

# 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*

## Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time – February 5, 2017

### Liturgical/Mass Schedule

Tues. ( 7<sup>th</sup>): 9:00 am- +Gladys Molnar  
Wed. ( 8<sup>th</sup>): 10:00 am- Aspen Villa  
                  +Adolph Sliwa  
                  2:00 pm- *Divine Mercy Devotion*  
                  7:00 pm- +Al Herchuk  
Thurs. ( 9<sup>th</sup>): 9:00 am- +Lyle Mroczo  
                  10:30 am- Lakeside Manor (Saltcoats)  
                  +Agnes Stokman  
Fri. (10<sup>th</sup>): 9:00 am- +Orest Derkach  
Sat. (11<sup>th</sup>): 9:30 am- *Sacrament of Reconciliation*  
                  10:00 am- +Shelley Kaspick

6:30 pm- *Sacrament of Reconciliation*  
7:00 pm- +Allan Semaschuk

### *Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

Sun. (12<sup>th</sup>): 9:00 am- John & Cecilia Dernisky  
                  11:00 am- Mass for the People

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

Jay Gustafson, Fran Semchuk



Lord, you have blessed the world with goodness and love. Help me use my gifts and talents in accordance with your will.

—From *Peaceful Meditations for Every Day in Ordinary Time*,  
Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeney

### Non-liturgical Schedule

Sun. ( 5<sup>th</sup>): 3:30 pm- CJUT Planning Meeting  
Mon. ( 6<sup>th</sup>): 4:00 pm- Youth Choir rehearsal  
                  7:00 pm- The First Spiritual Exercises  
Tues. ( 7<sup>th</sup>): 9:00 am- CWL Sewing Project  
                  7:00 pm- Choir rehearsal for 9am Mass  
                  7:30 pm- Stewardship Committee Mtg  
Wed. ( 8<sup>th</sup>): 9:00 am- CWL Sewing Project  
                  7:30 pm- K of C General Meeting  
Thurs. ( 9<sup>th</sup>): 7:00 pm- Social Justice Committee Mtg  
Fri. (10<sup>th</sup>): 4:00 pm- Youth Choir rehearsal  
Sun. (12<sup>th</sup>): 6:30 pm- *Come Join Us at the Table #3*

### **Ministry of Care Blessing**

to mark the  
World Day of the Sick (February 11<sup>th</sup>)

**All health care providers and personnel who work in health care** are invited to receive a prayer of blessing **during Sunday Mass celebrations on Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup>**, to mark the World Day of the Sick, celebrated February 11<sup>th</sup>, the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes.

**The blessing at the Sunday liturgy** is offered to highlight the health care community and our sharing in the healing ministry of Jesus Christ.



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

Nominations are now open for the following positions (and terms):

**Pastoral Council**

Vice-chairperson	3 years	Secretary	3 years
Religious Education	3 years	Family & Social	3 years
Youth	3 years	Public Relations	3 years
Community Life	3 years	Ecumenical	3 years
Properties	3 years	Hall	3 years

**Nominations forms are available in this week's bulletin, on the large table in the Welcome Area, and at the Parish Office.**

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 Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 pm in the Parish Hall.  
All parishioners are encouraged to attend.**



**Christ the Teacher Catholic Schools News  
February 6 - February 10, 2017**



	Sacred Heart	St. Alphonsus	St. Mary	St. Michael	St. Paul	St. Theodore
Mon.		•SCC Meeting		•French Second Language Week •Sugar Shack Presentations		
Tues.		•Bball @ St. Paul	•Boys Bball @ Columbia	•Sugar Shack Presentations	•SCC Meeting	
Wed.		•Gr. 4 Swimming		•Shared Activities with SHHS French students		
Thurs.			•Gr. 7&8 Valentine's Dance @ St. Paul	•Tele-miracle Garage Sale •Winter Carnival •Gr. 7/8 School Dance @ St. Paul	•Gr. 7&8 Valentine Dance	
Fri.		•Gr. 4 Swimming		•French Classroom Buddy Activities		

**"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 Preparation class is **Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup>**! To register for the classes, please contact the Parish Office at 306.782.2449 as soon as possible!

### CONFIRMATION

*The Second Sacrament of Initiation*

### FIRST EUCHARIST

*The Third Sacrament of Initiation*

**~ COME JOIN US AT THE TABLE ~**

#### Session #3

Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm



## News from the CWL



The CWL is looking for gently used purses, scarves and jewellery! If you're cleaning your closets and find some of these items to pass on, please leave them by the CWL room. Items will be collected 'til the end of February. These will be part of a fundraiser for the refugee family. Thank you!

### Stitches of Love

St. Gerard's CWL will be sewing on Tuesday and Wednesday. We'll be busy working on aprons or quilts. Please join us! Bring a lunch and join us in fellowship, plus make some quilts to keep someone warm! We'll be starting at 9:00 am.

PS-- you don't have to know how to sew to be part of this great project! Just bring your enthusiasm and a willing heart!

The Liturgical Committee is cataloguing all items that have been donated to the church over the years.

If you have donated an item and it does not have a plaque on it, please contact:

Carol Deters            306.782.1762  
Yvonne Turgeon        306.782.1055



## News from the Knights of Columbus



Feb. 8                    General Meeting  
Feb. 12                  Afternoon bingo  
Feb. 25/26              Membership Drive – an open opportunity to join the brotherhood of the Knights in the next admission degree.

If you are interested in joining the Knights, please call Brian @ 306.730.7083 or 306.730.7017 after 5pm (or leave a message).

ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH

## VALENTINE TEA & BAKE SALE

Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup>  
2 pm to 4 pm  
(in the lower hall)

Everyone Welcome!!



## Parkland Right to Life Fundraiser

### “ALL YOU CAN EAT” PEROGY LUNCH

February 12<sup>th</sup> at 12:15pm  
St. Gerard Church Hall

Cost:    Family                    \$25  
          Adult                        \$10  
          Children 6-12 yrs        \$5  
          Children 5 and under    FREE

## FAMILY FUN DAY MON., FEBRUARY 20<sup>th</sup> FREE ICE FISHING & BBQ AT CROOKED LAKE (Watch for signs!)

**Fun begins at 1:00 pm**

The Yorkton & Melville Councils of the Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a **Family Fun Day** of ice fishing!

No fishing license required. For those without ice-fishing gear, there will be some available to use.

Learn ice fishing techniques! BBQ lunch will be supplied at no cost!

To register contact:

Brian T. Exner            306.730.7017  
Wayne Exner             306.783.7380  
Jeff Krasowski            306.783.5384



# Bringing Home the Word **+**

## Solidarity

By Mary Katharine Deeley

**When my daughter got her first job after college**, I handed her a copy of Isaiah 57 so she would always remember she was blessed to have work and that she had a responsibility to care for those who were not as fortunate as she. Without a word, she took the piece of paper, folded it, and put it in her wallet. Years later, she still hasn't forgotten. When she was looking for a position as a lawyer, she sought a firm that would take clients regardless of their ability to pay and that counted hours of volunteer legal counsel (*pro bono*) in calculating her work hours. I was so proud. It reminded me that honoring our solidarity with the poor is a lifelong discipline.

We've been taught that calling attention to ourselves is a little suspect. Our parents and good friends can call attention to our achievements, but we can't. And yet today's readings include the part of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount that calls us "the salt of the earth" and "the light of the world."

This isn't the kind of thing we're supposed to hide. But Jesus doesn't mean we should brag or be prideful. Rather, we're to do what Isaiah tells us and honor God by caring for the least among us. We're to follow Paul's example and strive only to "know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified" (1 Corinthians 2:2). The example of our lives should be such that those who see us will know God is working through his people. Our love and service to others is not for our glory, but for God's.

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**St. Gerard's Development & Peace Share Lent workshop:** The 2017 Share Lent theme is "*Women at the Heart of Change*". What does this mean in development work? Please join us in exploring this theme and preparing for the Share Lent campaign. Everyone is welcome! Sunday, February 26th at 1:30 pm.

For further information, please call Dana at 306.890.0394 or D&P's regional office at 306.937.7675.

## Catechism Theme: The Lay Faithful (897-913)

How can we be salt of the earth and light to the world? How can our example make a difference at home, in school, at work? We answer the challenge these questions present when we share in Christ's ministry as priest, prophet, and king.

As priest, Christ offered a sacrifice of love to the Father. What sacrifices of love do we offer to the Father? We can offer our married, single, or family life, work, outreach to others, and even relaxation along with our prayers and suffering to God. We can offer them anytime, but the best time is at Mass, when we offer ourselves with Christ to the Father.

As prophet, Christ proclaimed the Good News of salvation. Like his Son, God calls us to evangelize others (both fellow Catholics and non-Catholics) by word and example. We witness most effectively when others see the difference Christ has made in our lives. The credibility of our witness lies in our ability to "get out of God's way" and to allow him to work in our lives.

Finally, as king, Christ became servant to all through his self-giving. Like Christ, God calls us to give of ourselves so the workplace and the home might become more humane. He calls us to serve in our parishes so they can grow and become more alive. He calls us integrate our Christian faith into our daily lives so our service might be His service to others.

So we make a difference as Christians when we offer ourselves to God, when we proclaim the Good News in word and example, and when we serve others. God calls us to worship, to witness, and to give.

*Who has inspired you to live as a Christian? What have they done to inspire you?*

We followers of Christ become leaders when we try to answer one question. What difference has Christ made in our lives? But in a world of multiple voices and a myriad of distractions, getting the attention of our intended audience is difficult. How do we get that attention? The risk of example. To do something beyond the norm. Something that points to Christ. This is a hard, difficult road to travel for it entails doing the different, doing the unusual. It means putting our reputation on the line. But the reward is the glory of God. That is a goal worth the risk.

*What can you do today to be a good Christian example for others?*

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## YOUTH NEWS AND INFORMATION

### "Light and Salt for the World"

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

Five of the last six Sundays since Epiphany have had readings from Isaiah, and all of those five have used light as a symbol and image. Two of the Gospels have used it as well. In today's Gospel we are told directly that we are light for the world and salt for the earth. The power of light comes from God, and though we can see its effect, our limited human mind cannot comprehend it.

#### **For Your Reflection**

Salt is a preservative and a flavour agent for food. Salt used to be rare and difficult to mine, but it is found in almost every kitchen today.

- Why does Jesus compare us to salt?
- Who is an adult that is like salt to the world - someone who makes life more flavourful? How have you learned from this adult?

Because salt is a key ingredient in the many instant, canned, and prepared foods they consume, most [Canadians] eat too much salt, and many are at risk for high blood pressure.

- Do you know what your blood pressure is? When did you last have it checked?
- What are your favourite foods? Are you aware of how much sodium (salt) they contain?
- Do you put salt on food before you even taste it?
- When it comes to salt, it is possible to have too much of a good thing. If we are like salt, what might be the "good things" we have too much of?

Light is essential in order for us to see. When the sun goes down, we generally rely on electricity to light up our life.

- What is the longest your home has ever gone without electricity? How did you cope?
- Besides electric lights, what things would you have to do without if your home lost electric power for a week?
- Why does Jesus compare us to light?
- Who has been light for you - who has helped bring you out of the darkness? How have you learned from this person? How did that learning take place?



**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)