

**POPE FRANCIS' JUBILEE AUDIENCE: On Carrying Out Love**

‘When one forgets oneself and thinks of others, this is love!’

Rome, March 14, 2016, Zenit.org

Dear Brothers and Sisters, good morning!

We are approaching the feast of Easter, central mystery of our faith. As we heard, John’s Gospel recounts that before dying and resurrecting for us, Jesus carried out a gesture that was engraved in the memory of the disciples: the washing of the feet, an unexpected and overwhelming gesture, to the point that Peter refused to accept it. I would like to reflect on Jesus’ last words: “Do you know what I have done to you? [...] If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet” (13:12.14). Thus Jesus pointed out service to His disciples as the way to follow, to live faith in Him and to give witness of His love. Jesus applied to Himself the image of the “Servant of God” used by the prophet Isaiah. He, who is the Lord, makes Himself servant!

By washing the feet of the Apostles, Jesus wanted to reveal to us God’s way of acting in our relations, and to give an example of his “new commandment” (John 13:34) to love one another as He has loved us, namely, by giving His life for us. John himself writes this in his First Letter: “By this we know love, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren [...] Little children, let us not love in word or speech, but in deed and in truth” (3:16.18). Love, therefore, is the concrete service we render one another. Love not in words but in deeds and service, a humble service, carried out in silence and hiddenness, as Jesus Himself said: “do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing” (Matthew 6:3). This implies making available the gifts that the Holy Spirit has lavished on us, so that the community can grow (cf. 1 Corinthians 12:4-11). In addition, it is expressed in the sharing of material goods, so that no one is in need. This sharing and dedication to those in need is a style of life that God also suggests to many non-Christians, as the way of genuine humanity.

Lastly, let us not forget that by washing the feet of the disciples and asking them to do likewise, Jesus has also invited us to confess to one another our faults and to pray for one another to be able to forgive one another from our heart. In this connection, let us recall the words of the holy Bishop Augustine when he wrote: “The Christian must not disdain to do what Christ did. Because when the body bends down to the brother’s feet, the heart is also enkindled, or if the sentiment of humility was already there, it is nourished [...] Let us forgive one another for our wrongs and let us pray for one another for our faults and thus in some way we will wash one another’s feet” (In Jon 58:4-5). Love, charity, is service, to help others, to serve others. Last week I received a letter from a person who thanked me for the Year of Mercy. She asked me to pray for her so that she could be closer to the Lord. This person’s life is to take care of her mother and brother: her elderly mother is bedridden, lucid but unable to move and her brother is disabled, in a wheelchair. This person’s life is to serve, to help. And this is love! When one forgets oneself and thinks of others, this is love! And, with the washing of the feet the Lord taught us to be servants, more than that: servants, as He was a servant for us, for each one of us.

Therefore, dear brothers and sisters, to be merciful as the Father <is merciful> means to follow Jesus on the way of service. Thank you.

# St. Gerard Catholic Church



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

## Palm Sunday March 20th, 2016

**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.*

**Fr. Emmanuel Andinam: Administrator**

### SUNDAY READINGS

**First Reading:**

*Isaiah 50:4-7*

**Responsorial:**

*Psalms 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24*

**Second Reading:**

*Philippians 2:6-11*

**Gospel:**

*Luke 22:14--23:56*

*Today's Missal*

### Readings for Holy Week

Holy Thursday:

*Isaiah 61:1-3, 6, 8-9*

*Psalms 89:21-22, 25, 27*

*Revelation 1:5-8*

*Luke 4:16-21*

Good Friday:

*Isaiah 52:13--53:12*

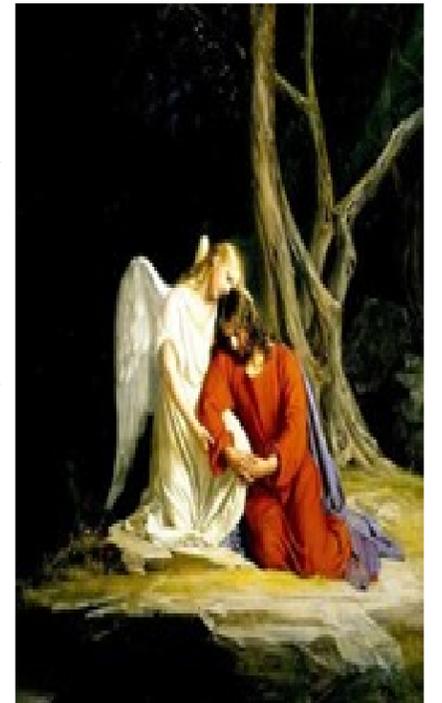
*Psalms 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17,25*

*Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9*

*John 18:1--19:42*

*He then left to make his way as usual to the Mount of Olives, with the disciples following. When he reached the place he said to them, 'Pray not to be put to the test.' Then he withdrew from them, about a stone's throw away, and knelt down and prayed. 'Father,' he said, 'if you are willing, take this cup away from me. Nevertheless, let your will be done, not mine.' Then an angel appeared to him, coming from heaven to give him strength. In his anguish he prayed even more earnestly, and his sweat fell to the ground like great drops of blood. When he rose from prayer he went to the disciples and found them sleeping for sheer grief. And he said to them, 'Why are you asleep? Get up and pray not to be put to the test.'*

**Luke 22: 39-46**



**Mass Times:** Weekdays Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 8:15 AM, First Friday Benediction after Mass

**New Weekend:** Mass times Saturday 4:00 PM, Sunday 7:00 AM and 9:00 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:** Sundays 10:00 AM **RCIA:** Tuesdays 10:00 AM

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

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

Facebook @stgerardaiken, **Emergency number for Father** 803 637-2027



**Pray for our sick:**  
 Gary Gilbert  
 Marge Glouser  
 Leonard Saunders  
 Shirley Paige  
 William and Jackie Cobbs  
 Woody Alexander  
 Lena Mickens  
 Rosa Johnson  
 Brenda Ligon  
 Joe Fulmer

*As we experience the Paschal Mystery, we renew our goal as faithful stewards to give freely and generously to help build God's kingdom on earth. In this season and in all seasons, we share our gifts as we strive to live as an Easter people.*



**Pastoral Council:**  
 Wayman Johnson,  
 Chairman  
 Payson Borst  
 Jacqueline Brown  
 Fredrick Cadek  
 Nancy Durden  
 Marge Glauser  
 Janet Menefee  
 Gregory Wright  
 Joan Hesik

**Mass Intentions**  
 4:00 PM, 7:00 AM and 11:15 AM  
 Masses are said for your own personal intentions.

**Weekend Offering**  
**March 19-20, 2016**  
 Collection \$2,304.47  
 Needed \$2,612.00  
 Short \$307.53  
 Attendance 134  
*Stewardship a way of life*

*The Processional Hymn 292 H/43M*  
*All Glory Laud and Honor Verses 1 and 2)*  
*Procession into Church*  
*All Glory Laud and Honor Verses 3-4-5)*  
*The Offertory Hymn is 726 H*  
*Lift High the Cross The Communion Hymn is 301 H/57 M*  
*Were You There*  
*Our Song of Praise is 300 H*  
*Jesus, Keep Me Near The Cross*



**Finance Council:**  
 Robert Erikson,  
 Chairman  
 Leon Gagnon and  
 Anna Marie Key,  
 Auditors  
 Lisa Solenberger  
 Art Wagner

<b>Lay Ministers</b>		
Saturday March 26	Sunday March 27	Sunday March 27
8:30 PM Vigil Mass	7:00 AM Mass	9:00 AM Mass
Lector: David Didimamoff	Denise Gelinas	Patricia Hayes
E E Ministers: Mays Rose	Roger Gelinas	Marge Glauser
Saturday April 2	Sunday April 3	Sunday April 3
4:00 PM Vigil Mass	7:00 AM Mass	9:00 AM Mass
Lector: Diane Begic	Mary Kay L'Esperance	Richardean Paige
E E Ministers: Mary Rose	Gerard L'Esperance	Open



Refreshments March 20 Jackie Cobbs/Rosa DiStefano  
 March 27 No refreshments  
 Collection on Good Friday For The Holy Land

**No CCD, Bible Study, RCIA or Weekday Masses Holy Week and Easter Week.**

**Regular schedule resumes Sunday April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Regular weekday schedule resumes March 31<sup>st</sup>.**

*The Legion of Mary needs members. Come pray the rosary and honor our Holy Mother.*

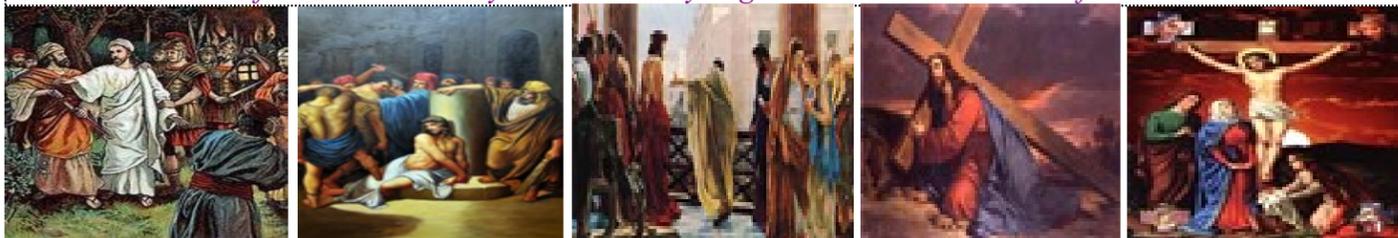


*Holy Week Masses: Holy Thursday 8:00 PM, Good Friday 3:00 PM, Easter Vigil 8:30 PM and Easter Sunday 7:00 AM and 9:00 AM. Anyone that can assist with any of the Masses that has not volunteered please call the office by Wednesday 3/23/16*

**Weekend Mass schedule change Effective Easter Sunday: Saturday 4:00 PM and Sunday 7:00 AM Masses remain the same. 11:15 AM Sunday Mass will now be at 9:00 AM**

Call Cathy Ciani  
 643-9011

*Remember that Christ died for our sins after a night of prayer, humiliation, torture and being made to carry the instrument of his death. Not very convenient. Try to get to Mass this week even if it's inconvenient.*



**Volunteer Corner**  
 Father thanks The Erikson, Welsh, Dixon, Borst and Arbuckle families for the donated items for the church and rectory.  
 Thank You for all the support that I receive from the parishioners of St. Gerard's  
 Mike

Marriage Conference 2016  
 When: Saturday, April 16, 2016  
 Where: St. Mary Help of Christians Church  
 138 Fairfield St. SE, Aiken SC 29801  
 Time: 8:30am-3:00pm  
 Cost: \$35 per couple

**No Smart Phone... No Problem!**  
**Call 1 (712) 832-2674**  
 During our visits around the diocese, many have said, "I don't have a smartphone so I can't use the TuneIn app to listen to Catholic Radio." Well, there's a NEW way to listen to Catholic Radio in South Carolina and you can use a standard cell or landline to listen. Just dial 1 (712) 832-2674 (Powered by AudioNow.com), and your phone becomes a personal Catholic Radio listening device. There is no extra charge for this service but your normal call rates and limits do apply. BUT, as many plans have unlimited long distance or calling, you can essentially listen on your standard phone for free. Check your calling plan to be sure. Also, if you have friends and relatives who might enjoy listening to Catholic Radio on their standard phone, please pass the number on. Note: Smartphone users can still listen to our broadcast via TuneIn Radio – a FREE app for smart phones and app-based devices. After downloading the app, using the app's browse function, key in "wcki" and our logo will come up. Tap on our logo and the audio feed will play. Then you can save WCKI as a favorite station so that it is easier to access.

Show your thanks for all your blessings by giving back. Sign up this holiday season to become an ACTS volunteer. ACTS is in desperate need of volunteers to serve in our Resale Store and Client Room assisting clients with their clothing vouchers. Shifts are available Monday thru Friday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Commit to as few or as many hours and/or days as fit your schedule.  
 It's not only rewarding but fun, as well!  
 Just e-mail [usatvolunteer@actsofaiken.org](mailto:usatvolunteer@actsofaiken.org), or call 803.649.3800 for more information.

**Have a Heart Donate Blood!**  
 The Knights of Columbus  
 Are asking you to help save local lives! Saving Lives takes All Types Donate Blood; it's in you to give. People can't live without it! There is an urgent need for Type O blood.  
 Will you Choose 2 Give? Sheppard Community Blood Center will conduct a Blood Drive At the New Saint Mary Help of Christian Church  
 On Fairfield Street.  
 Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> from 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm  
 Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> from 7:45 am- 2:00 pm  
 Each donor will receive a free T-Shirt and Free Lipid Profile after your 3<sup>rd</sup> donation in A calendar year. Bring a picture ID, Driver's license or donor card!  
 Donors should drink plenty of water prior to donating.  
 Blood Donors are Special People, Thank You.

ACTS is partnering (on a sub-grant basis )with the Augusta/Aiken Warrior Project (AWP) to 1) assist in identifying and gathering/maintaining demographic information on post 9/11 veterans, and 2) provide available assistance to local Warriors (veterans and service members) of all service branches, regardless of era of service or wounded status.

*The first weekend of each month is Feed The Valley Weekend. We have had a wonderful response. Thank you and please continue the generous contributions.*

**This Thursday is Holy Thursday. I have been attempting to get volunteers for foot washing. Please contact the office ASAP. We need 12 people. Thanks**

**Knights of Columbus Academic Scholarships**  
 Each year the Aiken Knights of Columbus, Council #3684, awards scholarship assistance to eligible applicants. Scholarships are based solely on demonstrated ability and will be awarded based on: school grades, standardized test scores, quality of the. Essay submitted, letters of recommendation, and community or extracurricular involvement. With few exceptions, scholarship assistance will require a minimum grade average of B or 3.00 in high school and 1600 or higher SAT scores (or equivalent). All scholarship applications must be received by April 30, 2016. All scholarships awarded are renewable up on re-application; provided a recipient maintains a B or 3.00 grade average, and is a worthy campus citizen. Scholarship interviews may be an integral part of the evaluation. For more information or an application form, call Tom Meisner at (803) 649-4721 or Chuck Goergen at (803) 649-4097.

**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 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@Atlanticbnn.net](mailto:stgerardscatholi@Atlanticbnn.net).