

# St. Gerard Majella Church

*The poor you will always have with you,  
and whenever you wish you can do good to  
them, but you will not always have me.*

Mark 14:7 (NAB)



**Mass Intentions**

**Saturday, March 28th**

4:00PM Margaret Welby Raymond (Anniversary)

**Sunday, March 29th**

8:30AM For the People of the Parish

10:30AM Claire Taylor (3rd Anniversary)

**Monday, March 30th**

9:00AM Edmund B. Gesiak (17th Anniversary)

**Tuesday, April 1st**

9:00AM Joseph Barbieri (32nd Anniversary)

*Your prayers are requested for Ann R. McCarthy who was buried from St. Gerard's last week.*

# WELCOME

If you are a visitor to Saint Gerard Majella Parish, we want you to know how welcome you are -whether you have come from another part of the country, from across the world, or from another parish here in the Archdiocese. Thank you for praying with us. Thank you also for your generosity, which helps us to celebrate our liturgies in a fitting and beautiful way, and to offer spiritual support to people in the Canton area. Enjoy your visit!

**Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers  
Holy Week Sign-Up**

April 2 - Holy Thursday - 7:30PM

April 4 - Holy Saturday - 7:30PM

April 5 - Easter Sunday - 8:30AM & 10:30AM

**Sign-up sheets for these Masses are in the Sacristy**

**Prayer Corner for the living**

*Please keep the following in your prayers:*

John Mariani, Emily Lewis, Tom Lordon, Carol Bradley, Bernice Panucci, William Benoit, Ray Fisher, Baby Joseph, Ed Hartman, Salli Govatsos, Baby Madeline Smith, Ava Alpert, Sr. Catherine Gilmore, John W., Thomas Rose, Kathy, Michael, Kay Smith, PAF, Luci Colee, Deborah Rizzotto.

**Collection March 22nd & 23rd**

**Attendance - 941**

**Offertory - \$5,840**

**Offertory July 1st to date: \$302,851**

**Budget July 1st to date: \$299,208**

**Favorable Variance YTD \$3,643**

**Thank you for your continued support of St. Gerard's**

**Holy Week Schedule**

**Thursday of Holy Week**

7:30PM The Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper  
Adoration to follow until 10:00PM

**Good Friday**

3:00PM Stations of the Cross  
7:30PM The Celebration of the Lord's Passion  
Re-enactment of the Passion by the Jr.CYO Youth

**Saturday**

7:30PM The Easter Vigil

**Easter Sunday Masses**

8:30AM & 10:30AM

**Note: No evening Mass at 6:00PM**

**Your daily life is complicated enough!**

**Forget your envelope or your check?**

**Make things easy on yourself!**

**Sign up for automatic offertory**

**Online at: [www.parishpay.com](http://www.parishpay.com)**

**or through your Bank**



**Altar Easter Flowers**

If you would like to donate an Easter flower for our altar in memory of a loved one, there are envelopes at the entrances of the church for your donation. Please return your donation by Sunday, March 29th. We will display the names in the bulletin.



**The Light is On For You** — On all the **Wednesdays of Lent from 6:30-8:00PM**

St. Gerard Majella and all the parishes and chapels of the Archdiocese of Boston will be open for individual confession. The Archdiocese has set up a website, [www.TheLightIsOnForYou.org](http://www.TheLightIsOnForYou.org), to help you prepare. It has videos on the Sacrament of Reconciliation, sheets on how to make a good confession, answers to frequently-asked questions and more. Please make plans to come on Lenten Wednesdays and spread the word of this special outreach of mercy to those you know.

## Religious Education

**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Retreat:** Saturday, Apr 11<sup>th</sup> from 1-4 pm followed by the 4:00 pm Mass. Retreat forms were due back Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup>. If you have not returned your child's registration form for the retreat, please return it to the Rectory as soon as possible.

### Attention Parents

**When children need to use the bathrooms in the Church, during or after Mass, it is strongly recommended that an adult accompany them. This is not meant to alarm anyone but merely to underscore the simple fact that St. Gerard's is a very safe and nurturing environment. Our aim is always to protect our children.**

### Operation Lazarus

**March** donation to our fund to feed and clothe the homeless, was generously made by the following family:

#### *The Clasby Family*

Our sincerest thanks to this family!! There are return stamped envelopes available at the right parking lot exit for anyone who would like to contribute to this ministry. **LENT** is a season of almsgiving and a perfect time to give to those who are suffering and so much less fortunate than ourselves. Thank you.

### Summer Position

We are currently accepting applications for 2 full time college intern positions. Candidates will work from mid May thru mid August, coordinating and managing our Summer Kids Camp and Outreach Programs. Applications and full job descriptions are available online @ [www.saintgerard.org](http://www.saintgerard.org). go to the KIDS CAMP tab or you can pick up the forms at the Parish Office. Candidates will be chosen the 1st week in April. For any other questions you may call Kathy Donahoe at the Parish Office @ 781-828-3420. Thank you.

### Youth Ministry Flower Sale

Our Youth Ministry teens will be selling beautiful tulips and lilies from our fine Boston greenhouse supplier. They will be available after all Easter Sunday Masses. All proceeds will benefit our Outreach program. Your help is appreciated!

### Homebound Ministry

Deacon Dan has been in the process of expanding our homebound ministry program through which he and others bring Holy Eucharist to many of our fellow parishioners who are unable to leave their home and attend Mass. Within this very important ministry, we as a parish community are able to extend ourselves in a real and important way to many of our fellow parishioners who are permanently disabled or physically unable to make the trip from their home to church. We would like to expand this program to other parishioners who may be temporarily disabled due to a recent medical procedure or who may simply be unable to find transportation from home to church. If you are aware of any person who is unable to make their way to church for whatever reason, please contact the parish office and we will make sure they are included on our homebound list.

### Youth Ministry

**JrCYO :** Passion Play Practices are Tuesday, 3/31, 5-7PM, Thursday 4/2, 5-7PM, Friday,4/3,5-7PM followed by the service, 7:30-9PM. Call Erin Martin 339-237-2107 with questions.

**Gr 10 Confirmation:** A make-up Retreat will be held for all those students who missed their scheduled mandatory retreat. Good Friday, April 3rd, from 10-4PM. All those who missed have been notified and mailed a permission slip. Questions: call Kathy @the rectory Mon-Thurs 781-828-3420.

### Food Pantry

Our monthly collection of non-perishable item (beef stew, baked beans, mac & cheese, jelly, cereal, pasta, soup, Jell-O, canned fruits and vegetables) for the Canton Food Pantry will be taken up the weekend of April 4th & 5th. Donations may be left in the baskets at the doors of the church. As always your generosity is appreciated.

### Trips

**IS IT TIME FOR A U.S. VACATION? American West September 18-24 - \$1999/ppdo** Tour includes round trip air, 6nights, 6 breakfasts and 4 dinners Visits to Mt Rushmore, Crazy Horse Memorial, Devil's Tower, Black Hills of South Dakota, Badlands National Park, Ta Tanka and Custer State Park. After a stay in Rapid City, it's on to Deadwood , the tiny goldrush town, and explore the saloons, casinos and areas that were once frequented by Wild Bill Hickock and Calamity Jane. For reservations and information call Janet Walrod, 781-575-1491.

## MANDATORY MEETING FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS INTERESTED IN SUMMER 2015 OUTREACH TRIPS

Sunday, April 12th 6PM Mass  
followed by meeting  
church hall  
7:00 – 8:00PM



### Vatican News

#### **At Lenten penance service, pope announces Holy Year of Mercy**

*By Cindy Wooden, Catholic News Service*

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Pope Francis announced an extraordinary jubilee, a Holy Year of Mercy, to highlight the Catholic Church's "mission to be a witness of mercy." "No one can be excluded from God's mercy," the pope said March 13, marking the second anniversary of his pontificate by leading a Lenten penance service in St. Peter's Basilica. "I frequently have thought about how the church can make more evident its mission to be a witness of mercy," he said during his homily; that is why he decided to call a special Holy Year, which will be celebrated from Dec. 8, 2015, until Nov. 20, 2016. The biblical theme of the year, he said, will be "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful," an admonition that applies "especially to confessors," the pope said with a smile.

Traditionally, every 25 years the popes proclaim a holy year, which features special celebrations and pilgrimages, strong calls for conversion and repentance, and the offer of special opportunities to experience God's grace through the sacraments, especially confession. Extraordinary holy years, like the Holy Year of Mercy, are less frequent, but offer the same opportunities for spiritual growth. The doors of the church "are wide open so that all those who are touched by grace can find the certainty of forgiveness," Pope Francis said at the penance service, which featured individual confessions. It was part of a worldwide celebration of "24 Hours for the Lord," in which Catholic churches were staying open for prayer, eucharistic adoration and confession. At each of the dozens of confessionals in St. Peter's Basilica, as well as in simple chairs scattered along the walls, priests welcomed people to the sacrament. The pope removed his liturgical vestments and went to confession before putting on a purple stole and hearing the confessions of others. "God never ceases to demonstrate the richness of his mercy over the course of centuries," the pope said in his homily, which preceded the confessions. God touches people's hearts with his grace, filling them with repentance and a desire to "experience his love."



**Vatican News (cont)**

Being touched by the tenderness of his hand," people should not be afraid to approach a priest and confess their sins, he said. In the confessional, one has "the certainty of being welcomed in the name of God and understood, despite our misery."

"The greater the sin, the greater the love, which the church must express toward those who convert," Pope Francis said. The Gospel reading at the penance service was the story of the sinful woman who washed Jesus' feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. Every time one goes to confession, the pope said, "we feel the same compassionate gaze of Jesus" that she did.

Jesus' love, he said, allowed her to draw near, to demonstrate her repentance and to show her love for him. "Every gesture of this woman speaks of love and expresses her desire to have an unshakable certainty in her life, that of having been forgiven."

"Love and forgiveness are simultaneous" in the story of each person, just as in the story of the sinful woman, he said.

"God forgave her for much -- for everything -- because he loved her much."

**"Being a Blessing,"** a *Spirituality for Everyday Living mini-retreat* led by Peggy Patenaude of *Taking Time Out* will be held on Wednesday, April 8 at Sacred Hearts Retreat Center in Wareham, MA from 10:00AM -12:30PM. Cost is \$20. Pre-registration required. Contact Peggy at 508-548-9149 or [timeoutretreats@comcast.net](mailto:timeoutretreats@comcast.net).

**"Soul Sisters,"** a women's retreat led by internationally known speaker and author, Edwina Gateley will be held August 10-15, 2015 at Sacred Hearts Retreat Center in Wareham, MA. For more information, contact Peggy Patenaude at [timeoutretreats@comcast.net](mailto:timeoutretreats@comcast.net) or 508-548-9149.



**Irish Hearts for Orphans**  
*Benefit Dance*

**Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup> from 4:00-8:00PM**  
*Marriott Boston Quincy*

**Suggested Donation: \$20**

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**Retired Chief Bob Faherty, Cops for Kids with Cancer**

**Sr. Marguerite Kelly, Irish Pastoral Center**  
**Dan McAuliffe, R.I.P., Saint Elizabeth Parish, Milton**

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[www.irishheartsfororphans.com](http://www.irishheartsfororphans.com)

617.206.4943

**Lovely Ladies 2015 Spring Social**

Please join us on Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup> from 6-9PM for our 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Lovely Ladies Spring Social to support My Brother's Keeper. With our new venue and new format, our 2015 Spring Social promises to be festive and filled with many activities for our guests to enjoy! The evening will include open seating, food stations, silent auction and more! Our guest speaker Maureen Feeney, City Clerk of the City of Boston and former President of the Boston City Council, will share her thoughts on "Balancing Faith, Family, and the Demands of Life." Tickets are \$100 and may be purchased online at <http://www.mybrotherskeeper.org>. Please RSVP by Monday April 6.

All proceeds benefit My Brother's Keeper, a Christian charity that delivers furniture and food to local families in need in nearly 80 cities and towns in Massachusetts with no prerequisite for service.

The Third Annual  
Run for Respite 5K  
Sunday, April 19th

To Benefit House of Possibilities and the Stonehill College Student Opportunity Fund

**First Communion Dress**

A beautiful dress, size 8 has been donated to St. Gerard's for any girl who is making the sacrament this year & is in need of a dress. Please call Donna at the rectory 781-828-3420.

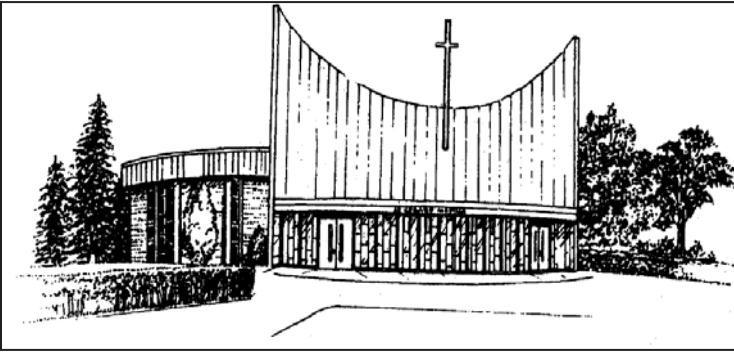
**WELCOME TO SAINT GERARD MAJELLA PARISH**

**If you have recently moved into our parish and would like to register as a parishioner, please fill out the form below. You may return it in the collection basket or drop it off at the Rectory. If you have any questions about our parish, please call the Rectory at 828-3420.**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_ **PHONE#:** \_\_\_\_\_

## St. Gerard Majella, Canton



*No matter who you are, no matter what you do,  
no matter where you come from, no matter  
where you are going, no matter how good or  
bad things may seem,  
**You are always welcome at  
St. Gerard Majella***

Address: 1860 Washington Street

Email: [welcome@saintgerard.org](mailto:welcome@saintgerard.org)

Web: [www.saintgerard.org](http://www.saintgerard.org)

Parish Office: 781-828-3420

Fax: 781-828-2520

Church Hall: 781-828-8699

### MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday Masses: 8:30AM, 10:30AM & 6:00PM

Weekday Masses: Monday–Thursday 9:00AM

Saturday Vigil: 4:00PM

Holy Days: As announced

Rosary: Daily 8:30AM before Mass & Monday 7:30PM

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays: 3:15-3:45PM

### SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

2nd & 4th Sunday of the month at 1:00PM.

Contact the Parish Office one month in advance.

### SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Arrangements should be made six months in advance. Contact the Parish Office.

### SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Contact the Parish Office if anyone is ill in the hospital or at home.

### EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tuesdays: 9:30AM–12 Noon

### PRAYER MEETING

Tuesday, 7:30PM

### A.A. MEETING

Saturday, 10:30AM, Church Hall

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday 12:00-4:30PM

Tuesday - Thursday 9:30AM-4:30PM

### BULLETIN NOTICES

Email submission by **Monday at 9:00AM**

**Reverend Rodney J. Copp, J.C.L., Pastor**  
**Archdiocesan Director, Pontifical Mission Societies**  
rcopp@rcab.org

**Deacon Daniel C. Nelson, THM, D. Min.**  
dcndan@saintgerard.org

### ASSISTING PRIESTS

Rev. Bryan Parrish

Rev. Daniel Magni

### FINANCE & OPERATIONS MANAGER

Gregory Pando, AIA - [gpando@saintgerard.org](mailto:gpando@saintgerard.org)

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/YOUTH MINISTRY

R.E. Coordinators:

Donna Andersen, [donna@saintgerard.org](mailto:donna@saintgerard.org)

Maura Messinger, [maura@saintgerard.org](mailto:maura@saintgerard.org)

Y.M. Director: Mike Mahan— [kathyd@saintgerard.org](mailto:kathyd@saintgerard.org)

Y.M. Ass't. Director: Janet Maguire

Secretary: Kathy Donahoe - [kathyd@saintgerard.org](mailto:kathyd@saintgerard.org)

### PARISH SECRETARY

Ellen Reynolds - [ellen@saintgerard.org](mailto:ellen@saintgerard.org)

### DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY

Tracy Zwicker-Suplee - [tracy@saintgerard.org](mailto:tracy@saintgerard.org)

### ORGANIST

Alex Buiel

### MARRIAGE COORDINATOR

Dolores Johnson

### ALTAR SERVERS

Bernard Donahoe

### CARETAKER

Ellery Vinal

### FINANCE COUNCIL

Brian Callery [bcallery@1017fg.com](mailto:bcallery@1017fg.com)

Steve MacPherson [Smacpherson262@gmail.com](mailto:Smacpherson262@gmail.com)

Gene Manning [manningfamily\\_12@hotmail.com](mailto:manningfamily_12@hotmail.com)

Lisa Lopez [lisaruthlopez@gmail.com](mailto:lisaruthlopez@gmail.com)

### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Kevin Donovan [kevjdon@aol.com](mailto:kevjdon@aol.com)

Tricia Kennedy [tricia\\_kennedy@yahoo.com](mailto:tricia_kennedy@yahoo.com)

Priscilla Lee [bellemama2@gmail.com](mailto:bellemama2@gmail.com)

Rosemary Sullivan [sullra10@verizon.net](mailto:sullra10@verizon.net)

Joe Thornton [jptjr2@gmail.com](mailto:jptjr2@gmail.com)

Jim Walker [jim.walker499@gmail.com](mailto:jim.walker499@gmail.com)

Meetings will take place every second Wednesday of the month in the Rectory Conference Room.

**Co-Workers in the Vineyard Conference**  
**The Mission of Evangelization in the Parish**

**April 10, 2015 9:00-3:30**

Our Lady Help of Christians Parish  
 Newton, MA

**Keynote Speaker:**  
**Dr. Ralph Martin**



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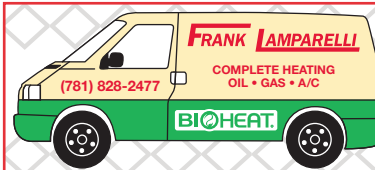


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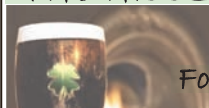
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