

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF **SAINT GERARD MAJELLA**

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 6, 2019



REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Tuesday | 9:00 AM |
| Wednesday | 6:00 PM |
| Thursday | 9:00 AM |
| Friday Adoration | 9:00 am -1:30 pm |
| Saturday | 5:30 PM |
| Sunday | 9:00 AM 11:00 AM |

CONFESSIONS:

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Saturday PM | 4:30-5:15 pm |
| Tuesday & Thursday | 8:30-8:50 am |
| Wednesday | 5:30-5:50 pm |

Also by Appointment

BAPTISMS: Parents should be registered parishioners or active for 6 months prior to baptism. Please call the parish office.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK
following Masses every 3rd Sunday
Anytime by Appointment

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Thursday, 9:30am—4:30pm

Pastoral Administrator:

FATHER RICHARD WISE
frwise2 @gmail.com

Secretary: DIANNE DAVIS
Email: sgmsecretary3049@gmail.com

Music Director: OPEN

WEBSITE:

www.saintgerardmajella.net

3049 LAFAYETTE ROAD
FORT OGLETHORPE, GA 30742
Phone: 706-861-9410

**WISE MEN
STILL SEEK
HIM.**



The feast of the Epiphany, which was kept in the East and in certain Western Churches before being observed in Rome, seems to have been originally a feast of the nativity; January 6, for those churches where it was kept, was the equivalent of Christmas (December 25) in the Roman Church. The feast was introduced at Rome in the second half of the sixth century and became the complement and, so to say, the crown of the Christmas festival.

Epiphany means manifestation. What the Church celebrates today is the manifestation of our Lord to the whole world; after being made known to the shepherds of Bethlehem He is revealed to the Magi who have come from the East to adore Him. Christian tradition has ever seen in the Magi the first fruits of the Gentiles; they lead in their wake all the peoples of the earth, and thus the Epiphany is an affirmation of universal salvation. St. Leo brings out this point admirably in a sermon, read at Matins, in which he shows in the adoration of the Magi the beginnings of Christian faith, the time when the great mass of the heathen sets off to follow the star which summons it to seek its Saviour.

That is the meaning, too, of the wonderful prophecy from Isaias which the liturgy appoints to be read in the first nocturn at Matins and at the Epistle of the Mass. This same thought of universal redemption the Church returns to as she sings, in the antiphon to the Magnificat at 2nd Vespers, applying the words to herself, of the union with Christ typified by the wedding feast at Cana, by the baptism of her children foreshadowed by that of Christ in the waters of the Jordan. Formerly the Epiphany was an additional day for solemn baptisms.

MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

In the first part of January we continue to rejoice and celebrate Christ's coming at Bethlehem and in our hearts. We have the wonderful feasts of Mary, Mother of God, where we honor Mary's highest title, and then we follow the Magi to the crib as they bring their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh on Epiphany. Finally we reach the culmination of this season with the Baptism of Our Lord by St. John the Baptist. With a touch of sadness we take down our decorations and enter into the liturgical period known as Ordinary Time where we will devote ourselves to the mystery of Christ in its entirety.

This is a time of growth and an opportunity to allow the dignity of Sunday to shine forth prolonging the joy of Easter and Pentecost. Besides those previously mentioned the month's major feasts include: **St. Basil the Great and St. Gregory Nazianzen** (January 2), **Holy Name of Jesus** (January 3), **St. Elizabeth Ann Seton** (January 4), **St. John Neumann** (January 5), **St. Raymond of Penafort** (January 7), **St. Anthony**, abbot (January 17), **St. Agnes** (January 21), **St. Vincent of Saragossa** (January 23), **St. Francis de Sales** (January 24), the **Conversion of St. Paul** (January 25), **Sts. Timothy and Titus** (January 26), **St. Thomas Aquinas** (January 28) and **St. John Bosco** (January 31).

The feasts of **St. Andre Bessette** (January 6), **Sts. Fabian and Sebastian** (January 20) and **St. Angela Merici** (January 27) are superseded by the Sunday liturgy.

Ministry Meetings & Events

Sundays: *Prison Ministry* 6:30-8:30 pm
***Ladies Guild* Tuesday Jan. 15th 7:00 pm**
***Finance Council Meeting* TBD**
***Parish Council Meeting* TBD**

Knights of Columbus

Wed., January 9, Meeting at 7:00 pm.

Thurs., January 17, 4th Degree Meeting @
St. Clement's, Calhoun, GA 7:00 pm.

Wed., January 23, Officer's Meeting @
6:45 pm

All who are interested in joining the **Knights of Columbus** please contact **Grand Knight, Bob Watson at 423-290-5112.**

Weekly Offerings

December 30 Offertory Received \$2522

Weekly Offertory **Goal \$4000**

Solemnity of Mary \$273

Mass Intentions: Please Pray For:

Sat. 1/5 @ 5:30 pm Rose Matecki+

Sun. 1/6 @ 9:00 am Roy & Ilene Newton

Sun. @11:00 am Marilyn Carriveau

It is our tradition to offer Intentions for the sick, or our deceased members. Please stop by the Parish Office to schedule a Mass Intention.

Seniors

Our next scheduled meeting will be in February. In January we will try to plan a social. If any questions or suggestions, please contact **Gloria Kelley at 423-304-6057.**

Saint Vincent de Paul

Any questions about becoming a member please call **Donna Shipley** at 423-718-6951 and leave a message.

Our Helpline # is: 678-892-6163



**Knights of Columbus Pancake
Breakfast Sunday, January 13 after
9:00 & 11:00 am Masses.**

Charity: Crisis Pregnancy Support

COME HUNGRY!!

Pray for Our Sick Parishioners

Please keep in your personal prayers the following members of our parish who are in need of healing: Jude Bendzel, Linda & Virginia Black, Faye Blevins, Carol Bonito, Martha Bourne, Betty Cabeen, Candace Carne, Anita Davis, Lisa & Rusty DePrima, Cynthia Devine, Glenda Duncan, Barbara & John Facey, Janice Fortune, Henry Gaudet, Matthew Gaudet, Jean Hawkins, Gerald Hoffman, Anne Janecji, Pamela Kantor, Richard Klingler, Mark & Myrtle Martin, Sara Mason, Georgina Match, Linda Meeks, Bill Medford, Jane Mercier, Jane Osterling, Lillian Pierce, John Pitner, Kathy Samilo, Frances Spataro, Louise Stinnett, Dolores Sutton, Jeremiah Word.

We need **Volunteers for monthly Church cleaning** for the new year. We now have a service to clean the bathrooms weekly and the rest of the Church twice a month. We need someone to vacuum the Church, mop if necessary the hardwood floors and take care of the trash from the sacristy area., every other week that the cleaning service would not be doing it. The cleaning service will be cleaning the entire church on January 7th. The Signup Sheet is in the vestibule. Please consider helping to keep our Church clean. **Thank you to all that have helped this past year!**



Women In Prayer

If you have any prayer requests, please contact **Irene Staub** at 706-375-4934 (Home), 423-902-6630(Cell), or istaub1014@aol.com or **Linda Swope** at 706-861-9762 (Home) or rlswope374@comcast.net.

We have **prayer shawls** available for anyone who needs one. **Please contact Irene or Linda.**

The **January Word Among Us Mass and Daily Meditations** are here.

Please take one for **\$1.00.**

The **Sunday St. Joseph Missals** are here also. Take one and leave **\$3.00.**

Cynthia Devine in LaFayette has found a ride to church! **Thank you Joe Hejl** for providing her a way to worship!

We need to help our neighbors if they don't have transportation to church. If anyone else out there needs help, please let the church office know about it.

Fr. Wise will be returning from his trip this Thursday evening, and Mass will be at the usual times starting next Saturday, January 12th.

We always need Rosary Pray Leaders. Please make sure you keep signing up!