

# The Church of St. Gerard Majella

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 31, 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

Weekdays: 8:30 am  
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

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

With opening day of the baseball season in our rear-view mirror, snow on the ground melting away, the temperatures warming up, I am beginning to believe that Spring has perhaps arrived. I do not want to get too excited but I do hope that we have seen the last of the snow, at least for the next six months or so. I have heard more than one of you comment on how bitter and how difficult February turned out to be. One for the record books! Now we can begin welcoming back the members of our parish family who missed all of the fun.

I hope that you are experiencing the prayerful power of our Lenten liturgies. I find myself moved to a deeper sense of prayer and I can feel the energy in the church as we gather together for Sunday liturgy. I think we are blessed to have this kind of experience and I never want to think that it is just “routine.” There is quite a bit of planning and work that is dedicated to our liturgy and preaching preparation and I think it shows. The integration of the message through the preached word and through music is particularly an experience of grace for me. I hope it has the same feeling for each of you. There is more to come as we prepare for Holy Week and the Easter liturgies. Each have also been well planned and I hope that they are also well attended and achieve the spiritual result that we hope for. A big thank-you to all who continue to enhance our shared experience by their dedication and preparation.

This coming Wednesday evening I have accepted the invitation of our faith formation director to present a “teaching experience” about the mass and all of the different components of the mass. Intended primarily for our younger members, particularly those who are preparing for First Reconciliation and First Communion, I am hoping that the experience will also be helpful for the parents who will be attending. I envision the evening as a very “hands-on” experience for everyone. I am looking forward to it.

Don't forget to include your participation in our Lenten Reconciliation Service at 7:00 PM on Thursday, April 4. The service will last no more than one-hour and it is an excellent opportunity to celebrate the sacrament. We are using what is understood as “form two” of the sacrament, a communal celebration of the liturgical parts of the service and a simple and uncomplicated confession of sin. Absolution is of course central to the experience of the sacrament. If you have not participated in the Sacrament of Reconciliation for a long time this is a great opportunity to reset your timer, i.e. “Bless me Father for I have sinned, it has been ??????? since my last confession.” In this format of the celebration of the sacrament you do not have to worry about that kind of detail- the whole service just flows almost effortlessly from start to finish and the emphasis is on the healing power of forgiveness and grace. All are welcome!

If you have a chance, take a look at the newly painted and repaired restrooms across from the office. The efforts of the Knights of Columbus in updating and repairing these

restrooms is much appreciated. You might also notice a ladder or two leaning against walls throughout the complex. The ladder more often than not is marking the space where a repair is either planned or anticipated. The spring melt has exposed some leaking issues that need to be taken care of and we are making every effort to get to the source of the leaking. This has been, as most of you will remember, a never ending challenge for us. It seems to suggest that a simple repair will not be enough and that an engineering solution is probably the best way to go. Some of the repairs will be covered by insurance but some will not. Thankfully our maintenance committee is hard at work on these current issues and also some of our long term maintenance issues that need to be considered.

Well, that is all for this week. Let us continue to remember each other in our prayers. It is also a great opportunity to put our prayer into action by lending our support to Feed My Starving Children or Sharing and Caring Hands, for example. There is also the on-going need that the CEAP ministry responds to. Your generous gift of time and your generous gift of the food and supplies needed for these efforts is appreciated. Have a great week.

Fr. Tom Santa, C.Ss.R.

For the Redemptorist Community & staff that 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

## EASTER DECORATING

Many hands make light work! All are invited to set up for Easter on Saturday, April 20 anytime from 10am-12noon. There are jobs for everyone; families welcome! Contact Amy at amyw@st-gerard.org or just show up on that day!

## HOLY WEEK HELP

Holy Week is right around the corner! Can you minister in a special way doing lights, assisting with Veneration of the Cross, or carrying the Easter Vigil Paschal Candle? Please contact Amy at amyw@st-gerard.org for more information.

## POSITION OPENINGS

The Church of St. Gerard is hiring a part-time Custodian and a full-time Facilities Care Coordinator. Visit [www.st-gerard.org](http://www.st-gerard.org) for more information.

## Justice and Outreach

### ST. GERARD'S COMMUNITY GARDEN

We still have garden plots available for the 2019 growing season. Both parishioners and the public are welcome 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. If you would like further information or to volunteer, contact Anne Tiller. For more information on St. Gerard's Community Garden, visit St. Gerard's website at [www.st-gerard.org](http://www.st-gerard.org).

### 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.

### WHAT'S THE CATHOLIC RESPONSE TO IMMIGRATION?

Join us at the Catholic Community Foundation's (CCF's) Giving Insights: the Catholic Response to Immigration. Hear the "Pope's favorite nun," Sister Norma Pimentel, M.J., talk about her work welcoming immigrants crossing the US-Mexico border. A moderated panel discussion will follow, featuring Archbishop Hebda, Fr. Warren Szama, S.J. of St. Thomas More parish, an immigration lawyer, and more. Forum held Tuesday, **April 9**, 6:00-8:30pm at Pax Christi Catholic Community, Eden Prairie. FREE of charge. Register at <https://www.ccf-mn.org/forums>.

### ENCOUNTER LENT

We encounter Kumba from Sierra Leone, who, through her education, is providing hope for her family and community. How has education given you opportunities in life? How do you use your education for the common good? Visit St. Gerard's facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/churchofsaintgerard>) or [csrcicebowl.org](http://csrcicebowl.org) for more.



### MARCH AGAINST HUNGER IN MN

Thanks St. Gerard's for last week's donations to the MN Foodshare March collection! Way to go!

## Faith Formation



### CONFIRMATION 2019

It was a wonderful day! It was sunny and the Basilica was packed! Congrats to our new confirmands (newly confirmed)!

### 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!



### Women and Wine

#### WOMEN AND WINE - APRIL 12

The next Women and Wine will be Friday, **April 12**, 7-9pm with special guest Christine Sorensen. Our theme will be "The Inevitability of Loss: You Win Some, You Lose Some and Some Get Rained Out." Look for more information to come in the bulletin, on the website and app, and on our facebook page. All women are welcome!

### GOD'S GREATEST GIFT!

On **April 24** at 6:00pm, Christian Magician, Brian Richards will share with St. Gerard's Faith Formation 1-5 a special program, "God's Greatest Gift!" This delightful program entertains & motivates kids to think about all the wonderful gifts they have been blessed with. At the end of the program, kids will receive Brian's traditional "BIG BUCKS" that teach how to do 2 magic tricks!! This fun event will conclude our 2018-2019 Faith Formation sessions.



# Announcements

## “PRESENT TO THE PASSION” MUSICAL

This week's People of the Passion: (Visit [www.st-gerard.org](http://www.st-gerard.org) to hear the song for each character.)



1) **Joseph of Arimathea** - Joseph was a rich man, mentioned in all four gospel accounts (Matthew 27:5, Mark 15:43, Luke 23:50 John 19:38). He was a courageous believer with the audacity to approach the hated governor Pilate to ask for the body of an executed criminal. But his courage was absent prior to Jesus' crucifixion. It is likely he was present at Jesus' trial and the trial ended with Jesus being lead to his execution. Like Joseph, we all suffer from regret... words left unsaid, moments we failed to speak up. Listen to "I'll Take It To My Grave" and reflect on the mercy of God that is always greater than our regret.

2) **Pilate's wife** - Dreams are a common occurrence in the bible directing Joseph and Paul to do God's bidding. Matthew is the only gospel writer to include this unique detail within the Passion narrative (Matthew 27:19). We can only imagine what conversations and conflicts arose between Pilate and his wife after this exchange. What have your dreams warned you about? Did you act on that warning? Listen to "In My Dreams" and reflect on how God utilizes your dreams to accomplish His purpose.



## 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 about the Knights!

## CALLING ALL YOUNG ADULTS (18 - 39)!

You are invited to attend "Dialogue 2019: Young Adults & Redemptorists in Dialogue Together" on **April 27**, 9am-7pm at St. Alphonsus Catholic Church, Brooklyn Center. This is an opportunity for young adults and Redemptorists to gather and talk about real issues that we face in life, faith, and culture. Register at: [StAlsMn.org/YoungAdults](http://StAlsMn.org/YoungAdults). More info at [www.st-gerard.org](http://www.st-gerard.org).

## EASTER FLOWER MEMORIALS

This Easter season, remember loved ones who have gone to their rest by donating toward the purchase of flowering plants to decorate the church. Please complete the form below and return it with your check to the parish office or place it in the Sunday collection or donate online at [www.st-gerard.org](http://www.st-gerard.org)

(Please Print Clearly)

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) of Loved Ones:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# This Week at St. Gerard's

## INTENTIONS

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

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

### **MONDAY, APRIL 1**

8:30 am - Scott McLean †

### **TUESDAY, APRIL 2**

8:30 am - Bill & Louise Storie †

### **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3**

8:30 am - Jack & Mary Hirsch †

### **THURSDAY, APRIL 4**

8:30 am -

### **FRIDAY, APRIL 5**

8:30 am -

### **SATURDAY, APRIL 6**

5:00 pm - Claudia Manning †

### **SUNDAY, APRIL 7**

8:30 am - Parish Families

10:30 am - Komi Kolor

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

## PARISH EVENTS

### **MONDAY, APRIL 1**

7:00 pm - Justice & Outreach Meeting

7:30 pm - Scouts #575 Meeting

### **TUESDAY, APRIL 2**

9:00 am - Perpetual Help Devotion

9:15 am - Womens Prayer/Support Group

7:00 pm - KC Open House

7:30 pm - Regent AA

### **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3**

9:00 am - Eucharistic Adoration

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

6:00 pm - Faith Formation Family Night

7:15 pm - Music Rehearsal

### **THURSDAY, APRIL 4**

10:00 am - Cornerstone Scripture Study

6:00 pm - Centering Prayer

7:00 pm - Lent Communal Reconciliation

### **FRIDAY, APRIL 5**

### **SATURDAY, APRIL 6**

9:00 am - Sharing & Caring Hands

9:30 am - Community Garden Orientation

4:00 pm - Individual Confessions

5:00 pm - Eucharist

### **SUNDAY, APRIL 7**

8:30 am - Eucharist

10:30 am - Eucharist

10:30 am - Faith Formation - St. G's Kids

6:00 pm - Faith Formation - EDGE



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

**John Tidrick**  
**Laurie Carroll**  
**Brian Dupay**

Also remember those loved ones who have died, especially:

**Irene Lammersen**  
**Bessie Hawrysch**

### APR 7, 2019

5th Sunday Lent

**IS 43:16-21**

**PHIL 3:8-14**

**JN 8:1-11**

### **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**