



St. Gerard

Roman Catholic Parish

December 22, 2019

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Established December 11, 1904

LORD'S DAY MASS TIMES:

Saturday at 5:00 pm, Sunday at 9:00 am & 11:00 am

MASS SCHEDULE

Mon. (23rd): 6:00 pm *Simbang Gabi Novena Mass*

Tues. (24th): 8:00 pm
(incense)
10:00 pm Mass for the People



The Nativity of the Lord
(Holy Day of Obligation)

Wed. (25th): 10:00 am Mass for the People

Thurs. (26th): 2:30 pm BENTLEY RETIREMENT RES
+Bernard Matsalla

Fri. (27th): 9:30 am +Lawrence Off

Sat. (28th): 9:30 am +Frank & +Janina
Paslawski

5:00 pm +John Jason Himpe

Sun. (29th): **The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**

9:00 am Mass for the People
11:00 am Special Intentions

SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation: Half-hour before Saturday morning and Saturday evening Mass, or anytime by appointment.

Infant Baptism: Please contact Fr. Louis at least one month prior to Baptism.

RCIA: Adults wishing to be received into the Catholic Church should contact Fr. Louis.

Matrimony: Please contact Fr. Louis at least 6 months prior to the time you would like to be married.

Anointing: Please contact Fr. Louis at any time.

For Anointing of the Sick and other emergencies, you may contact Fr. Louis at 306.621.8068

CONTACT US

Parish Office Hours: Monday 1pm-4pm; Tuesday-Friday 8am-noon, 1pm-4pm

125 Third Avenue North, Yorkton, SK S3N 1C4

www.stgerard.ca | Telephone: 306.782.2449 | Email: office@stgerard.ca

Pastor.....	Fr. Louis Kim Nguyen	306.782.0323 306.621.8068	louiskimnguyen@yahoo.com
Parish Office Administrator.....	Sandra Archer	306.782.2449	office@stgerard.ca
Caretaker.....	Mario Guerra		



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Online!

www.stgerard.ca



Lord, you are Emmanuel, "God with us." Open the eyes and ears of my heart that I may see your presence in every person I meet, and hear your voice in the cry of the poor.

- From *Joyful Meditations for Every Day of Advent and the 12 Days of Christmas*,
Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeney

St. Gerard Parish
Income Statement January 1 to November 30, 2019

REVENUE		Hall:	
Collections	247,353	Wages, Salaries, etc.	20,249
Other (Donations, rel. articles)	12,046	Catering	16,889
Perogies & cabbage rolls (net)	15,668	Administrative Expenses	<u>969</u>
Annual Fall Supper (net)	8,100		
Catering	<u>41,811</u>	Total Hall	38,107
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	324,978	Rectory	9,938
Building Fund Donations	9,183		
Trust Fund Donations	60		
Refugee Family Donations	<u>3,615</u>	Family & Social	315
TOTAL REVENUE	337,836	Ecumenical	38
		Liturgy	7,823
EXPENSES		Stewardship (no expense)	0
Pastoral	4,073	Religious Education	2,277
Parish Office	19,000	Social Justice	1,288
Diocesan Assessments	32,790	Youth	1,112
Pastor/Office Wages, Salaries, etc.	118,045	Community Life	94
Building:		Public Relations (no expense)	0
Sask Energy	5,901	Pastoral & Finance Council	1,038
Sask Power	17,664	Refugee Family Committee (net)	18,897
Water	2,453	Cemetery Expense	<u>150</u>
Property Taxes	12,015	TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	335,318
Insurance	19,821		
Parking Lot	4,138	NET INCOME (LOSS)	\$2,518
Garbage/recycling	2,250		
Repairs & maintenance	<u>16,091</u>		
Total Building	80,332	<i>Approved by Parish Finance Council</i>	

ST. GERARD PARISH ~ 2019-2020 ~ PASTORAL AND FINANCE COUNCILS

Chairperson	-	Ernie Bobowski	Vice-chairperson-	Wayne Exner
Secretary	-	Jenny Baraoidan	Liturgy	- Carol Deters/Yvonne Turgeon
Religious Education-		Rene & Ophelia Adane	Social Justice	- Mark Bell
Community Life	-	Maureen Pankoski	Public Relations	- VACANT
Family & Social	-	VACANT	Youth	- Melinda Sevilla
Ecumenical	-	Carm Molnar	Stewardship	- VACANT
CWL Rep.	-	Linda Maddaford	K of C Rep.	- Jeff Krasowski
<hr/>				
Finance	-	Brian Kruger	Secretary	- Richard Dubois
Properties	-	VACANT	Member at Large-	Conrad Rodney
Hall	-	Lorne Wanner	Member at Large-	Dwight Guy

St. Gerard Marriage Preparation Course (Winter Session or Fall Session)



Congratulations on your engagement! If you are planning to marry in the Catholic Church in the next year you are required to complete a Marriage Preparation Course. The St. Gerard Marriage Preparation Course is open to all engaged couples regardless of where their marriage will be celebrated. Please contact the Parish Office to enroll. A registration fee is required.

The St. Gerard Marriage Preparation Course covers a series of topics specifically chosen for couples planning to build a life together. The topics are a launching point to help you communicate, discuss some important and delicate issues and may even help you uncover things you did not know about your future spouse. With a sponsor couple or couples, you will work through the For Better and For Ever marriage preparation manual in a group setting. Upon completion you will receive a certificate required for marriage in the Catholic Church.

Ministries – December 28/29			
	5pm	9am	11am
Welcomer	Mark B.	Alfred L.	Laura A.
Lectors	Darren H. Riley O.	Hannah S. Melinda S.	Bethany G. Savannah G.
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Ernie B. Catherine D. Colleen H. Dolores L. Claudia S.	Angela B. Wayne E. Della F. Clara K. Henry K.	Jenny B. Bri B. Dwight G. Adeline M. Larry M.
Hospitality	Team 3	Team 3	Team 2
Altar Servers	Karehl F. Khylle F. Gabriel R.	Cole R. Mary W. Sarah L.	Michael M. Beatrice M. Isabelle M.

If you are unable to serve in your ministry, please find a replacement. All ministers are to be in the sacristy at least 10 minutes prior to the beginning of Mass. Thank you.

YOUNG ADULTS/TEENS (YA/T) Choir

Are you 13 to 21-ish? Do you like to sing? Or do you play an instrument and like to sing?

This choir ministers at the 5pm Mass Saturday, January 4! The next rehearsal is Friday, December 27th @ 7pm (food always to follow)!

For more information or to request music please contact office@stgerard.ca or AnnaLissa @ 306.818.0048



St. Gerard Parish

Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve

8:00 pm 10:00 pm
(incense)

Dec. 25 - Christmas Day

10:00 am

Dec. 31 – Eve of the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

7:00 pm

Jan. 1 – The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

10:00 am



News from the CWL



Membership Renewal- fees are \$30 and are due by Jan 31st. Please make cheque payable to St. Gerard CWL. Any change in contact information this year? Please contact Paulette 306.782.7923 so we can keep our records up to date.

Jan 8th, 2020 - Installation and Affirmation of Officers and General Meeting.

Mark your calendars: starting January 13th and 14th quilting will begin. We will quilt every Monday and Tuesday from 9:00 until 4:00. Please bring a bag lunch. Any questions, ask Yvonne at 782-1055. See you there!



News from the Knights of Columbus



Dec. 22 Articles for "The Word" due
Dec. 28-29 Consecration to the Holy Family at each Mass
Dec. 29 Fifth Sunday rosary before 9am Mass
Jan. 3 Afternoon Bingo
Jan. 5 Sunday Brunch

If you are interested in joining the Knights, please call Rejean Houle @ 306.641.5430 or houle_r@yahoo.fr
More info.: www.kofc-2031.ca

News from the Archdiocese of Regina

The faithful of the Archdiocese are cordially invited to the

Archbishop's New Year's Levée

to be held at
Holy Rosary Cathedral
3125-13th Ave., Regina
January 1, 2020
1:00 pm to 2:30 pm

And to receive the Archbishop's blessing for the beginning of the New Year

Please come and meet the Archbishop and exchange New Year's greetings. Refreshments in the parish hall.



Archbishop's Appeal 'Transforming Faith'

Helping to bring God's transforming grace to places of need. If you have not already donated to the 2019 Archbishop's Appeal, it is not too late!

You may donate online:

www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/m/3509/donation

For those who have already given, we are so grateful. Thank YOU!



Bringing Home the Word

Focusing on God
By Mark Haydu, LC

A painting by Domenico Ghirlandaio, *The Nativity*, shows the figures set in a golden, eternal background. Details are missing: no landscape, cave, stable, or cattle. Ghirlandaio, Michelangelo's teacher, focuses on the people. The Gospel also refrains from external details and focuses only on the main actors: Mary and Joseph and what is going on in their hearts and minds. Joseph has to decide how to handle surprising news: His wife is with child and he isn't the father. She claims it was by divine intervention. He had every intention of protecting her while at the same time respecting the law.

Luckily his open and honest heart hears indications from an angel. He is to do the unthinkable—take her to himself—because the unimaginable has happened: "It is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived" (Matthew 1:20).

The artist paints Joseph sleeping peacefully because he is the just man who silences his troubled heart in order to hear God's voice. He, like Mary, reflects on things profoundly and grapples with God's will and the amazing vocation placed before him. His struggle in prayer leads him to have faith and trust. Following God's plan will mean pilgrimage, thus the walking stick, water jug, and knapsack.

We are all tempted to flee from the challenges of discipleship. Yet today Joseph shows us how to "man up." He assumes his role as a servant leader, teacher, and example. His dozing is not one of laziness but of silent self-control that leads to attentiveness and obedience to God's voice.

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2020 GIVING PROGRAM

The 2020 Sunday collection (offertory) envelopes are in the Welcome Area for those who have contributed by this method in 2019.

If you do not have envelopes and would like to receive a set for 2020, **please complete a Parish Registration Form (beige)**, located on the large table in the Welcome Area.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS 'TIL JANUARY 3, 2020

Monday	Dec. 23 rd	1pm-4pm
Tuesday	Dec. 24 th	CLOSED
Wednesday	Dec. 25 th	CLOSED
Thursday	Dec. 26 th	CLOSED
Friday	Dec. 27 th	1pm-4pm
Monday	Dec. 30 th	1pm-4pm
Tuesday	Dec. 31 st	CLOSED
Wednesday	Jan. 1 st	CLOSED
Thursday	Jan. 2 nd	1pm-4pm
Friday	Jan. 3 rd	8am-noon/1pm-4pm

Please note:

The deadline for 2019 contributions to St. Gerard Church and to the Archdiocesan Appeal is Monday, December 30th at 4pm.



Please note that all donations received at the 7pm Mass on New Year's Eve will be processed as 2020

FAMILY TIME

Memorable Visits

Many of us will either travel or have guests for the holidays. How can we make those moments of visit memorable? Bring God into the picture. Make Him a focal point for the visit. Share prayer and some Scripture, talk about what God is doing in your life. A God touched event can have a greater effect on life than a "me" centered visit. Such moments do require some planning, so make such planning with your family members. By investing in the visit, your family will have better chances of making this Christmas truly one to cherish.

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H	T	R	I	B	D	R	E	A	R	BETROTHED	CHILD	HUSBAND
E	L	E	T	C	E	N	R	U	D	HONOUR	DIVORCE	ANGEL
H	F	W	H	O	H	O	I	I	DREAM	WIFE	BIRTH	
M	E	I	M	P	T	N	V	S	V	SON	PROPHET	HOME
O	L	F	W	S	O	O	T	O	O			
D	D	I	T	H	R	R	O	E	R			
E	E	R	S	C	T	O	P	M	E			
N	A	G	E	E	E	O	L	O	C			
A	N	D	N	A	B	S	U	H	I			
L	E	G	N	A	M	O	H	E	S			

THE WEEK AHEAD

- Fri. (27th): 7:00 pm- YA/T Choir rehearsal
- Sat. (28th): 4:30 pm- Choir rehearsal for 5pm Mass

YOUTH REFLECTION

"Dreaming and Waking"

This Week...

Joseph was troubled because his wife-to-be was pregnant. He went to sleep thinking that he might not marry her, when a dream assured him that Mary's pregnancy was from the Holy Spirit and that her son would be the Saviour. He went to sleep upset, but because of his dream, he awoke resolved and committed. The son of the woman he loved would be the Chosen One Joseph had learned about from studying the prophets.

For Your Reflection

You might never have thought about this, but Mary, the mother of Jesus, was a pregnant, unwed teenager. The man she was to marry knew that he was not the father of her child. It is an astonishing story - astonishing because it happened and because Joseph came to

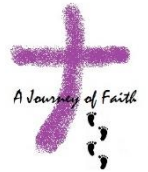
Excerpt from In Touch With the Word, Cycle Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter, St. Mary's Press, 2004



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. Louis at 306.782.2449 or 306.782.0323.

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 Regina 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. Visit on line at www.sttherese.ca

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

Are you hurting because of an abortion? **Rachel's Vineyard** is a safe place to renew, rebuild and redeem hearts broken by abortion. Weekend retreats offer you a supportive, confidential and non-judgmental environment where women and men can express, release and reconcile painful post-abortive emotions to begin the process of restoration, renewal and healing. For more information, please contact Elaine at 1.306.480.8911 or email r.vineyardsk@sasktel.net

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