

# 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 5:00 pm (Good Spirit Lake Hall) & 7:00 pm; Sunday 9:00 am & 11:00 am**  
*Sacrament of Reconciliation every Saturday at 6:30 pm & by appointment*

## Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – July 16, 2017

### Liturgical/Mass Schedule

Mon. (17<sup>th</sup>): 9:00 am- +Jimmy Flavel  
Tues. (18<sup>th</sup>): 9:00 am- +Sonia Simes  
Wed. (19<sup>th</sup>): 10:00 am- NURSING HOME (SOUTH)  
+Lady Julie Cherneskey  
Thurs. (20<sup>th</sup>): 9:00 am- +Louis Tuttosi  
Fri. (21<sup>st</sup>): 9:00 am- +Veronica Farkus  
Sat. (22<sup>nd</sup>): 9:30 am- *Sacrament of Reconciliation*  
10:00 am- Joanne Martin

5:00 pm- GOOD SPIRIT LAKE (HALL)  
+Mildred Jackson  
7:00 pm- +Diane Vertes

Sun. (23<sup>rd</sup>): Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am- Mass for the People  
11:00 am- +John Fedirko



Lord Jesus, you completed  
God's work on earth. Help  
me know and accomplish  
God's will.

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

### Are you moving this summer??

Please remember to notify the Parish Office so  
that we can keep our records current. Thanks!



Blest be our eyes,  
since they see your splendor.

In the sunlight at play in  
summer trees.

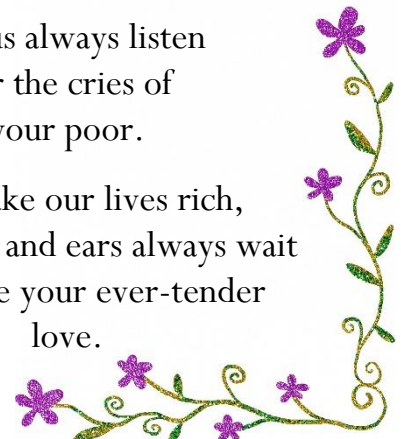
In faces of loved ones.

In the images  
of Paul Cezanne.

And blessed be our ears  
since they have heard your glory:  
in the sounds of geese high overhead,  
in a baby's laugh, in a Puccini opera,  
and in the hello of a friend.

Let us always listen  
for the cries of  
your poor.

And make our lives rich,  
so our eyes and ears always wait  
to receive your ever-tender  
love.



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## REFUGEE FAMILY CULTURAL EDUCATION

Over the next several weeks there will be information in the bulletin describing the culture of Eritrea, the country where the refugee family is from.

### Do you know.....

#### Eating

Years of drought, famine, and war have greatly affected the diet in Eritrea. The preferred meal is meat (chicken, goat, mutton, or beef) cooked with onion, garlic, red pepper, spices, and clarified butter. *Shuro*, a typical meal of garbanzo bean flour and spices, is cooked similarly. Lentils or other vegetables are served. Spicy main dishes, eaten for lunch or dinner, are complemented by *injera* (also called *taitah*), a sour pancake bread made of millet or maize flour fermented in water. Breakfast may include honey and *k'itcha* (unleavened bread), yogurt and *fit fit* (bits of sauce-covered injera), and *ga'at* (a thick barley porridge), or leftovers; tea sweetened with sugar is usually served. Muslims abstain from pork and alcohol.

Among highlanders, adults and children eat separately. Among other Eritreans, families eat together, although children eat separately when guests are present. In such cases, the hostess serves the guests and eats later with the children.

To begin each meal, the oldest man takes a piece of bread, blesses it, and offers some to each person. It is customary to eat with the right hand from a large communal tray set on a low table. Each person eats only the portion directly in front of him or her.

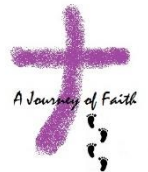
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The RCIA process is intended for those who are non-baptized. There are several rites and stages that are part of the process to prepare adults for Baptism and to receive the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil.

**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. 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@stagerard.ca](mailto:office@stagerard.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.



## SACRAMENTS of INITIATION PREPARATION



### BAPTISM

*The First Sacrament of Initiation*

### CONFIRMATION

*The Second Sacrament of Initiation*

### FIRST EUCHARIST

*The Third Sacrament of Initiation*

**\*\* If you have a child who is in Grade 2 or older and has not received the sacraments of initiation, please contact the Parish Office to ensure that you are registered with the parish. \*\***



## News from the CWL



The next CWL Garage Sale drop off date is  
**August 25<sup>th</sup> from 2pm-5pm**



## News from the Knights of Columbus



If you are interested in joining the Knights, please call Brian @ 306.730.7083 or 306.730.7017 after 5pm (or leave a message). More info.: [www.kofc-2031.ca](http://www.kofc-2031.ca)

## News from the Archdiocese of Regina

Do you know that the Archdiocese of Regina publishes a bulletin?

Check it out online at [www.stgerard.ca](http://www.stgerard.ca) Click on the "Archdiocesan News" icon on the homepage.



## Parish-Based Catechetical Home Program



Does your child attend public school?

Please contact the Parish Office by August 15<sup>th</sup> to register your child for the parish-based home program that is offered at St. Gerard.



We welcome into our  
Catholic Christian Community

**Kenzie Johnson      Maddox Schultz**

**Niña Oberez**

who were baptized recently  
at St. Gerard.

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



Congratulations to  
**Samuel Derkatch & Jhonette Principe**

who were married at St. Gerard  
on July 15<sup>th</sup>

May the Lord be with them  
every day of their married life



The Art and Environment Committee welcomes garden flowers for the church! Please drop off in the Flower Room prior to noon on Fridays. Thanks!

## Archdiocese of Regina Annual Pilgrimage Sites

July 16	Our Lady of Auvergne, Ponteix
July 16	Mary, Queen of Hearts, Lestock
Aug. 12&13	Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine, Kronau
Aug. 14&15	Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes, Rama
Aug. 20	Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine, Kaposvar

For more information, including directions to the sites, visit <https://archregina.sk.ca/archbishop-elect-donald-bolen/annual-pilgrimage-sites>

## New to the parish?? WELCOME !!!

Please complete a new parishioner form (yellow) and place in the collection basket at mass. Or stop by the Parish Office. We'd love to meet you!



# Bringing Home the Word

## What Will We Yield?

By Mary Katharine Deeley

**Like many families**, we planted a garden in the back yard to enjoy the flowers and teach our daughters where food comes from. Cucumber seeds, tomatoes, green beans, and carrots went into the soil. We watched for weeds and bugs. There wasn't a lot we could do about the squirrels. And we plucked the few items of produce our claylike soil allowed to grow.

In the process, I discovered two things. I don't have the patience or passion for gardening that some of my friends do, and I have the utmost respect for those who tend the fields and flocks that supply our food. Every seed they plant expresses their hope in the harvest. The farmer rejoices in what happens when seed, earth, and water come together.

So it is with God, who plants us on this earth and fills us with his word. We are God's expression for hope for the world. We are the ones through whom God can show forth his love to all. But today's parable in the Book of Matthew makes it clear that whatever ground is in our hearts and souls strongly affects the outcome.

If we are open, ready, and waiting, we will show forth the rich harvest of God's grace and righteousness. If our hearts are rocky or thorny, the yield will be like the handful of beans in my back yard, or it may be nothing and the world will not know God through us.

But we are fortunate. God is a far more patient gardener than I was and will continue to work the soil of our hearts and minds so that when we are planted, we may give a hundred times over the love that God has shown in planting us.

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### SERENA Saskatchewan's Sixth Annual "Run for the Family"

10:00am, Saturday, September 9, 2017 in Saskatoon. Choose from 1km, 3km, or 5km (run, walk, strollers welcome). Pledges can be collected in support of SERENA; prizes awarded (20% of collection). To register, visit [www.runningroom.com](http://www.runningroom.com) (races – province SK –click date). Register by August 19<sup>th</sup> for early bird rates; family rate available. For more info, contact [sask@serena.ca](mailto:sask@serena.ca) or [306-934-8223](tel:306-934-8223)

The Gospel today is the beginning of a new section in Matthew, called 'The Parabolic Discourse' - a section of parables Jesus tells the crowd, which we will read over the next three weeks.

A parable is a story with a hidden meaning: we can easily remember the story, and gradually the true meaning becomes clearer and clearer.


Today is a famous example: the Parable of the Sower. In itself it is a story that would easily be understood by Jesus's audience - people who lived in an agricultural economy. Jesus uses their understanding to make an important teaching about the message he has brought: it is like a seed that is thrown out and received in different ways - the ideal is when the seed finds good soil, and produces a crop that can be seen and harvested: so the ideal listener to the word is one who allows it to lodge in the heart, but also produces a visible result.



*What is the harvest we should yield, when we have heard the word?*

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A	E	S	D	R	I	B	R	F	S	LAKESIDE	CROWDS	SOWER
E	S	D	E	E	S	O	E	E	E	SEEDS	BIRDS	SOIL
A	R	C	K	E	O	L	W	L	E	EARTH	SCORCHED	ROOTS
S	A	S	O	S	L	I	O	A	S	WITHERED	THORNS	CROP
R	E	D	H	R	T	I	S	K	E			
P	S	W	C	H	C	H	O	E	D			
R	O	O	E	S	T	H	K	S	S			
S	N	R	O	H	T	R	E	I	I			
E	E	C	C	T	R	E	A	D	B			
D	S	T	O	O	R	T	A	E	R			



Our ministries and parish initiatives continue throughout the summer. As you plan vacations, please remember the needs of your spiritual home.

For information on how to establish automated parish gifts, please call the Parish Office at 306.782.2449. **Pre-Authorized Giving** forms (green) are available on the glass table in the Welcome Area and at each entrance to the Church.

## YOUTH NEWS AND INFORMATION

### "God's Word Yields Fruit"

#### This Week...

Any kind of growth is difficult. As we grow, we suffer and we learn. As seeds grow, they have to break open for shoots to form. Then, during their struggle, they can be choked, trampled on, or dried out before they actually become grain to be harvested. Although difficult, growth does happen - it happens with seeds, with people, and with the word of God.

#### For Your Reflection

This farmer who is sowing doesn't seem to have much of a plan. There isn't an organized effort to prepare all the soil so that none of the seed is wasted. It's just thrown all over the place, with the hope that some of it will fall on good soil and grow.

- Do you think that is a good strategy for a farmer whose life depends upon successfully growing things? Why or why not?
- Why do you think God throws out seed to bad soil as well as to good soil?
- If our job is to spread the message of God, should we have a plan that is more dependable than this farmer's plan? Why or why not? What might such a plan look like?

Even if we are very deliberate about where we "sow the seeds" of God's message, we can't always control how people will receive it.

- Do you think it is better to aim for just the good soil, so that we mainly bring the message to people who are ready to listen to it? Why or why not?
- Do you think it is better to spend some time working the soil, so that dry, rocky, or thorny areas might become more fertile and ready to accept the seed? Why or why not?

Not only are we asked to bring the seed of God's word to others, also we are asked to receive the seed of God's word from others.

- When do you feel like the good soil, fertile and waiting for God's word to come to you and bring you new life?
- When do you feel like dry, rocky, or thorny soil, not ready for God's word to grow within you?



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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. 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) or check the website:

[www.mystfx.ca/academic/continuinged/Ministry.html](http://www.mystfx.ca/academic/continuinged/Ministry.html)