

The Roman Catholic Parish of St. Gerard



Parish Office: 125 Third Avenue North, Yorkton, SK S3N 1C4
Phone: 306.782.2449 Fax: 306.782.8566
www.stgerard.ca office@stgerard.ca

Parish Office Hours: Mon. - Fri. 8-12/1-4

Rectory: 122 Fourth Avenue North, Yorkton, SK S3N 1A7
Phone: 306.782.0323

Parish Hall: 125 Third Avenue North, Yorkton, SK S3N 1C4
Phone: 306.783.4255 hall@stgerard.ca

Pastor: Father Francis Hengen
Parish Hall Manager: Jeff Krasowski
Caretaker: Mario Guerra

Parish Office Administrator: Sandra Archer
Office Clerk (casual): Mary Bybliw

SUNDAY MASS TIMES: Saturday 7:00 pm; Sunday 9:00 am & 11:00 am
Sacrament of Reconciliation every Saturday at 6:30 pm & by appointment

Fifth Sunday of Easter – April 24, 2016

Liturgical/Mass Schedule

Mon. (25th): NO MASS
Tues. (26th): 9:00 am- +Tony Spykerman
Wed. (27th): 10:00 am- Nursing Home (North)
+Peter Cherneski
2:00 pm- *Divine Mercy Devotions*
7:00 pm- +Leon Nowakowski
Thurs. (28th): 9:00 am- +William Hayes
Fri. (29th): 9:00 am- +Ann Ostapovich
Sat. (30th): 9:30 am- *Sacrament of Reconciliation*
10:00 am- Bernie Wlock

6:30 pm- *Sacrament of Reconciliation*
7:00 pm- +Mary Kerunsky

Sixth Sunday of Easter

(Confirmation & First Communion at each Mass)

Sun. (1st): 9:00 am- +Rose Banga
11:00 am- Mass for the People

COMMUNION TO THE SICK & HOMEBOUND

Aspen Villa: Dianne Laycock
Hospital: Miles Shuya
Nursing Home: Rosemarie Todos & Bernadette Kormos
Triplex: Leona Pinno

Please remember the sick in your prayers:

Stella Fulawka, Rosemarie Massett

At the CWL Diocesan Convention, Father Francis celebrated mass for +Carol Boychuk and +Janet Gress

Non-liturgical Schedule

Mon. (25th): 4:00 pm- Youth Choir Rehearsal
Tues. (26th): 7:00 pm- Choir rehearsal for 9am Mass
7:30 pm- Finance Council Meeting
Wed. (27th): 7:30 pm- Student-led Retreat followed
by Parish Pastoral Council Mtg.
7:30 pm- Choir rehearsal for 11am Mass
Thurs. (28th): 4:30 pm- Altar Server Workshop/Party
7:00 pm- RCIA
Fri. (29th): 4:00 pm- Youth Choir Rehearsal
Sat. (30th): 6:15 pm- Choir rehearsal for 7pm Mass

Stewards Feed My Sheep

Stewardship Corner

"Peter was distressed that Jesus had said to him a third time, 'Do you love me?'. And he said to him, 'Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep.'" JOHN 21:17

All of us are challenged to show our love for Jesus by "feeding His sheep." Through prayer ask God how you should best use your time, talent and treasure to assist those who are in need. Remember that *Stewardship* giving is an act of worship and helps advance the mission of our parish and greater Church.



**Coffee after each Mass
this weekend!**





What is the MISERICORDIAE VULTUS??

It is the Bull of Indiction of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, written by Pope Francis. Over the next several weeks excerpts of this 17-page document will be highlighted in the bulletin.

“To all who read this letter grace, mercy, and peace.”

- Pope Francis, Bishop of Rome

10. Mercy is the very foundation of the Church’s life. All of her pastoral activity should be caught up in the tenderness she makes present to believers; nothing in her preaching and in her witness to the world can be lacking in mercy. The Church’s very credibility is seen in how she shows merciful and compassionate love. The Church “has an endless desire to show mercy”. Perhaps we have long since forgotten how to show and live the way of mercy. The temptation, on the one hand, to focus exclusively on justice made us forget that this is only the first, albeit necessary and indispensable step. But the Church needs to go beyond and strive for a higher and more important goal. On the other hand, sad to say, we must admit that the practice of mercy is waning in the wider culture. In some cases the word seems to have dropped out of use. However, without a witness to mercy, life becomes fruitless and sterile, as if sequestered in a barren desert. The time has come for the Church to take up the joyful call to mercy once more. It is time to return to the basics and to bear the weaknesses and struggles of our brothers and sisters. Mercy is the force that reawakens us to new life and instills in us the courage to look to the future with hope.

NATIONAL WEEK FOR LIFE AND THE FAMILY – MAY 8-15, 2016

“My Family: a School of Mercy”

In God's great plan of love for humanity, the family is intended to be the privileged place where merciful love is first encountered and nurtured. No family is perfect; but parents and children who stay in touch with Christ through prayer, the Word of God and the sacraments gradually become more and more like Christ who is mercy made flesh. The child who receives unconditional love is, in the very receiving, empowered to bestow unconditional love. During the **National Week for Life and the Family (May 8-15)**, let us celebrate our families' wonderful calling to be “schools of mercy” (www.familyweek.ca)!



Christ the Teacher Catholic Schools News



April 25 - April 29, 2016

	Sacred Heart	St. Alphonsus	St. Mary	St. Michael	St. Paul	St. Theodore
Mon.			•Bball vs St. Michael		•Mercy Gospel Assembly	
Tues.	•Sr. Badminton Districts			•Oratory Competition •Gr. 4 Swim	•Oratory •Bball vs Yorkdale	
Wed.	•Rock Band @ St. Michael	•Channel 22 Concert @ St. Michael •Gr. 4 Swimming •Bball vs Yorkdale	•Bball @ Columbia	•SHHS Rock Band Concert	•Hot lunch	
Thurs.	•Rock Band @ St. Paul	•Track & Field (Gr. 4-8)	•Channel 22 concert	•Railway Safety Presentation •Gr. 4 Swim	•Channel 22 concert •BBall vs St. Mary	
Fri.		•Gr. 4 Band tryouts •Gr. 4 Swimming	•Gr. 5 visit Nursing Home •Gr. 4 Band tryouts	•Gr. 4 Band tryouts	•Gr. 4 Band tryouts	

“Praise you, Lord, for the blessing of learning.” ~Catholic Prayers for Every Day and All Day~



SACRAMENTS of INITIATION PREPARATION



BAPTISM

The First Sacrament of Initiation

Please contact the Parish Office as soon as possible to register for the next baptism preparation session – 306.782.2449. The next session will be held July 5th, 6th & 7th @ 7pm.

CONFIRMATION

The Second Sacrament of Initiation

FIRST EUCHARIST

The Third Sacrament of Initiation

~ COME JOIN US AT THE TABLE ~

The parish-based sacrament preparation program for Confirmation & First Eucharist

Confirmation and First Eucharist

will be celebrated at each Mass the weekend of
April 30th & May 1st



**We welcome into our
Catholic Christian Community
all those who were baptized
recently at St. Gerard:**

Jace Bielinski Joshua Bielinski
Matthew Zamora Matteo Zamora

**May these children and their families
experience joy and new life.**

Hey Altar Servers!

Don't miss the workshop for **ALL** Altar Servers to be held at **4:30pm on Thursday, April 28th** in the church. Party to follow, hosted by the Knights of Columbus. **ALL** Altar Servers are asked to attend.

May is 'Leave a Legacy' Month - Catholic Estate Organizer -

Know the joy of helping others find life in Christ!
Please make a gift to your Catholic Church in your will.

***Even a seemingly small act of generosity can
grow!—Ephesians 3:20***

Call or email us for your free Catholic Estate
Organizer: Joan at 306-352-1651 or
jfellingner@archregina.sk.ca



News from the CWL



12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care

The Catholic Women's League of Canada calls all people of faith to join nationwide in 12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care on **May 4, 2016**. This is designed to take place during the National Hospice Palliative Care Week (organized by the Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association) as a profound witness to the sanctity of human life.

All parishioners, family and friends are invited to join St. Gerard's in prayer and solidarity on May 4th from 7:00am to 6:00pm at St. Gerard's Church. Coffee and tea, and an opportunity to give a free will offering in support of Sunrise Health Region Palliative Care facility will be available.

Adoration: 7:00 am – 6:00 pm
Benediction: 6:00 pm – 6:15 pm
Mass: 6:30 pm

Please share 15 minutes of your time in prayer.

Pope Francis reminds us, "let us not underestimate the power of so many voices united in prayer."

You are also encouraged to sign the 12 Hours of Prayer Petition (located at the back of Church) urging the government to provide accessible and available hospice palliative care for all residents of Canada.



News from the Knights of Columbus



April 25 Articles for "The Word" are due
April 27 Evening bingo

If you are interested in joining the Knights, please call Brian @ 306.730.7083 or 306-730-7017 after 5pm (or leave a message).

News from the Archdiocese of Regina

It's Time to Talk...

Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide

Monday, June 20, 2016 - 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Parliament Community Church,
4011 Pasqua Street, Regina

Presenter: Mary Deutscher, Ph.D.(c)

(Mary is a member of the Diocese of Saskatoon's Justice and Peace Commission and a Board Member for the Catholic Health Association of Saskatchewan.)

The Scriptures teach that life is a precious God-given gift. Our society's acceptance and potential normalizing of physician-assisted death and euthanasia are worthy of reflection. This presentation will explore the dangers these practices pose to all Canadians, providing participants with the necessary tools to engage in this discussion.

Good News!

April 24, 2016

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (C)

Acts 14:21-27 / Rv 21:1-5a / Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35

I was fortunate to do my hospital chaplaincy rotation with a young seminarian who was ordained about three years after our summer experience. Tom and I became good friends. He came to my wedding and I went to his ordination. My children forever referred to him as young Fr. Tom. He has been a blessing to me and my family.

When he was ordained, I tried my hand at writing a song as a gift for him. He was so eager and willing to preach the Gospel wherever he was sent that I wanted to mark that in some way. One lyric I wrote went like this: "Finding our homes where we can share your word, only to leave again when it's been heard...to be your people." Fr. Tom serves in Africa now, training other seminarians, and I often think of him and of that song because I have come to realize that we are all called to share God's word whether we are in a comfortable place or a strange one. Perhaps part of our challenge is to leave the areas where we are comfortable and welcomed for those where the path is rougher and less clear, but the need for the Good News is all the greater.

Today our models are Paul and his companions, who travel from place to place to preach the Gospel and move on when they have done what they can. They follow Jesus' command to love and find the glory of the Lord in that work and in whom they serve. If we are to be God's people, we, too, must spread the hope of God's love to all we meet, even if we have to travel far to do so.

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SAVE THE DATE: Friday evening, June 10, 7 p.m. at Holy Rosary, plan to attend a conference on the next steps in implementing the **Paris Climate Change Agreement**.

This conference is organized jointly by Development and Peace, the Canadian Religious Conference and the environmental organization Equiterre and is being offered in only eleven cities across Canada in the next few months.

WORLD YOUTH DAY SASKATCHEWAN



For all Youth in the Archdiocese of Regina Sunday, July 31st

For Grades 7 to 12 - From 9 to 4:30 p.m.

Holy Child Parish, 2636 - 7th Ave East, Regina - \$25/person, \$50/family



Activities Include:

- Island Survival - Church Trivia - Cracker Jacks
- No Pain, No Gain: Experience the Pascal Mystery -
- Closing Mass -
- Refreshment Breaks and Lunch

To Register Email:

Leona Burkhart: LBurkhart@archregina.sk.ca
or Sharon Bender: SBender@archregina.sk.ca
(306)352-1651 ext 239

In the Anglican-Roman Catholic Covenant signed in 2011 between the Diocese of Qu'Appelle and the Archdiocese of Regina, the two dioceses commit to holding an annual joint prayer service of reconciliation with the participation of both bishops. This year, the service will take place on **Pentecost Sunday, May 15, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Paul's Cathedral, Regina**. The homily will be given by the Very Reverend Lorne Crozon, Rector of Holy Rosary Cathedral and Diocesan Administrator for the Archdiocese since the death of Archbishop Daniel Bohan in January. The episcopal blessing will be given by the Most Reverend James Weisgerber, Archbishop Emeritus of Winnipeg. The service will be followed by a reception.

When Jesus appears for the last time to his disciples, he sends them out into the world saying: "Go, ...make disciples of all nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (*Matthew 28:19*).

Jesus offers us baptism as the way to enter into communion with God, Father, Son, and Spirit, and to live our lives as God's beloved children. Through baptism we say no to the world. We declare that we no longer want to remain children of the darkness but want to become children of the light, God's children. We do not want to escape the world, but we want to live in it without belonging to it. That is what baptism enables us to do.

From *Bread for the Journey*, by Henri Nouwen, ©1997 HarperSanFrancisco

YOUTH NEWS AND INFORMATION

"A New Heaven and a New Earth"

This Week...

It is fascinating to think about how big the world is, and yet how small the earth is. In Paul's day, travel was a lot more difficult, and still he and others managed to journey across all of the known earth, preaching to the *Gentiles*. John has a vision of a new heaven and a new earth - a peaceful place with no pain and no problems, not even death. Jesus tells us what brings heaven to earth: love, the global universal value.

For Your Reflection

What is really good about our world? What is not so good? If you could help create the "new heaven and the new earth," what would you want the design to include?

Why do you think so many schools require students to learn a foreign language? Why do you think countries have exchange student programs? How can we learn from visiting one another's countries, and from having citizens from other countries visit ours? What can different languages and cultures teach us?

Love seems to be a universal value in all cultures. All cultures celebrate marriage, children, family life, and friendship based on love and caring. If this is true, why is there so much friction between peoples of different countries and different races?

Excerpt from In Touch With the Word, Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter, 2004



RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) is an incredible journey of discovery, the discovery of God's love in Jesus. If you or someone you know is interested in exploring the friendship and saving grace of Jesus Christ, we invite you to join us in the RCIA journey. It is a warm, welcoming experience that introduces the Christian faith in our Roman Catholic tradition. We explore topics such as Holy Scripture, the Sacraments, Church history and the core beliefs of the Church. Anyone who has taken this "leap of faith" has found it to be a life-altering experience.

The RCIA process is intended for those who are non-baptized. There are several rites and stages that are part of the process to prepare adults for Baptism and to receive the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil.

Rite of Reception of Baptized Christians into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church. If you have been baptized in another Christian tradition, the Catholic Church respects that baptism. Baptism is the sacrament of our rebirth in Christ and our immersion into His saving death and Resurrection. It can never be repeated. Reception into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church happens after a period of preparation through catechesis, prayer and worship, and an introduction to Catholic life, values, and mission.



Adults who have been baptized in the Catholic Church but have not received the Sacrament of Confirmation can prepare for reception of this sacrament through a period of catechesis and prayer.

If you are interested in this journey of faith please contact Fr. Francis Hengen, or if you would like more information contact the RCIA Co-ordinator, Mary Bybliw, through the parish office at 306-782-2449 or email office@stgerard.ca

And to all our friends in St. Gerard's parish, we remind you that we all have a responsibility to share our faith and bring others to Christ. If you know of a family member, friend, co-worker or fellow student who is searching for a deeper meaning in their life, let them know about RCIA.



LOST SOMETHING?

Mitts, toques, etc. – check the literature display drawer marked "Lost and Found" in the Welcome Area.

Books, religious articles, jewellery, etc. – contact the Parish Office.

OFFERING A MASS

The offering of a Mass in the name of a deceased family member or friend is one of the greatest ways to keep our beloved dead in our living memory. At each celebration of the Mass, the great prayer of sacrifice is made complete as Jesus' life, death and resurrection is offered to God the Father. When we offer a Mass for a particular person, we ask that in a special way the individual be remembered by the priest who offers up the great sacrifice on behalf of the whole community of faith. In a very real and active way, the life, death and resurrection of the person remembered becomes present and is offered up with Jesus. Each time we offer up a Mass for someone, living or dead, we celebrate the greatest gift of our faith – the gift of Everlasting Life in Christ

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is available daily at the EADM Centre Chapel at 484 Hamilton St. Regina. Hours: 10:00 am to 8:00 pm on Monday through Thursday. Friday, Saturday & Sunday: 2:00 to 5:00 pm. Please help us keep Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament available in our city on a daily basis.

The Healing and Growth Centre St. Therese Institute of Faith and Mission

St. Therese Institute of Faith and Mission – Searching for God's purpose in your life? Want to live life more fully, and take your faith to the next level? Then, come to St. Therese! At St. Therese Institute of Faith and Mission, adults of all ages can explore their faith, discern their vocation in life, foster their prayer life and deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ. Please see the brochures at the entrances of the church, or visit on line at www.sttherese.ca

Rachel's Vineyard: a psychological and spiritual journey for healing after abortion.

If you are experiencing post abortion distress symptoms such as; depression, flashbacks, nightmares, anger, denial, suicidal urges, eating or sleeping disorders, drug or alcohol abuse, inability to bond with your live children, spiritual divorce from God, or avoiding relationships, you can receive help and healing by attending a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat Weekend. For more information please check out our website at www.rachelsvineyard.org, or email Bonnie at r.vineyardsk@sasktel.net, or call 1-306-480-8911.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER UNIVERSITY offers distance education courses for adults seeking faith formation for personal and professional development: ***Diploma in Ministry; Certificate in Lay Ministry; Come Let Us Worship: A course in liturgical foundations; Certificate in Spirituality; and Diploma in Intellectual Disability Studies.***

For an information package please contact Continuing & Distance Education, St. Francis Xavier University, toll free 1-877-867-5562, diplomainministry@stfx.ca or check the website:

www.mystfx.ca/academic/continuinged/Ministry.html