



# St. Gerard

## Roman Catholic Parish

February 7, 2021

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Established December 11, 1904

LORD'S DAY MASS TIMES:  
By pre-registration only until further notice

### CONTACT US

The Parish Office is open reduced hours, but the doors remain locked. Please phone ahead. We continue to take the necessary precautions to keep our parishioners and employees safe & healthy. You may phone/email the office Monday to Thursday between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm.

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 Nguyen 306.782.0323 [louisYorkton@gmail.com](mailto:louisYorkton@gmail.com)

Parish Office Administrator.....Sandra Archer  
Caretaker.....Mario Guerra

### MASS/SERVICE SCHEDULE

Mon. ( 8<sup>th</sup>) NO MASS

Tues. ( 9<sup>th</sup>) 6:00pm *Holy Hour Devotion*  
7:00pm +Lawrence & +Bernice Neumeier

Wed. (10<sup>th</sup>) 9:30am K of C & their families

Thurs. (11<sup>th</sup>) **MEMORIAL OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES**  
**(Anointing of the Sick at each Mass)**  
**\*\* ALL MUST PRE-REGISTER FOR THESE MASSES\*\***  
9:30am +Richard Stajniak  
7:00pm +Trudy Takken

Fri. (12<sup>th</sup>) 9:30am Special Intentions

Sat. (13<sup>th</sup>) 9:30am Miles & Christine Shuya

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5:00pm +Mary Diakuw  
7:00pm Dan & Brenda Dierker

Sun. (14<sup>th</sup>) **SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
9:00am Mass for the People  
11:00am +Joan Monette  
5:00pm

### INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTENDING MASS

- **Pre-registration for Saturday/Sunday Mass is required.** Online at [www.stgerard.ca](http://www.stgerard.ca) Monday morning to Thursday at 12 noon.
- **Maximum 30** people may attend Mass.
- Each household must register separately.
- Masks are mandatory. This includes from the time you leave your vehicle until you return to your vehicle after Mass.
- Members of the same household may sit together at the marked seating.
- *At least two-metres physical distance is to be observed at all times, even with masks on (masks are an additional measure of protection).*
- **Please arrive early.**
- The following must stay home for the sake of the wider community:
  - ❖ People with COVID-19 symptoms, who live with someone with COVID-19, or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19
  - ❖ The sick, including those with a fever, cough, sore throat, runny nose, shortness of breath
  - ❖ Those who have travelled outside of the province or Canada within the last 14 days



Stay Connected Online!  
[www.stgerard.ca](http://www.stgerard.ca)



Lord, you hear the cry of the poor. Hear my cry for inner peace and happiness.

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

## A Note from your Pastor....

My dear Sisters and Brothers,

I trust that all of you are having a good week and are doing fine. More than ever we are in difficult times dealing with COVID-19 because it is getting worse and worse. We need to be more patient in order to deal with it. We also need more solidarity and courage to fight the pandemic. Let us pray for that.

In the first reading we hear the story of Job. He is discouraged and needs the Good News after being so afflicted. He has lost his health, family, friends and property. Life has become tough for him and he feels hopeless. However, he knows his Redeemer lives and for this, his life is not entirely hopeless. He passes through temporary suffering and misery on his way to a deeper, wiser, and joyful relationship with God because he has faith in the Creator and Redeemer.

This is exactly what we are facing now. We need hope and faith. If we have deep faith in God and do not lose hope, all will soon be back to normal. Do not lose hope.

In the second reading Paul says to us that the Gospel is Good News that is meant to be shared. For Paul, spreading the Good News is not just something he wants to do, but something he feels obligated to do. Therefore, Paul tells us that if we don't share the Good News, it could be because, for us, it is not really Good News.

I invite you to hear Paul's words again, "*I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. I do it all for the sake of the Gospel...*" If a message is important and it is Good News, we are called to proclaim it and help others to receive it so we *may share in its blessings*.

And finally in the Gospel, we hear that Jesus, after teaching in the synagogues, comes to visit Simon Peter's mother-in-law and heals her from fever. Jesus comes to where she lay, bends down beside her, looks into her face, gives her his hand, and lifts her up in a gentle way. To me, it is through this personal touch that he relieves her sickness. In Jesus Christ, God comes to meet us in the reality of our humanity, bringing the warmth of his divine light into His mercy and healing.

I invite you to reflect on the way in which Jesus performs this miracle, in how He acts by words and actions, and learn from it. It is very gentle and kind. He is truly a servant and a messenger, a man for others.

He uses His healing powers to benefit those in need. It reminds us that all the gifts and talents we have received from God are not meant to foster self-satisfaction, but are self-giving.

Mark continues to share with us the Good News, *people brought to Jesus all who were sick or possessed with demons*, and that Jesus can heal them and liberate them from evil. *Everyone is searching for him* for they acknowledge Him as a healer, a hand of the power of God. And Jesus, He knows that He cannot just stay in one village, but brings his messages and power everywhere.

Reflect on how we see that people nowadays don't come and see the Lord as a healer and liberator from the evil afflicting their lives. There is one reason that so many people find it so hard to believe in Jesus or to follow Him. It is because they don't see Jesus as a man for others. Instead, they see Jesus as harsh and judgmental. That is not the Jesus of the Gospels, the Jesus of the crucifix, the Jesus of the Eucharist. It is also because we don't give testimony enough to the impact Our Lord has had on our own lives.

Remember, as Christians, we have identified ourselves with Christ and His Church. And so when people who are outside the Church look at us, they may get an idea of what Christ is like. The fact of Christ's being a man for others has a direct impact on our personal relationship with him. It means that Christ is "for" each one of us.

Today, let Jesus touch even the most hidden corners of our hearts, because deep inside us are the areas that need his light the most.

I wish all of you have a blessed week, stay safe and healthy. I miss and love you all.

Fr. Louis Nguyen

Pope Paul VI says "*Nowadays people need more witnesses than teachers.*"

## SACRAMENTS PREPARATION

### BAPTISM

*The First Sacrament of Initiation*

Please contact the Parish Office to register for the next Baptism Preparation Session (date to be determined): 306.782.2449 or [office@stgerard.ca](mailto:office@stgerard.ca)



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

Emma Onslow      Nash Onslow

May these children and their family  
experience joy and new life.



**Ash Wednesday  
is coming!**  
(February 17<sup>th</sup>)

*“Turn away from sin  
and be faithful to the Gospel.”*

Lent is a time of repentance, change of heart and prayer. The weekdays of Lent are a time of penance for the Church around the world.

### ASH WEDNESDAY ADAPTED FOR THE PANDEMIC

In order to accommodate as many as possible, Father Louis will celebrate three Masses FOR 30 PEOPLE on February 17<sup>th</sup>.

**All must pre-register by phone or online beginning Tuesday, February 16** and must receive confirmation from the Parish Office before attending.

Father Louis will cleanse his hands, put on a face mask and distribute the ashes to those who come to him. He takes the ashes and sprinkles them on the head of each person without saying anything.

### The Sacrament of Reconciliation



- 30 minutes before and after Weekday Mass (Tuesday – Friday)
- Saturdays at 9:00 am  
or by appointment. Phone: 306.782.2449



## News from the CWL



**Memberships for 2021** It's that time of year to be thinking about renewing our 2021 CWL Membership. Membership fees are still \$30.00 and can be paid by cash or cheque and mailed to St. Gerard's C.W.L., 125 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. N., Yorkton, SK S3N 1C4. If you feel comfortable paying by e-transfer, contact Paulette Cooper 306-782-7923. If you have any questions or concerns regarding memberships, contact Paulette. Even though our Council has not been active due to COVID, we are required to collect and submit membership fees to the National CWL Office. Any member can access the National website ([www.cwl.ca](http://www.cwl.ca)) at anytime to learn more about the CWL of Canada. If you are not a member and would like to join our League, contact Paulette or any member of St. Gerard's Catholic Women's League.



## News from the Knights of Columbus



Feb. 10      General Meeting –Virtual  
Feb. 19      Lead Stations of the Cross  
Feb. 25      Articles for “The Word” due

*If you are interested in joining the Knights, please call Keith Hayward @ 306.783.0963. [www.kofc-2031.ca](http://www.kofc-2031.ca)*

## World Day of the Sick February 11

The ministry of Jesus to the sick is central to the life of the Church. February 11 (**Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes**) highlights the healing ministry of the Church.



It reminds us that service to the sick and suffering cannot be neglected.

It recognizes the great efforts of doctors, nurses, health care institutions and pastoral care givers to restore health to those afflicted with illness and disease. (ORDO, CCCB)

Father Louis will celebrate two Masses, and will offer one of the Sacraments of Healing (the Anointing of the Sick) to anyone who is in need of healing of the mind, body, or spirit.

**All must pre-register for these Masses.**

Registration will begin **Monday, February 8** (online & by phone).



## Bringing Home the Word **+**

### Offering the Gospel to All

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

If you asked Jesus what he did while on earth, I believe he would say, "preached and healed." Those were his missions. He had good news to share and a longing to convince his listeners of the truth of this gospel of love and freedom. He was moved because he saw them like sheep without a shepherd. The Gospels are nothing other than documentation of Jesus' efforts to preach the gospel.

Paul shared Christ's ardor. He was entrusted with preaching to the Gentiles the truth of the Gospel, and he did all he could to convince them of his message.

He says he became all things to all, to save at least some. He worked hard during the day so he could pay his own way and offer his message for free. He adapted himself to his audience—their customs and ways of thinking—so they wouldn't take offense at him, closing their hearts to his message.

How many missionaries have used this same approach? Just think of the French Jesuits Sts. Jean de Brébeuf and Isaac Jogues of the Great Lakes region, St. Junípero Serra in the West, or Mother Cabrini serving European immigrants on the East Coast. They learned new languages, ate new foods, and adopted new traditions to insert themselves into these cultures and share the gospel. They took a page out of Paul's book, becoming all things to all to save at least some.

We are modern-day apostles and missionaries. Let's take a page out of Paul's book, and offer this gospel of hope and love to so many souls in need.

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## Catechism Theme: The Anointing of the Sick: Part II (CCC 1506-1513)

"Heal the sick!" (Matthew 10:8) Illness was no longer to be seen as a curse, but as a chance for faith, a time for healing. Jesus brought compassion and service to his ministry among the sick. And, as Jesus did, he instructed his followers to do. Hence, the Church has a duty and a charism to act as an agent of God's healing power. In the name of Jesus, the Church prays for healing among the sick. But, by invoking the name, the Church remembers who really heals and serves: God himself.

From Scripture and Tradition, the Church exercises a ministry to the sick. The Anointing of the Sick sums up the Church's ministry: a sign of the community's care and a prayerful anointing for healing. The sacrament, administered by a bishop or priest, binds the sick to Christ. In this sense, the sacrament forgives sin and "raises up" the sick. No matter whether the result of the anointing is physical or spiritual healing, the sacrament points toward the general resurrection, when all the faithful will be made whole, just as Christ's resurrection restored him.

*What hope has God given you in times of illness? How have fellow Christians helped you when you were ill? Did their help or prayers help you through the effects of your illness? How?*

Mark wrote of healing, ejection, and evangelization. When we feel Christ's healing touch, we want to stay near, to feel intimate union with the Master. Yet, when he withdraws, do we withdraw? Or do we invite others to the Lord?

God calls us to wholeness. But we cannot stay in the Lord's house forever. We need get back to our daily routines and relationships. It is not a return to the status quo. It is a chance to proclaim and to serve.

*How would you like to be made whole? Is it in body, spirit, or relationship? Write down your thoughts and desires for wholeness. Present them to God this week. And pray for the power to trust him with that list.*

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From Pope Francis' Inauguration Mass homily "Please, I would like to ask all those who have positions of responsibility in economic, political and social life, and all men and women of good will: let us be 'protectors' of creation, protectors of God's plan inscribed in nature, protectors of one another and of the environment. Being protectors, then, also means keeping watch over our emotions, over our hearts . . . intentions that build up and tear down. We must not be afraid of goodness or even tenderness.

- Submitted by the Stewardship Committee

**GET INVOLVED**  
Make a Difference!



*Everyone belongs to the family of God and has a role to play in that family. God, our Father, chose to share His love with us. Jesus Christ, His Son, has made known to us by His life and word this great message of love. This is called “The Good News”. And all Christians are called to stewardship. As stewards, we recognize that all we have comes from God. Our possessions are given to us in trust. And as good stewards know, we are to cultivate these and return them with increase to God. Through our faith commitment to baptism, all have the responsibility of living this life of love and of bringing it to the people of God. As stewards, we use our unique gifts to build up the Church. This leads people to share the mission of the Church: proclaiming, teaching, serving, and sanctifying. We know we cannot do all things, but we can do what our gifts lead us to do. Thus, each one of us has the commission and task of bringing this Good News to the people of God in the Christian community. The Spirit of God is with us in this task. Every task-oriented community needs organization to accomplish its work so that all the persons and resources dedicated to the task can be used to the best advantage. Parish Pastoral Councils and Parish Finance Councils provide clergy, laity and religious with the necessary organization structure to carry out the task in a parish.*

*The laity are called, with priests, to fulfill the responsibility for liturgy, catechesis, pastoral care of the sick and elderly if the Church is to remain strong. Parish pastoral councils and parish finance councils are needed to organize the faithful to carry out those responsibilities. Therefore, as consultative bodies, it is critical that members of the Pastoral Council and members of the Finance Council work in cooperation with each other to bring about a life-giving Parish Community.*

*The parish pastoral council brings together lay people, religious and the pastor who work together to build the parish as a living Christian Faith community. The parish pastoral council members should care about the pastoral needs of their parish, of other communities in the archdiocese and of the universal church. They should strive to bring the Gospel message to all people in their neighbourhood.*

*The finance council is responsible for the administration of the financial affairs of the parish, being governed by universal law, the archdiocese financial and building regulations and by the norms laid down by the diocese. The finance council ...is the steward of parish material resources.*

(Guidelines Parish Pastoral Council & Parish Finance Council, Archdiocese of Regina, 2010)

**Lay Leadership is vital to our parish.** Lay Leaders help to set the direction and vision, set goals and action steps that align with parish priorities, and implement these action steps.

Any registered parishioner who is fully initiated in the Catholic Church, is sixteen years of age or over, and worships regularly with the parish community, is eligible to serve on parish council.

**The St. Gerard Parish Council is seeking candidates** to fill vacancies on both the Pastoral Council and the Finance Council. If you, or someone you know, would be a strong candidate, please contact one of the Nominating Committee members:

Rejean Houle	306.641.5430
Lorne Wanner	306.641.7838
Jacqueline Gotengco	306.316.1561

**NOMINATION FORM**

I nominate \_\_\_\_\_ for one of the following positions:

- |                         |                   |                     |                   |
|-------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| ( ) Secretary           | (two year term)   | ( ) Liturgical      | (three year term) |
| ( ) Public Relations    | (one year term)   | ( ) Family & Social | (one year term)   |
| ( ) Community Life      | (three year term) | ( ) Social Justice  | (three year term) |
| ( ) Finance Chairperson | (three year term) |                     |                   |
| ( ) Properties          | (one year term)   | ( ) Hall            | (three year term) |

**Nominator:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature) (Print Name)

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Nominee:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature) (Print Name)

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please print form, complete, and return to the Parish Office in a sealed envelope marked "Parish Council Nomination"*  
**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: THURSDAY FEBRUARY 25<sup>TH</sup> @ 12:00 NOON**

**Secretary** - Records the minutes of all regular council and assembly meetings. Maintains those records for the parish files. Writes letters, thank you, or other correspondence with the approval of council. Ensures that each newly elected member is in possession of the current St. Gerard's Pastoral Constitution and the current Archdiocese of Regina Guidelines. Prepares highlights of the Parish Council meeting for the following Sunday bulletin.

**Liturgical Committee** - The Liturgy Committee consists of the following sub-committees: Sacristans; Altar Linen; Children's Liturgy; Ministries as Lectors, Welcomers, Communion Ministers, Communion to the Shut-ins, Hospitality and Altar Servers; Scheduling; Banners; Art and Environment; Music; and Office Liaison. Is responsible for working with the Pastor to promote, prepare, and provide for meaningful participation in all liturgical and para-liturgical celebrations. Shall, in conjunction with the Pastor, plan so as all members of the parish community may participate intelligently, prayerfully, and actively in liturgical celebrations.

**Public Relations Committee** - Keeps parishioners informed by means of newsletters and ensures the distribution of them. Promotes St. Gerard parish through the media. Maintains parish history, updates photo albums and scrapbooks, and arranges for photos/videos to be taken at parish functions.

**Family and Social Committee**- Organizes and carries out parish social activities, for example, the social functions associated with the Sacraments and Sacramental preparation. Coordinates coffee/lunch after Sunday Masses and for other occasions.

**Community Life Committee** - Sets up a "Welcome Ministry Team" for new parishioners, provides an information kit, and sets up a program to provide rides to Mass/parish functions for seniors and other parishioners in need of this service. Organizes newcomer socials. In cooperation with the Pastor, Hall Manager, and team captains, makes decisions on how best to serve funeral lunches for our bereaved families.

**Social Justice Committee** - Promotes education on the work of the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace, and promotes and administers the project during Lent.

**Finance Council Chairperson** - Shall carry out his/her duties as mandated in Article IX and X of the Parish Constitution. Shall present a detailed written financial statement and report at each meeting of council and be prepared to answer questions from council members. Prepares an audited financial statement for the annual meeting. Prepares an annual budget of the parish.

**Hall Committee** - Determines rental fees, approves operational regulations, ensures proper financial records, oversees the maintenance and repair of the plant, monitors the performance of the Hall Manager, and provides a separate financial statement in detail for the Annual Report and annual Meeting.

**Properties Committee** - Is responsible for the maintenance and operational care of the Church, the Rectory, the Hall, the grounds, and the equipment belonging to St. Gerard Parish.

## YOUTH REFLECTION

### **"Getting Well"**

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

Job, Paul, and Jesus all speak of their daily work experiences and what they are called to do. Job is unhappy because of all his suffering, and he sees his days as drudgery. Paul is almost a workaholic, focused on doing whatever it takes to spread the Gospel. Jesus cures the fever of Simon's mother-in-law, and her immediate response is to get up and serve them. Jesus escapes all the crowds early the next morning by finding a lonely place to pray, and from there he urges his followers to press on with him to other villages and continue their work.

#### **For Your Reflection**

In this Gospel story, Jesus sees his work as involving three areas: curing, teaching, and praying.

- Not only did Jesus cure the fever of Simon's mother-in-law but he cured many other ill people who came looking for him at her door. Obviously we can't cure sicknesses as Jesus did, but we can be a healing presence for someone going through a difficult time or a personal struggle. When and how have you done that for someone?
  
- Jesus wanted to travel to other villages to preach and teach. Are you a good student? Are you willing to listen and learn? Do you want to become more educated? How so? Obviously you can't be a certified teacher yet, but you can teach others by the example of your life. What can others learn from you by watching the way you live?
  
- Jesus escaped the crowds to pray. Do you ever need quiet time, away from noise and activity, so that you can make sense of the world? If so, how does that time help you? If not, how might that kind of time help you?

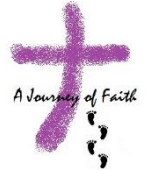
Excerpt from *In Touch With the Word, Cycle B for Ordinary Time* - St. Mary's Press, 2005



**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.*

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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 Regina 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. 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)