



# St. Gerard

## Roman Catholic Parish

**December 2, 2018**

**First 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. ( 3 <sup>rd</sup> ):	9:30 am	+Donna Prout
Tues. ( 4 <sup>th</sup> ):	9:30 am	+Joelle Bisschop-Lucas
	7:00 pm	<i>Prayer Vigil-Elizabeth Lutzko</i>
Wed. ( 5 <sup>th</sup> ):	10:00 am	<i>Funeral- Elizabeth Lutzko</i>
	2:30 pm	GLADSTONE SR RES
		Special Intentions
	<b>5:00 pm</b>	+Florence Kruger
Thurs. ( 6 <sup>th</sup> ):	9:30 am	+Anne Halarewich
Fri. ( 7 <sup>th</sup> ):	9:30 am	+Joy Clayton
Sat. ( 8 <sup>th</sup> ):	<b>The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b>	
	9:30 am	Mass of Thanksgiving

### 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 1.306.530.0126

**NEW!**

→ **5:00 pm** +Alex Herchuk

Sun. ( 9 <sup>th</sup> ):	<b>Second Sunday of Advent</b>	
	9:00 am	+Emiliana Hipolito
	11:00 am	Mass for the People

The Divine Mercy Devotion is prayed each Friday at 2pm

### 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](http://www.stgerard.ca) | Telephone: 306.782.2449 | Email: [office@stgerard.ca](mailto:office@stgerard.ca)

Pastor.....	Fr. Louis Kim Nguyen	306.782.0323	<a href="mailto:louiskimnguyen@yahoo.com">louiskimnguyen@yahoo.com</a>
Parish Office Administrator.....	Sandra Archer	306.782.2449	<a href="mailto:office@stgerard.ca">office@stgerard.ca</a>
Caretaker.....	Mario Guerra		
Parish Hall Bookings.....		306.783.4255	<a href="mailto:hall@stgerard.ca">hall@stgerard.ca</a>



**Stay  
Connected  
Online!**

[www.stgerard.ca](http://www.stgerard.ca)



Lord, help me to slow down and become more aware of my rushing aimlessly from place to place. Quite my mind and steady my heart that I may live in your presence throughout the day.

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

Hope is the basis for a watchful and vigilant spirit. The Lord will come. And in the blink of an eye, God will change everything. We will truly become the "body of Christ," risen and glorified together, for we will live forever with the Father. As God renews us, he will also renew the universe to its pristine state. The Father will transform both humanity and nature to the way he intended them to be from the first moment of creation--free from sin, sickness, and death--free from the consequences of evil.

In our anticipation for the Lord's coming, we hope that our faith will help reveal the Kingdom and prepare others for eternity. Our efforts alone will not bring about the Kingdom, as if we humans can progress or evolve to a higher plane by ourselves. But, God, acting through us, will reveal and realize the Kingdom. Then, we act according to his will, we add our contribution to his activity.

*What is your greatest hope for the holidays? How does your hope match God's? Explain.*

Obviously, our anticipation for the Lord cannot be reduced to a plan or process that will guarantee a certain result. God has his own ways. If we wish to participate in the Lord's plan, anticipate his coming, we need the virtue of patient vigilance. To watch for the Lord in this way requires prayer, reflective discernment, and the gifts and fruits of the Spirit, those charisms that serve others. Prayer opens us to God's will. Reflective discernment helps point us the way of his will. And the gifts God gave us for the good of others help us to realize the Lord in others. When we can see a glimpse of the Lord in our service, we will be able to recognize his return and celebrate it in joy.

*What do you want for Christmas? Take a piece of paper and divide it into two columns. Mark one column "Mine" and the other "God's." Now make an honest list of your wants and desires for the holidays. You may be surprised how many things you list under "God's" column. Pray over your list as you prepare for the Christmas. And get ready for the coming of the Lord.*

Permission for use. All materials found in word-sunday.com are the property of Larry Broding (Copyright 1999-2017)



## Christ the Teacher Catholic Schools News December 3 - December 7, 2018



	Sacred Heart	St. Alphonsus	St. Mary	St. Michael	St. Paul	St. Theodore
Mon.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Advent Celebration</li> <li>•SCC Meeting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Advent Service</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Advent Celebration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Advent Celebration</li> </ul>	
Tues.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Book Fair</li> <li>•Band Concert @ SHHS @ 7pm</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Band Concert @ SHHS @ 7pm</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Christmas Band Concert @ 7pm @ SHHS</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Band Concert @ SHHS @ 7pm</li> </ul>	
Wed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•SADD Movie Night</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Book Fair</li> </ul>				
Thurs.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Book Fair</li> </ul>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Liturgy @ Theodore Health Centre</li> </ul>
Fri.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Sr Boys Bball @ Weyburn</li> <li>•Sr Girls Bball @ Indian Head</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Christmas Coffee Drive-thru</li> <li>•Gr. 1-3 @ WDM for Christmas Past</li> </ul>		

**"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*

### CONFIRMATION

*The Second Sacrament of Initiation*

### FIRST EUCHARIST

*The Third Sacrament of Initiation*



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

Kayla Niedzielski

Mikhail Lopez

Kayne Becker

Lance Dayon

Stella Douhaniuk

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



### 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. Anyone who has taken this "leap of faith" has found it to be a life-altering experience.

Although the RCIA process is intended for those who are non-baptized, at St. Gerard we also prepare adults for the Rite of Reception of Baptized Christians (including Catholics) into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church.

If you are interested in this journey of faith, please contact the Parish Office as soon as possible.

**Classes start Friday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.**

The RCIA Catechist is Father Louis.



### Penitential Service (St. Gerard Church)

Monday, December 10<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm

With the celebration of Reconciliation (in sacrament and in Penance celebrations), our Advent practices allow us to be closer to Christ and to improve our life.

The one-half hour Penitential Service will be celebrated communally with individual absolution (Form B) to follow. Several priests will be in attendance.



## News from the CWL



**Dec 5th CWL Christmas Social** open to all CWL and spouses. The cost is \$10 per person and please bring an item for the Food Bank. You can also pay your 2019 membership that evening.



## News from the Knights of Columbus



Dec. 2 Christmas Carolling  
Dec. 5 Executive & General Meeting  
Dec. 9 Sunday Brunch  
Dec. 12 Christmas Family Social

The Knights of Columbus will continue the tradition of caroling at the Yorkton & District Nursing Home on Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2pm at the Melody Manor (First South) wing. Please come out for an hour of Christmas song and cheer that will lift the spirits of the residents. Each family is asked to bring a small plate of dainties to share with the residents.

*If you are interested in joining the Knights, please call Brian @ 306.730.7083 or 306.730.7017 after 5pm (or leave a message). More info.: [www.kofc-2031.ca](http://www.kofc-2031.ca)*

### Knights of Columbus Sunday Brunch

The Knights of Columbus would like to invite you to attend Sunday Brunch after Mass on Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>. All proceeds from the Sunday Brunch go toward supporting our parish and community, so please come and have a great meal, socialize, and help to support good works.

Cost: Adults \$10.00 Under 6 \$5.00 Family \$20.00

### DO YOU ENJOY READING?



Would you consider doing some spiritual reading? Would you be willing to share your insights and observations with others in an INFORMAL book club?

We would meet occasionally to discuss what we're reading, and share recommendations about authors, book titles and resources. If this idea is of interest to you, please attend an initial meeting to plan for the formation of a book talk group.

Tuesday, December 4<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 pm  
Lower Level Hall

If you are interested, but are unable to attend this first meeting, please call Maureen at 306.782.2956

*Submitted by the Community Life Committee*



# Bringing Home the Word **+**

## Change for God's Creation

By Mary Katharine Deeley

We begin this Church year as we left the last one – with a description of the signs that will come before Christ appears. But where Mark warns of the coming judgment for the enemies of God, Luke, with great subtlety, shifts the focus so people will hear the hope of salvation. “Stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand,” he calls out (Luke 21:28). At the end of the Church year, we meditate on Christ's coming in glory to judge the living and the dead. In the beginning, we remember the Incarnation: God's emptying himself to become fully human and come into the world. Both actions are heralded by, and will mean great change for, us and for God's creation.

Change happens when God breaks into the world, regardless of the time. In account after account in the Bible, we watch as God visits people and changes their names (Abraham and Peter), their lives (Jeremiah, the apostles, the woman at the well), and heals their separation and brokenness (the blind man, the paralytic, and Lazarus). Also, sinners are punished (the rich man and Jezebel) and landscapes are altered (Isaiah's vision of valleys lifted up and mountains laid low). This saving action continues throughout history, especially within the Church and among the saints.

Advent is a time to remember that Christ came to change the world and each of us. Have we allowed ourselves to be changed? Are we willing to be shaped by the hand of God, called by a different name, and given a place in Christ's mission? Let's hope so because, ready or not, here he comes.

© 2018 Liguori Publications. Used with permission.

### •PEROGIES•CABBAGE ROLLS•PEROGIES•

Tell all your friends and neighbours!!

Perogies & cabbage rolls are available for sale the **FIRST THURSDAY** (while supplies last).

**The next sale date is  
Thursday, December 6<sup>th</sup>  
from 3pm to 6pm.**

## Have you celebrated your 10<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup>, 65<sup>th</sup> or 70<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary in 2018?

Couples who celebrated a Jubilee Anniversary and who register their anniversary with the Parish Office by December 15<sup>th</sup> will receive a special blessing at Sunday Mass on the Feast of the Holy Family (Saturday, December 29<sup>th</sup> at 5pm and Sunday, December 30<sup>th</sup> at 9am and 11am).

Phone 306.782.2449 or stop by the Parish Office Tuesday to Friday, 8am-noon and 1pm-4pm.



*The 2018 Giving Tree Campaign has kicked off! Last year, through the generosity of parishioners, more than 90 individuals and households received needed items. The needs of families and individuals will be printed on each tree ornament. If you can commit, please take an ornament and provide an item for someone in need. Thank you!*

## Congratulations Father Louis on the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of your Ordination

Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup>  
*(Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary)*

**Mass of Thanksgiving @ 9:30am**  
**Reception to follow.**

*“The love of Christ impels us” – 2 Cor. 5:14*

## THE WEEK AHEAD

- Sun. ( 2<sup>nd</sup>): 2:00 pm- First Reconciliation Retreat & Celebration of the Sacrament
- Mon. ( 3<sup>rd</sup>): 9:00 am- **Perogies (dough)**  
4:00 pm- Youth Choir Rehearsal
- Tues. ( 4<sup>th</sup>): 9:00 am- **Perogies (pinching)**  
5:00 pm- Choir Rehearsal (9am Mass)  
7:30 pm- Book Talk Club (Lower Level)
- Wed. ( 5<sup>th</sup>): 6:30 pm- CWL Supper  
7:00 pm- K of C Executive & General Mtg
- Fri. ( 7<sup>th</sup>): 4:00 pm- Youth Choir Rehearsal  
7:00 pm- RCIA (CWL Room)
- Sat. ( 8<sup>th</sup>): 3:00 pm- Rehearsal for Advent Retreat (Chris' choir)  
4:30 pm- Choir Rehearsal (5pm Mass)  
6:00 pm- Teen Confirmation (Lower Level)
- Sun. ( 9<sup>th</sup>): 6:30 pm- Tri-sacrament Preparation (Main Hall)

## YOUTH REFLECTION

### "The Branch Springing Forth"

#### **This Week...**

The branch that springs from David's family tree is Jesus. God's promise made to Israel and Judah is kept when Jesus, the Chosen One, comes. While waiting for Jesus, we need to be watchful, prayerful, and strong. We know that Jesus is our brother and part of our family, and that is enough to fill our hearts with holiness and innocence.

#### **For Your Reflection**

- Have you ever tried to draw your family tree? How many uncles and aunts do you have? How many cousins do you have? How many grandparents do you remember knowing? Are any of them still alive? If so, what are they like? Do you have any older relatives that you really admire? What country or countries are your relatives from?
  
- Luke and Matthew want us to know that Jesus was born in King David's family. How would you feel if you found out that one of your ancestors was a king or queen?
  
- What do you think your children and grandchildren might be like? Where do you think they might live? What country do you hope they will live in? What do you hope for all people living in the world by the time your children or grandchildren are grown?

Excerpt adapted from *In Touch With the Word, 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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:diplomainministry@stfx.ca) or check the website:

[www.mystfx.ca/academic/continuinged/Ministry.html](http://www.mystfx.ca/academic/continuinged/Ministry.html)