

# THE CHURCH OF ST. GERARD MAJELLA

*All are Welcome to Encounter Christ*

AUGUST 14, 2022 | TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## WELCOME!

9600 Regent Avenue North  
Brooklyn Park, MN 55443  
763-424-8770  
st-gerard.org

## OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Thu | 9:00am-4:00pm  
Friday | 9:00am-1:00pm  
Sat-Sun | Closed

## MASS SCHEDULE

### Weekdays

Mon-Fri | 8:30 am | English  
Sat | 8:00am | Vietnamese

### Weekends

Sat | 5:00 pm | English  
Sun | 8:00 am | Vietnamese  
Sun | 9:30 am | English  
Sun | 11:00am | English

## Reconciliation

Sat | 4:00pm, or by appointment

## PARISH STAFF

### Pastor

Fr. Charles V. Lachowitz  
frcharlie@st-gerard.org

### Parochial Vicar (Vietnamese)

Rev. Paul Phong Le  
frpaulphong@st-gerard.org  
(Viet only): 612-453-8798

### Parish Administrator

Karl Kornowski  
karlk@st-gerard.org  
(Em. Cell): 612-703-7570

### Director of Faith Formation

Meredith Toweh  
formation@st-gerard.org

### Director of Parish Life

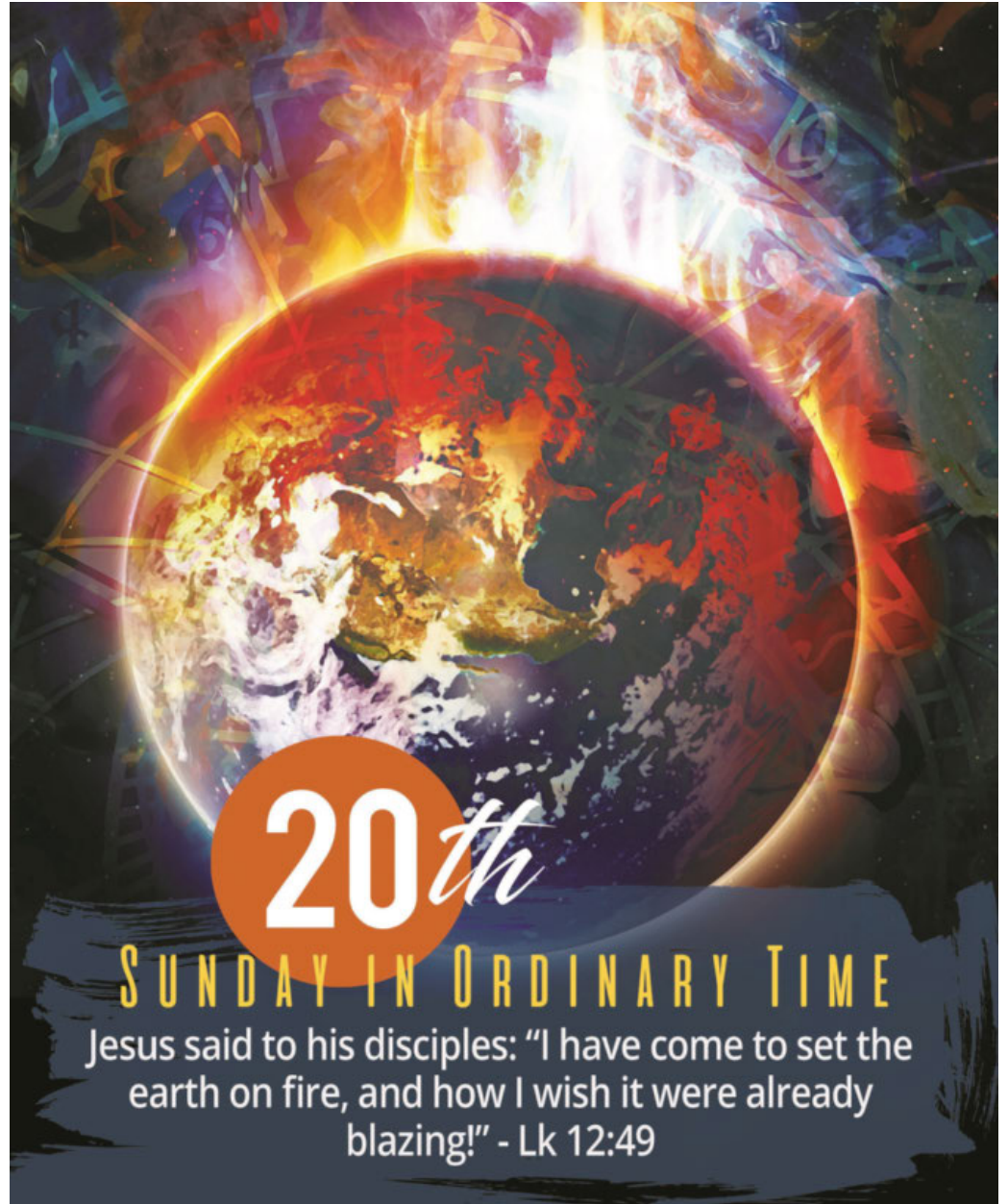
Joni Sandlin  
jonis@st-gerard.org

### Facilities Care Coordinator

Bob Imholte  
bobi@st-gerard.org

### Custodian

Geoff Moore  
geoffm@st-gerard.org



**20<sup>th</sup>**  
**SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
Jesus said to his disciples: "I have come to set the  
earth on fire, and how I wish it were already  
blazing!" - Lk 12:49



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## 2 | REBUILDING WITH GRACE: "THE NECK"

The Church of St. Gerard Majella | [st-gerard.org](http://st-gerard.org)



It is necessary that a parish is regularly involved in the infrastructure of the facilities, whether it is ongoing maintenance, preventative maintenance, storm damage or other issues as buildings age. But we know that we are more than a building. As a community of faith, it is good to look at the infrastructure of the leadership of a parish. How is the Catholic Church, particularly a parish, structured and governed?

St. Paul in his letter to the Colossians (1:18) defines Christ as the head and the Church as his body. In the Council of Jerusalem (Acts 15; Galatians 2) Paul and Barnabas traveled to Jerusalem to meet with Peter, the other Apostles and the Elders of the Church. Paul had encountered several pastoral problems with those Gentiles who wanted to follow Jesus but did not want to first follow Jewish law. At the Council of Jerusalem, there was a lively debate with no small amount of angry disagreements. The Holy Spirit came upon Peter, the head of the Church, and he made the decision to remove the obstacles to the Gentiles. The Apostle James promulgated the rules that allowed Gentiles and Jews to be together at the same table as the one Body of Christ.

The structure and governance of the Catholic Church is therefore comprised of heads and bodies. The head decides and the body deliberates. There is authority in the head and wisdom in the body. In the list of heads, there is the successor of Peter, Pope Francis. He has a number of consultative bodies founded in Canon Law and magisterial teachings. As the successor of the Apostles, the bishop is the head of a diocese. Like Pope Francis, Archbishop Hebda has a number of consultative bodies founded in the same Tradition and law as the Pope. The bishop delegates the responsibilities for a parish to the pastor. A pastor and his consultative bodies are likewise subjected to the same Tradition and law as directed by the bishop.

What connects the head to the consultative bodies can be seen as a "neck" – the structure that ensures that the legitimate authority of head and the inspiration of the Holy Spirit in the wisdom of the body are together in deliberating the needs of the faithful and collaborating on the good stewardship of the gifts of the people. In accordance with Canon Law (universal) and Archdiocesan policies (local law) each parish functions with two consultative bodies – the Pastoral and Finance Councils.

Minnesota established the law for religious corporations in 1851, before statehood. Subsequently Archbishop John Ireland (Archbishop from 1888-1918) created separate corporate boards for every parish to oversee the civil governance of parishes, also called the temporal matters of the Church, which includes finances. To this day, the same five member corporate board, defined over 150 years ago, serves St. Gerard's: our two Trustees, the Pastor, the Vicar General of the Archdiocese and the Archbishop.

The Finance Council and Pastoral Council are consultative and advisory to the pastor and the corporate board. These consultative bodies were merged during the pandemic as a leadership team and met monthly with the trustees and the pastor. I am grateful for the excellent service of our leadership team during the pandemic and the transition of pastors. Lynn Leonard and Steve Robinson have served as our parish trustees since 2006 and will continue to serve in this important role.

This fall, I will be appointing members to serve five commissions (co-mission) to share in the work of the parish: Liturgy and Worship, Pastoral Care, Social Outreach, Faith Formation and Catechesis, and Community Life. Each commission will select a representative to form the Pastoral Council. Along with the appointed members to the Finance Council, all the leadership of the parish will gather this fall to move forward to have both councils fully operational.

I invite our prayers for our parish leaders. Truly, as we construct the "neck" to connect me as pastor with our parish's consultative bodies, we are rebuilding with grace.

Sincerely in Christ Jesus,

Fr. Charlie Lachowitz, Pastor



## PARISH CALENDAR

### Tuesday, August 16

7:30 pm | **Regents AA, Garden Room**

### Wednesday, August 17

3:00 pm | **Adoration, Chapel**

6:00 pm | **Music rehearsal, Church**

### Saturday, August 20

4:00 pm | **Confessions, Church**

*Go make disciples and teach them everything that I have commanded you.*

*Matthew 28:19-20*

**Our Faith Formation Program needs volunteers.** It is through caring, sharing and praying that our community has grown in love and support of one another. **The success of our Faith Formation program depends on the dedicated individuals in our parish.** We encourage all parishioners, as well as the parents of children/youth in our program to be a part of the Faith Formation process.

Please prayerfully consider volunteering as a catechist, room monitor, hall monitor, office helper or prayer warrior. Our children and youth need YOU to share your faith as you, too, grow in your faith as you minister to the present and future of our church.

Our Faith Formation classes are held normally, every other Wednesdays from 6-7:30 pm and go from September – May.

Please contact **Meredith Toweh, Interim Director at [formation@st-gerard.org](mailto:formation@st-gerard.org)** if you have any questions or would like to volunteer.

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Sunday, August 14

8:00am | People of the Parish

9:30am | Cary Zwolski +

11:00am | Rose Onuoha +

### Monday, August 15

8:30am | People of the Parish

### Tuesday, August 16

8:30am | People of the Parish

### Wednesday, August 17

8:30am | Dee Sokolowski +

### Thursday, August 18

8:30 am | Charles Okusanya +

### Friday, August 19

8:30am | People of the Parish

### Saturday, August 20

5:00pm | Marv Jacobs +

## FAITH FORMATION CLASS REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

In-Person Registration is open today, August 14th after the 9:30am and 11:00am Masses. Online registration is also available.

For more information and to register online go to [www.st-gerard.org](http://www.st-gerard.org)

Faith Formation Registration will CLOSE on September 1 so be sure to register before then. For questions, please email Meredith at:

**[formation@st-gerard.org](mailto:formation@st-gerard.org)**

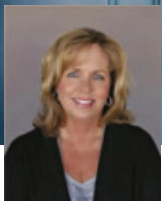
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