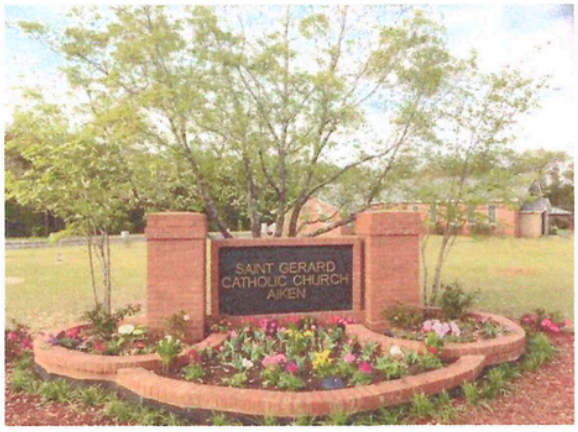


St. Gerard Catholic Church

640 Edrie Street, NE
Aiken, SC 29801
803 649-3203

Rev. Emmanuel O. Andinam, Pastor
Deacon Dr. Charles Cooper, Retired

Mission 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.

Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe November 22, 2026

Weekly Mass Schedule

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday – 8:15 AM

Saturday Vigil - 4:00 PM

Sunday - 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM

First Friday: Benediction & Divine Mercy Chaplet following 8:15 AM Mass.

Confessions: Tuesday & Thursday after Mass

Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals: By appointment

Religious Education: Contact office for information

OCIA: Contact office 803-649-3203

Bible Study: Fridays 10:00 AM in the church hall

Website: www.stgerardinaiken.org

Readings for The Week

Sunday:
Eze 34:11-12,15-17; Ps 23:1-2,2-3,5-6;1 Cor 15:20-26,28; Mt 25:31-46

Monday:
Rev 14:1-3,4b-5; Ps 24:1bc-2,3-4ab,5-6; Lk 21:1-4

Tuesday: St. Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest & Companions Martyrs
Rev 14:14-19; Ps 96:10,11-12,13; Lk 21:5-11

Wednesday:
Rev 15:1-4; Ps 98:1,2-3ab,7-8,9; Lk 21:12-19

Thursday:
Rev 18:1-2,21-23;19:1-3,9a; Ps 100:1b-2,3,4,5; Lk 21:20-28

Friday:
Rev 20:1-4,11-21:2; Ps 84:3,4,5-6a & 8a; L:k 21:29-33

Saturday:
Rev 221-7; Ps 95:1-2,3-5,6-7ab; Lk 21:34-36

Mass Intentions

Saturday Vigil November 21
4:00 PM - Kennith Lee Longstreth
Sunday, November 22
8:00 AM - For our Parish
10:00 AM -Jasmine Wright B-Day
Tuesday, November 24
8:15 AM - For our Parish
Thursday, November 26 Thanksgiving
9:00 AM - For our Parish
Friday, November 27
8:15 AM - For our Parish

Ministers

November 28	November 29	November 29
4:00 PM Vigil	8:00 AM	10:00 AM
Diane Begic	Chuck Kenney	Pat Hayes
Cindy McHale	Betsy Kenney	Gregg Wright
Joan Hesik	Betsy Kenney	Gregg Wright

Pray for our Sick

Rosa Johnson, Rich Borst, John Burke, Krystal Ortiz, Michell Novotny, Casey Bay, Jeff Hesik, Dennis HooChung, Joe Monahon, Michele Bullington, Janet Menefee, Joan Lacombe

Anointing of the Sick

The Rite of Anointing tells us there is no need to wait until a person is at the point of death to receive the Sacrament. In this Sacrament, the Holy Spirit gives us peace and courage to deal with the difficulties that accompany serious illness and our frailty. To receive the Sacrament of Anointing, contact the church office.

Communion for Hospital/Homebound

If you would like Holy Communion brought to someone in the hospital or confined to home, please contact the church office: 803-649-3203.

Legion of Mary

Active members meet Tuesdays at 2:00 PM in the church Conference Room. Auxiliary members can pray at home. If you are interested in becoming an active or auxiliary member of the Legion of Mary, contact the church office.

Tabernacle Candle

Candle for November: The Carriero & George Families, living and deceased, and Jake Beckert's 17th birthday.

Weekly Collection 11/14-11/15/26

Budget	$4,325.00
Collected	$7,541.78
Short/Over	+$3,216.78
YTD+-	-$3,472.41

Second Collection

November 22 - International Ministries & Missions

Our Lady of the Valley Food Pantry

Our collection for the OLV food pantry is the third weekend of the month. Food donations are welcome at any time during the month; however, our focused collection is the third weekend of the month. The focus food for the weekend of November 21-22: Thanksgiving items.

Men's Prayer Group

Meetings are on Tuesdays in the parish social hall at 7:30 a.m. for prayer and discussion. Following the meeting, the group will attend the 8:15 a.m. Mass. For more information contact Bill Collins at 803-998-7191.

Monthly After Mass Social

The Monthly After Mass Social is the first Saturday of the month after the 4:00 p.m Mass. The host for December 5th is Dawson-Ekeland. If you would like to host a social, contact the parish office: 803-649-3203

Bible Study

Bible Study classes are held on Fridays at 10:00 AM in the church hall. If you can't attend in person, you can participate by teleconference. The phone number is 1-978-990-5273, and the Access Code is 236101#.

New Missals

The Missals for 2027 will be available in the entrance to the Social Hall the weekend of November 21 & 22. The cost is $8/missal. Please put your money in the box for the votive lights. We will begin using the new missals the first Sunday of Advent on November 29th and Saturday Vigil Mass on November 28th.

Feed 5K Ministry

We are asking volunteers to help make 100 lunches for the people at the Salvation Army Shelter during the week of Thanksgiving. We need 100 sandwiches, 100 bottles of water, 100 bags of chips, 100 nutrition/fruit bars and 100 bananas. If you are interested in helping with this charitable project, please contact Tony DaVino at: doctony.47@gmail.com

Deacon Chuck's Corner

Reflection: The Needy Around Us
Matthew 25:31-46

This long and exciting parable has a simple message: 'Minister to the needy around you, or else you are missing the whole point of living!' St Matthew's hearers had difficulty about what would happen to non-Jews, since they themselves were the Chosen People. Jesus says that with his coming into the world, everyone is a 'chosen person'. Everyone is to be treated with limitless respect.

This message is simple – the Lord will judge us on our love and service of others. You are there in the poor, the sick, the prisoners, the strangers - help us recognize your face, Lord.

This parable is about opening our eyes here and now to the needs of our neighbors - the hungry, the homeless, the refugee, the prisoner, the isolated lonely ones. Jesus identifies with each one. If I turn away from my brothers and sisters in need, I am turning away from my brother Jesus.

Prayer: Holy Spirit, help me to see what Jesus says, to recognize how, in my life, I embody the actions that express Jesus' attitudes. Holy Spirit guide me to recognize the good that God is doing in my life and that I not fall prey to any poor spirit that makes me gloomy or judgmental. May whatever good I do be an expression of my gratitude to God who does so much for me. Amen.

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Flocknote

If you haven't signed up for flocknote, here's the QR code to do so:



Father all-powerful, Your gifts of love are countless and Your goodness infinite. On Thanksgiving Day we come before You with gratitude for Your kindness: open our hearts to concern for our fellow men and women, so that we may share Your gifts in loving service. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Prayer for the Holy Father

Almighty and everlasting God, have mercy upon Thy servant, Pope Leo XIV, our Supreme Pontiff, and direct him, according to Thy loving kindness, in the way of eternal salvation; that, of Thy gift, he may ever desire that which is pleasing unto Thee and may accomplish it with all his might. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen. Our Father. Hail Mary.

Summary of the Holy Father's words:

My Apostolic Journey to Uruguay, Argentina and Peru was a very special gift from the Lord. To the people of Uruguay, I reiterated the message of salvation: "I bring you good news of great joy, that is, Jesus Christ, the Truth that enlightens every person.

Argentina, the homeland of Pope Francis, welcomed me with warm enthusiasm. Millions of the faithful gathered for the major celebrations. It was with joy that I was able to convey the motto of the visit: "Welcome, everyone. Go and proclaim!"

Finally, on arriving in Peru, I felt the embrace, full of affection and faith, of the people amongst whom I had served as a missionary and as a bishop. I visited various parts of the country, inviting everyone to open their hearts to the love of Christ, so that together we might build a more just and fraternal society. I thank everyone who prayed for the success of the Apostolic Journey. Let us continue to pray that it bears much fruit and ask the Blessed Virgin Mary to guide those peoples in the ways of the Gospel!

LEO XIV
GENERAL AUDIENCE
Saint Peter's Square
Wednesday, 18 November 2026

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning and welcome!

I returned to Rome yesterday morning from my long and beautiful Apostolic Journey to Uruguay, Argentina and Peru. Peru, as you know, is the country where I lived for many years, as a missionary and then as a bishop. Argentina is the homeland of Pope Francis, and I wanted to visit it to meet the people he loved so dearly. Uruguay is a nation where Catholics are a minority, and it is significant that my itinerary began right there.

The motto of the pastoral visit to Uruguay was *"I bring you news of great joy"*. These are the words with which, in the Gospel of Luke, the angel brings the news of the birth of Jesus Christ to the shepherds in Bethlehem. And in effect, I went to that country to proclaim Him, the Lord, God made man, who bestows fullness of life in truth and in love. I found a warm, heartfelt welcome among the Uruguayan people, so I was able to remind everyone how important faith in God is, how valuable human life is, and how faith helps us face life's trials and build peace.

In Argentina, the motto was *Welcome, everyone. Go and proclaim!* These words echo the magisterium of Pope Francis, a son of that great South American country. This is the vision of the Church that he has passed on to us: a welcoming Church, open to all, where everyone can feel at home, be listened to, recognized in their dignity, be reconciled with God, with themselves and with the community, and be valued for their gifts and limitations; and, at the same time, a Church that is wholly missionary, finding her coherence and joy in evangelizing. In Argentina, I experienced the enthusiastic and harmonious participation of the holy people of God. In this atmosphere of great affection for the Pope – which I shall never forget – I urged them to cultivate communion in the richness of diversity, and I encouraged their commitment to building a just and supportive society, in accordance with the principles of the Social Doctrine of the Church.

The visit to Peru was a little longer, because I owe a special debt of gratitude to the People of God living in that country. The motto of this third leg was "*Let us open our hearts!*" To follow Christ, we must open our hearts to the Holy Spirit, following the example of the saints. Peru's history would not have been the same without the presence and work of Saint Turibius of Mogrovejo, Saint Rose of Lima, Saint Francis Solano, Saint Martín de Porres, and Saint Juan Macías. Together with faith, hope, and charity, they promoted respect for human dignity, a sense of the sanctity of life, reconciliation, and peace: they built the civilization of love. Their witness is alive and relevant today, and even now there is no shortage of men and women who, with hearts open to God and to their neighbor, are committed to building a more just and fraternal Peru. I

In Chiclayo, in particular, I felt at home. I rediscovered the simple, genuine faith animated by popular piety; I felt the embrace of the rural communities of the Cordillera; I met again with people who have left a deep mark on my life. My heart was filled with gratitude to be among those communities and to strengthen them in faith and hope. Thanks be to God, I was also able to visit Cusco, where the fruits of the marvelous work of inculturation of the Gospel carried out by the missionaries are still being enjoyed, and then the Amazon region, to meet those peoples rich in traditional culture yet wounded by injustices and violence.

By visiting the local Churches during the Apostolic Journeys, the Pope can see the beauty of the People of God on their journey, despite the difficulties they may encounter, depending on the contexts and historical moments. Indeed, everywhere one recognizes how the Holy Spirit helps the Church to be a sign and instrument of unity, in listening to the Word of God, in celebrating the holy Mysteries, and in the service of charity.

A constant presence that accompanied every leg of this Journey was that of the Virgin Mary. This is easy to understand, for she is truly part of the history of those peoples; she walks with them, guides them, and comforts them. I too thank her for her protection and entrust to her intercession all those who, in countless ways, have welcomed and supported me on this mission. I renew my gratitude to the bishops and the civil authorities of the countries I visited, to the priests, consecrated men and women, and all the faithful who participated in person or spiritually. May the Lord, who has given me this great grace, always bless those peoples and guide them on the way of peace, justice, and fraternity.