

# The Church of St. Gerard Majella

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 24, 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

## EUCHARIST

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

I continue to marvel at the blessing of the universe that surrounds and caresses us with the goodness of our Creator God. The blessings are always present but it takes a change in seasons for most of us to really pay attention. It is hard not to find your attention focused on the transition from winter to spring. Just the freshness and the newness of life that is on the cusp of breaking forth is enough to marvel at. Let alone the fullness of God's life and love which seems to be everywhere, free flowing and abundant. There is much to be grateful for.

There is also a bursting forth of new life that is taking place within the sacramental life of our parish community. Lent is our preparation for the feast of Easter, a spiritual transition from a kind of winter to spring, and with the transition our sacramental life is manifested. We are preparing for the reception of the sacraments of baptism, confirmation, first reconciliation and first communion, and many of us, veterans of the sacramental life of the church, are engaged in the preparation and celebration of our sacramental life. The Eucharist is the core and the center of our lives but we also are enjoying a special emphasis on the Sacrament of Reconciliation, our parish communal penance service is 7:00pm on Thursday, April 4 and frequent opportunities for the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. God's grace is abundant in our sacramental life!

Please make plans to attend one of the two performances of **Present to the Passion**, a new musical composed and written by our own Tim and Julie Smith. This new and original musical is about God's passionate love for us, exploring the fascinating women and men of the passion narratives. It will be presented, free of charge, on Saturday, April 13 at 7:30pm and Sunday, April 14 at 2:30pm. The featured performers are the men and women of St. Gerard's Music Ministry. Plan now to attend. It is family friendly and also a good opportunity to invite family and friends to St. Gerard to experience our hospitality and our energy. Sometimes all it takes is an invitation, even to a person who you might think is not interested, to begin an unexpected spiritual journey. There are many men and women who are just waiting to be invited. You can be the instrument of God's grace.

That is about all for this week. We continue our Lenten journey. Let us continue to remember each other in our thoughts and in our prayers. The power of prayer is a manifestation of the grace of God. None of us fully understand how God's grace is made manifest, we just know that we live, move, and have our being because of this great gift of love.

Fr. Tom Santa, C.Ss.R.  
For the Redemptorist Community and Staff who serves you.

## LENT/TRIDUUM/EASTER SCHEDULE

**Weekends:** Saturdays 5pm, 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 8:30am 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

## GLOBAL SOLIDARITY SUNDAY

Next weekend, March 30 and 31, is Global Solidarity Sunday as we celebrate **“Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.”** This is a unique opportunity to share the goodness of the Lord in solidarity with your brothers and sisters overseas. We are invited to offer gifts of support by contributing to this collection for four global initiatives designated by the U.S. Catholic Bishops. Please be as generous as you are able and support your brothers and sisters overseas. Thank You!

## ANOINTING OF THE SICK

If you are ill and would like to receive this sacrament, please stay in the Church following Mass:



*This* Sunday, March 24 - after 10:30am Mass

## 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](mailto:bazinetre@gmail.com) or 763-315-4364. All are welcome!

## 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!

## EASY GIVING FOR ST. GERARD'S!

- **Website:** [www.st-gerard.org](http://www.st-gerard.org) GIVE page
- **App:** Give page
- **QR Code:** Find on the inside flap of the bulletin, at the back of church, or outside the parish office.
- **Text Giving:** 763-225-1078

For more information on all our giving options, visit the St. Gerard's **GIVE page** on the website or app.

## LOAVES AND FISHES

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](mailto:annet@st-gerard.org) or call 763-424-8770 ext 120. Thank you!



## 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, **April 6**. 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.

## 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](mailto: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 March for CEAP's March Against Hunger! CEAP is the neighborhood food shelf for the Brooklyn Park and Brooklyn Center communities. 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 the Dhathcroos family!

The Dhathcroos family returned home, after fleeing violence in their country, to build a prosperous farm and become a vital contributor to their community. How can you assist refugees in your community to rebuild their lives? How can you support refugees worldwide who are fleeing violence in their country? Visit [crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org) for more.

## NO FAITH FORMATION

There will be no classes on the following dates:

**EDGE** - Sunday, March 24

**St. G's Kids** - Sunday, March 24

**1-5 Faith Formation** - Wednesday, March 27

## 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](http://www.st-gerard.org) or in the parish office. We hope you will join us!



## SPRING WOMEN AND WINE

We are looking forward to our next get-together of Women and Wine with special guest Christine Sorensen who was a winter presenter last year, 2018. Our theme will be surrounding women's issues of loss and grief in our lives. Look for more information to come in the bulletin, on the website and app, and on our facebook page. All women are welcome!

## LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR CHILDREN

LWC takes place in the Chapel during the 8:30am and 10:30am masses. It's an opportunity for kids to read and reflect on the readings at their own level. It is meant primarily for elementary aged children. There's no registration and you don't need to be a parishioner of St. Gerard's to attend. **ALL KIDS ARE WELCOME!**

## 2019 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

At St. Gerard's, we love kids!

All kids are welcomed and invited to attend VBS 2019 entitled "ROAR: Life is Wild. God is Good." It is an awesome week of fun, friends, and faith - safari style. Kids will experience exciting stations that emphasize the daily Bible Point such as: Wild Bible Adventures, KidVid Cinema, Imagination Station, and Stampede Sports. Save the date to join us **June 10-13!** Watch for more information to come in the bulletin, on the website and app, and on our facebook page.



# Announcements

## WELCOME TO ST. GERARD'S!

If you are visiting St. Gerard's, please stop by the Welcome Desk in the Gathering Space, pick up a new member info packet, and sign our guest registry. 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>)! Welcome!

## "PRESENT TO THE PASSION" MUSICAL

During Lent, we will be reflecting on different people present to the Passion of Jesus. Each character will be brought to life on stage **April 13,14**. Visit [www.st-gerard.org](http://www.st-gerard.org) to hear the song that brings their story to life. This week's People of the Passion:



1) **Barabbas**, the murderer who is set free as the Healer is condemned, is mentioned in all four Passion narratives (Matthew 27:15, Mark 15:6, Luke 23:19, John 18:40). His name is unique: "Bar - Abba" is translated "Son of the Father" - Abba being a surprising name that Jesus used to describe his "Daddy". In Barabbas' song, "Better Him Than Me", he casually remains indifferent to the injustice all around him for the sake of his own survival and self-preservation. How have we distanced ourselves from others and the pain or oppression they suffer?

2) The **servant girl** by the fire notices and then accuses Peter of being a follower of Jesus. Peter then denies even knowing Him. Her story is found in all 4 Gospels, (Matthew 26:69, Mark 14:66, Luke 22:56, John 18:16) and her intuition brings out the fear and dishonest denial of the "rock" of the apostles. As you listen to "Stonecold", reflect on how, in situations where there is risk or fear, we deny the difficult to hear truth and how we can turn a cold shoulder to someone in need. When and in what situations do we deny our allegiance to Christ, for fear of the consequences?

## 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.

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OPEN HOUSE

The St. Gerard's Knights of Columbus will have an open house on **April 2** at 7:00pm in the St. Clare Fireside Room. Refreshments and cookies will be served. This is our way of providing Catholic men and their families an opportunity to learn more!

# Presiders

## 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 25**

8:30 am - Communion Service

**TUESDAY, MARCH 26**

8:30 am - Parish Families

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27**

8:30 am -

**THURSDAY, MARCH 28**

8:30 am -

**FRIDAY, MARCH 29**

8:30 am -

**SATURDAY, MARCH 30**

5:00 pm - Dick Keefe †

**SUNDAY, MARCH 31**

8:30 am -

10:30 am - Kelly Herron †

Daily Mass will be in the church for Lent.

## PARISH EVENTS

**MONDAY, MARCH 25**

7:30 pm - Scouts #575 Meeting

**TUESDAY, MARCH 26**

9:00 am - Perpetual Help Devotion

9:15 am - Womens Prayer/Support Group

7:30 pm - Regent AA

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27**

9:00 am - Eucharistic Adoration

7:15 pm - Music Rehearsal

**THURSDAY, MARCH 28**

10:00 am - Cornerstone Scripture Study

6:00 pm - Centering Prayer

6:30 pm - FF Commission Meeting

7:00 pm - Sister Parish Meeting

**FRIDAY, MARCH 29**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 30**

4:00 pm - Individual Confessions

5:00 pm - Eucharist

**SUNDAY, MARCH 31**

8:30 am - Eucharist

10:30 am - Eucharist

10:30 am - St. G's Kids

6:00 pm - EDGE Faith Formation



**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 31, 2019**

4th Sunday Lent

**JOS 5:9A,10-12**

**2COR 5:17-21**

**LK 15:1-3,11-32**

**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**