



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.



ALTAR FLOWERS MEMORIAL

Each week you may honor a loved one with a donation in order to dedicate the floral arrangement that adorns our sanctuary. Please place your donation in the collection basket or bring it by the Church Office.

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP MEMORIAL CANDLES

These are the blue candles that burn in front of the OLPH icon for your prayer requests. Requested donation is \$4.00.

SANCTUARY CANDLE

The Altar Candle burns for six days in memory of a loved one. You can request this candle for one week. A requested donation is \$4.00.



**Our Sanctuary Candle Burns
In Memory of:
Father Joe Steffes**



Parishioners sick or in need of healing:

- Bea Albardo
- David & Mary Boudreaux
- Kimberly Ford
- Aaron Isaac
- Theo Little
- Barbara Michelli
- Ricky Rivette
- Carrie Russ
- Winifred Tucker

Names are removed after six weeks. Please call the parish office to add/retain names on the list.

MASS INTENTIONS

Did you know you can schedule Mass Intentions weeks, months and even a year or more in advance? You can schedule your Mass Intentions through the parish office. The deadline to schedule is Wednesday for the following week. After Wednesday the intentions will be scheduled for the week after. Requested Donation is \$10.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

At the death of a loved one, in lieu of flowers, consider a donation to St. Gerard Majella Church on behalf of your loved one. St. Gerard Majella Church has nourished the spiritual life of so many parishioners. This is a wonderful way to honor your loved one and enrich the parish by such a donation.

Tout c'est grace!

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 homebound 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.



Mass Intentions

- Monday, February 19**
Jason Paul Smith
- Tuesday, February 20**
Arther White, Sr.
- Wednesday, February 21**
For children with terminal illness
- Thursday, February 22**
For those who live in poverty
- Friday, February 23**
John Ponthieu
Fr. Joseph Steffes
- Saturday, February 24**
Carlo & Bonnie Bellelo
Jackie Boudreaux
Ruby Casemore
Steve Steedley
John Dale Givens
- Sunday, February 25**
8 AM—Joseph Burton, Jr.
Parishioners of St. Gerard Majella
10 AM—Alice Zito
Adams, Barbier & Delapasse Families

There will be a second collection this week for the Church in Eastern Europe by the Diocese. Next week's second collection will be for the Black & Indian missions.

Seven reasons for fasting:

1. From the beginning, God commanded some fasting, and sin entered into the world because Adam and Eve broke the fast.
2. For the Christian, fasting is ultimately about fasting from sin.
3. Fasting reveals our dependence on God and not the resources of this world.
4. Fasting is an ancient way of preparing for the Eucharist—the truest of foods.
5. Fasting is preparation for baptism (and all the sacraments)—for the reception of grace.
6. Fasting is a means of saving resources to give to the poor.
7. Fasting is a means of self-discipline, chastity, and the restraining of the appetites.

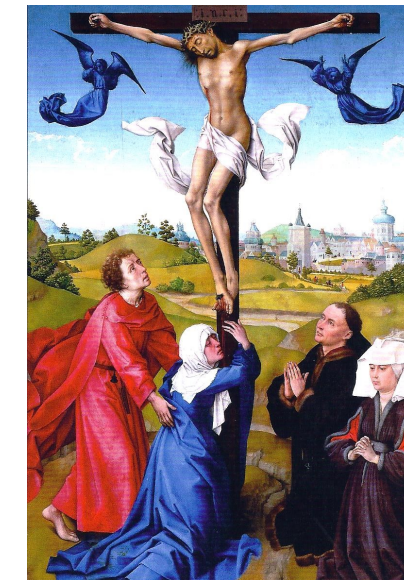


A Prayer for Lent

Lord, Holy Father, show us what kind of man it is who is hanging for our sakes on the cross, whose suffering causes the rocks themselves to crack and crumble with compassion, whose death brings the dead back to life. Let my heart crack and crumble at the sight of him. Let my soul break apart with compassion for his suffering. Let it be shattered with grief at my sins for which he dies. And finally let it be softened with devoted love for him.

Amen.

—St. Bonaventure



Grace is everywhere!