



St. Gerard

Roman Catholic Parish

June 24, 2018

**The Nativity of Saint
John the Baptist**

Established December 11, 1904

LORD'S DAY MASS TIMES:

Saturday at 7:00 pm, Sunday at 9:00 am & 11:00 am

MASS SCHEDULE

Mon. (25 th):	10:30 am-	ST. MARY SCHOOL +Alex Puchala
Tues. (26 th):	9:15 am-	ST. PAUL SCHOOL +Martha Nagy
	7:00 pm-	+Matthew & +Anne Pankoski
Wed. (27 th):	10:30 am-	NURSING HOME (NORTH) +Beatrice Puchala
Thurs. (28 th):	9:00 am-	+Jerry McCann
Fri. (29 th):	9:00 am-	+David Jakubowski
Sat. (30 th):	9:30 am-	NO MASS
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	7:00 pm-	+Christine Ooi
Sun. (1 st):	Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
	9:00 am-	Special Intentions
	11:00 am-	Mass for the People

Saint John the Baptist, you found your purpose in pointing others to Jesus. Pray for us – that we might live lives that do likewise; that we might set down our excuses and let God use us; that our lives might be a path towards the living God. Amen.

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 1.306.530.0126

Eucharistic Holy Hour Devotion is every Tuesday at 6pm, followed by Mass at 7pm.

CONTACT US

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

125 Third Avenue North, Yorkton, SK S3N 1C4

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

Pastor.....	Fr. Louis Kim Nguyen	306.782.0323	louiskimnguyen@yahoo.com
Parish Office Administrator.....	Sandra Archer	306.782.2449	office@stgerard.ca
Caretaker.....	Mario Guerra		
Parish Hall Bookings.....		306.783.4255	hall@stgerard.ca



**Stay
Connected
Online!**

www.stgerard.ca



Lord, you are always near. Deepen my faith in your goodness and love so I may be a sign of faith.

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

ST. GERARD PARISH ~ 2018-2019 ~ PASTORAL AND FINANCE COUNCILS

PPC	Chairperson - Ernie Bobowski	Vice-chairperson- VACANT
	Secretary - Jayne Senger	Liturgy - Carol Deters/Yvonne Turgeon
	Religious Education- Laurie Couture	Social Justice - Mark Bell
	Community Life - Maureen Pankoski	Public Relations - VACANT
	Family & Social - VACANT	Youth - Melinda Sevilla
	Ecumenical - Carm Molnar	Stewardship - VACANT
	CWL Rep. - Linda Maddaford	K of C Rep. - Wayne Exner

PPC	Finance - Brian Kruger	Secretary - Richard Dubois
	Properties - Matt Bernat	Member at Large- Conrad Rodney
	Hall - VACANT	Member at Large- Dwight Guy



REFUGEE FAMILY UPDATE



The parish-sponsored refugee family of 5 from Eritrea will arrive in Yorkton August 1. Through your generous donations we have secured a house and have furnished it.

We now need cash donations to pay initial expenses until the family is established and able to pay their own way. **Any** cash donation will help with monthly expenses.

Rent: \$1,000 **Utilities:** \$300 **Food:** \$500 **Communications:** \$150 **Clothing**

MAKE CHEQUES OUT TO ST. GERARD'S PARISH. INCLUDE "Refugee Family" ON THE MEMO LINE

Contact Rejean Houle 306-641-5430

PRAYER FOR THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

God of wisdom, we thank you for all the gifts you have given our children through the school year. We praise you for giving them life, for saving them in Christ, and for choosing them to be your people.

As they come to the end of this school year, we voice our gratitude for the good things you have done in them, and we praise you for all who have shared in the work of their school.

We ask you to bless them in your love and give them refreshment and peace.

We praise you, God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

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Christ the Teacher Catholic Schools News June 25 - June 29, 2018



	Sacred Heart	St. Alphonsus	St. Mary	St. Michael	St. Paul	St. Theodore
Mon.		•Year End Liturgy @ St. Mary's •Year End Awards	•Year End Mass @ 10:30am			
Tues.					•Year End Mass & Academic Awards @ 9am	•Yearend trip
Wed.	Last Day of School					

"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

CONFIRMATION

The Second Sacrament of Initiation

FIRST EUCHARIST

The Third Sacrament of Initiation

ATTENTION PARENTS!

If your child has not received the sacraments of Confirmation, First Eucharist, or First Reconciliation, please pre-register at the Parish Office. If your child was not baptized at St. Gerard, a copy of his/her baptism certificate is required.

Preparation programs to commence in early fall.



We welcome into our
Catholic Christian Community
those who were baptized
recently at St. Gerard:

Brinley Balabuk

Angeliza Beltran Marion Beltran

Lily Leis Kathryn Walsh Tyler Walsh

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

Let's get together and Build Community!

Would you like to connect names with faces? Would you like a lasting keepsake to enjoy and share with future generations? Would you like to be a part of creating memories at St. Gerard Church?

We need **EVERYONE** to participate to make our new pictorial directory complete!

Over the next several weeks there will be an opportunity for you to schedule a photography session for you and your family. Photos will be taken by a professional photographer during the week of August 27 to 30 (before the kids go back to school). The sessions will take place at St. Gerard Church.

There is **NO COST** to have your family portrait taken for the directory. However, there will be an opportunity for you to select portrait packages from the professional photographer if you wish.



News from the CWL



Reminder – we are still accepting donations for the Fall Garage Sale when you are cleaning out your unwanted items. Items may be left outside the CWL Room (lower level) during office hours.

We are also in need of and looking for clean plastic shopping bags



News from the Knights of Columbus



June 24

Yearend windup – RSVP to Wayne
Phone/text 306.783.7380 or email
wex13@sasktel.net

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

Please note that the kiosk with booklets are for the use of the parish. Please help yourself. Read and return so that other parishioners may also enjoy!

News from the Archdiocese of Regina

LET'S CELEBRATE!!

On **June 29th, 2018**, four Seminarians will be ordained as Transitional Deacons:

Parker Love

Ricardo Escalante

Vu Van Chinh

Buu Phun Tran

The Ordinations will take place at Holy Rosary Cathedral at 7:00 pm

The Archdiocese of Regina Lay Formation Program

"I'd love to take the course, but I want to wait until; my kids are grown, I can slow down at work, I'm retired..."

The sad truth is, nearly 75% of young people, even those raised in religious homes, will leave the Church by the time they are 25 - well before many of us retire! Some of the most common reasons given for leaving one's faith behind include; perceived conflicts between faith and science, Christians behaving badly, a lack of evidence for the existence of God and difficulties with some of the Church's teachings.

Our sons and daughters need mentors who are "well-trained and animated by a sincere faith whose life has been touched by the personal and merciful love of Jesus Christ" (Pope Francis).

We are currently accepting applications for our Fall intake. For more information or to register, please contact our Program Coordinator, Eric Gurash at 306.352.1651 ext. 211 or email him at egurash@archregina.sk.ca



Bringing Home the Word

God's Calling for Us
By Janel Esker

Expectant parents the world over have one task in common—naming their newborns. Some mothers-to-be have kept a list of favorite baby names since adolescence. Other parents can't imagine naming their child until they lay eyes on their little one after birth. Some survey friends and family. My four-year-old nephew Alexander proclaimed that if his cousin-to-be was a girl, she should obviously be named Pizzahead. We thanked him and noted we would take his suggestion under, uh, consideration.

People often have much to say, sometimes quite vehemently, about the choice of a baby's name. It was no different for John the Baptist's mother. When Elizabeth announced that his name would be John, the name given him by the angel Gabriel, neighbors protested that this wasn't a family name and it couldn't possibly be appropriate. But his father, Zechariah, confirmed this heavenly chosen name. Word spread quickly of something quite special, even divine, about this child. Everyone wondered what he would become.

We know indeed what John became—the herald of Jesus' coming. Particularly special about John was his willingness to embrace his calling while recognizing that his mission was not about himself; rather, it was to direct others toward Jesus. He confidently claimed his vocation, but he was humble enough to know his life wasn't about himself.

Whether your name is John, Mary, or even Pizzahead, God has a calling for each of us—but it isn't about promoting ourselves or our needs. It's ultimately for the service of the Lord.

Are we strong enough to claim our calling—and humble enough to serve?

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Are you moving this summer?

Please notify the Parish Office with your new contact information so that we can keep our parish records current. Thanks!

YOUTH CONNECT

(For Youth in Grades 5 to 12)
Come and be a part of making a difference!

Regular gatherings are held each month. Watch the bulletin for dates and times! Call Melinda Sevilla, Youth Committee Chairperson (Coordinator) at 1.306.562.7480 or email hannelle_23@hotmail.com

Options Pregnancy Baby Bottle Fundraiser

Sign out a baby bottle and fill it with donations to help support those who are experiencing unplanned pregnancies. **Your support helps to save the lives of the unborn!** Bottles to be returned to St. Gerard's on Father's Day. Thank you.

"...Behold, one is coming after me; I am not worthy to unfasten the sandals of his feet." – Acts 13:25

Stewardship is a lifestyle, it's not a program or a process. It's how we are called to live our lives twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week! It challenges us to live "God-centered" lives, not "self-centered" lives. Reflect on your daily activities, do you do them for the glory of God?

~ Submitted by the Stewardship Committee ~

VOLUNTEER HALL EVENT COORDINATORS WANTED

If you would like to volunteer to coordinate one of our Hall events, please contact Father Louis or leave your name at the Parish Office. If you are unsure and would like more details, we can talk about it. Training provided and all procedures will be reviewed and outlined.

- Submitted by St. Gerard Church Personnel Committee

HALL COOKS WANTED

Paid per event. Please contact the Parish Office for further information.

- Submitted by St. Gerard Church Personnel Committee

LOST – One green & gold clip-on earring. Reward offered. Please contact the Parish Office.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Mon. (25th): 4:00 pm- Youth Choir rehearsal
Tues. (26th): 7:30 pm- Finance Council Meeting
Wed. (27th): 6:00 pm- Pastoral Council Meeting

YOUTH REFLECTION

"From the Tiniest Seed"

This Week...

Seeds are such tiny and unassuming things - who would imagine the power and force they can release as they grow and become something huge and magnificent. How it happens is a mystery - even to the farmers who plant them and nurture them. They sow by faith, not by sight, believing that somehow the miracle will happen again and they will have a crop. Ezekiel tells us how Yahweh will bring new life to the lifeless and will wither the life that is growing badly. Jesus tells us that the Reign of God is as mysterious as the seed that grows, and as surprisingly powerful as the tiniest seed that becomes the biggest shrub.

For Your Reflection

Jesus tells us that a tiny seed can blossom into a huge growth.

- What is a tiny interest or hobby you may have started a long time ago as a "seed" that has now grown into a big, important part of your life?
- Who is a person that started out as just an acquaintance of yours but whose relationship with you has now grown into an important and very close friendship?

In the early church, the Christians are recognized right away as honest, selfless, generous, loving, forgiving people. People can tell they are Christians just by the way they live, and it is so inspiring that people want to join their faith community and be just like them. Christians didn't have to carry signs or wear T-shirts to advertise themselves; people just knew how wonderful they were.

- Is it easy to tell who's a Christian today? Can you observe someone's behaviour and know whether they are a follower of Jesus? Why or why not?
- Some very violent behaviour is happening in the world today in the name of God and religion. Can you think of any examples? Some very helpful, peaceful behaviours is also happening today that has nothing to do with formal religion. Can you think of any examples? How do these trends affect the way many young people view religion? How do these trends affect the way you yourself view the church?



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 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