



St. Gerard Majella

Roman Catholic Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie

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



Parish Priest:

Father Alex Saurianthadathil C. Ss. R

Parish Secretary:

Stacey Lampe

OFFICE HOURS:

Closed

Phone # : 705 949 0435

September 6, 2020
Year - A

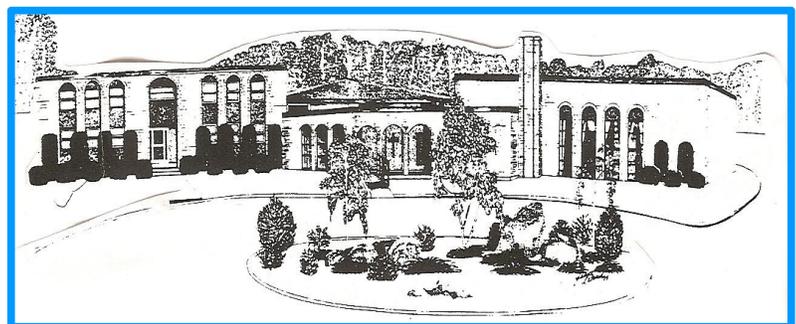
The Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

In Church Masses:

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

Online Masses:

Live masses in HD @
www.stgerardssm.ca
Sunday
@ 9:00am



Parish Mission Statement

St. Gerard Majella Parish strives to be a warm, welcoming Catholic community where the faithful gather to celebrate liturgy, to foster faith-sharing and to spread the Good News by word and action. Nourished by Word and Sacrament, the community of St. Gerard's supports the spiritual growth, fellowship and charity of its parishioners.

"He who desires nothing but God is rich and happy." – St. Alphonsus Liguori

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

Parish Ministry Chairs/Co-ordinators

Finance Committee: Steve Drinkwater
Parish Pastoral Council: Ron Zagordo
Catholic Women's League [C.W.L.]:
Shirley Leonard
Knights of Columbus[Grand Knight]:
Steve Summers
Liturgy Committee: Susan Cushner
Sacrament Preparation:
Baptism: Sandra Rollin
**Reconciliation &
First Holy Communion:** Lisa Tomas
Confirmation: Sarah Stickels
Lectors: Patricia Michaud
Children's Liturgy: Grace Barros
Music: Susan Cushner & Steve Patterson
**Extraordinary Ministers of the
Eucharist:**
Renee Wysynski & Judie Kearns
Ushers: Frank Gallo
**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults
[RCIA]:** Steve Summers
Hospitality: Mary Davies
Prayer Line:
Mary VanBoerdonk : 705 256 7019
Rhea Emond : 705 949 6159
The Lord's Cupboard: Jane McNally
Decor Committee: Sheila Beishlag
Funeral Luncheon: Sabina Remondi
Funeral Team – Servers:
Ed Martin & Doreen Simard
Bereavement Cards: Mary Coventry
**Communion Service in Nursing
Homes:** Anna Griswold
Steve Drinkwater
Bill DeGroot
Assist at Masses in Nursing Homes:
Rhea Emond
Coffee Hour: Anna Griswold & Gina
Drinkwater
Parish Social Group: Doreen Simard
Social Justice: Nicole Chouinard
Soup Kitchen: Donna Ross

THANK
YOU

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Parish Office so please email us at
gmajella@shaw.ca



Mass Intentions

Saturday, Sept 5, 5:00 pm in Church:

Donald Russell + by Julia Pirano

Donna Martin by Tom & Shelia Shannon

Sunday, Sept 6, 9:00 am online:

Biagio & Dora De Cesare + by John & Dorothy De Cesare

11:00 am in Church:

Intentions of All People in the Parish

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- Go to FORMED.ORG
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- Enter Your email address & click 'Next'
- Check Your email Address
- Click 'Sign In' and 'Start Watching'

HOW TO REGISTER FOR FORMED AS A NEW PARISHIONER

- Go to FORMED.ORG
- Click 'SIGN UP'
- Select "I Belong to a Parish or Organization"
- Type In 'St. Gerard Majella' by name or Postal Code
- Type In your name & email address
- Click 'SIGN UP'

We are so happy you came to
celebrate with us. If you are new to
the Parish and haven't registered,
we encourage you to join our
family.

Visit - www.stgerardssm.ca



WELCOME TO OUR FAITH COMMUNITY

Are you visiting or interested in joining St. Gerard? Welcome!!! If this is your spiritual home we invite you to register with the parish through our website at www.stgerardssm.ca. If you live outside the parish boundaries the only way we are able to assist you is if you are registered with St. Gerard and this is the parish you attend on Sundays. If you are new to the parish please introduce yourself to our pastor.

PREPARATION FOR SACRAMENTS

INFANT BAPTISM

If you are a parishioner of the parish, please register your child through our website www.stgerardssm.ca for baptism. A Baptism Preparation Course is required for all parents and Godparents. A Godparent must be 16 years of age, baptized Catholic and be Confirmed. Please make arrangements at least one month in advance by contacting the Parish office.

RECONCILIATION

In grade 2, children may receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. At our parish the Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated in the first week in March or before the March break.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Preparation for First Holy Communion begins after March break. First Holy Communion is celebrated in May.

CONFIRMATION

The sacrament of Confirmation is available to those who have been baptized, received Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. Candidates must be in grade 7 or higher. Confirmation is generally celebrated in November. For more details please call the parish office.

CARE OF THE SICK & HOME BOUND

To arrange for the Sacrament of the Sick and/or Eucharist for the home-bound, please contact the parish office. Visits to the hospital are made regularly; please call and let us know you would like a visit.

MARRIAGE

Please make marriage arrangements six (6) months in advance by contacting the Parish Office.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

It is so heart-warming and a special joy to see young families taking part in the Holy Mass and engaged in the life of the parish. We welcome crying babies! It is a sign that the church is young and alive. Unfortunately at this time, we do not have a Children's Liturgy Program.

Parish Office so please email us at
gmajella@shaw.ca

PONTIFICAL COLLECTION FOR THE CUSTODY OF THE HOLY LAND ON SUNDAY 13 SEPTEMBER, 2020 FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY LAND



The Pontifical Collection in support of the Holy Land, usually collected on Good Friday, was cancelled when churches were closed due to the pandemic. Pope Francis has requested that it be taken up on **Sunday the 13th of September** – a date close to that of the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross. This feast celebrates Christ's saving work and also reminds us of faithful Christian pilgrims, like St. Helen when she found the relics of the Holy Cross in the 4th century, who have committed themselves to preserving the holy sites as places of worship that sustain our Christian culture and history of salvation.

The annual Holy Land Collection not only helps to maintain churches and shrines located at holy sites, but, above all, helps to support the pastoral, welfare, educational and social works that the Church undertakes in caring for the local population. Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, invites you to be in solidarity with the Church and the Christians in the Holy Land.

On behalf of the Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land, and entrusted with this care, I sincerely thank you in advance for your support.

Fr. Robert Mokry, OFM
Commissary of Holy Land in Canada

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

FUNERAL CELEBRATIONS

If you need any help when preparing for a funeral, please do not hesitate to contact the Parish Office. As Catholics, the best model we can choose is to give sufficient time for grieving by having a visitation and then having a celebration of one's life with the celebration of Holy Mass.

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

We invite all parishioners to consider "St. Gerard Majella Church" when choosing a charitable institution for Memorial Donations in the death announcement in the local media to honor a loved one who has passed. This form of financial support and heartfelt gesture would truly bless and enrich the life of St. Gerard Majella Church. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated!

MASS REQUESTS

To request a Mass intention, either call the office or come into the office. Place your offering of \$15.00 per Mass in the envelope and bring it to the parish office or put in the weekend collection. Cheques can be made payable to "St. Gerard Majella Church".

INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC

We are always ready to begin the process by which an adult or older child becomes a Catholic, either by full initiation in Baptism, or by reception into full communion. We are also happy to prepare you for adult Confirmation. For children aged 7-16, parents may call the Parish Office.

HOME - SCHOOL - PARISH

Our parish cherishes an amazing working relationship with three Catholic Schools in the neighbourhood:

St. Paul's School
St. Basil's School
St. Mary's College

Like us on
Facebook!



Communication through email has become more convenient especially during the Covid-19 Pandemic. Please send an email to gmajella@shaw.ca so we can have your email address. If you would like to receive the bulletin weekly through email, please let the office know so I can add you to the list.



**Congratulations
to all the
Children
in our Parish
who were
BAPTIZED
this summer**

Peyton Hill
Naomi Monica Palombi
Elle Pratt
Mila Santoro
Beckham Alfano
Dominic Steven Naccarato
Eva Strom
River Petingalo
Raelynn Petingalo
Brooklyn Joan Drew Harb
Max Striukas
Henry Robson
Hayden Thorburn



Welcome to Our Parish



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

Please take note of the following guidelines in its entirety:

•**The dispensation of the faithful from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains in place** until decreed otherwise by the Bishop. No one is obliged to attend Holy Mass while this dispensation is in effect. Because of this, the live-streaming of Masses will continue for those who are not able to attend the public mass.

•You **must** wear a mask to Mass to guard against germ spread. All attendees are expected to wear non-medical masks and should bring their own masks. If you do not have a mask you will not be able to attend the public Mass.

•A volunteer at the door will be taking recording your name & phone number so that in the event of an outbreak we will be able to provide local health professionals with contact tracing.

•**General guidelines to ensure safety:**

•Hand sanitizing stations are to be available by the doors and you will be required to sanitize your hands prior to entering the church.

•Washrooms will only be used on in an emergency and will be closely monitored by the volunteers.

•The church will open 30 minutes before the Mass begins and parishioners will be seated in a first come first serve basis.

•When the church is at 30% capacity (which is 80 people in our church) or when the mass starts, the doors will be closed, and no further entry will be allowed.

•There will be single distances seats available in the center pews and the families who wish to sit together will be ushered in to the side pews.

•There will be a designated box at the entrance of the church where you can provide your offertory envelope. If you forget to drop it off upon entering the church, the volunteers will have it accessible for you to drop off at the end the mass as you are exiting the building.

•There will be no collection during the mass.

•There is to be no Sign of Peace.

•There will be no holy water in fonts.

•The Liturgy of the Word for children during Masses is not permitted.

•When the Mass has ended you will be guided to the exit by the volunteers. Please follow their instructions and be sure to maintain social distancing.

•There will be no congregating in the foyer or in the parking lot outside. Please proceed immediately to your vehicles.



Please read the following self-assessment questionnaire before returning to the church. If you answer 'yes' to any of these questions, you must stay home for the sake of the wider community.

Do you have any of the following symptoms?

Fever; Cough; Chills; Painful swallowing; Stuffy nose; Headache; Muscle or joint ache, Feeling unwell, fatigue or severe exhaustion; Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea or unexplained loss of appetite; Loss of sense of smell or taste; Conjunctivitis (pink eye)

Are you or any member of your household experiencing any of the following?

Severe difficulty breathing (e.g., struggling for each breath, speaking in single words), Severe chest pain; Feeling confused, Shortness of breath at rest; Inability to lie down because of difficulty breathing, Chronic health conditions

Have you travelled outside of Canada in the last fourteen days?

Upon entering the church, you will be asked if you have completed the self-assessment (see above);

Thank you in advance for your cooperation with these guidelines which will allow us to celebrate safely.

Donations:

We want to thank all parishioners that have left 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 and it is hard to meet these fiscal obligations. 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, please do not donate.



There are three ways to donate:

- 1) **Leave donation envelopes** in our office mailbox slot on the door or in the church donation box at mass.
- 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 church mass or in the online masses. I will be getting in touch with the cancelled ones to reschedule. 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. Please comment that it is for a mass intentions



Flameless Votive Candle

Lighting a candle in memory of a loved one is a great gesture of our love for them. The burning light of the vigil candle is a symbol of hope, faith, gratitude, and a tangible reminder of the connection with our departed family members and friends.

We encourage everyone to consider purchasing a memorial candle in honor of your loved ones. Each candle cost \$150.00 and renewals are \$50.00. Your memorial candle will be lit for 6 months with the names of your loved ones can be printed.

If you are interested, please email the office at gmajella@shaw.ca

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