

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 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

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – July 30, 2017

Liturgical/Mass Schedule

Mon. (31st): 9:00 am- +Thresia Tedeschi
Wed. (2nd): 9:00 am- +Anne Statchuk
Thurs. (3rd): 9:00 am- +Jimmy Flavel
Fri. (4th): 9:00 am- +Gloria Hrycay
9:30 am- *Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*
10:30 am- *Benediction*
Sat. (5th): 9:30 am- *Sacrament of Reconciliation*
10:00 am- +Rita Myrowsky

5:00 pm- GOOD SPIRIT LAKE (HALL)
+Adeline Kolodziejak
7:00 pm- +Joyce Lawson

Sun. (6th): Transfiguration of the Lord
9:00 am- Mass for the People
11:00 am- +Bernice Kolodziejki

Non-liturgical Schedule

Mon. (31st): 4:00 pm- Youth Choir rehearsal



Lord, your death on the cross reveals the kingdom of heaven on earth. Help me be more aware of God's presence.

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



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

Lord,

What
is the pearl
of great price?

A Mercedes,
a portfolio, oil wells,
honor and praise and awards
Kingship over everything we survey?

Or could it be

neighbor serving neighbor?
Dinner with friends?
A kind word?
Finding
You
in all
things?

Give
us wisdom
to know real treasure.

REFUGEE FAMILY CULTURAL EDUCATION

Do you know.....

Recreation in Eritrea

Men enjoy soccer, bicycle racing, *karssa* (a game similar to field hockey), and a game that involves throwing stones at a target. Both men and women play *gebetta*, a strategy game played with pebbles on a playing surface created by making depressions in the ground. Women enjoy drumming and dancing.

Holidays and Celebrations

Eritrea's holidays include International Women's Day (8 March), Independence Day (24 May), Martyr's Day (20 June), and the Anniversary of the Start of the Armed Struggle (1 September). Muslims celebrate *Eid el Fitr* at the end of Ramadan, the holy month of fasting in which they go without food and drink each day from dawn to dusk. Forty days later they observe *Eid el Adha* to mark the completion of the annual pilgrimage to Mecca (Makkah) and to honour Abraham for his willingness to sacrifice his son.

Whole families take part in annual religious festivals, and urban dwellers often return to their home villages for such celebrations.

Bridging the Gap Between People



To become neighbours is to bridge the gap between people. As long as there is distance between us and we cannot look in each other's eyes, all sorts of false ideas and images arise.

We give them names, make jokes about them, cover them with our prejudices, and avoid direct contact.

We think of them as enemies.

We forget that they love as we love, care for their children as we care for ours, become sick and die as we do.

We forget that they are our brothers and sisters and treat them as objects that can be destroyed at will.

Only when we have the courage to cross the street and look in one another's eyes can we see there that we are children of the same God and members of the same human family.

From Henri J.M. Nouwen's *Bread for the Journey*

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.

Are you moving this summer?? Please remember to notify the Parish Office so that we can keep our records current. Thanks! All the best to you in your new spiritual home!



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!



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.****



Parish-Based Catechetical Home Program



Does your child attend public school?

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



We welcome into our
Catholic Christian Community

Adelaide Delong

who was baptized recently
at St. Gerard.

May this child and her family
experience joy and new life.



Congratulations to
Robert Kindratsky & Janel Schultz
who were married at St. Gerard
on July 29th

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



Congratulations to
Cholito Panganiban

who received the
Gift of the Holy Spirit
on July 16th, 2017



News from the CWL



Garage Sale items can be dropped off using the 4th Avenue entrance Monday to Friday from 8am to noon and 1pm to 4pm.

If you require assistance, please contact Rosella at 306.782.7042.



News from the Knights of Columbus



July 31 Help to load Father's furniture at 4pm
Aug. 1 Help to unload furniture (leaving at 9am)
Aug. 2 Afternoon bingo
Aug. 16 Evening bingo

**** If you are able to help with Father's move on either day (5-6 needed), please contact Rejean:j**

houle_r@yahoo.fr or text 306.641.5430

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

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 Click on the "Archdiocesan News" icon on the homepage.

Archdiocese of Regina Annual Pilgrimage Sites

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>

The Archdiocese of Regina Lay Formation Program

Mission-Discipleship-Service-Faith

One weekend per month from October until June, Catholics who want to know, love and serve Christ more deeply come together at Campion College in Regina. Are you ready to fall more deeply in love with Jesus Christ and his Church?

We are currently accepting applications for the Fall intake of this three-year program. For more information or to register, please contact our Program Coordinator, Eric Gurash at 306-325-1651 Ext. 211 or email him at egurash@archregina.sk.ca



Behind Jesus' Rich Man/Poor Man Parable

By Alice Camille

What's so bad about being rich? Is it a sin, after all, to work hard and reap the rewards of your labor?

The Bible tells us that God hears the cry of the poor, and the Church teaches that God has a preferential option for the poor. This implies we ought to be looking out for the poor as well. So does this mean that God doesn't hear the cry of the well-to-do and God has it in for the SUV-driving crowd?

Lots of ancient morality stories deal with the disparity between rich and poor, and some of these tales fall into the category of "next-life reversals." We can see the basic outline of these stories in the parable Jesus tells of the rich man and Lazarus the beggar (Luke 16:19–31). Remember this one?

The rich man, called Dives by tradition (*dives* is Latin for "rich"), dines sumptuously every day, while Lazarus desires but does not get even the crumbs that fall from the rich guy's table. Instead, he sits outside, his running sores licked by dogs. But it gets better for our hero Lazarus. In the next life, he gets to lie in the bosom of Abraham in heaven, while the rich fellow groans in the torments of the netherworld. Not quite the end of the story, but that's enough for now.

Why does the rich man get the netherworld, while Lazarus gets paradise? There is no hint in the story that Dives is a bad man or, for that matter, that Lazarus is a good one. So we are nearly led to believe that being rich is the sin of the first man and being poor is the virtue of the second. But that's not right, either. So what are we to understand from this story?

Seeking the Full Story

Perhaps we want more details to fill in the blanks about these characters. Was the rich man aware of Lazarus at his door? Did he know about his hunger, the sores, the dog situation, and did he choose to do nothing about it? And how about Lazarus? How did he get to be in this awful predicament, and did he do anything to contribute to his striking lack of success?

We begin to imagine that Dives must have made a big mistake (something we might avoid with a little forethought); say, he forgot to give to the Bishop's Annual Appeal or the United Way. And seeing Lazarus in the bosom of Abraham at the end, we presume that he ended up on skid row, not because he was lazy, did poorly on his SATs, or had a drinking problem, but because he got laid off in a failing economy. What we want, in short, is evidence that the rich guy was a bad guy, and the poor man a victim of injustice.

But the parable tells us none of that. What we do know is that the rich man had a great life and Lazarus had a lousy time of it, and that after they died, their fortunes were reversed.

Final Lessons

Unlike many afterlife reversal stories from antiquity, however, Lazarus does not jeer at the rich man's fate from where he now sits in heaven, a sign perhaps of his good-heartedness. He never wanted to break into the rich man's house and take his stuff, either; he just wanted the crumbs.

And we catch a glimpse of the rich man's soul when he does not protest his final state but asks only to warn his brothers, still guilty of the same choices he made. This in itself may be an admission of his negligence. Dives acknowledges that his brothers remain blissfully unrepentant in their self-serving lifestyle.

The bottom line would seem to be that those whose needs are well-met (and then some) must have great compassion. No excuses. Suffering is all around us. So, pick a cause, any cause: But be compassionate! It's no sin to be rich, but it's a fatal error not to share.

YOUTH NEWS AND INFORMATION

"The Reign of God"

This Week...

The Reign of God is both delightful and frightening. It is delightful to come across a treasure buried in a field or a perfect pearl. For such a precious commodity, we might invest our life savings. However, the image of everything being divided into the "useless" and the "worthwhile" is rather frightening.

For Your Reflection

The Reign (power and control) of God is also known as the Kingdom of Heaven. It takes place on earth and reaches its fullness in heaven.

- Often in school, business, politics, and even social settings people try to assert their own power and take control of things. Where have you seen this happen?

When people surrender their life to God's power, life is different. Then people don't try to control things or one another; they try to work together so that God's way rules. This rarely occurs on earth, but it happens once in a while. There is peace, understanding, and cooperation, and no fear, competition, or dishonesty.

- Have you ever seen this happen? If so, where? What was the situation?
- Do you think you can do anything to help bring forth the Reign of God - at home, at school, at your job, with your friends? Why or why not? What would have to happen to create a little heaven on earth?

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. 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 or check the website:

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