

Pope Francis' Angelus Address, Solemnity of All Saints

"The Solemnity of All Saints is Our Feast because God's Holiness Has Touched Our Life"

Rome, Nov 1, 2017, zenit.org

Dear Brothers and Sisters, good morning and happy feast! The Solemnity of All Saints is "our" feast, not because we are good but because God's holiness has touched our life. The Saints aren't perfect models, but persons run through by God. We can compare them to the windows of churches, which let the light enter in different shades of colors. The Saints are our brothers and sisters who received the light of God in their heart and transmitted it to the world, each one according to his own "shade." However, they were all transparent; they struggled to remove the stains and the darkness of sin, so as to have God's kindly light pass through. This is the purpose of life: to have the light of God pass through, and also the purpose of our life.

In fact, today in the Gospel Jesus turns to His own, to all of us, saying to us "Blessed" (*Matthew 5:3*). It's the word with which He begins His preaching, which is "Gospel," Good News because it is the way of happiness. He who is with Jesus is blessed, is happy. Happiness doesn't lie in having something or in becoming someone, no. True happiness is to be with the Lord and to live for love. Do you believe this? True happiness doesn't lie in having something or in becoming someone: true happiness is to be with the Lord and to live for love. Do you believe this? We must go forward to believe in this. Then, the ingredients for a happy life are called *Beatitudes*: blessed are the simple, the humble that make room for God, who are able to weep for others and for their own mistakes, they are meek, fight for justice, are merciful to all, guard purity of heart, always work for peace and remain joyful; they don't hate and, even when they suffer, they answer evil with good.

Behold the Beatitudes. They don't require glaring gestures; they aren't for supermen, but for one who lives the trials and hardships of every day, for us. Thus are the Saints: like all, they breathe the polluted air of evil that exists in the world; however, on the way they never lose sight of *Jesus's trace*, that indicated in the Beatitudes, which is like the *map of Christian life*. Today is the feast of those who have reached the end indicated by this map: not only the Saints of the calendar, but so many "next door" brothers and sisters, who perhaps we have met and known. It's a *family feast*, of the many simple and hidden persons that in reality help God to send the world forward. And there are so many today! There are so many. Thanks to these unknown brothers and sisters that help God to take the world forward, who live among us. We greet them with a hearty applause!

First of all – says the first Beatitude – they are "poor in spirit" (*Matthew 5:3*). What does it mean? It means that they don't live for success, power and money; they know that one who accumulates treasures for himself is not enriched before God (Cf. *Luke 12:21*). They believe, instead, that the Lord is the treasure of life, love of neighbor the only true source of earnings. Sometimes we are unhappy about something we are lacking or concerned if we aren't considered as we'd like; let us remember that our Beatitude isn't here, but in the Lord and in love: only with Him, only by loving does one live as blessed.

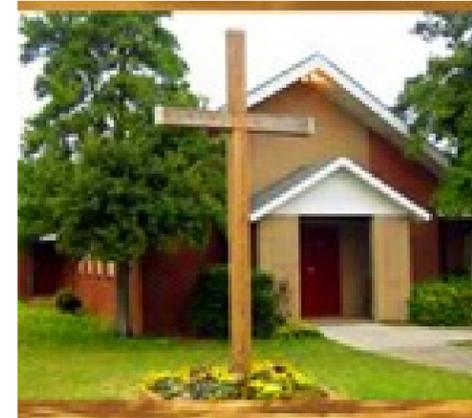
Finally, I would like to quote another Beatitude, which isn't found in the Gospel, but at the end of the Bible, and it talks about the end of life: "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord" (*Revelation 14:13*). Tomorrow we will be called to accompany our dead with prayer, so that they will rejoice forever in the Lord. We remember our dear ones with gratitude and we pray for them.

May the Mother of God, Queen of the Saints and Gate of Heaven, intercede for our journey of holiness and for our dear ones who have preceded us and are now part of the celestial homeland.

Please pray for The St. Gerard Parishioners that died this year. Judy Riley, Lena Mickens and Anita Vachon.

Remember to write the names of your deceased loved ones in 'The Book of The Names of The Dead' if they are not already written there. So we may pray for them. The book is in the rear of the church.

St. Gerard Catholic Church



640 Edrie St. NE, Aiken, SC 29801
803 649-3203

Fr. Emmanuel O. Andinam: Administrator
Joseph A. Dennis: Deacon

SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading:

Malachi 1:14b-2:2b,8-10(151A)

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 131:1,2,3

Second Reading:

1 Thessalonians 2:7b-9,13

Gospel:

Matthew 23:1-12

Today's Missal

Lectionary Readings for Week of November 5, 2017

Monday: *Romans 11:29-36;*

Luke 14:12-14

Tuesday: *Romans 12:5-16b;*

Luke 14:15-24

Wednesday: *Romans 13:8-10;*

Luke 14:25-33

Thursday: *Ezekiel 47:1-2,8-9,12;*

1 Corinthians 3:9c-11,16-17;

John 2:13-22

Friday: *Romans 15:14-21;*

Luke 16:1-8

Saturday: *Romans 16:3-9;16'22-27;*

Luke 16:9-15

Mass Times: Weekdays Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 8:15 AM,
First Friday Benediction after Mass
Weekend Saturday Vigil 4:00 PM, Sunday 7:00 AM and 11:00 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, **CCD:** No Class at this time

RCIA: Contact Deacon Joe 843 743-8779

Baptisms, Confirmations, Marriages and Funerals: By Appointment, Contact the office.

Contact Us: Phone 803 649-3203, **E-Mail** stgerardscatholi@atlanticbbn.net

Facebook @stgerardaiken, **Emergency number for Father 803 341-5933**

The Thirty First Sunday in Ordinary Time November 5, 2017

Mission Statement

Called to be a People for Others

Vision Statement

Anchored by faith hope and love in Jesus Christ, we strive to be active disciples, serving each other and all God's people by welcoming and embracing the enriching diversity of our community of faith.

Then addressing the crowds and his disciples Jesus said, 'The scribes and the Pharisees occupy the chair of Moses. You must therefore do and observe what they tell you; but do not be guided by what they do, since they do not practise what they preach. They tie up heavy burdens and lay them on people's shoulders, but will they lift a finger to move them?'

Matthew 23:1-4



Pray for our sick:
 Marge Glauser
 Leonard Saunders
 Shirley Paige
 William and Jackie Cobbs
 Woody Alexander
 Rosa Johnson
 Brenda Ligons
 Joe Fulmer
 Jean Schodowski
 Janet Menefee



"Whoever exalts himself will be humbled; but whoever humbles himself will be exalted." - MATTHEW 23:12

Pastoral Council:
 David Didimamoff, Chairperson
 Janet Menefee, Vice Chair
 Payson Borst
 Jacqueline Brown
 Fredrick Cadek
 Joan Hesik
 Gregory Wright
 Patricia Hayes
 Matt Fitzpatrick

Finance Council:
 Clyde Hall, Chairman
 Anna Marie Key & Patricia Miles, Auditors
 Agnes Beckert, Secretary
 Art Wagner
 Michele Bullington

Mass Intentions:

4:00 PM Mass is for Jake Beckert's 8th Birthday from The Beckerts. 7:00 AM Mass is said for your own personal intentions. 11:00 AM Mass is for The Souls of Carolina Santizo from Pedro

Weekend Offering
 October 29, 2017

Collected \$2,581.00
 Needed \$2,612.00
Under \$31.00

Attendance 131

Stewardship a way of life

The Gathering Hymn 202 BB
We Gather Together
The Offertory Hymn 376 BB
Servant Song
The Communion Hymn is CHOIR 468 BB
Shelter Me, O God
Our Song of Praise is 383 BB
Sent Forth By God's Blessing



Lay Ministers

	Saturday November 11 4:00 PM Vigil Mass Lector: Diane Begic E E Ministers: Jerry Schaeffer	Sunday November 12 7:00 AM Mass Mary Kay L'Esperance Gerard L'Esperance	Sunday November 12 11:00 AM Mass Paula Thurston Jackie Brown
	Saturday November 18 4:00 PM Vigil Mass Lector: Joan Hesik E E Ministers: Mary Rose	Sunday November 19 7:00 AM Mass Denise Gelinis Roger Gelinis	Sunday November 19 11:00 AM Mass Cathy Ciani Jeanette Colman

The Advent Penance service is to be held on November 28 at 6:30 PM Please plan to attend.



Perpetual Novena in honor of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Tuesdays at the 8:15 Mass
 The Legion of Mary is meeting at 1:30 on Fridays. Please consider joining. Call Paula Thurston at 803 226-1120

14 November is the date set for the Finance Council and Parish Council Meeting 6:00 PM Father has requested a joint meeting

There is a Liturgy Committee Meeting on Wednesday, November 8 in the church hall at 6:00 PM.

Next weeks Second Collection is for the Church in Africa

The Saint Gerard's Men's and Women's group will meet on Tuesday November 7 in the church hall at 6:30 PM. We will discuss a special project that Father has in mind for us. See you there.

We are planning a formal dinner in the parish hall. The proposed date is now in January. The date has been moved back due to father leaving the country and a conflict with the chef. Date and time TBD later this month. We will publish this info as soon as that has been determined.

Father will be leaving on December 3rd after the 7:00 AM Mass, for his 40th anniversary in Nigeria. We will have a reception here after the 4:00 PM Mass on the 2nd. There will be no daily Masses while father is gone. With the exception of December 8th, The Feast of The Immaculate Conception. Father will return the week of the 18th of December. Father Ernie will fill in during fathers absents.

Volunteer Corner:

Veterans Day

There will be parades, speeches and ceremonies, flag waving, and retail sales to honor the day. What makes a young citizen sign up for the military?

What prompts this spurt of patriotism and the dedication to years of service? Many sent to serve on distant shores to settle some political score.

Every day a veteran is haunted by unrelenting memories recalling the horrors of war. Some have the fortitude to handle it, Others suffer from nightmarish dreams and never seem to recover. Some suffer severe disabilities-- Physically, mentally, and emotionally. Many languish in veterans' hospitals. Some lose their families and become homeless.

And, some have paid the ultimate price of a lost life, now just a picture in a wallet or a family album.

Some veterans suffer the loss of limbs or sight They learn to adapt and go on to lead fulfilling lives. Some are wheel chair bound, unable to stand on their own to salute our glorious flag, but they never refrain from offering a salute or a head bowed in tribute.

Those who have seen the horrors of war kneel only in petition to the Lord God. They stand to honor flag, anthem, country-- in tribute to every person who ever served in the military.

Remember a veteran today and then do it again tomorrow and again the day after that. May they never be forgotten!

Joan M. Lacombe
 Aiken's Poet Laureate
 Veterans Day, November 11, 2017
 (Two brothers and my husband served in World War II)
 Joan Lacombe
 harjo112@aol.com

Wish List

This is an older campus. Things break and wear out. In order to keep you informed we are putting out a list of urgent needs.

Heat exchanger needs replacement grantee expired. cost \$1,235.00
 We are going to buy new 5ft. round tables for the church hall. These tables are lighter easier to move and store. They are also better for future uses that the council and father have planed. Anyone that would like to help offset the cost your help would be appreciated.

The state of finance at St. Gerard is to be presented to the parish at all 3 Masses in November. Date TBD

Please help fill in the refreshment schedule sign up sheet on the board!!

Your Spiritual Guide to the HOLY LAND & Holy Sites

Our Vision is to assist Catholics/Christians have a truly spiritual and meaningful pilgrimage experience while touring the Holy Land and other major religious sites in Europe, call us at 1-844-400-9559

If you know of someone that needs The Blessed Sacrament brought to their home or hospital please call the office.

Natural Family Planning in November

Natural Family Planning (NFP) encompasses moral, natural, healthy, modern and scientifically reliable methods of family planning that teach couples how to identify and understand their signs of fertility which can then be used to achieve or postpone a pregnancy in accordance with God's design and will. You are invited to attend the NFP sessions below:
 11.6.17 - St. Joseph Catholic Church (Columbia) - 6:30pm
 11.9.17 - St. Francis Hospital - eastside, Room 301 (Greenville) - 7:00 pm
 11.13.17 - Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, lower church (Charleston) - 6:30pm
 11.14.17 - Seasons Ob/Gyn (N. Charleston) - 6:30pm
 11.17.17 - Immaculate Conception (Goose Creek) - 6:30pm
 Don't see your parish or location? Visit <http://www.sccatholic.org/nfp> to find a full listing of NFP methods, instructors, and dates in the Diocese. Long-distance instruction is also available. Want more information or need to register? Visit <http://www.sccatholic.org/nfp> to locate the session and contact the associated instructor to register. Or contact Kelli Ball, Diocesan NFP Coordinator, at kball@catholic-doc.org or 803.807.0158.

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@atlanticbbn.net. You should follow this advice for Nursing homes and rehabilitation facilities also.