

# The Church of St. Gerard Majella

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

APRIL 7, 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

You may have noticed that we are moving furniture around, clearing away bulletin boards, throwing away items that seem to no longer serve a purpose, all in all just a general SPRING cleaning of the church. The more we clean and the more we clear away the more we become aware of areas of the church and the gathering spaces that need our attention. We are slowly getting everything in order.

I can inform you that the transition process to the naming of a new pastor continues in full swing. We have made the beginning steps to set-up a parishioner transition team that is representative of our parish community. This team will be involved in all of the stages of preparing for and welcoming our new pastor. I anticipate that we should be able to make an announcement about the new pastor sometime after Easter and the plan remains that he will be in place at St. Gerard no later than July 1, 2019. I am quite excited about the progress that is being made and I am confident that the person chosen will serve the community well.

The archdiocese is making extensive use of the results of the "listening session" that was held two years ago and they are also referencing other reports and resources. Key personnel who are familiar with the parish and the needs of the parish have been involved in the process. I have met with perspective candidates and have had the essential conversations with them about the life of the parish, the hopes and dreams of the community and other related issues. I repeat over and over again that St. Gerard strengths include great liturgy and music ministry, a robust commitment to social justice and outreach, and a volunteer community that goes well beyond the minimum. There is a measurable sense of welcome and caring in this parish family.

The challenges include the fact that the parish has been in constant transition for the last three years and there is a longing for stability. The parish community is rapidly changing and growing at a sustained pace. The campus is in need of updates and repair. The facilities as a whole are underutilized and there needs to be a creative response to this fact. The staff has changed and transitioned over the last few years, and continues to do so, but we have a strong and talented core. Ministers of the Word and Ministers of the Eucharist continue to be committed to service although we need some outreach and inclusion in these ministries so that they better represent the parish community.

In the midst of all of this we continue to enter as fully as possible into the season of Lent. I continue to find it both spiritually nourishing and helpful. I think what we have planned is one way to prepare us for the solemn liturgies of Holy Week and the weekend of Easter. Let

us continue our Lenten practices and continue to remember each other in prayer.

Fr. Tom Santa, C.Ss.R.

For the Redemptorist Community & Staff who serves you

## LENT/TRIDUUM/EASTER SCHEDULE

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

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

April 14 at 8:30am and 10:30am

**Present to the Passion Musical:** April 13 at 7:30pm,

April 14 at 2:30pm

**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

## MARCH BAPTISMS

Natalie Christine Pipho, Jax Mejlby Sorensen, Chloe Rose LaPalme and Charlotte Rose Farrell 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.

## 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.

## ALL PARISH LEADERSHIP NIGHT - APRIL 25

Attention commissions, committees, and leadership! The All Parish Leadership Night will be April 25, 5-7pm. Please look for invitations from your staff liaison.

## Presiders

### Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

April 13, 5:00pm - Rev. Thomas Santa

April 14, 8:30am - Rev. Tuan Pham

April 14, 10:30am - Rev. Tuan Pham

### Easter Vigil/Easter

April 20, 8:00pm - Rev. Thomas Santa

April 21, 8:30am - Rev. Tuan Pham

April 21, 10:30am - Rev. Thomas Santa

## 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).

## LOAVES AND FISHES

St. Gerard's Loaves and Fishes Group **NEEDS VOLUNTEERS** to help lead and coordinate a monthly meal made here at St. Gerard's kitchen every 4th Friday morning of the month. Please contact Anne at [annet@st-gerard.org](mailto:annet@st-gerard.org) or call 763-424-8770 ext 120 if you can help. Thank you!



## CRS RICE BOWL - ENCOUNTER LENT

This week, we encounter Ona in Gaza, where despite lack of economic opportunity, people pursue their dreams by building businesses to better their lives. How do your daily choices impact others throughout the world? How can your choices support the dignity of workers?

This week, we pray for Ona, and all those in Gaza who cannot find work. Visit the St. Gerard's facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/churchofsaintgerard/> or the Catholic Relief Services website at [crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org) for videos, meatless meal recipes, and more information. And, don't forget to give to your CRS rice bowl this week! Thanks you for your participation!

## COLLECTING RICE BOWLS!

Rice bowls will be collected at all masses Palm Sunday Weekend (April 13-14) or you can drop off your rice bowl during parish office hours throughout the week.

## HYGIENE KIT COLLECTION

St. Gerard's will continue to collect items for hygiene kits throughout 2019 to be donated to Hennepin County Health and Human Services. These items will be distributed through the Shelter Program to individuals and families experiencing both short-term and chronic homelessness. For a list of items needed visit [www.st-gerard.org](http://www.st-gerard.org) (NEWS & EVENTS). Items can be labeled (hygiene) and placed in the CEAP bins.



## RCIA

The RCIA candidates and Catechumen will be going on retreat on Saturday, April 13. Please pray for them as they journey to the sacrament of initiation at the Easter Vigil.



## 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." Registration and information are now available on the St. Gerard website and app, or by calling the parish office at 763-424-8770. Come enjoy an evening of fellowship and community as we enjoy wine and hors d'oeuvres. All women are welcome!

## 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 on our website or app or in the parish office. We hope you will join us!



## 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.

## 2019 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

All kids (PreK-5th grade) 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! 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!** Registration opening in May! More info to come in the bulletin, website, app, and facebook page.



# 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) **The Executioner** - Some occupations are a mystery. When it’s in your job description to, on a regular basis, cause another human being’s death, there must be repercussions for your spirit. The callousness of a Roman executioner is expressed in the song, “The Hammer” as even this hardened, tragic figure is surprised by the resolute serenity of the Prisoner he is ordered to execute. Reflect at the ways you have hardened your heart during this season and seek ways to be surprised by God’s spirit around you.

2) **Mary Magdalene** has been a fascinating, complicated figure throughout our history. In this scene, she is standing at the foot of the cross (Matthew 27:55, Mark 15:40, John 19:25). Like many of us, she stands vigil, helplessly watching as her loved one suffers and dies. In that moment, aware that she is observing the sacred passage between two worlds, she speaks of the complexities of all of her emotions: the grief, the rage, the horror, the injustice, the relief when it is finally over... As you reflect on “A Terrible Beauty”, recall a moment of painful dying in your life and be present to the gift and myriad of your emotions.

## POSITION OPENINGS

The Church of St. Gerard is hiring! Visit [www.st-gerard.org](http://www.st-gerard.org) for job position descriptions and more information.

## GET THE CATHOLIC SPIRIT FOR FREE!

We have a limited number of free annual subscriptions to The Catholic Spirit newspaper available for parishioners. Call the parish office at 763-424-8770 if you are interested.

## 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. More information at [www.st-gerard.org](http://www.st-gerard.org). Register at: [StAlsMn.org/YoungAdults](http://StAlsMn.org/YoungAdults).

### 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 8**

8:30 am -

**TUESDAY, APRIL 9**

8:30 am - Mel Bailey †

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10**

8:30 am - Bob & Elaine Hirsch †

**THURSDAY, APRIL 11**

8:30 am - Parish Families

**FRIDAY, APRIL 12**

8:30 am - Burt Stock †

**SATURDAY, APRIL 13**

5:00 pm - Marvin Jacobs †

**SUNDAY, APRIL 14**

8:30 am - William Cashin †

10:30 am - Gerald & Robert Steffens †

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

## PARISH EVENTS

**MONDAY, APRIL 8**

7:00 pm - Youth Homelessness Meeting

7:30 pm - Scouts #575 Meeting

**TUESDAY, APRIL 9**

9:00 am - Perpetual Help Devotion

9:15 am - Womens Prayer/Support Group

7:30 pm - Regent AA

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10**

9:00 am - Eucharistic Adoration

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

6:00 pm - 1st Eucharist Prep

7:15 pm - Music Rehearsal

**THURSDAY, APRIL 11**

10:00 am - Cornerstone Scripture Study

6:00 pm - Centering Prayer

**FRIDAY, APRIL 12**

7:00 pm - Women and Wine

**SATURDAY, APRIL 13**

9:30 am - Baptism Prep Class

4:00 pm - Individual Confessions

5:00 pm - Eucharist

6:00 pm - Anointing of the Sick

7:30 pm - Present to the Passion Musical

**SUNDAY, APRIL 14**

8:30 am - Eucharist

10:30 am - Eucharist

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

2:30 pm - Present to the Passion Musical

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:

**Laurie Carroll**  
**Brian Dupay**

Also remember those loved ones who have died, especially:

**Richard Hartfiel**

**APR 14, 2019**

**Palm Sunday**

**LK 19:28-40**

**IS 50:4-7**

**PHIL 2:6-11**

**LK 22:14-23:56**

**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**