



St. Gerard

Roman Catholic Parish

December 31, 2017

The Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Established December 11, 1904

LORD'S DAY MASS TIMES:

Saturday at 7:00 pm, Sunday at 9:00 am & 11:00 am

MASS SCHEDULE

Sun. (31st): 8:00 pm- Mass for the People
Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
(Holy Day of Obligation)

Mon. (1st): 10:00 am- Mass for the People

Tues. (2nd): 9:30 am- +Thresia Tedeschi

Wed. (3rd): 9:30 am- +Norbert Soyka
7:00 pm- +Rose Pasloski

Thurs. (4th): 9:30 am- +Valeria Woloschuk

Fri. (5th): 9:30 am- Richard Dubois
10:00 am- *Holy Hour Devotion*

Sat. (6th): 10:00am- Richard Dierker

Vigil of the Epiphany of the Lord

7:00 pm- +Alice Sebastian

Sun. (7th): **Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord**

9:00 am- Mass for the People

11:00 am- +Lawrence Materi

•The **Divine Mercy Devotion** is prayed each Friday at 1pm (except the first Friday of the month).

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

CONTACT US

Telephone: 306.782.2449 | Email: office@stgerard.ca | Hours: Monday-Friday 8am-noon, 1pm-4pm
125 Third Avenue North, Yorkton, SK S3N 1C4 | www.stgerard.ca

Pastor.....	Fr. Louis Kim Nguyen	306.782.0323	louiskimnguyen@yahoo.com
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Caretaker.....	Mario Guerra		
Parish Hall Manager.....	Jeff Krasowski	306.783.4255	hall@stgerard.ca



Stay Connected Online!
www.stgerard.ca



Lord, Mary and Joseph helped you to grow in love and wisdom. Surround me with loving and caring people to help me to be a wise, loving, and caring person.

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

Catechism Themes: The Mysteries of Christ's Infancy: Part 1 (CCC 527, 529)

Jesus' presentation at the Temple represents his unity with his people and his place as the First Born of the Father. As a circumcised Jew, Jesus was a true son of Abraham. He followed the Law, worshiped God in the Temple, and extended himself to his fellow countrymen.

Jesus was also the unique first born of his Father, the "light to the nations" and "the glory of Israel." But his status would come at a price. He would be opposed by the leadership and would suffer death, symbolized by the dagger in Mary's heart. Yet, the public nature of his death would be the sign of universal salvation, "in sight of all nations."

Have you ever experienced God in church, but in way unexpected? Has God ever caught you by surprise, yet in a way that gave new insight? Have children ever caused you to wonder? What happened?

In the place of God's dwelling, a child is presented and given a mission. In the experience of a child, God gave the world Good News. In the sight of a family, the world saw the presence of God with his people. Yes, the Spirit of the season lingers on. And it grows stronger as long as we hold the Christ Child close to us.

Take one or two spiritual gifts you have been given this season. Share them with a friend or two this week.

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*O God of all families,
as your chosen ones, holy and beloved,
grant us heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility,
gentleness, and patience,
bearing with one another and forgiving one another.*

*And over all these, help us to put on love,
and allow the peace of Christ to control our hearts,
so that we may embrace all in the world as members of our Holy Family.*

Amen



Christ the Teacher Catholic Schools News January 4 - January 5, 2018



	Sacred Heart	St. Alphonsus	St. Mary	St. Michael	St. Paul	St. Theodore
Thurs.					•One School, One Book Kickoff	
Fri.						

"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

The next baptism session will be held Sunday, January 28th @ 6:30 pm. Please contact the Parish Office to register – 306.782.2449

CONFIRMATION

The Second Sacrament of Initiation

FIRST EUCHARIST

The Third Sacrament of Initiation

GUC Session #1 – Sunday, January 7th @ 6:30 pm



FIRST RECONCILIATION PREPARATION

Session #1 – Sunday, January 14th @ 6:30pm



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

Carter Bodnaryk Maverick Bodnaryk
Rhyver Rivera

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



The Christian Community of St. Gerard

joyfully welcomes

WALTER RODGERS

into the Roman Catholic Church.

The last day to contribute to St. Gerard Church for **2017** is **TODAY @ the 11am Mass.**

Please note that donations received at the 8pm Mass on New Year's Eve (this evening) will be processed as 2018.



News from the CWL



Happy New Year!



News from the Knights of Columbus



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

News from the Archdiocese of Regina

The faithful of the Archdiocese
are cordially invited to

Archbishop's New Year's Levée

to be held at
Holy Rosary Cathedral
3125-13th Ave., Regina
January 1, 2018
1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

*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.



ENCOUNTER THE PATRON SAINT OF MISSIONS

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER RELIC PILGRIMAGE

Saturday, Jan. 20

RESURRECTION PARISH, 3155 WINDSOR PK RD, REGINA

10:00 am: Mass (with Archbishop Donald Bolen)

11:00 am-4:00 pm: Veneration

7:00 pm-10:00 pm: Official Relic Event

(Talk, Testimonies, and Veneration)

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available at various times during the day.



JESUITS
English Canada Province



Catholic Christian
OUTREACH



FOR INFORMATION VISIT CCO.CA/RELIC



Bringing Home the Word **+**

Love, Patience, Forgiveness, Gratitude

By Mary Katharine Deeley

When we were married, my husband and I gradually grew in our relationship. Four of the characteristics St. Paul mentions in today's reading from Colossians were particularly helpful for us: patience, forgiveness, love, and gratitude. They helped us overcome the challenges of building a life together, and each of our children gave us ample opportunity to practice them over and over again.

By God's grace and with hard work, we've been together more than thirty years. Sometimes I think, "How did we do it?" We did it together, and we did it with God, and I'm so grateful for my husband and for two wonderful daughters who come back home at Christmas and call just to say hello.

So it makes sense that we dedicate one Sunday to the Holy Family. We don't know a lot about Jesus' childhood, but today's Gospel tells us that, as unusual as the circumstances were, Mary and Joseph worked with each other and with God to do the right thing for Jesus. They followed the prescribed law, they listened carefully to the prophecies and rejoicing of Anna and Simeon, and they raised God's Son to adulthood—when he showed the world who he was.

Even after that, Mary was with him, loving and grieving for him even at the end. What parent would have done less? The Holy Family undoubtedly practiced love, patience, forgiveness, and gratitude with one another, even as the Lord taught us to do. We honor them by doing the same.

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The last day to contribute to St. Gerard Church for **2017** is **TODAY @ the 11am Mass**.

Please note that donations received at the 8pm Mass on New Year's Eve (this evening) will be processed as 2018.

Catechism Theme:

Mary, the Mother of God (CCC 502-507)

Mary is called the "God-bearer" ("Theotokos" in Greek), for she bore the divine Son of God into the world as a man. In the virginal birth of her son, we can see God's revelation. When his Son was conceived in the Blessed Virgin Mary, God showed his complete initiative in that moment of salvation history. When the divine Son took on human flesh at the point of conception, he became the New Adam, the one who, filled with the Spirit, would give his followers that same Spirit; in this way, his followers would be given birth as children of God. When Mary said, "Let it be done to me according to your word," she gave herself completely to the will of God and became the first Christian, a symbol of the Church; in her "Yes," she is the most perfect realization of the Church, the assembly of followers who strive to the will of the Father.

How do you honor the Mother of God? How does a Marian devotion shape your prayer life?

Mary did treasure the words of the shepherds in her heart, for they were Good News. She was the vessel of God's providence; she conceived by the power of the Spirit. Her Son was Messiah and King. She was the first follower and a symbol for all of us, the Church.

As we reflect on this New Years Day, let us consider Mary's place in our hearts and on our faith journey. She is the Mother of God. She is our model for living the Christian life.

As you plan your New Years resolutions, ask for Mary's prayers in your efforts.

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THE WEEK AHEAD

- Tues. (2nd): Parish Office Closed
- Fri. (5th): 4:00 pm- Youth Choir rehearsal & Christmas Party
- Sat. (6th): 6:15 pm- Choir rehearsal for 7pm Mass
- Sun. (7th): 6:30 pm- GUC Session #1

YOUTH REFLECTION

"Blessings for Families"

This Week...

Part of God's plan for parents and children is for them to love and serve one another. When Mary and Joseph were performing their purification ritual at the Temple, they were approached by two people. Simeon was assured by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he saw the Christ. And Anna was a prophet who lived at the Temple, fasting and praying, day and night. They both recognized that this baby was the One they had been waiting for, and they told his parents wondrous things about him.

For Your Reflection

No doubt Mary and Joseph were surprised and pleased, and perhaps even a bit spooked, when these complete strangers approached them at the Temple to praise their baby.

- Has your parent ever been surprised and pleased, or even spooked, when someone else came and told them some wonderful thing about you? What was it? What do you do that your parent (stepparent, grandparent, or guardian) is proud of?

Just as parents love to hear good things about their sons and daughters, they also love to hear good things from their sons and daughters.

- In what way can you affirm your parent (stepparent, grandparent, or guardian) about her or his role in your life? Besides Mother's Day or Father's Day or a birthday, when do you take time to really express your love and appreciation for your parents as people, and for their sacrifices and their parenting? How might you improve in this area?

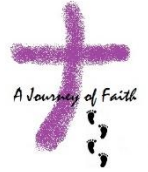
Excerpt from *In Touch With the Word, Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter* - St. Mary's Press, 2004



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 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. 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 or check the website:

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