

January is Poverty Awareness Month!

"I want a Church which is poor and for the poor."

-Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium*

During Poverty Awareness Month, join the U.S. Bishops, the Catholic Campaign for Human Development and the Catholic community in the United States in taking up Pope Francis' challenge to live in solidarity with the poor! In addition to the calendar below, longer daily reflections are also available. See <http://www.usccb.org/about/catholic-campaign-for-human-development/poverty-education/poverty-awareness-month.cfm> or diobr.org for more information.

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

Monday, January 15

For vocations to the church

Tuesday, January 16

For world peace

Wednesday, January 17

Suzanne Strangi

Thursday, January 18

Bumm, Willett, Hardesty Families

Friday, January 19

For children with terminal illness

Saturday, January 20

Ross & Mildred Bret

Sunday, January 21

8 AM-Parishioners of St. Gerard Majella
10 AM-Adams, Barbier, & Delapasse Families

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity:

January 18-25

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



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.

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.

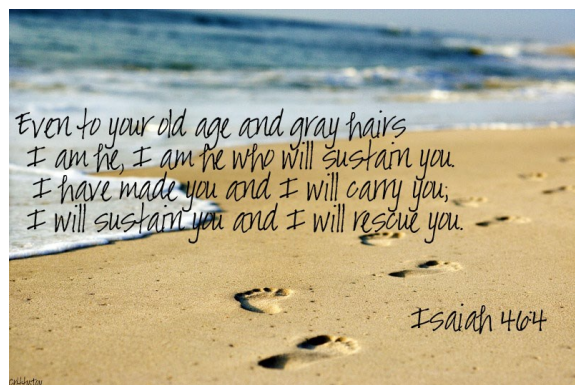
We are updating our parish records and want to ensure we have the correct information. If you have a change of address or phone number, or if you are not receiving offertory envelopes, please call the office at 225-355-2553.

Meditate the Mysteries of our Redemption

We meditate the Mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary of Our Blessed Mother 30 minutes before every Mass. Please come early and join us!

Sacramental Offerings

Each week you may honor a loved one with a donation in the form of altar flowers, Our Lady of Perpetual Help candles, sanctuary candles, mass intentions, & other memorial gifts. Contact the office for more information.



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.



There are many prayers to St. Anthony of Padua (1195-1231, Feast Day Jan 17), patron of the poor and a Doctor of the Church, asking for his aid, particularly in finding lost articles. St. Anthony was a Franciscan (a member of the religious order founded by St. Francis of Assisi) who was known as a great preacher and theological instructor. His sermons were so inspiring that his fame spread throughout France and Italy in the ten years before his death. Saint Anthony was known the "hammer of heretics" for his devotion to the faith. Pope Gregory IX, who canonized him as a saint in 1232, called him "The Ark of the Covenant." Many prayers to St. Anthony mention specific favors and requests, including aid for travelers and pregnant women. Numerous miracles have been attributed to him. In one of the most famous of these, he was seen one night in a room where he was staying bathed in light with the Child Jesus (the ultimate source of light, indeed!) in his arms. (Versions of this image, such as the one at right, have been depicted in paintings and statues over the centuries.) With typical humility, St. Anthony asked that this vision be kept secret until after his death. (Source: Catholicprayers.com) Saint Anthony, perfect imitator of Jesus, who received from God the special power of restoring lost things, grant that I may find (mention your petition) which has been lost. At least restore to me peace and tranquility of mind, the loss of which has afflicted me even more than my material loss. To this favor I ask another of you: that I may always remain in possession of the true good that is God. Let me rather lose all things than lose God, my supreme good. Let me never suffer the loss of my greatest treasure, eternal life with God. Amen.

God is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or imagine!

Ephesians 3:20

Parishioners sick or in need of healing:

- Bea Albardo
- Brenda Marie Batiste
- David & Mary Boudreaux
- Kimberly Ford
- Aaron Isaac
- Theo Little
- Barbara Michelli
- Ricky Rivette
- Carrie Russ
- Frank Viveiros
- Alice Zito