



# St. Gerard

## Roman Catholic Parish

January 5, 2020

The Solemnity of  
the Epiphany  
of the Lord

Established December 11, 1904

### LORD'S DAY MASS TIMES:

Saturday at 5:00 pm, Sunday at 9:00 am & 11:00 am

### MASS SCHEDULE

Mon. ( 6 <sup>th</sup> ):		NO MASS
Tues. ( 7 <sup>th</sup> ):	7:00 pm	Bernath Family
Wed. ( 8 <sup>th</sup> ):	10:30 am	ASPEN VILLA +Irene Cherneski +Bill Oliver
	<b>6:30 pm</b>	
Thurs. ( 9 <sup>th</sup> ):	11:00 am	SACRED HEART H. S. +Tony Spykerman
	2:30 pm	LAKESIDE MANOR +Veronica Yeroschak
Fri. (10 <sup>th</sup> ):	9:30 am	+Claude Slogocki
	10:30 am	ST. MARY SCHOOL +Lena Tymiak
Sat. (11 <sup>th</sup> ):	9:30 am	+Judy Armstrong
<hr/>		
	5:00 pm	Joshua & Nicole Simair
Sun. (12 <sup>th</sup> ):		<b>Baptism of the Lord</b>
	9:00 am	Special Intentions
	11:00 am	Mass for the People

### SACRAMENTS

**Reconciliation:** Half-hour before Saturday morning and Saturday evening Mass, or anytime by appointment.

**Infant Baptism:** Please contact Fr. Louis at least one month prior to Baptism.

**RCIA:** Adults wishing to be received into the Catholic Church should contact Fr. Louis.

**Matrimony:** Please contact Fr. Louis at least 6 months prior to the time you would like to be married.

**Anointing:** Please contact Fr. Louis at any time.

For Anointing of the Sick and other emergencies, you may contact Fr. Louis at 306.621.8068

### CONTACT US

Parish Office Hours: Monday 1pm-4pm; Tuesday-Friday 8am-noon, 1pm-4pm

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 Kim Nguyen	306.782.0323	<a href="mailto:louiskimnguyen@yahoo.com">louiskimnguyen@yahoo.com</a>
		306.621.8068	
Parish Office Administrator.....	Sandra Archer	306.782.2449	<a href="mailto:office@stgerard.ca">office@stgerard.ca</a>
Caretaker.....	Mario Guerra		



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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



**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.

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.

The community must be involved in the entire process. The faithful provide an example as seasoned companions sharing the mission of the church with these catechumens, while renewing their own conversion (*RCIA, 9*). The faithful act as master teachers leading the apprenticeship of these catechumens in the Christian way of life including personal and public prayer, apostolic witness, and formation in the Word of God (*RCIA, 75*).

At St. Gerard, we have several catechumens who are preparing to be baptized at the Easter Vigil this April. **These catechumens will be introduced to our parish at the 11am Mass on Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup> – The Baptism of the Lord – during the “Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens”.**

“41. Assembling publicly for the first time, the candidates who have completed the period of pre-catechumenate declare their intention to the Church and the Church in turn, carrying out its apostolic mission, accepts them as persons who intend to become its members. God showers his grace on the candidates, since the celebration manifests their desire publicly and marks their reception and first consecration by the Church.

47. From this time on the Church embraces the catechumens as its own with a mother’s love and concern. Joined to the Church, the catechumens are now part of the household of Christ, since the Church nourishes them with the word of God and sustains them by means of liturgical celebrations.”

*- Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops*



## Christ the Teacher Catholic Schools News

### January 6 - January 10, 2020



	Sacred Heart	St. Alphonsus	St. Mary	St. Michael	St. Paul	St. Theodore
Mon.			•Pure Witness Faith Retreat		•One School One Book Kick-off	
Tues.						
Wed.				•Gr. 4 Swim Program		
Thurs.	•Christmas Mass @ 11am			•Pure Witness Faith Retreat		
Fri.			•Christmas Mass @ 10:30am			

Ministries – January 11/12			
	5pm	9am	11am
<b>Welcomer</b>	Brian K.	Shirley P.	Rose M.
<b>Lectors</b>	Mark B. Harvey V.	Christine B. Gary C.	Hannah S. Melinda S.
<b>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</b>	Ernie B. Colleen H. Dolores L. Claudia S. Gerry Y.	Angela B. Rosemin S. Lorne W. Rosella W. Jenny Z.	Jenny B. Bri B. Dwight G. Deanna P. Lorraine S.
<b>Hospitality</b>	Team 2	Team 2	Team 2
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Georgina A. Gabriel R.	Sarah L. Cole R. Mary W.	Michael M. Vanessa A. Jessica A. Eathan P.

If you are unable to serve in your ministry, please find a replacement. All ministers are to be in the sacristy at least 10 minutes prior to the beginning of Mass. Thank you.



## St. Gerard Marriage Preparation Course

(Winter Session or Fall Session)

Congratulations on your engagement!

If you are planning to marry in the Catholic Church in the next year you are required to complete a Marriage Preparation Course. The St. Gerard Marriage Preparation Course is open to all engaged couples regardless of where their marriage will be celebrated. Please contact the Parish Office to enroll. A registration fee is required.

The St. Gerard Marriage Preparation Course covers a series of topics specifically chosen for couples planning to build a life together. The topics are a launching point to help you communicate, discuss some important and delicate issues and may even help you uncover things you did not know about your future spouse. With a sponsor couple or couples, you will work through the For Better and For Ever marriage preparation manual in a group setting. Upon completion you will receive a certificate required for marriage in the Catholic Church.

## 2020 GIVING PROGRAM

The 2020 Sunday collection (offertory) envelopes are in the Welcome Area for those who have contributed by this method in 2019.

If you do not have envelopes and would like to receive a set for 2020, **please complete a Parish Registration Form**, located on the large table in the Welcome Area.

Also, **Pre-authorized Givers** may pick up their **personalized Special Collection envelopes** from the table in the Welcome Area.



## News from the CWL



Membership Renewal- fees are \$30 and are due by Jan 31st. Please make cheque payable to St. Gerard CWL. Any change in contact information this year? Please contact Paulette 306.782.7923 so we can keep our records up to date.

Jan 8th, 2020 - Installation and Affirmation of Officers and General Meeting.



## News from the Knights of Columbus



Jan. 8  
Jan. 11

Executive Meeting  
Take down "Keep Christ in Christmas" signs at 9am

If you are interested in joining the Knights, please call Rejean Houle @ 306.641.5430 or [houle\\_r@yahoo.fr](mailto:houle_r@yahoo.fr)  
More info.: [www.kofc-2031.ca](http://www.kofc-2031.ca)

## A Word from Pope Francis

Do we know how to dream, to long for God, ...or do we let ourselves be swept along by life, like dry branches before the wind?

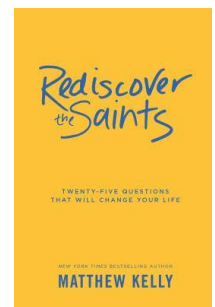
The Magi were not content with just getting by, with keeping afloat. They understood that to truly live, we need a lofty goal and we need to keep looking up.

—Epiphany homily, January 6, 2018

## A Gift from Your Parish

Have you picked up a copy of "Rediscover the Saints"?

Limited quantities are available in the Welcome Area. One per family please!



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





# Bringing Home the Word

## Wise Humility

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

An amazing thing happens in today's Gospel: Representatives from the farthest ends of the earth follow a heavenly light and end in a humble cave in Bethlehem.

The Wise Men first consult with King Herod, Galilee's civil authority. He checks with the high priest and rabbis to determine when and where the Messiah is to be born. The Jewish leadership is able to read the Scriptures and give Herod and the Wise Men all the information they need. Yet only the Eastern travelers go to adore the Lord.

The priest and lawyers lack faith to see in those Scriptures a fulfillment of their hopes, while King Herod is blinded to Christ's salvific mission and moved by a will to power, as the killing of the Innocents will make clear. They all have ears to hear and eyes to see but few pay heed to the signs of the times.

The Wise Men from the East, merely following their study of the stars and asking help from others, travel months in search of Jesus. Raphael's painting *Adoration of the Magi* shows the moment when they finally find what they have been looking for. The band of travelers—complete with horses, guards, and royalty—arrives at a broken-down stall. One of the Wise Men kneels, removes his crown, and offers Jesus his treasure. This small gesture shows an internal attitude that Herod and the chief priests were missing: the humility to lay aside power, wealth, and status to bend the knee before the king born in their midst.

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## •PEROGIES•CABBAGE ROLLS•PEROGIES• PARISH FUNDRAISER

### The First Thursday of Every Month from 3pm to 6pm

The next fundraising day is  
**Thursday, February 6<sup>th</sup>**

Cabbage rolls	\$25 ( 5 dozen)
Potato & onion perogies	\$35 ( 10 dozen)
Potato & cheddar perogies	\$40 ( 10 dozen)

## Catechism Theme: The Mysteries of Jesus' Infancy

The feast of Epiphany celebrates the revelation of Christ to the pagan nations. And it points to Israel's place as the source of God's revelation. The Magi came to seek the newly born King, the one who would be a light to the nations. Their encounter foreshadowed the evangelization success Christianity would have among pagan people who hungered for God's truth. Their encounter also acknowledged Israel as God's chosen people. They would be the source of God's blessing, a living fountain of God's revelation for all people. In the feast of the Epiphany, we rejoice in the worship of the first seekers. And we are reminded to honor God's people who gave us the great gift of Jesus, our Lord.

*When have you searched for the Lord? When has that search encountered road blocks or deception or wrong turns? How has God kept you on track?*

As we look back on the story of the Epiphany, let us remember who called, guided, and revealed himself to the Magi: God. The story was God-driven from the first verse. Let us not forget God himself calls us from the surface experience of daily living to seek something higher, something better. He is the one who turns us from those who expect experience into those who receive grace, pure gift, at every turn. In God, we find someone to give our hearts, our minds, and our lives to. We find the goal of our quest.

*How has God called you this week? How has God graced you this week? How can you pass your call and your grace along to others?*

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## THE WEEK AHEAD

- Sun. ( 5<sup>th</sup>): 9:30 am- RCIA Group #2  
(CWL Room)  
5:00 pm- Sacrament Preparation  
(Main Hall)
- Mon. ( 6<sup>th</sup>): 4:00 pm- Youth Choir Rehearsal
- Tues. ( 7<sup>th</sup>): 5:00 pm- Choir rehearsal for 9am Mass  
7:30 pm- Liturgical Committee Meeting  
(Meeting Room B)
- Fri (10<sup>th</sup>): 4:00 pm- Youth Choir Rehearsal  
7:00 pm- RCIA Group #1  
(CWL Room)
- Sat. (11<sup>th</sup>): 4:30 pm- Choir rehearsal for 5pm Mass
- Sun. (12<sup>th</sup>): 9:30 am- RCIA Group #2  
(CWL Room)

## 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 but it is also a foreshadowing of death.

- How were these gifts symbolic for Jesus?
- What three gifts would be symbolic of you and your life so far?

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



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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)