

The Church of St. Gerard Majella

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, & JOSEPH

DECEMBER 29, 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

EUCCHARIST

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
Fr. Joseph-Quốc Thiện Võ
Karl Kornowski - Parish Administrator
Amy Wittak- Liturgical Ministry
Open Position - Dir. of Liturgical Music
Open Position - 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

To Encounter Christ!



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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

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A NOTE FROM THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR

My brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus,

This weekend December 28th - 29th is the Feast of the Holy Family: Jesus, Mary and Joseph. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all of you who have been married and celebrated your 1st, 5th, 15th, 20th, 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 50th, 55th, 60th, 61st, 62nd, 63rd, 64th, 65th, etc. anniversary. You are the witnesses of Christ's love for the world to see.

As the Scripture tells us practically nothing about the first years and the boyhood of the Child Jesus, all we know are the facts of the sojourn in Egypt, the return to Nazareth, and the incidents that occurred when the twelve-year-old boy accompanied his parents to Jerusalem. In her liturgy, the Church hurries over this period of Christ's life with equal brevity. The general breakdown of the family, however, at the end of the past century and at the beginning of our own, prompted the popes, especially the far-sighted Leo XIII, to promote the observance of this feast with the hope that it might instill into Christian families something of the faithful love and the devoted attachment that characterize the family of Nazareth. The primary purpose of the Church in instituting and promoting this feast is to present the Holy Family as the model and exemplar of all Christian families.

At St. Gerard, Father Klockeman and I are blessed to be adopted into this community of faith – a holy family. I see we are journeying together to the Lord's house as family. We are very unique; in fact at St. Gerard you are blessed with diversity of cultures and races. We are all welcome here to worship God – as one big family. We are one big family in Christ Jesus with Blessed Mary and Saint Joseph.

The Holy Family is essential for all of us. Let us ask our Lord Jesus, Blessed Mary and Saint Joseph that we may continue to be faithful to Christ Jesus with the intercession of Mary and St. Joseph.

Rev. Joseph-Quoc Vuong

MANY, MANY, MANY THANKS!

Thank you to all who have worked so hard to make our Christmas liturgies meaningful and beautiful. Many hours of preparation go into our Worship Environment and Music Ministries and the results are so wonderful. We cannot celebrate well without our Liturgical Ministers who serve the whole community so selflessly! Thank you all for your tireless and generous gifts of time and talent!

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, a Holy day of Obligation, will be celebrated Wednesday, **January 1** at 10:00am and 7:00pm. Please join us!

BUSY BAGS FOR KIDS!

It's important to bring your children to Mass, but sometimes they can get a bit squirrely! Are you looking for a way to keep your little ones busy during Mass? We have "Busy Bags" available in the Gathering Space for your convenience. There are different activities/books to help keep your child occupied during the Mass.



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!

GIFT BEARERS SIGN UP!

Attention St. Gerard families! You are invited to sign up to bring up the gifts at mass. A sign-up sheet can be found in the Gathering Space on the table next to the Welcome Desk. All are welcome to participate!

PRAYER REQUESTS AND MASS INTENTIONS

To have a parishioner included in the Prayer of the Faithful at an upcoming weekend Mass or to have a Mass said for a special intention, please call the parish office at 763-424-8770.

WEDDING PLANS?

Interested in getting married at St. Gerard's? Contact Amy Wittak (amyw@st-gerard.org or 763-424-8770) for more information. Congratulations on your engagement!

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

Faith Formation

SISTER PARISH MISSION TRIP - MCALLEN, TX

The Parish of St. Gerard began a sister-parish partnership with the Parish of San Rafael in San Rafael, Nuevo Leon, Mexico in the winter of 2008. The Sister Parish Ministry is participating in an immersion experience to Explore Migration as a Faith Journey in McAllen, Texas, January 2020. They will celebrate Immigration Sunday (January 5, 2020) at the border with fellow parishioners from San Rafael, Mexico! It will be a week of working with respite centers, listening to stories of the migrants, and talking with Border Patrol and Immigration lawyers. Participants for the mission trip took part in the "Exploring Migration: A Faith Journey" - an 8 week study (September through November, 2019) in preparation for the immersion experience.

Please pray for the St. Gerard and San Rafael team as they live out the call of our faith to minister to the orphans, widows, and homeless and seek to be the hands of Christ to the people they meet at the Border in McAllen, TX.



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, **January 4**. 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. Call John at 763-561-3841 with any questions.



PRE-PLANNING FUNERAL MATERIALS AVAILABLE

If you would like to make some pre-planning funeral arrangements for yourself or a loved one, contact Amy Wittak at amyw@st-gerard.org or 763-424-8770 to receive materials for planning a funeral service, including selections for Scripture readings and for appropriate music. You may also visit the parish website (**FUNERALS**) to review or print materials.

CHRISTMAS BREAK

Please note that there will be no Faith Formation classes on the following days, due to the Christmas Break:

St. G's Kids: December 29 and January 5

Grades 1-5: January 1

Edge & Confirmation: December 29 and January 5

Classes will resume Wednesday, January 8 and Sunday, January 12.

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

St Gerard's Faith Formation has an opportunity to help feed children in need. Faith Formation grades 1 – Confirmation, and their parent(s), will be able to help pack meals for children in need. The date is **February**



19, 2020 from 6:00 – 8:30pm. The event will be held at the Egan Company in Champlin (117th Ave N & Hwy 169). We still have some slots available. Please visit the link on our parish website, www.st-gerard.org, to register.

For more information, please contact the parish office.

FF FAMILY NIGHT - JANUARY/FEBRUARY

There will be no Faith Formation Family Night on January 8. The next Family Night will be February 19 which is the Feed My Starving Children event at the Egan Center in Champlin. There will be no classes on February 19 due to the Feed My Starving Children event.

FIRST RECONCILIATION

First Reconciliation will be celebrated on Wednesday, **January 15** at 6:00pm. Please pray for our students and their families as they enter the final preparations for this special sacrament.

FIRST EUCHARIST PARENT MEETING

There will be a First Eucharist parent meeting on Wednesday, **February 12** from 6:00 - 7:15pm. This meeting is for parents who have a child making their First Eucharist this spring (2020).

CONFIRMATION RETREAT

Attention Confirmation students and families! Mark your calendars! The Confirmation retreat is scheduled for Saturday, **April 4**, 2020 from 10:00am - 9:00pm. More information to follow.

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 parish 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!

ARCHDIOCESAN SYNOD – UPCOMING PRAYER AND LISTENING EVENTS

What's working and what's not in the Archdiocese? Archbishop Hebda wants to hear from you! Please prayerfully consider attending an upcoming Prayer and Listening Event, as part of the Pre-Synod Process and make your voice heard. Your input will help guide the Archdiocese over the next 5-10 years. There are 20 Prayer and Listening Events. The next three are:

Saturday, Jan. 5, 1-4 pm at Holy Cross, Minneapolis

Saturday, Jan. 25, 9 am-noon at St. Peter Claver, St. Paul

Tuesday, Jan. 28, 6-9 pm at Pax Christi, Eden Prairie

Learn more about the Synod and see a full listing of Prayer and Listening Events by visiting the parish website, www.st-gerard.org, NEWS & EVENTS page.

EUCARISTIC ADORATION

At St. Gerards, we have Adoration every Wednesday 9:00am through Thursday 8:00am. You are welcome to visit the chapel any time without signing up. If you wish to sign up for a committed weekly hour, please call the Parish Office at 763-424-8770.

Please note. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will not be held on January 1/2.

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS

"Wives, be subordinate to your husbands...Husbands, love your wives...Children, obey your parents in everything...Fathers, do not provoke your children..." (Colossians 3:18-21)

Pope Francis said that families, through their life of prayer and love, become "schools of true human growth." Being credible witnesses of Christian love, especially that of family members, exerts the most positive influence on our children. We are all children of God; let us pray and love each other as God, our Father, does for us.

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 IS IN THE CHAPEL.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 30

8:25 am - Johnny Podominick †

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31

8:25 am -

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1

10:00 am -
7:00 pm -

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2

8:25 am -

FRIDAY, JANUARY 3

8:25 am -

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4

5:00 pm - Brian Dupay †

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5

8:30 am - Larry Molenaar †

10:30 am - St. Gerard & San Rafael



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

Also remember those loved ones who have died, especially:
Josephine Nicklay

JANUARY 5, 2020

Epiphany of the Lord

IS 60:1-6

EPH 3:2-3A, 5-6

MT 2:1-12

PARISH EVENTS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 30

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31

OFFICE CLOSED - New Year's Eve
9:00 am - Perpetual Help Devotion

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1

OFFICE CLOSED - New Year's Day
9:00 am - No Eucharistic Adoration
10:00 am - Eucharist - Solemnity of Mary
6:00 pm - No Faith Formation Sessions
7:00 pm - Eucharist - Solemnity of Mary

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2

6:00 pm - Centering Prayer

FRIDAY, JANUARY 3

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4

9:00 am - Sharing & Caring Hands
4:00 pm - Individual Confessions
5:00 pm - Eucharist

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5

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 - St. G's Kids - No Session
11:30 am - Baptisms
6:00 pm - No Faith Formation Sessions

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.



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