



St. Gerard

Roman Catholic Parish

May 23rd, 2021

Pentecost Sunday

Established December 11, 1904

LORD'S DAY MASS TIMES:
By pre-registration only until further notice

CONTACT US

The Parish Office is open reduced hours, but the doors remain locked. Please phone ahead.
We continue to take the necessary precautions to keep our parishioners and employees safe & healthy.
You may phone/email the office Monday to Thursday between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm.

125 Third Avenue North, Yorkton, SK S3N 1C4
www.stgerard.ca | Telephone: 306.782.2449 | Email: office@stgerard.ca

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

MASS/SERVICE SCHEDULE

Mon. (24th) **BVM, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH**
5:30 pm Rosary Prayer
6:00pm +Art Scherr
Tues. (25th) 7:00pm +Zela Klopstock
Wed. (26th) 9:00am Fr. Conrad Kuzminski, MC
Thurs. (27th) 9:00am +Mitchell Zazula
Fri. (28th) 9:00am +Edgar Rabago
Sat. (29th) 9:00am +Joan Kormos

5:00pm David Ryhorski
7:00pm +Betty Manyk

Sun. (30th) **THE SOLEMNITY OF
THE MOST HOLY TRINITY**
9:00am +August Burant
11:00am Mass for the People
5:00pm

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTENDING MASS

- **EACH HOUSEHOLD** must pre-register separately for Saturday/Sunday Mass. Online at www.stgerard.ca beginning TUESDAY morning (this week) until all seats are reserved or until Thursday at 12 noon (whichever comes first.)
- **Maximum 30** people may attend Mass
- Members of the same household may sit together at the marked seating
- At least two-metres separation is required between households at all times, even with masks on. **Please arrive early.**
- Please follow the instructions of the Hospitality Ministers (Ushers) and Father Louis.
- The following must stay home for the sake of the wider community:
 - ❖ People with COVID-19 symptoms, who live with someone with COVID-19, or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19
 - ❖ Those who have travelled to/from a "hotspot", outside of Saskatchewan or outside Canada within the last 14 days
 - ❖ Those who are waiting for COVID-19 test results, or have someone in their household waiting for test results

Please note that pre-registration for Saturday/Sunday Mass continues until further notice.

Beginning Tuesday, June 1 the capacity at St. Gerard's will increase to approximately 100 (this allows for two-metre physically distancing between households).



Stay
Connected
Online!
www.stgerard.ca



Lord, your Spirit renews our faith, hope and love.
Empower me to be your presence of love and compassion to others.

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

A Note from Your Pastor

My Dear Sisters and Brothers,

The promise that Jesus made before his death is now coming true: “I still have many things to say to you but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth” (Jn 16.13). Indeed, He promised to send the Holy Spirit, and the coming of the Holy Spirit changed the disciples: the door was locked, all of them were in fear, and when the Holy Spirit came they became stronger in spirit with no more fear, and they became messengers for the Lord.

Today we also celebrate the birth of the Church. With the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Church is born. The Holy Spirit is the source of life. Into the souls of the group of twelve Jesus put a new Spirit, the Spirit of courage so they would become the builders for the early Church.

I invite all of you to reflect on the gifts that the Holy Spirit gave the disciples so that they would be able to speak a new language, as we hear in the first reading: “All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Holy Spirit gave them ability” (Acts 2.3).

We all know that language of itself is not enough to bring people together, to make us in communion with one another. Speaking the same language does not necessarily mean that there will be a meeting of minds and hearts.

The Holy Spirit teaches the disciples to speak the new language. I wonder what languages the Holy Spirit taught them? I believe that it was the language of peace rather than of war; the language of reconciliation rather than of conflict; the language of co-operation rather than of competition; the language of forgiveness rather than of vengeance; the language of hope rather than of despair; the language of unity rather than of division, the language of love rather than of hate.

Do we need to learn and practice how to speak these languages? I would say that YES, especially in today’s world. If I don’t speak these languages, I don’t have the Holy Spirit in me. On the other hand, if I have the Holy Spirit in me, I am able to speak these languages. When we have the ability to speak these languages, we have the ability to know a new culture - the culture of love, faith, hope, and joy.

Today the gifts of the Holy Spirit are renewed in each of us. The gifts of the Holy Spirit are: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord. Do you know that wisdom, understanding, and counsel (or right judgment) guide our minds and assist our conscience in knowing right from wrong; fortitude (or courage) enables us to do the right things even when it is difficult or unpopular; and fear of the Lord is really awe and reverence for God?

The fruits of the Holy Spirit are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Do you know that these fruits of the Holy Spirit help us to understand what the Holy Spirit is like? And because of the Trinity – three-in-one – the fruits of the Holy Spirit reveal to us what God is like. By cooperating with the grace and power of the Holy Spirit, these fruits become stronger within us.

I invite all of you to acknowledge the role of the Holy Spirit in your lives. Also, I encourage you to pray to the Holy Spirit and cooperate with Him. If we have Him, we will have joy and peace and grow in holiness.

Happy feast day of Pentecost to all of you! Thank you to all of you for your continued patience and diligence in keeping yourself and others safe and healthy during this pandemic time. Hopefully we will soon be back to normal and we will be able to welcome more to the celebration of the Eucharist than what we can now.

Have a blessed week with the abundant blessings of the Holy Spirit. *Holy Spirit, come. And renew the face of the earth.*

Fr. Louis Nguyen

The Sacrament of Reconciliation



- 30 minutes before and after Daily Mass (Tuesday – Friday)
- Saturdays at **8:30 am** or by appt.



Come and Spend an Hour with the Lord!

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



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

Zechariah Mangundayao Amarah Gangano

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



Today is the Special Collection for **CATHOLIC MISSIONS IN CANADA**

Heavenly Father, we pray for our Canadian home missions, from sea to sea to sea.

Take into Your care, through our prayer, our brothers and sisters in faith. We ask protection and strength in faith, hope and love.

Grant zeal with compassion to the missionaries who share the Gospel. Let your face shine upon them.

Amen.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

We depend upon other creatures and survive by their deaths. To live, we must daily break the body and shed the blood of Creation. When we do this knowingly, lovingly, skillfully, reverently, it is a sacrament. When we do it ignorantly, greedily, clumsily, destructively, it is a desecration. In such desecration we condemn ourselves to spiritual and moral loneliness, and others to want.

- Wendell Berry

- Submitted by the Stewardship Committee



News from the Knights of Columbus



May 25th Articles for "The Word" due

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

News from the Archdiocese of Regina

Transforming the Troubling Legacy of Terra Nullius: Catholic Settler Responsibility and Indigenous Ecoactivism

On June 9th from Noon to 1:30pm CST, in co-organized partnership with the Global Catholic Climate Movement Canada, the St. Thomas More College's Centre for Faith, Reason, Peace, and Justice will host a free, public online event.

This event will consist of a moderated discussion amongst four special panelists:

- Elder Maria Campbell
- Deacon Rennie Nahanee
- Archbishop Don Bolen
- Erica Violet Lee

The panelists will reflect upon the title's themes from their own, rich and embedded, perspectives. We will start with their brief opening comments but the focus will be on a moderated dialogue amongst the panelists. Questions and comments are invited in advance to chrynkow@stmcollege.ca or live during the event in the chat function. These will be curated and presented to the panelists.

To register please visit [Transforming the Troubling Legacy of Terra Nullius: Catholic Settler Responsibility and Indigenous Ecoactivism](https://www.stmcollege.ca/transforming-the-troubling-legacy-of-terra-nullius-catholic-settler-responsibility-and-indigenous-ecoactivism)

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT



Breathe into me, Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy.

Move in me, Holy Spirit, that my work, too, may be holy.

Attract my heart, Holy Spirit, that I may love only what is holy.

Strengthen me, Holy Spirit, that I may defend all that is holy.

Protect me, Holy Spirit, that I may always be holy.

- Saint Augustine



A common image of Mary—surrounded by the apostles in the upper room, awaiting the Holy Spirit—has a name: *Regina Apostolorum*, Queen of the Apostles. She is enthroned as Queen Mother because, when her Son the King was enthroned and lifted up, he told her, "Behold your son." With those words he entrusted Mary to the care of John, the apostles, and the whole Church. As any good queen and mother, she defends her own.

She is also called the Spouse of the Spirit, because it was in union with the Spirit that she engendered the Son. She also engenders him in the apostles and in our souls through her powerful intercession and waiting on the Spirit.

One of Mary's best qualities is waiting patiently until God's power arrives. After the annunciation she waited nine months with Jesus in her womb. Then she waited some thirty years while Jesus grew and prepared for his mission. She waited during his public life and watched as his fame spread, but also as his enemies plotted. She waited at the foot of the cross and endured that unending Holy Saturday until the resurrection. And she waited patiently on the first Pentecost Sunday for the coming of the gift of the Holy Spirit promised by her Son. She knew he would come through, as he always did.

We get impatient with God and want him to respond on our timetables according to our expectations. He waits to give us a chance to adapt our hearts to his plan and timing. He waits until the time is just right.

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COME, HOLY SPIRIT

The traditional prayer to the Holy Spirit can be a wonderful source of reflection.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and enkindle in them the fire of your love.

***V. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.
R. And you shall renew the face of the earth.***

Come, Holy Spirit

The first movement of this prayer is to ask for the Holy Spirit to come to us. A lot goes into preparing our hearts to ask for the Holy Spirit to come, not the least of which is to acknowledge that there is a Holy Spirit and that we feel something missing without the presence of the Spirit in our lives. This is the Spirit Jesus promised to send us so that we would not feel orphaned. This is the Spirit that transformed the first disciples from people afraid and locked in to the upper room.

Fill the hearts of your faithful

This is a request for a heart filled with the Spirit. This isn't asking, "Give me a little bit of your Spirit." This is a bold request. We are asking that we might be filled - and therefore, transformed by the Spirit. No hesitation, no doubt, no fear, no judgment, now wrangling, no selfishness can remain. Fill us. Fill me.

Enkindle in them the fire of your love

Our prayer gets even more specific. We desire the love which only the Spirit can bring. We know it is a fire, and we ask for it. It is a purifying fire. It burns away all that is in the way. And, it warms whatever is cold. This fire brings a new vitality and courage. And, fire can be shared with others, without being diminished. Set our hearts on fire. Set my heart on fire.

Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created

Paul tells us, " So whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come. [2 Corinthians 5.17] We are asking the Spirit to make us a new creation. This is more than a new beginning or a fresh start. We are asking for a transforming renewal. Our lives can be new with the Spirit filling our hearts. Give us/me your Spirit and make us/me new.

And you shall renew the face of the earth

When we are on fire and renewed by the Spirit, we can become one with that Spirit's activity of renewing the whole world. We can be the fire that ignites other fires. We can work to bring reconciliation, healing, true justice and renewal for all the people on the face of the earth. Let me be part of your Spirit's fire for all God's creation.

Let us pray for the Holy Spirit to come to us and to our community.

YOUTH REFLECTION

"Winds of the Spirit"

This Week...

Pentecost Sunday is called the birthday of the church. This day celebrates the Holy Spirit coming to the followers of Jesus in a rush of wind and tongues of fire. The Spirit gave them the gifts they needed to go forth and be church. These gifts vary - they are as different as we are. But we are all needed, and we are all members of one united body.

For Your Reflection

Pentecost is called the birthday of the church because before Pentecost, there really was no church. Jesus had ascended back into the heavens, the Apostles were hanging around, scared and confused, and nobody knew what to do. Going out to baptize people and preach about Jesus was the last thing they had in mind because their lives would be in danger.

But Pentecost celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit - the force that turned a bunch of frightened, mixed-up folks into the church. There was a rush of wind, tongues of fire, and then suddenly there was courage, knowledge, direction and commitment! Everyone started speaking and was understood, no matter what the language of the listener was! These were saints suddenly on fire with the Holy Spirit. And it all began with the wind and fire of the Spirit.

- What changes in you do you wish the Spirit could blow your way? How can you cooperate with the Spirit? In what ways do you need more courage, knowledge, direction, or commitment? What else might you need?
- In what ways are you and your parish like the disciples before Pentecost? In what ways are you and your parish like the disciples after Pentecost?
- When people speak about your school, would they say that it has school spirit? What do they mean by that? How is school spirit like the Holy Spirit?

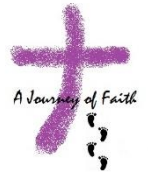
Excerpt adapted from *In Touch With the Word, Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter* - St. Mary's Press, 2004



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. 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.

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