

Congratulations Joan "On Being Named The Poet Laureate" of Aiken

Surprise, delight—then sudden realization  
Of my commitment, my duties, my obligation.

How did the committee arrive at their decision  
That I should be worthy of this position?

How can I not pledge to develop my poetic talents  
And continue to maintain my artistic balance?

How can I not embrace the trust and faith placed in me  
To fulfill my duties and be all that you want me to be?

How can I not hope that my best poetry is yet to be written?  
And that by the scourge of pride I will not be smitten?

How could I not honor my colleagues' goodwill  
Having given my word this pledge to fulfill?

As for The Aiken Poets, I value their insight  
All accomplished poets in their own right.

This honor proposes how powerful words can be,  
The challenge of writing them now up to me.

Serving the City and poetry as a liaison  
I now have a new page to write on!

**Joan M. Lacombe**  
April 21, 2017

# 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:  
Acts 2:14,22-33(46A)  
Responsorial Psalm:  
Psalm 16:1-2,5,7-8,9-10,11  
Second Reading:  
1 Peter 1:17-21  
Gospel:  
Luke 24:13-35

### Lectionary Readings for Week of 4/30, 2017

Monday: Acts 6:8-15;  
John 6:22-29  
Tuesday: Acts 7:51-8:1a;  
John 6:30-35  
Wednesday: 1 Corinthians 15:1-8;  
John 14:6-14  
Thursday: Acts 8:26-40;  
John 6:44-51  
Friday: Acts 9:1-20;  
John 6:52-59  
Saturday: Acts 9:31-42;  
John 6:60-69

# The Third Sunday of Easter April 30, 2017

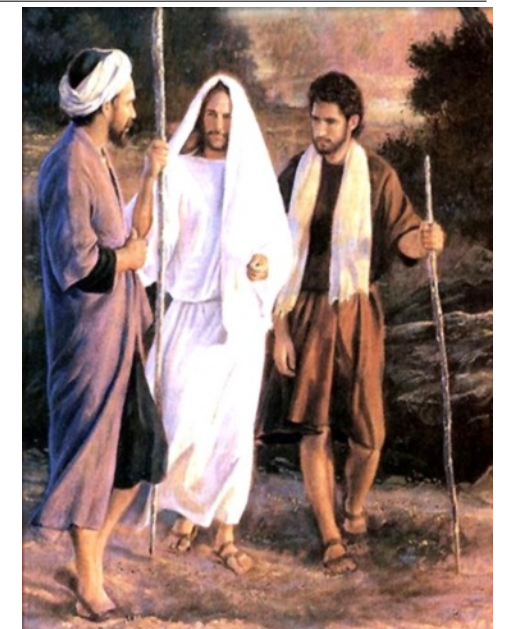
### Mission Statement

*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*

*And he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are! How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them what referred to him in all the Scriptures. As they approached the village to which they were going, he gave the impression that he was going on farther. But they urged him, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them.*  
**Luke 24:25-29**



**Mass Times:** Weekdays Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 8:15 AM, **No weekday Masses till May 23**

First Friday Benediction after Mass

Weekend Saturday 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 **No bible study till May 26**

**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**



**Pray for our sick:**  
 Judy Riley  
 Marge Glauser  
 Leonard Saunders  
 Shirley Paige  
 William and Jackie Cobbs  
 Woody Alexander  
 Rosa Johnson  
 Brenda Ligon  
 Joe Fulmer

**Weekend Offering**  
**April 23, 2017**

Collection \$2,400.00  
 Needed \$2,612.00  
**Under \$212.00**

Easter \$1,080.00  
 Attendance 140  
*Stewardship a way of life*

*“When we live a life of gratitude, being thankful for the gifts we have been given, we really do see that God is providing all that we need”.*  
*(Archbishop Carlson)*

**Be a Good Steward**

**Mass Intentions**  
 4:00 PM Mass is said for Margaret & Vincent Klapperstuck form The Heims.  
 7:00 AM Mass is said for your own personal intentions.  
 11:00 AM Mass is Said for Mamma Ethel from A. Lauer.

*The Gathering Hymn 566 BB*  
*The Strife Is O'er*  
*The Offertory Hymn is 65 M*  
*Two Were Bound for Emmaus*  
*The Communion Hymn is CHOIR 397 BB*  
*Christ Be Beside Me*  
*Our Song of Praise is 573 BB*  
*Alleluia #1*

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

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

**Lay Ministers**

<b>Saturday May 6</b> 4:00 PM Vigil Mass Lector: Joan Hesik E E Ministers: Barbara Dixon	<b>Sunday May 7</b> 7:00 AM Mass Mary Kay L'Esperance Gerard L'Esperance	<b>Sunday May 7</b> 11:00 AM Mass Sheila Wagner Jackie Brown
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**Mother's Day Weekend**

<b>Saturday May 13</b> 4:00 PM Vigil Mass Lector: Joan Hesik E E Ministers: Pam Ziomek	<b>Sunday May 14</b> 7:00 AM Mass Denise Gelinas Roger Gelinas	<b>Sunday May 14</b> 11:00 AM Mass Patricia Hayes Mary Rose
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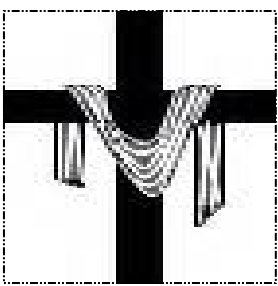
Refreshments April 30 Sheila Wagner/Patricia Hayes	Refreshments May 7 Mike Solenberger/Janet Menefee	Refreshments May 14 Jean Schodowski/Richardean Paige
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*The Legion of Mary is meeting at 1:30 on Fridays. Please consider joining. Please Pray the Rosary.*

*Perpetual Novena in honor of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Tuesdays at the 8:15 Mass*



**Father will be gone 24 April through 16 May. No Daily Masses during that time. No bible study until 26 May, Weekday Masses resume May 23. Weekend Masses at regular times.**



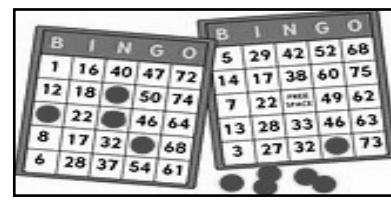
**Fall Festival Meeting May 9<sup>th</sup> 4:00 PM**  
**Liturgical Committee Meeting Wednesday May 3<sup>rd</sup> 6:00 PM**

**It is time to take pictures for the new Church Directory**  
**Dates for photos are June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> You can get on line and schedule yourself at <https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/9rjrez14/>**  
**Anyone that can't get on line please call or e-mail the office.**  
**We need everyone to register. We have a limited number of pictures we can submit, at no cost, for people that will not be available for photo sessions. Your cooperation is needed to make this work.**  
**Thanks in advance, Mike**

**Volunteer Corner:**  
*Thanks to all that came to the Fall Festival meeting. I think we are off to a good start. We still need volunteers so 3 or 4 people don't have to do it all.*

**Family Charitable Outreach:**  
 Contact Marge Glauser or the office.

**BINGO Columbus Club Hall Every Monday at 7:10 PM till 9:00 PM**  
 5 Cards \$ 10.00. Each Additional Card \$2.00  
 15 Regular Games \$20 Payout  
 1 Coverall Jackpot \$150 Payout



**National Black Catholic Congress XIII**  
 Registration is still open! The Congress will be held in Orlando, Florida on July 6th-9th, 2017. Father Emmanuel has appointed Wayman and Rosa Johnson to represent St. Gerard at the conference. The Diocese's Ethnic Ministries Office has granted the registration scholarship to The Johnson Family. Thank you for representing us and congratulations.

**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. You should follow this advice for Nursing homes and rehabilitation facilities also.

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

In Harms' Way: Please remember in your prayers our Nation and loved ones of our parishioners currently serving in harms' way: James Ligon and Robert McHugh. 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.

“Many veterans are not aware of the services for which they are entitled or where to begin applying for those services. 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. ACTS remains autonomous throughout this process. ACTS needs your help in “spreading the word.” Please ask any veterans (especially post-9/11 veterans) to contact ACTS at ph#803.642.5919 about filling in a Veteran's Information Sheet (VIS form).”

**Please join us for a Cinco de Mayo party!**  
**Food – Fellowship - Fun - Music – Dancing**  
**St. Angela Hall and Courtyard (weather permitting)**  
**Friday, May 5, 2017 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.**  
**An authentic all-you-can eat Mexican buffet**  
**\$10 per person Tickets available at the St Mary Help of Christians Parish Office in Aiken**

Little Bethlehem Christians will be here May 27 & 28 selling Rosewood crafts from The Holy Land in support of Christians there.

**BLACK CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE**  
**OCTOBER 5-7, 2017 MIAMI , FLORIDA**

The Bowman Francis Ministry team would like to invite you to the fourteen annual Black Catholic Men's conference in Miami Florida October 5-7. This conference invitation is extended to all males and youth males 10-17 years of age. Come to the conference and be blessed to be the best man- the best youth you can be in the church, community and world. If you have any concerns you can reached me at 317-523-0900 or check out the ministry at bowmanfrancisministry.com

Fr. Chester Smith FOR BROCHURE: Click link below.  
[http://www.bowmanfrancisministry.com/men\\_s\\_conference](http://www.bowmanfrancisministry.com/men_s_conference)

Jesus Wept John 11:35  
**GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP**

St. Mary's has an ongoing grief support group that meets on Wednesdays. The 13-week program uses Griefshare, a special lay-led weekly seminar and support group that embraces a biblical, Christ-centered approach to grieving. Please join us for help and encouragement after the death of a loved one. We provide a safe and loving environment to encourage sharing and exchanging of concerns and feelings as you are comfortable. This group is open to anyone in our community, regardless of Church affiliation. Please pass the information along to anyone you know who might need it. People may join the group at any point during the 13 weeks; each session stands alone. The meetings are held downstairs in Smith Hall from 3:30 until 5:00 pm but we join for coffee and fellowship any time after 3:00. The registration fee is \$20 and scholarships are available. Registration information is available at the St. Mary Parish Office. Please contact Bette Ross at 803.649-4777 or [bross@stmarys-aiken.org](mailto:bross@stmarys-aiken.org) for additional information or questions.  
*I will turn their mourning into joy; I will console and gladden them after their sorrows*  
 — Jeremiah 31:13