



St. Gerard

Roman Catholic Parish

January 3, 2021

The Epiphany
of the Lord

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 | Telephone: 306.782.2449 | Email: office@stgerard.ca

Pastor.....Fr. Louis Nguyen 306.782.0323 louisYorkton@gmail.com

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

MASS/SERVICE SCHEDULE

Mon. (4 th)	NO MASS
Tues. (5 th)	6:00pm <i>Holy Hour Devotion</i> 7:00pm + Joseph & +Antonia Pasloski
Wed. (6 th)	9:30am Marianne Dierker
Thurs. (7 th)	9:30am Irene Fedirko
Fri. (8 th)	9:30am +Maria Cattelaens
Sat. (9 th)	9:30am Jody Chupa

5:00pm +Richard Dierker
7:00pm +Tony Spykerman

Sun. (10 th)	BAPTISM OF THE LORD 9:00am +Merv Krasowski 11:00am Mass for the People 5:00pm
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INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTENDING MASS

- **Pre-registration for Saturday/Sunday Mass is required.** Online at 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 separation is required between households at all times, even with masks on. **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



**Come and Spend an Hour
with the Lord!**

Eucharistic Holy Hour Devotion
at 6pm (prior to 7pm Tuesday Mass)



Stay
Connected
Online!

www.stgerard.ca



Lord, your light gives us strength and shows us the way to God. Remove my blindness that I may see the light of goodness, peace, and love within myself and others.

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

A Note from Your Pastor.....

My dear Sisters and Brothers,

We are still in the Christmas season, which means we continue to celebrate that God became man. Celebrating the birth of our Savior with great joy in one day is not enough, therefore we continue to celebrate it after Christmas Day. The eight days following Christmas Day is called the Octave of Christmas. And after the Octave of Christmas we continue to celebrate the season, ending with the Baptism of the Lord a week after Epiphany. Indeed, Christmas is a time of rejoicing, rejoicing over the presence of God in Jesus Christ, rejoicing that we are no longer alone.



This weekend we celebrate The Epiphany, which means an “appearance” or “sign”, especially of the divine. It also means a sudden and striking discovery.

We see both of these meanings in the Gospel today. First of all, Jesus is revealed to the three wise men. They come from far away and represent the non-Jewish world, which is also longing for a savior. The wise men search for Christ, and as they find God, to their great joy, they see the Epiphany, the sign of God. They worship him and offer him their gifts.

But there is another meaning of the word “Epiphany”. It is a sudden and striking discovery. The wise men see God. Yet, was this how they expect to see him?

And here the wise men find a baby and his parents. God, the all-powerful, the creator of heaven and earth, chooses to come in the form of an innocent and precious infant.

I invite you to think about this: God's glory is a hidden glory in an infant. When the angels appear to the shepherds to tell them about the birth of the Savior, they say: “Glory to God in the highest.” The wise men truly see that glory. They have their own epiphany. And therefore the true epiphany is that God's glory is a hidden glory. To me, this is the sudden and striking discovery.

I would say that God has many ‘epiphanies’ for us too. He will show us his glory, and it will often be hidden.

In our own lives, how can we come to recognize the ways God manifests himself? How can we come to understand and accept that God’s glory is a hidden glory? It is certainly worth it. This brings us so much peace.

If we want to discover Him and see his Epiphany, we need to pay attention. As we take time to slow down, we start to become more aware that God is present and active in everything that happens at every moment. We start to recognize Christ’s continuing epiphany in the events of our lives. We also start to recognize Christ manifesting himself to us in those around us, and in our relationships with them.

Here is something I plan to do this week:

- ✓ I will take time in my day to stop and reflect on what God is doing in my life. I will take time to slow down and to enjoy my life in every moment.
- ✓ Every day during this week I will spend 10 to 15 minutes in silence and prayer. I will not do anything except be present with and present to God.

I share with you my plan, and how about you? Would you like to do as I am planning to do?

Have a blessed weekend and Blessings always.

Fr. Louis Nguyen

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



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.

Although the RCIA process is intended for those who are non-baptized, at St. Gerard we also prepare adults for the Rite of Reception of Baptized Christians (including Catholics) 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 the Parish Office at 306.782.2449.



Are you planning a marriage in 2021? Congratulations!!

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



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 3rd 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) 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



If you are interested in joining the Knights, please call Keith Hayward @ 306.783.0963. www.kofc-2031.ca

Epiphany Prayer

God of light,
shining in darkness,

through a little child, born in Bethlehem,
you open to us the treasure of your
grace.

Help us to search diligently for him,
so that we may offer our lives to you with
thanksgiving, joy, and praise;

Through Jesus Christ, the rising star.

Amen.

Livestream of Daily and Sunday Masses Resurrection & Christ the King Parishes (Regina)

are available at **9am** at the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/ArchdioceseofRegina/videos>

Daily & Sunday Mass may also be viewed:

Vision TV (check your local TV listing)

www.dailytvmass.com

www.saltandlighttv.org/live/?muid=1



Bringing Home the Word

Reaching Far and Wide

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

In Vincent Malo's painting, *The Adoration of the Magi*, a mysterious scene barely comes to light before us. Are we inside or outside of a Roman portico? What is going on in the background? The central scene clearly shows the Child Jesus perched in the Virgin's arms and surrounded by swaddling clothes. A glow emanates from the Child that enlightens the three Wise Men processing toward Jesus. Their whole caravan chaotically crowds around and strains to see the king they have come to worship.

A dalmatian wanders behind while a camel appears in the backlighting with a knowing smirk. The Ethiopian sage sympathetically stares out from the center of the painting and seemingly asks us if we understand the significance of their travels.

The arrival of these astronomers from the East sends a very important message for all of us at Mass today. Jesus is the light of the whole world, and all peoples—no matter how far or how lost—are invited by his attractive and saving light. This light came to the Chosen People and will be fully consumed in Jerusalem as Isaiah prophesies. Yet he will proclaim that all peoples are invited to be members of the same family and coheirs to the treasures of God's love and mercy. Faith in him and acceptance of his gospel truth is all he asks. So, no matter how far you or anyone you know seems from Jesus and his truth, he loves them and wants them around his table to experience his love.

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GIVING TO YOUR PARISH

Thank you to those who are able to contribute by one of the following methods:

Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG)

After downloading the [Pre-Authorized Giving Form](#), please complete it, attach a void cheque, & mail it to:

St. Gerard Parish
125 Third Ave N
Yorkton, SK S3N 1C4

Interac e-Transfer

- 1 Log into your online banking account.
- 2 Find **e-Transfer** and add giving@stgerard.ca to your recipient list.
- 3 Enter the desired amount.
- 4 A question, answer, or password is not required by St. Gerard Church, however it may be required by your financial institution. If so, please email the question and answer to giving@stgerard.ca with your name, mailing address and telephone number so that we can ensure your contribution is recorded properly.

If you have an envelope number, your donation will be reflected in your annual charitable donation receipt. All others will receive a receipt by mail, so PLEASE include your mailing address in the follow-up email. Thanks!

Mail envelopes to the church

You may mail cheques (not cash) to:

St. Gerard Parish
125 Third Ave N
Yorkton, SK S3N 1C4

ST. GERARD PARISH 2020-2021 PASTORAL AND FINANCE COUNCILS

Chairperson	-	Ernie Bobowski
Vice-chairperson	-	Wayne Exner
Secretary	-	Jenny Baraoidan
Liturgy	-	Carol Deters/Yvonne Turgeon
Religious Education-		Rene & Ophelia Adane
Social Justice	-	Mark Bell
Community Life	-	Maureen Pankoski
Public Relations	-	VACANT
Family & Social	-	VACANT
Youth	-	Melinda Sevilla
Ecumenical	-	Carm Molnar
Stewardship	-	Linda Maddaford
CWL Rep.	-	Paulette Cooper
K of C Rep.	-	Rejean Houle

Finance	-	Brian Kruger
Secretary	-	Richard Dubois
Properties	-	VACANT
Members at Large-		Conrad Rodney, Dwight Guy
Hall	-	Lorne Wanner

E	D	E	E	G	A	M	O	H	T	BETHLEHEM
C	H	L	K	I	D	E	T	S	E	EAST
H	T	I	I	N	I	H	A	A	G	INFANT
I	N	H	N	H	H	E	S	T	E	KING
T	A	R	G	F	C	L	O	R	A	STAR
A	F	R	O	I	E	H	A	A	M	HOMAGE
D	N	Y	L	A	L	T	A	S	O	LEADER
E	I	M	D	R	S	E	R	R	H	DATE
S	K	E	T	A	D	B	D	Y	I	CHILD
A	R	B	E	T	L	E	M	E	M	DELIGHT
										GOLD
										MYRRH



YOUTH REFLECTION

"Following the Star"

This Week...

Isaiah foretold that nations would gather to follow the light and offer gifts. The story of the Magi has glamour, danger, and courage. It is a story of accepting the journey to an unknown place; following the star because of faith. And it is a story of Gentiles coming to visit Jews, bringing gifts, and being welcomed.

For Your Reflection

The astrologers in the Magi story went through quite a journey in search of the baby Jesus. They obviously believed in him and had faith in the star.

- Have you ever "followed a star"? Have you ever gone after a dream or an ideal you believed in? Are you still going after it? What gives you the energy to keep going? How do you know it is worth it?

The gifts brought by the Magi have significance. *Gold* is a symbol of wealth and fidelity. *Frankincense* is burned to purify the atmosphere by releasing an aromatic and pleasing smell. For centuries, Native Americans have burned holy smoke in order to bless and purify themselves, and monks have watched incense rise to the sky as a symbol of their prayers ascending to God. *Myrrh* is a kind of resin or oil used for anointing and embalming. It is a symbol of comfort and soothing (who doesn't enjoy a rubdown?) but it is also foreshadowing of death.

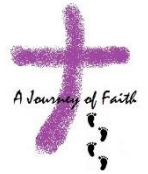
Excerpt from *In Touch With the Word, Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter* - St. Mary's Press, 2004



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 Regina 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