

# 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](http://www.stgerard.ca) [office@stgerard.ca](mailto: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](mailto: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*

## First Sunday of Lent – February 14, 2016

### Liturgical/Mass Schedule

Sun. (14<sup>th</sup>): 8:00 pm- *Vigil Prayers - Faith Genaille*  
(Yorkton Friendship Centre)  
Mon. (15<sup>th</sup>): 11:00 am- *Funeral Mass – Faith Genaille*  
Tues. (16<sup>th</sup>): 12:05 pm- +Emil Polegi  
Wed. (17<sup>th</sup>): 10:00 am- Nursing Home (South)  
+Rev. Lionel "Hap" L'Hereux  
2:00 pm- *Divine Mercy Devotions*  
7:00 pm- +Emily Stechyshyn  
Thurs. (18<sup>th</sup>): 9:00 am- +Janet Gress  
Fri. (19<sup>th</sup>): 9:00 am- +Helen Flavel  
7:00 pm- *Stations of the Cross*  
Sat. (20<sup>th</sup>): 9:30 am- *Sacrament of Reconciliation*  
10:00 am- +Yvonne Hryhoriw

6:30 pm- *Sacrament of Reconciliation*  
7:00 pm- +Bernard Belitsky

### *Second Sunday of Lent*

Sun. (21<sup>st</sup>): 9:00 am- Mass for the People  
11:00 am- +Bernard Wozniak  
7:30 pm- *Vigil Prayers* – Ann Ostapowich

### **COMMUNION TO THE SICK & HOMEBOUND**

Aspen Villa: Dianne Laycock  
Hospital: Richard Yaholnitsky  
Nursing Home: Rosemarie Todos & Bernadette Kormos  
Triplex: Rose Anweiler

**Please remember the sick in your prayers:**  
Eva Schlechter

### **LENTEN LUNCHES**

*will be held each Tuesday during Lent  
following the 12:05 pm Mass.*



### Non-liturgical Schedule

Sun. (14<sup>th</sup>): 7:00 pm- Baptism Session #1  
Mon. (15<sup>th</sup>): ~ *Parish Office Closed – Family Day* ~  
Tues. (16<sup>th</sup>): 4:00 pm- Youth Choir Rehearsal  
9:30 am- CWL Quilting Bee  
7:00 pm- Choir rehearsal for 9am Mass  
7:00 pm- Liturgy Committee Meeting  
Wed. (17<sup>th</sup>): 9:30 am- CWL Quilting Bee  
7:30 pm- Choir rehearsal for 11am Mass  
7:30 pm- Hall Committee Meeting  
Thurs. (18<sup>th</sup>): 7:00 pm- RCIA  
7:30 pm- Community Life Committee Mtg  
Fri. (19<sup>th</sup>): 12 Noon- **Deadline for Parish Council  
Nominations**  
4:00 pm- Youth Choir Rehearsal  
Sat. (20<sup>th</sup>): 6:15 pm- Choir rehearsal for 7pm Mass  
Sun. (21<sup>st</sup>): **6:30 pm- Baptism Session #2**



### **ST. GERARD PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL AND FINANCE COUNCIL ELECTIONS**

Nominations forms are available on the large table in the Welcome Area, and at the Parish Office. Nominations deadline is at noon Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup>.

If you have any questions about these positions, please contact Father Francis or stop by the Parish Office for a copy of the St. Gerard Constitution & Bylaws.

The **Annual General Meeting** will be held Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm in the Parish Hall. All parishioners are encouraged to attend.

## Our Journey to Remember

Greetings as we begin the holy season of Lent.

“Are we there yet?” we would plead from the backseat of our family Buick. My sisters and I could barely contain our excitement as we headed to the Jersey shore for vacation. Memories of sand, surf, Kay’s Bakery, late-night card games, and the rare dinner out at a nice restaurant fueled our anticipation. Without our memories of what had come before, we would hardly have been so excited!

### Lent is the Christian community’s annual journey of remembrance and joy.

Lent is the Christian community’s annual journey of remembrance and joy. We spend forty days in preparation, so that when we arrive at Easter we are completely ready to fill ourselves with the miracle of the Resurrection and the joy that it brings. Our daily lives can reflect this, especially within our families. Ash Wednesday starts our journey by reminding us of the frailty and sinfulness of human life. We take an honest look at ourselves and remember that we can return to God with open hearts and request forgiveness.

We bring ourselves without fear or hesitation to the Sacrament of Reconciliation: Jesus loved sinners, and wanted nothing more than for them to be free; at peace with God, neighbor,



and self. We not only say the prayers we have been given as our penance but change our hearts and behavior so we don’t make those same mistakes again. This is called repentance. In our par-

enting, we can gently help our children see this important distinction.

Lent is a time of almsgiving. We take time to ask how we, as a family, share the physical and spiritual gifts that we’ve been given. It’s a good time to look through our possessions and give away those rarely worn coats, forgotten stuffed animals, and books and other items to people who would truly enjoy having them. We remember our tradition’s call to offer “first fruits,” and make sure that what we give is something that we, too, would enjoy having.

Adults and youth fourteen years old and older abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and the Fridays of Lent. In my home, we need to be careful that our meatless meals aren’t opportunities to have dishes that we typically wouldn’t have, such as broiled salmon. A simple soup or noodle casserole reminds us that many people have so much less to eat than we do.

Prayer, penance, repentance, almsgiving, and self-denial help build our anticipation through Lent’s forty days, allowing us to come to Easter Sunday ready to rejoice in the experience of the Risen Lord.



## SACRAMENTS of INITIATION PREPARATION



### BAPTISM

*The First Sacrament of Initiation*

The next baptism classes are scheduled to commence **TONIGHT, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016.**

### 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

### FOURTH SESSION

Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm in the Parish Hall



## News from the CWL



### *I'd rather BEE quilting....*



**Fortrel needed!** If anyone has any fortrel, we will gladly take it off your hands! Please bring your fortrel and leave it downstairs by the CWL Room. Thank you!

CWL members-- please note! **2016 memberships are due** as soon as possible! You can put your membership fee in an envelope marked "CWL Membership" and put it in the collection basket. Thank you!



## News from the Knights of Columbus



Feb. 14 - Parish Brunch

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

Subsequent to the death of the late Archbishop Daniel J. Bohan, the College of Consultors of the Archdiocese of Regina, as required by Canon 421 §1, on January 15, 2016, elected Very Reverend Lorne Dale Crozon, then Vicar General, as Diocesan Administrator of Regina.

Please keep Very Rev. Lorne Crozon in your prayers as he leads the Diocese in this period of transition.

Campion College invites you to the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Nash Memorial Lecture **Truth, Justice, and Reconciliation: Dealing with the Past in Northern Ireland** delivered by guest lecturer Dr. Kieran McEvoy. Dr. McEvoy is a professor of Law and Transitional Justice at Queen's University in Belfast. His areas of research include restorative justice, truth recovery, amnesties, conflict resolution and human rights. His work on transitional justice has spanned various regions across the globe including Chile, Sierra Leone, Rwanda, and Columbia.

The lecture will take place on **Tuesday, February 23, 2016 1t 7:00 pm in the Campion College Riffel Auditorium, Campion College, University of Regina (main campus).** Admission is free, but please note that seating is limited. Complimentary parking is available in lots 3M and 17M. For more information on the Nash Memorial Lecture visit our website at [www.campioncollege.ca](http://www.campioncollege.ca) or call 306.586.4242



## Lenten RETREAT with ERIC GURASH

Coordinator of Lay Formation and Evangelization (Archdiocese of Regina)

## Jesus Christ: The Face of Mercy

Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup>  
10 am to 3 pm  
St. Gerard Parish  
125 Third Avenue North, Yorkton

- Part I: Pope Francis' Message of Mercy**
- Part II: Encountering the Mercy of Christ**
- Part III: Being the Face of Mercy**

Coffee service at 9:30 am  
Soup & Sandwich lunch provided.

Preregister by noon Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Phone: 306.782.2449 or [office@stgerard.ca](mailto:office@stgerard.ca)

*Through the lens of three tales of mercy, we'll take a look at Pope Francis' message of mercy for this Jubilee year, how and where we can encounter the mercy of Christ in our own lives, and grow in appreciation of our own baptismal call to be the face of mercy for others.*

Retreat hosted by the  
St. Gerard Religious Education Committee.

# Good News!

February 14, 2016

## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (C)

Dt 26:4-10 / Rom 10:8-13 / Lk 4:1-13

When I was on a pilgrimage to Israel, we visited Masada, the last stronghold of the Jews after the Romans destroyed Jerusalem. The temperature hit 117 degrees the day we came. We wandered around and wondered what it must have been like to hold out for a long time. When we returned to our bus, we couldn't wait to get to the cold water that awaited us. The priest said, "The Jews were in the desert for forty years; Jesus was in the desert for forty days; you've been in the desert for forty minutes. Think about that."

I have no doubt that Jesus was tempted to give himself food and water when he was enduring the desert heat. I have no doubt that in his agony he might also have thought about seizing power for himself. These are the things that tempt us when we are worn out, beaten down, or simply think we are not getting enough of what we believe we deserve.

Lent begins with the temptation of Jesus. Like us in all things but sin, he knew about being and feeling deprived and weak. And while his temptations came while he was in an actual desert, our harsh and barren places may be physical, psychological, or spiritual. We may feel lost, alone, helpless, and sometimes hopeless. In our times of weakness, evil can find a foothold and convince us that we must control our lives, that we can and should have whatever we want. In this account, we find in Jesus an example of how to resist temptation—patiently, humbly, with trust in God's promise of salvation.

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St. Mary's U.C.W.L.C.

### EASTER BREAD BAKE SALE

ST. MARY'S CULTURAL CENTRE

**Wednesday March 2<sup>nd</sup> &**

**Thursday March 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Starting at 5:00 pm

Traditional Ukrainian

Paskas, Babkas, and Easter Butter Lambs

**CUBA 2016**  
**WORLD DAY**  
of **PRAYER**  
**JOURNÉE**  
**MONDIALE**  
de la **PRIÈRE**

Receive children.  
Receive me.  
★  
Accueillez les enfants.  
Accueillez-moi.

ECUMENICAL SERVICE INFORMATION/ RENSEIGNEMENTS SUR LA CÉLÉBRATION ECUMÉNIQUE

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

73 Smith Street East

Friday, March 4, 2016 - 7:30 pm

Service written by the World Day of Prayer Committee of Cuba  
Service rédigé par le Comité de la Journée mondiale de la Prière de Cuba

Prepared and adapted for use in Canada by the Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada  
Préparé et adapté pour le Canada par le Conseil oecuménique des égliseuses du Canada

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Site web / Web: www.wicc.org • www.facebook.com/WICCCanada • www.youtube.com/WICC\_CA



Bible Study: Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> & Mar. 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00pm  
Service Rehearsal: Mar. 1<sup>st</sup> after Bible Study  
Joint Choir Practice: Mar. 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 7:00pm

*All women, men and children are invited to attend.*

*The 2015 charitable donation receipts will be available in the Welcome Area the weekend of February 27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup>.*

### 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

### PARISH CENTRE HAPPENINGS

306.783.4255 - Perogy Hotline - 306.783.4255

\*\*\*\*Perogy Bee\*\*\*\*

MON.	Feb.15	9:30 am	Prepping
TUES.	Feb. 16	9:30 am	Pinching
WED.	Feb. 17	9:00 am	Bagging

## YOUTH NEWS AND INFORMATION

### **The Desert**

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

Jesus knows what it is like to be in the desert and to want God's help. He had his own desert experience, being tempted by the devil, feeling alone and isolated, and needing strength and faith. It happened to the Hebrews, it happened to Jesus, and it happens to us. Desert experiences can be retreats for us if we use them as a way to get closer to God.

#### **For Your Reflection**

The Hebrews were not happy with their slavery in Egypt. But they were not thrilled with being isolated in the desert land, either. In some ways, that was worse. But Jesus actually chose to retreat into the desert land. He followed the guidance of the Holy Spirit in his life and ended up in the desert for a long time.

Have you ever felt as if you were in a desert, alone and isolated - escaped from an old place perhaps, but not yet arrived at a new place? Which was worse - the place you had escaped from or the desert place? Why? What moved you to get on with your life journey in order to actually arrive at the new place? Or are you still in the desert? How do you know?

Jesus retreated to the desert because the Holy Spirit led him there. Has the Spirit ever led you to a place that ended up being a desert? Did you ever do "the right thing" and end up alone and isolated? What happened? Were you surprised? Angry? At peace? How does the bareness of desert-life give way to the rich fullness of growth-life?

Is there anything good about a desert experience? Without other distractions, all you have is yourself and God. In that situation, is it easier or harder to get closer to God?

Is it possible to become more in touch with God and not become more in touch with yourself? Why or why not? How does being in touch with yourself help your relationship with God? How do you get in touch with yourself?

Excerpt from *In Touch With the Word*, Cycle C, 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](mailto: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.*



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## 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.

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## 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

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**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.

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## **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](http://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](http://www.rachelsvineyard.org), or email Bonnie at [r.vineyardsk@sasktel.net](mailto: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](mailto:diplomainministry@stfx.ca) or check the website:

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