

The Church of St. Gerard Majella

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

APRIL 14, 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



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

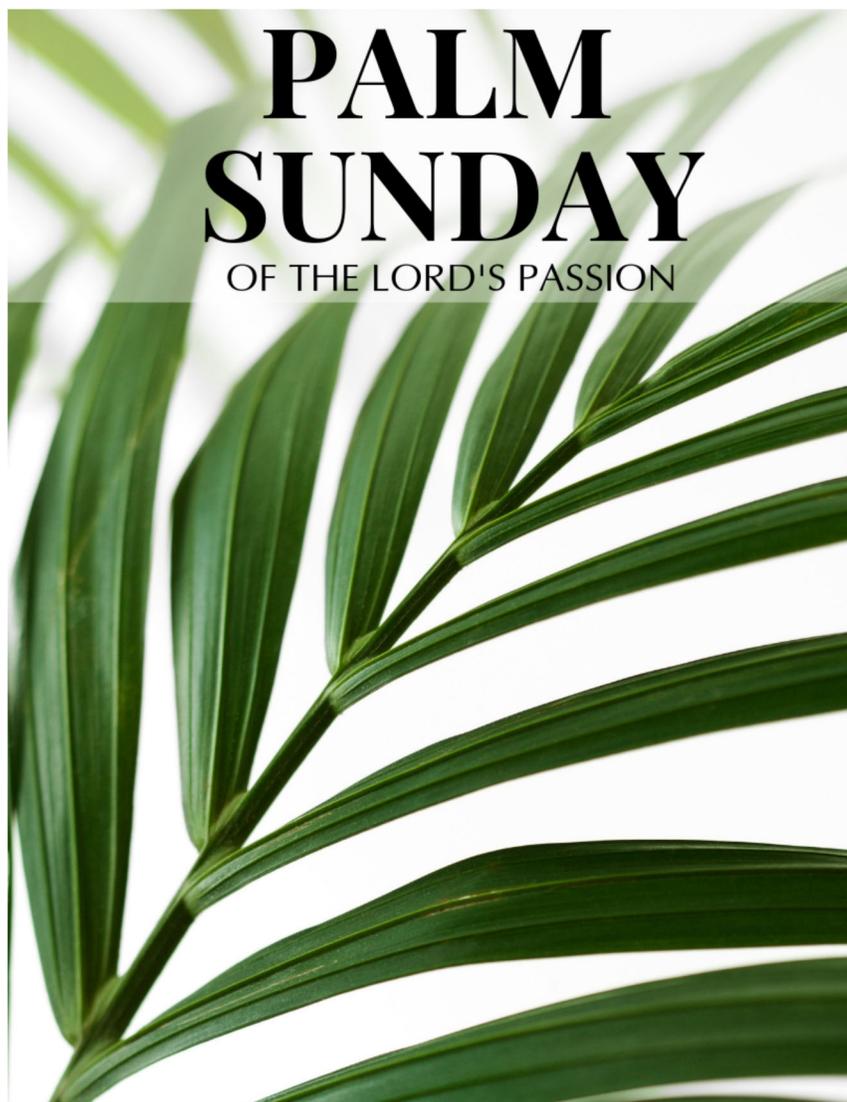
MAINTENANCE Services

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

Today we celebrate Palm Sunday and begin our Holy Week journey to the great feast of Easter. It is that time of the liturgical year when the liturgies provide all of the support and invitation to growth in the Spirit of God that is needed. Our invitation is to respond to the power of God's grace by trying to attend at least some of the services of Holy Week. For some members of our parish family their spiritual journey includes attendance at all of the services, for still others it is an experience that is unknown. I strongly encourage everyone to at least consider attending at least one of the Holy Week services so that you may enter as fully as possible into the rhythm of the celebration of the Church. Obviously even the best of intentions will not be enough if the demands of employment, family, and/or other obligations make it impossible. That is the reality of the world in which we live: the sacred is not always possible when the demands of the secular are all encompassing.

The week begins with Holy Thursday, the celebration of the Lord's supper. Father Tuan will lead us in our liturgy and celebrate with us the institution of the sacraments of Eucharist and of Holy Orders. We conclude the liturgy with a procession into St. Francis Hall where we gather together as a community in praise and in song. After a few minutes of shared praise the Eucharist is reserved in the chapel and is not returned to the main Church for adoration until the Easter Vigil.

On Good Friday we have two services, each of which are unique. The first service, our afternoon service at 3:00 PM, is the Taize veneration of the cross. Simple music, silence, veneration of the cross, and periods of reflection and private prayer are all part of the experience. The Taize tradition is an ecumenical tradition and so it is indeed a liturgical service where all are both invited and welcome. This is a good chance to invite friends and family to attend a service that is both simple and profoundly moving, regardless of their spiritual practice and discipline. No one feels out of place at a Taize service. In the evening we will have our traditional Good Friday service (Father Tom) which consists of the reading of the Passion of the Lord, prayers of intercession, veneration of the Cross, and the reception of the Holy Eucharist (which has been reserved for this purpose; there is no mass celebrated on Good Friday).

On Holy Saturday (Father Tom and Father Tuan) we gather together for the most ancient and the most solemn celebration of the Christian year. The Easter Vigil, which begins with the lighting of the new fire at 8:00 PM, celebrates the story of our salvation through word and song. The sacraments of baptism, confirmation, and of course Eucharist are celebrated as the Christian community proclaims that Christ is truly Risen. If you have never attended an Easter Vigil service please consider doing so this year. It is a wonderful celebration.

Easter Sunday (Father Tom and Father Tuan) we will

have our regular masses at 8:30 AM and at 10:30 AM. We expect overflowing crowds, a festive atmosphere, and we will gift all children in attendance with special Easter Eggs that we have purchased for this occasion. It is a wonderful celebration of faith and of family and this year it looks like the weather will cooperate and feel like Easter. If you remember last year it was Easter inside the church but very much winter outside of the Church. I am looking forward to the whole week but especially to the festive atmosphere and the celebration of family and faith that is so much a part of the day.

Consider encouraging people you know, members of your family and your extended family and friends to attend Holy Week services and Easter Sunday at St. Gerard. We have much to celebrate together and your personal invitation might be all that anyone needs in order to begin attending Church. Our community is a growing and a vibrant community of faith, not perfect by any means, but nonetheless life-giving and an experience of God's grace. So many people have drifted away from the experience of church (the individual reasons for the drift are often profoundly personal and should always be respected) and sometimes all that is required is an invitation to join someone that they know and trust to rekindle their own relationship. As people of faith, we know how our participation in a community of faith can strengthen and encourage us. We also know that at times it can discourage us, but on balance, I think there are far more pluses than there are minuses. Easter is a great time to rekindle what was once there or to discover what has not yet been embraced or experienced.

Fr. Tom Santa, C.Ss.R.

For the Redemptorist Community & staff who serves you

TRIDUUM/EASTER SCHEDULE

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” - THIS WEEKEND!

Join us at the Church of St. Gerard for an uplifting original musical about God's passionate love for us, exploring the fascinating women and men of the passion narratives. This free, family-friendly event will be Saturday, **April 13**, 7:30pm and Sunday, **April 14**, 2:30pm.

EASTER AND HOLY WEEK HELP

Can you help minister in a special way at one of our holy week services? Or, help decorate the church Saturday, **April 20** anytime between 10am-12noon. Please contact Amy at amyw@st-gerard.org for more information. Thanks!

Justice and Outreach

Faith Formation

LOAVES & FISHES

St. Gerard's hosts Loaves & Fishes on the 4th Friday of every month. Our next date is Friday, **April 26**. We serve from 5-7pm 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 questions.



LOAVES AND FISHES COORDINATOR NEEDED

St. Gerard's Loaves & 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 or call 763-424-8770 ext 120 if you can help. Thank you for your help!



CRS RICE BOWL - ENCOUNTER LENT, ENCOUNTER OUR NEIGHBORS
We encounter Jesus this week in

Jerusalem, a community he knew well. We prayerfully enter our own communities too, encountering those who are hungry and thirsty, and those who need our help. How does our Lenten journey motivate us to serve those we meet in our daily lives? Visit the Catholic Relief Services website at crsricebowl.org for more.

COLLECTING RICE BOWLS!

Rice bowls will be collected at all masses this weekend (Palm Sunday Weekend) or you can drop off your rice bowl during parish office hours throughout the week. Thank you for your participation!

ST. GERARD'S 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 & Fishes, Sharing & 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.

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 to individuals and families experiencing homelessness. For a list of items needed visit www.st-gerard.org (NEWS & EVENTS). Items can be labeled (hygiene) and placed in the CEAP bins.



ADULT FAITH SCRIPTURE STUDY PACKETS

We will continue to offer the Sunday by Sunday Scripture Study published and written by the Sisters of St. Joseph (St. Paul) through April 28. We will also have limited copies for May through Pentecost. They are located on the Welcome Desk in the Gathering Space. For more information, please contact Judy Foster at the parish office.

RCIA AND EASTER VIGIL

We will welcome our Catechumen and Candidates into the Catholic faith through the Rite of Initiation at the Easter Vigil on Saturday, April 20 at 8:00pm. Come share in the joy and help celebrate! Join us in a reception following the Easter Vigil to welcome Shelby Rolek, James Glaser, Rex Isom and Raphael Victorian!

2019 WOMEN'S RETREAT

It's not too late to register for the 2019 Women's Retreat coming up 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

WELCOME TO ST. GERARD'S!

Visiting St. Gerard's today? Stop by the Welcome Desk in the Gathering Space for info about the parish or how to become a member. You can also visit the "I Am New" tab of our website (www.st-gerard.org) or app! Welcome to St. Gerard's!

ALL PARISH LEADERSHIP NIGHT - APRIL 25

Attention commissions, committees, and leadership! The All Parish Leadership Night will be April 25, 5-8pm. Please look for invitations from your staff liaison.

PARENTS OF FIRST COMMUNICANTS

If your daughter would like to wear a First Communion dress, but it doesn't work into your budget, please contact Trish Cooley at 763-551-9563. I have a small collection of new or slightly worn dresses in various styles and sizes for you to use free of charge.

POSITION OPENINGS

The Church of St. Gerard is hiring! Visit www.st-gerard.org for job position descriptions and more information.

KC PARISH FUNDRAISER

The Knights of Columbus expect to have the Metro Dining Club cards by the end of April. We will be selling them again in the Gathering Space following the weekend Masses throughout May.

Presiders

Holy Thursday

April 18, 7:00pm - Rev. Tuan Pham

Good Friday

April 19, 3:00pm - Music Ministry

April 19, 7:00pm - Rev. Thomas Santa

Easter Vigil/Easter

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

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

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

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

(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 15

8:30 am -

TUESDAY, APRIL 16

8:30 am - Dee & Daryl Buss †

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17

8:30 am - Parish Families

THURSDAY, APRIL 18

7:00 pm - RCIA Catechumen
& Candidates

FRIDAY, APRIL 19

3:00 pm -

7:00 pm -

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

8:00 pm - RCIA Catechumen
& Candidates

SUNDAY, APRIL 21

8:30 am - Deceased Family & Friends

10:30 am - Youth of Our Parish

PARISH EVENTS

MONDAY, APRIL 15

7:30 pm - Scouts #575 Meeting

TUESDAY, APRIL 16

9:00 am - Perpetual Help Devotion

9:15 am - Womens Prayer/Support Group

6:30 pm - KCs Council Meeting

7:30 pm - Regent AA

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17

9:00 am - Eucharistic Adoration

7:15 pm - Music Rehearsal

THURSDAY, APRIL 18

10:00 am - Cornerstone Scripture Study

6:00 pm - Centering Prayer

7:00 pm - Holy Thursday Service

FRIDAY, APRIL 19

3:00 pm - Good Friday Taize Service with
Veneration of the Cross

7:00 pm - Good Friday Service with
Veneration of the Cross

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

9:00 am - Easter Set-up in the Church

9:30 am - Baptism Prep Class

10:00 am - Individual Confessions

8:00 pm - Easter Vigil Service

SUNDAY, APRIL 21

8:30 am - Easter Eucharist

10:30 am - Easter Eucharist



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

John Tidrick

Also remember those loved ones who have died.

APR 21, 2019

Easter Sunday

ACTS 10:34A,37-43

COL 3:1-4

1COR 5:6B-8

JN 20:1-9

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