The Church of St. Gerard Majella

JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE — NOVEMBER 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, Sunday: CLOSED

EUCHARIST
Weekdays: 8:25 am
Saturday: 5 pm
Sunday: 8:30, 10:30 am

RECONCILIATION
Saturday: 4:00 pm

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

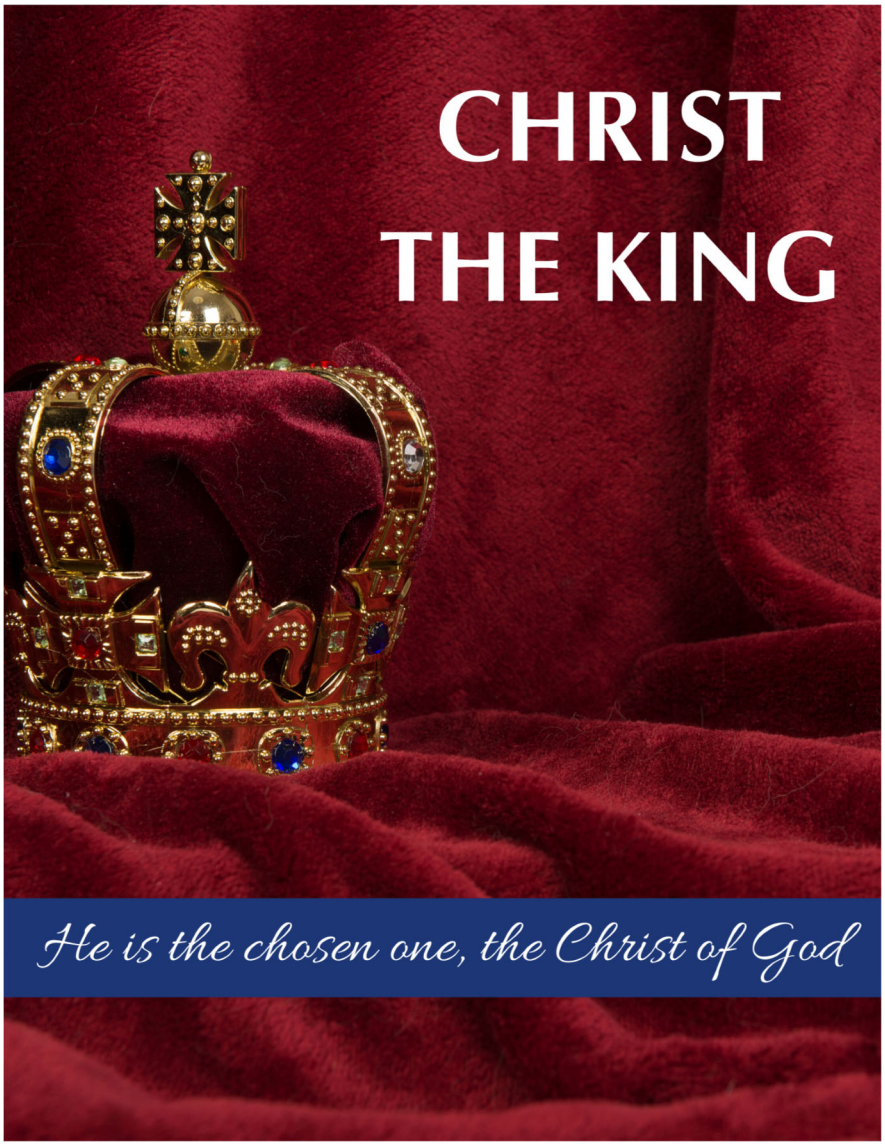
PASTORAL Services
Fr. John Klockeman - Pastor
Fr. Joseph-Quốc Thiện Vương - Parochial Vicar
Karl Kornowski - Parish Administrator
Amy Wittak - Liturgical Ministry
Open Position - Dir. of Liturgical Music
Colette O'Brien - Communications
Open Position - Dir. of Faith Formation

SUPPORT Services
Sue Czerniak - Secretary/Receptionist

MAINTENANCE Services
Geoff Moore - Custodian
Bob Imholte - Facilities Care Coordinator

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!



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.

The Church of St. Gerard

A Note From The Pastor

It is with great gratitude that I write to thank so many for such an outpouring of solidarity, celebration, and mutual honoring that was generously displayed this past weekend. As many of you know that prior to the 10:30am Mass this past Sunday, we honored outside those who served as veterans, both the living and the fallen, plus those who served in the Vietnam War. The honoring included color guard, gun salutes, raising of the non-communist Vietnamese flag, the Vatican flag, and the American flag while singing respective national anthems accompanied by musical instrumentation. The outdoor ceremony solemnly ended by the trumpet playing of Taps by Brian Harrer in honor of fallen soldiers who gave their lives in defense of freedom.

The outdoor ceremony was followed by a bilingual Mass – in Vietnamese and English – in honor of the 118 Vietnamese martyrs. Our Liturgy began with a procession from outside into the sanctuary with flag bearers, incense, and visiting Vietnamese clergy from Saint Alphonsus. The church was so full of parishioners and visitors, full of music and strong preaching from Father Joseph, that it felt like a packed Christmas or Easter liturgy! The celebration was followed by homemade Vietnamese food prepared over many, many hours by a large number of Vietnamese parishioners and visitors. It was estimated that over 800 people were served. It was a wonderful time of fellowship, laughter, honoring, prayer, and solidarity as Catholics!

Both Father Joseph and I were interviewed by Channel 5 news. Father Joseph was also interviewed by an international Vietnamese news affiliate. The Channel 5 interviews were broadcast later that day throughout Minnesota and western Wisconsin -- you can see the coverage still on our parish website. It is believed that over 9 million people from Australia, the U.S., Canada, and parts of Europe – where many Vietnamese escaped from communism -- saw not only the celebration, and heard the interviews, but also witnessed the coming together of many cultures united by our Catholic faith here at Saint Gerards. Please keep posted for an article and pictures on the Archdiocesan website and from the Catholic Spirit.

I would like to honor so many who made this celebration possible. Thank you to Father Joseph for organizing the many moving parts of both events and inspiring others to participate. Thank you to the many Vietnamese parishioners and visitors for the many long hours of preparation of food, music, and their liturgical choir. With gratitude we also thank our veterans who participated and to whom we gladly honor for their service and sacrifice. Thank you to many of our staff, volunteers, and liturgical ministers involved in the planning and ministering during the celebration of the Liturgy. Thank you as well to our music ministry for collaborating with the Vietnamese choir, to Brian Harrer, who not only gave an informative and inspirational challenge to all of us during the State of the Parish presentation, but played the trumpet out in the cold. A heartfelt thank you to Karl Kornowski, who not only diligently got the word out to the news media, but whose family also played the American national anthem in the cold outside too. It was good to see so many gifts being used together in heartfelt ministering to others.

Thank you, Saint Gerards!
Father John Klockeman

Advent 2019 - Come, Come, Emmanuel

The first Sunday of Advent begins next weekend. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend the Communal Reconciliation Service on December 12 at 7pm. Christmas Eve Masses will be at 4, 6, and 10pm. Mass on Christmas Day will be at 10:30am. **Come, Come, Emmanuel!**

World Mission Sunday

We will have a second collection for World Mission Sunday on the first weekend of Advent: November 30 and December 1. Thank you for your generosity!

Retirement Fund For Religious (RFR)

We will collect for the Retirement Fund for Religious at all Masses on the weekend of December 7, 8. You may place your RFR donation in the regular collection. This fund helps hundreds of religious communities provide medications and nursing care for elderly members. Please be generous.

Angel Tree Project

If you are a parishioner and are in need of Christmas gifts this year from the Angel Tree Project, please call the Parish Office at 763-424-8770 by Monday, **November 25**.

Thanksgiving Day Mass

It is good, it is good, it is good to give thanks to the Lord on high! Please join us in giving thanks at a **Thanksgiving Day Mass** on **Thursday, November 28** at 9:30am. God is good!

Eucharistic Adoration

Please note! Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will not be held on the following days: November 27/28, December 25/26, and January 1/2.

Getting St. Gerard's Push Notifications?

Don't miss out on these important parish notifications! Download our FREE parish mobile app today! Search for "St Gerard Majella" in the app store or scan the QR Code on the inside flap of the bulletin to download our free mobile app. The app features online registration and giving, parish calendar, bulletins, homilies, news and event information. PLUS, receive important PUSH notifications from St. Gerard's!

Justice and Outreach

November is Youth Homeless Month

Do you know a youth who is experiencing homelessness? Possibly couch-hopping or living in a car? The Youth Services Network MN (YSNMN) was developed by a collaboration of 13 social service agencies that provide shelter and other services to youth in the Twin Cities metropolitan area of Minnesota. There is a website and a mobile app designed to easily connect youth who are homeless, in crisis, or at risk of either, to the services they need. (For more info, visit: https://ysnmn.org/#/home)

Looking for a great way to help youth experiencing homelessness? Join the St. Gerard's Youth Homelessness Project on Saturday, **December 14**, from 10-3pm, at Brookdale Covenant Church, to wrap holiday presents for youth in Avenues For Homeless Youth programs. We are in need of many more volunteers! For more information or to register, contact Marni at mzimlin@aveneuesforyouth.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, **December 7**. No need to sign up, just come on Saturday morning at 9:00am to St. Gerard's kitchen and help prepare the food. Then help take it to Sharing and Caring Hands on 7th Street (Minneapolis) and serve at 11:30am. Call John, 763-561-3841, with questions.

Burrito Breakfast

Our friends from San Rafael will soon be celebrating the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Come join the Sister Parish Ministry in celebration at a Burrito Breakfast on **December 8** after the 8:30 and 10:30 Masses. Meet us in the hard floor area. All are welcome!

Community Garden

St. Gerard's Community garden produced some carrots that were close to 12" long. WOW! Next year, Dennis (St. Gerard's resident gardener extraordinaire), intends to plant *more* carrots in the CEAP plot! They don't require much attention, just lots of water. Growing season 2020!!

Faith Formation

Thanksgiving Break

Faith Formation students and families, there will be no Faith Formation classes on Sunday, November 24, Wednesday, November 27, or Sunday, December 1, due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Have a blessed Thanksgiving!

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Children's Liturgy of the Word takes place in the Chapel during the 8:30 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!

This Weekend's Gospel

As a family, read this weekend's Gospel, Luke 23:35-43. Throughout the gospels we are shown different "pictures" of Jesus by the way He is described and the titles He is given. He is Mary's son, God's Son and is called the Son of Man. He is also called the Lamb of God. Other titles He is given and roles He has are brother, healer, friend, teacher, savior and ultimately king. Most of you have seen the movie, *The Lion King*. In it, Simba sings a song called, "I Just Can't Wait To Be King." He is obviously not imagining it to be like Jesus as king in today's gospel. Simba and most of us think being a king is about being able to do whatever you want, and about having power, servants, riches, and the best of everything. Jesus as king is not anything like that. Jesus is the kind of king who rules by example and by being a servant to the people. He is the kind of king who wants the best for His people and will do anything, including die, to make sure they have it. We want to follow Him and do as He asks, not because of His power or wealth, but because He loves us and inspires us to want to be like Him. Source: https://adorers.org/childrens-liturgy/

Announcements

WELCOME TO ST. GERARD'S!

If you are visiting St. Gerard's today and would like more information about the parish or how to become a member, please stop by the Welcome Desk in the Gathering Space, pick up a new member info packet, and sign our guest registry. You can also visit the "I Am New" tab of our website (www.st-gerard.org) or app ("St Gerard Majella" in the app store)! And check out our facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/churchofsaintgerard)! Thank you for worshipping with us today!

WEEKEND BULLETINS & HOMILIES ARE ONLINE!

Visit our website, www.st-gerard.org, or mobile app to read the bulletin or listen to the weekend homily. Also check out current parish events, online giving, and ways to get involved in the parish!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CHRISTMAS SALE

The St. Gerard's Knights of Columbus members will be selling poinsettias and Christmas cards this weekend (**November 23, 24**) in the Gathering Space following the weekend Masses and during the Advent Tea gathering. Proceeds from the sales will go to charitable programs in our parish and community.

DECEMBER FOOD FOR FAMILIES COLLECTION

The St. Gerard's Knights of Columbus will be collecting non-perishable food for the holidays from December 1-30 to be donated to CEAP to help alleviate hunger in our community. The Knights will hand out grocery bags to our parishioners with a list of suggested food items after the Masses on the weekends of December 1, 2 and December 8, 9. We will accept your donations until Sunday, December 29. The Knights thank you again for supporting CEAP and the people they serve.

SCOUT WREATH FUNDRAISER PICK-UP

Scout Troop 575 have your wreaths purchased from the Wreath Fundraiser ready for you to pick-up! Scouts will be in the Gathering Space before and after Masses this weekend (**November 23 and 24**.) The Scouts thank you for your support!

ATTENTION ONLINE HOLIDAY SHOPPERS!

Do you shop on Amazon? When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the same low prices, same products and same shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to St. Gerards. Support St. Gerards when you shop Amazon by using the link https://smile.amazon.com/ch/41-0973587 It is already setup to directly support St. Gerards. Thank you!

EASY GIVING FOR ST. GERARD'S!

- **Website:** www.st-gerard.org GIVE page
- **Mobile App:** GIVE page
- **QR Code:** scan the QR Code (inside flap of the bulletin)
- **Auto Withdrawal:** Contact the parish office at 763-424-8770

Thank you for your continued support!

This Week at St. Gerard's

INTENTIONS

M-F 8:25 AM - Eucharist, Liturgy of Hours
TUE 9:00 AM - Perpetual Help Devotion
DAILY MASS IN THE CHAPEL.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25
8:25 am - Communion Service
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26
8:25 am - Larry Molenaar †
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27
8:25 am - Joan Kotsmith †
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28
8:25 am - Thanksgiving Special Int
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29
8:25 am - Mike McDounald †
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30
5:00 pm - Burt Stock †
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1
8:30 am - Lois Vandervlies †
10:30 am - St. Gerard & San Rafael

PARISH EVENTS

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25
7:30 pm - Scouts Troup 575 Meeting
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26
9:00 am - Perpetual Help Devotion
9:15 am - Women's Prayer/Support Group
7:30 pm - Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
7:30 pm - Regent AA
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27
9:00 am - NO Eucharistic Adoration
6:00 pm - FF: NO CLASSES
7:00 pm - Music Rehearsal
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28
Thanksgiving Holiday - OFFICE CLOSED
9:30 am - Thanksgiving Eucharist
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29
Thanksgiving Holiday - OFFICE CLOSED
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30
4:00 pm - Individual Confessions
5:00 pm - Eucharist
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1
8:30 am - Eucharist
8:30 am - Children's Liturgy of the Word
10:30 am - Eucharist
10:30 am - Children's Liturgy of the Word
10:30 am - FF: NO CLASSES
6:00 pm - FF: NO CLASSES

PLEASE PRAY for the sick and ailing members of our parish community, and all those in our Parish Prayer Book, especially:
Anne Marie Seward
Selestina Alabi
Bernadine Berger

Also remember those loved ones who have died, especially:
Dee Kotsmith

DECEMBER 1, 2019
1st Sunday of Advent

IS 2:1-5
ROM 13:11-14
MT 24:37-44

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