

POPE FRANCIS' GENERAL AUDIENCE: On World Youth Day, Visit to Poland

'The new generation of young people— inheritors and continuers of the pilgrimage initiated by Saint John Paul II—gave the answer to today's challenge. They gave a sign of hope, and this sign is called fraternity, because, in fact, in this world at war, we need fraternity, closeness, dialogue and friendship.'

Rome, August 3, 2016, zenith.org

Dear Brothers and Sisters, good morning!

Today, I would like to reflect briefly on the Apostolic Journey I made in the past days to Poland.

The occasion of the journey was the World Youth Day, 25 years after that historic celebration at Czestochowa, shortly after the fall of the "Iron Curtain." Over these 25 years, Poland has changed, Europe has changed and the world has changed, and this WYD became a prophetic sign for Poland, for Europe and for the world. The new generation of young people—inheritors and continuers of the pilgrimage initiated by Saint John Paul II—gave the answer to today's challenge. They gave a sign of hope, and this sign is called fraternity, because, in fact, in this world at war, we need fraternity, closeness, dialogue and friendship. And this is a sign of hope: when there is fraternity.

We begin precisely with young people, who were the first reason for the journey. Once again they answered the appeal: they came from all over the world – some of them are here! [he pointed to pilgrims in the Hall] — <It was> a celebration of colors, of different faces, languages and histories. I don't know how they do it: they speak different languages, but are able to understand one another! And why <is this so>? Because they have the will to go together, to build bridges of fraternity. They came also with their wounds, with their questions but especially with the joy of encountering one another; and, once again, they formed a mosaic of fraternity. One can speak of a mosaic of fraternity. An emblematic image of the World Youth Days is the multi-colored range of flags waved by the young people: in fact, at the WYD the nations' flags become more beautiful, they are, so to speak, "purified," and the flags of nations in conflict among them also waved nearby. And this is beautiful! The flags are also here ... Make them seen!

So, in this great Jubilee meeting, the young people of the world received the message of Mercy, to take it everywhere in spiritual and corporal works of mercy. I thank all the young people that came to Krakow! And I thank those that joined us from all parts of the earth! — as in many countries small Youth Days were held in connection with Krakow's. May the gift you received become a daily answer to the Lord's call. A memory full of affection goes to Susanna, the Roman girl of this diocese, who died immediately after having taken part in the WYD, at Vienna. May the Lord, who has certainly received her in Heaven, comfort her relatives and friends.

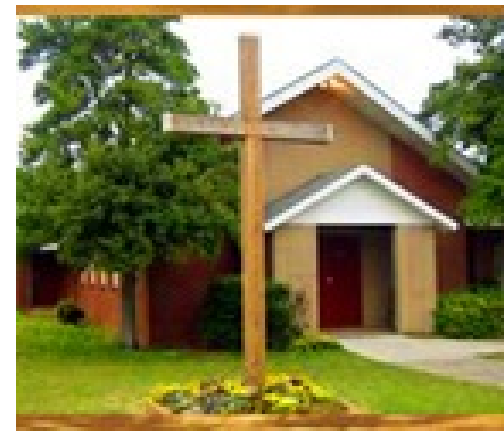
During this Journey, I also visited the Shrine of Czestochowa. Before the icon of Our Lady, I received the gift of the gaze of the Mother, who, in a particular way, is Mother of the Polish people, of that noble nation that has suffered so much and, with the strength of faith and her maternal hand, has always risen again. I greeted some Poles here [in the Hall]. You are good, you are good! There, under that gaze, one understands the spiritual sense of this nation's journey, whose history is linked indissolubly to the Cross of Christ. There one touches with the hand the faith of the holy people of God, which keeps hope through trials; and it also keeps that wisdom that is a balance between tradition and innovation, between memory and future. And today Poland reminds the whole of Europe that the Continent cannot have a future without its founding values, which in turn have the Christian vision of man at the center. Among these values is mercy, of which two great children of the Polish land were special apostles: Saint Faustina Kowalska and Saint John Paul II.

And, finally, this Journey also had the horizon of the world, a world called to respond to the challenge of a war "in pieces," which is threatening it. And here the great silence of the visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau was more eloquent than any word. In that silence I heard, I felt the presence of all the souls that passed by there; I felt the compassion, the mercy of God, which some holy souls were able to bring also to that abyss. In that great silence I prayed for all the victims of violence and of war. And there, in that place, I understood more than ever the value of the memory, not only as the memory of past events, but as warning and responsibility for today and tomorrow, so that the seed of hatred and violence will not take root in the furrows of history. And in this memory of wars and of many wounds, of so many griefs experienced, there are also so many men and women of today, who suffer wars, so many of our brothers and sisters. Looking at that cruelty, in that concentration camp, I thought immediately of today's cruelties, which are similar: not so concentrated as in that place, but everywhere in the world; this world that is sick of cruelty, of pain, of war, of hatred, of sadness. And that is why I always ask you for prayer: may the Lord give us peace!

I thank the Lord and the Virgin Mary for all this. And I express again my gratitude to the President of Poland and to the other Authorities, to the Cardinal Archbishop of Krakow and to the entire Polish Episcopate, and to all those that, in a thousand ways, made this event possible, which offered a sign of fraternity and peace to Poland, to Europe and to the world. I would also like to thank the young volunteers who worked for more than a year to bring this event forward; and also the media, those who work in the media: thank you so much for having made this Day seen in the whole world. And here I cannot forget Anna Maria Jacobini, an Italian journalist who lost her life there, suddenly. Let us also pray for her: she left us while carrying out her service.

Thank you!

St. Gerard Catholic Church



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

SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading:

Wisdom 18:6-9(117C)

Responsorial:

Psalms 33:1,12,18-19,20-22

Second Reading:

Hebrews 11:1-2,8-19

Gospel:

Luke 12:32-48

Today's Missal

Lectionary Readings for the week of August 7, 2016

Monday: Ezekiel 1:2-5,24-28c;

Matthew 17:22-27

Tuesday: Ezekiel 2:8-3:4;

Matthew 18:1-5,10,12-14

Wednesday: 2 Corinthians 9:6-10;

John 12:24-26

Thursday: Ezekiel 12:1-12;

Matthew 18:21-19:1

Friday: Ezekiel 16:1-15,60,63;

Matthew 19:3-12

Saturday: Ezekiel 18:1-10,13b,30-32;

Matthew 19:13-15

The Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time August 7, 2016

Mission Statement

Called to be a People for Others

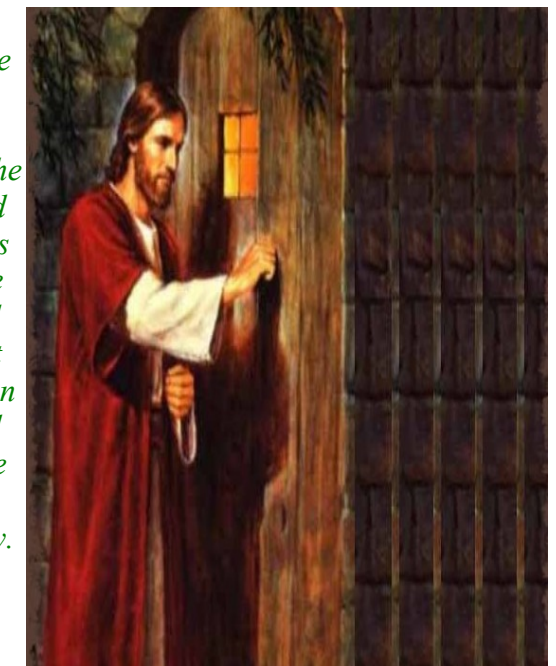
Vision Statement

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.

Father Emmanuel Andinam: Administrator

'See that you have your belts done up and your lamps lit. Be like people waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. In truth I tell you, he will do up his belt, sit them down at table and wait on them. It may be in the second watch that he comes, or in the third, but blessed are those servants if he finds them ready.'

Luke 12:35-38



Mass Times: Weekdays Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 8:15 AM,

First Friday Benediction after Mass

Weekend Saturday 4:00 PM, Sunday 7:00 AM and 11:00 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 resuming in the fall, **CCD:** Sundays TBD during school year,

RCIA: Tuesdays 10:00 AM restarting in the fall

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
 Gary Gilbault
 Marge Glauser
 Leonard Saunders
 Shirley Paige
 William and Jackie Cobbs
 Woody Alexander
 Lena Mickens
 Rosa Johnson
 Brenda and Ike
 Ligons
 Joe Fulmer
 Elaine Smoak
 Chuck Simkin

When we turn over our lives to become disciples of Jesus, we trust that our needs will be met, our sacrifices worthwhile. This first step can be very difficult. We need to remember it is God whom we can trust. And God will not be outdone by our generosity.



Pastoral Council:

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

Finance Council:

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

Mass Intentions

4:00 PM Mass, 7:00 AM Mass & 11:15 AM Mass
 are all said for your own personal intentions

The Gathering Hymn 552 H
Faith of Our Fathers
The Offertory Hymn is 420 H
I Want to Walk As a Child of the Light
The Communion Hymn is CHOIR 662 H/384 BB
The Summons
Our Song of Praise is 43 M
Tell the Good News



Weekend Offering

July 30-31, 2016

Collection \$2,410.00
 Needed \$2,612.00
 Under \$202.00
 Attendance 134
 Stewardship a way of life

Lay Ministers

Saturday August 13	Sunday August 14	Sunday August 14
4:00 PM Vigil Mass	7:00 AM Mass	11:00 AM Mass
Lector: Joan Hesik	Denise Gelinas	Richardean Paige
E E Ministers: Mary Rose	Roger Gelinas	Jeanette Coleman
Saturday August 20	Sunday August 21	Sunday August 21
4:00 PM Vigil Mass	7:00 AM Mass	11:00 AM Mass
Lector: David Didimamoff	Mary Key L'Esperance	Paula Thurston
E E Ministers: Ellen Heim	Joe Dennis/Gerard L'Esperance	Joe Dennis/ Wayman Johnson
Refreshments August 7	Refreshments August 14	Refreshments August 21
Sheila Wagner/Patricia Hayes	Shirley Paige/Anna Marie Key	Jean Schodowski/Jeanette Coleman

Don't forget our Pot Luck Lunch this Sunday at 12:15 PM for Father's 65th Birthday.

Happy Birthday Father Emmanuel



Finance council Budget meeting August 10 at 4:30.

Pray for Joe Begic, he is in the hospital.

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

Lectors and Ministers of the Cup:
 When Joe Dennis is here you do not need to read the intentions and the Ministers of Cup will not need to serve.

This Week is Feed The Valley Weekend
 Thank you and bless your gifts.

Correction: August 15 is not a Holy Day. There will be no Mass at St. Gerard on that day. Sorry for the error.

Matt Fitzpatrick is now in charge of security here at St. Gerard

Effective 8 August (this Monday) Father Emmanuel is assigned to St. Gerard and only St. Gerard. We will have a full time priest. As a result the 11:15 AM Mass will now be at 11:00 AM effective 8/14/16.

Volunteer Corner: Thanks To Dennis Perea for doing repairs on the church message board.

St. Gerard Second Annual Fall Festival
WHEN: Saturday, October 8, 2016
TIME: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
WHERE: Odell Weeks Activity Center 1700 Whiskey Road

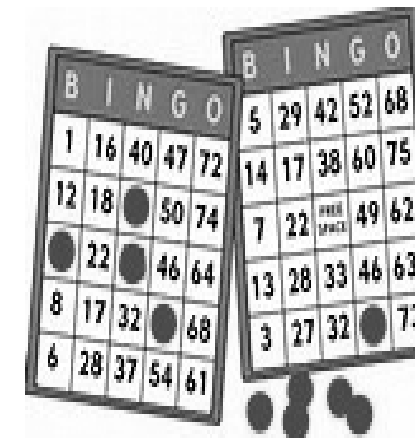
Plans are now underway for our Fall Festival. The Parish Council decided to hold the festival at the Odell Weeks Activity Center as it gives us more visibility than having it on church grounds. There will be outdoor space for vendors, food, children's activities, etc. The silent auction and bake sale will be held indoors. We are asking ALL parishioners to get involved in working together to make the festival a big success. More details on how you can support this parish event will be included in the bulletin next weekend.

ACTS has a position opening that supports our Women's Enrichment Program, 'Coffee with JoJo'. If you have questions or need more information, please call Carla at ACTS, 649-3800.

Show your thanks for all your blessings by giving back. 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, or call 803.649.3800 for more information.

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

Emergency Assistance Caseworker, Receptionist, and Voicemail Person
 Food Pantry Helper on Monday during the summer
 If interested please contact Deondra Roper, Volunteer Coordinator at 803.857.6053
 Our Lady of The Valley

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.

ACTS is partnering with the Augusta/Aiken Warrior Project (AWP) to provide available assistance to local Warriors of all service branches, regardless of era of service or wounded status. Please ask any veterans (especially post-9/11 veterans) to contact ACTS at ph#803.642.5919 They served us now let's help ACTS serve them.

The Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry is excited to announce the establishment of a Diocesan Missionary Team. The purpose of this groundbreaking program will be to evangelize youth in grades 6 - 12 and help them encounter Christ. Retreats will be offered beginning in September at our parishes and Catholic schools. To learn more or to help with the funding of this dynamic new program, go to <http://sccatholic.org/youth-ministry>

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@atlanticbbn.net.

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Childcare Worker Position Opening

The individual selected will provide care and supervision for children in a daycare-type environment. Lead games and activities for multiple children, keeping them engaged. Change diapers and/or clean children up after activities. The opening is a part time position and is available immediately. It is the 2nd and 4th Thursdays each month (except Nov-Dec will be only the 2nd Thurs); 5:45 pm-8:15 pm (2.5 hrs per day). **Location is Hope Center in Graniteville SC.** Skills and abilities required: experience with children; a positive, friendly demeanor and ability to stand, kneel, bend, stoop and lift up to 30 lbs. This position supports a program that is an affiliation of ACTS, Christ Central, FamCo, and HUGS, LLC. Beginning pay \$8.00/hr. Submit resume to carla@actsofaiken.org. Additional application guidance will be provided.