

Mass Intentions

Monday, January 8
Special Intentions
Tuesday, January 9
Suzanne Strangi
Wednesday, January 10
Gules Broussard
Thursday, January 11
Bumm, Willett, Hardesty Families
Friday, January 12
For children with terminal illness
Saturday, January 13
Ross & Mildred Bret
Sunday, January 14
8 AM—Parishioners of St. Gerard Majella
10 AM—Adams, Barbier, & Delapasse Families

Our Sanctuary Candle Burns
In Memory of:
Michael D. "Mickey" Wallis



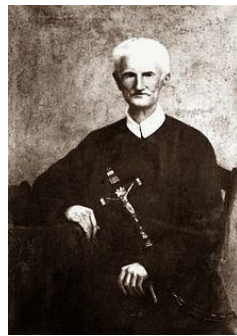
Peace

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."
John 16:33



Welcome new parishioners... to St. Gerard Majella Catholic Church. Pick up a registration form in the back of the Church. Ushers are available if you need assistance.. Call the office (225) 355-2553 if you or anyone in your family is home-bound through illness or infirmity or in the hospital or extended care facility and would welcome a Eucharistic or Pastoral Visit by one of St. Gerard Majella's ministers to the sick.

Blessed Petrus (Peter) Norbert Donders (27 October 1807 - 14 January 1887) was a Dutch Roman Catholic priest and a professed member from the Redemptorists. Petrus Norbert Donders was born in Tilburg in the Netherlands on 27 October 1807 as the eldest of two children to Arnold Denis and Petronella van den Brekel Donders; his brother after him was Martin. The Tilburgers knew him as Peerke Donders and he taught catechism to his fellow children during his spare time. He desired from his childhood to become a priest but he first worked in a warehouse because of his poor economic condition; this condition saw that he could not attend school for long. Later a benefactor enabled him to pursue his theological studies at Haaren and he entered on 4 October 1837. In 1831 he was deemed unfit for the armed service that was required of men his age at that stage. In 1833 he applied to the Redemptorists to join their ranks but was denied and this was the same for requests he lodged with the Jesuits and Franciscans. But a chance reading of the "Annals of the Propagation of the Faith" - a journal of reports from various missions - determined his vocation for the foreign missions which he had set his heart on. He was accepted in 1839 for the missions (when Bishop Jacobus Grooff asked him since the bishop was impressed with Donders' zeal and passion) for the then Dutch Suriname (now the Republic of Suriname) and he was ordained to the priesthood on 5 June 1841. On 1 August 1842 he traveled to Paramaribo to begin his long apostolic career and he arrived there on 16 September 1842. He labored with success among the African blacks in the plantations and once 1850 had arrived he had instructed and baptized 1200 people. His letters express his indignation at the harsh treatment of the African peoples forced to work on the plantations.^[3] He served in the missions in Suriname where he tended to the native inhabitants and the lepers; he worked in both Paramaribo and Batavia where he died. (Source: Wikipedia)



Upcoming Blessed Holy Days:
January 14—Blessed Peter Donders
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity:
January 18-25



We are all called to serve the church. Please consider volunteering to be:

Ushers
Lectors
Eucharistic Ministers
For more information, please contact Sonyja Thomas at srthomas@agcenter.lsu.edu, email admin@stgerardmajellachurch.org, or contact the parish office at 225-355-2553.

MLK Festival of Service 2018

The Racial Harmony Commission of the Diocese of Baton Rouge invites all Catholics of the Diocese to join them in participation in the MLK Festival of Service 2018 on January 12-15, 2018. Join thousands of volunteers in this four day event in which the Wall Project facilitates the painting of blighted buildings and murals, planting community gardens and trees, landscaping properties, repairing fences, and picking up garbage. This project will focus on Scenic Highway in Scotlandville. You may register as an individual or as part of a group. You may choose which day and which shift you can work, as well as the type of work you want to do. Please visit the website for more information and registration: <http://thewallsproject.org/mlk-festival-of-service/>

Sacramental Offerings

Altar flowers Each week you may honor a loved one with a donation in order to dedicate the floral arrangement that adorns our sanctuary candles.

OLPH candles are the blue candles that burn in front of the OLPH icon for your prayer requests. A requested donation for a candle is \$4.00.

Sanctuary Candle burns for seven days in memory of a loved one. A requested donation for a candle is \$4.00.

Mass intentions You can schedule your Mass Intentions through the parish office. The deadline to schedule is Wednesday for the following week. You can even schedule ahead a year in advance. Requested donation is \$10.

Our Church Mission



The people of St. Gerard Majella are called through Baptism to celebrate the presence of Christ in Word and Sacrament. We are called and sent by Christ to live gratefully the life God has given us and to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ. In the spirit of faith, service, and community, we strive to bring people closer together and closer to God.

This we accomplish by:

- † Building our lives in the image of Christ through worship and prayer.
- † Contributing to the growth of our parish by spreading the Gospel by word, witness, action, and evangelization.
- † Inviting everyone to serve, in the way meeting the needs of our parishioners and the broader community.
- † Being faithful stewards of St. Gerard, accountable to God by responsibly sharing our time, talents, and treasures.
- † Lending support to the parish leadership and working together to fulfill the mission.

REGISTRATION FOR NEW PARISHIONERS:

Membership in the Church involves more than just attendance at Mass. We would hope that people who enjoy coming to St. Gerard Majella Church would officially register as members. Not only does it let us know who you are, but registration is required for baptisms, weddings, and most other sacraments. Please pick up a registration form in the back of church or call the parish office.

This weekend will be a collection for the maintenance fund. Please give generously.