

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 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



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

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – January 22, 2017

Liturgical/Mass Schedule

Mon. (23rd): 7:00 pm- Week of Christian Unity
Prayer Service
Tues. (24th): 9:00 am- +Edward Yeroschak
Wed. (25th): 10:00 am- Nursing Home (North)
+Rosemarie Massett
7:00 pm- +Agnes Stokman
Thurs. (26th): 9:00 am- +Gladys Molnar
Fri. (27th): 9:00 am- +Shelley Kaspick
Sat. (28th): 9:30 am- *Sacrament of Reconciliation*
10:00 am- "For the Unborn"

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

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sun. (29th): 9:00 am- +Adolph Sliwa
11:00 am- Mass for the People

Please remember the sick in your prayers:

Jay Gustafson, Fran Semchuk



Lord, fill me with the desire and courage to be your instrument of peace and love.

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

Non-liturgical Schedule

Sun. (22nd): 3:30 pm- CJUT Planning Meeting
Mon. (23rd): 4:00 pm- Youth Choir rehearsal
Tues. (24th): 9:30 am- CWL Apron Project
7:00 pm- Choir rehearsal for 9am Mass
Wed. (25th): 9:30 am- CWL Apron Project
7:30 pm- Parish Pastoral Council Mtg.
Thurs. (26th): 4:00 pm- Youth Choir rehearsal
Sun. (29th): 6:30 pm- *Come Join Us at the Table*
Session #2



All are invited to the

*Week of Christian Unity
Prayer Service*

**Reconciliation –
The Love of Christ Compels Us**

*St. Gerard Church
Monday, January 23rd @ 7pm*

Refreshments & fellowship to follow.

Resolutions in the New Year

Still wondering if spiritual growth should be on your resolution list for this year? Be excited and say yes to a four-week retreat with The First Spiritual Exercises, a radically innovative way to make the Ignatian Spiritual Exercises which is the classic retreat of Catholic spirituality.

The First Spiritual Exercises – A four-week Retreat (a meeting once a week with self-guided prayer Monday to Thursday) is offered at St. Gerard: Based on Ignatian Spirituality, it offers to deepen our relationship with god. Experience this extraordinary gift of Ignatius that will bring you into an intimate relationship with the Lord and companionship with others.

What do you need to do? Come on Monday, January 30th at 7:00 pm to Meeting Rooms A & B to find out about the exercises. Bring a notebook and a pen. Other materials and detailed explanations will be given at that time. We will meet four more Mondays to share our own experiences and conclude, in prayer, the First Spiritual Exercises on Monday February 27th. Come and grow in holiness.

Catechism Theme: "The Kingdom is at Hand" (CCC 541-542)

When Jesus began his ministry, the Kingdom was truly at hand, for he embodied God's reign. By preaching the Good News and healing those in need, Jesus revealed God in the midst of his people. By gathering followers, Jesus called together God's people, his Church, so people could be close to the Father.

Who has led you closer to Christ? How has that person been a light in your life?

In Jesus' time, people sought wisdom, a light to guide their lives. They were so eager for wisdom, any new idea that came with traders from the East or South was easily accepted. We, too, live in a world eager for wisdom with many different mediums to inform us. We all look for "lights" to our way.

Jesus was a light in his message, his ministry, and his call. He revealed God to others. As his followers, we are to carry that message, ministry, and call forward.

How have you used wisdom to help you to live a Christian life? To help others live Christian lives?

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Christ the Teacher Catholic Schools News

January 23 - January 27, 2017



	Sacred Heart	St. Alphonsus	St. Mary	St. Michael	St. Paul	St. Theodore
Mon.	•Final exams	•Literacy Week •Spirit Week •Bball @ Columbia			•Feel the Pulse Retreat	•Epiphany Water Blessing
Tues.	•Final exams	•Pulse Retreat	•Bball vs St. Paul		•Bball @ St. Mary	
Wed.	•Final exams	•Gr. 6&8 to Aseissippi Ski Trip •Gr. 4 Swimming	•School-wide Religious Retreat		•Gr. 6&8 Ski Trip	
Thurs.	•Final exams				•Family Literacy Night	
Fri.	Inservice - No School					

"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

Please register your child for Baptism by contacting the Parish Office at 306.782.2449.

CONFIRMATION

The Second Sacrament of Initiation

FIRST EUCHARIST

The Third Sacrament of Initiation

~ COME JOIN US AT THE TABLE ~

Enrolment at each Mass

January 21st & 22nd

Session #2

Sunday, January 29th @ 6:30pm



News from the CWL



A stitch in time saves nine, and accomplishes wonderful things! The next sessions for CWL Sewing will be on January 24-25. The new sewing project will be making aprons for the Spring Tea! Everyone is welcome to come and sew — just come with a willing heart and be part of something wonderful!

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!



News from the Knights of Columbus



Jan. 25	Articles for The Word due
Jan. 28-29	White Ribbon Campaign to support the work of Shelwin House (shelter for abused women)
Jan. 30	Evening bingo
Jan. 31	Fraternal survey due

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

Archbishop Don Bolen will be giving a talk **Thursday Jan 19th from 10am to 11:30am** in the multipurpose room at the First Nations University (Regina), entitled

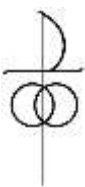
**"Reconciliation and Healing:
Churches and the TRC Process Moving Forward"**

All are encouraged to attend.

A Word from Pope Francis

There is an urgent need to see once again that faith is a light, for once the flame of faith dies out, all other lights begin to dim. The light of faith is unique, since it is capable of illuminating every aspect of human existence. A light this powerful cannot come from ourselves but from a more primordial source: in a word, it must come from God... Transformed by this love, we gain fresh vision, new eyes to see... Faith, received from God as a supernatural gift, becomes a light for our way, guiding our journey through time.

— *Lumen Fidei*, June 29, 2013



Are you planning a marriage in 2017? Congratulations!!

Please contact the Parish Office as soon as possible to make arrangements to meet with Father Francis.



St. Gerard Music Ministry Notes



NEW SINGERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!!! You are invited to drop in to the rehearsals! Check the bulletin for days and times.

Are you available to sing during the day??? Singers are always welcome to join the **St. Gerard Funeral Choir Ministry**. Call the Parish Office for details.



ARE YOU IN GRADE 3 TO 12?

DO YOU LOVE TO SING?

ARE YOU EAGER TO
SERVE THE LORD AT SUNDAY MASS?

Please contact Maria Rica Adane at 306.621.0093 for information about registering your child/youth for the St. Gerard Youth Choir!



Bringing Home the Word

A Great Light

By Mary Katharine Deeley

In the upper Midwest [of the United States], where I live, deep winter sets in around mid-December, and generally it gets really cold at the beginning of January. That's followed by two or three months of more clouds than sunshine, more wind than calm, and days when the cold seems to go right through all outerwear.

Sometime in the last two weeks of March, after weeks of gray and gloom, there comes a day that holds all the promise of glorious summer. The sun shines, the sky is blue, and the temperature suddenly soars to sixty degrees—or even seventy. Neighborhood streets and lakeside paths are filled with folks just glad to be alive. We suddenly realize why our ancestors worshiped the sun.

Scripture says, "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light." Isaiah and Matthew knew the power of light shining in darkness, but for them, it wasn't the sun. It was the Word of God piercing a world in which power and greed seemed rampant. That Word was incarnate in Jesus, calling all to conversion.

I don't think it's an accident that Matthew recalls the words of Isaiah just before he records the call of the disciples. Perhaps light is what Peter, Andrew, James, and John saw when Jesus walked by their boats and called them into new lives as his disciples. It was light that made them drop everything to follow him. Jesus is our light, too, and he's never stopped calling us to follow him. Maybe it's time to come out of the dark ourselves.

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Have you checked out the St. Gerard website?? It is easy to use and is **compatible with devices** like smart phones and tablets. Our "Home" page provides a quick overview of what's happening in our Parish without requiring you to "dig" for our most current information. Our **Mass Schedule** for the upcoming 7 days is now available on every page of our website. Parish events have been organized into our new **Events Calendar**. You will also find **information** about our Faith in our new Ministries, Education, and Sacraments sections. www.stgerard.ca

World Day of the Sick

February 11th

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, Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, CCCB Publications, Ottawa)

Ministry of Care Blessing

to mark the

World Day of the Sick

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 11th and Sunday, February 12th, to mark the World Day of the Sick, celebrated February 11th, 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.

The message for the 2017 World Day of the Sick from Pope Francis can be found online:

https://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/sick/documents/papa-francesco_20161208_giornata-malato.html

2017 Giving Program

The 2017 collection envelopes are available in the Welcome Area for those who have contributed by this method in 2016. **Please use the new envelopes commencing January 1, 2017.**

*****Also, please note that some envelope numbers have changed.*****

PLEASE CHECK THE NAME ON THE LABEL OF YOUR BOX OF 2017 ENVELOPES. SOME BOXES HAVE BEEN PICKED UP IN ERROR!!!

If you have a box that has someone else's name, please phone the Parish Office at 306.782.2449 as soon as possible!! Thank you!

****If you do not have collection envelopes and would like to receive a set for 2017, please complete a Parish Registration Form, located on the large glass table in the Welcome Area and at the south entrance****

YOUTH NEWS AND INFORMATION

"Call to Discipleship"

This Week...

We have opportunities we must respond to without delay. Simon, Andrew, James, and John immediately abandon their nets to follow Jesus without delay. We do not have time to waste in the darkness and gloom. It is time to unite and to recognize Jesus as the One who unites us. It is time to walk in the light, dance with joy, and be fishers of men and women for Jesus.

For Your Reflection

Simon, Andrew, James, and John drop their nets the second that Jesus shows up. They leave their fish and boats in the water and start a whole new life. Imagine Zebedee's thoughts as he watches his two sons walk off with someone he knows little about.

- What would your parents say if you tried to do something like that?
- How could you explain the importance of following Jesus to your parents if they had never heard of him or knew little about him?

These four fishermen did not miss the chance to answer Jesus' invitation.

- "Strike while the iron is hot" and "Opportunity knocks but once" are old sayings. Have you heard these sayings before? What do they really mean?
- Have you ever chosen to take advantage of an opportunity right away, and it turned out to be a good decision? If so, when? What happened?
- Have you ever chosen to take advantage of what you thought was a good opportunity, and it turned out to be a bad decision? If so, when? What happened?
- How can you begin to tell the good opportunities from the bad ones?

Excerpt from *In Touch With the Word, Cycle A for Ordinary Time*, 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. 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

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. Please see the brochures at the entrances of the church, or visit on line at 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, or email Bonnie at 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 or check the website:

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