



St. Gerard

Roman Catholic Parish

May 15th, 2022
Fifth Sunday of Easter

Established December 11, 1904

LORD'S DAY MASS TIMES
Saturday at 5:00 pm, Sunday at 9:00 am & 11:00 am

CONTACT US

Parish Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9am-noon/1pm-4pm (closed Friday)

125 Third Avenue North, Yorkton, SK S3N 1C4

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

St. Gerard Parish is located on Treaty 4 Territory, the traditional lands of the Nēhiyawak, Nahkawé, and Nakota, and homeland of the Dakota, Lakota, and Métis peoples.

Pastor.....	Fr. Louis Nguyen	306.782.0323	louisyorkton@gmail.com
Parish Office Administrator.....	Sandra Archer	306.782.2449	office@stgerard.ca
Caretaker.....	Mario Guerra		

MASS SCHEDULE

Mon. (16 th)	NO MASS
Tues. (17 th)	7:00pm Baby Harrison Miles
Wed. (18 th)	9:00am Marlene Werner
	10:00am NURSING HOME (SOUTH)
	Allen Dierker
Thurs. (19 th)	9:00am +Marge Slugoski
	2:30pm YORKTON CROSSING
	+Russell Boychuk
Fri. (20 th)	9:00am +Mary Puchala
Sat. (21 st)	9:00am Special Intentions
	5:00pm +Mike Diakuw
Sun. (22 nd)	SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
	9:00am +Ed & +Helen Piontek
	11:00am Mass for the People

NEW GUIDELINES FROM THE DIOCESE

We ask that you continue to remain vigilant in your actions and decisions, considering the greater good, and to follow the directives per the Archdiocese of Regina:

We are a "mask-friendly" parish, meaning that wearing a mask is optional, and we respect those who continue to do so.

- Please sanitize your hands when entering and leaving the church.
- Enhanced cleaning and disinfection continues.
- We will not shake hands when we share the sign of peace.
- Communion Ministers will wear a mask.
- If you are ill, elderly, or medically vulnerable in any way, you are urged to continue to take every precaution to keep yourself and others safe.



Rosary Prayer Mondays at 5:30pm during the month of May, led by the Knights of Columbus



Come and Spend an Hour with the Lord!

Eucharistic Holy Hour Devotion at 6pm (prior to 7pm Tuesday Mass)

Stay Connected Online!

www.stgerard.ca



Risen Jesus, you command us to love as you have loved. Cleanse my heart of pride, selfishness, and prejudice so that I may love unconditionally.

- From *Hopeful Meditations for Every Day of Easter Through Pentecost*, Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeney

A Reflection by Deacon Dave Hudy

Dear Friends:

Our readings today call us to be aware of God's mercy and to pass that mercy on to others. Our second reading is from Revelation and it's a beautiful witness of God's love for us. John reminds us of Jesus' great sacrifice in leaving heaven to join us here on earth. God coming down to the level of the people and gently wiping every tear from the eyes of the people was not something that the people would have expected. The people of Israel were not that far removed from offering sacrifices, even human sacrifices to try and appease the gods. People in neighbouring countries were even more resigned to the idea that their lot in life was to exist to please the gods. But, in this passage from Revelation, John tells us that God is treating the people with gentleness, coming down from the paradise of heaven in order to comfort the people and erase the evil effects of death.

In our gospel from the book of John, Jesus carries on with the theme of mercy! And he issues a challenge to us. Jesus calls on *us* to carry on the giving of mercy. We have received an unfathomable dose of mercy from Jesus, now he is calling on us to pass on some of that mercy to others. That's what being a Christian is all about! Pope Francis once said that "The mission Jesus received from the Father was that of revealing the mystery of divine love in its fullness. God is love". Everything about Jesus speaks about mercy and compassion. How can we claim to be his followers if we do not do the same? And now for the challenge that Jesus gives us. In our gospel he makes it known that he wants us to live in such a way that others will not have to be told we are Christians. They will simply be able to tell we are Christians by observing us! I don't know about you, but to me that seems like a pretty tall order! Is my life proof of my faith?

When it's difficult to show mercy to others, it helps to think about the mercy that Jesus has shown to us as explained to us in the second reading. Each Mass that we attend should remind us of that mercy! When we receive communion it's good to thank him for what he's done and ask him to help us better understand the mercy that he's shown us and how we can pass that mercy on to others.

God bless everyone.

Deacon Dave Hudy

Mr. Deacon Dave Hudy was ordained into the Permanent Diaconate of the Archdiocese of Regina in 2018.

Dave and his wife, Bev, reside in the Melville area.

Catechism Theme: General Ministry of the Church (934-943)

There are two types of ministry in the Church: a general ministry all Christians are called to and a specific ministry individual members within the Church are called to. The general ministry is to serve the world. The specific ministry is to serve the members of the Church in the name and person of Jesus. These specific or "sacred" ministers who serve the Church (bishops, priests, and deacons) are called "clerics." All other Church members are called "laity." (934, 935)

The three aspects of general ministry are the roles of priest, prophet, and king. As priests, all Christians are called to pray. As prophets, all Christians are called to witness for Jesus through their words and actions. As kings, all Christians are called to lead others as Jesus did, through loving service. (941, 942, 943)

All Christians are called to witness by example. The example of prayer, word and deed, and loving service.

How has the love of Christians help you through times of testing? How did these Christians express their love?

Jesus gave an example of God's presence in the world. We are to continue that example. The love Jesus gives us is the same love we share with others. That love defines us and motivates us. It is the love that grows beyond words.

Reflect on ways you can show God's love to others. Plan two or three ways to share his love this week.



BAPTISM

The First Sacrament of Initiation

In the Archdiocese of Regina, Baptism Preparation is required prior to your child's baptism. To register for the next Baptism Preparation session, please contact the Parish Office 306.782.2449.



News from the Knights of Columbus



Bingos have been cancelled until further notice.

If you are interested in joining the Knights, please call Keith @ 306.783.0963. www.kofc-2031.ca



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

Jackson McMurphy Tristan Trowell

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



All are invited to the

Celebration of Confirmation & First Eucharist



on Thursday, May 26th @ 7:00 pm

Archbishop Donald Bolen, Celebrant

Pope Francis' Monthly Prayer Intention - May For Faith-Filled Young People

We pray for all young people, called to live life to the fullest; may they see in Mary's life the way to listen, the depth of discernment, the courage that faith generates, and the dedication to service.

www.thepopevideo.org

News from the Archdiocese of Regina

Men's Mental Health: Breaking the Silence Online Event

Tuesday, May 24, 2022 7:00 - 9:00 pm via Zoom

In honour of Mental Health Month, Deacon Eric Gurash of Emmaus Family Support Ministries will share his personal experiences and how our Catholic faith and evidence-based research can work together to break the silence, end stigma, and open up avenues of support for men's mental health. This event will be of interest to men as well as spouses, friends, or family members who offer support for those with mental health challenges. Register at:

emmausfamilysupport.flocknote.com/signup/89227

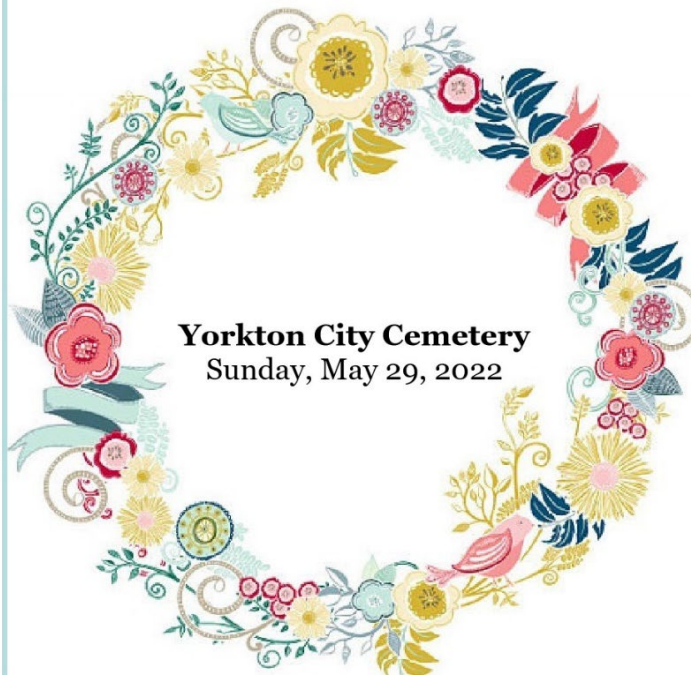


Thank you to those who attended our Synod Listening Circle on May 4th. Participants shared their faith journeys, discerned ways to listen more deeply to each other and to truly hear those whose voices need to be heard.

We celebrate the joy of belonging in community and seek new ways to walk beside and help the lonely, the wounded, and the suffering. We pray for the fruits of the Spirit that will emerge in our parish and diocese.

- Linda Maddaford & Carm Molnar

Blessing of the Graves



Yorkton City Cemetery
Sunday, May 29, 2022

If your loved one is buried at the cemetery, please meet at the main gate at **1:00 pm**. There will be a Prayer Service for all in attendance, and then Father Louis will bless the grave of your loved one.



Tending to the Tension

By Fr. Donald Willard, CSSR

The world appears to be increasingly polarized, a condition that seems to have entered every aspect of life. For example, the rich and the poor still exist, but the gap between them is greater, and the middle class is disappearing. Polarization is found not only in the financial realm but increasingly in politics, business, family relationships, and even in the Church. Polarization is based on conflict and division. It is an overemphasis on the differences between people at the expense of the unity that makes us who we are as a community. The end result is radical individualism.

This, however, is not how the Church is supposed to be. We are not only called to have a personal relationship with God but a unifying relationship with one another. Although tension does exist, it can be beneficial. Diversity devoid of division and unity without blind conformity allow us to grow without sacrificing fidelity. There is only one way to accomplish this healthy tension—the answer is through Jesus Christ.

If I recognize that I am not God, that I don't have all the answers, and that I don't set the standard by which the world is measured, I must begin to seek answers outside myself. I soon realize that other people in the world have different gifts, talents, views, and personalities. In an effort to understand and relate to this diversity, I am pushed to find some standard by which to measure reality. Some conclude that such a standard doesn't exist and enter into a form of individual or cultural relativism. However, if we look to Jesus Christ and acknowledge him as the true Son of God, then we see we do have a standard who provides a unifying factor in the midst of diversity—Christ.

Therefore, in an ecumenical dialogue (a conversation among Christians), the belief that Jesus Christ is the Messiah is the commonality in the discussion. By acknowledging who Jesus is, we recognize all Christians are brothers and sisters in Christ. This creates the possibility for an environment of mutual respect and dignity. Although we may not agree, we can actively listen, continuously learn, and strive together to discover the truth within the fullness of the revelation of Jesus. Looking to Jesus for the answers we need in our world lays a foundation on which people of goodwill can exist in a healthy tension that seeks truth, allowing us to build community. The various gifts that each has to offer should make the community, the body of Christ, reflect evermore. And this elevates individuals. The fullest expression of who we are exists in the midst of a community of people seeking the face of Jesus Christ in all we say and do.

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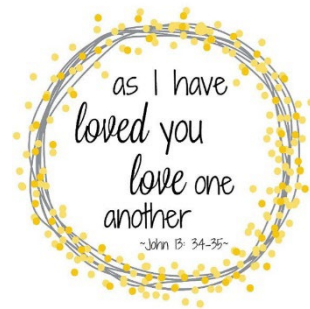
ST PHILOMENA WALKING PILGRIMAGE

All are invited to take part in the 2022 Saint Philomena Walking Pilgrimage which is scheduled to take place from August 11th to August 14th. You can join us for all or part of the walk or you can offer help with providing meals or giving rides. Or, you can help us with your prayers! For more information and to see about changes for this year, visit our website at www.stphilomena.ca

BILLETS NEEDED This year we are also looking for people who are able to billet some of our pilgrims for the night of Friday, August 12th. That night we will be in the vicinity of Burgis Beach.



If you have a cabin or camper in that area and can help us, please phone Dave or Bev at 306 728 5525.



Stop by the Parish Office

For a great assortment of bibles, children's books and religious articles including **Baptism, Confirmation & First Communion** gifts. Limited quantities. New this week – Catholic Baby's First Bible!

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sun. (15th): 2:00pm- Sacrament Retreat/Rehearsal
Mon. (16th): 7:00pm- Bible Study (lower level)
Tues. (17th): 7:30pm- Liturgical Committee Meeting

YOUTH REFLECTION

"A New Heaven and a New Earth"

This Week...

It is fascinating to think about how big the world is, and yet how small the earth is. In Paul's day, travel was a lot more difficult, and still he and others managed to journey across all of the known earth, preaching to the *Gentiles*. John has a vision of a new heaven and a new earth - a peaceful place with no pain and no problems, not even death. Jesus tells us what brings heaven to earth: love, the global universal value.

For Your Reflection

What is really good about our world? What is not so good? If you could help create the "new heaven and the new earth," what would you want the design to include?

Why do you think so many schools require students to learn a foreign language? Why do you think countries have exchange student programs? How can we learn from visiting one another's countries, and from having citizens from other countries visit ours? What can different languages and cultures teach us?

Love seems to be a universal value in all cultures. All cultures celebrate marriage, children, family life, and friendship based on love and caring. If this is true, why is there so much friction between peoples of different countries and different races?

Excerpt from *In Touch With the Word, Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter*, 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. 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 Regina on a daily basis.
