

# 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*

## Epiphany of the Lord – January 8, 2017

### Liturgical/Mass Schedule

Mon. ( 9<sup>th</sup>): Feast of the Baptism of the Lord  
*(last day of the Christmas season)*  
12:30 pm- St. Michael School  
- +Tony Spykerman

Tues. (10<sup>th</sup>): 9:00 am- +Noreen Skibinsky

Wed. (11<sup>th</sup>): 10:00 am- Aspen Villa  
+Ivy Mayer  
7:00 pm- +John Vidomski

Thurs. (12<sup>th</sup>): 9:00 am- +Gladys Molnar

Fri. (13<sup>th</sup>): 9:00 am- +Edward Yeroschak

Sat. (14<sup>th</sup>): 9:30 am- *Sacrament of Reconciliation*  
10:00 am- +Helen Nagy  
1:00 pm- Sacred Heart High School's  
100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Divine Liturgy  
(St. Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church)

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6:30 pm- *Sacrament of Reconciliation*  
7:00 pm- +Steve & +Evelyn Bella

### *Second Sunday in Ordinary Time*

Sun. (15<sup>th</sup>): 9:00 am- +Jerry Semaschuk  
11:00 am- Mass for the People

**Please remember the sick in your prayers:**  
Art Scherr, MaryAnn Scherr, Fran Semchuk



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 in Ordinary Time*,  
Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeney

### Non-liturgical Schedule

Mon. ( 9<sup>th</sup>): 4:00 pm- Youth Choir rehearsal

Tues. (10<sup>th</sup>): 9:30 am- CWL Comfort Cushion Project  
9:30 am- "Un-decorating" the church  
7:00 pm- Choir rehearsal for 9am Mass  
7:00 pm- Stewardship Committee Mtg.  
7:30 pm- Properties Committee Meeting

Wed. (11<sup>th</sup>): 9:30 am- CWL Comfort Cushion Project  
7:30 pm- K of C General Meeting

Thurs. (12<sup>th</sup>): 7:00 pm- Parish Council Planning Mtg.  
7:00 pm- Social Justice Committee Mtg.

Fri. (13<sup>th</sup>): 4:00 pm- Youth Choir rehearsal

Sun. (15<sup>th</sup>): 6:30 pm- *Come Join Us at the Table*  
Session #1

## **Parish Appreciation Supper**

Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup>  
6:00 pm

Beef on a bun, salads & ice cream desserts

All parishioners of all ages are invited to attend.

Parish council wishes to thank all parishioners for their contributions to the parish by providing this supper **free-of-charge**.

Please sign up on the available lists in the Welcome Area. Sign up sheets will be available at each mass the weekends of January 7/8 and January 14/15.

**ST. GERARD PARISH 2016-2017 PASTORAL AND FINANCE COUNCILS**

<b>PPC</b>	Chairperson - Trent Senger	Vice-chairperson- <b>VACANT</b>
	Secretary - Rita Rodney	Liturgy - Carol Deters/Yvonne Turgeon
	Religious Education- Lori Zuzak	Social Justice - Jeannette Tremblay/Kathy Fedorchuk
	Community Life - Rose Marchinko	Public Relations - <b>VACANT</b>
	Family & Social - <b>VACANT</b>	Youth - <b>VACANT</b>
	Ecumenical - Debbie Hayward/Keith Hayward	Stewardship - Christine Shuya
	CWL Rep. - Donna Olshewski	K of C Rep. - Ted Osicki

<b>PFC</b>	Finance - Brian Kruger	Secretary - Richard Dubois
	Properties - Matt Bernat	Member at Large - Conrad Rodney
	Hall - Don Reed	Member at Large - Dwight Guy

**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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**Christ the Teacher Catholic Schools News**  
**January 9 - January 13, 2017**



	Sacred Heart	St. Alphonsus	St. Mary	St. Michael	St. Paul	St. Theodore
Mon.				•Mass @ 12:30pm •SCC Meeting @ 7pm	•Epiphany Celebration @ 9am	
Tues.					•Bball vs Columbia	
Wed.			•Christmas Liturgy @ 2pm			
Thurs.	•Jr. Girls Bball @ SHHS					
Fri.	•100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration		•Gr. 6&8 to Asessippi Downhill Skiing	•Gr. 4 Swimming		

**"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 ~

Session #1 will be held

Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm



## News from the CWL

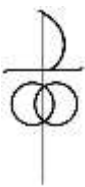


Jan. 15 CWL Membership Drive & Ministry Weekend

The December Newsletter is available for pick up in the Welcome Area.

**2017 CWL Membership Fees are due now.** To all new and renewing members please remit your \$25 membership dues as soon as possible. Make cheques payable to St. Gerard CWL and give to one of the Executive or put them into the collection basket in an envelope marked CWL Membership.

Start off the new year with a cozy project! The next sessions for **Comfort Cushions** Sewing Bees will be January 10-11; January 17-18; and January 24-25. Please mark these dates on your calendars! Remember, you don't have to know how to sew to help with this very special project! Just come with a willing heart and be part of something wonderful!



## 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.

## ATTENTION: WELCOMERS, LECTORS, & MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION (AT MASS)

If your phone number has changed, or if you plan to be away for an extended period of time, please contact Connie, Ministry Scheduler, at 306.782.0865. Thank you.



## News from the Knights of Columbus



Jan. 8	Parish Brunch
Jan. 11	Initiation Degree General Meeting Bingo (evening)
Jan. 14	Take down "Keep Christ in Christmas" signs

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. 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.

## A Word from Pope Francis

The **Wise Men** entered into the mystery. They passed from human calculations to the mystery: this was their conversion. And our own? Let us ask the Lord to let us undergo that same journey of conversion experienced by the wise men. Let us ask him to protect us and to set us free from the temptations which hide the star. To let us always feel the troubling question: "Where is the star?" whenever...we lose sight of it. To let us know ever anew God's mystery, and not to be scandalized by the "sign."

— Homily, Epiphany, Vatican Basilica, January 6, 2015



*All are invited to the*

*Week of Christian Unity  
Prayer Service*

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

*St. Gerard Church  
Monday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 7pm*

*Refreshments & fellowship to follow.*

*Arise, shine, for your light has come, And the glory  
of the Lord has risen upon you!*



# Bringing Home the Word

**Enter the Mystery**  
By Mary Katharine Deeley

**A quick glance** at the Internet or a magazine rack will reveal multitudes of personality quizzes. Some actually help us understand why we do things and interact with people the way we do. Many just make us laugh. From the ridiculous (“if you were a dog, you would be a cocker spaniel”) to the sometimes uncomfortably true (“you are an introvert who really likes to plan things”), these human-made signs can point us in particular directions that may or may not be helpful.

But the God of mystery can and does use the signs we look at to reveal his presence and call us to discipleship. To the Magi who looked at the heavens, God's sign was a star. To people who had lived for so long in dark times, God revealed himself as light and truth. To those who understood that their faith in God could strengthen them when times were rough and exhort them when all was well, God presented himself as one of them, fully human and fully divine, the very essence of love.

We look in many places and faces for evidence of God, but we get distracted and often miss what we're looking for. God uses whatever is necessary—personality quizzes, magazines, plans, books, nature, and other people to get us moving in the right direction. “We saw his star,” said the Magi. What have you looked at this Christmas? And have you seen God there?

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Celebrating 100 years of Faith, Knowledge and Unity

## Sacred Heart High School 1917-2017

Saturday, January 14th, 2017

**1 pm – Divine Liturgy**

St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church, Yorkton, Sask.

**2:30-4:30 pm – Activities at Sacred Heart High School including:**

School Tours

Coffee and Cookies

Display of Historic Yearbooks and other Memorabilia

Senior Girls Basketball Tournament

Tickets are \$30 per person for the following:

**5:30 pm – Gathering**

**6 pm – Banquet**

**7:30 pm – Program**

St. Mary's Cultural Centre

Friends, families and former students are invited to take part in this very special celebration.

Banquet tickets available at the Sacred Heart High School main office or online at [www.eventbrite.ca](http://www.eventbrite.ca) until January 4, 2017.

## 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\*\*

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C	H	L	K	I	D	E	T	S	E	EAST
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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 NEWS AND INFORMATION

### "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



**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)