

Pope: Though 2nd Union for Divorced Goes Against Sacrament, Church Welcomes as Loving Mother

'No One Is Excluded From God's Infinite Love'

Vatican City, August 05, 2015 Deborah Castellano Lubov

The Church knows well that the situation of the divorced who have entered a second union contradicts the Christian sacrament of Marriage. However, her gaze always draws from a mother's heart, which, animated by the Holy Spirit, always looks for the good and the salvation of people."

Pope Francis stressed this during his weekly General Audience this morning in the Vatican's Paul VI Hall. Marking the first General Audience after his summer break, the Pope continued his catechesis on the family, focusing on the situation of those who have divorced and entered a second union.

In his discourse, Pope Francis said that given the role of the Church as Mother, "She feels the duty, 'for the sake of truth, to 'exercise careful discernment.' Francis noted how his predecessors expressed this, citing St. John Paul II as an example, who did so in his Apostolic Exhortation Familiaris Consortio (no. 84).

Pope Benedict XVI, Francis also pointed out, spoke on this issue, "calling for careful discernment and wise pastoral care," saying that there are no 'simple recipes' during his address to the Seventh World Meeting of Families in Milan, June 2, 2012.

The Holy Father said he is especially grateful to the many pastors, guided by his predecessors, who have worked diligently "to let these families know they are still a part of the Church."

"As these situations especially affect children, we are aware of a greater urgency to foster a true welcome for these families in our communities," the Pope said, noting the great number of little ones who are affected by this reality.

"How can we encourage these parents to raise their children in the Christian life, to give them an example of Christian faith, if we keep them at arm's length?" the Pope asked the faithful gathered. While saying there is no easy solution for these situations, he underscored that we can and must always encourage these families to participate in the Church's life. Some suggestions he offered on how to do this included prayer, listening to God's Word, and Christian education of their children.

The biblical icon of the Good Shepherd presented in the Gospel of John, Francis said, sums up the mission that Jesus received from the Father to give his life for his sheep. "This attitude," Francis stressed, "is a model for the Church, which welcomes her children as a mother who gives her life for them."

As the Good Shepherd gives his life, so the Church as a Mother gives her life for all her children, by being always the "house of the Father, with doors wide open." "No doors closed," the Pope told those gathered, speaking off the cuff.

Reflecting on those with failed marriages, the Pope said, "In fact, these people are not at all excommunicated, and should never be treated as such: they are always part of the Church."

The Holy Father concluded, praying that everyone, especially Christian families, "imitate the Good Shepherd, who knows all his sheep and excludes no one from his infinite love."

St. Gerard Catholic Church

**640 Edrie St. NE
Aiken, SC 29801**



*Nineteenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
August 9, 2015*

**First Reading: 1 Kings 19:4-8
Responsorial: Psalm 34:2-9
Second Reading: Ephesians 4:30-5:2
Gospel: John 6:41-51**

Mass Times: Weekdays Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 8:15 AM, First Friday Benediction after Mass
Weekend Saturday 4:00 PM, Sunday 7:00 AM and 11:15 AM

Confessions: after weekday Masses and by Appointment

Office Hours: 9:00 AM till 3:00 PM Tuesday - Thursday

Bible Study: Fridays 10:00 AM this fall

Baptisms, Conformations and Marriages By Appointment, Contact the office.

Contact Us: [Phone 803 649-3203](tel:8036493203), [E-Mail stgerardscatholi@atlanticbnn.net](mailto:stgerardscatholi@atlanticbnn.net)

[Facebook @stgerardaiken](#)

While he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness. He came to a broom bush, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. "I have had enough, LORD," he said. "Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors." Then he lay down under the bush and fell asleep. All at once an angel touched him and said, "Get up and eat." He looked around, and there by his head was some bread baked over hot coals, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and then lay down again. The angel of the LORD came back a second time and touched him and said, "Get up and eat, for the journey is too much for you." So he got up and ate and drank. Strengthened by that food, he traveled forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God. 1 Kings 19:4-8



	Lay Ministers		
	<u>Saturday August 15</u>	<u>Sunday August 16</u>	<u>Sunday August 16</u>
	<u>4:00 PM Vigil Mass</u>	<u>7:00 AM Mass</u>	<u>11:15 AM Mass</u>
<i>Lector:</i>	David Didimamoff	Mary Kay L'Esperance	Sheila Wagner
<i>E E Minister:</i>	Pam Ziomek	Gerard L'Esperance	Mary Rose
	<u>Saturday August 22</u>	<u>Sunday August 23</u>	<u>Sunday August 23</u>
	<u>4:00 PM Vigil Mass</u>	<u>7:00 AM Mass</u>	<u>11:15 AM Mass</u>
<i>Lector:</i>	Joan Hesik	Denise Gelinis	Janet Menefee
<i>E E Minister:</i>	Barbara Dixon	Roger Gelinis	Wayman Johnson
<i>Refreshments August 16th</i>	<i>Counters August 16th</i>		
<i>Open</i>	Nancy Durden and Peter Schwarz		

Fr. Emmanuel Andinam: Administrator/ Emergency number for Father 803 637-2027

Prayers for the sick:

Gary Gilbault
Leonard Saunders
Shirley Paige
William and Jackie Cobbs
Woody Alexander
Lena Mickens
Rosa Johnson
Brenda Ligons
Meg Schaeffer
Joe Fulmer
Patricia Bailey

Promoting Parish Stewardship

*Stewards hope and strive to be strong witnesses of faith to others.
We realize we are sent forth in love and service to walk with those in need.
The parish annual budget process is wrapping up and will reflect the concerns and plans of the parish council, finance council, the parishioners and of Father Emmanuel. In order to continue to improve and build this parish up to all our expectations we will need your continued support. Time, treasure and talent. Thanks to all our volunteers and benefactors.*

The next Parish Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday August 11th at 6:30 PM you are welcome to be a guest.

Sunday Offering August 2nd	
Collection	\$2,716.00
Needed	\$2,612.00
Over	\$104.00
Special	\$441.90
Attendance	120

Mass Intentions: August 8-9

*4:00 PM Bruce McGrath From: Sue Charlesworth
7:00 AM Mary Kay & Gerard L'Esperance From: Mike and Kathy L'Esperance
11:15 AM Father Theodore From: Leah Yanak*

Lectionary Readings for the week for August 2nd

Monday: 2 Corinthians 9:6-10, John 12:24-26

Tuesday: Deuteronomy 31:1-8, Matthew 18:1-5,10,12-14

Wednesday: Deuteronomy 34:1-12, Matthew 18:15-20

Thursday: Joshua 3:7-10a,11,13-17, Matthew 18:21-19:1

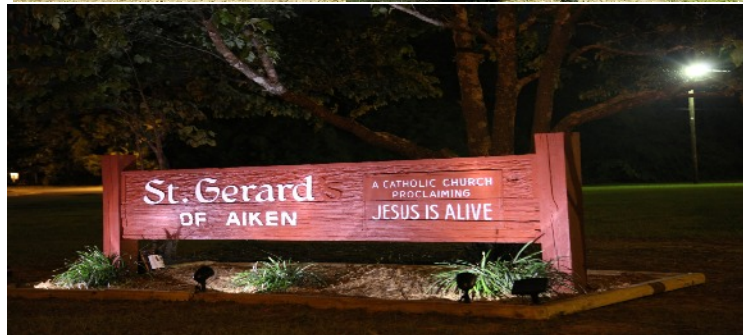
Friday: Joshua 24:1-13, Matthew 19:3-12

Saturday Vigil/ Sunday: Proverbs 9:1-6, Ephesians 5:15-20, John 6:51-58

Thank you for your support of Dennis Perea's Eagle Scout project. He has done a fine job of improving our curb appeal.



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Ministry training/installation

Anyone that has not received Father's Ministry training or has been to training and needs to be installed, call or email the office and we will schedule you. Thank you, Mike 803 649-3203

Second Collection for: Diocesan Campus Ministries

From the desk of Joan Lacombe:

Announcements for Saturday and Sunday, August 8 and 9, 2015
Good Afternoon. Good Morning
Welcome to St. Gerard's. Welcome to all our visitors.
Today is the 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time.
The Second Collection is for Diocesan Campus Ministries
In today's reading, the Jews question Jesus' origin, and Jesus tells them that no one can come to Him unless drawn by the Father. Those who believe will have eternal life.
Please stand to greet our celebrant, Father Emmanuel, and join in
The Gathering Hymn 40 M God, We Praise You
Gloria from the Heritage Mass
The Offertory Hymn is 41 M Soul of My Savior
Holy Holy from the Heritage Mass
Echo Holy Holy CHOIR
Memorial Acclamation: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.
The Communion Hymn is 759 H I Received the Living God
The Second Collection is for Diocesan Campus Ministries
Our Song of Praise is 32 M Blessed By Your Sacrifice

H—The New Lead Me Guide Me Hymnal
M—Missalette
BB—Breaking Bread Hymnal

Parish Council since May,24, 1985

Fr. Emmanuel Andinam,
Administrator
Wayman Johnson,
Chairman
Payson Borst
Jacqueline Brown
Fredrick Cadek
Nancy Durden
Marge Glauser
Janet menefee
Gregory Wright
Joan Hesik
Mike Solenberger,
Recorder

Finance Council

Fr. Emmanuel Andinam,
Administrator
Robert Erikson,
Chairman
Leon Gagnon,
Auditor
Anna Marie Key,
Auditor
Judy Riley
Lisa Solenberger

Rachel's Vineyard weekend retreats offer you a supportive, confidential and non-judgmental environment; where women and men can express their post-abortive emotions to begin the process of restoration and healing. Our next retreat in SC is October 9-11, 2015 in Greenville. For more information, please contact Christy at 803 554 6088 or Kathy at 803 546 6010 or grace4healing@gmail.com Now is the time.

ACTS REQUEST

One of our community churches, Glover Grove Baptist Church, was destroyed by fire in June. In support of Glover Grove's plan to rebuild the church and rise from the ashes in His Name, the Glover Grove Phoenix Project was born! Please plan to attend the Community Unity Service hosted at Aiken's First Baptist Church at 4:00 PM on Sunday the 9th to show your love and support. Also, note to Choir Directors: If you and/or any members of your choir would like to participate in the mass choir for this event, please contact Carla Cloud at 803.649.3800

Father Don address is Carter May Home/St. Joseph Residence, Room 201, 1660 Ingram Rd., Charleston, SC 29407 Cell # 843 599-1620.

In Harms' Way: Please remember in your prayers our Nation and loved ones of our parishioners Currently serving in harms' way: James Ligon, Robert McHugh, Jacob Hershey, and James Rossini. Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. I ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

Hospital Visits: If you or a loved one is in Aiken Regional Hospital (ARMC) Please let St Gerards know. Remember - ARMC does not inform us of Catholic patients, even if you register as a Catholic; it is up to the patient or family to do so. You can: ask the ARMC Chaplain to call the Catholic church, ask your nurse to inform the Catholic church (name & room number), call-St.Gerard at 649-3203 and leave a message or email St Gerard at: stgerardscatholi@Atlanticcbbn.net.