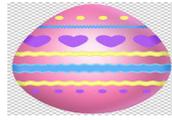




St. Gerard Majella

Roman Catholic Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie

211 Pentagon Blvd.
Sault Ste. Marie ON P6B 5J4



April 12, 2020
Year – A



The Solemnity of Easter **The Resurrection of the Lord** **Join us online**

Weekend
Masses:

Saturday
@ 5:00 pm
Sunday
@ 11:00 am

Weekday
Masses:

Tuesday – Friday
@ 12:00 noon



Parish Priest:

Father Alex Saurianthadathil C. Ss. R

Parish Secretary:

Stacey Lampe

OFFICE HOURS:

Closed

Phone # : 705 949 0435



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

“The brightest ornaments in the crown of the blessed in heaven are the sufferings which they have borne patiently on earth.” – St Alphonus Liguori

Email: gmajella@shaw.ca / Web: www.stgerardssm.ca/

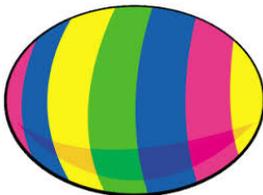
Celebrating Easter Triduum Join us online for Easter!

Holy Thursday, April 9	Good Friday, April 10	Holy Saturday, April 11	Easter Sunday, April 12
The celebration of The Mass of the Lord's Supper at <u>7:00 p.m.</u>	The celebration begins with The Stations of the Cross at <u>3:00 p.m</u>	No Vigil	The Easter Mass celebrations at <u>11:00 a.m.</u>



Masses are being posted online on our facebook site:
<https://www.facebook.com/gerard.majella.1088>

Please friend Gerard Majella with our church picture to get notifications and be able to watch the masses.



You can also watch masses now from our website:
www.stgerardssm.ca

Parish Office is closed at this time
Please email us at gmajella@shaw.ca

Donations: Thank you for reaching out to us!

We have had many inquires on donations to the Church during these difficult times. We want to thank all the parishioners that have left their donations at our door and online givers. Our parish continues to face daily operating obligations for utilities, insurance, taxes, wages and essential maintenance of the church. However, by losing the weekly financial contributions of parishioners, we lose the cashflow and financial resources that allow us to meet these fiscal obligations. These costs will accumulate if we do not receive the required revenue. We know and are aware of the current financial crisis that is upon us, therefore, if any gifting imposes a level of hardship of any kind whatsoever, please do not donate.

There are three ways to donate:

- 1) You can continue to **leave donation envelopes** in our office mailbox.
- 2) We have numerous parishioners doing the **preauthorized donations** that are ongoing and we want to thank them for this! This is a great opportunity to set up your preauthorized payment. If you wish to start this program, please email the office for the form, fill it in with your information and we need a void check or preauthorized debit form from your bank. These can be emailed back to the office or put in the mail box at the door.
- 3) We have set up a **charitable donation on our website**: www.stgerardssm.ca through Canada Helps. Canada Helps is a trusted charity that provides a secure online fundraising platform for charities since 2000. Every donation through CanadaHelps.org will generate an income tax receipt immediately for the parishioner.

Thank you so much for your generous donations and kind words at this time!

Mass intentions: Remembering your loved ones

We will be giving you the option of Father doing the mass intentions during the online masses or we can reschedule for the future. To schedule new mass intentions, please email or call Father at the office. Intentions can be paid for through our new donate button on the website: www.stgerardssm.ca



The Way of the Cross is a devotion in which we accompany, in spirit, our blessed Lord in His wonderful journey to Calvary, and devoutly meditate on His suffering and death.

**Join us for the Stations of the Cross online
April 10, 2020 at 3:00pm**

PASCHAL FAST

The Church of God fasts on Good Friday and while possible continues through Holy Saturday to honour the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare to share more deeply in the joy of His Resurrection. Good Friday is a universal day of fasting and abstinence from meat.





Bishop's Office – Bureau de l'Évêque

30 Ste-Anne, Sudbury ON P3C 5E1

Tel: (705) 674-2727 Fax/Télécopieur: (705) 674-9889

m.damphousse@ssmd.ca

Lord, send forth your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.
(Psalm 104 of Easter Vigil)

Easter Message 2020

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The year 2020 will go down in history books, regardless of the outcome of the COVID-19 pandemic. The battle against this tiny but dangerous virus is not over yet. The whole world is affected and trying hard to deal with its impact that has changed the normalcy of life. Whenever we will gain back our normal lives, it will be a “new normal”.

I'm sure you would agree that many things we took for granted were taken away from us. This might not be entirely bad. Maybe this challenge will open our eyes to those things that we truly treasure and make us realize what is most essential in our lives. I know for one thing, that this virus has not taken away my faith. God is evermore present and seeks ways to enter into my life. Throughout history, humanity has been hit hard with wars, natural disasters, oppression and corruption, plagues and diseases of all kinds. Never was God absent like some might want to think. Just like Christ on the cross, one may feel abandoned and in need of reassurance.

So what is the good news that Easter morning brings us? What sign of hope can we stand on to surpass the suffering and misery we experience? The powerful victory of Christ over death and evil is the Good News. His resurrection from the dead opens the door the eternal life for all who believe in him. In Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we are bound to one another in a love that heals and forgives and in a life that has no end. It is no wonder why Christians throughout history have been able to be pillars of hope despite the hardships of life. As living-giving communities, they supported one another and laid down their lives for the sake of the brothers and sisters in Christ even if they were strangers.

As we reflect upon the importance of spiritual communion in the midst of social isolation, let us acknowledge and celebrate the source of our joy and our hope. Let us proclaim with zeal and courage, that a life in communion with God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, truly makes a difference and is worth living no matter what trials come our way. Remain faithful to God, follow Christ your Lord and walk empowered by the Holy Spirit.

May we sing the refrain of Psalm 104 from the Easter Vigil as we pray for a new world, free of evil and the coronavirus: “*Lord, send forth your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.*”

Happy Easter to you all and blessings upon your loved ones.

+Marcel Damphousse
Bishop of Sault Ste. Marie

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