY, MARCH 22

8:30 am - Loaves & Fishes Prep

5:00 pm - Loaves & Fishes at St Stephens

SATURDAY, MARCH 23

4:00 pm - Individual Confessions

5:00 pm - Eucharist

SUNDAY, MARCH 24

8:30 am - Eucharist

10:30 am - Eucharist

11:30 am - Anointing of the Sick



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

Donna Curtiss
Laurie Carroll

Also remember those loved ones who have died.

MAR 24, 2019

3rd Sunday Lent

EX 3:1-8A,13-15

1COR 10:1-6,10-12

LK 13:1-9

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