



St. Gerard

Roman Catholic Parish

March 18, 2018

Fifth Sunday
of Lent

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. (19 th):	9:30 am-	+Alex Puchala
Tues. (20 th):	12:05 pm-	Souls in Purgatory
	7:00 pm-	<i>Family Icon Prayer Service</i>
Wed. (21 st):	10:30 am-	NURSING HOME (SOUTH)
		+Adella Nayko
Thurs. (22 nd):	9:30 am-	+Ed Fissell
	7:00 pm-	<i>Penitential Service</i>
Fri. (23 rd):	9:30 am-	+Marion Novakowski
	7:00 pm-	<i>Stations of the Cross</i>
Sat. (24 th):	10:00 am-	+Norbert Soyka
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	7:00 pm-	+Alex Herchuk
Sun. (25 th):	Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord	
	9:00 am-	Special Intentions
	11:00 am-	Mass for the People

*The **Divine Mercy Devotion** is prayed each Friday at 1pm (except the first Friday of the month).*

***Eucharistic Holy Hour Devotion** is the first Friday of the month at 10am.*



All parishioners are asked to gather in the **Parish Hall** ten minutes prior to the beginning of Mass on **Palm Sunday**.

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



CONTACT US

Telephone: 306.782.2449 | Email: office@stgerard.ca | Hours: Monday-Friday 8am-noon, 1pm-4pm
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Pastor.....	Fr. Louis Kim Nguyen	306.782.0323	louiskimnguyen@yahoo.com
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Parish Hall Manager.....	Jeff Krasowski	306.783.4255	hall@stgerard.ca



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Lord, your love is written on my heart. May your love inspire and empower me to love people from all walks of life.

- From *Mindful Meditations for Every Day of Lent and Easter*,
Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeney



SACRAMENTS of INITIATION PREPARATION



BAPTISM

The First Sacrament of Initiation

CONFIRMATION

The Second Sacrament of Initiation

FIRST EUCHARIST

The Third Sacrament of Initiation

GUC Session #7 – TONIGHT @ 6:30 pm



News from the CWL



Attention CWL members! **The 95th Annual Regina Diocesan Convention is being held at St. Gerard's on April 29 – 30, 2018. Can you be part of it? Members are encouraged to attend this time of fellowship & information.** Our council will pay the \$20.00 registration fee for our members attending the convention. Members will only have to pay \$30.00 for the banquet and \$15.00 for the lunch on Monday. Check your calendars now, because **we will need to know the number of people attending by April 9.** Members can put their money in an envelope in the collection basket. If you have any questions call Carol Deters @ 306.782.1762



ALL PARISHIONERS ARE INVITED

to attend

LENTEN LUNCHES

which will be held each Tuesday during Lent following the 12:05 pm Mass.

Free-will offering to the

"Catholic Education Matters" Fundraising Campaign

~ Organized by the Liturgical Committee ~



News from the Knights of Columbus



- March 18 Fourth degree St. Patrick's Day meeting and social at St. Stephen Church (Kamsack) @ 2:30pm. Phone David Spelay 306.782.5320. Charge \$10.00
- March 20 Family Icon Prayer Service @ 7pm
- March 24-25 Church drive
- March 25 Articles for The Word due
- March 26 Evening bingo

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

The **Stations of the Cross** devotion is prayed each Friday at 7pm during Lent. All parishioners are encouraged to attend.

Mar. 23 Altar Servers



Penitential Service (St. Gerard Church)

Thursday, March 22nd @ 7pm

With the celebration of Reconciliation (in sacrament and in Penance celebrations), our Lenten practices allow us to be closer to Christ and to improve our life.

The one-half hour Penitential Service will be celebrated communally with individual absolution (Form B) to follow. Several priests will be in attendance.



FRIDAY NIGHT MOVIE NIGHT

Each Friday during Lent is Movie Night (right after the Stations of the Cross)!

No charge! Free popcorn and refreshments!

Everyone is welcome to attend!

~ Organized by the Religious Education Team ~

BUILDING PARISH COMMUNITY

Stewardship Reflections from our Parish Mission

Jesus comes to heal not to judge. He wants us to be joyful, so we await a joyful encounter with the Lord! We know we are poor before the Lord. What must we do? Keep it simple in our soul... unclutter our minds with what doesn't concern us. We are all sinners. We need to help each other. Turn to Jesus, he gives us inner peace... encouraging us to be strong and to take courage. He encourages us to forgive always. Forgiveness is a decision, not a feeling. We become imprisoned if we hold onto the past hurts. Let go of it all. Take action, too. Produce positive habits. If it wasn't for the dark days, we wouldn't know what it's like to walk in the light. Follow the light. We can let our light shine when we let the darkness go. Think positively. People inspire or drain you. Pick your people wisely. Thank God for hardships, for moving us forward.

~ submitted by the Stewardship Committee

The 2017 donation receipts will be available for pickup in the Parish Office commencing Monday, March 19th during regular office hours.



Bringing Home the Word

Jesus' Light in Our Darkness

By Mary Katharine Deeley

I've lived in the Midwest most of my life. In the last few years, I've found myself appreciating why some of my senior friends enjoy spending time in warmer climates during the winter months. As I've gotten older, the range of temperatures that feel comfortable to me has grown increasingly narrow—and while I'm not yet ready to pull up stakes, the thought of it crosses my mind more frequently.

But as the Graeme Miles folk song "Dark December" reminds us, we shouldn't dislike winter. We celebrate the birth of Jesus—the light in our darkness—in the winter. In a four-season climate like that of the Midwest, we're particularly attuned to dark and light, death and life. We sense the days growing shorter and longer; we see leaves fall and plants sleep, only to reawaken when the weather turns warm. We know what lamps to light so we can see in those dark times and what clothes to wear until the warming sun brings the world to life once more.

The prophets knew God was stirring in the world, and they knew God's promise of light and salvation. For Jeremiah, light and life came in the promise of a new covenant—a new relationship with the Lord.

The Greeks of John's Gospel sensed that Jesus was the key to the light they longed for, and so they wanted to see him. John also says that to truly live, we must be like grain and die to ourselves.

Light into darkness, death into life—maybe the experience of winter helps us understand that just a little more.

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YOUTH CONNECT

(For Youth in Grades 5 to 12)

Come and be a part of making a difference!

The next event will be held
Saturday, March 24th from 10:30am to 3pm.

For more information contact:

Melinda Sevilla, Youth Committee Chairperson

1.306.562.7480 email hannelle_23@hotmail.com



We wish to thank you for your generosity on this Development and Peace Solidarity Sunday. Your donation will be used to help our sisters and brothers all over the world – from Lebanon to Cambodia, to Nigeria and beyond! Thank you for helping us create a future filled with hope!

THE SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM

Mar. 29 Thursday of the Lord's Supper

7:00 pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
until 11:45pm

Mar. 30 Friday of the Passion of the Lord

Living Stations of the Cross
11:00 am

The Celebration of the Passion
3:00 pm

Mar. 31 Holy Saturday

2:00 pm – Blessing of Easter Food

The Resurrection of the Lord

Easter Vigil in the Holy Night

8:00 pm

Apr. 1 The Mass of Easter Day

9:00 am 11:00 am



PEROGIES & CABBAGE ROLLS FOR SALE

Monday to Friday, 8am to 5pm until March 29th
(or while quantities last!)

THE WEEK AHEAD

- Sun. (18th): 6:30 pm- GUC Session
- Mon. (19th): 4:00 pm- Youth Choir rehearsal
- Tues. (20th): 7:00 pm- Liturgical Committee Mtg
7:30 pm- Choir rehearsal for 9am
Easter Sunday Mass
- Wed. (21st): 7:00 pm- Triduum Choir rehearsal
- Fri. (23rd): 4:00pm- Youth Choir rehearsal
5:30 pm- Buddies Choir rehearsal
7:30 pm- Movie Night
- Sat. (24th): 10:30 am- YOUTH CONNECT
6:15 pm- Choir rehearsal for 7pm Mass

YOUTH REFLECTION

"The Grain of Wheat"

This Week...

Being people of God means being people who have faith in life after death. Jesus taught us this with his story of the grain of wheat that dies and then produces new life in its fruit. He also shows us life after death by rising from the dead.

For Your Reflection

Part of growing older is learning how to accept the experiences of loss in our lives, and to have hope in the experiences of growth and new life to come. Experiences of loss could be felt when moving to a new town, after the breakup of a close relationship, or after the death of a friend or relative. Experiences of growth and new life could include meeting new friends in a new town, having a different but honest relationship with someone you care about, or feeling peacefulness in your heart with the memory of someone who has died.

- What are some experiences of loss in your life that have been followed by experiences of growth or new life?

Jesus said the ones who serve would follow him and the ones who would lose their lives would live forever.

- What do you think these words of Jesus are all about?
- What does it mean to follow Jesus?
- What do you think it means to lose life in order to live forever?



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