



St. Gerard

Roman Catholic Parish

December 26th,
2021

The Holy Family of
Jesus,
Mary & Joseph

Established December 11, 1904

LORD'S DAY MASS TIMES
Saturday at 5:00 pm, Sunday at 9:00 am & 11:00 am

CONTACT US

Parish Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9am-noon/1pm-4pm (closed Friday)

125 Third Avenue North, Yorkton, SK S3N 1C4

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

St. Gerard Parish is located on Treaty 4 Territory, the traditional lands of the Nēhiyawak, Nahkawé, and Nakota, and homeland of the Dakota, Lakota, and Métis peoples.

Pastor.....	Fr. Louis Nguyen	306.782.0323	louisyorkton@gmail.com
Parish Office Administrator.....	Sandra Archer	306.782.2449	office@stgerard.ca
Caretaker.....	Mario Guerra		

MASS SCHEDULE

Mon. (27 th)	NO MASS
Tues. (28 th)	9:00am +Florence Kruger
Wed. (29 th)	9:00am +Curtis Burant
Thurs. (30 th)	9:00am +Nancy Chillog
Fri. (31 st)	9:00am Fulawka children 7:00pm Mass of Thanksgiving
Sat. (1 st)	THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD 10:00am Mass for the People
	5:00pm +Eugene Kuemper
Sun. (2 nd)	THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD 9:00am Mass for the People 11:00am +Darlene Bernath 1:00pm Sacrament preparation beginning with Mass

WELCOME!

Please note the following per the **Archdiocese of Regina guidelines** (effective July 11, 2021) and the **Government of Saskatchewan Interim Health Order** (extended until January 31, 2021):

- **Masks must be worn at all times until further notice**
- Masks & hand sanitizer are provided.
- **Please sit in the pews that have hymnals and maintain two metres between households**
- The choir and singing has resumed
- Holy water will not be available in the Baptismal font at this time
- We will not shake hands when we share the sign of peace
- Enhanced cleaning and disinfection continues

Please come! Everyone is welcome!



Come and Spend an Hour with the Lord!

Eucharistic Holy Hour Devotion
at 6pm (prior to 7pm Tuesday Mass)

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Stay
Connected
Online!

www.stgerard.ca



Lord, through your Word we receive the knowledge and wisdom of God. May your Spirit lead me to your sacred Word and guide me in my search for knowledge and truth.

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

A Reflection from Deacon Dave Hudy ...

Dear Friends in Christ,

May each of you enjoy the peace that's available to us because of Jesus' birth in that stable in Bethlehem so many years ago. Most of us, depending on our age, have heard the Christmas story many times. It's easy to take Jesus' birth for granted and to concentrate instead on other events that are associated with Christmas. We tend to spend quality time with family and friends during the Advent and Christmas seasons, we exchange gifts, these are all wonderful things. But Christmas is much more than that, it's the acknowledgment and celebration of the fact that Jesus who is God humbled himself to become one of us.

All of us are effected by Jesus' birth. His life has given new meaning to all human life. Our lives are sacred; they are holy because Jesus was one of us. His earthly presence continues to be felt to this day, in the Holy Eucharist he actually joins himself to us. He is able to share in our human condition because of his time on earth. Personally I can relate to this! I can watch someone do something a hundred times and have trouble grasping the details of how to do it. The best way for me to learn is by doing it myself. I think there are parallels to Jesus' life on earth. Not that Jesus became human in order to learn anything, no Jesus is God and had nothing to gain from joining us. His life was an act of love! I think we can safely say that Jesus' life on earth was part of the divine plan to bring sanctity to human life and to prepare a way for us to enjoy eternal life with God.

How does all this affect us personally? We need to prepare a place for the newborn Jesus in our hearts! Jesus was born physically over 2000 years ago, but now he wants to be born spiritually in each of our hearts. Our hearts need to be like the mangers in the stable where he was born. Christmas is a time of grace and we have this opportunity in a special way.

Let us strive to make our hearts peaceful places where he can reside safely. Jesus' birth in the stable was a quiet entrance into the world. He didn't come with a lot of pomp and flair. He will come to our hearts when he finds them to be simple places of peace as that stable was.

A Merry and blessed Christmas to each of you and the same in 2022!

Deacon Dave and Bev Hudy



The **2021-2022 Sunday Missals** are available in the Welcome Area. A \$5.00 free-will offering is appreciated.

What is a Sunday Missal? It is a book that includes all of the texts of the Sunday Mass (readings, prayers, and responses) as well as traditional Catholic prayers and prayers for specific intentions.

Reading and meditating on the scriptures in the Sunday Missal prior to Sunday Mass is a great way to prepare for the liturgy.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation



Saturdays at **8:30 am** or by appt.



BAPTISM

The First Sacrament of Initiation

In the Archdiocese of Regina, Baptism Preparation is required prior to your child's baptism.

To register for the next Baptism Preparation session, please contact the Parish Office 306.782.2449.



**Are you planning a marriage in 2022?
Congratulations!!**

Please contact the Parish Office as soon as possible to make arrangements to meet with Father Louis.

PRAYER TO THE HOLY FAMILY

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, in you we contemplate the splendour of true love; to you we turn with trust.

Holy Family of Nazareth, grant that our families too may be places of communion and prayer, authentic schools of the Gospel and small domestic Churches.

Holy Family of Nazareth, may families never again experience violence, rejection and division; may all who have been hurt or scandalized find ready comfort and healing.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, graciously hear our prayer.

(Pope Francis)



News from the CWL



2022 memberships are \$30.00 and can be placed in an envelope marked 'CWL' and put in the collection basket, or mail to CWL, 125 3rd Ave N, Yorkton, S3N 1C4. For other arrangements please call Paulette 306.782.7923.



News from the Knights of Columbus



January 2 Evening Bingo
January 5 Planning & General Meeting @ 7:00pm
Note the change
January 8 Take down Keep Christ in Christmas sign @ 9.00am
January 13 Evening Bingo

If you are able to work bingos, please give Gary a call 306-783-6328.

If you are interested in joining the Knights, please call Keith Hayward @ 306.783.0963. www.kofc-2031.ca

News from the Archdiocese of Regina



St. Gerard Parish Goal -\$45,768
Giving to Date -\$26,105
% of Goal to Date - **57.43%**

Livestream Mass Schedule

January 1:

11:00 AM – Livestreamed from Holy Rosary Cathedral

Livestream Link:

www.youtube.com/ArchdioceseRegina



NEW YEAR'S DAY LEVÉE

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, 2022
1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

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



Bringing Home the Word

The Joyful Family By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

In Francesco Mancini's *Rest on the Flight into Egypt*, he paints the realistic details that make this scene as ordinary as any family playing with their child in a park. Mary has a bowl of water in her hand, perhaps ready to offer a drink to Jesus after he tastes the strawberry or to clean his stained fingers.



A silver bowl of food for the baby rests on a white baby blanket. Perhaps it was just placed there by Joseph, for Jesus has finished his vegetables and now Dad offers dessert! A traveling basket sits in front of a water jug. These instruments show that they are a pilgrim family, and the Egyptian obelisk in the background indicates their destination.

The circumstances are precarious yet joyful, even playful, in their following of God's path. This was just one of the trying times for the Holy Family, which would eventually include losing the Child Jesus in the Temple. As their whole focus in this painting is on Jesus, imagine their fear when they can no longer find the heart of their family.

This is a fantastic image of the joys and challenges of family life. There is joy in having Jesus in our midst, and no sacrifice is too great when he is present. But when he is lost from the center, fears and anxieties enter.

The words of Colossians sum up this attitude, making one think that Paul had a good idea of what virtues family life require! Let's work in our families to have Jesus at the center, and once he is there, to "put on" all the virtues that his presence inspires.

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ST. GERARD PARISH 2021-2022 PASTORAL AND FINANCE COUNCILS

Chairperson	-	Ernie Bobowski
Vice-chairperson-		Wayne Exner
Secretary	-	Joanne Geysen
Liturgy	-	Colleen Haider
Religious Education-		Rene & Ophelia Adane
Social Justice	-	Mark Bell
Community Life-		Rose Marchinko
Public Relations-		VACANT
Family & Social-		VACANT
Youth	-	Melinda Sevilla
Ecumenical	-	Carm Molnar
Stewardship	-	Linda Maddaford
CWL Rep.	-	Paulette Cooper
K of C Rep.	-	Rejean Houle

Finance	-	Nathan Bewcyk
Properties	-	Gary Colbow
Hall	-	Joan Bonyai-Andrusyk & Nick Andrusyk

2022 Giving Program

The 2022 Sunday collection (offertory) envelopes are in the Welcome Area for those who had contributed by this method in 2021.

If you do not have envelopes and would like to receive a set for 2022, **please complete a Parish Registration Form**, located in the Welcome Area.


Have you considered Pre-Authorized Giving? Pre-authorized Giving is convenient, assured, results in lower administrative costs, and assists our parish when budgeting for programs and services. **Please complete the Pre-Authorized Giving form** and submit it to the Parish Office. Forms are available in the Welcome Area.

Please note: The deadline for 2021 donations is **Thursday, December 30th at 12 noon**, including e-transfers. Donations received after this deadline will be processed as 2022.

PARISH OFFICE CHRISTMAS SEASON HOURS

Monday	Dec. 27	Closed
Tuesday	Dec. 28	9am-noon/1pm-4pm
Wednesday	Dec. 29	9am-noon/1pm-4pm
Thursday	Dec. 30	9am-noon
Friday	Dec. 31	Closed

E	P	A	R	E	N	T	S	E	N	PARENTS	PASSOVER	TWELVE
R	E	A	L	N	A	V	N	I	O	FEAST	CARAVAN	RELATIONS
S	E	S	R	O	T	C	O	D	E	TEMPLE	DOCTORS	MOTHER
T	N	H	V	E	D	L	I	H	C	CHILD	FATHER	BUSY
H	W	A	T	T	N	I	T	O	R			
B	R	E	V	O	S	S	A	P	E			
T	U	R	L	A	M	A	L	A	H			
A	M	S	O	V	R	E	E	S	T			
F	U	L	Y	E	E	A	R	F	A			
E	L	P	M	E	T	E	C	A	F			



YOUTH REFLECTION

"The Family"

This Week...

Families are so different. Many families have a mother and a father living together with children. Some families have children living with a mother; some have children living with a father. In other families, stepsisters and stepbrothers and half sisters and half brothers live together. Some families have no sisters or brothers at all. Some families have a husband and wife, and no children. Some families have grandparents living with their grandchildren. Some have uncles or aunts or nieces or nephews living with them. Some families have one single person living alone in the house. Some families are made up of two people that are really good friends and enjoy being roommates. But the one thing all good families have in common is love.

For Your Reflection

Imagine being Mary when Joseph awakens her in the middle of the night to tell her that he had a dream from God and they need to move the whole family to Egypt right away because the baby's life is in danger.

- What do you think they packed? What would you pack if you were suddenly awakened and had to move immediately? What would you be thinking?
- A parent makes all kinds of sacrifices for his or her children. What is one sacrifice you can think of that a parent made for you? What sacrifices are you prepared to make for your children, if you are blessed with any? What sacrifices would you make for the children of your brothers or sisters or friends? For children you don't even know?

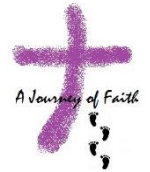
Excerpt from *In Touch With the Word, Cycle Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter*, St. Mary's Press, 2004



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